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- India deserves to be in list of global superpowers, says Putin
- Philippine Prez angers China with new laws to demarcate South China Sea territories
- Uddhav has aligned with those who call Hindutva 'pakhand': Shah
- CR Paatil criticises Congress for supporting Article 370 restoration

Sumi, Tarkik to remain in jail till next hearing Ek rahoge to safe rahoge: Himanta

TRADING SCAM: Brother-in-law of controversial actress secures bail ● CBI yet to seek custody of husband-wife duo



HT Bureau
GUWAHATI, Nov 8: The controversial actress Sumi Borah and her husband Tarkik Borah have been sent to judicial custody on Friday as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has not sought the custody of the accused couple in the online trading scam.

The actress and her husband will remain in jail till the next hearing on November 15.

Meanwhile, Amlan Borah, brother-in-law of

the actress got the bail and the central probe agency did not oppose his bail plea. He will be released on bail bond.

Earlier, Sumi Borah was sent to seven days of CBI custody along with her husband Tarkik and the kingpin of the multi-crore scam Bishal Phukan.

According to police sources, the CBI might appeal for another round of custody of Sumi Borah after a gap of a few days. The central

probe agency team is investigating on the information received from the actress regarding this huge scam. The state government has handed over the 41 cases related to the online trading scam to the central agency. The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of Assam Police handed over key information regarding the online trading scam to the CBI officials.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma earlier announced that the CBI would be investigating 41 cases pertaining to the multi crore online trading scam. "We have filed 41 cases against the online trading fraudsters. The state government decided to hand over all of these cases to the CBI. I spoke with Union Home Minister Amit Shah about this, and he agreed to let the CBI probe the scam. I went to Delhi to apprise him about the latest development", he had said.

To recall, an online trading scam amounting to ₹ 2,200 crore was busted in Assam in September after a kingpin of this fraud, Bishal Phukan was arrested from his Dibrugarh residence. Sumi Borah and her husband surrendered before the police later.

The couple was arrested after they surrendered in Dibrugarh. Notably, the duo was on the run since the huge scam surfaced and it was revealed that Borah was well connected with Bishal Phukan in this scam.



RANCHI, Nov 8: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Friday accused the Congress of trying to divide Hindus for vote bank politics and urged people to stay united to thwart such attempts.

He also raised concerns about rising Bangladeshi infiltration and warned that if unchecked, it would pose a grave threat to women in the state. "Congress wants to divide Hindus for vote bank politics. 'Ek rahoge to safe rahoge' (You will be safe if you remain united)," Sarma, who is also the BJP's election co-in-charge for Jharkhand, said at a rally in Ranchi.

He cautioned that if the BJP was not voted into power, infiltrators

Meanwhile, in another rally, Sarma accused the JMM-led coalition of patronising infiltration for vote bank politics, warning that if unchecked, there will be no place for Hindus and tribals in Jharkhand in 20 years.

Sarma, who is also the BJP co-in-charge of elections in Jharkhand, made the remarks during a political rally at Kharsawan in Seraikela-Kharsawan district. He also said that while the Hindu and tribal populations were rapidly declining, Muslim population was increasing.

"There will be no place for tribals and Hindus in Jharkhand after 20 years at the current pace of infiltration from Bangladesh," he alleged.

The chief minister claimed that in Santal Pargana, Hindus and tribals together made up 90 per cent of the population, with tribals accounting for 44 per cent. However, by 2011, the Hindu population had dropped to 67 per cent, while tribals had reduced to just 28 per cent, he alleged.

"During the same period, the Muslim population grew from 10 per cent to 22 per cent," he claimed.

Sarma concluded by saying, "This election is a choice between the dictatorship of the JMM-led coalition and PM Modi's development model." (PTI)

Centre's focus on country's border in NE to boost trade: LPAI

DARRANGA, Nov 8: The Centre is concentrating on developing transit routes along the international boundaries running through the Northeastern states to accelerate trade with friendly countries bordering it, a top official said.

Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) chairman Aditya Mishra said that integrated transit ports are being developed across the country along its borders with different nations to ensure proper facilities for trade and immigration under one roof.

"The idea of the government is to have transit ports that have proper facilities, and proper security so that it becomes a secure and comfortable place, without chaos. To sort out the chaos and integrate all the formalities – customs, immigration, etc. – these ports are being set up," Mishra told PTI in an interview.

He said transit of goods takes place through about 90 locations along the 15,000 km-long international boundary India shares with seven countries.

"Effort of the government has been to first identify the most strategic and important transit points, and we have already covered 15 locations," Mishra said.

Mishra shared details of the LPAI-built land ports at the opening of the first Integrated Check Post (ICP) with Bhutan at Darranga in Assam on Thursday.

He added that the LPAI is in the process of making another nine land ports, which are under construction, while for 26 more project reports is being prepared with the Centre giving consent to start work.

"By the end of these projects, about 50 locations which are more active will be covered," Mishra added.

Established as a statutory body under the Department of Border Management, ministry of home affairs, the LPAI is entrusted with the task of building land ports and provide state-of-the-art infrastructure facilities to enable seamless and efficient movement of cargo and passengers. The LPAI chairman said, "A lot of focus is on North East and (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Chief secretary hails efforts for developing indigenous healthcare technologies

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Chief Secretary Ravi Kota on Friday lauded the initiative at bridging the gap between medical and engineering disciplines through the Assam Advanced Healthcare Innovation Institute (AAHII), a collaborative effort by IIT-Guwahati and the state government for building an ecosystem for indigenous healthcare technologies.

He was speaking at a symposium aimed at advancing healthcare innovation in the Northeast, the IIT-Guwahati said in a statement.

The meeting brought together doctors and scientists to explore cutting-edge healthcare technologies. Organised by the AAHII and hosted by IIT-Guwahati, the symposium marked a pivotal moment in fostering indigenous healthcare so-



lutions, the statement said.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Kota said, "By bridging the gap between medical and engineering disciplines, IIT-Guwahati and the Assam government are pioneering a model that unites academia, government and healthcare profes-

sionals." The initiative leverages Assam's resources and vision to address healthcare challenges and lay a foundation for indigenous innovation, he said. "The growth of institutions like IIT Guwahati and AIIMS is transformative, signalling a powerful partnership with the state government that will drive regional development and healthcare resilience," he added.

To reduce import dependency on healthcare, the Assam government and IIT-Guwahati are collaborating on a state-of-the-art AAHII campus. This upcoming facility will have a 400-bed super-specialty teaching hospital, advanced research labs and residential facilities.

Director of IIT-Guwahati Devendra Jalihal underscored the significance of (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

NSCN-IM threatens 'armed struggle' if 'national flag', 'constitution' demands not met

DIMAPUR, Nov 8: Naga insurgent group NSCN(IM) has threatened to break its 27-year-old ceasefire agreement with the government and return to its "armed struggle" if its demands for a separate "national flag and constitution" are not met.

The group, which carried out a violent insurgency in Nagaland soon after India's independence in 1947, entered into a ceasefire pact in 1997 before starting prolonged peace talks with the government's interlocutors.

On August 3, 2015, the NSCN(IM) signed a framework agreement with the government in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to find a permanent solution. In a statement released on Friday, general secretary of the group and chief political negotiator Thuingaleng Muivah said he and former chairman, late Isak Chishi Swu, went to the negotiating table for the resolution of the conflict through peaceful negotiation and also honouring the commitment of former prime ministers P V

Narasimha Rao, H D Deve Gowda, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and others to resolve the issue through peaceful political negotiation, leaving aside armed movement.

Accordingly, the political negotiations began on August 1, 1997, and since then more than 600 rounds of talks have been held without any pre-conditions both in India and abroad, leading to the signing of the framework agreement of August 3, 2015, he said.

Muivah alleged that authorities and the leadership in the government have "deliberately betrayed" the letter and spirit of the framework agreement by refusing to recognise and acknowledge the Naga "sovereignty national flag and sovereign national constitution". He said the benchmark for a political agreement between the government and the NSCN must be according to the letter and spirit of the framework agreement wherein among others, the Naga "sovereign national flag (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

PDP, NC engage in war of words over special status resolution

SRINAGAR, Nov 8: The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly witnessed a heated exchange of words between PDP legislators and National Conference members on Friday over the phrasing of the resolution passed in the House seeking restoration of the special status to the erstwhile state.

PDP MLA from Pulwama Waheed Para said his party supported the resolution brought by the ruling National Conference (NC) on Wednesday but wanted to ensure that people outside do not feel there was a compromise in it. "The onus of acceptance and tolerance lies on the majority. We are recording the erosion of our legacy, the legacy of (NC founder) Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. Our concern is that it is a historic session. People should not feel that there was a compromise or betrayal," he said.

Notably, Para had to protest to get time from the assembly speaker to allow him to

speak on the motion of thanks to the Lieutenant Governor's address.

Para also objected to some NC members making "degrading" references to PDP founder Mufti Mohammad Sayeed while speaking on the motion of thanks in the House. "They called Jamat-e-Islami members traitors and spoke ill about Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. If we talk of betrayal, it was started by Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah. He was the first one to compromise," Para said.

The comments of the PDP leader prompted protests from the treasury benches.

The House has been witnessing uproar for the last two days as BJP MLAs protested vociferously after the passage of the resolution. Deputy chief minister Surinder Choudhary moved the resolution on Wednesday that said: "This Legislative Assembly reaffirms the (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Sonowal asserts NDA's unity and strength in Sidli LAC by-election campaign

HT Bureau
GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Friday asserted that National Democratic Alliance (NDA) partners are working diligently toward the welfare and development of the common masses.

Sonowal made the statement while addressing a rally in the Chirang district, where he sought votes for the NDA-backed UPPL candidate, Nirmal Kumar Brahma.

"NDA-backed candidates in Assam are winning in the five constituencies (LACs) across the state, including the Sidli LAC. Today, people from all communities are coming forward to support the UPPL candidate, Nirmal Kumar Brahma, in Sidli LAC. His victory is now assured," Sonowal said.

The Union minister was accompanied by the Chief Executive Member (CEM) of the Bodoland



Territorial Region, Pramod Boro, as well as senior NDA alliance leaders, MPs, and MLAs.

Boro also addressed election rallies in Runikhata, Khungring, and met with local residents across the constituency. He stated that the people have expressed strong support for the UPPL and NDA alliance in the upcoming by-elections on November 13. He added, "The NDA will win Sidli by a landslide in the assembly by-elections, along with the other four constituencies." He emphasised that people from all communities (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Chhath Puja observed in Karbi Anglong



HT Bureau
DIPHU, Nov 8: Chhath Puja, the festival of paying obeisance to the Sun god, was celebrated with festive fervour in various parts of Karbi Anglong on Friday. Women devotees accompanied by men went to the river banks and other water bodies in the wee hours to perform

Usha Argh to greet the rising sun. Though Chhath puja is primarily celebrated in states like Bihar, UP, and Jharkhand, it has gained popularity and acceptance across the hill districts of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong. On the previous evening, i.e., Thursday, devotees offered Sandhya (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

University enabling students to nurture ethical and cultural values

Guv confers degrees on 1st convocation of Majuli Cultural University

HT Bureau
GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya called upon the graduates of Majuli Cultural University to take ethical leadership and serve society with honesty and responsibility while addressing the students on the occasion of the first convocation of the university at Majuli on Friday.

He said, "Majuli cultural university is the only university which besides academic learning, emphasises on the promotion of Indian cultural and knowledge values."

The university also stands for fostering the exchange of ideas and the development of mutual respect and harmony among students from diverse social and cultural backgrounds.

He said, "Atmosphere of this university is unique, which offers a space where academic and cultural exchanges are not just encouraged but also celebrated."

Congratulating the 182 students who graduated from the university, Acharya said that



the students are the pride of the university who can take responsibility in promoting and spreading the cultural values across the globe.

Stating that the world is undergoing unprecedented changes, the Governor asked the students to take the lead in addressing the issues like climate crisis, social upheaval,

and economic inequality. He said, "These challenges may seem daunting, but the students should view them as opportunities for growth and innovation."

Acharya, requesting the students, maintained that as they are embarking on their professional journey, they should remember the importance of collaboration and teamwork as he encouraged the students to stay connected with their peers and engage with the broader alumni network. "Building relationships is not just about making connections; it is about fostering bonds based on mutual respect and shared goals," the Governor added. Sharing his words of advice with the students, Acharya said that during their journey in professional life, the students must carry with them all life experiences, education, and the knowledge, skills, and values, which they have absorbed during their stay in the university and try to navigate the complexities of global society with the knowledge (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

India will become USD 35 trillion economy in 25 years: Goyal

PANAJI, Nov 8: Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said India's growth story will take the country's USD 3.5 trillion economy now to USD 35 trillion in the next 25 years.

Addressing the inaugural session of Amazing Goa Global Business Summit 2024, Goyal said that the 21st century belongs to India and it was on track to become the third largest world economy in three years.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, former Union minister Suresh Prabhu and others were present during the inaugural function of the summit, an initiative of the Vibrant Goa Foundation.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rightfully said the 21st century is India's century. He also said that the 21st century has stopped being small. What we do today is the best and the biggest," Goyal said.

"We are working with a focused approach to make India a developed and prosperous nation by 2047 when we celebrate 100 years of Independence," he said.

He said India's growth story will take the economy from USD 3.5 trillion to USD 35 trillion in the



next 25 years. "This 10-fold growth is due to India's strong economic fundamentals. We are the fastest-growing economy. Low inflation, strong foreign exchange reserves and a welcoming environment for the investors have brought twice the FDI to India in the last 10 years compared to the earlier decade," he said.

Goyal said the country moved from the "fragile five" economies in 2014, when the BJP-led NDA came to power at the Centre.

Large parts of the world had

written India off, and people did not have the confidence that it could grow and play a role in global economics, he said.

"We were the 10th largest GDP in 2014, and there was very little hope, very low ambition and aspiration amongst the people of India. I am happy to share with you that under PM Modi's leadership, India has moved to the fifth largest economy in the world, from the fragile five to a powerful force. In the next three years, we will become the world's

third-largest economy," he said.

The minister further said India has an environment conducive to investment, and there is a focus on ease of doing business, reducing compliances, and decriminalisation of several laws which were detrimental to the business-friendly environment.

"India today is seen as a trusted and reliable partner in a global supply chain," he said.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said Goa is determined to see that it contributes to PM Modi's vision.

"Today, we are here to unveil the new Goa, which is ready to embark on the future as a vibrant investment destination. We are moving beyond tourism to make the state a thriving hub of emerging industries that will highlight Goa on a global map," he said. Former union minister Suresh Prabhu said under the leadership of PM Modi, India has been standing in terms of risk analysis as one of the least risky countries.

The three-day Amazing Goa Global Business Summit 2024 will have various knowledge sessions, business-to-business meetings and other events to attract investment in the coastal state. (PTI)

Tea industry harps on quality improvement to boost consumption

KOLKATA, Nov 8: The tea industry on Friday emphasised on improvement in quality so that consumers get safe and compliant beverage which will also aid in boosting consumption.

Addressing the annual general meeting of the Indian Tea Association (ITA), its chairman Hemant Bangur said that the quality and safety of tea produced are getting the attention of the industry.

"The increased levels of awareness amongst all stakeholders regarding judicious use of pesticides augur well for the industry. The state governments of Assam, West Bengal and the Tea Board have been proactive in fostering an ecosystem of improved compliance," he said.

Bangur said that the producers' body Consultative Committee of Plantation Associations (CCPA) is executing the testing of tea sourced from retail shelves on a pan-India basis. Going forward, these progressive steps should aid the enhancement of quality, compliance and consumption boost in both domestic and international markets while strengthening production of sustainable tea, Bangur said.

Referring to the challenges faced by the industry, he said that



the production structure has undergone a paradigm transformation in the last couple of decades with the growth of small tea growers (STGs) and bought-leaf factories (BLFs). The STGs are contributing to more than 50 per cent of the total production.

In this context, Bangur said the organised tea industry needs a level playing field as there exist two verticals in production with wide variance in cost structure.

West Bengal government's labour secretary Avinandan Singh said that there is a need for standardisation and quality certification of tea.

Singh said that 15 per cent of the area of a tea garden in West Bengal

can be used for tourism purposes.

The profits earned from this activity can be ploughed back to the development of tea gardens, particularly in Darjeeling, he suggested.

He also said that tea garden owners cannot go back on providing welfare benefits to workers.

Singh said that the West Bengal government has decided to construct health centres and creches, and also build female toilets in the gardens. The Assam government's labour department additional chief secretary B Kalyan Chakravarty said that the minimum wages for workers of the tea industry have to be assured and the state will provide support to the welfare schemes. (PTI)

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IndiGo enhances Northeast connectivity for winter 2024

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: IndiGo, India's leading low-cost airline, has announced the introduction of eight new flights as part of its winter schedule, designed to enhance connectivity across East and Northeast India. The new routes, launching in late 2024, are expected to provide both business and leisure travelers with increased travel options, further strengthening the airline's presence in the region.

Starting on October 29, 2024, IndiGo will operate tri-weekly flights between Agartala and Dibrugarh, offering direct connectivity on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. This new service marks the first-ever direct air link between the two cities, providing greater accessibility for travelers heading to the northeastern states. In addition to this, IndiGo will launch direct flights between Guwahati and Dimapur beginning Dec 10, with daily services. The airline will also resume operations between Guwahati and Ahmedabad, offering daily flights starting on the same date. These new services will provide increased connectivity between Assam, Nagaland, and Gujarat, catering to the growing demand for travel in these regions. On the international front, IndiGo will increase the frequency of its **Kolkata-Bangkok route**, which will now operate four times a week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays - starting Nov 24. This expansion aims to meet the rising demand for travel between the two major hubs in India and Thailand. These new routes and added frequencies are set to enhance domestic and international connectivity, providing travelers with more flexible options to explore key business and tourism destinations. In addition to catering to passenger demand, the new services are expected to strengthen economic ties between the cities by facilitating trade, commerce, and tourism.

Sensex, Nifty fall for 2nd day on FII selling; RIL, ICICI Bank major drag

MUMBAI, Nov 8: Stock markets closed lower for the second straight day on Friday amid relentless foreign fund outflows and losses in blue-chip stocks Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank and State Bank of India.

Benchmark BSE Sensex declined by 55.47 points or 0.07 per cent to settle at 79,486.32. During the day, it tanked 424.42 points or 0.53 per cent to 79,117.37.

The NSE Nifty dipped 51.15 points or 0.21 per cent to 24,148.20. From the 30-share Sensex pack, Asian Paints, Tata Steel, State Bank of India, Reliance Industries, NTPC, Tata Motors, ICICI Bank and IndusInd Bank were the biggest laggards.

Mahindra & Mahindra, Titan, Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Nestle and Hindustan Unilever were among the gainers.

Foreign institutional investors

(FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹ 4,888.77 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data.

"Consolidation continued in the market as investors stayed cautious due to disappointment in earnings and the flight of FIIs. The US Fed continued its rate-cutting cycle to stimulate the economy," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, at Geojit Financial Services, said.

After gyrating nearly 700 points in early trade, markets moved in a range-bound manner thereafter and ended marginally lower on selective selling in banking, telecom, metal, oil & gas and realty stocks, Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

"Despite recovery in global indices, Indian markets continue to bore the brunt of FII fund outflows. The US Fed rate cut failed to entice local investors as the undertone remains cautious with a

negative bias," Tapse said.

The BSE smallcap gauge fell by 1.52 per cent and midcap index declined by 1.18 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, realty lost 2.98 per cent, energy (2.10 per cent), oil & gas (2.08 per cent), utilities (1.59 per cent), power (1.51 per cent), commodities (1.30 per cent) and metal (1.05 per cent).

IT, auto, consumer durables and tech were the gainers. On the weekly front, the BSE benchmark declined 237.8 points or 0.29 per cent and the Nifty went lower by 156.15 points or 0.64 per cent.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower while Tokyo ended in the positive territory. European markets were trading lower. Wall Street ended mostly higher on Thursday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 1.28 per cent to USD 74.66 a barrel. (PTI)

Nxtra by Airtel becomes first data centre in India to deploy AI for operational excellence

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Nxtra by Airtel, one of India's leading data centre companies, has made a significant leap towards creating smarter, more efficient, and future-ready data centres with the deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology. The move positions Nxtra as the first data centre operator in India to integrate AI into its operations to drive operational excellence. The integration of AI will enhance the capabilities of Nxtra's data centres, helping to streamline operations, optimize energy use, and improve overall efficiency. The company has partnered with Ecolibrium, a leading AI expert in the infrastructure sector, to implement the AI-powered SmartSense platform. Initially deployed at Nxtra's data centre in Chennai, this cutting-edge technology will be rolled out across all

of Nxtra's core facilities in India.

Nxtra's AI deployment aims to achieve several key milestones to optimize operations, including: 10% increase in asset life through real-time performance analytics, identifying early signs of deterioration and providing corrective recommendations; 10% reduction in non-IT power consumption by detecting energy loss and deviations in each piece of equipment; 15% improvement in equipment performance with AI-driven Fault Detection and Diagnostics (FDD) algorithms, enabling preventative maintenance; 25% improvement in productivity across all data centre operations through intelligent, proactive insights.

Ashish Arora, CEO of Nxtra by Airtel, highlighted the company's commitment to building sustainable, intelligent data centres: "As a brand,

we are always looking for innovative ways to deliver superior customer experiences. The integration of AI into our data centres is a major step forward in advancing energy efficiency and operational performance. Our collaboration with Ecolibrium is pivotal in making this a reality, and it aligns perfectly with our vision to build the data centres of the future."

Chintan Soni, CEO of Ecolibrium, expressed pride in the partnership: "Our AI/ML platform is already operational at over 500 sites globally, providing real-time insights across sectors like real estate and manufacturing. Through this pioneering collaboration with Nxtra, we are bringing our 12 years of expertise to transform data centre operations in India, enhancing both energy efficiency and operational performance."

Salesforce expands presence in India with first Salesforce Tower in Bengaluru

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Salesforce, the global leader in customer relationship management (CRM), has announced a major expansion in India with the signing of a lease for its first-ever Salesforce Tower in Bengaluru. This move comes as the company continues its rapid growth in the region, with a 36% increase in revenue for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024, reaching ₹ 9116.3 crore.

Salesforce's new Bengaluru office will be located at Bagmane Tech Park in Mahadevpura and will serve as a key hub in the company's global network of Salesforce Towers, which includes iconic locations in cities such as San Francisco, New York, London, Sydney, and Tokyo. The 12-story Salesforce Tower Bengaluru will be a state-of-the-art facility featuring an immersive lobby, a Salesforce Innovation Centre, and spaces designed for modern workstyles that emphasize collaboration, sustainability, and employee wellness. The tower will also include dedicated training areas for AI upskilling, serving both Salesforce employees and the wider community.

In line with its sustainability goals, the building will aim for LEED Gold certification. The

company plans to begin moving employees into the new tower upon its completion in 2026.

Salesforce's expansion in India comes on the back of robust financial performance in the country. The company's revenue from India grew by 36% year-over-year, driven by strong demand for its AI-powered CRM solutions and services. With the recent launch of Agentforce, a new AI feature for the Salesforce platform that enables businesses to deploy autonomous AI agents, the company is continuing to innovate and drive customer success globally.

Bengaluru, often referred to as the "Silicon Valley of India," remains a critical hub for Salesforce's talent pool, contributing to the company's global innovation efforts. Salesforce has over 13,000 employees across its offices in India, including locations in Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune, and Jaipur.

Salesforce's deepening investment in India is not just limited to physical infrastructure. The company has also established a thriving ecosystem of strategic partners, start-ups, and over 2 million Salesforce developers in the region. Additionally, more users of Trailhead, Salesforce's free online learning platform, call India home than any

other market outside the United States. The company's long-standing presence in India includes the opening of its Hyderabad Centre of Excellence in 2016, which has expanded in 2023. This hub has become a focal point for driving innovation and talent development in the region.

Arundhati Bhattacharya, CEO & Chairperson of Salesforce India, highlighted the company's strong growth trajectory in India and emphasized the significance of the new Salesforce Tower in Bengaluru. "This new tower represents our commitment to the region, providing our employees with a world-class environment that fosters collaboration and innovation in an AI-first world," Bhattacharya said. Relina Bulchandani, Executive Vice President of Real Estate & Workplace Services at Salesforce, noted that the new tower would serve as a "beacon" of Salesforce's culture and values. "It will be a central gathering place for our employees, customers, and partners, where we can collectively embrace the future of AI and technology-driven success."

Industry leaders also expressed optimism about Salesforce's continued investment in India. Dr. Satya Ramaswamy, Chief Digital and Technology Officer at Air

India, said, "AI and automation are revolutionizing business-customer interactions, and Salesforce's innovations are empowering businesses to drive growth and productivity. India is at the forefront of this change, and Salesforce is playing a pivotal role."

Sunil D'Souza, CEO & Managing Director of Tata Consumer Products, echoed these sentiments, emphasizing that the expansion of Salesforce in India would empower businesses to accelerate their digital transformation and customer engagement through AI-driven tools. Ashwini Sumanth, Head of Real Estate Strategy & Marketing at Bagmane Developers Pvt. Ltd., expressed enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, "We are excited to support Salesforce's growth story in India. This new tower will serve as a destination for innovation, collaboration, and connection." With its continued investment in India, Salesforce is positioning itself as a key player in the country's technology and business landscape. As the company strengthens its presence with the Salesforce Tower in Bengaluru and continues to innovate with AI solutions like Agentforce, it remains focused on helping businesses in India and beyond unlock new opportunities for growth and success.

Chief secretary hails efforts for

early-stage involvement from healthcare professionals in research.

"By establishing a super-specialty hospital and advanced research facilities, we aim to reduce dependency on imports, lower diagnostic and treatment costs, and make quality healthcare more accessible. With the Government of Assam's strong support, this project aligns with our vision for a self-reliant healthcare ecosystem that addresses the nation's most pressing health challenges," he said.

The upcoming AAHII campus will house six centres of excellence dedicated to stem cell research, digital health, therapeutics, precision medicine, robotics and affordable diagnostics. The super-specialty hospital on the AAHII campus is designed to address the healthcare needs of Assam and the Northeast, offering advanced treatments such as robotic surgery, transplant procedures, gene therapy, trauma care, neonatology, neurosurgery and complex cardiac care. (PTI)

NSCN-IM threatens 'armed

and Naga sovereign national constitution" must be an integral part of the political agreement. Muivah said today or tomorrow, Naga's "unique history, sovereignty and freedom, sovereign territory, sovereign national flag and sovereign national constitution are non-negotiable."

"Nevertheless, even if the odds are against Nagas and the NSCN, we shall take whatever steps that are necessary according to the decision mandated by Nagas and the Naga people will protect and defend the Naga unique history, sovereignty and freedom, sovereign territory, sovereign national flag and sovereign national constitution, by whatever means including armed struggle," he said in the statement.

Officials said in New Delhi that the peace talks with the NSCN-IM are currently going nowhere as the group has been insisting on a separate Naga flag and constitution, a demand rejected by the central government. Separately, the government is also holding peace parleys with splinter groups of the NSCN after entering into ceasefire agreements. The groups which have entered into ceasefire agreements are NSCN-NK, NSCN-R, NSCN K-Khangho and NSCN-K-Niki. (PTI)

PDP, NC engage in war of words

importance of the special status and constitutional guarantees, which safeguarded the identity, culture and rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and expresses concern over their unilateral removal."

It said the assembly calls upon the Centre to initiate talks with elected representatives from the region for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and constitutional guarantees and to work out constitutional mechanisms for the same.

"This Assembly emphasises that any process for restoration must safeguard both national unity and the legitimate aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," it added. (PTI)

Sonowal asserts NDA's unity

are rallying behind Brahma, the NDA-backed UPPL candidate in the by-elections.

"It was a great pleasure to join Hon'ble Union Cabinet Minister Shri @sarbanandsonwal and respected dignitaries of our UPPL+BJP+AGP alliance at the Grand Public Meeting for the upcoming 31 No. Sidli (ST) LAC by-elections. The immense love and affection of the people of Sidli for the NDA is truly remarkable. With their blessings, our alliance will defeat the opposition and secure a historic victory," Boro said.

The rally also saw the participation of prominent leaders, including cabinet ministers Urkhao Gwra Brahma and Ashok Singhal, who joined Sonowal in rallying support for the NDA candidate. The leaders emphasized unity and development in the region, urging voters to back Brahma in the upcoming by-election.

The election campaign for the Sidli LAC by-election has intensified, with political parties such as the ruling United People's Party Liberal (UPPL), BPF, and Congress Party making efforts to woo the electorate.

In total, five LACs in Assam are witnessing by-elections, including Sidli, Bongaigaon, Dholai, Behali, and Samaguri. Three candidates are contesting the Sidli LAC by-election scheduled for November 13: Nirmal Kumar Brahma of UPPL, Siddha Kumar of BPF, and Sanjib Wary of the Congress party.

Guv confers degrees on 1st convocation

they gained. He also hailed Majuli Cultural University for its proficiencies in enabling the students to nurture ethical and cultural values in them. He stated that the university has become a central focus on 'culture'.

Acharya added, "The university has been successful not only in helping its students in higher education but in teaching them cultural heritage and promoting cultural understanding among the masses." The Governor at the same time asked the outgoing graduates to serve their alma mater, state and nation.

Acharya on the occasion also conferred honorary doctorate degrees on Vishnu Khargaria, an eminent actor, and Karuna Bora, a renowned Sattriya artist, for their outstanding contributions.

Chhath Puja observed

Argh to the setting sun and Chhath Maiya. One of the major Chhath Puja celebrations was at Jammuna Irrigation Canal, Bakuliaghat in Karbi Anglong, where devotees, taking homemade edibles and fruits along with them in the wee hours, reached the river banks.

One of the devotees, Mukesh Chauhan has informed that around 1200 devotees of women, men and children gathered at the river bank to greet the rising sun.

Large devotees from Bakulia town, Chauhan Basti, Nam Bakulia, Durga Bari, Mura Basti and other adjoining areas came to the river bank for the early morning rituals. As it was still pitch dark around 3 am lights were fitted on the river banks for conveyance of the devotees. Glittering decorative lights adorned the river banks. A local arrangement committee was set up to oversee the whole arrangement. A sufficient number of volunteers was engaged to manage the event. Police personnel were also pressed in to control the crowd. A State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team was also made available at the Ghats to act on any eventuality.

As the early sun shows its rays, devotees walk to the water to offer Usha Argh seeking blessings, strength and happiness from the Sun god. With the completion of Usha Argh, the devotees went back home. The offering of edible items and fruits to Surya was brought home and distributed among the community as prasad. The 36-hour fasting from the previous evening was broken after the Usha Argh.

Here in Diphu town devotees performed Usha Argh on the river banks of Diphu River at Panbari, Chutianala, Birla and Sivbari. In all these sites large number of devotees of men, women and children gathered to welcome the rising sun.

Centre's focus on country's

in next round of projects, primacy is being given to the region." "The focus of the government is on the North East. First, this will spur growth of trade and commerce. And secondly, all our friendly countries with which we trade are in this neighbourhood, like Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh," he maintained. He added that in Assam, the LPAI has recently taken over the ports at Mancachar and Golokgunj, while the one at Sutarkandi is already operational with facilities under construction.

Among other land ports operating under various agencies are Dawki (Meghalaya), Moreh (Manipur) and three locations in Tripura, Mishra said.

The top official said locations for developing the ICPs are selected by the government based on representations made by the different stakeholders, like ministries of Home Affairs, external affairs and commerce and state governments, who are members of the LPAI board.

"They (the stakeholders) tell the strategic importance of their locations and then the government gives its nod to more than multiple ones," he added.

On multiple agencies operating immigration posts currently, Mishra said, "Hopefully in the medium term, all the land ports will be made and all immigration check posts will be handed to Bureau of Immigration, which will be inside the land ports." (PTI)

Bhasha Gaurav Saptah observed in Margherita

HT Correspondent

MARGHERITA, Nov 8: Bhasha Gaurav Saptah was celebrated on Friday at Ledo Bazaar Higher Secondary School under Margherita co-district. The event was organised by the Bengali Sahitya Sabha, Asom Ledo Margherita branch, in collaboration with the school authorities.

This event was held in honour of the central government's recognition of Assamese, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit, and Tamil as classical languages.

Following the state government's direction, all branches of the Bengali Sahitya Sabha, Asom, across Assam have been observing Bhasha Gaurav Saptah throughout the week, and this event was part of these celebrations.

The program was presided over by Santanu Sarkar, president of the Bangla Sahitya Sabha, Asom Ledo Margherita branch. The keynote speaker was the noted poet and social worker of Margherita, Amrit Borthakur. The invited speakers included retired HOD of the Bengali department at Tinsukia Women's College, Himanshu Shekhar Biswas; Ledo College Bengali de-



partment professor, Dipanita Biswas; Ledo Bazaar Higher Secondary School headmistress, Mousumi Roy; Margherita College retired vice principal, Dr RB Deb; Margherita Journalists Association president, Ram Prasad Ambedkar; and noted poet, writer, and veteran journalist of the Margherita region, Jagat Changmai, among other distinguished guests.

The program began with the lighting of lamps and a traditional Guru Vandana, followed by a group song, poem recitations, cultural dances, and songs.

The discussions covered a wide range of important topics, including the origin and development of the Bengali language, the historical relationship between Assamese and Bengali cultures, the history of clas-

sical languages, and many other topics. Additionally, musical performances by local artists like Babita Choudhury, Arup Paul, and Manik Sen Chowdhury added a unique touch to the event, making it a more memorable one.

The whole program was moderated by Amit Das, general secretary of the Bangla Sahitya Sabha, Asom Ledo Margherita branch.

Kokrajhar set to establish Piggery Allied Cooperative Society

HT Correspondent

KOKRAJHAR, Nov 8: In alignment with the Ministry of Cooperation's vision of 'Sahkar se Samridhhi' (Prosperity through Cooperatives) and to strengthen the cooperative movement in rural India, the Department of Cooperation, BTC, organised a meeting at Samabai Bhawan, Titaguri, in Kokrajhar on Friday.

The meeting brought together 32 pig farmers from Kokrajhar district, registered under the Bodoland Pig Mission—a flagship initiative led by the chief executive member (CEM) of Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), Pramod Boro—to discuss the formation of a Piggery Allied Cooperative Society in the district.

The meeting was chaired by Jayanta Kherkatary, CHD of Cooperation, who highlighted the many benefits of the cooperative farming model. He emphasised how integrating pig farming into a cooperative structure could transform it into a large-scale economic activity, ensuring an organised and scientifically managed approach to production.

During the discussions, participants addressed the growing de-



mand for pork in the region. With Kokrajhar's strong potential for surplus production, they explored strategies to increase local supply while considering opportunities to expand into larger markets beyond the district.

The meeting concluded with a focus on the importance of com-

munity-driven economic growth. The formation of the Piggery Allied Cooperative Society is expected to stimulate long-term prosperity for the pig farmers of Kokrajhar, while also strengthening the local economy and improving the livelihoods of farmers in the region.

New books released in Sootea

HT Correspondent

BISWANATH CHARIALI, Nov 8: A total of three books were released on Friday in a meeting held at Sootea Natya Bhawana, convened by the Sootea branch of Assam Sahitya Sabha, with historian Karunananda Hatibaruah presiding. The event began with the lighting of a ceremonial lamp by Jagadish Talukdar, a retired teacher. Two books compiled by Dr Dilip Kumar Bhuyan, a retired professor of THB College, and one written by Akan Prabha Bhuyan were unveiled during the meeting. Dr Bhuyan's 'Puhar Khisar Hepah' was unveiled by Ramen Bora, president of the Sootea branch of Sahitya Sabha, while 'Jibonor Chhandey Chandey Gitar Jhankar' was released by Indra Prasad Saikia, eminent litterateur and former professor of THB College. Manumati Kurmi, secretary of Assam Lekhika Samaroh, unveiled 'Jibonor Batot Mukuta Butoli', authored by veteran women's writer Akan Prabha Bhuyan. The meeting was attended by Sootea MLA Padma Hazarika, Shuvan Saikia, secretary of Biswanath Zila Sahitya Sabha, and others.

Henna Barbhuiya receives PhD in Philosophy from Assam University

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Henna Barbhuiya, daughter of the late Ekbal Husain Barbhuiya and Majnun Nessa Barbhuiya, has achieved an extraordinary milestone by earning her doctorate degree from the department of Philosophy at Assam University, Silchar. Her doctoral research, titled 'Sri Aurobindo and The Mother's (Mirra Alfassa) Concept of Integral Education: A Critical Study', was supervised by Prof Nirmali Barman.

In addition to completing her PhD degree, she has successfully qualified for both the UGC-NET and SLET NE. She has made significant contributions to scholarly discourse by pub-

lishing numerous articles and chapters in well-reputed journals. Her active participation in various national seminars further underscores her passion for research and intellectual growth.

She hails from Paikan, a small village in Gumra of Cachar district, where she began her journey from humble beginnings. She credits much of her success to the constant support of her family—her late father, who served as headmaster of a primary school, her mother, her two elder sisters, her younger brother, and her husband, Aminul Hassan Khan, who is currently working as a PGT (Botany) at Narsing HS School, Silchar.

Chhath Brata Mahotsav celebrated

HT Correspondent

DEMOW, Nov 8: Under the patronage of Sri Sri Rabishasti Sewa Samiti and in association with the people of Demow, Sri Sri Chhath Brata Mahotsav was celebrated with religious fervour and devotion at Demow Chhath Ghat on Thursday and Friday. On Thursday afternoon, devotees thronged the ghats to perform rituals, and in the evening, a cultural program was organised near the Demow river. At midnight, devotees lit earthen lamps by the bank of the Demow river and prayed. After the conclusion of the Puja, prasad was distributed among the people.

RPF nabs stone pelter in Dibrugarh

HT Correspondent

DIBRUGARH, Nov 8: In a crackdown on railway vandalism, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) apprehended a stone pelter late Thursday night in the Dikom area of Dibrugarh district.

"On November 7, around 10:00 pm, we received information about stone pelting on train number 12423 DN before it crossed Dikom station. The incident resulted in the cracking of the outer window glass of berth number 65 in coach B/2," a railway official said.

Acting swiftly, the RPF team, led by inspector Pavan Kumar, conducted a raid and search operation in the area between Lahowal and Dikom. They were able to apprehend the culprit, who was roaming beside the railway track in an intoxicated state.

During interrogation, the suspect confessed to pelting stones at the passing train at around 9:15 pm. He was brought to the RPF post in Dibrugarh, and a case was registered under Sections 154, 147, and 145(b) of the Railway Act.

"Drives and surveillance are being conducted regularly to prevent such incidents," the RPF official stated.

Yoga workshop at Nagaon Gopinath Dev Goswami Commerce College



HT Correspondent

NAGAON, Nov 8: A five-day yoga workshop is being organised by the Yoga Cell of Nagaon Gopinath Dev Goswami Commerce College, in collaboration with the National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC), at the college premises from Friday.

Dr Mriganka Saikia, the principal of the college, addressed the inaugural function, emphasising the importance of daily yoga practice and encouraging everyone to adopt it.

Prabhat Chandra Bora, vice president of the Yoga Federation of India, attended the

event as the chief guest. In his address, he spoke about various yoga postures, the need for yoga, and its benefits.

Krishna Kamal Das, coordinator of the Yoga Cell, and Dr Pooja Neog, NSS coordinator and assistant professor in the Hindi department, were also present at the inaugural session.

The workshop aims to promote physical and mental well-being among students and staff. The five-day program will cover various aspects of yoga, including postures, breathing techniques, and meditation, under the guidance of experienced instructors, a press note stated.

Drug peddler nabbed

HT Correspondent

JORHAT, Nov 8: Rahul Ali (25) of Kakajan was nabbed on Friday by police at the Inter-State Bus Terminus in Jorhat, and 9.1 gm of suspected brown sugar was recovered from his possession. He has been booked under the NDPS Act on charges of drug peddling.

Doorstep voting service in Behali

HT Correspondent

BISWANATH CHARIALI, Nov 8: A total of five polling teams collected votes from people aged above 85 and persons with special needs by visiting their doorsteps on Friday for the 77 No Behali LAC, in connection with the upcoming by-election scheduled to be held on November 13 through ballot paper. The Biswanath district administration has made arrangements to streamline the voting process for elderly persons and those with special needs. According to a press release, this special arrangement was made for two days, with the team collecting votes on November 4 and on Friday. Each polling team, consisting of a micro observer, polling officials, police personnel, and a photographer, administered the vote from each concerned household.

Cachar DC Mridul Yadav leads coordination meeting



HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Cachar district commissioner Mridul Yadav spearheaded a significant meeting of the District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) and a re-orientation training for medical officers, block program managers (BPM), block community managers (BCM), and nursing midwives assistants (NMA).

Through comprehensive discussions and training, the meeting aimed to synchronise efforts among health professionals, improve strategies for early detection, and empower leprosy workers with updated protocols. This initiative marks a proactive step in Cachar's commitment to ensuring accessible healthcare and eradicating leprosy within the community.

branch officer (health) Junali Devi, the joint director of Health Services, the district nodal officer (NLEP), block medical officers, district program managers, district medical educators, multi-purpose workers (MPW), and nursing midwives assistants (NMA).

Through comprehensive discussions and training, the meeting aimed to synchronise efforts among health professionals, improve strategies for early detection, and empower leprosy workers with updated protocols. This initiative marks a proactive step in Cachar's commitment to ensuring accessible healthcare and eradicating leprosy within the community.

NFR announces special trains to manage festival rush

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: Eight special train services will be operated by NFR to accommodate the ongoing rush of passengers at railway stations for the Chhath festival on November 9, 2024.

Train No 05903 (Katihar-Muzaffarpur) special will depart from Katihar at 21:40 hrs, reaching Muzaffarpur at 04:00 hrs the next day. Train No 07541 (Katihar-Dauram Madhpura) special will depart from Katihar at 19:00 hrs, reaching Dauram Madhpura at 22:00 hrs. Train No 04047 (Katihar-Anand Vihar Terminal) special will depart from Katihar at 18:00 hrs, reaching Anand Vihar Terminal at 17:50 hrs the next day. Train No 07540 (Katihar-Manihari) special will depart from Katihar at 20:30 hrs, reaching Manihari at 21:30 hrs. Train No 05740 (New Jalpaiguri-Patna) special will depart from New Jalpaiguri at 05:00 hrs, reaching Patna at 17:40 hrs. Train No 04196



(Forbesganj-Agra Cantt) special will depart from Forbesganj at 18:40 hrs, reaching Agra Cantt at 07:10 hrs on November 11, 2024. Train No 05932 (Dibrugarh-Kolkata Terminal) special will depart from Dibrugarh at 17:20 hrs, reaching Kolkata at 23:00 hrs the next day. Train No 09526 (Naharlagun-Hapa)

special will depart from Naharlagun at 10:00 hrs, reaching Hapa at 00:30 hrs on November 12, 2024. Extensive arrangements have been made at stations for the convenience of passengers. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) is ensuring organised and smooth boarding arrangements for passengers

at stations. Major stations have designated waiting areas with public announcement systems, train display boards, seating areas, and CCTV cameras for passengers' convenience. For updated details and information, passengers are requested to visit various social media platforms of NFR.

Sky lanterns illuminate Dholai in call for voter participation ahead of by-election

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 8: In a dazzling display of civic pride and electoral encouragement, the skies above Dholai lit up with 208 sky lanterns and balloons at BNMP School field on Friday evening. The spectacle, part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, aimed to spark enthusiasm among Dholai's voters as they prepare for the crucial by-election for the LA 11-Dholai (SC) constituency on November 13, 2024.

It is worth mentioning that the number 208 is significant, mirroring the exact number of polling stations in the constituency. Each lantern and balloon soared high, symbolising a powerful message to residents—every vote counts in shaping the future. At precisely 5:00 pm, these vibrant symbols of democratic duty were launched, carrying reminders for all eligible voters to participate actively in the upcoming election.

Addressing the gathering, district commissioner Mridul Yadav emphasised the importance of every vote in shaping the community's destiny. "Every single vote has the power to shape our community's future," DC Yadav stated passionately.

"Let's set an example of high voter turnout and commitment to democracy



that resonates with generations to come." He praised the SVEEP initiative as a true representation of democracy's spirit, urging citizens to be part of the positive change they wish to see.

As the lanterns floated upward, they left a lasting visual of community unity and shared aspirations. Officials including additional district commissioner Van Lal Limpua Nampui, assistant commissioner and deputy director of Information

and Public Relations, Barak Valley Zone, Silchar, Assam, Bonnykha Chetia, election officer Masi Topno, and other district administration officials also attended, underscoring the collective call for voter participation.

The event concluded with a renewed sense of commitment to the electoral process, reminding every attendee of their role in shaping a brighter future through the power of their vote.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Love is a hole in the heart.
-Ben Hecht

Controversial Waqf amendment Bill

It's happening and happening at a hare's pace -- Gazwa-e-Hind Vs. Baghwa-e-Hind. The battle is for India's real-estate. The protagonists are the Waqf Board and the BJP-led Government of India, the battle spurred to significant pace by the hurry with which the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill, 2024 is being pushed through in Parliament and the panic with which the Waqf Board is laying claim to as many Waqf property as it is possible in the time given. This as a Joint Parliamentary Committee is scrutinizing the Waqf Amendment Bill with members of both sides fighting to get their points across at the expense of the other party. And because neither side wants to get the short end of the stick, there is a clear division of political parties for and against the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill, 2024. Caught perhaps by a little surprise, when the Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024 was introduced in the Lok Sabha, the Waqf Board party doesn't want to be upstaged and is in a hurry to put its stamp on as many properties deemed Waqf as can be possible declared as Waqf owned. Fact is, the Waqf side is on a stronger wicket because the Waqf Board Act is at its beck and call while those opposed are without a legal leg to stand on.

But Parliament is powerful and even if the Waqf Board claims to own the land on which the new Parliament building stands, Parliament can still put a spoke in the Waqf wheel, which is what the government of the day is doing. So the JPC is a handmaiden of the government of the day, according to people who oppose the Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024. JPC meetings have been taking place at various venues in various states and the meetings are stormy and bitterly fought with 'give' in neither party, no quarter given or sought. Finally, three weeks after the farmers' SOS, the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, Jagdambika Pal, met the farmers in distress. He flew to Karnataka and listened to their woes and looked at their documents, before the BJP labelled the deprecations 'Land Jihad'. The farmers will have to petition the Hindu-loving President Donald Trump to grant them asylum and land to earn their living. Trump is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's friend, but is Modi a friend of the Karnataka farmers?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill, 2024 is an eyewash; if he had wanted a lasting solution, the Waqf Board Act should have been struck off the statute book, but Prime Minister Modi chose "least resistance" over lasting solution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for all his tough-guy reputation and easily-earned kudos, always plays it safe. The Prime Minister cannot sit on this problem or imagine it will go away on its own from right under his nose. Nobody envisaged at the dawn of Independence, when India was reborn after being cut into three, that folks will be fighting to carve up India all over again.

Trump's return to power: A watershed moment in American politics

By: Dipak Kurmi

In a seismic shift that has sent ripples through the global political landscape, former President Donald Trump has secured a decisive victory in the November 5, 2024 presidential election, defeating Democratic candidate Kamala Harris with a commanding three percent margin in the popular vote. This historic win, marked by its clarity and comprehensive nature, represents a fundamental realignment in American politics and portends significant implications for both domestic and international affairs.

The magnitude of Trump's victory is particularly striking in the crucial battleground states, where his lead ranges from 0.87 to 6.14 percent. Perhaps most significantly, the Democrats' vaunted "Blue Wall" – comprising Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Wisconsin – has completely collapsed. The Republican triumph extended to Georgia, while North Carolina remained firmly in the GOP column, culminating in what can only be described as a decisive defeat for the Democratic Party.

What makes this victory particularly remarkable is how it defied conventional political wisdom. Trump succeeded despite consistently ignoring his advisers' recommendations to focus on traditional campaign themes such as the economy, immigration, and crime.

Instead, he maintained his characteristic style of communication, marked by stream-of-consciousness rhetoric and pointed attacks against perceived adversaries. This approach, which some critics attributed to cognitive decline (dismissed by Trump as a "weave"), evidently resonated with a majority of the American electorate.

Vice President Harris's campaign postmortem reveals several critical missteps. Most notably, when presented with an opportunity to distance herself from the Biden administration's record, particularly regarding inflation, she declined to do so. When questioned about potential alternative approaches to the previous four years, her unequivocal "no" response missed a crucial chance to present a more nuanced position to voters concerned about economic issues.

The Republican victory extends beyond the presidency, with the party gaining control of both houses of Congress. This development, combined with the existing conservative majority in the Supreme Court, effectively removes traditional constitutional checks on Trump's executive power. This unprecedented consol-

idation of Republican control across all three branches of government sets the stage for potentially transformative changes in American governance.

The incoming administration's cabinet appointments are expected to prioritize loyalty to the MAGA agenda over traditional qualifications. Potential appointments like Robert F. Kennedy Jr., known for his skepticism of vaccines and climate change, and Elon Musk's proposed role as government expenditure czar, signal a dramatic departure from conventional governance approaches. These choices raise concerns about the future of healthcare, social security, and environmental policy.

The new administration faces immediate challenges in two major international conflicts. While Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu can anticipate unwavering US support, Ukrainian President Zelenskyy faces an uncertain future given Trump's well-documented affinity for Russian President Vladimir Putin. NATO allies are already preparing for potential shifts in US support for Ukraine.

For India, Trump's return presents a mixed outlook. While he has expressed warmth toward Prime Minister Modi and shown concern for Hindu security issues, potential friction points exist. These include possible tariff disputes and the handling of the Gurdipat Singh Panun case. The administration's promised crackdown on illegal immigration could also strain bilateral relations.

As Trump embarks on his second and final term, several factors will shape his presidency's trajectory. With effectively two years before the 2026 midterm elections could potentially flip congressional control, time pressure may influence his agenda's implementation. His experience from his first term might lead to even greater independence from advisers, while his business background could guide his approach to international relations and domestic policy.

This election represents more than a mere change in leadership; it signals a fundamental shift in American political dynamics. As nations worldwide analyze the implications of Trump's return to power, the only certainty is uncertainty itself. Just as unforeseen events like the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine war, and the Gaza conflict have previously upended presidential agendas, the next "Black Swan" event could reshape the political landscape in ways yet unimaginable. (The writer can be reached at dipakkurmipltd@gmail.com)

The significance Of Donald Trump's victory

Donald Trump's victory in the 2024 presidential election stands out as a pivotal moment in American politics, filled with implications that reach into nearly every aspect of national life and global relations. Many Americans saw his return as a pathway toward stronger economic policies and a more secure nation. This election represents a response to the challenges of recent years, such as high inflation and a complicated immigration landscape, with many voters believing Trump's approach would better handle these pressing issues.

In winning this election, Trump captured a broad coalition of voters, surprising many with his appeal to different demographic groups. His message reached beyond the traditional base, including significant support from Latino and Black communities. Trump's ability to tap into concerns over economic stability, job security, and border control brought in voters from diverse backgrounds, particularly in states where these issues are highly significant. The coalition that Trump built has implications for how political parties might engage with new voter bases, as his victory shows that these issues can resonate across different communities.

Trump's emphasis on economic growth resonated strongly with working-class Americans. This group has often felt left out in conversations about economic progress, and Trump's focus on revitalizing industries and creating more American jobs has been particularly appealing to them. Trump's campaign made a point of connecting with these individuals, many of whom feel that their opportunities are limited by economic policies that favor elites or multinational interests. By promising a resurgence of American jobs, industry, and a focus on economic self-reliance, he struck a chord that resonates deeply with voters worried about their financial futures.

Another factor in Trump's victory was his stance on national security and immigration, which remains an essential topic for many Americans. Trump's position on securing borders and managing immigration in a way that he argues

prioritizes American interests has struck a chord with voters who view these issues as vital to the nation's stability. Many feel that previous immigration policies have not adequately considered the effects on local economies and social services. Trump's promise to put American interests first and to create a more controlled immigration system added to his appeal in the eyes of voters who want a more secure country.

Trump's victory in 2024 is significant in part because it suggests a shift in how Americans are thinking about leadership and policy. While many leaders focus on global alliances and cooperative efforts, Trump's approach emphasizes national sovereignty and prioritizing American needs. This shift reflects a broader trend among voters who feel that domestic issues should come before global commitments. By focusing on "America First" policies, Trump has promised a renewed focus on improving the lives of Americans rather than committing to international agreements that some feel do not serve U.S. interests.

His return to the White House also signals potential changes to foreign policy. Trump's leadership could shift international relationships, especially with allies who may find his approach challenging. For instance, his emphasis on fair trade deals and reducing American involvement in overseas conflicts may alter how the US interacts with allies and competitors alike. His previous tenure saw the US withdraw from certain international agreements and put pressure on allies to contribute more toward shared defense costs. With his return, it's likely these policies will continue, reflecting a move toward a more self-reliant America in terms of defense and economic policy.

Trump's victory suggests a continuation of the political polarization that has marked recent years in the United States. His presidency has been divisive, with strong support from his base and significant opposition from others. This division can be seen as a reflection of deeper ideological splits within the country. Trump's leadership style,



which is often direct and unfiltered, appeals to those who feel unheard in more traditional political conversations. His supporters see him as a voice for their frustrations and aspirations, while critics worry about his impact on unity within the country.

The reaction to Trump's victory also highlights how the media and public opinion are evolving. Trump's relationship with the media has always been complex, with both support and criticism shaping his public image. His return brings questions about how media coverage and public debate will evolve under his leadership.

Many of Trump's supporters feel that mainstream media does not fairly represent their perspectives, leading them to seek alternative sources of news. This media dynamic may continue to evolve as Trump's policies take shape, with ongoing debates about how media portrays political leaders and events.

Trump's return to office is expected to bring policy changes that align with his priorities from his first term. One of the anticipated areas of focus will be economic policies that seek to reduce taxes and stimulate job growth. Trump's economic plans typically emphasize deregulation, which he argues allows businesses to thrive and creates more employment opportunities. His administration is expected to focus on policies that, in his view, would encourage economic independence and stability, partic-

ularly for working- and middle-class Americans.

Education and healthcare policies may also see shifts, as Trump has expressed interest in reforming these areas to offer more choices and reduce government intervention. For education, this could mean policies that encourage school choice, allowing parents more options in selecting schools for their children.

In healthcare, Trump has suggested reforms that focus on reducing costs and giving Americans more control over their healthcare choices. His administration's approach would likely emphasize reducing federal involvement, aiming to create a system that Trump argues is more efficient and less costly.

The environmental policies under Trump's administration are also expected to differ from those of his predecessors, with a focus on energy independence. Trump's previous term included efforts to reduce restrictions on industries like coal and oil, aiming to promote energy production within the US. His approach reflects a belief in balancing environmental concerns with economic growth, seeking to ensure that environmental regulations do not hinder job creation. This stance resonates with voters who rely on energy industries for employment and who view energy independence as a national security priority.

Donald Trump's victory in 2024 can be seen as a significant re-

sponse to the political and economic concerns that many Americans feel have been overlooked. His supporters view his return as a chance to revive policies that prioritize American interests, particularly in terms of the economy and national security. His focus on self-reliance, deregulation, and sovereignty has shaped a vision of governance that resonates with those who prioritize a more insular approach to addressing the country's challenges.

This election outcome indicates a strong desire among a large segment of the American population for leadership that prioritizes direct and impactful change on domestic issues. Trump's approach has given voice to individuals who feel sidelined by the broader political and economic changes in the past few decades. For these Americans, his victory represents not just a political shift but a reinforcement of values they feel are essential to the country's identity.

As Trump begins his second term, his administration is likely to continue emphasizing policies that reflect the interests of his base. His return suggests a future where American policies are shaped by a firm focus on domestic prosperity and a cautious approach to international commitments. This direction could shape the United States for years to come, setting a tone that prioritizes national strength, economic self-sufficiency, and a sense of American pride.

Donald Trump's victory in 2024 marks a defining moment that reflects ongoing changes within American society. His election showcases the evolving concerns and priorities of a nation seeking stability and prosperity in uncertain times. By resonating with a coalition of diverse voters, Trump has redefined what it means to lead with a focus on national interests, setting the stage for a future that many Americans believe will secure their well-being and reinforce the values they hold dear. This election represents more than just a political win; it's a statement about the direction Americans want for their country, emphasizing security, prosperity, and unity under policies that seek to make America stronger from within.

The impact of a Donald Trump victory on India

By: Mowsam Hazarika

As the 2024 U.S. presidential election unfolds, India observes closely, contemplating the potential impact of a Donald Trump victory on India-U.S. relations. Although Kamala Harris, with her Indian heritage, appeals to many in India, Trump's policies might actually align more with India's interests in certain areas. However, a Trump presidency would present its own set of challenges, especially around trade and immigration. This article examines the implications of a Trump win for India, covering both opportunities and risks in trade, immigration, and geopolitics.

1. Strengthening India-US strategic ties

Trump's rapport with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been evident, notably through events like the "Howdy Modi" rally in 2019 and "Namaste Trump" in 2020. Trump's stance on countering China aligns with India's strategic priorities, especially regarding border issues in the Himalayas. Under Trump, unconventional support could bolster India's defense and security in the region.

For India, a Trump presidency could mean sustained backing in its efforts to counter China's influence in Asia. This partnership might extend into areas like defense technology sharing and joint military exercises, reinforcing India's position against external threats.

2. Potential economic challenges and trade implications

Despite strategic benefits, Trump's trade

policies could pose challenges for India. His administration previously imposed tariffs on several Indian goods, complicating trade. His "America First" policy, prioritizing American workers, could increase barriers for Indian businesses that export to the US.

India values open trade relations with the US, its largest trading partner, yet additional tariffs could impact sectors like pharmaceuticals, textiles, and IT. Indian exporters may need to adapt new strategies if Trump's policies increase costs, potentially reshaping India's trade dynamics.

3. Immigration and the H1B Visa concerns

Trump's immigration policy, particularly on H1B visas, remains a concern for Indians. His previous administration's restrictions prioritized American workers, affecting many Indian IT professionals and students. Similar policies could impact India's IT sector, which relies heavily on US revenue. While Trump's approach may benefit American workers, it could hurt India's tech industry and talent pipeline to the US, leading to economic setbacks. India's tech sector and professionals might face challenges as they navigate restrictive immigration policies.

4. Strengthening regional influence: The Bangladesh factor

A Trump administration might indirectly support India's regional interests, especially in its relationship with Bangladesh. Democratic support for certain figures in Bangladesh has sometimes conflicted with India's interests. Trump's policies could

align more closely with India, supporting stability and collaboration in South Asia.

By supporting India's stance in Bangladesh, Trump's policies could help India counterbalance China's regional influence, enhancing India's position and addressing security concerns.

5. The Israel-Palestine conflict and India's position

Trump's close ties with Israel, particularly concerning the Israel-Palestine conflict, could pose diplomatic challenges for India, which traditionally balances relations with both Israel and Palestine. However, India's strong defense and technology relations with Israel could benefit from Trump's support. Balancing energy needs and a pro-Israel stance from the Trump administration might require careful diplomacy as India maintains its neutrality and beneficial partnerships in the Middle East.

6. Decreased US involvement in Ukraine and global implications

Trump has indicated a desire to scale back US involvement in Ukraine, potentially shifting global power dynamics. For India, this may open avenues for greater diplomatic flexibility in its relationship with Russia, a longstanding partner in defense. Reduced US focus on Ukraine could allow India to maintain its strategic autonomy as it balances relationships with both the US and Russia.

7. NATO tensions and the global political landscape

Trump's past criticism of NATO suggests a potential reevaluation of the alliance,

which could reduce US commitments globally. Although not directly involved in NATO, India could be indirectly affected by such shifts. Reduced NATO influence may alter the balance of power, creating a multipolar world and giving India additional diplomatic space.

8. Conclusion: A strategic yet cautious future for India

A second Trump term offers both opportunities and challenges for India-US relations. Trump's ties with Modi could enhance India's strategic position, but protectionist trade policies and tightened immigration restrictions remain key concerns.

India must carefully navigate this geopolitical landscape, balancing its interests with relationships across global powers. Trump's policies may provide India with strategic advantages in Asia, though economic and immigration challenges demand cautious diplomacy.

In summary, a Trump presidency could bring stronger defense ties and alignment on shared concerns like China, yet India must prepare for the economic and social challenges tied to his "America First" stance. By balancing cooperation with self-reliance, India can harness benefits while protecting its core interests in a shifting global environment. (The writer is a poet, freelance science journalist and people's science activist. He is the former Director, Assam Seed and Organic Certification Agency & Former Joint Director of Agriculture (Pulse), Department of Agriculture, Assam)

What does Trump's victory mean for India?

By: Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

Trump's victory is strategically advantageous, though commercially challenging, for India. To understand the real significance of Trump's remarkable comeback, we need to move beyond emotions to implications. That alone is not enough in international relations. Personal relationships as well as the convergence or conflict of interests between two countries determine the direction of policies.

How Trump's second term will play out for India in this regard will be known only after he takes office in January. Trump has now been reestablished as a more serious obstacle to their objectives than China or multilateralism. Worse for the Deep State is that it is very likely that both the ongoing wars in Ukraine and Gaza will either be ended by sovereign multilateral coordination or they will be swept under the carpet to ensure a return to business as usual.

During the presidential election campaign, Democrat Tulsi Gabbard has created havoc among the

Democrats, and true Republican royalty like Liz Cheney has openly campaigned for the Democrats. At first glance, this may seem confusing, even bizarre, but that is what happens when political ideology goes down the rabbit hole as fast as it does in the US. If parties no longer know what they stand for, imagine how confused ordinary politicians, party workers, and voters will be.

The US is in a way like India, which was looking for a new direction at the start of this century; it took two general elections, a dreary decade, and the fiery arrival of Narendra Modi to shake things up and forge a new path. For Trump, the businessman, balancing the accounts and reducing the trade deficit is a natural task, one he will pursue as diligently as he did in 2016 to 2020.

Taking inspiration from Trump's first-term strategy, we can expect the US to increase oil and gas exports to the world's largest energy markets, such as China, India, and Europe. This is what he did successfully until the pandemic, and ironically, Joe Biden

also tried to replicate it but did not succeed.

The first-order effects are good for the US, as increased activity in the upstream hydrocarbon sector means more jobs, economic growth, a lower trade deficit, and lower inflation. Oil, especially Shale oil, contributed more to reviving the US economy than any other sector and can do so again.

The flip side is that Trump's inward-looking approach may lead to the loss of some jobs in India, and we may see some visa wars. Getting China and India to buy US crude oil is an honest compromise on the diplomatic front, which for all practical purposes will broadly mean that India and China will be left alone to consolidate their growing global position without too much US interference in domestic affairs. Of course, there will be some hue and cry.

In response, it is possible that large oil and gas exporters such as Saudi Arabia may unilaterally cut prices to retain market share, while the US uses all its remaining influence to squeeze Qatar and keep Iran out of the game. One indicator

of how this game is progressing is to wait and watch to see if India resumes crude oil purchases from Iran. If that happens, all bets are off on how global dynamics will change, as it will mean the US has accepted multipolarity as the new global reality.

There will be some sort of return to the US position on the two ongoing wars in Ukraine and Gaza. Both wars will either be ended by a multilateral sovereignty order or they will be ruthlessly suppressed to ensure a return to normality. It must be back to normal as soon as possible for the US and the rest of the world, because, lest we forget, instead of getting a recovery year after the pandemic, we got two ugly proxy wars, rising inflation and debilitating trade disruptions, something India escaped only because we cleverly circumvented the West's sanctions on Russia.

Now the debate on further US electoral reform will begin in earnest. The system is broken and needs to be fixed. What kind of framework the reform will take is only a matter of detail, but, in prin-

ciple, the conversation will begin on its necessity. It is the only way the US can avoid the civilizational collapse it is currently heading towards, and Trump knows it.

However, despite the tough trade stance, a second Trump term could prove beneficial for India. According to a report, under Trump, India will be under pressure to investigate the US trade surplus and impose possible sanctions. Despite this, the US's "China plus one" strategy could bring opportunities for India.

"China Plus One" is a trade strategy in which companies expand their operations in other countries, such as India, to reduce dependence on China. The strategy gained momentum during Trump's first term due to tariffs on goods imported from China and an emphasis on bringing manufacturing domestically. Trump's return this time too may strengthen this trend, which will encourage investment and supply chain expansion in countries like India. (The author is a poet, freelance journalist and columnist, radio and TV panelist)

Careers related to cities for sustainability

By: Ranjan K Baruah

We should know that over half of the global population currently resides in urban areas, a rate projected to reach 70 per cent by 2050. Approximately 1.1 billion people currently live in slums or slum-like conditions in cities, with 2 billion more expected in the next 30 years.

In 2022, only half of the world's urban population had convenient access to public transportation. Urban sprawl, air pollution and limited open public spaces persist in cities. Today, 85 percent of slum dwellers are concentrated in three regions: Central and Southern Asia (359 million), Eastern and South-Eastern Asia

(306 million) and sub-Saharan Africa (230 million).

To achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11, efforts must focus on implementing inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban development policies and practices that prioritize access to basic services, affordable housing, efficient transportation and green spaces for all. Urban sprawl, air pollution and limited open public spaces persist in cities.

Most of the urban growth is taking place in small cities and intermediate towns, exacerbating inequalities and urban poverty. Inequality and the levels of urban energy consumption and pollution are some of the challenges. All these issues will eventually affect every citizen.



Inequality can lead to unrest and insecurity, pollution deteriorates everyone's health and affects workers' productivity and therefore the economy, and natural disasters have the potential to disrupt everyone's lifestyles. Air pollution affecting the health of millions is not only an urban problem, but is also affecting towns and rural areas. The cost of poorly planned urbanization can be seen in some of the huge slums, tangled traffic, greenhouse gas emissions and sprawling suburbs all over the world.

This brings opportunity for the aspirants who would like to work for the growth of the city in a sustainable way. We have to make our cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. 31st October is marked as World Cities Day and this year's theme is focused on youth and the theme is "Youth Leading Climate and Local Action for Cities".

Experts emphasize the importance of involving youth in urban decision-making to harness their creativity and drive sustainable development. World Cities Day 2024, themed "Youth climate changemakers: Catalyzing local action for urban sustainability," aims to showcase the crucial role of local governments and young people in addressing urban climate challenges.

There are different career options related to cities. If we look at the theme of this year than one option could be working with young people for combating climate change. Urban planning can be an excellent career option in a country like India for people who want to plan cities and impact metropolitan areas. Urban planners exercise their expertise to profile the urban landscape by creating plans and policies that advance the quality of life for communities.

In India, Urban Planning or Town Planning is offered by a number of colleges which are affiliated to Institute of Town Planners of India (ITPI) or All India Council for Technical Education

(AICTE) or state departments. There are institutes like the School of Planning and Architecture and others that offer courses related to planning.

One may get a job with the government or private institutions or firms and consultancy agencies. There is much need for experts as we are talking about sustainable development goals and we must make our cities more sustainable and hence there would be more demands for the experts in this field. *(The write is a Career Mentor and Skill Trainer and currently the Advisor, Skill Employment and Entrepreneurship Department of Bodoland Territorial Council and can be reached at bkranjjan@gmail.com or 8473943734)*

Gauhati University recruitment 2024 – 3 Field Investigator posts

Last Date: 10/11/2024.

Gauhati University has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 3 Field Investigator Posts in Gauhati University for an ICSSR sponsored project entitled "Social Network, Functional Health, and Urban Environment: Assessing their Interrelationship for creating an Age-Friendly Environment". Intending and eligible candidates may apply.

Name of post: Field Investigator

No of posts: 03 posts

Pay: ₹ 20,000 per month

Educational Qualification: MA/MSC in Anthropology with minimum of 55% marks in the qualifying examination.

Other Skills: Communication skill for empirical field work and writing proficiency. Ability to work in computer programmes like MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint.

How to Apply for Gauhati University Recruitment ?

Intending and eligible candidates may send their resume at the Email id – guicssrproject@gmail.com latest by 10th November 2024.

Candidates will have to appear for an interview at the Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University at their own cost.

Original documents of their qualification and also other supporting documents will go on a check also for verification at the time of interview.

PGCIL Diploma Trainee recruitment 2024 – 802 posts, online apply

Last Date: 12/11/2024

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 802 Diploma Trainee (Electrical/ Civil/ Electronics) & Junior Officer Trainee (HR)/ (F&A) & Assistant Trainee (F&A) Vacancy. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online.

1. Diploma Trainee (Electrical)

No of posts: 600

Educational Qualification: Full Time Regular Three Years Diploma in relevant discipline of engineering - Electrical/ Electrical (Power)/ Electrical and Electronics/ Power Systems Engineering/ Power Engineering (Electrical), from recognized Technical Board/Institute with minimum 70% marks for General/ OBC (NCL)/ EWS Candidates and pass marks for SC/ST/PwBD.

2. Diploma Trainee (Civil)

No of posts: 66

Educational Qualification: Full Time Regular Three Years Diploma in Civil Engineering from recognized Technical Board/Institute with minimum 70% marks for General/ OBC (NCL)/ EWS Candidates and pass marks for SC/ST/PwBD.

3. Junior Officer Trainee (Human Resource)

No of posts: 79

Educational Qualification: Three years full time Graduate Regular Degree – BBA/BBM/BBS or equivalent qualification from recognized Institute/ University with not less than 60% marks for General/ EWS/ OBC (NCL) category candidates.

4. Junior Officer Trainee (Finance and Accounts)

No of posts: 35

Educational Qualification: Inter CA/ Inter CMA.

5. Assistant Trainee (Finance and Accounts)

No of posts: 22

Educational Qualification: B.Com. with minimum 60% marks for General/ OBC (NCL)/ EWS and pass marks for SC/ST/ PwBD.

Other Criteria of PGCIL Diploma Trainee Recruitment

Age Limit: Candidate upper age limit must be 27 years as on 12.11.2024 .

Age Relaxation: Category-wise age relaxation is as under.

OBC/ NCL: 3 years

SC/ ST: 5 years

PwBD: 10 years over & above category relaxation

Application Fee: Candidates need to pay an application fee of ₹ 300 for the posts of DTE/DTC/ JOT (HR)/ JOT (F&A) and ₹ 200 for the post of Asst. Tr. (F&A).

Important Dates of PGCIL Recruitment 2024

Opening date of online submission of application: 22nd October 2024

Closing date of online submission of application: 12 November 2024

Samagra Shiksha recruitment 2024 – 147 Academic Resource Person (ARP) posts

Last Date: 13/11/2024

Samagra Shiksha, Assam (SSA) has released an advertisement for the recruitment of 147 Academic Resource Person (ARP) posts under Samagra Shiksha, Axom on contractual basis. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online.

Name of post: Academic Resource Person (ARP) - for Career Counseling

No of posts: 147 posts

Pay: ₹ 25000 per month

Educational Qualification: Minimum at-least Graduation with certificate of diploma in Career Counseling/PG Diploma in Counseling or Masters in Psychology (preferred). Preferred minimum of one-year experience in providing career/educational counseling to students at schools.

NOTE: If it is a graduate with a diploma - at least 5 years of teaching/counseling experience. If Master's, 1 year of relevant experience.

Age Limit: The candidate should not be less than 18 years of age and not more than 62 years of age as on 01-01-2024.

Place of posting: As Block Resource Coordinators in the 147 education blocks under Samagra Shiksha Axom.

Tenure of Service: Tenure should be one year to cover the entire academic session.

Important Dates of Samagra Shiksha Vacancy 2024

Starting date for online application submission: 30th October 2024

Last date for online application submission: 13th November 2024

DSE Assam recruitment 2024 – 1487 Post Graduate Teacher posts

Last Date: 15/11/2024

Directorate of Secondary Education (DSE), Assam has released 2 employment notifications for the recruitment of 1487 Post Graduate Teacher (PGT) Vacancy in different Government and Provincialized Secondary Schools under the Secondary Education Department, Govt. of Assam. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online.

Name of post: Post Graduate Teacher (PGT)

No of posts: 1487 posts

Government Secondary School: 102 posts

Provincialized Secondary School: 1385 posts

Pay Scale: ₹ 22,000 to ₹ 97,000 including Grade Pay of ₹ 11,800 PM

Note: The District-wise, subject-wise, medium-wise & category-wise vacancy details is being made available at Important Web-Links section.

Eligibility Criteria of DSE Assam Recruitment

Age Limit: A candidate must not be less than 21 years of age and not more than 38 years as on 1st January, 2023.

Age Relaxation: The upper age relaxation will be as follows-

OBC/MOBC: 3 Years

ST/SC: 5 Years

Ex-Servicemen: 2 Years

PwD: 10 Years

Educational Qualification: The applicant must be a Post Graduate in concerned subject with at least 50% marks (or its equivalent) from recognized University and should possess Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) qualification from an institution recognized by National Council for Teacher Education. Degrees obtained in off-campus and distance education mode shall not be considered as valid.

Small Family Norms: No person having more than two living children on or after 01.01.2021 from a single or multiple partners shall be eligible for appointment as per the Govt. policy on normal Family Norms.

Employment Exchange Registration: The name of the candidate must be registered in an Employment Exchange.

Teachers Eligibility Test cum Recruitment Test: Candidate shall have to appear and pass in the Teachers Eligibility Test cum Recruitment Test to be notified in due course of time.

Medium of Instruction: In addition to the academic and professional qualification, the applicant must satisfy the following criteria:

(a) In case of **Assamese Medium School**, the applicant must have passed HSLC or equivalent examination with Assamese language as one of the subjects or have diploma in Assamese Language issued by the Assam Sahitya Sabha or read up to HSLC level in Assamese Medium School.

(b) In case of **Bengali Medium School**, the applicant must have passed HSLC or equivalent examination with Bengali language as one of the subjects or have Diploma in Bengali issued by the Barak Upanyaka Bangya Sahitya O Sanskriti Sammelan or read up to HSLC level in Bengali Medium School.

(c) In case of **Hindi Medium School**, the applicant must have passed HSLC or equivalent examination with Hindi language as one of the subjects or read upto HSLC level in Hindi Medium School.

(d) In case of **Bodo Medium School**, the applicant must have passed HSLC or equivalent examination with Bodo language as one of the subjects or read upto HSLC level in Bodo Medium School.

(e) In case of **English Medium School**, the applicant must have passed HSLC or equivalent examination with alternative English as one of the subject or read from Class XI onwards in English Medium School.

Provided that for recruitment of teachers for teaching MIL subjects the candidate who passed HSLC Examination with particular MIL Subject shall be considered.

Physical fitness: The applicant for the post of Graduate teacher shall be:-

i) of sound health both mentally and physically and free from any organic defect or bodily infirmity which is likely to interfere in the efficient performance of his duties; and

ii) required to undergo medical examination before appointment to the service.

Examination Fee: Category-wise examination fee is as under.

Category

General

SC/ST/OBC/MOBC/PWD/Others

Fee

₹ 500

₹ 350

How to Apply for DSE Recruitment?

Interested and eligible candidates may apply online for these vacancy by visiting official DSE Assam Recruitment Portal. Candidates may follow below mentioned steps to apply for DSE PGT vacancy.

Scroll down, go to Important Web-Links section .

Click on the "Online Application Form" and complete the registration process by clicking "Register Now".

In the next stage, fill your all personal and educational details and upload necessary documents.

At the end, submit the form.

Take a print out of the application form .

Document To be Uploaded with DSE Online Application Form

Documents as mentioned below should be coloured scanned and clear in PDF format while uploading and applying online and all documents should be self attested.

Passport Size Colour Photograph.

HSLC Mark sheet and Admit Card (Age Proof).

HSSLC Mark-sheet and Certificate.

Mark sheet and Certificate of Bachelor Degree.

Marksheet and Certificate of Post Graduate Degree.

Any other mark-sheet and certificate of higher education.

B. Ed. / Parangat Mark sheet (1st Year & 2nd Year) and Certificate.

Caste Certificate (in case of SC/ ST(P)/ST(H)/OBC/MOBC).

Candidates with disabilities will have to enclose certificates of disabilities issued by Govt. authority.

Scanned Signature.

Certificate of Ex-servicemen issued by the Director, Sainik Welfare Board.

Important Dates of DSE PGT Recruitment 2024

Starting date of submission of district preference option: 21st October 2024

Last date of submission of district preference option: 15th November 2024

Teachers Eligibility Test cum Recruitment Test

Candidate shall have to appear and pass in the Teachers Eligibility Test cum Recruitment Test to be notified in due course of time. Pattern of the test is as follows.

Subject	Marks
Pedagogy	50 marks
About Assam and its People	50 marks
General English	30 marks
General Studies and Current Affairs	10 marks
Total	140 marks

Examination Venue: The Examination Venue district will be Cachar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kamrup Metro, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Nalbari and Sonitpur. Candidate will have to select his/ her Examination Venue district during filling up of online application form.

Common Question Paper: There shall be one common question paper for all vacancies irrespective of Subjects for Post Graduate Teacher recruitment.

No of Qualified Candidate: The number of qualified candidates in the TET cum Recruitment Test shall be in the ratio of 1:1 of the vacancies advertised.

Merit List: In case, any post remains vacant after publication of the first Merit List as per the ratio of 1:1, then maximum 2 (two) more numbers of Merit List will be published. There shall be separate Merit List Subject-wise in case of Post Graduate Teacher.

Criteria of Merit List: The Merit List shall be prepared in the manner as proposed below:

The marks secured in the TET cum Recruitment Test by the candidates of a particular subject shall be filtered out from the main list into a separate merit list of the particular subject. Similar process shall be adopted for all other subjects.

IDBI Bank Recruitment 2024 – 1000 Executive – Sales And Operations posts

Last Date: 16/11/2024

IDBI Bank has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 1000 Executive – Sales and Operations (ESO) posts under IDBI Bank. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online here .

Name of post: Executive – Sales and Operations (ESO)

No of posts: 1000 posts

Category-wise vacancy:

UR: 13

SC: 6

ST: 2

OBC: 7

EWS: 3

Age Limit: 20 to 25 years. The candidate must have been born not earlier than October 2, 1999 and not later than October 1, 2004 (both dates inclusive).

Age Relaxation: The Upper age relaxation is up to 3 years for OBC and 5 years for SC/ST candidates.

Salary: The ESOs will be paid a lump sum/ fixed remuneration as under:

₹ 29,000 per month in the first year

₹ 31,000 per month in the second year

Essential Qualification: A Graduate from a recognized university in any discipline from a University recognized/ approved by the Government / Govt. Bodies viz., AICTE, UGC, etc.

Computer Literacy: Candidates are expected to have proficiency in computers/ IT related aspects.

Application Fee: The category-wise application fee is as under.

Category	Fee
SC/ST/PwBD	₹ 250
Others	₹ 1050

Important Dates of IDBI Bank Vacancy 2024

Starting Date to Apply Online & Payment of Fee: November 07, 2024

Last Date to Apply Online & Payment of Fee: November 16, 2024

India, ASEAN collaboration can be crucial in tackling contemporary issues: EAM Jaishankar

SINGAPORE, Nov 8: India and ASEAN are major demographics and their collaboration can be crucial in tackling contemporary issues, ensuring food and health security and addressing political challenges in the shared region like Myanmar, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Friday.

Jaishankar's remarks came as he addressed the Eighth Roundtable of ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks - Navigating a World in Transition: Agenda for ASEAN-India Cooperation.

"India and ASEAN are major demographics whose emerging demands can not only support each other but become larger productive forces in the international economy," Jaishankar, who is here on a day-long visit, said.

Together, ASEAN and India account for more than a quarter of the world's population, he said.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

"Our consumer demands and lifestyle choices are themselves major economic drivers. They will also shape the scale of services and connectivity as we promote trade, tourism, mobility and education. The magnitude of our endeavours has a resonance that is far beyond the immediate domain," he said.

"Collaboration can also be crucial in addressing contemporary challenges. In an era of extreme climate events, ensuring food security is a major concern.



Similarly, with the experience of global pandemics, preparing for health security is no less vital," he added.

Jaishankar said there are, and there will be political challenges in the shared region like Myanmar that India and ASEAN will have to address together.

"A prime example today is the situation in Myanmar. The interest and I dare say perspective of those who are proximate ... is always difficult," he said.

"We do not have the luxury of distance or indeed of time. This is increasingly the case of HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief) situations as well as also maritime safety and security," he stressed.

Jaishankar called for a stronger culture of self-help which will only arrive by "putting our heads and our time together".

The bonding between India and ASEAN is rooted in a deep cultural and civilisational connect and nurturing that has a value in itself, he said.

The minister underlined India's contribution in recent times to heritage restoration and conservation of art forms.

The India-ASEAN partner-

ship now in its fourth decade holds immense possibility, he said. "Bilateral and trilateral engagements have contributed to our closeness," he said.

The minister cited the example of the Mekong Ganga cooperation and the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand growth triangle that are making the impact felt. As the Indo-Pacific evolves, India has been expressive in its support for ASEAN's centrality and cohesion.

"India has been equally clear about respect for international law, rule and norms - both in approach and substance - as convergence has only grown over the last four decades. This is a foundation from which we can aspire to high ambitions," he said.

Jaishankar further added that, "growth and progress have shown a double-edged character. On the one hand, they have created prosperity on an unprecedented scale, bringing into being new forces of production, demonstrating the promise of technology and spurring the proliferation of connectivity."

At the same time, "we have also seen a leveraging of market

shares and economic dependency, the weaponisation of international economics and the strategisation of connectivity."

He also said that, data privacy and cyber security have become overriding concerns.

Global manufacturing and supply chains have started to transition. It could be even more so in emerging and critical technologies and the digital chain, he said.

"In India, we are seeing both the proliferation of Global Capability Centres and the expansion of manufacturing. To accelerate these trends, the Modi Government has announced the establishment of 12 new industrial parks," he said.

There is also deepening focus on enhancing the quality of India's talents and skills through vocational training, internships and expanding the education sector. Each of these could be opportunities for partnership between ASEAN and India, Jaishankar added.

He also said, "both India and ASEAN are today more focused on realising the value of green hydrogen and green ammonia. We are preparing for an era of electric mobility, green shipping and green steel."

Jaishankar also said that "digital world also opens up new possibilities as we all seek to collaborate to establish more payment platforms, data centres and semiconductor facilities."

He also said that "the emerging knowledge economy and advancement of AI necessitates greater human and enterprise mobility within our region." (PTI)

Russian President advocates for India's inclusion as a global superpower due to its rapid economic growth and strong ties with Russia

India deserves to be in list of global superpowers, says Putin

MOSCOW, Nov 8: India deserves to be included in the list of global superpowers as its economy is currently growing faster than in any other country, Russian President Vladimir Putin has said.

Addressing the plenary session of the Valdai Discussion Club in Sochi on Thursday, Putin also said Russia is developing relations with India in all directions and there is a great degree of trust in bilateral ties.

"India should undoubtedly be added to the list of superpowers, with its billion-and-a-half population, the fastest growth among all economies in the world, ancient culture and very good prospects for further growth," he said.

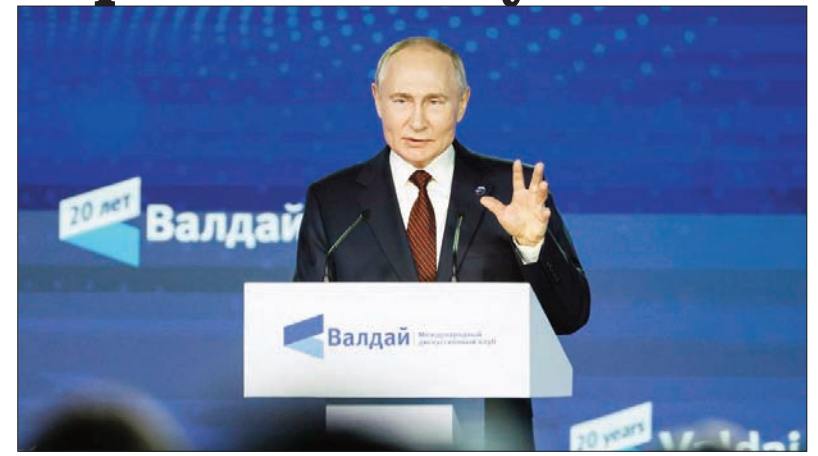
Calling India a great country, Putin said: "We are developing relations with India in all directions. India is a great country, now the largest in terms of population: 1.5 billion people, plus 10 million every year."

He said India is leading the world in economic growth.

"Our vision of where and at what pace our relations will develop is based on today's realities. The volume of our cooperation is increasing many times over, every year," Putin was quoted by Russian news agency Tass as saying.

Putin added that the contacts between India and Russia in the security and defence sphere are developing.

"Look at how many types of Russian military equipment are in service with the Indian armed forces. There is a great degree of trust in this relationship. We don't just sell our weapons to India; we design



them jointly," he said.

Putin named the BrahMos cruise missile project as an example.

"In fact, we made it [the missile] fit for use in three environments - in air, in sea and on land. These projects, conducted for the benefit of India's security, are ongoing," he said.

"This is widely known and no one has issues with that, but these projects demonstrate a high level of mutual trust and cooperation. So this what we will keep doing in the near term, and, I hope, will continue to do in the more distant future," he said.

Putin acknowledged certain difficulties on the border between India and China, the agency reported.

However, he said wise and competent people who keep the future of their nations in mind, are searching for compromises and will eventually find them.

"If this approach continues to gain momentum, compromises can be found, and they will be found," Putin said.

The ties between India and China nosedived following a fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

On October 21, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misra said in New Delhi that an agreement had been finalised between India and China following negotiations over the past several weeks and that it would lead to a resolution of the issues that arose in 2020.

The agreement was firm up on patrolling and disengagement of troops along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, a breakthrough to end the over four-year standoff. (PTI)

Russia blasts Ukraine with more aerial attacks as part of an intensified campaign

KYIV, Nov 8: Russian missiles, bombs and drones battered three regions of Ukraine in targeted nighttime attacks, officials said on Friday, as Russia mounts an intensified aerial campaign that Ukrainian officials say they need more Western help to counter - even as doubts deepen over what Kyiv can expect from a new U.S. administration.

Since the war began almost three years ago following Russia's full-scale invasion of its neighbor, the Russian military has repeatedly used its superior air power to blast civilian targets across Ukraine. More than 10,000 Ukrainian civilians have been killed in the conflict, according to the United Nations.

A 500-kilogram (about 1,000 pounds) glide bomb severely damaged a high-rise apartment building in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, in the middle of the night, regional Gov. Oleh Sinyehubov said. At least 25 people, including an infant, were injured, he said.

Glide bombs, for which Ukraine has no effective countermeasure, obliterate their targets, sending out a powerful shock wave and often leaving a wide crater.

In the southern city of Odesa, a Russian drone attack killed one person and injured nine others overnight, regional Gov. Oleh Kiper said.

In the capital Kyiv, falling wreckage from intercepted missiles injured four people, regional Gov. Ruslan Kravchenko said. In total, Russia fired 92 drones and five missiles at Ukraine during the night, Ukraine's air force said. Four missiles and 62 drones were intercepted, and 26 drones were jammed electronically, it claimed.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country needs more help to fight back against Russia's military might, even as uncertainty deepens about what Western aid Ukraine can expect after Donald Trump was elected this week as the next U.S. president.

"It is important to act together and decisively at the international level every time Russia tries to destroy our lives," Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram. "This is the only way to achieve a just peace and stop the deaths of our people." Russia launched about 2,000 drones at Ukraine in October, about one-third more than the previous month, making it the third month in a row that there was a significant rise, the U.K. Defense Ministry said Friday.

Russian fire rates have climbed since the middle of the year, it said, adding that the latest high monthly numbers will likely become the norm. (AP)

Philippine Prez angers China with new laws to demarcate South China Sea territories

MANILA, Nov 8: Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. signed two laws on Friday reaffirming the extent of his country's maritime territories and right to resources, including in the South China Sea, angering China, which claims the hotly disputed waterway almost in its entirety.

China's foreign ministry said it summoned the Philippines ambassador to China to lodge a "stern protest." The ministry condemned the move as an attempt to "solidify the illegal ruling of the South China Sea arbitration case through domestic legislation."

Confrontations between Chinese and Philippine coast guard and naval forces in the disputed sea passage have spiked alarmingly since last year. That has sparked fears that the United States - Manila's longtime treaty ally - may get drawn in a major conflict.

The laws, called the Philippine Maritime Zones act and the Philippine Archipelagic Sea Lanes act, were signed by Marcos in a nationally televised ceremony attended by top military and national security officials. They further cement Manila's rejection of China's claims to virtually the entire sea passage, and stipulate jail terms and stiff fines for violators.

"These signal our resolve to protect our maritime resources, preserve our rich biodiversity and ensure that our waters remain a source of life and livelihood for all Filipinos," Marcos said.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said the move "seriously infringes on China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea."

"China strongly condemns and firmly opposes it," she said.

In a new national map it released last year the Chinese government demarcated its claim to virtually the entire South China Sea with vague dash lines that drew protests and rejections from rival coastal states and government, including Malaysia, Vietnam, Taiwan, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The maritime zones act demarcates key parts of the Philippine archipelago's territory and outlying waters where it has full sovereignty and sovereign rights under international law



and the 1982 U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, Philippine officials said.

Those zones include the country's Exclusive Economic Zone, a 200-nautical-mile (370-kilometer) stretch of water, where a coastal state like the Philippines has exclusive rights to tap energy and other resources. Foreign ships and aircraft have an internationally recognized right known as "innocent passage" to pass through such a zone, as long as the coastal state's security would not come under threat.

The archipelagic sea lanes act allows the Philippines to designate sea lanes and air routes in the archipelago where foreign ships and aircraft could transit under its regulation and in compliance with international law.

"These legal instruments solidify our territory and enhances our ability to protect our country against any infringement," National Security Adviser Eduardo Ano said.

Marcos said the laws comply with international law and the UNCLOS, but many of their provisions stand in stark contrast to Beijing's claims in the South China Sea and would likely be rejected and defied by China.

It's unclear how the Philippines could enforce the laws, which take effect 15 days after their publication in the government's official gazette or in a newspaper, given China's increasingly aggressive actions to push its claims.

Copies of the laws signed by Marcos were not immediately available but a final version of the maritime zones bill stated that "all artificial islands constructed within the Philippine EEZ belong to the Philippine government." (AP)

Typhoon floods villages, rips off roofs and damages 2 domestic airports in northern Philippines

MANILA, Nov 8: Typhoon Yinxing battered the northern Philippines with floods and landslides before blowing away from the country on Friday, leaving two airports damaged and aggravating a calamity caused by back-to-back storms that hit in recent weeks.

There were no immediate reports of casualties from Yinxing, the 13th major storm to hit the disaster-prone Southeast Asian archipelago this year. The typhoon, locally called Marce, was last tracked over the South China Sea about 100 kilometres west of the northern Philippine province of Ilocos Norte with sustained winds of up to 150 kilometers per hour and gusts of up to 205 kph, according to government forecasters. It is expected to weaken further before hitting Vietnam.

The typhoon flooded villages, toppled trees and electricity poles, and damaged houses and buildings in Cagayan province, where Yinxing made landfall Thursday afternoon, provincial officials said. More than 40,000 villagers were evacuated to safer ground in the province.

In the northernmost island province of Batanes, Gov Mariou Cayco said Yinxing's fierce winds and rain blew away roofs of houses and damaged seaports and two domestic airport terminals. (AP)

Hungary's Orbán predicts Trump's administration will end US support for Ukraine

BUDAPEST, Nov 8: Ukraine has already lost the war it is fighting against Russia's invasion, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán said on Friday, adding that he believes Donald Trump will end U.S. support for Kyiv.

Orbán is hosting two days of summits in the Hungarian capital, Budapest, on the heels of Trump's election victory. The war in Ukraine will be high on the agenda for a Friday gathering of the European Union's 27 leaders, most of whom believe continuing to supply Ukraine with weapons and financial assistance are key elements for the continent's security.

Speaking on state radio, Orbán, who is close to both Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin, reiterated his long-held position that an immediate cease-fire should be declared, and predicted that Trump will bring an end to the conflict.

"If Donald Trump had won in 2020 in the United States, these two nightmarish years wouldn't

have happened, there wouldn't have been a war," Orbán said. "The situation on the front is obvious, there's been a military defeat. The Americans are going to pull out of this war."

Russian forces have recently made modest gains in the east of Ukraine, although positions on the front lines have remained relatively stable for months. Still, as the duration of the war approaches 1,000 days, Ukraine's forces are struggling to match Russia's military, which is much bigger and better equipped.

Western support is crucial for Ukraine to sustain the costly war of attrition. The uncertainty over how long that aid will continue deepened this week with Trump's presidential election victory. The Republican has repeatedly taken issue with U.S. aid to Ukraine.

At a gathering on Thursday of European leaders in Budapest, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy objected to Trump's claim that Russia's war with Ukraine could be ended in a day,

something he and his European backers fear would mean peace on terms favorable to Putin and involving the surrender of territory.

"If it is going to be very fast, it will be a loss for Ukraine," Zelenskyy said. Orbán has long sought to undermine EU support for Kyiv, and routinely blocked, delayed or watered down the bloc's efforts to provide weapons and funding and to sanction Moscow for its invasion.

But EU leaders have largely found workaround solutions to any obstruction and have been able to signal their commitment to continuing to assist Ukraine in its fight, regardless of who occupies the White House.

Arriving at Friday's summit, European Council President Charles Michel said: "We have to strengthen Ukraine, to support Ukraine, because if we do not support Ukraine, this is the wrong signal that we send to Putin, but also to some other authoritarian regimes across the world." (AP)

Australian states back national plan to ban children younger than 16 from social media

MELBOURNE, Nov 8: Australia's states and territories on Friday unanimously backed a national plan to require most forms of social media to bar children younger than 16.

Leaders of the eight provinces held a virtual meeting with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to discuss what he calls a world-first national approach that would make platforms including X, TikTok, Instagram and Facebook responsible for enforcing the age limit.

"Social media is doing social harm to our young Australians," Albanese told reporters. "The safety and mental health of our young people has to be a priority."

The government leaders had been discussing for months setting a limit, considering options from 14 to 16 years of age.

While Tasmania would have preferred 14, the state was prepared to support 16 in the interests of achieving national uniformity, Albanese said.

The legislation will be introduced into Parliament within two weeks, and the age ban would take effect a year after it passes into law, giving platforms time to work out how to exclude children. The government has yet to offer a technical solution.

The main opposition party has given in-principle support to the 16-year age limit since it was announced on Thursday, suggesting the legislation will pass the Senate.

The minor Greens party was critical, saying the ban would prevent the emergence in Australia of future child environmental activists like Sweden's Greta Thunberg.

More than 140 academics with expertise in fields related to technology and child welfare signed an open letter to Albanese last month opposing a social media age limit as "too blunt an instrument to address risks effectively."

Critics say most teenagers are tech savvy enough to get around such laws. Some fear the ban will create conflicts within families and drive social media problems underground.

Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram, argues that stronger tools in app stores and operating systems for parents to control what apps their chil-

dren can use would be a "simple and effective solution."

The government likens the proposed social media age limit to the laws that restrict the sale of alcohol to adults aged 18 and older across Australia. Children still find ways to drink, but the prohibition remains.

"We think these laws will make a real positive difference," Albanese said.

But Lisa Given, professor of information sciences at RMIT University, described the legislation as "really problematic."

"Many of our social networks are actually about the provision of extremely critical information to kids," Given told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"There's no doubt that they're also facing bullying and other challenges online, but they actually need the social supports to know how to navigate the platforms safely and so they need more support from parents, from care-givers, not less access to a single or multiple platforms." Given added.

Tama Leaver, professor of internet studies at Curtin University, described the government's plan to remove 14 and 15-year-olds from their already established social media accounts as "strange."

"If you've already developed that space in that world, to have it taken away really could do as much harm as the harms that are purportedly being fixed," Leaver said.

"There are so many questions about this that have yet to be answered, but even if we had solid answers about how this might work technically and how this might get implemented socially, it's still hard to believe that this would actually keep kids safe online," he added.

Communications Minister Michelle Rowland said children would retain access to online education and health services.

The legislation would also include strong privacy protections surrounding age verification.

"Privacy must be paramount, including that of children," Rowland said. "We should also be very clear about the realities. These platforms know about their users in a way that no one else does." (AP)

Myanmar's conflict-torn Rakhine state could face imminent acute famine, UN report warns

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 8: Myanmar's Rakhine state, home to the Rohingya minority and engulfed in conflict between government forces and a powerful ethnic group, could face an imminent acute famine, the United Nations development agency warned in a new report.

The UN Development Programme said in the report issued Thursday that "a perfect storm is brewing" which has put western Rakhine "on the precipice of an unprecedented disaster."

It pointed to a chain of interlinked developments including restrictions on goods from elsewhere in Myanmar and neighboring Bangladesh, the absence of income for residents, hyperinflation, significantly reduced food production, and a lack of essential services and social safety net.

As a result, UNDP said, "an already highly vulnerable population may be on the brink of collapse in the coming months."

Buddhist-majority Myanmar has long considered the Rohingya Muslim minority to be "Bengalis" from Bangladesh even though their families have lived in the country for generations.

Nearly all have been denied citizenship since 1982.

In August 2017, attacks by a Rohingya insurgent group on Myanmar security personnel triggered a brutal campaign by the military which drove at least 740,000 Rohingya to Bangladesh. The military is accused of mass rape, killings and burning thousands of homes. Since Myanmar's military seized power in 2021 from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi, pro-democracy guerrillas

and ethnic minority armed forces have been attempting to oust the military from power.

Last November, the Arakan Army, which is seeking autonomy from Myanmar's central government, began an offensive against the military in Rakhine and has gained control of more than half of its townships. The Arakan Army, which is the well-armed wing of the Rakhine ethnic minority movement, is also a member of the armed ethnic group alliance trying to topple the military.

The UNDP report said that based on data the agency collected in 2023 and 2024, "Rakhine's economy has stopped functioning, with critical sectors such as trade, agriculture, and construction nearly at a standstill." With domestic and international markets no longer accessible because of blockades, UNDP said people's incomes are collapsing because they can't export goods, and that agricultural jobs are disappearing for the same reason. (AP)



NSCN-IM threatens armed resistance

Muivah warns of renewed violence if India betrays 2015 agreement

DIMAPUR, Nov 8: In a strong and fiery statement, Th Muivah, the General Secretary of the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN-IM), has issued an ultimatum to the Government of India, warning that the Naga insurgent group will resume armed resistance unless the terms of the 2015 Framework Agreement are honored.

The Framework Agreement, signed on August 3, 2015, marked a historic step towards resolving the Indo-Naga conflict, but Muivah claims the Government of India has since betrayed its letter and spirit, particularly by refusing to recognize the Naga national flag and constitution.

The Agreement was meant to address the Naga people's demand for recognition of their unique history, sovereignty, and political rights. However, Muivah claims the Indian government's failure to fulfill these commitments undermines the agreement and jeopardizes the peace process. He declared that unless India accepts the demands of the NSCN, which include recognition of the Naga flag and constitution, the NSCN-IM will no longer wait and will consider all options, including the resumption of armed resistance.

"Gird yourself for any eventuality," Muivah warned, emphasizing that the NSCN-IM would do everything necessary to protect Naga sovereignty, including taking up arms if required. He added that the Naga people's commitment to their God-given freedom



and sovereignty would not be undermined by any force, and they were prepared to defend it at all costs.

Muivah's statement also recalled the 1997 ceasefire agreement that set the stage for more than 600 rounds of negotiations between the NSCN-IM and the Indian government. He highlighted previous agreements, such as the Amsterdam Joint Communiqué of 2002 and the 2015 Framework Agreement, both of which he claims officially recognized Naga sovereignty and the Naga people's right to self-determination. According to Muivah, these agreements established that Nagalim is not part of India, a position he asserts is being ignored by the Indian authorities. The NSCN-IM leader further criticized the Indian government's actions since the 2015

agreement, accusing it of deliberately trying to impose conditions that would lead to the surrender of Naga sovereignty. He warned that India's refusal to honor the Framework Agreement would force the NSCN-IM to reconsider its approach to the peace talks, including the possibility of violent resistance. In the statement, Muivah also proposed third-party intervention to mediate the dispute, but made it clear that if the Indian government rejects this option, the NSCN-IM would have no choice but to resume its fight for independence. "We will take whatever steps are necessary," he affirmed, stressing that the Naga people's historical right to self-determination and sovereignty is non-negotiable.

The Naga nationalist movement,

led by the NSCN-IM, has long sought independence from India, arguing that Nagalim (the Naga homeland) has a distinct identity and was never part of India or Myanmar by consent or conquest. The NSCN-IM's stance is that the Naga people's sovereignty and unique history must be recognized in any final political agreement.

While the statement stops short of outlining the exact nature of the armed resistance, it marks a significant escalation in tensions between the NSCN-IM and the Indian government. Muivah's words are likely to reverberate not just in Nagalim, but across the wider Northeast India region, where the Naga struggle for self-determination has been a long-running and contentious issue.

In closing, Muivah reaffirmed the NSCN-IM's commitment to the Naga cause and to protecting its sovereignty against all odds, invoking divine support for the struggle. "Nagalim shall be for Christ," he declared, signaling that the NSCN-IM views its political struggle as not just a nationalist cause, but a sacred mission.

As the situation develops, all eyes will be on the Government of India and whether it can reconcile the differences with the NSCN-IM, or if the decades-long insurgency will see a return to violence. The Naga people, for their part, continue to watch closely, hoping for a resolution that will honor their history and guarantee their future. (NNN)

Arunachal CM urges police to help govt in ending 'bandh' culture

ITANAGAR, Nov 8: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Friday exhorted police personnel to help the state government in ending the bandh culture by implementing the existing laws.

Addressing the 52nd Raising Day of the Arunachal Pradesh Police (APP) at Indira Gandhi Park here, the CM said his government will never tolerate bandh culture in the state which has adverse effects on the society and the people.

"The state police should strictly implement all the existing laws to curb the menace. Bandh is not the ultimate solution to place grievances. Organisations should adopt other means to place their grievances before the government. Bandh has a negative effect on the society and the state incurs heavy loss due to a strike," Khandu said.

Appreciating the state police for its glorious journey despite various challenges, Khandu said his government had invested a lot in the past nine years to strengthen the force.

Referring to drug abuse as a curse to the state, the chief minister called upon the police to deal with the problem strictly.

"In the last nine years, 1,678 vehicles were provided to the department, besides implementing the comprehensive surrender policy. The government has also installed CCTVs in all the police stations and established a battalion of National Disaster Response



Force (NDRF) at Hollongi where as many as 1,100 volunteers were trained to help the government during disaster," the chief minister said. He added that seven women police stations are already functional in the state and more are in the pipeline.

As many as 2,993 posts under various categories were created and the recruitment process was completed to strengthen the state police, Khandu said.

The government had instituted the 'Arunachal Ratna' award to honour police officials, who made supreme sacrifice on duty, by providing ex gratia of ₹ 50 lakh.

The chief minister appreciated the state police for peaceful conduct of the recently concluded assembly and Lok Sabha elections in the state and for maintaining law and order.

Khandu added that the state cabinet recently approved changing the nomenclature of the Special Investigation Cell (Vigilance) to the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to curb

and check all sorts of corruption in the state. The cabinet also gave its nod for granting special grades to police constables and assistant sub-inspectors to ensure timely career progression, he said.

"Today we celebrate the bravery, dedication, and selfless service of the police personnel who work tirelessly to ensure our safety and security. Their unwavering commitment to maintaining peace and upholding justice is truly inspiring," the chief minister said.

Speaking on the occasion, Home Minister Mama Natung said that the police are determined to curb the drug menace in the state and have already arrested several drug peddlers.

The police restricted interstate drug rackets with an iron hand through its 'Operation Dawn'.

Director General of Police (DGP) Anand Mohan, in his address, presented an overview of the state police, including various initiatives undertaken to strengthen the force. (PTI)

Manipur CM discusses effective utilisation of funds with Finance Commission



IMPHAL, Nov 8: Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh said he held discussions with the 16th Finance Commission on Friday on effective utilisation of funds provided through centrally provided schemes.

The visiting team of the Commission is led by its Chairman Dr

Arvid Panagariya. "Discussions were held on the effective utilisation of the funds provided to the state through Centrally Sponsored Schemes, proposals for grant-in-aids towards development of various sectors, and execution of specific projects, etc. in order to bring an economic

transformation in the state," Singh said in a post on X.

Singh chaired the meeting held at the Chief Minister's Secretariat. "A large part of the focus (of the meeting) was on the finances including what is expenditures in relation to the GSDP, outstanding liabilities in proportion to GSDP, what is the fiscal deficit etc," Panagariya said later.

Besides the chief minister, those who attended the meeting included several members of his Cabinet, the chief secretary and other senior officials.

"(It is also discussed in the meeting) how finances are doing and how finances are expected to evolve in the next several years," the Finance Commission head said. Panagariya also said that the Commission will sympathetically look into the cases of all northeastern states as was done by past panels. (PTI)

Six Bangladeshi nationals held in Tripura while enroute to Mumbai

HT Correspondent

AGARTALA, Nov 8: The Government Railway Police detained six Bangladeshi nationals, including three transgender individuals, at Jirania Railway Station in Tripura's West District on Thursday night. They were reportedly en route to Mumbai.

Speaking to reporters, GRP Officer-in-Charge Tapas Das stated that they had received a tip-off indicating that some Bangladeshi nationals who had entered the state illegally might attempt to leave from Jirania Railway Station.

"After receiving the information, we alerted our sister agencies and rushed to Jirania Railway Station. We detained six suspicious persons who were waiting for a train. When we initially questioned them about their residence, they claimed to be from Bishalgarh. However, they later admitted to being Bangladeshi nationals who had entered the state on the 6th of this month and were en route to Mumbai. A case has been registered against them, and they have been produced before the court," he said.

Among the six individuals, four are from Kishoreganj District and two from Noakhali District of Bangladesh.

Assam Rifles seizes illegal Indian and Bangladeshi currency from Tripura



AGARTALA, Nov 8: The Assam Rifles deployed in Tripura have seized illegal Indian and Bangladeshi currency from Boxanagar under Sepahijala District of Tripura.

In a press release, Assam Rifles said that in a joint operation conducted by Assam Rifles and Customs Dept, illegal currency including ₹ 5,04,000 Indian and 86,000 thousand Bangladeshi currency were seized from a hardware shop in Boxanagar under Sepahijala district.

"Acting on a specific intelligence provided by ECIB, Assam Rifles & Customs Dept conducted a well planned search operation which led to the recovery of illegal money. This operation will go a long way in restricting the illegal smuggling and malpractices along Indo-Bangladesh border", said Assam Rifles.

It said that Assam Rifles has been ever vigilant and pro-active in undertaking anti-smuggling drives along the border.

Headmaster assaulted in Imphal East over monetary demand

IMPHAL, Nov 8: In a shocking incident, a headmaster of a school in Imphal East district was assaulted by armed persons suspected to be in connection with a monetary demand on Thursday. The incident happened around 9.30 am at Iriblung High School under Iriblung Police Station in Imphal East district.

According to the school authority, two armed persons entered the room of Nongthombam Nilakumar and assaulted him using a rod.

The perpetrators quickly ran out of the room and fled in a car when some teachers rushed to the room.

The school authority also expressed strong suspicion of relating the incident with a monetary demand served to the school authority.



Later, the school students, teachers and non-teaching staff of Iriblung High School staged a sit-in protest at the front of the school's campus.

Placards which read "We condemn the assault of Iriblung High School Headmaster", "We want justice" and "Make us learn freely without threat and intimidation" were displayed during the sit-in protest.

Speaking on the sideline

of the sit-in-protest, Ksh Lousingba, a student of the school demanded swift action against the culprits, seeking befitting punishment.

He decried that the incident has posed a serious threat to the school community thereby undermining their morale.

The student asked all concerned people to make the education sector free from threat and intimidation. (NNN)

Tripura CM stresses inclusive development

Manik Saha highlights focus on OBC welfare and equality

HT Correspondent

AGARTALA, Nov 8: Tripura CM Manik Saha today said that the present state government's main priority is to work for the overall development of people belonging to all communities.

CM Saha said this while addressing the Dr B R Ambedkar Gold Medal Award and Vidyasagar Socio-Cultural Award event, organized by the OBC Department at Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhavan.

"Dr B R Ambedkar always advocated for equality and the development of all, and to fulfill this vision, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is working tirelessly. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay has always emphasized that beneficiary schemes should reach the last person in



society. In this direction, PM Modi is working. He has introduced many schemes, and the Tripura government is also actively implementing these," he said.

He pointed out that Tripura has a 24.5% OBC population and progress is not possible if

any section of people is left behind. "We must work for everyone and for everyone's development. This government is for all. Yesterday, too, I attended a program where I mentioned that the development of people from all communities is our priority. We are

working in this direction. The OBC Corporation is also actively helping people. Students should not feel inferior to anyone. We must follow the path laid out by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar," he added. He further emphasized that development is the primary focus, followed by other responsibilities. "We are working across various sectors. PM Modi has given us the HIRA Model—improving highways, internet, railways, and airways. We are working transparently. Our law and order situation is also significantly good. We must strive to provide safety and security for the next generation while generating employment, providing loans, and more," he concluded.

No. SSUHS/155/2024/6721 Dated: 6/11/24

EDUCATIONAL NOTICE

2nd ROUND OF COUNSELLING FOR SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR ADMISSION INTO THE VACANT SEATS OF B.SC. MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY COURSES IN THE MEDICAL COLLEGES OF ASSAM FOR THE SESSION 2024-25 UNDER SSUHS

It is for information of all concerned candidates that 2nd round of counselling for selection of candidates for admission into the vacant seats of **B.Sc. Medical Technology Courses** in the 4(four) Medical Colleges of Assam at Gauhati Medical College, Guwahati/ Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh/ Silchar Medical College, Silchar/ Jorhat Medical College, Jorhat for the **session 2024-25** under Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences (SSUHS) will be held on **20th November, 2024 from 11.00 AM to 3.00 PM** at the Conference Hall of SSUHS. The Schedule of counselling is as follows:

- All DIVYANG candidates
- Unreserved candidates upto Rank 250
- EWS candidates upto Rank 302
- OBC/MOBC (NCL) candidates upto Rank 802
- SC candidates upto Rank 1006
- ST(P) candidates upto Rank 1205
- ST(H) candidates upto Rank 1226

(Rank wise seats will be allotted till the availability of seats in that particular category) If any seat remains vacant in the second round of counselling, those vacant seats will be filled up through mop-up counselling on 21-11-2024 on first come first serve basis as per Rank List)

The candidates are requested to bring the following original documents along with one set of attested photocopies at the time of counselling.

- Passport size photograph
- Admit Card of H.S.L.C. Examination (Age Proof).
- Mark Sheet and Pass Certificate of H.S.S.L.C. or equivalent examination.
- Caste Certificate (wherever applicable).
- NCL Certificate in case of OBC/MOBC candidates.
- Permanent Resident Certificate of Assam.
- Score Card of Entrance Examination

Name of the courses and tentative vacant seats:

- B.Sc. in Cardiac Care Technology= NIL
- B.Sc. in Dialysis Technology = 3 seats
- B.Sc. in Trauma and Emergency = 7 seats
- B.Sc. in OT Technology = 4 seats
- B.Sc. in Anaesthesia and Critical Care = 5 seats
- B.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology = 9 seats
- B.Sc. in Blood Banking Technology = 7 seats
- B.Sc. in ICU Technology = 3 seats
- B.Sc. in Radiography and Imaging Technology = 1 seats
- Bachelor in Physiotherapy = 9 seats

A non-refundable counselling fee of Rs.750/- (Rupees seven hundred fifty) only is to be paid online before appearing in the Counselling through the link available in University website (www.ssuhs.in Fee Collect Student Category - Counselling Fee B.Sc. Medical Technology) and a copy of E-receipt shall have to be submitted at the time of counselling. Also admission fee of Rs.18,000/- (Rupees eighteen thousand) only per year shall have to be paid by the candidates if selected.

Sd/-
Registrar,
Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences

Janasanyog /D/8452/24/9-Nov-24

No.GMB.14/2023/343 Dated the Goreswar 30th October, 2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders affixing non-refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and twenty five paise) only with validity period of 180 days, which will subsequently be converted and drawn up in F-2 form are invite from APWD registered contractors of Class-I (A), (B) & (C), class-II and class-III (Roads and Building) category of Assam PWD (Roads and Building) BTC, Irrigation Engineering Department Class-I (A), (B), (C), Class-II and class-III And registered contractor of Goreswar Municipal Board Class-I (A), (B), (C) and Class-II and class-III according to their eligibility for submitting tender of the works given below. **The tender will be received by the undersigned at his office up to 1.00 PM. Of 19th November, 2024 and will be opened on the same day at 2.00PM.** In presence of the intending Bidders or their authorized agents. If the office of the undersigned happens to be closed on the date of receipt of tenders, the tenders will be received and open in the same venue and time on the next working day. Earnest money as shown below in the form of NSC/D.D/FDR duly pledged to the Chairperson, Goreswar Municipal Board will have to be deposited along with each tender. In case of SC, ST, OBC or unemployed Graduate Engineer (Proof to be enclosed along with the tender) bidders, the earnest money will be 50% of the earnest money specified below. The detailed tender document may be obtained from the office of the undersigned by the intending bidders, on written request and payments of as per chart which is non-refundable, during office on before 4.00PM of 16th November, 2024.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost in Rs. (Approx)/ Tender Value	EMD@2% OF ESTIMATED cost (Amount in Rs.)	Time of completion	Cost of Bid Documents (Amount in Rs.)
1	Construction of Cremation House at Paddapara, Ward No-6, Goreswar under the SOPD fund for the year 2024-25	Estimate cost Rs. 12,00,000.00 Tender Value Rs. 12,00,000.00	Gen Rs. 24,000.00 ST, SC, OBC Rs. 12,000.00	2 months	1000.00

Sd/-
Chairman
Goreswar Municipal Board

Sd/-
Executive Officer
Goreswar Municipal Board

IPR(BTC)/C/2024-25/834

Shah slams MVA, vows progress under BJP-led alliance

Uddhav has aligned with those who call Hindutva 'pakhand': Shah at Maharashtra poll rally

KARAD/SANGLI, Nov 8: Union minister Amit Shah on Friday attacked Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray, saying he should be ashamed of aligning with those who call Hindutva a sham, question the existence of Lord Ram and fed biryani to terrorist Ajmal Kasab.

He also accused NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar of speaking lies that investment was not coming to Maharashtra, and countered him saying that during the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)'s rule, the state ranking went down in terms of development, but is now attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) under the Mahayuti government.

Addressing a rally at Karad in Satara district of western Maharashtra ahead of the November 20 assembly polls, Shah dubbed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi a "factory of lies" and alleged that he was spreading misinformation about the Agnipath scheme.

Targeting Thackeray, he said he is sitting with those who call Hindutva "pakhand" (sham).

"You are sitting with those who protected the tombs of Afzal Khan and Aurangzeb. You are sitting with those who call Hindus terrorists. You are sitting with those who fed biryani to (26/11 Mumbai terror attack convict) Ajmal Kasab. And you are sitting with those who question the existence of Lord Ram. You should be ashamed," he said. After the 2019 Maharashtra assembly



elections, Thackeray, whose undivided Shiv Sena was earlier part of the government led by the BJP, joined hands with rivals Congress and NCP.

Shah further said, "Sharad Pawar ji, at this age also does not refrain from speaking lies. He says that investment is not coming to Maharashtra. I want to tell you that during your government with Uddhav ji, Maharashtra's development ranking had slipped down, but after our government led by (Devendra Fadnavis and Eknath) Shinde came to power, FDI is coming to Maharashtra," he said.

Shah said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has carried out a number of infrastructure projects in Maharashtra through Fadnavis and

Shinde, such as road connectivity, Samruddhi Expressway, Mumbai Coastal Road, Atal Setu, Metro trains in Mumbai and Pune, irrigation projects.

"Fadnavis ji introduced the 'Jalyukt Shivar' scheme, and carried out several irrigation projects. I would like to ask Pawar saheb to list out even a single work the MVA government implemented," he said.

On the promises made by the ruling Mahayuti alliance in its manifesto, including the increase in the Ladki Bahin Yojana amount from ₹ 1,500 to ₹ 2,100, Shah said these are PM Modi's guarantees.

"In the 2019 polls, BJP-Sena alliance had got the people's mandate but BJP was cheated. But this time, there will not be any such mistake

as Mahayuti will form the government with a huge majority," the former BJP chief said.

Calling Satara a land of valiant persons, he said thousands of youth from the region are serving in the army.

"Indira Gandhi had promised about 'one rank, one pension'. But despite the Congress being in power for 40 years, the promise was not fulfilled. It was Modi ji who fulfilled it, he said.

Shah said, "Rahul Gandhi is a factory of spreading lies. He has been spreading lies about the Agnipath scheme. He is saying that Agnipath is making the jawans of the army unemployed. Today, I would like to tell you that Agnipath is not a scheme to make youth unemployed but it is a scheme to make the army youthful."

He said every Agniveer will get a job after serving in the army, he added. Shah asked Sharad Pawar and senior Congress leader and its Karad (South) constituency's sitting MLA Prithviraj Chavan to give an account of the works carried out at the local level.

"They will not give the account, but I am the son of a 'baniya' (businessman) and I have got the accounts with me," he said.

"During the tenure of Pawar and Chavan as Union ministers in the UPA, the state got only ₹ 1.91 lakh crore, but during the 10 years of Modi ji, Maharashtra got ₹ 10.15

lakh crore. And still Sharad Pawar ji says they have been met with injustice. But if any injustice has been made, it has been done by Sharad Pawar and company," he alleged.

Addressing a rally at Shirala in Sangli earlier, Shah said the MVA will be wiped out in Maharashtra the same way the Congress faced a defeat in Haryana.

"If MVA comes to power in Maharashtra by mistake, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray wants to make his son the chief minister, (Sharad) Pawar saheb wants the post for his daughter and there are a dozen leaders in the Congress who have already stitched clothes to become the CM," he said.

"The development of this region can only be made by Devendra Fadnavis, Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar's Mahayuti under the leadership of Modi ji. We want to tell you that whatever promises Modi ji makes, they are fulfilled," he said. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge himself says that whatever promises his party makes are imaginary, Shah claimed.

"MVA people had purchased crackers worth crores thinking that they will win Haryana, but in most of the places they gave away their crackers to BJP workers. In Haryana, the Congress was wiped out. Similarly, the Aghadi will be wiped out in Maharashtra as BJP will form a government," he said. (PTI)

Rahul Gandhi accuses BJP of divisive politics, claims Manipur 'burnt'



LOHARDAGA, Nov 8: In a no-holds-barred attack on the BJP, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday accused the saffron party of burning Manipur and making attempts to divide people across the country on religious lines.

He also alleged that the saffron party deprived 90 per cent of the nation's population of their due rights and benefits.

"The BJP burnt Manipur and attempted to divide people on religious lines. It incited Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs against each other. In recently held Haryana elections, the BJP incited Jats against non-Jats... It is the character of the BJP," Gandhi alleged while addressing an election rally in Lohardaga.

The Congress leader also claimed that he undertook a 4,000-km padyatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari to "spread the message of love and to open 'nafrat ke

bazar me Mohabbat ki dukan' (to open shops of love in the market of hatred)".

"When I raise my voice for tribals and Dalits, the BJP accuses me of dividing India. I am here to unite and strengthen India. If I am wrong for raising the voice for 90 per cent of India's population, which constitutes tribals, Dalits and OBCs, for their participation in governance, I will continue to do so," Gandhi claimed.

He alleged that the BJP waived loans of 25 capitalists worth ₹ 16 lakh crore but blamed the Congress for easing farmers' debts to the tune of ₹ 72,000 crore during the UPA regime.

"Did the BJP government waive any loan of Jharkhand farmers?... No because you are tribals, Dalits and OBCs. The BJP will never waive your debts because it waives debts of capitalists," he alleged. (PTI)

CR Paatil criticises Congress for supporting Article 370 restoration



SURAT, Nov 8: Union Minister CR Paatil on Friday slammed the Congress by saying its leaders move around with a copy of the Constitution but support the restoration of the scrapped Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir.

The J-K assembly had, on Wednesday, passed a resolution seeking a dialogue between the Central government and elected representatives for restoration of Article 370 granting special status to the erstwhile state. The provision was scrapped on August 5, 2019.

"Congress leaders roam around with a copy of the Constitution but they are supporting the National Conference to get a decision taken by out Parliament to scrap Article 370 and 35A overturned. The real face of these parties has been exposed. They will never succeed in their intentions," Paatil said at a press conference here.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi often shows a copy of the Constitution at his poll rallies to target the

BJP, which he alleges wants to end reservations and other welfare provisions.

The scrapping of Article 370 has given people of J-K freedom in the true sense and reservation benefits to Dalits and tribals here, the Union Jal Shakti minister said.

"Terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir have reduced by 70 per cent since the repeal of Article 370. People there are now fed up with terrorism and want to contribute to the development of the country. Instead of giving priority to development work, the elected government (NC) is working to overturn a decision taken by Parliament," he said.

"People should ask where the Congress' loyalty to the Constitution has gone now. What is their objection to protecting the rights given by the Constitution to the tribal-Dalit and minority communities? Why do they want to take away their rights? Congress has to give answers to the people of this country," Paatil asserted. (PTI)

Andaman Lt Guv meets BJP MP after he sits on dharna over pending demands

PORT BLAIR, Nov 8: The Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi (retired), on Friday met local MP Bishnu Pada Ray, shortly after the latter sat on a dharna in front of Raj Niwas to highlight several grievances related to the development of the archipelago.

Ray went to Raj Niwas around 11 am and staged a sit-in, claiming that none of the public demands had been fulfilled by the LG.

The demands include the establishment of an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and conversion and registration of land.

Later, Ray agreed to withdraw the demonstration after the LG agreed to meet him to discuss various infrastructural issues.

"I would like to thank our LG for meeting me. He agreed to take up the land conversion and registration matter with the higher authorities and assured me that the issue will be resolved. He also promised to push for an AIIMS on our island," Ray said.

Kejriwal has become biggest symbol of VVIP culture: BJP

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: The BJP on Friday claimed that former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has become "the biggest symbol of VVIP culture" as it slammed the AAP convenor citing high costs of appliances and items, including toilet seats worth around ₹ 12 crore, used in his residence when he was at the helm of the government.

At a press conference, BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia dredged up a 2013 social media post of Kejriwal, an anti-corruption activist who had taken the political plunge in 2012, in which he had lashed out at the then chief minister Sheila Dikshit saying she had 10 ACs, including in bathrooms. Kejriwal had then accused her of corruption and questioned how can a chief minister live in such comfort when



Ray alleged that key sectors like health, education, roads, and others had suffered under the current LG's tenure.

He also claimed that due to administrative inaction, farmers had not been receiving diammonium phosphate fertiliser, which they need before sowing.

"The administration has stopped conversion of land. But I must say that today's meeting with the LG was fruitful, and he promised to expedite it," Ray said. (PTI)



over 40 per cent of Delhi's population lived in jhuggis, Bhatia noted, adding that the AAP leader has since deleted the post.

Citing official documents after Kejriwal quit as chief minister and left his official residence, the BJP leader said the bungalow had 21,000

sq ft built up area and 50 ACs in addition to a 250-tonne air conditioning plant. It had toilet seats costing 12 crore and a TV was worth over ₹ 28.91 lakh, he claimed.

If Dikshit was wrong and corrupt for having 10 ACs, then how will Kejriwal describe this luxury, Bhatia asked, accusing him of burying the political ideology that brought him to power. "He has become the biggest symbol of VVIP culture. Arvind Kejriwal is the most corrupt politician India has seen. If he has moral courage, then he should answer..." he said.

The BJP spokesperson claimed that people will finish off Kejriwal politically.

He was a leader who had sworn in his children's name that he would never use big bungalows like conventional politicians, Bhatia



ing the country's economy.

He said the falling rupee has caused resentment among people against the BJP.

The rupee dropped 5 paise to hit a new all-time low of 84.37 (provisional) against the US dollar on Friday, weighed down by persistent foreign fund outflows and a muted trend in domestic equities. (PTI)

Haryana minister dismisses claims of 'shortage' of DAP fertiliser supply

Assures sufficient DAP fertiliser for farmers

CHANDIGARH, Nov 8: Refuting opposition parties' claims that there was a shortage of DAP fertiliser in the state, Haryana minister Shyam Singh Rana said the government has taken proactive steps to ensure adequate supply to farmers.

Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Rana accused opposition leaders of spreading misinformation on the supply of diammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilisers in the state to "mislead the farming community".

The Haryana government is committed to maintaining an uninterrupted DAP supply to support a successful Rabi season, he said.

On Thursday, senior Congress leader Randeep Singh Surjewala blamed the BJP for the "shortage" of DAP fertilisers, saying the "crisis" was caused by a reduction in the fertilisers' import and stock, as well as slashing subsidies on it.

In a statement, Rana said contrary to Surjewala's assertions, the Haryana government has already released 2.38 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of DAP, meeting a significant



portion of the total 3.48 lakh MT required for the ongoing Rabi season, which runs from September 24 to March 25. The minister said wheat and mustard crops, covering approximately 24 lakh hectares and 10 lakh hectares respectively across the state, have been well-supported with fertiliser stocks so far.

The agriculture minister referred to departmental data, emphasising that the state's DAP supply is on

track with last year's requirements.

During the previous Rabi season, 2,29,086 MT of DAP was consumed. As of November 7 this year, Haryana has received 1,71,002 MT which includes releasing stocks of 53,970 MT of fertilisers till October 1, he said. Currently, 26,497 MT of DAP is available in various districts, with an additional 14,574 MT expected to arrive by November 11, Rana said.

Rana also highlighted that apart from DAP, farmers use a range of fertilisers, including NPK and single superphosphate (SSP). Haryana has received 65,200 MT of NPK and currently holds a stock of 26,041 MT. SSP supplies are also abundant, with a current stock of 71,380 MT across districts, the minister said.

He also denied Surjewala's allegations that there was any police action against farmers in Uchana, and rubbished claims of unrest among farmers in Narwana, Guhla Cheeka and Kaithal.

No such incidents occurred as per ground reports and no police involvement against farmers was reported, Rana claimed.

Rana also dismissed "baseless" accusations that DAP was being distributed through police stations in Bhiwani, Charkhi Dadri and Naraul.

He emphasised that local officials in these areas have reassured farmers of sufficient DAP stock while efforts were underway to address any concerns. (PTI)

BJP calls Congress govt 'laughing stock' as 'samosa politics' heats up in Himachal

SHIMLA, Nov 8: A day after a goof-up over serving snacks to Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu snowballed into a major controversy necessitating a CID probe, former state BJP chief Satpal Satti on Friday claimed the Congress government has become a "laughing stock" for ordering an "inquiry into samosas". "The police should focus

on the many scandals, from the CM's office to the secretariat, instead of wasting their time on petty matters," Satti said in a statement issued here. The incident occurred on October 21 when samosas and cake meant for the chief minister -- who was visiting the CID headquarters here -- were accidentally served to his security staff, necessitating a CID probe that termed it an "anti-

government" act.

"It is surprising to hold an inquiry into such a small issue and then term the mistake as anti-government. I feel the Congress government is not bothered about the people, as their main concern is how samosas are being served at their functions. This government has totally failed and become a laughing stock," Satti said. (PTI)

Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Karbi Anglong East Division, Diphu.

Memo No. B/KAE/Tender Notice/Four Lane Timber Lots/2024-25/5533, Dated 6/11/2024.

Cancellation of Tender Notice:

The tender notice published on 06 November 2024 vide letter no. B/KAE/Tender Notice/Timber/2024-25/5404 for Four Lane Timber Lots, published in three local news dailies (English, Assamese, and Karbi), stands cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer
Karbi Anglong East Division, Diphu.

New bench to decide AMU minority status, says SC as it overrules 1967 verdict

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: The contentious legal question over Aligarh Muslim University's minority status would be decided by a new bench, the Supreme Court held on Friday and overruled the 1967 judgement that said the university cannot be considered a minority institution since it was created by a central law.

In a 4:3 majority verdict, a Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, said a legislation or an executive action that discriminated against religious or linguistic minorities in establishing or administering educational institutions, was ultra vires Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

Article 30 deals with the right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions. Article 30(1) says all minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

"The view taken in Azeez Basha (1967 verdict) that an educational institution is not established by a minority if it derives its legal character through a statute, is overruled," held the CJI, who authored the 118-page verdict, also on behalf of Justices Sanjiv Khanna, J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

A five-judge Constitution bench in the S Azeez Basha v. Union of India in 1967 said AMU was a central university and couldn't be considered a minority institution.

"Additionally, a linguistic or religious minority which has established an educational institution receives the guarantee of greater autonomy in administration. This is the 'special rights' reading of the provision," the majority verdict said. Justice Chandrachud held that religious or linguistic minorities must prove that they established the educational institution for the



community to be a minority educational institution for the purposes of Article 30(1).

"The right guaranteed by Article 30(1) is applicable to universities established before the commencement of the Constitution," he said.

The CJI outlined the factors which must be used to determine if a minority has "established" an educational institution.

"The indicia of ideation, purpose and implementation must be satisfied. The idea for establishing an educational institution must have stemmed from a person or group belonging to the minority community and the educational institution must be established predominantly for the benefit of minority community," he wrote.

Implementation of the idea was stated to be another factor taken by the members of the minority community.

"The administrative-set up of the educational institution must elucidate and affirm (i) the minority character of the educational institution; and (ii) that it was established to protect and promote the interests of the minority community," it said. The question whether

thority of the chief justice of India being the master of the roster and in derogation of the special powers enjoyed upon under Article 145 of the Constitution..." he wrote in a separate 102-page verdict.

Justice Datta, in his 88-page opinion, declared AMU not to be a minority educational institution. "I am left to wonder how the bench of two judges in Anjuman-e-Rahmania could at all request that the case be placed before a bench of at least seven judges," he wrote, adding, "... I am afraid, tomorrow, a bench of two judges, referring to opinions of jurists could well doubt the 'basic structure' doctrine and request the Chief Justice of India to constitute a bench of 15 judges."

In a 193-page judgment, Justice Sharma said the two-judge bench could not have referred the matter to a bench of seven judges directly without the CJI being a part of the bench.

The top court had on February 12, 2019, referred to a seven-judge bench the contentious issue and a similar reference was made in 1981 previously.

The fabled educational institution, however, got back its minority status when Parliament passed the AMU (Amendment) Act in 1981.

The Congress-led UPA government at the Centre had moved in appeal against the high court's 2006 verdict apart from the university filing a separate petition against it.

The BJP-led NDA government informed the Supreme Court in 2016 that it would withdraw the appeal filed by the erstwhile UPA dispensation.

It had cited the 1967 judgement in the Basha case to claim that AMU was not a minority institution since it was a central university funded by government. (PTI)

"The reference by the two-judge bench in Anjuman (in 1981) is nothing but a challenge to the au-

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Prompt legal action against corrupt extremely important: President Murmu

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Asserting that delay or weak action encourages unethical people, President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said that prompt legal action against corrupt is extremely important.

Addressing the vigilance awareness week function of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) here, she said that properties worth over USD 12 billion have been seized in the last ten years under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Murmu said that trust is the foundation of social life and the source of unity.

"Public trust in the government's work and welfare schemes is the source of power for governance. Corruption is not only an obstacle to economic progress, it also reduces trust in society. It adversely affects the feelings of fraternity among people. It also has a widespread impact on the country's unity and integrity," the president said.

She said every year on Sardar Patel's birth anniversary on October 31, "we take a pledge to keep the country's unity and integrity intact".

"This is not just a ritual. It is a pledge to be taken seriously. We all have a collective responsibility to fulfill it," the president said.

Murmu said prompt legal action against the corrupt is extremely important.

"Delay in action or weak action encourages unethical persons. But it is also necessary that every action and person should not be viewed with suspicion. We should avoid this. Keeping in mind the dignity of the person, no action should be motivated by malice. The objective of any action should be to establish justice and equality in the society," she said.

Murmu said a comprehensive approach will have to be adopted to eradicate corruption.

"We will have to go to the root of



this disease. It will not be effective to cure it only through symptoms. The eternal values of the Indian society like integrity, ethics, compassion and transparency have to be strengthened. There is a need for strengthening of these life values," the president said.

Citing Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and e-tendering, she said the Centre has taken several measures to check corruption.

Murmu said that if any work is done with the right spirit and determination, success is certain.

"Some people considered uncleanliness to be the destiny of our country. But strong leadership, political will and contribution of citizens have brought good results in the field of cleanliness. Similarly, to consider the elimination of corruption as impossible is a pessimistic attitude of some people, which is not right," the president said.

She expressed confidence that the Government of India's policy of 'zero tolerance against corruption' will eradicate the roots of this malice.

Murmu said that morality is the ideal of Indian society.

"When some people start considering accumulation of things, money or property the standard of a good life, then they deviate from this ideal and resort to corrupt activities. Happiness lies in living life

with self-respect by fulfilling the basic needs," she said.

The president said in "our society, integrity and discipline are considered the ideals of life".

About 2,300 years ago, Megasthenes (ancient Greek historian) wrote about Indian people that they dislike indiscipline and follow the law, she said.

"There is simplicity and austerity in their lives. Similar mentions have been made by Fa-Hien about our ancestors. In this context, this year's theme of CVC 'Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity' is very apt," Murmu said.

Probit watchdog CVC observed the vigilance awareness week from October 28 to November 3, this year.

Along with the vigilance awareness week, the commission organises a three-month campaign on preventive vigilance which has been undertaken by the ministries/departments/organisations of the central government from August 16 and will continue till November 15.

The five focus areas of the campaign are capacity building, identification and implementation of systemic improvement, up-dation of circulars/guidelines/manuals, disposal of complaints received before June 30, 2024 and dynamic digital presence. (PTI)

Bodies of slain VDGs recovered; hunt on to track down terrorists in Kishtwar

KISHTWAR/JAMMU, Nov 8: The bodies of two village defence guards (VDG) killed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district were on Friday recovered from near a rivulet during a search operation, officials said.

A massive cordon-and-search operation is also underway in Kishtwar to track down the terrorists responsible for the killings.

According to officials, the two VDGs were executed by terrorists on Thursday after being abducted in the higher reaches of Kishtwar district. Their bodies were spotted lying near a rivulet in the Pongdwari area in Keshwan belt.

The Army and Special Operations Group (SOG), after locating the bodies, carefully conducted an operation to recover them, the officials said, adding that the bodies are being transported to the deceased's homes in the district. A joint search operation involving the police, Army, and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been launched in a dense forest area following the gruesome killings, which have been condemned by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah, and leaders from the People's Democratic Party, Congress, and the BJP.

The operation is concentrated in the Kuntwara, Ohli, and Munzla Dhar hilly areas, with reinforcements dispatched early this morning, the officials said.

Security forces have intensified efforts, deploying drones and sniffer dogs, with a helicopter seen hovering over the forested area this morning, they added.

"Two VDG members, Nazir Ahmed and Kuldeep Kumar from Ohli-Kuntwara, went missing in the upper reaches while grazing livestock," a police spokesperson said. Photographs of their bodies later circulated on social media, and family members have confirmed their identities, the spokesperson added.

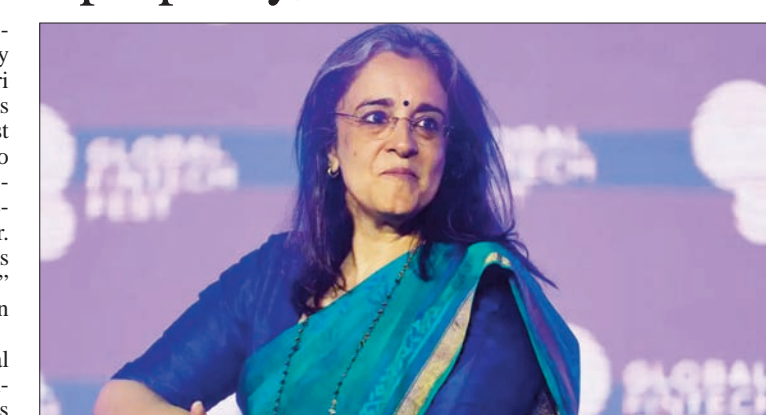
The officials reported that Ahmad and Kumar had gone to graze cattle in the Munzla Dhar forest in Adhwari but did not return. Police teams spread out to locate them amid reports of their abduction and subsequent killing by terrorists. "My brother and Nazir were abducted and killed by terrorists. (PTI)

Lokpal seeks SEBI chief's 'explanation' on complaints of 'impropriety, conflict of interest'

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal on Friday sought SEBI chief Madhabi Puri Buch's "explanation" on complaints of impropriety and conflict of interest filed by a Lok Sabha member and two others on the basis of a report by US-based short-seller Hindenburg Research, according to an official order. The Lokpal, however, clarified its order is only a "procedural directive" and "not an expression of our opinion on any matter in issue, either way".

Buch, the chairperson of capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has been asked to submit her response within four weeks, according to the order. "... We deem it appropriate to call upon the named RPS (respondent public servant) to offer explanation qua the allegations made against her in the respective complainant and elaborated in the concerned explanatory affidavit," reads the order signed by Lokpal chairperson Justice A M Khanwilkar and five other members.

"This opportunity is being afforded to the named RPS as per the mandate in the third proviso of sub section (1) of section 20 of the Lokpal Act, before the bench would proceed to determine



whether there exists a prima facie case for investigation into the allegations," it said.

It said she can submit her response or explanation complaint wise in all the three complaints to avoid repetition, the order said.

"We reiterated that this order is not an expression of our opinion on 'any matter in issue', either way. This is only a procedural direction..." it added. The order, signed by judicial members Justices L Narayana Swamy, Sanjay Yadav and Ritu Raj Awasthi, and members Sushil Chandra and Ajay Tirkey, said Buch can file an af-

fidavit to offer explanation within four weeks from the receipt of the order. The Lokpal has listed the matter on December 19 for further consideration. In an order dated September 20, the Lokpal had said that the complaint by the Lok Sabha member alleging impropriety and conflict of interest by SEBI chief "falls short" of persuading it to order any probe.

The anti-graft ombudsman's observation came while hearing two complaints, including one by the Parliamentarian, filed on the basis of a report by US-based "activist short-seller" Hindenburg Research. (PTI)

Men shouldn't take women's measurements at tailor shops, cut their hair at salons, proposes UP panel

LUCKNOW, Nov 8: Men should not take women's measurements at tailor shops, they should not cut a woman's hair or train her in the gym either -- these are some of the proposals from the Uttar Pradesh State Women Commission to protect women from "bad touch" and stymie the ill intentions of men.

The radical raft of suggestions, which includes installing CCTVs in gyms, cloth stores and coaching centres, and having a woman for security in school buses, followed a meeting held on October 28.

The commission said it has sent letters on the guidelines -- which seem to be an attempt to segregate men and women in public spaces to improve women's safety -- to all district magistrates in the state to ensure compliance on the matter.

"There have been increasing complaints of 'bad touch' by male trainers in gyms and in women's boutiques where tailors who take measurements are mostly male," Babita Chauhan, chairperson of the UP women's body, told PTI.

"What we are saying is that it isn't a problem if the tailor is male but only women should take measurements," Chauhan said.

In a press note, the women's panel proposed that women's gyms and yoga centres should only have female trainers. The gym and the trainers should be verified, while CCTV and DVRs at the establishments should mandatorily be in working condition, it said.

It said boutiques should have a female tailor to take women's measurements for clothes, with a functioning CCTV at the store. Shops selling women's clothes are required to have female employees, it said.

It is mandatory to have a female dance teacher at drama centres and a female security guard or teacher in school buses, the guidelines added.

Chauhan said, "We are aware that trained women will have to be employed at all these places and this might take

some time." However, it would also help employ more women, the UP women's commission chairperson added.

Himani Agarwal, a member of the commission, said the proposal floated by Chauhan on October 28 was accepted by the panel.

Explaining the rationale behind the proposal, Agarwal said the involvement of men in such professions can lead to women getting molested. "They (men) try to indulge in bad touch."

"The intention of some of the men is also not good," she said, before adding, "not that all men have bad intentions".

Agarwal added that it is just a proposal as of now and the women's commission will subsequently request the state government to make laws on it.

The proposal has drawn mixed reactions, with Samajwadi Party MLA Ragini Sonkar saying it should be left to individuals to decide which store or gym they want to go to. "I don't think this is a justified decision as it should be an individual choice on whether one prefers a male or a female to attend to them."

It is a matter of choice," said the MLA from Machhlishahr in Jaunpur district. (PTI)

No greater feeling than serving those in need: Outgoing CJI D Y Chandrachud

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: There was no greater feeling than being able to serve those in need and people he never knew or met, Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said on his last working day as the 50th head of the Indian judiciary on Friday.

Heading a four-judge ceremonial bench, also comprising CJI-designate Sanjiv Khanna, Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, which assembled to bid him farewell, the CJI expressed a deep sense of fulfilment, not only for the work accomplished but for the opportunity to serve the country.

Justice Chandrachud stepped into the shoes of his illustrious father Y V Chandrachud, who served as the longest CJI between 1978 and 1985, on November 9, 2022 and will be demitting office on November 10, a Sunday. Rich tributes were paid to him by CJI-designate Khanna and bar leaders, including the attorney general, the solicitor general, Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president Kapil Sibal and others to mark the pivotal moment in India's judicial history.

"You asked me what keeps me going. It is this court which has kept me going, because there is not a single day when you feel that you have not learned something, that you have not had an opportunity to serve the society."

"And there is no greater feeling than being able to serve those in need



and the people you would never meet, people you possibly do not even know, people whose lives you have the ability to affect without ever having seen them," a visibly emotional CJI said.

In his address, CJI Chandrachud recounted his journey, from sitting in the last row of the court as a young law student to his time on the revered corridors of the top court.

He reflected on the immense privilege of serving the country, emphasising that each day spent in the court was an opportunity to learn and grow in both legal knowledge and personal insight. "I was always aware of the overpowering presence of the greats of this court and the responsibility that came with sitting in this chair. But at the end of the day, it is not about the individual, it is about the

institution and the cause of justice we uphold here," the CJI said.

He spoke with admiration for his colleagues, particularly highlighting his time on the bench with Justices Pardiwala and Misra, noting the camaraderie and diversity of perspectives that enriched their collective work. The CJI also expressed his confidence in the future of the court, reassuring the legal community that his successor, Justice Khanna, whom he described as "dignified, stable and deeply committed to justice", would lead the court with equal dedication and vision.

In a heartfelt conclusion, CJI Chandrachud expressed his gratitude to everyone who contributed to his journey -- senior advocates, juniors, officers and staff -- acknowledging that each one of them played a role in

shaping his understanding of the law and life.

He also extended an apology for any unintentional errors or misunderstandings, saying, "If I have ever hurt anyone, I seek your forgiveness."

Justice Khanna wished good luck to the CJI, saying, "He has made my task easy and tough. Easy because of the revolutions ushered in and tough because I cannot walk up to him. He will be sorely missed. His youthfulness is not known here only but also abroad. In Australia, there were so many who came to me and asked what his age was."

Sibal described the CJI as "the extraordinary son of an extraordinary father". "I have practised in this court for 52 years now and in my life, I have never seen a judge with the kind of limitless patience that you have, the ever smiling Dr Chandrachud," the SCBA president said.

"What can I say about you as a human being and you as a judge? As a judge, your conduct was exemplary. No one can match it. You reached out to communities in this country who were never heard before, who were not seen before. You brought them before you and showed what dignity meant for them," he added.

"Be it liberty, be it fraternity, be it life, be it the life of ordinary, marginally challenged people, you have, unlike your father, dealt with this court when the court was tumultuous.

You have dealt with the court when matters were tumultuous. You took them head on, unafraid of the consequences. Your greatest legacy to this court that there will be none like you..." he said.

Former attorney general K K Venugopal recounted his experience and said, "When your father asked me should I advise him (Justice Chandrachud) to continue at the bar or take judgeship, I said he is a great lawyer and let him continue in the same. But you took up judgeship and thank god. If you had listened to me, then we would have lost such a great judge." Born on November 11, 1959, Justice Chandrachud has had a distinguished career in the judiciary.

His passion for cricket dates back to his childhood, when he reportedly played the sport in the backyard of his father's residence in Lutyens' Delhi. He was designated as a senior advocate by the Bombay High Court in June 1998 and served as the additional solicitor general, before being appointed a judge of the Bombay High Court on March 29, 2000. He later became the chief justice of the Allahabad High Court on October 31, 2013.

Justice Chandrachud holds a BA degree in Economics from Delhi's St Stephen's College, an LLB from the Delhi University's Campus Law Centre and an LLM and a Doctorate in Juridical Sciences (SJD) from the Harvard Law School. (PTI)

MODERNIZATION AND UPGRADATION AT LUMDING DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. LMG/Engg/157 of 2024 Dated: 05-11-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Brief Description of Item:** Modernization and Upgradation of DRM(W) Engineering Section office by providing false ceiling, Distemping, Aluminium Door windows for provision of AC facilities and other ancillary works under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN/IV/Lumding. **Tender Value:** ₹74,06,063.22/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹1,48,100/- **Date & Time of Closing of Tender:** 15.00 hrs. of 28-11-2024 & opening at 15.00 hrs. of 29-11-2024. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. of 28-11-2024 in website www.reps.gov.in.

DRM (W), Lumding
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF RAILWAY SCRAP MATERIALS

E-auction additional programme for sale of Railway Scrap materials under jurisdiction of Tinsukia Division for the month of DECEMBER 2024, is hereby fixed as under:

SN	Month	Date Fixed
1	December 2024	04-12-2024, 11-12-2024 and 24-12-2024 for Tinsukia Division. 06-12-2024, 19-12-2024 and 27-12-2024 for GSD/ Dibrugarh Town

For details please visit the website www.reps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Materials Manager/Depot, Dibrugarh

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

Ananya Panday wears mother's 21-yr-old suit by Rohit Bal in tribute to late designer

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Actor Ananya Panday, who walked the ramp for Rohit Bal's last fashion show, paid tribute to the late designer by wearing a suit that he designed for her mother 21 years ago.

One of India's most celebrated fashion designers, Bal died on November 2 at a South Delhi hospital following a heart attack weeks after showcasing his collection at the Lakme Fashion Week X FDCI 2024 grand finale with Panday as his showstopper. He was 63.

Panday shared pictures from her cousin's wedding festivities where she wore a sea blue salwar suit that originally belonged to her mother Bhavana Pandey.

"BRIDEEEEEE @deeyashroff Obsessed with my sister getting married but also not ready to let go of her yet but also very excited

to have a brother now !! @mihirmadhvani. Also wearing my moms @rohit-ballofficial from 21 years ago! (sic)" she captioned her photos.

"Gudda forever," she added, referring to Bal's nickname.

Bhavana Pandey, the star of "Fabulous Lives vs Bollywood Wives", commented on Panday's post, saying "It looks great on you!!!!" Previously, the "CTRL" actor posted a picture from the fashion show on social media and said, "Gudda, On Shanti." Last December, Bal was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) of a private hospital in Gurugram for cardiac issues.

The Lakme Fashion Week X FDCI 2024 grand finale marked his runway comeback, and also his last showing, 10 months after the health scare. (PTI)



Salman Khan gets another threat; message sent to Mumbai traffic police helpline



MUMBAI, Nov 8: Another threat has been issued to Bollywood actor Salman Khan, with the sender demanding Rs 5 crore on "behalf of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang", officials said on Friday. The threat message was sent to Mumbai traffic police's WhatsApp helpline on Thursday night, an official said.

The sender of the message threatened the actor and demanded Rs 5 crore, claiming it was being made on behalf of the Bishnoi gang. Besides, the individual also threatened the lyricist of the song "Main Sikandar Hoon", the official said.

On a complaint by traffic officials, the Worli police have registered a case and launched a probe, he said.

In the past few weeks, the traffic police helpline has received many threat messages for Salman Khan.

Khan had earlier received death threats from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. While Bishnoi himself is lodged in Ahmedabad's Sabarmati jail in cases including attempted murder and extortion, suspected members of his gang opened fire outside the actor's Bandra home in April.

Weeks after that, Navi Mumbai Police claimed to have uncovered a plot by the Bishnoi gang to kill Khan while on his way to his farmhouse at Panvel near Mumbai. (PTI)



PRABHAS, HOMBALÉ FILMS SIGN THREE-FILM DEAL

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Telugu cinema star Prabhas and production house Hombale Films on Friday announced a three-film partnership, which will begin with the upcoming sequel of their 2023 blockbuster "Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire". The makers, however, didn't reveal the titles of the other two films. Hombale Films, also known for Kannada film franchises "KGF" and "Kantara", has dated the release of all three projects starting 2026 to 2028. "We are proud to unite with the Rebel Star, #Prabhas, in a groundbreaking three-film partnership that celebrates the essence of Indian cinema and aims to take it to the world. "This is a declaration of our commitment to creating cinematic experiences that will be unforgettable. The stage is set and the path ahead is limitless. Get ready, as the journey begins with #Salaar2," the banner said in the statement. "At Hombale, we believe in the power of storytelling that transcends borders. Our collaboration with Prabhas is a step towards crafting timeless cinema that will inspire and entertain for generations to come," added Hombale Films founder Vijay Kiragandur. Prabhas will next be seen in "The Raja Saab". (PTI)

European Union Film Festival kicks off in New Delhi with premiere of 'La Chimera'

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Film enthusiasts gathered at the India Habitat Centre on Thursday for the opening ceremony of the 29th edition of the European Union Film Festival (EUFF) which kickstarted with the screening of "La Chimera", an Italian film by renowned writer-director Alice Rohrwacher.

The film gala was inaugurated by EU Ambassador to India Herve Delphin, along with Italian actor Yile Yara Vianello; Andrea Anastasio, director of the Italian Cultural Institute; and Lithuanian director Tomas Vengris.

Organised by the European Union, in collaboration with EU Members States and regional partners, the festival is billed as an annual celebration of European cinema. This year's edition will screen 26 award-winning films in 31 languages, offering a window into the society, culture, and people of the continent.

The festival is being held at three prominent venues in New Delhi — India Habitat Centre (IHC), Instituto Cervantes, and Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan.

Delphin praised India for its long tradition of cinema.

"People here love cinema and so do we in Europe, so bringing the best of European filmmaking to India is really something that helps to project Europe's richness, diversity, culture and storytelling to Indian audiences that we know can connect to cinema," the EU ambassador to India told PTI.

"The EU film festival is now in its 29th edition. Over time, it has established itself as part of the art scene and the cultural landscape in India. It has become a period, a place of meeting and an exchange of experiences between professionals," he added. "La Chimera", which competed at the 76th Cannes Film Festival, is a period comedy drama, following the story of a British looter who gets involved in an international network of stolen Etruscan artefacts during the 1980s.

The movie features Josh O'Connor with Carol Duarte, Vincenzo Nemolato, Alba Rohrwacher and Isabella Rossellini in supporting roles. The EUFF lineup also includes "What A Feeling" (Austria), "Five & A Half Love Stories in an Apartment in Vilnius" (Lithuania), "Stairway To Heaven" (Estonia), "Death is a Problem for the Living" (Finland), "Jim's Story" (France), "The Last Ashes" (Luxembourg), "Blood on the Crown" (Malta), "Afire" (Germany) and "How is Katia?" (Ukraine).

Festival curator Veronica Flora said she was honoured to show some of the most extraordinary movies from European filmmakers to Indian audiences.

"I have tried to show a wider representation of filmmakers and auteurs. We have a lot of female filmmakers and we are trying to touch upon different dimensions of life in Europe and how they resonates with people in India. We are far (away from each other), but we are similar," she told PTI.

Apart from New Delhi, the EUFF will also be held in Kolkata and Hyderabad. (PTI)

Vikramaditya Motwane on why genre-hopping is liberating for him: I really like making movies



NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Filmmaker Vikramaditya Motwane says every new project, whether a movie or a show, is a way for him to reinvent because he loves the process more than the end result. Right from his critically acclaimed debut with 2010's "Udaan", a coming-of-age story of a young boy, to his most recent project, "CTRL", a screen-life thriller exploring the perils of social media and AI, Motwane has stayed away from similar genres in his stories. The director, 47, said it is a conscious decision on his part.

"I like genre-hopping if one wants to call it that. I find it liberating because I love the process so much. I love the process of filmmaking more than the end result. I really, really like making movies," Motwane told PTI in an interview.

The director, whose filmography

also includes titles such as "Lootera", "Trapped", "Bhavesh Joshi Superhero", and "AK vs AK" to hit shows such as "Sacred Games" for Netflix and the much-loved "Jubilee" for Prime Video, said he is always up for trying new things. "Whatever I am making, a movie or a series, it is such an enjoyable process for me that I'm very happy to reinvent and rediscover. It just gives you a chance to be able to meet new people, see a new facet of your own self and learn something new. Maybe you'll fail, maybe you'll succeed, but that doesn't matter. At least, you're trying something and I like doing that," he said.

"Jubilee", a fictional period drama about the early years of Hindi cinema with many references to real instances, was a success and found a lot of love from fans. Asked whether

a second season of the show was coming soon, the director was playfully evasive but said it was one of his favourite shows.

"It stayed in people's hearts. Forget about people, it has stayed in my heart for a long time. Part of your job is to constantly think of ideas and to write. Some of the things get made, some get thrown away and some don't get made at that moment, but they stay in your mind and end up getting made at some point in time. "Jubilee" was a tough one because we were writing it for a long time, then the pandemic came, and then you realise that it's going to be another year and a half before you even get a chance to shoot this stuff but when you know the work is special, that drives you," he said.

Has the success of "Jubilee" made it easier for him to get the projects

greenlit? Motwane said it is still challenging and depends a lot on the scale.

"There's a certain amount of comfort in the fact that you can mount a certain scale of a project with certain actors because there's trust from the audience and the industry. But if your ambition is outside that box that people perceive you to be in, then it's still a challenge." While "CTRL" showcased a different side of actor Ananya Panday, Sidhant Gupta and Wamiqa Gabbi were the breakout stars of "Jubilee", where Motwane also surprised Aparshakti Khurana's fans by casting the "Street 2" star, known for his comedic skills, in a serious role. The filmmaker said there is no pressure to present actors in a certain way but he is always when they shine after working with him. (PTI)

Man U end winless run in Europe; Osimhen scores 2 as Galatasaray beat Tottenham

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND, Nov 8: Manchester United secured its first win in Europe for more than a year by beating PAOK 2-0 in the Europa League on Thursday.

Two second-half goals from Amad Diallo sealed the victory at Old Trafford and boosted United's hopes of progressing in the competition, while Tottenham's 100% start was ended by a 3-2 loss at Galatasaray.

United's last win in Europe was against Copenhagen in the Champions League on Oct. 24 last year.

"We addressed that in the dressing room and it was time to change that, so we did," United interim head coach Ruud van Nistelrooy said.

Diallo's looping header beat PAOK goalkeeper Dominik Kotarski in the 50th minute and he followed that up with a deflected shot from outside the area that nestled into the bottom corner in the 77th.

It's two wins from three games for United under Van Nistelrooy, who has one more match — against Leicester on Sunday — before handing over to Ruben Amorim.

It is not clear if there will be a role for the Dutchman after his temporary reign, but he is doing what he can to ensure that United is in the best possible position for when Amorim takes charge.

Erik ten Hag was fired last week after a woeful start to the campaign left the team in 14th place in the Premier League and without a win in Europe's secondary competition the Europa League.

Amorim was quickly hired in his place, but it has been left to Van Nistelrooy to fill the gap



while the Portuguese serves a notice period at Sporting Lisbon.

He has delivered wins in the English League Cup and the Europa League either side of a draw with Chelsea in the league.

Earlier, Victor Osimhen scored twice in eight minutes to help Galatasaray beat Tottenham 3-2 in Turkey.

Osimhen scored his first goal in Europe for Galatasaray after his transfer from Napoli with a precise low shot inside the right post to give the host a 2-1 lead in the 31st minute and added his second eight minutes later by heading home a curled cross from the right by Dries Mertens.

It was Tottenham's first loss in the competition after three wins. Galatasaray remains unbeaten with three wins and a draw.

Every game on Thursday was preceded by a moment of silence to honor the victims of the devastating flooding in Spain.

In Istanbul, Yunus Akgün put Galatasaray ahead in the sixth minute when Spurs failed to properly clear a free kick by Mertens and the midfielder volleyed home from outside the area past goalkeeper Fraser Forster.

Tottenham equalized in the 19th minute through Will Lankshear, who made only his second

senior appearance for the London club and netted from close range after a cross from Brennan Johnson. However, Lankshear was later sent off for a second yellow card on the hour mark.

Substitute Dominic Solanke pulled a goal back for Tottenham with a backheel finish in the 69th. Lazio is the only team to maintain a perfect record with four wins after Pedro Rodríguez scored in injury time to secure a 2-1 victory over Porto.

Ajax had five different goal scorers in a 5-0 rout of Maccabi Tel-Aviv while three substitutes netted for Alkmaar in its 3-1 victory over Fenerbahce, the first

loss of the competition for Jose Mourinho's team.

Latvia's RFS salvaged a 1-1 draw with Anderlecht with a stoppage-time equalizer as the Belgian side dropped points for the first time.

Earlier, Eintracht Frankfurt beat Slavia Prague 1-0 thanks to Omar Marmoush's second-half goal, while Roma was held to a 1-1 draw at Union Saint-Gilloise, another disappointing result after a 3-2 loss to Hellas Verona in Serie A over the weekend.

Rangers held last year's Conference League champion Olympiacos to a 1-1 draw in Greece.

Athletic Bilbao beat Ludogorets 2-1 to stay unbeaten with three wins and a draw, while Qarabag upset Bodø/Glimt 3-1 in Norway to earn its first points.

Nice drew 2-2 with Twente with both teams finishing the game reduced to 10 men.

Chelsea demolished Armenian club Noah 8-0 to set a record for the biggest victory in the third-tier Conference League.

Chelsea took a 6-0 lead in the first half on two goals from João Félix, and one a piece from Tosin Adarabioyo, Marc Guiu, Axel Disasi and Mykhailo Mudryk. Christopher Nkunku added two more in the second half, the second from the spot.

Nordsjaelland had the previous record, beating Ludogorets 7-1 last season.

Chelsea is one of six teams with three wins after three games. Vitória beat Mladá Boleslav 2-1, Jagellonia defeated Molde 3-0 and Heidenheim won 2-0 at Hearts.

Earlier, Legia Warsaw routed Dinamo Minsk 4-0 and SK Rapid eased past Petrocub 3-0. (AP)

Chevalier's stellar performances in goal for Lille could lead to France debut



PARIS, Nov 8: First the Champions League, now the France team.

Lille goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier's upward trajectory led to a first international callup on Thursday and follows some spectacular performances against Real Madrid, Atletico Madrid and Juventus in the Champions League.

"I feel that I'm ready, everyone can see that I'm playing well," the 23-year-old Chevalier said after Tuesday's 1-1 draw against Juventus in the Champions League. "I always want more and there are plenty of things I can improve."

During that match, he made an outstanding save from striker Dusan Vlahovic, whose powerful shot was arrowing into the top corner before Chevalier clawed it away.

"In terms of my personal development, it's important to face this kind of striker," Chevalier said. "I know my teammates are counting on me."

While Lille striker Jonathan David has maintained his scoring form with four goals in four games, Lille's 1-0 home win against Real Madrid and 3-1 success at Atletico were just as much down to Chevalier.

He has made 13 saves in the competition for Lille, which remains on course to reach the knockout phase.

"Considering the four teams we played, you can say we had one of the most difficult draws of the competition," said Chevalier, who stood out with his speed on the goal-line. "But we didn't lose

against Real Madrid, Juve and Atletico and took seven points, it's exceptional."

He could soon make his international debut in the Nations League, with France playing Israel on Nov. 14 in Paris and then going to Italy three days later.

But before that, Lille has a difficult match away to Nice on Sunday.

Lille is in fourth place in Ligue 1 and on a nine-game unbeaten run in all competitions. But Nice has found form and is two points behind in fifth spot, meaning it will move ahead of Lille if it wins at Allianz Riviera Stadium.

However, Nice has two days less to recover because it hosted FC Twente later Thursday in the Europa League.

Julien Stéphan was fired as Rennes coach on Thursday after an unsuccessful second spell in charge of the Brittany-based side.

Rennes has lost five of 10 league games and languishes in 13th place in the 18-team league. Stéphan led Rennes to a brilliant French Cup victory against the odds when it defeated Paris Saint-Germain in the 2019 final, but then resigned in March 2021. He took charge of Rennes for a second time in November last year.

Three staff members will take temporary charge for Sunday's home game with Toulouse before a new hiring is made.

French media reports on Thursday said former Argentina and Marseille coach Jorge Sampaoli is close to joining. (AP)

Neeraj Chopra to head to South Africa for off-season training later this month

NEW DELHI, Nov 8: Star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will travel to Potchefstroom, South Africa later this month for an off-season training stint to start early preparation for next year's competitions.

The 26-year-old double Olympic medalist, who last competed in Brussels in the Diamond League Final in September, will spend 31 days in the South African city.

Chopra's training stint will be funded by the Sports Ministry.

"(He) will start his training early and will be in Potchefstroom for a period of 31 days," the ministry said in a statement on Friday.

"Neeraj's training session will be funded by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) and the expenditure will cover his and his Physiotherapist's lodging, boarding and training cost for the period of his stay in South Africa."

In the past, Chopra has trained in Potchefstroom many times, including ahead of Tokyo and Paris Olympics.

He also took part in a competition there in January 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic struck the world. He had finished on top with a throw of 87.86m at the ACNW League Meeting 1 at McArthur Stadium.

Chopra battled an adductor muscle niggle throughout the year and it also affected his performance at both the Paris Olympics and the Diamond League Final,

where he competed with a fractured left hand.

He had earlier spoken about consulting doctors at the end of the season to decide whether to go for a surgery to fix the problem.

But talking to PTI on September 27, he had played down injury concerns and also stated that he will look to improve his technique.

"It was an injury-plagued year but injury is fine now, I will be 100 per cent fit for the new season," he had said.

Chopra, who added a silver medal at the Paris Olympics to his gold won in Tokyo Games three years back, recently parted ways with his German coach Klaus Bartonietz, ending a hugely successful five-year partnership.

Indian athletics chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair had told PTI that a new coach for Chopra is likely to be appointed before the end of the year.

Chopra's main aim next year will be to defend the World Championships gold in Tokyo besides also working hard to hit the 90m mark.

He had won gold in the 2023 World Championships in Budapest, Hungary with a throw of 88.17m. He has a personal best of 89.94m, just 6cm short of the 90m mark.

In the Paris Olympics, his silver-winning throw was 89.45m and he was bested by Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, who broke the Games record with a 92.97m effort. (PTI)

Struggling captain Mbappé once again left out of France squad

MADRID, SPAIN, Nov 8: Struggling to make an impact at Real Madrid, Kylian Mbappé has again been left out of the France squad.

The captain was not included on Thursday in coach Didier Deschamps' list of players for Nations League matches against Israel and Italy. Mbappé was also absent from the previous gathering because of a minor thigh injury. But this time Mbappé is not injured, and wanted to be selected, Deschamps said.

"It's my responsibility to make decisions. I think it's better that way," Deschamps said.

He would not elaborate on his choice to do without the striker, but said it was not related to recent reports in Swedish media that the former Paris Saint-Germain star was the subject of a rape investigation.

"I'm not going to argue," Deschamps said. "What I can tell you are these two things. One, that Kylian wanted to come. And two, it's not the extra sporting problems that come into play since the presumption of innocence exists and must exist. It's a one-off choice for this gathering."

Mbappé's performances have been below par in recent weeks after he joined Madrid from PSG this summer. His struggles to adapt to his new side's playing style have coincided with a



global rough patch of form for the Spanish club.

Mbappé was invisible during the 4-0 loss to Barcelona last month in the clasico and wasn't a factor this week in a 3-1 loss to AC Milan in the Champions League.

Mbappé hasn't added to his 48 goals for France since June.

His absence from Deschamps' squad last month turned into controversy when he started a Spanish league game for Madrid following his omission, amid sharp criticism from fans.

During his time off from club and country, as France beat Israel and Belgium in the Nations League, Mbappé visited Stockholm. Swedish media later re-

ported he was the subject of a rape investigation. His legal team dismissed those reports as false. Swedish prosecutors issued a brief statement on Tuesday saying a rape was reported to police but didn't name any suspect.

Deschamps will also be without Real Madrid midfielder Aurelien Tchouaméni, who sprained his left ankle. In Mbappé's absence, Tchouaméni captained France last month.

France plays Israel on Nov. 14 at home then travels to Italy three days later. Italy leads the group standings after four matches, one point above France. Belgium is third, ahead of Israel. (AP)

Raphinha's evolution into a more versatile scorer is a big part of Flick's great start at Barcelona

BARCELONA, SPAIN, Nov 8: Raphinha knew he would have a hard time getting off Barcelona's bench with the soccer world enthralled by teen phenom Lamine Yamal and the club eyeing to sign another hot prospect in the attack.

Instead of pouting, he evolved. While the entire Barcelona team improved under new coach Hansi Flick, no player has made such a leap forward this season as Raphinha.

His 12 goals and team-leading 10 assists across all competitions are a big part of why Barcelona is playing its best soccer since the exit of Lionel Messi more than three years ago.

But if one player looked to be

on the out when the season started, it was the Brazil forward.

Raphinha seemed destined to become a second-choice right-side winger after 17-year-old Yamal helped Spain win the European Championship in dazzling style. To make matters worse, the club was heavily linked to a possible transfer bid to pry Spain left-side winger Nico Williams away from Athletic Bilbao.

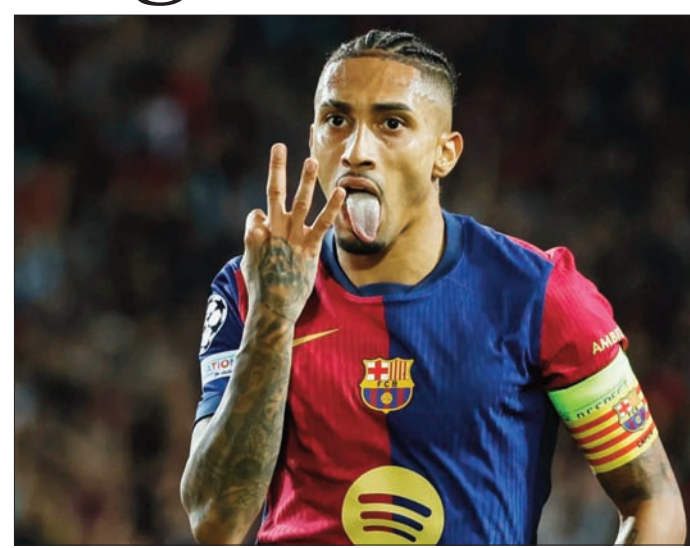
That move never materialized for Williams, but Raphinha was still left with either playing in a new position or being a backup to Yamal.

And when Flick gave him the chance to have a new role, he made the most of it.

"My mentality when I started this season was different from the prior ones because I knew that I had to adapt to play in other positions if I wanted to play for this club, and the truth is that I am happy with the result," Raphinha said recently.

"If I had given it 100% before, then I had to give it 200% now."

Flick must have seen something that predecessor Xavi Hernández apparently hadn't. The former Bayern Munich coach let Raphinha start the season in a more creative role as a central attacking midfielder just behind striker Robert Lewandowski. Then when left-side forward Ferran Torres was injured and newcomer Dani



Olmo started playing after a late-summer injury, Raphinha moved to the left flank.

He has excelled at both positions, and underscored his greater implication as a team leader by taking on the captaincy. "The confidence coach has shown in me, and that of my teammates, has been key," he said. "I am always ready to learn, whether from the more veteran players or the youngsters on the team."

Raphinha scored 11 goals for Leeds in the English Premier League in 2022-23. Barcelona took note and made Raphinha a key part of a risky rebuild funded by the mortgaging of the club's finances for the next two decades

when it sold off part of future television rights and other assets.

But in the following two seasons Raphinha never reach 10 goals and fought for playing time in his natural position. Xavi ended up preferring Ousmane Dembele, now at Paris Saint-Germain, before Yamal's breakout last year took the club, and Spain, by storm.

This season, the 27-year-old Raphinha has bagged the first two hat tricks of his career and risen to the occasion in the big matches. He put three past Bayern in a 4-1 win in the Champions League last month and scored once and assisted on another in a 4-0 rout at Real Madrid. (AP)

KL Rahul's horror run continues as India suffer another top-order collapse

MELBOURNE, Nov 8: KL Rahul's horror run with the bat continued as he got out in a bizarre fashion to leave India A at a shaky 73 for five on the second day of the second unofficial Test against Australia A here on Friday.

Seeking to open the batting for India in case skipper Rohit Sharma skips the first Test against Australia in Perth, Rahul endured a disastrous outing in the tune-up to the Border-Gavaskar Trophy and managed just 14 runs across two innings, having got out for 10 in India A's second innings.

Abhimanyu Easwaran's struggles against the moving ball also did not help India A's cause as they led by only 11 runs with half the side back in the dressing room in their second innings.

After bowling out India A for 161 on the opening day, Australia A managed 223, not a total the home team had hoped for, but it still gave them a substantial first-innings lead of 62 runs.

Coming out to bat for the second time in the game, the Indian top-order disappointed again as the Australian bowlers struck some vital blows to help their team inch closer to a series sweep. Australia A won the opening match by seven wickets.

Looking completely out of sorts, Rahul was bowled in a bizarre fashion after facing



44 balls at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Rahul misjudged a tossed up delivery and offered no shot as the ball ricocheted off his pads to hit the stumps, leaving the batter embarrassed while he walked back to the dressing room. Getting bowled between the legs has compounded his woes ahead of the blockbuster series.

Abhimanyu, who was picked as a backup opener for the upcoming five-match rubber Down Under, also failed to deliver, follow-

ing his first-innings duck with a 17 from 31 balls. The Indian top-order struggled against quality spin and pace, leaving them at 56/5 early in the second innings.

Wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel (19 batting) and Nitish Kumar Reddy (9 batting) ensured there was no further setback by negotiating the remaining overs before the stumps were drawn for the day.

Earlier, India A's pace attack, spearheaded by Prasidh Krishna's four-wicket burst and

Mukesh Kumar's three-wicket haul, dominated the Australian batting, dismissing them for 223 in 62.1 overs.

Marcus Harris was the standout batter for Australia A, scoring a gritty 74 off 138 balls, while lower-order batter Rocchiccioli provided late fireworks, hitting 35 off 28 balls, including two sixes and three fours.

In response, India A lost openers Abhimanyu and Sai Sudharsan cheaply to disciplined bowling from Nathan McAndrew and Beau Webster.

Abhimanyu's misreading of McAndrew's pace led to his dismissal at gully, adding to the team's concerns.

Devdutt Padikkal (1) also fell cheaply, as both Webster (2/14) and McAndrew (2/22) tore through India's batting lineup.

However, Jurel and Reddy then held firm. Resuming the day on 53/2, Harris translated his overnight score of 26 into a well-constructed innings, showing resilience against a sharp Indian pace attack.

Brief Scores:

India A 161 and 73/5 in 31 overs (Dhruv Jurel 19 batting; Nathan McAndrew 2/22, Beau Webster 2/14).

Australia A 1st innings: 223 all out in 62.1 (Marcus Harris 74; Prasidh Krishna 4/50, Mukesh Kumar 3/41, Khaleel Ahmed 2/56). (PTI)

Rahul, Abhimanyu can play anchor role in Australia, there is space for Pujara in Test side: Uthappa



NEW DELHI, Nov 8: India will need someone like KL Rahul or Abhimanyu Easwaran, who can play conventional style of cricket, during the challenging tour Australia and there is space for veteran Cheteshwar Pujara in the Test side, reckons former batter Robin Uthappa.

The Indian batting lineup, brimming with stroke players, has come under intense scrutiny ahead of the five-match Test series Down Under.

The pressure to play high-quality cricket and deliver has mounted in the wake of humiliating 0-3 whitewash by New Zealand at home.

"We need someone defensive, someone who can play conventional, traditional Test cricket. As of now, KL Rahul and Abhimanyu Easwaran are the ones who can play that role," Uthappa, expert JioCinema & Sports18, said in a virtual media interaction.

"I don't see anyone else who can take on that responsibility. Everyone likes to play positively, aggressively, and score runs at a quick pace, including someone like Shubman Gill. He is a natural stroke-player, and if you ask him to play that slow role, he may not enjoy it. You might be taking away his game."

Pujara had played a key role in India's historic wins Down Under

in 2018-19 and 2020-21 but this time India will be travelling him as Saurashtra veteran has fallen out of favour.

"KL Rahul and Abhimanyu Easwaran can really play that anchor role, with everyone else revolving around them. Honestly, I still believe there's space for someone like Pujara in the Test team," Uthappa added.

Uthappa also spoke on India's four-match T20I series against South Africa saying the contest would help Sanju Samson consolidate his position in the team after his splendid show against Bangladesh.

"He has the confidence of the coaching staff and the leadership group, something he lacked in the past when you look at his international career. There was also a lack of clarity about where he would fit in."

"But with Gautam Gambhir and Suryakumar Yadav, the narrative has been clear for him. There has been a lot of clarity about his role. They have defined the role very clearly for him. The pressure would be a little off in this series."

"He is someone who has tremendous potential and this series would help him consolidate his position in the squad."

Uthappa also batted for giving debut caps to Ramandeep Singh and Yash Dayal. (PTI)

Sr Inter-District Football Tournney (Zone B) gets underway in Sivasagar

HT Correspondent

SIVASAGAR, Nov 8: The Senior Inter-District Football Tournament (Zone B), organised by the Sivasagar District Sports Association under Assam Football Association began on Friday at Peoli Phukan Stadium, here. President of the Sivasagar Sports Association, Punarm Mili inaugurated the tournament by hoisting the flag.

In the tournament's opening match, Bokakhat secured an emphatic 4-1 victory over Titabor in the morning, while Golaghat outplayed Dhansiri by the same margin in an intense afternoon game. Dhansiri managed to reduce the margin with a penalty spot kick.

Jorhat will face Bokakhat on Saturday morning, while Sivasagar will go up against a spirited Golaghat team in the afternoon. The winners of Saturday's matches will meet in the final, scheduled for November 10. This was informed by football secretary of the Sivasagar Sports Association, Mrinal Chutia.

Rauf and Ayub star in Pakistan's resounding 9-wicket win over Australia

ADELAIDE (AUSTRALIA), Nov 8: Fast bowler Haris Rauf took 5-29 and Saim Ayub scored 82 runs as Pakistan defeated Australia by nine wickets in the second one-day international on Friday.

Australia was 163 all out in 35 overs against Rauf's relentless pace and left-hander Ayub smashed six sixes and five fours as Pakistan cruised to 169-1 in 26.3 overs to level the three-match series.

Former captain Babar Azam (15 not out) clinched the victory with a pulled six off Adam Zampa with Abdullah Shafique staying unbeaten on better than run-a-ball 64 which featured four boundaries and three sixes. The series decider will be played at Perth on Sunday with Australia resting five frontline players to prepare for the five-match home test series against India, starting from Nov. 22 at Perth.

The opening pair of Ayub and Shafique had been criticized for run of low scores in test matches, but both blunted the Australian

pace with a match-winning stand of 137 runs after Pakistan kept faith on the duo in the white-ball format.

Ayub took his time against Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc before he grew in confidence and flicked Pat Cummins, Starc and Aaron Hardie for sixes and also smashed Zampa for two big hits. The left-hander, who made his ODI debut at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Monday, got a reprieve just before reaching a half century when Zampa dropped a sitter at third man, but he offered a tame catch at short third man just when he looked set for a century.

Earlier, Rauf, who nearly pulled off a victory for Pakistan in the first game, found the outside edges of the bats consistently by hitting the right lengths.

Captain Mohammad Rizwan took five catches — four off Rauf's bowling — and could have had a sixth had he not dropped a top-edge off Zampa (18) before Australia was dismissed after Pakistan won the toss

and elected to field on a lively Adelaide wicket. Shaheen Shah Afridi (3-26) provided the breakthrough inside the first power play. Jake Fraser-McGurk hit three crisp boundaries on the off side in Naseem Shah's first over to get Australia rolling before Afridi's twin strike pushed back Australia.

Afridi dropped Matt Short at deep fine leg when the ball burst through his hands to the boundary but the left-arm fast bowler made amends when he had Short caught at covers after trapping Fraser-McGurk plumb leg before wicket.

Afridi ended Australia's below-par innings when Zampa played a full ball back onto his stumps. Zampa flicked Naseem Shah for a six and a four in an over which enabled the home team to cross the 150-run mark.

Rauf sliced through the middle-order with only Steve Smith scoring 35 off 48 balls before he too chased a wide short ball of Mohammad Hasnain and edged behind the wicket. (AP)



অসম চৰকাৰ

মুকলি হ'ল মিছন বসুন্ধৰা ৩.০

মোৰ মাটি, মোৰ অধিকাৰ



**মোৰা
প্রমাণিত
কপত শ্ৰেণী
পৰিৱৰ্তন**

বিশেষত্বসমূহ

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- শ্ৰেণীসমূহৰ পৰিৱৰ্তনৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত নতুনকৈ নিৰ্ধাৰিত প্ৰিমিয়ামৰ হাৰ

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গৈ আবেদন কৰিব পাৰে

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- শপতনামা
- বিক্ৰেতা আৰু ক্ৰেতাৰ স্থিৰচিত্ৰ

আবেদনৰ অন্তিম তাৰিখ

৩১ ডিচেম্বৰ, ২০২৪

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