



# PM unveils ₹ 10,601-cr fertiliser plant, interacts with students and BJP workers, pays homage to martyrs Modi sounds 2026 poll bugle; targets Congress

**GUWAHATI/NAMRUP, Dec 21:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday concluded his two-day visit to Assam during which he launched projects worth ₹ 15,600 crore, interacted with students and BJP workers, paid homage to martyrs, and targeted the Congress on multiple issues, setting the stage for the 2026 assembly polls in the state. The visit, Modi's third to the state this year, blended emotional appeals with a focus on infrastructure and politics. On Saturday, he paid homage to martyrs of the Assam Agitation, unveiled an 80-foot statue of the state's first Chief Minister Gopinath Bardoloi at the Lokapriya Gopinath Bardoloi International Airport, inaugurated the airport's new ₹ 4,000-crore terminal, and addressed a public rally.

with 25 students during a 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' programme aboard the three-storey cruise ship 'MV Charaideo 2' sailing on the Brahmaputra. He spent 45 minutes answering students' questions on academics, personal development, and career aspirations. The PM's next stop was at the 'Swahid Smarak Kshetra' here where he paid homage to martyrs of the Assam Agitation, a movement against illegal immigrants. Modi paid floral tributes in front of a lamp, which always remains lit in memory of the 860 martyrs of the six-year-long movement that ended in 1985. During his 20-minute visit, the PM walked around the memorial and toured a gallery where the busts of the martyrs are placed. He also garlanded the bust of the first martyr of the Assam Agitation, Khargeswar Talukdar. After paying his homage at the Martyrs' Column, Modi left for Dibrugarh in Upper Assam and then to Namrup where he laid the foundation stone of a ₹

10,601-crore brownfield ammonia-urea plant in Dibrugarh district. The Assam Valley Fertiliser and Chemical Company Ltd (AVFCL) will have an annual urea production capacity of 12.7 lakh metric tonnes, and the project is scheduled for commissioning in 2030. The 'Bhoomi Poojan' took place in presence of Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma along with other ministers, MPs, MLAs, senior officials and representatives of stakeholder organisations of the new company. It is touted to be the first factory of its kind in India to use associated natural gas as basic raw material for producing nitrogenous fertiliser. The PM rounded up his Assam tour by addressing a public rally at Namrup where he launched a scathing attack on the Congress, accusing it of engaging in "anti-national" activities and helping illegal Bangladeshi immigrants to settle in Assam. "The Congress is indulging in anti-national activities. They want illegal (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)



## Manmohan Singh neglected Assam, allege Sarba, Himanta



**NAMRUP, Dec 21:** Union minister Sarbananda Sonowal and CM Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday alleged that despite several opportunities to develop Assam, former prime minister Manmohan Singh neglected it for decades, despite getting elected to Parliament from the northeastern state. The senior BJP leaders were addressing a public rally here in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Modi on Sunday laid the foundation stone for a ₹ 10,601-crore brownfield ammonia-urea plant with an annual capacity of 12.7 lakh metric tonne, and asserted that it would usher in a new chapter of industrial progress in the region. "This moment holds deep personal signifi-

cance for me. In 2009, I raised in the Lok Sabha the crisis facing the existing fertiliser plant at Namrup. I highlighted ageing machinery, irregular production and the urgent need for another fertiliser plant to support farmers and tea planters of the Northeast. "The Congress-led UPA government did not pay heed to my repeated requests for intervention. Former PM Manmohan Singh had promised this plant, but he totally neglected it," Sonowal claimed in his speech. The new facility -- Assam Valley Fertiliser and Chemical Company Ltd (AVFCL) -- will be developed within the existing premises of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertiliser Corp Ltd (BVFCL), and it will be ready by 2030.

Sonowal, a former chief minister of Assam, further said, "The Congress betrayed the people of Assam and its farmers. So, you have to give a befitting reply to them." Elections to the 126-member Assam Assembly are likely to be held in March-April of next year. "For decades, Assam had immense potential but limited connectivity and inadequate industrial scale held us back. Under the decisive and visionary leadership of PM Modi, that reality has changed. Today, the state is emerging as a key pillar of India's infrastructure, energy, logistics and manufacturing ecosystem," Sonowal said. In a similar tone, Sarma said Assam sent Manmohan Singh to Rajya Sabha multiple times, expecting a lot of developmental initiatives. "The semiconductor plant and this new Namrup unit -- all could have come decades ago during his (Manmohan Singh's) tenure, but unfortunately, he did not respect Assam's sentiments," he alleged. Sarma alleged that the earlier Congress governments neglected Namrup for decades and failed to reduce farmers' dependence on imported urea. Assam is now getting everything it wanted only because of "love and affection" of PM Modi, he asserted. "We had requested the PM to grant us a 5 lakh metric tonne plant in Namrup, but he approved a 12 lakh metric tonne plant to spur growth in Assam and ensure the overall project's revival," he added. The CM said Modi has ensured growth of Assam like never before, sanctioning projects such as semiconductor plant, Dhubri-Phulbari bridge on Brahmaputra, (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

## VB-G RAM-G replaces MGNREGA with President's assent, gazette notification

**NEW DELHI, Dec 21:** President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday gave her assent to the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, which replaces the MGNREGA and has a provision for 125 days of wage employment for rural workers. With the presidential assent, it now becomes the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025, and a notification in this regard was published in the Gazette of India. The Rural Development Ministry, in a statement, called it a decisive reform in India's rural employment and development framework. According to the government, the VB-G RAM G scheme, which has replaced Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005, aims to establish a rural development framework aligned with the national vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'. Besides providing for 125 days of wage employment, the Act also facilitates adequate availability of agricultural labour during peak sowing and harvesting seasons by empowering states to notify a pause period aggregating to sixty

days in a financial year, the Ministry said. It stressed that the Act seeks to transform rural employment from a standalone welfare intervention into an integrated instrument of development. The Bill was passed in the Parliament last week amid protests by the opposition. The Congress, which continued its protests in various parts of the country against the new scheme on Sunday, accused the Modi government of "desecrating the groundbreaking law" MGNREGA in Parliament and said that two decades of progress have been overturned "without consultation" and by sidestepping all parliamentary conventions. Dismissing criticism of the Bill, Rural Development Minister Shriyraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday alleged that misinformation is being spread about the new scheme, which he described as a step ahead of MGNREGA. In a video posted on X, the minister said that over ₹ 1,51,282 crore will be allocated for VB-G RAM G scheme to ensure adequate funds for rural employment. "There is a conspiracy to mis-

## Centre seeks report on death of elephants on railway tracks in Hojai: Bhupender Yadav

**GOSABA, Dec 21:** Union Minister Bhupender Yadav on Sunday said the Centre has sought a report on the death of elephants in a collision between a train and a herd of tusked in Assam's Hojai district a day ago. Speaking to reporters after a meeting on Project Elephant and the National Tiger Conservation Authority in the Sundarbans of West Bengal, Yadav also asserted that "no relaxation has been granted" with regard to the protection of the Aravalli region. "In the total area of 1.44 lakh square kilometres of the Aravalli, mining eligibility can only be in 0.19 per cent of the area. The rest of the entire Aravalli is preserved and protected," Yadav, the environment, forest and climate change minister, said. The minister said the Centre would implement the Supreme Court guidelines with immediate effect. The Supreme Court, on November 20, 2025, accepted the recommendations of a committee under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on the definition of Aravalli Hills and

Ranges. According to the new definition, "Aravalli Hill is any landform in designated Aravalli districts with an elevation of 100 metres or more above its local relief" and an "Aravalli Range is a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other". Speaking on the death of elephants on railway tracks, Yadav said all states have been asked to monitor elephant movement along the railway lines. "The railway authorities have been directed to coordinate with the forest departments of states on elephant movement along the tracks. A report on elephant deaths in Assam has been sought," the minister said. He said coordination between train drivers and forest officials is essential. Seven elephants were killed after a herd of jumbos was hit by the Sairang-New Delhi Rajdhani Express in Assam's Hojai district early on Saturday. Five coaches and the train's engine also derailed. One elephant calf succumbed to its (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

## Elephant-train collision in Assam: Injured calf dies, toll rises to 8

**NAGAON, Dec 21:** The number of elephant deaths in a collision between a train and a herd of jumbos in Assam's Hojai district rose to eight, as a calf succumbed to its injuries on Sunday, officials said. Seven elephants were killed, and one was injured, after a herd of tusked was hit by the Sairang-New Delhi Rajdhani Express in Changjurai village on Saturday. "The calf, the only tusker which had survived the accident, died this morning while undergoing treatment at the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC) in Kaziranga," (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

## 'Emotional Moment', says Himanta as Modi pays homage to martyrs of Assam movement

**HT Bureau GUWAHATI, Dec 21:** Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday became emotional as Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to the martyrs of the historic Assam Movement at the Swahid Smarak Kshetra in Guwahati, a moment that resonated deeply with people across the state. The Prime Minister offered floral tributes and garlanded the bust of Khargeswar Talukdar, the first martyr of the six-year-long anti-foreigner agitation that began in 1979, remembering the sacrifices made to protect Assam's identity, culture and rights. The Swahid Smarak Kshetra, dedicated to the 860 martyrs of the Assam Movement, stands as a

powerful symbol of the state's long and painful struggle. During his visit, Modi also toured the martyrs' gallery, where busts of all those who laid down their lives have been installed, paying respect to each martyr. Many described the Prime Minister's presence at the memorial as a heartfelt acknowledgement of Assam's turbulent past and the heavy price paid by its people. Reacting to the homage, Chief Minister Sarma described the moment as deeply emotional, recalling what he termed the "dark days" in Assam's history. He alleged that during earlier regimes, particularly under the Congress, the state suffered due to unchecked illegal infiltration, violence against indigenous communities and pro-

## Indian visa application centre suspended indefinitely in Bangladesh's Chattogram

**DHAKA, Dec 21:** India on Sunday suspended visa operations at its mission in Bangladeshi port city of Chattogram until further notice, according to media reports. The move comes in the wake of a fresh wave of unrest witnessed in the country following the death of prominent youth leader Sharif Osman Hadi. His death triggered attacks and vandalism across Bangladesh, including stone-hurling at the Assistant Indian High Commissioner's residence in Chattogram on Thursday. Hadi, a prominent leader of the student-led protests last year that led to the ouster of the prime minister Sheikh Hasina-led Awami League government, was a candidate for the scheduled February 12 general elections. He was shot in the head on December 12 by masked gunmen at an election campaign in central Dhaka's Bijoyagar area and died while undergoing treatment in Singapore on December 18. "Due to the recent security incident at Assistant High Commission of India (AHC) Chittagong, Indian visa operations at IVAC Chittagong (Chattogram) will remain suspended from 21/12/2025 until further notice," the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) said in a brief statement.

The announcement for reopening the visa centre will be made after reviewing the situation, the statement added. The decision came into effect on Sunday. There are five IVAC facilities across Bangladesh at Dhaka, Khulna, Rajshahi, Chattogram and Sylhet. An IVAC official told PTI that the other four offices have remained operational as of Sunday. India on Thursday resumed operations at its visa application centre in Dhaka, a day after closing it over escalated security concerns, but closed for a brief period two other identical facilities in Rajshahi and Khulna as anti-India protestors tried to march towards the Indian missions there. On Saturday, security was strengthened at the Indian Assistant High Commission office and the visa application centre in Bangladesh's Sylhet city. The enhanced security measures were put in place to ensure that "no third party can exploit the situation," Additional Deputy Commissioner (Media) of the Sylhet Metropolitan Police Saiful Islam was quoted as saying by The Dhaka Tribune newspaper on Saturday. Hadi, 32, was laid to rest on Saturday amid extra-tight security beside the grave of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam near the Dhaka University mosque. Tens of thousands of people attended the funeral prayers, and ahead of the (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

## International fleet review in Vizag in Feb 2026

**VISAKAPATNAM, Dec 21:** Indian Navy will be hosting the International Fleet Review (IFR) to strengthen collective maritime security and naval cooperation, here from February 15 to 25, 2026, a senior naval official said on Sunday. Multilateral naval exercise and the Indian Ocean Naval symposium conclave of the chiefs will also be held. Captain S Venkatesh Kumar, Commanding Officer, said IFR 2026 is not merely a ceremonial gathering, but a practical platform for enhancing interoperability and addressing emerging threats to maritime security. "No single navy can secure the seas on its own. IFR 2026, which will be held in February, reflects the need for collective responses, shared procedures and coordinated



naval action," Kumar told PTI. These events will strengthen collective maritime security and naval cooperation, he said. The IFR will be held in Visakhapatnam for the second time. It was earlier held in 2016. The maritime convergence will

heavily on maritime routes, while threats such as cyber attacks, hybrid warfare and climate-related challenges have increased risks at sea. According to the Captain, interoperability will be a key focused area, extending beyond equipment to include doctrine, communications, legal frameworks and intelligence-sharing mechanisms. He said joint exercises during the review will simulate hybrid threats involving kinetic, cyber and informational elements, enabling navies to translate political commitments into operational coordination. Kumar noted that emerging technologies such as drones, autonomous platforms and Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled maritime domain awareness systems would be (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

# Abundant intelligence, skilling safeguard to shape AI future: Microsoft India head

**NEW DELHI, Dec 21:** Unmetered intelligence, human-supervised 'digital colleagues' and continuous skilling as the key safeguard amid big shifts will shape an AI-rewired future, Puneet Chandok, President, Microsoft India and South Asia has said outlining his top predictions.

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella during his visit to India earlier this month had announced plans to invest USD 17.5 billion here to help build infrastructure and sovereign capabilities for the country's AI-first future - the bold commitment marking the tech giant's largest investment ever in Asia.

Chandok said AI has moved beyond hype, delivering real impact today.

"...the next phase will be defined by how responsibly, inclusively, and thoughtfully we scale it," Chandok told PTI.

His headline predictions for the rearranging world and frontier AI include intelligence moving from being scarce to abundant, with compute increasingly translating directly into cognition for organisations, in an era of "unmetered intelligence".



AI 'agents' will work alongside people, taking on tasks and reasoning across data, but humans will remain firmly in control, he asserts.

Outcomes will be key to reshaping business model, and value creation will shift from effort and delay, to measurable outcomes.

India's digital public infrastructure enables mass AI adoption, turning national scale into a global advantage, Chandok notes.

Roles will break into tasks, careers will become more dynamic,

the Microsoft India honcho said describing skilling as the primary safeguard in the AI era.

"When I reflect on the technology story of 2025, what stands out is how decisively India moved from experimenting with AI to putting it to work across core sectors of the economy. Across aviation, healthcare, financial services, and manufacturing, organisations began redesigning how they operate-whether it is Air India reimagining customer engagement, Apollo Hospitals up-

porting clinicians, ICICI Lombard reshaping core processes, or Asian Paints bending the curve on innovation," he said.

This momentum will set the context for what comes next.

"What makes this moment especially powerful is the India opportunity. When digital public infrastructure meets AI, adoption can happen at population scale - from classrooms to boardrooms and from farms to factories. This belief underpins Microsoft's commitment to invest USD 17.5 billion in India, to build the cloud and AI infrastructure, skills, and trust needed to turn momentum into long-term impact," Chandok said.

Jobs themselves are changing, he said, adding work is becoming more fluid, and the most durable advantage is the ability to keep learning.

"Skilling is the most essential form of resilience in the AI era, which is why Microsoft has doubled its commitment to equip 20 million people in India by 2030 with the skills needed to participate in and shape this transformation," he said. (PTI)

# GNTO eyes 10 lakh overnight stays by Indian tourists in Germany in 2026

**NEW DELHI, Dec 21:** Germany is targeting 10 lakh overnight stays by Indian tourists in the country in 2026, after narrowly missing the goal this year, according to a German National Tourist Office India official. German National Tourist Office (GNTO) India, the official representative office of the German National Tourist Board, expects to close 2025 with 9.6 lakh overnights into Germany by Indian tourists, GNTO Director of Marketing & Sales Office - India, Romit Theophilus, told PTI.

"We want a growth of 10 per cent year on year. That's our growth projection till 2030 at least. Our

goal is now to first reach the 1 million (overnights) and then double that to 2 million," he said when asked how Germany is looking at Indian tourist arrivals in the country going forward.

GNTO India was hoping to cross the 10 lakh milestone in 2025, but it did not happen due to a variety of factors, including visa issues and tourists choosing to travel to other countries.

Asked if the target could be achieved in 2026, Theophilus said, "We will definitely cross 1 million...We are hoping to do (Indian) weddings (as well) in Germany in 2026." (PTI)

Contd. from Page 1...

## Modi sounds 2026

Bangladeshi immigrants to settle in Assam's forests and lands. They only want to strengthen their vote bank, and don't care about the people," the PM claimed.

He said the opposition party is not concerned about the identity, existence and pride of Assamese people, which the BJP has been trying to protect.

"The Congress is opposing the revision of voter lists as it only wants to grab power... They oppose whatever good I try to do... The BJP government will always work to protect the identity, land, pride and existence of Assamese people," Modi asserted.

He alleged that the Congress has inflicted "so much wrongs" to this country that despite "correcting" those for the last 11 years, a lot of work still remained to bring everything on track.

"When our government awarded Dr Bhupen Hazarika the Bharat Ratna, the Congress openly opposed the decision. Its national president remarked that 'Modi nachne gane walon ko Bharat Ratna de raha hai' (Modi is giving Bharat Ratna to dancers-singers), which is an insult to both Bhupen Da and the people of Assam," Modi asserted.

He said the BJP government's aim is to make Assam as powerful as it was during the Ahom dynasty centuries ago.

"Industrialisation and connectivity are fulfilling Assam's dreams. The double-engine government of the BJP is empowering youths to see new dreams," Modi said, alleging that the Congress did not make any effort to modernise the old fertiliser plant here, and find solutions to problems faced by farmers.

Modi said the Namrup urea plant will support local farmers and create thousands of jobs for youths of Assam. "The Namrup fertiliser plant in Assam will become the epitome of the country's industrial growth. It is sad that the Congress did not make efforts to modernise the plant, and find solutions to problems faced by farmers," he said.

Modi left for New Delhi from Dibrugarh airport where he was seen off by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, CM Sarma and some of his cabinet colleagues. (PTI)

## Manmohan Singh neglected

Numaligarh bio-ethanol plant, Gohpur tunnel, Kaziranga elevated corridor and new terminal of Guwahati airport.

"I want to tell the PM that Assam will never forget your contributions, and how during your term, the state has been able to touch new heights in every sphere," he added.

Regarding the upcoming new fertiliser facility, Sarma said this project will create over 300 direct and more than 1,000 indirect jobs at Namrup. (PTI)

## VB-G RAM-G replaces

extreme weather events. All works originate from Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans (VGPPs), prepared at the Gram Panchayat level through participatory processes and approved by the Gram Sabha.

These plans are digitally and spatially integrated with national platforms, including PM Gati Shakti.

"This integrated planning framework will enable Ministries and Departments to plan and implement works more effectively, avoid duplication and wastage of public resources, and accelerate development through saturation-based outcomes," the Ministry said.

Cost-sharing pattern is 60:40 between the Centre and States, 90:10 for North Eastern and Himalayan States, and 100% central funding for Union Territories without legislatures.

The Ministry said the normative allocations pertain to budgeting and fund-flow mechanisms and does not affect the legal entitlement to employment, and would be based on objective parameters prescribed in the Rules, ensuring predictability, fiscal discipline, and sound planning, while fully preserving statutory entitlements to employment and unemployment allowance.

Administrative expenditure ceiling has been enhanced from 6 per cent to 9 per cent, enabling improved staffing, training, technical capacity and field-level support, and strengthening the ability of institutions to deliver outcomes effectively.

The ministry added that Technology under the Act is intended as an enabling mechanism, not a barrier. (PTI)

## Centre seeks report

injuries on Sunday. "The district magistrates have also been asked to keep forest departments updated on elephant movement along highways," the minister said.

"A team was formed with the DRM Railways, DFO and local people as stakeholders in the area concerned in Assam and in every such locality where elephant habitat and train lines exist," Yadav said.

He said there are 1,100 elephant accident zones or hotspots in the country, where such preventive measures were being taken.

The minister said ₹ 112 crore has been allotted for the Sundarbans for the Tiger project in West Bengal and ₹ 344 crore for elephants in the last five years.

"But these funds remained mostly unutilised," he alleged.

While the Sunderbans attracts 9.5 lakh tourists annually, the Ranthambore tiger reserve witnesses ₹ 18-19 lakh.

"Such a beautiful zone of 2,500 sq km area with rich biodiversity, over 250 bird species, apart from big cats, deer and crocodile, hasn't been projected properly. There must be a balance between ecological concerns and development. This should be looked into by the state," he said. (PTI)

## 'Emotional Moment', says Himanta

time and resources in the state's development than any of his predecessors. Crediting the "double engine" government at the Centre and in Assam, Sarma said the state is moving on an accelerated path of growth.

Calling it an Assam renaissance, Sarma said the state is steadily progressing towards peace, prosperity and stability, guided by the sacrifices of the martyrs of the Assam Movement.

## Elephant-train collision

Nagaon Division's Forest Ranger Shamim Akhtar told PTI.

She said the seven jumbos that were killed on the spot were buried near the accident site on Saturday after autopsy and other legal formalities.

Five coaches and the train's engine had also derailed, though no passenger was injured in the accident.

A 'caution order' for speed regulation was issued to the railway authorities for 12 hours from 5 pm on Saturday, which is a routine practice whenever animal movement is reported.

Other elephants of the herd, of which the eight were killed, continued to roam near the accident spot, the forest officer said.

"The jumbos are still in the area, and they had come out in search of food. Our forest department personnel are camping there," Akhtar added.

The official said the two drivers were detained after the accident, but were released later on Saturday. "A case has been registered, and the forest division is conducting its own probe," she said.

The forest department has been instructed to conduct a detailed enquiry and secure wildlife corridors, she added. (PTI)

## Indian visa application

ritual, chanted anti-India slogans like "Delhi or Dhaka - Dhaka, Dhaka" and "brother Hadi's blood will not be allowed to go in vain."

Earlier on December 17, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) summoned Bangladesh envoy Riaz Hamidullah and conveyed its strong concern over certain extremist elements announcing plans to create a security situation around the Indian mission in Dhaka.

"We expect the interim government to ensure the safety of Missions and Posts in Bangladesh in keeping with its diplomatic obligations," it said.

The envoy was apprised of India's strong concerns about the deteriorating security environment in Bangladesh, it added. (PTI)

## International fleet review

showcased, while stressing the importance of common standards and governance. He said IFR 2026 would also integrate non-state stakeholders, including port authorities, shipping companies and humanitarian agencies, recognising their role in maritime security and crisis response.

Legal frameworks governing freedom of navigation, interdiction and use of force will also be discussed, with an aim to harmonise operational interpretations among participating navies, he added.

Highlighting the role of smaller navies and coast guards, Kumar said capacity-building initiatives, shared logistics and training cooperation were essential for regional maritime resilience.

He said humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations would be a key component, reflecting the Navy's role in protecting civilian lives and livelihoods during emergencies.

He said partnerships aimed at strengthening maritime security must be managed carefully to balance deterrence with de-escalation, while aligning multinational efforts and respecting national sovereignty.

According to Kumar, sustained cooperation depends on clear rules, shared expectations and established dialogue mechanisms to ensure stability and long-term effectiveness of collective maritime initiatives.

He said the event would underline India's growing maritime vision and commitment to cooperative security in the Indo-Pacific region. (PTI)

# NABARD brings North East's rural enterprise and heritage under one roof

HT Bureau

**GUWAHATI, Dec 21:** The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) recently inaugurated the Grameen Bharat Mahotsav: North-East 2025 - Fostering Heritage, Creating Livelihood, a national-level exhibition-cum-sale, at the Ganesh Mandir Indoor Stadium Ground.

Organised by NABARD's Assam Regional Office, the ten-day Mahotsav will continue till December 29, with the objective of strengthening market access and promoting sustainable livelihoods for rural artisans, weavers and micro-entrepreneurs across the North Eastern Region. The Mahotsav brings together around 80 stalls featuring the work of more than 120 artisans and rural producers supported by NABARD from Assam and other North Eastern states. The exhibition showcases an extensive range of handlooms, handicrafts, GI-tagged products, start-up innova-

tions and micro-enterprise offerings, enabling visitors to directly interact with producers while giving artisans valuable exposure to consumer preferences and wider national markets. As part of the inaugural programme, a special felicitation ceremony was held to honour individuals who have made outstanding contributions to preserving Assam's cultural and craft heritage.

Padma Shri awardee Drona Bhuyan was felicitated for his lifelong efforts in conserving and promoting the traditional art forms of Ojapali and Deodhoni Nritya. National Handicrafts Award winner Bapukan Payeng of Majuli was also honoured for his role in sustaining and popularising Mising heritage textiles. The ceremony reflected NABARD's emphasis on recognising excellence and inspiring future generations of rural artisans.

Addressing the gathering, Loken Das, chief general manager, NABARD Assam Regional Office, said that the Grameen Bharat Mahotsav em-

bodies NABARD's long-standing commitment to rural producers. He noted that by creating direct market linkages and celebrating traditional knowledge systems, NABARD is not only supporting income generation but also ensuring that heritage-based livelihoods remain relevant and sustainable in a changing economy.

The Mahotsav will also feature cultural programmes every evening, including performances of Ojapali and Deodhoni dances of Assam, along with a special tribute to music icon Zubeen Garg, adding a strong cultural dimension to the event.

The inaugural function was attended by B. Kalyan Chakravarty, Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, as the chief guest, along with Dilip Kumar Bora, IAS, PVSLN. Murthy, chairman and managing director of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd, and H K Boro, Regional Director, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), as guests of honour.

# Govt moving towards one cooperative bank per district: UP CM GST fraud: Four booked

**LUCKNOW, Dec 21:** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday accused the previous state governments of "destroying" the cooperative sector, saying the BJP-led administration has revived it and is now moving towards the concept of "one cooperative bank per district".

Addressing the 'Yuva Sahakar Sammelan' here, the CM said, "Before 2017, the condition of district cooperative banks was extremely poor. Sixteen banks had been declared defaulters and had

their licenses revoked by the Reserve Bank of India. Today, these banks are healthy, contributing not only to their members but also to the prosperity of farmers."

He alleged that earlier governments promoted a "one district, one mafia" culture, which led to the collapse of the cooperative sector and trapped farmers' capital.

"The BJP government gradually returned ₹ 4,700 crore deposited by farmers in the 16 banks whose licenses had been revoked. Now, the banks are functioning effectively," he said.

The government is taking steps to strengthen cooperatives, highlighting their role in building trust, social capacity, and self-reliance. He also cited initiatives such as digitisation, e-governance, and transparent policies to ensure accountability in the sector, the chief minister said.

Adityanath urged for proper manpower allocation in cooperative societies managing fertilisers, chemicals, and pesticides, stating that such measures would strengthen farmer participation. (PTI)

**THANE, Dec 21:** A case has been registered against four persons in Maharashtra's Thane district for allegedly creating fake GST-registered firms and claiming input tax credit of more than ₹ 22.06 crore, police said on Sunday.

Based on a complaint lodged by an official from the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) department, the police in Kalyan on Thursday registered a case against Nikhil Gaikwad, owner of Dynamic Enterprises, Noor Mohammad Vasim Pinjari, Navnath Sukrya Gharat, and an individual identified as Sarfaraj, and a few others.

"Between April and August this year, the accused prepared false documents for a company by submitting this false information to the government and obtained a registration certificate under the GST Act," an official from the MFC police station said.

The accused allegedly created eight fake companies and managed to claim ₹ 22.06 crore in ITC, he said. The accused have been booked under sections 111 (organised crime), 316 (criminal breach of trust), 318 (cheating), and 320 (dishonest or fraudulent removal or concealment of property), alongside relevant provisions of the Maharashtra Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, but no arrests have been made so far, the official said. (PTI)

## India's exports rebound in Nov

**NEW DELHI, Dec 21:** Supply-chain realignments and inventory restocking ahead of the US holiday season helped India's exports rebound in November, think tank GTRI said on Sunday.

After recording contraction for two consecutive months, India's merchandise exports to the US rose 22.61 per cent to \$ 6.98 billion in November despite steep 50 per cent tariffs on domestic goods, according to commerce ministry data. Imports during the month grew 38.29 per cent to \$ 5.25 billion. During the April-November period of this fiscal year, the country's exports to the US increased 11.38 per cent to \$ 59.04 billion, while imports rose 13.49 per cent to \$ 35.4 billion.

The US has imposed a sweeping 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods entering American markets from August 27.

The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said in sectors such as electronics and machinery, "supply-chain realignments and inventory restocking ahead of the US holiday season also supported shipments".

It added that the rebound after September therefore reflects adjustment to a tougher tariff regime, not relief, and remains fragile, driven by short-term coping strategies rather than a lasting improvement. (PTI)

# Chartered Accountants Conference concludes at Guwahati

HT Bureau

**GUWAHATI, Dec 21:** The two-day National Conference of Chartered Accountants concluded successfully on December 20 at the Srimanta Sankardeva International Auditorium with a valedictory session led by CA Raginee Goyal, Chairperson of the Guwahati Branch of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

CA Ravi Kumar Patwa, Central Council Member and Programme Director, remained present throughout the conference, guiding and mentoring the Guwahati Branch. Held under the theme "Lakshya - Where Dreams Meet Direction", the conference highlighted that Chartered Accountants remain irreplaceable in the evolving professional landscape.

Speakers emphasised that while artificial intelligence cannot replace CAs, the profession must increasingly adopt AI to enhance efficiency and capacity.

The importance of unlearning, learning and relearning, coupled with strong analytical skills and the ability to effectively use modern tools, was repeatedly underscored as a defining strength of the profession. The second day featured a session by CA (Dr) Girish Ahuja on "Income Tax Act, 2025: Way Forward", offering insights into the new Income Tax Act scheduled to come into effect from April 1, 2026.

This was followed by a special leadership session addressed by CA Charanjot Singh Nanda, President of ICAI, along with other senior leaders of the Institute, focusing on the role of Chartered Accountants in governance, economic growth and nation-building.

The ICAI President highlighted that the Institute was established by an Act of Parliament even before the adoption of the Constitution, reflecting the profession's foundational role in building the nation.

Stressing continuous upskilling, lifelong learning and gratitude towards parents and spouses as guiding pillars, he urged members to participate in the World Forum of Accountants to be held on January 31, 2026, at Noida.

A session on capital markets and wealth creation, moderated by CA Ravi Kumar Patwa, featured expert deliberations by market professionals Sumeet Bagadia and Nikunj Saraf, who shared insights on market trends and advisory opportunities in contemporary times.

A patriotic motivational session titled "The Jaamvart Transformation - Unstoppable Bharat" was delivered by Dr Deepak Vohra, who aligned professional excellence with India's growth narrative and engaged the audience through an inspiring and interactive presentation.

Informing about the cultural segment, CA (Dr) Swati Tejawat, Chairperson of the Media and Publicity Committee, said that a colourful cultural evening themed "Samah - The Magical Night 5.0" was held on Friday, featuring a specially curated audio-visual performance by storyteller Laksh Maheswari on Assam's music icon Zubeen Garg, along with performances by the western music band Voodoo Child and a dance drama titled "Gajanan Udbhav" depicting the origin of Lord Ganesha, performed by CAs and CA students.

### AFFIDAVIT

I, Rima Deka W/O Junmoni Deka, resident of Barkola, P.O Barkola, P.S. Sardar, district, Nagaon (Assam). Before my marriage, I used to write my name as "Rima Bora". After my marriage with my husband Junmoni Bora I used the surname of my husband "Deka". I am known as "Rima Deka". I swear an affidavit before the executive magistrate, Nagaon that "Rima Deka" and "Rima Bora" are the names of same and one person.

### AFFIDAVIT

I, Jonti Bora Saikia, W/O - Kamal Saikia, a resident of Barkola, P.O Barkola, P.S Sardar, district Nagaon (Assam). Before my marriage, I used to write my name as "Junti Borah". After my marriage, with my husband Kamal Saikia, I used the surname of my husband "Saikia". I am known to all as "Jonti Bora Saikia". I swear an affidavit before the executive magistrate Nagaon that "Jonti Bora Saikia" and "Junti Borah" are the names of same and one person

## Assam Trade Promotion Organisation has shown the way to local entrepreneurs: Bora

**HT Bureau**

**GUWAHATI, Dec 21:** The fourth International Winter Trade Fair is being organised for eighteen days at the Maniram Dewan Trade Centre in Betkuchi, Guwahati, under the initiative of the Assam Trade Promotion Organisation. Assam Cabinet Minister Atul Bora formally inaugurated the trade fair on Sunday.

While inaugurating the fair, the Minister stated that by organising trade fairs in different parts of the state, the Assam Trade Promotion Organisation has shown local entrepreneurs a pathway to access markets. He expressed hope that such initiatives by the organisation would have a significant impact on the state's economy and on the growth and development of entrepreneurship.

Delivering the welcome address at the inaugural function, Sunil Deka, Chairman of the Assam Trade Promotion Organisation, said that since 2022 the organisation has been conducting trade fairs across various regions of the state with the objective of providing market access to local entrepreneurs.

Through these trade fairs, he added, coordination and interaction are being established among entrepreneurs from India and



abroad, thereby opening new avenues for local entrepreneurs of Assam to move forward.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the Vice-Chairman of the Assam Trade Promotion Organisation, Madhuram Deka, Managing Director Selim Raja Mondal, Deputy Managing Director Abhishek Saikia and several other distinguished personalities.

Prior to the inauguration of the trade fair, Minister Atul Bora and

Chairman Sunil Deka paid tribute to the beloved artist Zubeen Garg by inaugurating a memorial tribute space dedicated to him at the trade fair.

On the occasion of the birth centenary of Sudhakantha Bhupen Hazarika and in tribute to the beloved artist Zubeen Garg, special cultural programmes have been arranged at the trade fair. In addition, attractive cultural programmes by popular artists are being organised every evening.

participating in the fair. Stalls from countries such as Afghanistan, Thailand and Dubai have also taken part.

On the occasion of the birth centenary of Sudhakantha Bhupen Hazarika and in tribute to the beloved artist Zubeen Garg, special cultural programmes have been arranged at the trade fair. In addition, attractive cultural programmes by popular artists are being organised every evening.

## Major fire guts wholesale drugstore in Dhubri

**Short circuit suspected: Property worth ₹ 50 lakh destroyed**

**HT Correspondent**

**DHUBRI, Dec 21:** A massive fire broke out early Sunday morning at a wholesale drugstore in the heart of Dhubri town, causing extensive damage to property and triggering a major rescue operation.

The blaze erupted at Pabitra Trading, a prominent wholesale medicine outlet located in Ward No 7, opposite the Hari Sabha Mandir. The shop is owned by Pradip Kumar Roy, who also resides in the same building. Pedestrians noticed smoke billowing from the premises early in the morning and immediately alerted the authorities. Personnel from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and the local fire service rushed to the spot to control the situation.

Three fire brigade tenders were pressed into service and firefighters battled the flames for several hours before finally bringing the fire under control. During the operation, SDRF personnel carried out a rescue mission to evacuate a sick elderly woman who was trapped on the top floor of the building.



The fire was contained before it could spread to the residential portion of the building or nearby structures. "SDRF forces attempted to rescue a sick elderly person from the top floor and the fire was eventually brought under control," said Mithun Roy of the SDRF. Preliminary investigations suggest that the fire was caused by a short circuit inside the shop. Although no casualties were reported, the incident resulted in heavy financial losses. The entire wholesale stock of medicines, along

with computers and office electronics was destroyed with the total loss estimated at around ₹ 50 lakh.

The incident caused temporary panic in the Ward No 7 area, a busy commercial and religious zone. Local authorities praised the swift response of the fire and rescue services, which prevented the fire from spreading to the nearby Hari Sabha temple and densely populated residential buildings. Further investigation is underway to ascertain the exact cause of the short circuit.

## CPI centenary programme concludes in Sivasagar

**HT Correspondent**

**SIVASAGAR, Dec 21:** The closing ceremony of the CPI's centenary programme was held here on Saturday at the CPI office.

Addressing the open session, CPI national secretary Dr BC Kango said that a strong opposition alliance is vitally important in a vibrant democracy like India and added that the party has played a leading role in nation building both in the pre- and post-Independence periods. Dr Kango recalled that former CPI leader Promode Gogoi of Sivasagar led several mass movements in Assam demanding the oil refinery and opposing privatisation of state industries. He urged party comrades to work dedicatedly and strengthen the CPI's stand on key issues.

Earlier in the day, veteran CPI leader Cheniram Borgohain hoisted the national flag, while senior CPI leader Dharma Barua hoisted the red flag. Dina Borgohain performed the smriti tarpan, and a cultural procession was taken out as part of the celebrations.

Speaking on the occasion, state CPI secretary Kanak Gogoi said that the 100-year celebrations being observed across the country serve as a reminder of the greater responsibilities comrades must shoulder in the years to come. He strongly criticised the BJP's 11 years in power, alleging damage to democratic institutions and corporatisation of the national industrial



structure. Referring to the RSS, the CPI(M) state secretary said that another organisation in the country is also celebrating its centenary despite having had no role in India's freedom struggle.

Bibek Das, secretary of the CPI (MLA), urged left and democratic party workers to fight unitedly to defeat the BJP in the next elections. Ajay Gogoi, president of the INC Sivasagar district unit, said there was no alternative to a united front to bring about a change in power.

The meeting was attended by, among others, Mihir Nandi, president of the Forward Bloc, RCPI leader Uttom Chetta, Bharatiya Gana Natya Sangha president Sarat Chandra Neog, Asom Jatiya Parishad state leader Pradip Borgohain and Asomi Gogoi, leader of the state CPI women's wing.

The delegates' meeting was presided over by Comrade Dhiren Kachari.

## NCC Camp 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' showcasing the rich diversity of India concludes successfully



**HT Correspondent**

**TEZPUR, Dec 21:** Facilitating cultural exchange and showcasing India's vibrant diversity the North Eastern Region 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' special NCC camp underway from December 8 at the Missamari Military Station in Sonitpur district concluded successfully on Friday. Organised with the objective of promoting cultural exchange and integration, the camp showcased the rich diversity of India through a series of competitive events, including dance, music and theme-based plays centred on national integration.

Addressing the participants, Colonel Madhab Boro, Administrative Officer of the 5th Assam Battalion, NCC, Tezpur, said the initiative provided an effective platform for strengthening bonds of unity and fostering a sense of oneness among cadets drawn from dif-

ferent parts of the country.

A vibrant cultural evening was organised under the supervision of NCC Officer Buddhinath Mishra of Rangachakua Higher Secondary School and NCC Officer Barnali Saikia of Tezpur Government Higher Secondary Multipurpose Girls' School. The programme was attended by senior Army officials, including the Group Commanding Officer and the Group Commander of the Tezpur Group, along with Army officers and their family members. Through their performances, the cadets vividly portrayed the glorious cultural heritage of a united India, evoking a shared sense of national pride and belonging.

As part of the camp itinerary, the cadets visited various Indian Air Force establishments in and around Tezpur, where they were briefed on fighter aircraft and the operational functioning of the Air Force. Colonel Unni Krishnan, Commanding Officer of the 5th Assam Battalion, stated that the initiative aimed to inspire and motivate interested cadets to pursue careers in the Indian Armed Forces.

The cadets also undertook educational visits to the historic Agnigarh, where they were introduced to its historical and cultural significance. In addition, officers and cadets paid homage to the Tezpur War Memorial, associated with the legacy of the Second World War, by offering floral tributes.

## SVN founder president Bhujendra Tamuly passes away

**HT Correspondent**

**MORIGAOON, Dec 21:** Bhujendra Tamuly, founder president of Morigaon Sankardev Vidya Niketan (SVN) and a respected educationist and social worker, passed away in the wee hours of Sunday, at his residence due to age-related ailments. He was 90.

Known for his plain-speaking nature and dedication to social and educational causes, Tamuly was born on August 29, 1936, at Bakarigaon, Ward No 4. He retired in 1998 from Morigaon Lathabori Nehru LP School, where he served as a teacher.

Tamuly was also the president of Morigaon unit of the Viswa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and was actively associated with various social organisations in the district. Apart from his social engagements, he had also acted in two Assamese films, Eai Desh Mur Desh and Ughala Sipa.

As news of his demise spread, a large number of people gathered at his residence to pay their last respects and offer floral tributes.

He is survived by his wife, three sons, three daughters, grandsons and a host of relatives. His death has cast a pall of gloom over the district with widespread expressions of grief from different sections of society.

## Anchalik Panchayat member disqualified over child marriage violation

**HT Correspondent**

**DHUBRI, Dec 21:** The District Commissioner of Dhubri has disqualified and removed an elected Anchalik Panchayat Member from office for violating provisions of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, following the conclusion of an official inquiry.

According to an order issued by the Office of the District Commissioner, Dhubri, Amir Ali, elected as Anchalik Panchayat Member (APM) from 74-Patamari Gaon Panchayat has been removed from his post with immediate effect. The order was passed after a complaint was filed by one Renuka Khatun alleging that Amir Ali or his spouse had committed child marriage and furnished false information in the affidavit submitted along with the nomination papers for the Panchayat Election, 2025.

The matter was examined through a formal inquiry conducted by the designated enquiry officer, Sugata Siddhartha Goswami, ACS, Election Officer, Dhubri. The inquiry report established that the date of birth of Elifa Khatun, wife of Amir Ali is 20 August 1997 and that their son, Imran Khan was born on 23 February 2013. At the time of the birth of her first child, Elifa Khatun was found to be 15 years, 6 months and 3 days old, clearly indicating that the marriage was solemnized when she was a minor.

The order states that this act amounts to a violation of the legal age of marriage as prescribed under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006. It further cites Section 111(2) of the Assam Panchayat Act, 1994, which bars any person from being elected, co-opted, or continuing as president,

vice president, or Member of a Zilla Parishad, Anchalik Panchayat, or Gaon Panchayat if the person or his or her spouse has violated the legal age of marriage.

Invoking Section 111(2) of the Assam Panchayat Act, 1994, read with Rule 62(4)(b) and (c) of the Assam Panchayat (Constitution) Rules, 1995, as amended, the District Commissioner ordered the disqualification and removal of Amir Ali from the Anchalik Panchayat Membership. The seat has been declared vacant with immediate effect. Copies of the order have been forwarded to the concerned state authorities, including the Panchayat and Rural Development Department, the Assam State Election Commission, the Dhubri Zilla Parishad and the Dharamsala Anchalik Panchayat, for information and necessary action.

## Sweaters, socks distributed at Kolabil Mornoi ME School

**HT Correspondent**

**TEZPUR, Dec 21:** In a compassionate initiative to protect children from harsh winter conditions, 15 newly admitted students of Kolabil Mornoi ME School, located near the River Dikrong in Lakhimpur district, were provided with woolen sweaters and socks. During winter, cold winds from the riverside make the school environment extremely chilly, creating an urgent need for warm clothing.

The beneficiary students belong to very poor families and often lack basic winter wear. The timely distribution helped ensure their comfort, health and uninterrupted schooling during the cold season.

The initiative was conceptualised and implemented by Pallabi Bora Neog, with active support from Swar-

naprabha Neog, a retired teacher, whose guidance and encouragement contributed significantly to the success of the programme. The funds for the project were donated by members of the Rotary Club of Guwahati, reaffirming the club's commitment to community welfare and child development.

The distribution programme was further supported by two senior women from Bihpuria, who assisted in handing over the sweaters and socks to the children, adding warmth and personal care to the event. School authorities and parents expressed their gratitude to all those involved for the thoughtful and timely gesture. The Rotary Club of Guwahati reiterated its resolve to continue such initiatives for the welfare of underprivileged children.

## CCTOA Consultative Group discusses ST proposal

**Experts, leaders deliberate on inclusion of six communities in Assam ST list**

**HT Correspondent**

**KOKRAJHAR, Dec 21:** The Consultative Group formed by the Coordination Committee of the Tribal Organisations of Assam (CCTOA) to examine the report of the Group of Ministers (GoM), Assam, regarding the proposal to include six communities in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) list of Assam, held a detailed discussion on Sunday at Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati.

The meeting focused on key issues arising from the proposal and deliberated on future strategies in response to the state government's move.

The discussion was chaired by Dr Suhas Chakma, member of the Group of NGOs - Human Rights Defenders under the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Among those present were Kulaswami Lalury, IAS (Retd.), Prafulla Hazowary, ACS

(Retd.), Sabdaram Rabha, Advocate, Gauhati High Court, Sansuma Khungur Bwiswamuthiary, former Member of Parliament, Prakanta Warisa, former Member of Parliament and Bilash Chandra Doley, former Joint Director, Audit (Local Fund). Leaders of the CCTOA also participated, sharing their views and concerns on the proposed inclusion of the six communities in the ST list.

The participants emphasised the need for careful examination of constitutional safeguards, socio-economic impacts and the rights of existing Scheduled Tribe communities before any decision is taken.

"The CCTOA has had a threadbare discussion of the Consultative Group formed by CCTOA under the chairmanship of Dr Suhas Chakma, in the participation of distinguished members today at Vivekananda Kendra, Guwahati," said a member of the CCTOA.

## BJP ramps up groundwork in Karbi Anglong ahead of 2026 elections

**Development projects and mass defections mark strategic push in hill district**

**HT Correspondent**

**KHERONI, Dec 21:** Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Assam, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Karbi Anglong has intensified its political activities ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections. The party is focusing on consolidating its presence through infrastructure development, land distribution and strategic political manoeuvring.

The Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) leadership, led by Chief Executive Member Tuliram Ronghang has spearheaded the initiative, aiming to secure public confidence through visible regional growth. On Sunday, the crucial Kheroni-Jerikindeng connecting road, completed under the 2022-23 RIDF scheme was inaugurated. Foundation stones were also laid for seven paved roads under various state schemes, including the Mukhya Mantri Poki Path Nirman Achnoni and RIDF. Additionally, work on the Mokru-Tapat connecting road under the state's flagship Asom Mala highway programme officially commenced.

A key component of the BJP's strategy is the Puthimi Akemang (Basundhara 2.0) scheme. At a major event in Phanglangso, land pattas were distributed to 3,200 families, addressing



long-standing concerns over land ownership in the district.

The party is also aiming to weaken opposition influence. Recent rallies have showcased the BJP's strength, reportedly putting pressure on the Congress. In a significant move, a mass joining ceremony at Lamarang saw 2,510 members, including leaders and workers from the

Congress and the regional APHLC, officially defect to the BJP, bolstering the party's position in West Karbi Anglong.

As the political landscape in the hill districts shifts, the BJP's dual strategy of "development and defection" appears to be setting the stage for a high-stakes contest in the 2026 Assembly elections.

## Dr Prasanna Kumar Bordoloi passes away

**HT Correspondent**

**SIVASAGAR, Dec 21:** Dr Prasanna Kumar Bordoloi (82), former senior government health officer and a well-known physician devoted to serving the poor, passed away on Saturday at JMC Hospital due to age-related ailments.

After his retirement in 2002, Dr Bordoloi continued to treat patients at Khemka Matri Sadan for a nominal fee of ₹ 20 per patient. According to records, he attended to nearly 200 patients in a single day on certain occasions, earning him deep respect and affection from the community.

His last rites were performed at Santibon crematorium.

Dr Bordoloi is survived by his wife, Ilu Baruah, former joint director of health services, a son and a daughter.

His demise has been mourned by the Indian Medical Association, Sivasagar chapter, Medical and Sales Representatives Association, Medicine and Druggist Association, Jayswal Khemka Matri Sadan, Sivasagar Kobi Chakra, Brihatar Sivasagar Press Club and several other organisations.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

Things are not quite so simple always as black and white. -Doris Lessing

## 4 years of Ukraine war

Nearly four years since Russia's February 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Russia still occupies roughly 20 percent of the country, and Russian President Vladimir Putin made clear Wednesday that he has no intention of compromising on his territorial demands despite President Donald Trump's intensifying efforts to broker peace. In a combative speech delivered at the annual meeting of the Russian Defense Ministry, Putin lashed out at Ukraine's European allies and declared Russia would seize territory by force if necessary. The remarks came as diplomatic efforts to end Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II reached a critical juncture. European Union leaders are meeting in Brussels this week to debate an unprecedented plan to use frozen Russian assets to finance Ukraine's defense, while Russia continues to gain ground, capturing 215 square miles of Ukrainian territory in the past four weeks. The path to peace has been marked by repeated failures, most notably Trump's much-hyped Alaska summit with Putin in August. The meeting at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage was intended to achieve a rapid ceasefire, but after nearly three hours of talks, Putin and Trump did not announce a ceasefire or an agreement to end the war.

Zelenskyy was not invited to the talks, and had warned that decisions made in his absence would be meaningless. The Ukrainian president's exclusion from negotiations became a persistent theme as Trump pursued a bilateral approach with Russia that alarmed European allies. Following Alaska, Putin and his officials have repeatedly referred back to the "spirit and letter" of the August summit, treating the meeting as a diplomatic victory. Meanwhile, Trump celebrated it as "a great and very successful day," though no concrete progress toward peace materialized. Yuri Ushakov, an advisor to Vladimir Putin, summed up subsequent negotiations between the Russian President and U.S. Special Envoy Steve Witkoff by noting that "so far, no compromise version of a peace settlement has been found". The failure stems from Putin's consistent refusal to negotiate in good faith, continuing to demand maximalist territorial concessions from Ukraine while offering nothing in return.

The human cost of the conflict continues to mount at a staggering pace. Russia has sustained more than 790,000 killed or injured, according to an April 2025 estimate, while Ukraine has suffered 400,000 killed or injured. Fighting and air strikes have inflicted over 53,000 civilian casualties, while 3.7 million people are internally displaced, and 6.9 million have fled Ukraine. At the current rate of its advance, Russia would not seize the entire Donbas region until August 2027, according to analysis by the Institute for the Study of War. Yet Putin appears content to trade thousands of Russian lives for incremental gains, gambling that Ukraine's smaller population and dwindling Western support will eventually force Kyiv to capitulate.

## Geoeconomics to Trump's Geopolitics: Tariffs to weapons

The twenty-first century has witnessed a big transformation in the way power is exercised in international relations which is beyond the traditional military force which is no longer the sole or even the primary instrument through which states pursue national interests. Economic instruments such as trade, investment, finance, technology, and supply chains have emerged as decisive tools of power and this shift has given rise to the concept of geoeconomics, a framework that views economic capabilities and vulnerabilities as central to geopolitical competition. In this evolving context, the presidency of Donald Trump marked a distinctive phase in global politics, where economic tools such as tariffs, sanctions, and trade wars were used with unprecedented bluntness and frequency and this approach has raised a critical question: has geoeconomics, once conceived as a subtler alternative to military confrontation, been transformed into a form of coercive geopolitics where tariffs replace tanks and economic pressure functions like a weapon.

Understanding Geoeconomics: Concept and Evolution: The term geoeconomics gained prominence in the post-Cold War era, particularly after Edward Luttwak's influential argument that economic competition would replace military rivalry as the primary arena of conflict among major powers. Geoeconomics refers to the use of economic instruments to achieve geopolitical objectives, blending the logic of power politics with the mechanisms of markets. Unlike classical geopolitics, which emphasizes territory, military alliances, and force, geoeconomics focuses on trade policy, investment flows, currency power, technological standards, and control over critical resources.

Geoeconomics was initially viewed as a rational and less violent form of competition, where states pursued influence through trade, innovation, and economic power rather than warfare. Globalization, multinational corporations, and international institutions like the WTO, IMF, and World Bank reinforced this rule-based approach. Yet geoeconomics always carried a coercive element, as sanctions and trade embargoes were tools of statecraft. After the Cold War, economic instruments increasingly replaced military force as primary means of power.

The Weaponization of Economic Interdependence: As globalization deepened, so did the realization that interdependence could be weaponized. States began to recognize that asymmetric dependencies—where one country relies more heavily on another for trade, finance, or technology—could be exploited for strategic gain. Control over key nodes of the global economy, such as financial systems, supply chains,

and technological platforms, became sources of leverage.

The United States, as the architect and principal beneficiary of the liberal international economic order, possessed unparalleled geoeconomic power. The dominance of the US dollar, the centrality of American financial institutions, and the influence of US technology firms gave Washington the ability to impose sanctions with global reach. Long before Trump, successive US administrations used sanctions against states such as Iran, North Korea, and Russia, demonstrating how economic tools could function as alternatives or complements to military power.

China, too, began to develop its own geoeconomic toolkit, using trade, investment, and infrastructure projects to expand influence, particularly through initiatives such as the Belt and Road Initiative. The European Union leveraged its market size and regulatory power the so-called "Brussels effect" to shape global standards. Thus, by the time Trump entered office, geoeconomics had already become a central feature of global competition.

Trump's Worldview and Economic Nationalism: Donald Trump's approach to international relations was shaped by a deeply ingrained worldview of economic nationalism and transactionalism. He viewed the global economy not as a cooperative system generating mutual gains, but as a zero-sum arena in which countries either win or lose. Trade deficits, in his perspective, were evidence of exploitation, and multilateral institutions were seen as constraints on American sovereignty rather than facilitators of global stability.

This worldview translated into a dramatic shift in US economic statecraft. Trump rejected the traditional bipartisan consensus in favour of free trade and multilateralism, embracing instead protectionism and unilateral action. Tariffs, once regarded as blunt instruments with high economic costs, became central to his strategy. Trump openly described trade wars as "easy to win," signalling a willingness to absorb economic pain in pursuit of perceived strategic and political gains.

What distinguished Trump's approach was not merely the use of economic tools, but the way they were framed and deployed. Tariffs were no longer just mechanisms to protect domestic industries or correct market distortions; they were explicitly used as instruments of coercion, punishment, and leverage across a wide range of issues, including immigration, security, and diplomacy.

Tariffs as Weapons: Trade Wars and Strategic Coercion: The most visible man-

ifestation of Trump's geoeconomic strategy was the trade war with China. Citing unfair trade practices, intellectual property theft, and industrial subsidies, the Trump administration imposed sweeping tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of Chinese goods. China retaliated in kind, leading to a prolonged economic confrontation that disrupted global supply chains and unsettled financial markets.

While the trade war was framed in economic terms, its underlying logic was geopolitical. The United States sought to constrain China's rise, protect its technological edge, and force changes in China's economic model. Tariffs thus functioned as a form of economic warfare, aimed at altering the strategic balance between the two powers. The conflict extended beyond tariffs to encompass restrictions on technology transfer, investment screening, and export controls, particularly in sensitive sectors such as semiconductors and telecommunications.

Trump also used tariffs as leverage against allies. Steel and aluminum tariffs were imposed on countries such as Canada, Mexico, and members of the European Union on the grounds of national security. These measures strained alliances and blurred the line between economic competition and political coercion. In some cases, tariffs were explicitly linked to non-economic demands, as when Trump threatened tariffs on Mexican goods to pressure Mexico into taking stronger action on immigration.

Such actions reinforced the perception that tariffs had become weapons—tools of compulsion rather than mere instruments of trade policy. The unpredictability and unilateralism of Trump's tariff strategy amplified their coercive effect, as countries faced constant uncertainty about future access to the US market.

Sanctions, Technology, and Financial Power: Beyond tariffs, the Trump administration intensified the use of sanctions and technological restrictions as instruments of geopolitics. Sanctions against Iran were expanded following the US withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), with the explicit aim of exerting "maximum pressure." These sanctions targeted not only Iran but also third-country entities, demonstrating the extraterritorial reach of US financial power.

Technology emerged as a particularly important battleground. The restrictions imposed on Chinese technology firms, most notably Huawei, reflected growing concerns about technological dependence and national security. By limiting access to US components, software, and markets, the

United States sought to slow China's technological advancement and protect its own strategic industries. In this sense, control over technology supply chains became a form of geoeconomic weaponry.

From Geoeconomics to Geopolitics: A Conceptual Shift: The question arises whether Trump's approach represents a fundamental shift from geoeconomics to geopolitics or merely an intensification of existing trends. On one hand, the use of economic tools for strategic purposes is not new. States have long employed trade restrictions, sanctions, and financial pressure as instruments of power and Trump's policies can be seen as an extension of geoeconomic competition under conditions of heightened rivalry. It is worth mentioning that Trump's explicit framing of economic measures as weapons, combined with his willingness to deploy them against allies and adversaries alike, suggests a qualitative change. The traditional distinction between economic and military instruments became increasingly blurred as the economic tools were used not just to influence behaviour, but to signal resolve, demonstrate dominance, and reshape power relationships. This shift has significant implications. When economic measures are perceived as acts of aggression, they can provoke retaliation and escalation, undermining the stability that geoeconomics was once thought to promote and trade wars can spill over into broader political and security tensions, increasing the risk of conflict rather than reducing it.

Global Implications and the Future of Economic Statecraft: Trump's approach on tariff has significantly reshaped the global order by weakening trust in multilateral institutions, accelerating economic fragmentation, and prompting states to develop geoeconomic defences. Countries increasingly diversified trade, reduced supply-chain dependence and sought resilience against economic coercion. The growing normalization of economic weaponization has raised concerns about the sustainability of globalization, as geopolitical rivalry undermines interdependence and encourages blocs, decoupling, and protectionism. However, these trends cannot be attributed solely to Trump; structural forces such as China's rise, technological change, and domestic inequalities also politicized economics. Trump nonetheless acted as a catalyst, intensifying the shift from cooperative geoeconomics to confrontational economic geopolitics. Under his presidency, tariffs, sanctions, and technological controls became central strategic tools, blurring boundaries between economics and geopolitics. This has produced a more volatile global order, challenging states to balance strategic economic power with stability and cooperation.

## DEGREE OF THOUGHT

By: Dr Mukul Chandra Bora

## Rise in agricultural activities brought unemployment down in rural areas

By: Dr Gyan Pathak

With rise in agricultural activities during the reaping of Kharif and sowing of Rabi crops, the unemployment rate in the rural areas of India has witnessed a considerable fall to 3.9 per cent in November 2025 as against 4.4 per cent in October on current weekly status (CWS) basis. Nevertheless, in urban areas, the unemployment rate stood as high as 6.5 per cent in November as against 7 per cent in October. For rural and urban areas combined unemployment rate in CWS came down from 5.2 per cent in October to 4.7 per cent in November.

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for November 2025 shows that combined unemployment rate for both urban and rural areas among the youth between the age 15-29 remained as high as 14.1 per cent in November, as against 14.9 per cent in October. Male youth unemployment rate in November was 13.4 per cent as against 14 per cent in October, while female youth unemployment rate in November was 16.3 per cent as against 17.1 per cent in October.

Male Unemployment rate for age group 15 years and above stood at 4.6 per cent in November as against 5.1 per cent in October. Female unemployment rate for this age group was 4.8 per cent in November as against 5.4 per cent in October.

In the urban areas, male unemployment rate for the age group 15 years and above was 5.6 per cent and female unemployment rate was 9.3 per cent as against 6.1 per cent and 9.7 per cent in October respectively. Unemployment rate among urban male youth in November was 15.3 per cent as against urban female youth unemployment rate 25.7 per cent.

In the rural areas, male unemployment rate in the age group 15 per cent and above stood at 4.1 per cent as against female unemployment rate of 3.4 per cent. In October, these were 4.6 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. Unemployment rate among rural male youth was 12.4 per cent in November as against 12.5 per cent among female youth.

The combined male and female youth unemployment rate in rural areas in November stood at 12.4 per cent as against 13.2 per cent in October. For urban areas these were 17.8 per cent in November as against 18.4 per cent in October.

The PLFS data for November 2025 shows that female unemployment rate in the urban areas is worse than male unemployment rate, and also worse than the female unemployment rate in the rural areas. Male unemployment rate in the rural areas is little worse than the female unemployment rate there. For both urban and rural areas combined, female unemployment rate is worse than the male unemployment rate.

Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above at the all-India level was 53.2 per cent in November, 2025. For rural areas it was 56.3 per cent and for urban areas it was 47.1 per cent. Among rural male of this age group, it was 75.4 per cent during the month. For rural female it was found to be 38.4 per cent. In urban areas WPR among female of this age group was 23.1 per cent compared to 70.9 per cent observed for male. WPR in CWS among youth of age 15-29 years was 35.9 per cent - 52.9 per cent for male and 18.9 per cent for female.

Labour force Participation Rate (LFPR) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in the country stood at 55.8 per cent in November, 2025. For persons of this age group in rural and urban areas these were 58.6 per cent and 50.4 per cent, respectively. LFPR among rural male of age 15 years and above was 78.7 per cent during November, 2025. For rural female of the same age group, LFPR during November, 2025 was found to be 39.7 per cent. In urban areas, LFPR among female of age 15 years and above during November, 2025 was 25.5 per cent compared to 75.1 per cent observed for male of the same age group. LFPR among youth of age 15-29 years in November stood at 41.8 per cent - 61 per cent among male youth and 22.6 per cent for female youth.

LFPR at all India basis for both rural and urban combined for all ages showed a little improvement in November which stood at 42.3 per cent as against 41.8 per cent in October. However for urban areas it remained stagnant at 40.1 per cent for urban areas, while considerably improved in the rural areas to 43.4 per cent in November from 42.6 per cent in October, though the level is not satisfactory. (IPA Service)

## Social Decay and the future of the youth generation

By: Himanshu Ranjan Bhuyan

A society is always dynamic, but when that dynamism veers towards darkness instead of progress, it becomes a cause of profound concern for every thoughtful citizen. When we speak of the backbone of a society, we unhesitatingly refer to the youth generation; they are the charioteers of a nation's dreams and the architects of its future. However, the undesirable changes that have recently crept into the social life of Assam have not only weakened our social structure but have also created a situation akin to termites gnawing at the foundation of our future generations. Social decay does not merely imply a deterioration in crime or law-and-order situations; it is, in reality, a deep process of rot that forms within the human mind, where human qualities such as morality, empathy, respect for elders, and honesty are gradually vanishing. The impact of this decay has thrown the youth generation into such a dilemma that they have become incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong. The crisis of values visible in today's society cannot be resolved simply by blaming the youth; rather, it is time for all of us—the elders of society, parents, and those involved in governance—to engage in sincere self-inspection. When consumerism and self-centred thinking engulf the concept of collective welfare in a society, it is only natural for its youth to become directionless. Through this essay, I attempt to offer a detailed and impartial discussion on the roots of this profound societal ailment and its dreadful consequences, so that we may gift our future generations a healthy and beautiful world.

The family is the first and primary educational institution of a society, where a child receives the initial lessons of life and acquires the fundamental elements for character formation. Unfortunately, the rapid changes occurring in our traditional family system at present can be identified as one of the main causes of social decay. Once, Assamese society had a strong tradition of joint families, where intimate relationships and an atmosphere of discipline existed among grandparents, uncles, aunts, and siblings; this is gradually disappearing due to economic reasons and in the name of modernity. Confined within the narrow bounds of today's nuclear families, a child or adolescent is deprived of the diverse experiences of life and the security and affection they should receive from family members. When both parents are occupied with work and unable to give time to their children, it often creates an emotional void in the child's mind, which they attempt to fill by choosing artificial and harmful paths. When children cannot find someone at home to openly share their thoughts with, resentment and frustration begin to accumulate in their minds. This emotional distance has created cracks in the relationship between parents and children, as a result of which parental control over children has vanished. Due to the absence of the practice of morality and spirituality at home, children are growing up with a materialistic mindset from a young age, which may shape them into antisocial individuals in the future.

The education system is regarded as the backbone of any nation or society, but the direction in which our current education system is heading raises a serious question mark regarding the preservation of social values. Instead of the sacred purpose of acquiring knowledge, education today is being used merely as a tool for earning a livelihood and winning the race of competition. In school or college classrooms, students are taught techniques for securing good marks or leaving others behind, but the current system has largely failed to impart les-

sons on how to become a good human being or how to help the deprived and downtrodden of society. As moral education and character-building curricula gradually lose importance, the number of educated miscreants in our society is increasing. When a brilliant student forgets their responsibility towards society and becomes engrossed solely in building their career and accumulating wealth, such education cannot bring true light to society. The sacred relationship between teacher and student has also degenerated into mere commercial transactions today. This commercialisation of education has created arrogance in one section of society and despair in another. True education is that which opens the doors of the mind and awakens sensitivity in the heart, but the current memorisation-dependent and mark-centric education system has killed the creativity and original thinking power of the youth generation.

The unprecedented advancement of science and technology has propelled human society far forward, yet its misuse and excessive dependence have created a storm in the mental world of the youth generation. The convenience of having the entire universe in the palm of one's hand has isolated our new generation from the real world and imprisoned them in a virtual or imaginary realm. The easy availability of smartphones and the internet has engulfed everyone from children to young men and women to such an extent that a stranger far away has become more important to them than the person sitting nearby. The false news, propaganda, and distorted mindsets spreading through social media have poisoned their tender minds. At a time when they should be running on playgrounds or immersing themselves in books, they are spending their time staring at mobile screens. As a result, their patience has decreased, and mental instability has increased. The tendency to become excited over trivial matters, inability to tolerate insult, and resorting to violence when necessary are some of the ill effects of this technology addiction. Moreover, the number of young men and women who feel dissatisfied with their own lives and suffer from inferiority complexes after seeing others' glamorous lives on social media is increasing day by day. This magical web of technology has reduced direct human interaction and is fuelling the creation of a mechanical and emotionless generation, which is an extremely ominous sign for the future of society.

The winds of materialistic globalisation have brought radical changes in the thought processes and lifestyles of our society, pushing the youth generation towards an unhealthy competition. This new trend, which considers wealth and power as the ultimate measures of success in life, has turned honesty, simplicity, and the dignity of labour into objects of ridicule. Today's youth seek shortcuts to become rich in less time and with less effort. This mindset attracts them towards corruption, deceit, and antisocial activities. When they see that wealthy and powerful people receive more respect in society than the virtuous and knowledgeable, the foundation of morality in their minds weakens. The ideals of sacrifice and altruism that once existed in Assamese society are now on the verge of extinction under the grip of consumerism. By prioritising luxury over needs, many young people exert economic pressure on their parents, and when it is not fulfilled, they choose the path of crime. This consumerist mindset has not only created economic inequality but has also narrowed human minds. The reluctance to harm others for one's own interests has torn apart the social bonds of society. This erroneous tendency to measure success solely by material acquisitions has deprived the youth generation of mental peace and led

them towards an endless thirst where there is no room for satisfaction.

The crisis descending upon the cultural life of Assam and the disconnection from roots have drawn a big question mark over the identity of the youth generation. The future of a nation that loses respect for its own language, literature, and folk culture can never be bright. A large section of the current youth generation, in the name of modernity, blindly imitates Western or external cultures and loses its own uniqueness. Feeling ashamed to speak or write in one's mother tongue, making no effort to understand the depth of Bihu or Sankari culture, and immersing oneself only in superficial pomp are weakening our national identity. Culture is not merely dance, song, or attire; it is the philosophy of life of a nation. When the new generation forgets the ideals of great people and the glorious history of the past, the ground beneath their feet disappears. Just as a rootless tree topples in a slight breeze, a youth generation without knowledge of its own culture easily drifts away in any wave of alien culture. The extremism, intolerance, and lack of dignity seen in our society today are actually indicators of our cultural bankruptcy. The practice of one's own culture teaches restraint and refinement, but in its absence, the youth generation has embarked on a directionless journey, which is by no means a good omen for the stability of society.

The increasing prevalence of addictive substances and their dreadful grip are gradually pushing Assam's new generation towards death, which is the greatest social malady of the present time. This poisonous net, spreading from cities to villages, has destroyed thousands of promising lives. Many young men and women step into this deadly trap out of frustration, unemployment, family discord, or sometimes mere curiosity. Once they enter this dark world, their sense of right and wrong vanishes, and they begin to live only for the addiction. Addiction does not merely destroy a person's body; it completely eradicates their mental strength, morality, and humanity. To procure money for drugs, they do not hesitate to steal, rob, or even murder. A large portion of the rising criminal incidents in society is linked to the influence of drugs or alcohol. As a result, many families have been utterly ruined, and an atmosphere of fear has been created in society. When the youth, considered the future of our society, lie on the roadside under the grip of addiction, it becomes a matter of shame for the entire nation. The solution to this problem is not possible solely through the police or administration; it requires building a strong resistance from every level of society, otherwise we will lose an entire generation.

In conclusion, in this critical period of our society, we must not become despondent; rather, we must resolve to identify the roots of the problems and eradicate them. Parents must give time and affection to shape their children into true human beings rather than mere money-earning machines. Educational institutions must emphasise moral and life-oriented education alongside textbook knowledge. Instead of constantly criticising the youth, we must try to understand their mental problems and show them the right path. We must revive our lost values, culture, and traditions and present them before the new generation so that they can find their roots. If every conscious individual in society fulfils their responsibility and channels youthful energy into constructive work, we can certainly resist this current of decay. The responsibility of building a future Assam as a healthy, strong, and morally rich society lies with all of us, and it will only be possible if the youth generation takes the lead in this journey. Time has not yet run out; all that is needed is positive thinking and collective effort.

**OFFICE OF THE  
DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
KARBI ANGLONG AUTONOMOUS COUNCIL, DIPHU**

No: KAAC/DPED/SIU-198-208/2025-26/1560

Dt. 20/12/2025

**ADVERTISEMENT**

In the interest of Public Service, and with a view to improving the quality of education and strengthening remedial learning in Single-Teacher Schools, located in far-flung areas of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong districts under the Administrative control of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu and to improve the quality of Primary Education in compliance with the mandate of Section-29 (2) (f) of RTE Act, 2009, and Constitutional provision at Para -6 (1) read with article 244 (2) of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India, and in conformity with the objective stated under Para 2.3,4,9, and 4.10 of NEP, 2020, and in pursuance of Additional Secretary, i/c PED, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu vide letter No.PED/KAAC/PED/Pt-File/Apptt./4048 dated 18/12/2025, applications are invited from eligible Sixth Schedule TET, ATET and CTET qualified candidates of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong districts for appointment to the post of Assistant Teacher for filling up of 198 (one hundred ninety eight) numbers of regular sanctioned vacant posts in Lower Primary Schools in the notified Special Focus Areas under Primary Education Department, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu. The List of Notified Special Focus Area Schools is enclosed at Annexure-A.

The vacancies may vary due to administrative reasons. The Primary Education Department, KAAC, Diphu reserves the right to make changes in sequences of the recruitment process after publication of the advertisement.

The aspiring candidates must be ready to serve in the Special Focused Area Schools as Notified by the Department of School Education vide Notification No:KAAC/Edn-(H)/Pt-XI/2096 Dated 08/07/2025.

**Conditions of Recruitment: -**

- The candidates of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong Districts of Assam, who have passed the Special Sixth Schedule TET, Assam TET and Central TET for Lower Primary School will be eligible for applying.
- Either the Language-I or the Language-II of Special Sixth Schedule TET of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong Districts, Assam TET and Central TET candidates shall match the medium of instruction of the school, and also possess desired Language Proficiency (Speaking Skill) for the school. Please see the Notified Special Focus Area Schools with required Language proficiency.
- Preference will be given to candidates from the local area.
- Proficiency in Mother Tongue/Local Language as notified for the school will be given preference.
- The appointment shall be non-transferable for a minimum continuous period of 5 (five) years.
- Every Candidate so appointed shall, prior to joining, execute an undertaking on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs. 10/- (Rupees ten) only affirming their consent to the mandatory service requirement and non-transferability during the specified period. The said undertaking shall be duly notarized.
- The Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu reserves the right to modify, postpone, or cancel the recruitment process at any stage.
- Candidates must be medically fit and of good moral character.
- A candidate must not be less than 18 years of age and not more than 40 years for unreserved category, 42 years for Ex-Servicemen, 43 years for OBC/ MOBC and 45 years for SC/ ST (P)/ST (H) and 50 years for Persons with Disability (PWD), as on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2026.
- The eligible candidates can apply by submitting the documents as per the check list **from 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2025 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2026 till 04:00 PM** in the office of the District Primary Education Officer, Primary Education Department, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu during office hours.
- The candidature will be cancelled forthwith, if any kind of fraudulence/ discrepancy/ misrepresentation of facts submitted by the candidate is detected by appropriate authority at any point of time. The candidate will also be barred from taking part in any Govt. recruitment process in future and subsequent legal action will also be initiated against such candidate.
- The contractual teachers already working in LP/UP Schools under Samagra Shiksha are not allowed to apply.
- The candidate must apply in the prescribed Form of application along with a KAAC Money Receipt of Rs. 50/- (for ST/SC) & of Rs. 100/- (for others).
- Candidates are required to appear for physical verification of original documents and screening test which will be intimated later on.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- Eligibility Criteria for LP Schools as per Department of School Education, KAAC Notification No. KAAC/Edn-(H)/Pt-XI/2096 Dated 08/07/2025.

Sl. No.	Category of Post	Essential Qualification & Experiences	Marking/Weightage
1	Assistant Teacher for Lower Primary School	Higher Secondary/ Senior Secondary (or its equivalent) with at least 50% marks	5% of marks secured in Higher Secondary/ Senior Secondary or equivalent Examinations.
		And 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education (by whatever name known)	5% of marks secured in Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed) or Bachelor of Elementary Education (D.El.Ed) examination or Diploma in Education (Special Education)
		Sixth Schedule TET, Assam TET or Central TET for Lower Primary.	75% of marks secured in Teachers' Eligibility Test (TET) for Lower Primary Schools.
		Language Proficiency - Speaking Skill Oral Test only- Total 20- Marks	10% of Marks secured in Language Proficiency Test conducted in the interview
		(Non-Essential) 1. NCC Certificate - 5 marks for "C" Certificate and 3 marks for "B" Certificate Or 2. 5 marks for participation/ achievement in recognized sports at National Level or beyond representing State or Nation. Or 3. 5 marks for participation/ achievement in recognized Fine Arts and Cultural Activities representing State at National Level or Beyond representing State or Nation (organized by recognized institutions).	5 Marks (Maximum) Even if the candidate possesses all the three qualification/ achievements.
<b>Maximum Total Marks</b>		<b>100</b>	

- The candidates having Not Clear (NC) status against any qualification will not be eligible to apply.
- Betterment/ Improvement of Marks in respect of Higher Secondary/ Senior Secondary or equivalent Examination will be considered only in the same subjects which were originally taken by the Candidates. Only the 1st betterment examination/ improvement of marks will be taken into account.
- Selection Process: The Selection of the candidates shall be strictly in order of merit and as per the Recruitment Rules Notified by Department of School Education KAAC.
- Documents required(Self Attested):

(Check List):

- Passport Size Photograph.
- HSLC Admit Card.
- HSSLC Mark-sheet and Certificate.
- Any other Mark-sheet and Certificate of higher education.
- 2 (Two) Years D.El.Ed Mark sheet and Certificate.
- Caste Certificate (in case of SC/ ST (P)/ST (H)/OBC/MOBC).
- Document in support Resident.
- Certificate and Mark sheet of Sixth Schedule TET/ATET/CTET.
- Candidates with disabilities will have to enclose certificates of disabilities issued by Govt. authority.
- Certificate of Ex-servicemen issued by the Director, Sainik Welfare Board.

**Note:**

**Canvassing directly or indirectly will lead to cancellation of candidature.**

**STANDARD APPLICATION FORM**

For candidate qualified in Sixth Schedule TET/ATET/CTET				
Sixth Schedule TET/ATET/CTET Roll No. :			Year of passing :	
Language-I .....		Language -II.....		
Name of candidate:				
Date of Birth:				
Gender:				
Caste:				
Father's Name:				
Mother's Name:				
Mobile No.:				
Permanent Address:			Present Address:	
Physically Handicapped (Yes/No):				
Qualification	Year of Passing	Mark obtained	Total Marks	Percentage
HSSLC:				
Graduation				
TET				
2 Years D El Ed				
Language Proficiency :				
Co-curricular activities (if any):				

**Declaration**

I hereby declare that the information submitted herein are true and correct. I understand that in the event of particulars or information given herein being found false or incorrect, my candidature for the recruitment is liable to be rejected or cancelled. In the event of my misstatement/discrepancy in the particulars if detected, after my appointment, my service shall be terminated without any notice to me.

Signature of Candidate

ANNEXURE-A

Sl. No	District Name	Name of Block	School Code	School Name	Medium of Instruction (L-1)	Language- 2	Dominant Tribe	Required Language Proficiency (Specify Language)
1	KARBI ANGLONG	BOKAJAN	18190201709	MONGBUNG ENGLISH L.P	ENGLISH	Karbi	KUKI	Kuki and English
2	KARBI ANGLONG	BOKAJAN	18190201708	MOLSANG ENGLISH L.P	ENGLISH	Karbi	KUKI	Kuki and English
3	KARBI ANGLONG	BOKAJAN	18190201707	MOL HOI ENGLISH L.P	ENGLISH	Karbi	KUKI	Kuki and English
4	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191100601	LANGCHITUNG L.P.S	Assamese/English/Karbi	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
5	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191100901	UPPER CHAPONG L.P.S	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
6	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191101801	BINHUM ENGLISH L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
7	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191102003	TORTELANSO ENGLISH L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
8	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103102	DUNGKEK LANGSO L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
9	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103103	PRANPRISO ENGLISH L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
10	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103108	LANGMEKLU L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
11	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103110	PRANPRI LANGSO L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
12	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103115	TARLONG L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
13	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103118	LONGKIRAM TERON L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
14	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103501	UPPER SELAWOR L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
15	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18191103506	LOCHINLANGSO L.P.S	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
16	KARBI ANGLONG	LANGSOMEPI	18190510613	JOYSING RONGPI ENGLISH L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
17	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190501612	DOLONGBARI L.P SCHOOL	Assamese	English	Chakma	Bengali/Assamese
18	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502101	BORLANGFER MODEL ENGLISH	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	English / karbi
19	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502117	ARTHEMLANSO L.P SCHOOL	Assamese / Karbi	English	Chakma	Bengali/Assamese
20	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502113	TRIPURI HINDI L.P	Hindi	English	Bihari (Hindi Vasi)	Hindi
21	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502401	SIRIM LANGSO	Assamese/ Karbi	English	Karbi	English / karbi
22	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502402	ARLONG PHARLA L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English / karbi
23	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190502407	LANGKAJAN L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi / chakma / garo	karbi / chakma / garo
24	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190510607	MONGJANG L.P	English	Karbi	Kuki	English / kuki
25	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190513004	PITAJAL L.P	English	Karbi	Kuki	English / kuki
26	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190513005	VONGJANG L.P	English	Karbi	Kuki	English / kuki
27	KARBI ANGLONG	LUMBAJONG	18190513012	GANGJANG ENGLISH L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Kuki	English / kuki
28	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190601209	RONGTEKE L.P	English/Karbi	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI/ASSAMESE
29	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190601234	ANJOK RONGPI L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI/ASSAMESE
30	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606904	HANGIK LANGSO L.P	Assamese	English	KARBI	KARBI/ASSAMESE
31	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606907	NO. 1 BOPUNG L.P	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
32	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606908	LOWER TARAPUNG L.P	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
33	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606909	JPI L.P	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
34	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606920	PITILANSO L.P	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
35	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606911	UPPER TARAPUNG L.P	Assamese	English	KARBI	KARBI/ASSAMESE
36	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606912	BORPUNG SARTHE TIMUNG L.P	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
37	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606913	SARTHE TERANG L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
38	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606914	LONGKI ENGTI L.P SCHOOL	Assamese	English	KARBI	KARBI/ASSAMESE
39	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606915	DHEROLA TOKBI L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
40	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606920	BODOLANSO L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
41	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606923	LONGKIRAM KRO L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
42	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606925	NOROI TISSO L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
43	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606926	LANGMING TERANG L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
44	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190606928	SARTHE RONGPI L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
45	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190607702	BALJAN ENGLISH	English	KARBI	KARBI	KARBI
46	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190607703	NAGA RENGMA L.P	English	KARBI	RENGMA	RENGMA/KARBI
47	KARBI ANGLONG	NILJP	18190607303	PHANCHEROP L.P SCHOOL	English	KARBI	RENGMA	RENGMA/ASSAMESE
48	KARBI ANGLONG	RONGMONGVE	18190802508	THANGLONG(BARKING INGTI) L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
49	KARBI ANGLONG	RONGMONGVE	18190802901	DA-DHORA	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese

Contd. on P-6

Contd. From P-5

**ANNEXURE-A**

Propose List of Hard to Reach Area of Single Teacher School Under Primary Education Department, Karbi Anglong.								
Sl. No	District Name	Name of Block	School Code	School Name	Medium of Instruction (L-1)	Language-2	Dominant Tribe	Required Language Proficiency (Specify Language)
50	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190802903	UPPER DA DHARA L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
51	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190803502	RONGINGHAN L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
52	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190803506	CHONHONG ATHOI L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
53	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190803706	HIDIPI L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
54	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190804206	PANIRAM TOKBI L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
55	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190804207	HIDISO L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
56	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190804218	RONGTARA TERON	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
57	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190804223	PANIRAM LEKTHE L.P SCHOOL	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
58	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190805102	PHELOSO LANGSO L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Assamese
59	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190803403	CHEKSO ENGLISH L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
60	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190806408	LANGVOTHUNG ENGLISH L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
61	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190806503	LANGSOMEPI ENGLISH L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
62	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190807203	BIJULI L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
63	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190807703	KHORSIM ATHOI L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Assamese
64	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190807704	NO. 1 PARKUP PAHAR L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Assamese
65	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190807706	BISI-IM L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Assamese
66	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190809604	RAMPHI TERANG L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
67	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190809802	RUIPI LANGSO ENGLISH L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
68	KARBI ANGLONG	ROMGMONGVE	18190809902	DUMFURJURI L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi/Assamese
69	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190603715	NAHORSOLA L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
70	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190606927	BANON BEY L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
71	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190901201	ANGJOK RONGBONG RONGPHAR	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
72	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190901204	RUIPLANGSO ENGLISH L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
73	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190901502	NIHANGLANGSO L.P SCHOOL	Assamese/English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	English/Karbi
74	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190902001	THEDONG	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
75	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190902002	CHING THULANGSO L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
76	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190903001	THEREBASA ENGLISH	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
77	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190903003	SAMBHETI L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
78	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190903004	ANGJOK LALUNG GAON L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
79	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190903006	NOLASOSAR THE RONGPI L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
80	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190903007	SIKARI BEYL.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
81	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190905501	PAKLONGKAM	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
82	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190906301	DIKRUTPI	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
83	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190906304	DIKRUTSO L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
84	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190906501	LEMTEM SINGNAR L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
85	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190906505	KHA ENGTI L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
86	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190913604	KAYA KRAMSA	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
87	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190914801	MUKASONG	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
88	KARBI ANGLONG	SAMELANGSO	18190914903	KHALA SINGNAR L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
89	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330102303	LONG DANG GAON L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
90	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330102401	AMDUBA L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
91	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330102601	BALJUNCHI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
92	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330102603	THARAKHUN CHI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
93	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330100401	MOWROH L.P	English/Tiva	Karbi	Tiva	Tiva
94	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330101203	AHOMBAROI L.P SCHOOL	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi
95	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330101301	UMPACHI L.P	English/Tiva	Karbi	Tiva	Tiva
96	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330101803	BORAMLI L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Tiva	Tiva
97	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330103002	UMBORMON KARBI L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
98	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330103101	UMSAMUKH L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
99	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330103405	LEMRA L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
100	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330103701	SARU AMLI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
101	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330103801	MUGAGURI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
102	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104201	RAPADANG L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
103	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104301	SILANG KUNCHI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
104	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104302	GOMNASAL L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
105	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104601	NONGTHAM L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
106	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104701	SHANGHON L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi
107	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104901	KARBI HIDI L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
108	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104902	KARBI HIDI L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
109	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330105301	BOGAJAMIN L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
110	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330105502	LUMLAER L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi
111	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330105503	TOKBI RUMSU L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
112	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330105901	PANTALO L.P	English/Tiva	Karbi	Tiva	Tiva
113	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106004	LANGKAM L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Khasi	Khasi
114	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106005	UMLIT L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Khasi	Khasi
115	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106602	MAILANG CHENG L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
116	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106603	ENGTI THENG KIRI L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
117	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106604	TERANG NAKAR L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
118	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106802	KRO BAMUN L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
119	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330107004	CHOPIKELOK (CHAIDILI) L.P SCHOOL	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
120	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330108701	LANGTARA PHERERE L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi
121	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330109001	THEDONG L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
122	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330109002	HARLAK L.P	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	Karbi
123	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330109003	JASERA L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	Karbi
124	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330102602	BOR RONGKHOI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Karbi	Karbi
125	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330104303	UTTANG KUNCHI L.P	Assamese/Tiva	English	Tiva	Tiva
126	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106003	DENGHAR L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Tiva	Tiva
127	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	AMRI	18330106001	RONGCHEK NO.2	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
128	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330300201	PATIKINDOK L.P.	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
129	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330300203	MOKINDUR L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
130	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303202	INGTI HABE L.P.	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
131	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303203	KLENG SARPO RONGMI L.P.	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
132	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303504	MUNDILI L.P.	English	English	Karbi	English
133	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330304108	RUIMUNG SENAR L.P SCHOOL	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	English
134	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330304705	LONG-EKU L.P.	Assamese	English	Karbi	English

135	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303201	DENGHALWALI L.P.	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
136	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303204	ARLONGSARLANG L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
137	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303501	KUNGRIPI L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
138	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303503	BATLOK L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
139	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305601	MORINTO L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
140	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305602	CHINTHONG L.P	Assamese	English	Karbi	English
141	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305603	HEMPHU L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
142	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305402	LANGLONGDANG KRAMSA	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
143	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330310101	LANGSOMEPI ENGLISH	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
144	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330314501	LANG LONG DANG KRO L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
145	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330301502	KHILMULONG L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
146	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330301701	SOCHENG L.P	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
147	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330314101	NINGKRENG L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
148	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330315801	BIRMAINE	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
149	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305303	RANGSINA L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
150	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330311201	LANGIKSO	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
151	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330300301	HARLONG DONGKI L.P.	Assamese	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
152	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330309101	RONGKOR L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
153	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303601	NONGKEDA L.P	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
154	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305604	UMRAGI L.P.	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
155	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330305608	UMLADO L.P.	Assamese/Karbi	English	Karbi	English
156	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330311301	MURI CHINTHONG	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
157	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330300601	MURAP	English	Karbi	Nepali	Karbi
158	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330300901	LARU	English	English	Nepali	English
159	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330314004	KIRI PHANGCHO L.P.	English	English	Nepali	Nepali
160	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330311602	THONG NOKBE	English	English	Nepali	Nepali
161	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330303901	RONGKANGTUI L.P	English	English	Nepali	English
162	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	CHINTHONG	18330310701	KHLIEH UMANG	English	English	Nepali	English
163	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330715501	SIRVOMU	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
164	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330715101	PHONGJANGRE	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
165	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330715103	RONGMONGVE L.P SCHOOL	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
166	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330712003	LANGTUK THEPI	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
167	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330712004	MOLAHIN L.P	ENGLISH/KARBI	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
168	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330712007	RONGCHIRIM L.P SCHOOL	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
169	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330713101	NONGKRONG	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
170	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330721801	BILENDI ENGLISH	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
171	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330721804	TORTE APAM L.P SCHOOL	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
172	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330714901	RONGMUNPI	ENGLISH/KARBI	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
173	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330712302	SING TERON L.P SCHOOL	ENGLISH/KARBI	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
174	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330720502	C.S TERON ENGLISH L.P	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
175	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330709401	BAIDA	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
176	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330716501	LINCHIKA L.P	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
177	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330717403	RONGPI OK-HI L.P SCHOOL	ENGLISH	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
178	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330701906	DERANIHANG L.P	ENGLISH/KARBI	KARBI	Karbi	Karbi
179	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	RONGKHANG	18330718201	LONG-EPI	ENGLISH	KARBI	KARBI	Karbi
180	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331009303	LUMUJEM L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
181	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331003905	KHATKASALA L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Jaintia	Jaintia
182	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331009302	JIKILOK L.P SCHOOL	English/Karbi	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
183	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331001601	UPILANGSO L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
184	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331002401	UM BASO L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Karbi	Karbi
185	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331005501	NANGJIRONG L.P. SCHOOL	English	Karbi	Khasi/Nepali	Khasi/Nepali
186	WEST KARBI ANGLONG	SOCHENG	18331008001	TADOLANGSO L.P SCHOOL	English	Karbi</		

# Demands halt to Bangladeshi entry, Visa services Pradyot urges Centre to take firm measures to protect Hindus



HT Correspondent

**AGARTALA, Dec 21:** Tripura royal scion and Tipra Motha Party founder, Pradyot Kishore Debbarman, has called on the Government of India to take strong and decisive action to protect Hindu minorities in Bangladesh, including stopping the entry of Bangladeshi nationals into India and suspending visa services. Speaking at a press conference on Sunday, Pradyot expressed deep concern over the treatment of Hindu Bengalis in Bangladesh, alleging systematic targeting and killings. He said, "Prominent leaders in Bangladesh are openly calling for

the closure of the Indian embassy and making statements about occupying the Northeast. Some are even demanding that Sheikh Hasina be handed over to Bangladesh. While those who claim to be patriots remain silent, we, branded as a 'goonda party,' are raising our voice against atrocities in Bangladesh." Pradyot also criticized the perceived double standards in India, citing the participation of Bangladeshi players in the IPL while Indian sportspersons face limitations. He added, "Bangladeshi leaders openly threaten India, yet we continue to honor their players. This double

standard cannot continue." He emphasized that India must act decisively to safeguard Hindu minorities in Bangladesh as well as in the Northeast. "If Tipra Motha gets the opportunity, we will send the Bangladeshi Assistant High Commissioner back to Dhaka within 20 minutes. Our communities in Bangladesh are being attacked; temples and churches are being demolished, and tribal and Bengali Hindu communities are being forcefully converted. Meanwhile, we continue to offer them VIP treatment. India should not allow anyone from Bangladesh to enter the country, and visa services

must be suspended. They come here for treatment, education, and other facilities, but what do we get in return? Abuse and threats. The Government of India must take a firm and uncompromising stand," he said. Addressing Tipra Motha's alliance with the BJP, Pradyot reiterated his opposition to violence. "No senior leader from our party has made derogatory remarks against any party. If provocative statements are made about Tipra Motha, there will naturally be responses. Violence only distracts from real issues such as land rights, language rights, and identity," he said. On cultural and linguistic issues, Pradyot stressed that the party remains firm in its demands. "Both the central and state governments must respect our people's sentiments. Kokborok must be written in Roman script. We will not compromise on this. We do not oppose the Bengali language; we oppose its forced imposition in our examinations and public life." He concluded by urging the Tripura government and the Centre to formulate a clear, long-term policy for the Northeast to safeguard future generations. "We are demanding our rights and respect without taking anything from anyone. We are not against any language or community; we only oppose the imposition of policies on our people," he said.

# Mizoram to outsource seven mini hydro power plants, construct two power projects: Official



**AIZAWL, Dec 21:** The Mizoram government has decided to privatise or outsource seven small hydel power plants due to high maintenance costs, an official of the state Power and Electricity (P&E) department said on Sunday. The decision was announced by Chief Minister Lalduhoma while inaugurating a 10-WM solar power plant at Thenzawl in Serchhip on Saturday, the official said. He said that the decision was taken with a belief that it will yield benefits for the state, as the maintenance costs of the projects are high. The move, however, was opposed by the opposition Congress. Former Congress legislator, T T Zothansanga, said that the decision was detrimental to Mizoram's interest and was unjustifiable given their revenue-generating capacity. According to Zothansanga, Mizoram now has around 14 hydroelectric projects with a combined generating capacity of over 100 MW. Out of 14 hydroelectric projects, nine were built under Congress government, three under the Mizo National Front (MNF) and two were built during the People's Conference regime led by former chief minister Brig T Sailo, he said. He claimed that the small power plants, including a 12-MW Serlui-B hydel project in Kolasib district, are generating revenue. The P&E official said that the government would begin the construction of two power projects - 24MW at Tuirini river about 60 km from Aizawl and 132 MW at Tuivai river in Saitual district near the Manipur border - likely next year. The proposed 24 MW Tuirini hydel project is estimated to cost ₹ 676 crore, while the cost of 132 MW Tuivai hydel electric project is estimated at Rs 2,400 crore and is expected to generate 380 MU of power annually, he said. On Saturday, Lalduhoma had also said that foundation stone for the 24 MW Tuirini hydel project will be

laid in the near future and planning for the 132 MW Tuivai hydel electric project is progressing steadily. Once the projects are completed, Mizoram will achieve substantial energy self-sufficiency, he had said. The chief minister had further said that the state government is also planning to construct six more solar parks with a combined generating capacity of 66 MW in different parts of the state. Currently, Mizoram has no major power plant and the state imports power from outside, mainly from Tripura to meet its requirement, spending around ₹ 400 crore annually. According to officials, the state's annual power demand has increased by around 7.6 per cent, with peak demand having reached 160 MW. The present Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) government, soon after it assumed power, decided not to hike power tariff for five years to ensure affordable energy for all and to benefit economically weaker sections and small entrepreneurs. (PTI)

## Over 600 acres of illicit poppy cultivation destroyed in Manipur

**IMPHAL, Dec 21:** Security forces destroyed over 600 acres of illicit poppy cultivation in the hill districts of Ukhrul and Kangpokpi in Manipur, police said on Sunday. Around 559 acres of poppy plantations were destroyed from December 16-20 in different locations of Ukhrul district, including Yaolen, Lamlai Chingphei, Shongphei, Mullam, Torah, Champfung, Teinem, Phalee and Changta, they said. In a separate operation in Kangpokpi district, the security personnel destroyed a total of 42 acres of poppy plantation at L Simol, Jangnomphei and SP Ngaimun areas on Saturday, a police officer said. Three FIRs have been registered, as part of the drive against poppy plantation, he said. Meanwhile, a suspected drug peddler was arrested with 212 gm of brown sugar during routine checking of vehicles in Tengnoupal district on Saturday, the officer added. (PTI)

## DyCM Chowna Mein pitches Arunachal as next adventure tourism hub



**ITANAGAR, Dec 21:** Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein has underscored the state's immense eco and adventure tourism potential after experiencing an exhilarating river-rafting expedition on the mighty Dibang River at Dambuk, in Lower Dibang Valley district, along with former chief minister Mukut Mithi. Sharing his experience in a social media post, Mein described rafting the Dibang as "an experience of raw power, pristine forests, and pure adventure." He said that the river reflects the untamed spirit and immense ecotourism potential of Arunachal Pradesh, adding that the thrilling rapids and breathtaking scenery make the Dibang one of the most

compelling adventure destinations in the region. Recalling the expedition with Mithi, Mein said rafting through the river's dramatic landscape was "truly unforgettable", and invited visitors to experience the unique adventure first-hand. "Adventure awaits in Arunachal. When in Dambuk, one cannot miss the thrill and raw beauty of the mighty Dibang River, best experienced through an exhilarating river-rafting adventure," he said. Emphasising the broader vision behind promoting adventure tourism, the deputy chief minister said the government is strengthening its commitment to boost responsible adventure activities that create sustainable livelihoods for local communities while preserving the state's rich natural heritage. "We are committed to promoting adventure tourism in a way that benefits local people and safeguards our environment," Mein stated. (PTI)

## Army battalion which fought 1971 Indo-Pak war deployed in Tripura amidst unrest in B'desh: CM Saha



**AGARTALA, Dec 21:** Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Sunday said an Army battalion that had fought in the 1971 Indo-Pak war has been deployed in the northeastern state amidst rising unrest in neighbouring Bangladesh. Speaking at a programme of the BJP's legal cell, Saha said, "I am sending reports on the ground reality in the wake of happenings in Bangladesh and its possible impact to Delhi. The same battalion of the Indian Army that had imparted training to Mukti Bahini and participated in the 1971 war is now in the state." During the 1971 war, Indian Army Mountain Divisions, particularly the 20 Mountain Division (XXXIII Corps) and elements of the 8th, 6th and 4th Mountain Divisions, had played crucial roles in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Saha said, "People are saying there is no Army along the international border. Nowadays, physical presence is not required to fight a battle. One click is enough to destroy the enemies, as demonstrated during Operation Sindoor." He alleged that Pakistan was responsible for fueling unrest in Bangladesh. "It was expected that fundamentalists would become active after elected Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was forced to flee her country. Thousands of fundamentalists, criminals and thieves walked out of Bangladesh jails while police and Army remained silent. The appointment of Muhammad Yunus as Bangladesh's chief advisor was preannounced by forces detrimental to India's rise," he said. "We are happy that our country is in the safe hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is leading us from the front", he said. (PTI)

## Arunachal: Cong protests MGNREGA renaming, calls move politically motivated

**ITANAGAR, Dec 21:** The Congress on Sunday staged a peaceful protest rally at IG Park here, opposing the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance government's decision to rename the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) as Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-GRAM G) Bill. Addressing the gathering, Arunachal Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Bosiram Siram strongly criticised the move, describing it as "unnecessary, politically motivated and aimed at erasing the legacy of the Congress party and Mahatma Gandhi". He asserted that MGNREGA is not merely a welfare scheme but a statutory right of the rural poor, enacted by Parliament to guarantee livelihood security, dignity of labour and social justice. Siram said the BJP government has

"failed" to adequately strengthen MGNREGA through sufficient budgetary allocation, timely payment of wages and expansion of employment opportunities. "Instead of addressing the real problems faced by rural workers, the government is indulging in symbolic renaming exercises to divert public attention from its administrative failures. No change of name can alter the pro-people spirit and constitutional foundation of MGNREGA," he added. APCC vice president Abraham Techi, termed the renaming an "affront" to democratic values and parliamentary traditions. He said the BJP's focus on renaming welfare schemes reflects its "inability" to deliver on key issues such as employment generation, price stability and rural development. Warning against any attempt to dilute the rights-based framework of MGNREGA, Techi said the Congress party and the INDIA bloc would strongly resist such moves. (PTI)

## Manipur: ITLF to stage protest against 'breach of buffer zone'

**IMPHAL, Dec 21:** A Kuki-Zo outfit from Manipur's Churachandpur district said it will organise a sit-in at Torbung bordering Bishnuapur on Monday against the "breach of buffer zone". The Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF), in a statement, expressed deep concern and condemned "continued and deliberate attempts by Meiteis to breach the buffer zone". The outfit referred to the areas between Meitei-dominated Imphal Valley and Kuki-dominated hills as "buffer zone". It claimed explosives have been planted beyond the buffer zone, instilling fear and panic among the general public, and have disrupted the peaceful atmosphere of the Christmas season. ITLF urged all sections of the Kuki-Zo community to stage a protest at Torbung on Monday at 11 am to demand "safety, peace and respect of the buffer zone". (PTI)

# Arunachal Guv urges NCC cadets to uphold 'Nation First' spirit

**ITANAGAR, Dec 21:** Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen K T Parnik (Retd) has exhorted NCC cadets to imbibe the 'Nation First' spirit in thought and action, stressing that true service to the country begins with character, commitment and a strong sense of responsibility. Interacting with NCC cadets on the sidelines of the convocation ceremony at Himalayan University here on Saturday, the governor motivated the youth to become masters of their own destiny by practising the highest standards of discipline, nurturing unwavering determination and cultivating perseverance and self-motivation in every sphere of life. Calling upon the cadets to take pride in their roots, rich cultural heritage and the nation, Parnik urged them to embrace life with ambition and fearlessness, lead by example and contribute meaningfully to national unity and progress, an official statement said on Sunday. He encouraged them to move forward with confidence and resilience, rise above challenges with courage and remain steadfast in their resolve to excel. A total of 272 NCC cadets from various institutions across the state are participating in the

Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC-134), being conducted by 1 Arunachal Pradesh Battalion NCC under the aegis of NCC Group Headquarters Tezpur at the university campus. During his visit, the governor also inspected the NCC stall and showed keen interest in the displays and presentations highlighting the achievements of the battalion. He commended the cadets for maintaining exceptionally high standards of drill, describing it as a reflection of rigorous training, teamwork and pride in the NCC ethos. Briefing the governor, Commanding Officer of the battalion Col Samudra Vijay Sarma said the 10-day camp, which began on December 13, aims to foster camaraderie, discipline and nationalism through a comprehensive programme including physical training, drills, yoga, battle craft, firing practice, sports and leadership-building activities. The camp is being supported by three associate NCC officers and 12 Army instructors, with creative engagements and motivational sessions designed to promote confidence, holistic development and responsible citizenship among cadets. (PTI)



## Japanese delegation arrives in Manipur to boost bilateral ties

**IMPHAL, Dec 21:** A delegation from the Kagawa Prefectural Assembly, Japan, is on an official visit to Manipur with the objective of strengthening bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of human resource development and sectoral collaboration. The delegation had a meeting with the chief secretary, Government of Manipur, along with secretary (Skills, Labour, Employment and Entrepreneurship), Government of Manipur. As part of the visit, a meeting was also held with senior officials of the Government of Manipur under the chairmanship of the additional chief secretary, Trade, Commerce and Industries, at the Old Secretariat, Babupara. The meeting provided a platform for detailed discussions on potential areas of mutual interest and collaboration between Manipur and Kagawa Prefecture. During the meeting, the head of the Kagawa delegation and representatives of the Government of Manipur exchanged views on strengthening institutional linkages and fostering people-to-people cooperation. The delegation made a presentation on Kagawa Prefecture, highlighting its socio-economic profile, industrial strengths, and its growing engagement with foreign human resources. The delegation outlined the current status of foreign human resource acceptance in Kagawa Prefecture and expressed keen interest in cooperation with Manipur in meeting workforce requirements in key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, construction, manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, accommodation and food services, and social welfare, with particular emphasis on nursing care. Given the rising demand for skilled and semi-skilled workers in these sectors, the Japanese side conveyed its willingness to explore structured and mutually beneficial pathways for engagement. Officials from the Government of Manipur, including representatives from departments of Trade, Commerce and Industries, Health and Family Welfare, Agriculture, Forest, and allied sectors, participated in the discussions and shared Manipur's perspectives, capabilities, and potential in human resource development, especially in the nursing and healthcare sectors. (NNN)

**ASSAM ELECTRICITY GRID CORPORATION LIMITED**  
**NOTICE**  
The Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Ltd. (AEGCL), a State Transmission Utility has filed Petition before the Hon'ble Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) for approval of Truing up for FY 2024-25, Annual Performance Review for FY 2025-26 and Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2026-27 of AEGCL (Petition No: 22/2025). The Hon'ble Commission has directed that any person who intends to file objection or comments in regard to proposed ARR of the AEGCL may do so by filing statement of objections or comments before the Secretary, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission with copies of relevant documents and evidence in support thereof along with the affidavit as in Form - 2 of Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004 as amended from time to time. Such objections or comments shall be submitted in soft copy to gm.mpr@aegcl.co.in and 5 (five) copies by speed post or in person which should reach the Secretary, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission, ASEB Campus, Sixth Mile, Dwarandhar, Guwahati-22 on or before 12-01-2026. A copy of the Petition is also available on the website of the Hon'ble Commission www.aerc.nic.in and www.aegcl.co.in  
Sd/- General Manager (M&PR),  
AEGCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Guwahati - 781 001

**ASSAM ELECTRICITY GRID CORPORATION LIMITED**  
**NOTICE**  
The Assam State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC), have filed Petition before the Hon'ble Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) for approval of Truing up for FY 2024-25, Annual Performance Review for FY 2025-26 and Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2026-27 of SLDC (Petition No: 23/2025). The Hon'ble Commission has directed that any person who intends to file objection or comments in regard to proposed ARR of SLDC may do so by filing statement of objections or comments before the Secretary, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission with copies of relevant documents and evidence in support thereof along with the affidavit as in Form - 2 of Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004 as amended from time to time. Such objections or comments shall be submitted in soft copy to gm.mpr@aegcl.co.in and 5 (five) copies by speed post or in person which should reach the Secretary, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission, ASEB Campus, Sixth Mile, Dwarandhar, Guwahati-22 on or before 12-01-2026. A copy of the Petition is also available on the website of the Hon'ble Commission www.aerc.nic.in and www.aegcl.co.in.  
Sd/- General Manager (M&PR),  
AEGCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Guwahati - 781 001

# Australia retains the Ashes with 2 tests to spare after a tense victory over England in Adelaide

ADELAIDE, Dec 21: Australia retained the Ashes with two matches to spare after paceman Mitchell Starc took three of the last four wickets to blunt England's defiant comeback Sunday in a tense fifth-day finish to the third cricket test.

Australia started Day 5 needing four wickets to retain the Ashes, with England resuming at 6-207 and still 228 runs away from the victory target of 435 that would have required a world record to achieve.



by Cummins for 60 — as England piled on 102 runs.

"Feels pretty awesome," Australia captain Pat Cummins said of the 82-run win at the Adelaide Oval. "We got it done."

Cummins missed the first two tests while recovering from a back problem, with Steve Smith leading the team to two eight-wicket wins. Smith was ruled out of the third test about a half-hour before the toss because of vertigo.

"You can't really rush things here in Australia, it doesn't work that way," Cummins said of the test going the distance. "It's a good old fashioned grind a lot of the time and, yeah, I love the toil from all the guys today."

"It got a little bit closer than I would have liked, but pretty happy."

**Tense Day 5**  
Starc took the only wicket in the morning session — Jamie Smith running out of patience and caught

England's rally had narrowed the Ashes equation at lunch on the last day: Australia needed three wickets to clinch the old urn in Adelaide and England needed 126 runs to keep the five-match series alive.

No team had scored more than West Indies' 418 (in a three-wicket win over Australia in 2003) in the fourth innings to win a test.

But England skipper Ben Stokes later said he felt like his team were "on for another heist" in the morning session and was confident of achieving a record total.

With England's lower-order doggedly mounting pressure and Australia's attack missing veteran spinner Nathan Lyon, who limped off the field with an injured ham-

string, the leading bowler in the series delivered for the hosts.

Starc, who was voted player of the match in Australia's eight-wicket wins in Perth and Brisbane, took the wickets of Will Jacks (47) — spectacularly caught by Marnus Labuschagne, who dived from slip in front of the wicketkeeper — and Jofra Archer (3).

That left Scott Boland to finish it off. He dismissed Josh Tongue (1) and left Brydon Carse stranded on 39 as England was all out for 352.

**Player of the match**  
Australian wicketkeeper Alex Carey was voted player of the match after posting a home ground hundred in the first innings, a half-century in the second innings in a 162-run stand with Travis Head, who top-scored with 170, and com-

pleting seven dismissals for the test.

**England's out of contention**  
England captain Ben Stokes said he was happier with the resilience shown by his team this week, despite ultimately surrendering the series in 11 days.

"This is going to hurt quite a bit," Stokes said. "Obviously that dream that we came here with is now over, which is obviously incredibly disappointing."

"But look, we've got two more (tests) to go on and that's where the focus needs to switch to now."

**Injured Lyon**  
A day after swinging the momentum back in Australia's favor with a three-wicket burst, veteran spinner Lyon hurt his right hamstring diving to cut off a boundary in the outfield and was ruled out of the remainder of the match. He got up and clutched the back of his right leg before walking off with a trainer when England was 249-6.

**Long, long drought**  
Domestic media noted Sunday that it had been 5,462 days since England last won a test match in Australia — dating back to January 2011.

Since then, the Australians have won the series Down Under 5-0, 4-0, 4-0 and are now 3-0.

Melbourne will host the Boxing Day test starting Dec. 26 and Sydney will host the fifth test in the New Year. (AP)

# Conway and Latham pile on the runs as New Zealand sets the West Indies 462 to win the 3rd test

MOUNT MAUNGANUI (NEW ZEALAND), Dec 21: Tom Latham and Devon Conway earned a unique place in test history Sunday when their 192-run second innings partnership paved the way for New Zealand's declaration at 306-2 on the fourth day of the third cricket test against the West Indies.



Latham made the declaration at drinks in the third session with New Zealand leading by 461 runs. New Zealand earlier had bowled out the West Indies for 420 in reply to its of 575-8, a first innings lead of 155.

At stumps after 16 overs the West Indies were 43-0 with Brandon King 37 and John Campbell 2. They will start the last day needing 419 to win on a pitch on which cracks and plates are creating inconsistent bounce.

Latham and Conway shared a 323-run opening stand in New Zealand's first innings of 587-8 and became the first pair in tests to achieve a triple century and century partnership in the same match.

Conway followed his first innings of 227 with exactly 100 to become only the 10th player and first New Zealander to score a double century and century in the same test.

Latham made 137 in the first innings and 101 in the second, emulating his father Rod who joined with Mark Greatbatch to

make century opening partnerships in both innings of a test against Zimbabwe in 1992.

Meanwhile Kane Williamson, batting first drop, had to wait padded up for more than 86 overs in the first innings and almost 40 overs in the second for his turn to bat.

He took advantage of his opportunity Sunday to reach 40 not out. Rachin Ravindra made an unbeaten 46 from 23 balls, rushing as the declaration approached.

In the series Conway made 0, 37, 60, 28, 227 and 100: 452 runs at 75.3. Latham made 24, 145, 11, 9, 137 and 101: 427 runs at 71.1. Conway and Latham's partnerships in this test produced 515 runs, more than any opening pair in a single match in all tests.

"I think all the work the guys have been doing for a while now is paying off the way they want,"

New Zealand batting coach Luke Ronchi said. "I think the mindset is where they want it to be and the trust in their own game and the game plans against particular bowlers is coming off."

"But it also a nice batting wicket as well, not the traditional sort of New Zealand wicket you see in most test matches."

Earlier Sunday, Jacob Duffy took two quick wickets to help New Zealand bowl out the West Indies in the first hour of the fourth day.

The West Indies resumed at 381-6 but lost four wickets for 39 runs. Kaven Hodge remained 123 not out, his second test century and highest score.

Duffy took 4-86 in the first innings to go with his 5-34 and 3-122 in the first test and 5-38 and 4-86 in the second test: 18 wickets in total at an average of 17.3. (AP)

## Mandaviya leads first anniversary celebrations of Fit India Sundays on Cycle

PUDUCHERRY, Dec 21: Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Sunday led the first anniversary celebrations of the 'Fit India Sundays on Cycle' initiative with more than 1,500 participants cycling along the Rock Beach promenade here. Legendary India hockey goalkeeper P R Sreejesh and table tennis icon Sharath Kamal joined the ride, which saw participation from people across age groups and backgrounds, including school students, members of NaMo Cycling Clubs and students from Puducherry University. According to the Sports Ministry, the Fit India Sundays on Cycle initiative was conducted at over

700 districts in two lakh locations across the country, with more than 20 lakh people taking part over the course of the year.

"When we started this initiative a year ago, it was organised at just five locations with about 500 participants. Today, more than 10,000 locations across the country take part every Sunday, with over 10 lakh citizens joining regularly," said Mandaviya, who flagged off the very first event in New Delhi a year back. Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry K. Kailashnathan, Chief Minister N. Rangasamy, Legislative Assembly Speaker R. Selvam, and Puducherry Home Minister A. Namassi-

vayam were also present at the event. "Dr. Mandaviya's own village in Bhavnagar Gujarat, consists of 4000 people only. And everyone there commutes in a cycle, no other two-wheeler or four-wheelers. As citizens, we often don't realise how small lifestyle changes can collectively make a big difference for the environment, especially in terms of reducing the carbon footprint," Kailashnathan said. Rangasamy, on the other hand, praised the Fit India Movement for promoting accessible fitness. "Cycling is one of the easiest and most effective ways to stay healthy. Only when our body is fit can we achieve our goals in

life. I truly appreciate the Prime Minister's vision behind the entire Fit India movement," he said. The landmark anniversary edition here turned into a fitness carnival with multiple fun games and activities like Zumba, carrom, chess, mallakhamb, silambam, yoga, rope skipping drawing large crowds. The event was simultaneously held in more than 10,000 locations of the country, Sports Authority of India and Khelo India centres across Hazaribagh, Kargil, Patiala, Lucknow, Golaghat, Rajnandgaon in Chattisgarh, Hisar, Tinsukia, Visakhapatnam, Kashipur in Uttarakhand, and Cuttack. (PTI)

## Chief Minister's Tea Tribes & Adivasi Football Tournament held at Sonabheel Tea Estate

**HT Correspondent**  
TEZPUR, Dec 21: The Sonitpur district-level competition of the Chief Minister's Tea Tribes & Adivasi Football Tournament (U-17 Boys) for the 2025-26 season concluded successfully on Sunday at the Sonabheel Tea Estate Playground.

The event was graced by Sanskriti Somani, Co-District Commissioner of Rangapara Co-District, as the chief guest. Pranjal Dehingia, District Sports Officer, Sonitpur, along with other dignitaries, was also present on the occasion.

Barchalla LAC emerged champions of the tournament, defeating Runur Up Rangapara LAC by

3-0 goals in the final match.

A total of five teams took part in the competition, representing five Legislative Assembly Constituencies of Sonitpur District.

The winning Barchalla LAC team will now represent Sonitpur district in the zonal-level tournament of the Chief Minister's Tea Tribes & Adivasi Football Tournament (U-17 Boys) for the 2025-26 season under the Sonitpur Zone.

It was further informed that Sonitpur district will host the zonal-level competition of the tournament and is one of the four host districts across the state.



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM



Continuing the Journey of Transparent & Merit-based Appointments

# Appointment Letter Distribution Ceremony



for

## 3,420 Technical and Non-Technical Posts

Directorate	Post	Recruited Candidates
Medical Education & Research	Technical	1403
	Non-Technical	595
Health Services	Technical	828
Health Services (Family Welfare)	Technical	592
AYUSH	Technical	2

**Chief Guest**  
**Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma**  
Chief Minister, Assam

In august presence of  
**Shri Ashok Singhal**  
Minister, Health & Family Welfare etc., Assam

**Shri Prasanta Phukan**  
Minister, Medical Education & Research etc., Assam

**Recruitment Timeline**

Till 18 December 2025 **1,42,029**

22 December 2025 **3,420**

**Total Recruitment**  
**1,45,449**

 22 December 2025

 10:30 AM

 Veterinary Science College Playground, Khanapara, Guwahati

(NHM/D/2025-26/207)