

6 NATION

- SC dismisses Natarajan's plea challenging rejection of nomination for RS election
- Dissident TMC faction to approach LS Speaker, seek recognition as 'real TMC'

7 NORTHEAST

- Modi's 12-year tenure laid strong foundation for Viksit Bharat, say Nagaland BJP leaders
- Mizoram Congress accuses ZPM govt of failing to deliver on promises of transparency, reforms



27 YEARS OF DEDICATED JOURNALISM

www.thehillstimes.in

THE HILLS TIMES

PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM GUWAHATI & DIPHU

Voice of the hills people

Vol. No. XXVII

Issue No. 149

RNI-ASSENG/2000/12862

DIPHU, KARBI ANGLONG, SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026

PAGES 8

PRICE ₹ 8

Attack on vessels: India summons US charge d'affaires

NEW DELHI, June 12: India on Friday summoned US charge d'affaires Jason Meeks and told him that the American military's "lethal and deadly" strikes on commercial vessels with Indian crew members off the coast of Oman are "unacceptable".

Meeks was summoned to the headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), a day after the government said three Indian crew members of a tanker were killed in the US action.

Meeks was summoned on Wednesday night as well.

"A strong protest was lodged with him regarding the continuing attacks by US naval forces on commercial vessels carrying Indian mariners in the Gulf of Oman, which have already resulted in the tragic and avoidable loss of three Indian lives," the MEA said.

It said the ministry once again "conveyed its deep concern over the use of lethal and deadly force against civilian shipping. Such actions are unacceptable and undermine the safety, security and stability of international maritime commerce in a sensitive region at a difficult time."

"The US charge d'affaires was requested to convey India's strong concerns to his authorities and to ensure that US forces operating in the region take all necessary measures to (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Modi's 12-yr tenure transformed NE: Sonowal

Union Minister says focus on connectivity, welfare, waterways and infrastructure has turned Assam into a key driver of India's development journey

HT Correspondent

DIBRUGARH, June 12: Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal on Friday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 12 years in office have transformed the Northeast from a neglected region into a national priority and propelled Assam from isolation to unprecedented opportunities for growth and development.

Reflecting on the completion of 12 years of the Modi government, Sonowal described the period as one marked by trust, development and public welfare, asserting that governance has become more transparent, technology-driven and citizen-centric.

He said more than 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty during the period, while welfare schemes have ensured housing, sanitation, healthcare, tap water, LPG connections and direct financial assistance for millions of families across the country.

Highlighting women's empowerment and youth development, Sonowal said government initia-



tives have created new opportunities for women, entrepreneurs and young innovators, making them active participants in India's growth story.

The Union Minister said the Northeast is now recognised as "Ashtalakshmi" and has emerged as India's gateway to Southeast Asia, driven by major investments in roads, railways, airports, waterways and digital infrastructure.

He noted that Assam has particularly benefited from improved connectivity, peace and stability, along with national recognition of its cultural and historical heritage, including Bharat Ratna for Dr Bhupen Hazarika, wider recognition of Lachit Barphukan, UNESCO recognition of Charaideo Maidam and Classical Language status for Assamese. Sonowal also highlighted (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

NE to be at centre of India's growth architecture: Himanta

GUWAHATI, June 12: Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Friday said while the last decade had integrated the Northeast into India's development narrative, the next decade must place the region at the centre of the country's growth architecture.

Addressing NITI Aayog's interaction with chief ministers of northeastern states in New Delhi, Sarma said growth should be measured not only across people but also across geography as India moves towards the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047.

"I shared the conviction that this must guide India's next decade: as we move towards Viksit Bharat 2047," Sarma said in a social media post. He said that the

first phase of India's transformation focused on accelerating growth and the next phase must "focus on broadening the geography of growth by ensuring that every region participates fully in the opportunities that growth creates."

Sarma said the Northeast has moved from the margins of national discourse to the centre of national policymaking, aided by improved connectivity, lasting peace, accelerated infrastructure development and the Act East Policy.

"For Assam, this has meant real outcomes, from rising investor confidence and the Tata semiconductor facility to growing investments in manufacturing, logistics,

renewable energy and technology," he said.

"Assam today is not just catching up; it is contributing to the national growth, but geography remains a challenge as coastal states enjoy ports, shorter supply chains and lower logistics costs. Assam remains effectively landlocked, dependent on a narrow corridor where infrastructure costs more and freight takes longer. These are the structural realities of the region," he said.

Sarma said his submission is to "follow the principle of geographic equity--where public investment in strategically important, geographically challenging regions should be assessed not by expenditure (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

'Development most effective way to end insurgency, unrest in Manipur'

IMPHAL, June 12: Manipur Chief Minister Y Khemchand Singh on Friday said development is the most effective way to end insurgency and unrest in the state, while seeking greater support from NITI Aayog for economic recovery and infrastructure development.

Speaking during an interaction between NITI Aayog officials and chief ministers of northeastern states in New Delhi, Singh said Manipur had suffered significantly in recent years in economic, social and development spheres.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's description of the Northeast as the "Growth engine of India" and "Ashtalakshmi", the chief minister said development remains the most effective tool to address insurgency and unrest in the state.

Stating that NITI Aayog has a key role to play in the development of the Northeast and Manipur, Singh sought its assistance in planning economic recovery, coordinating with various ministries and

engaging international partners.

He highlighted connectivity as one of the sectors requiring sustained investment in the state and called for the early completion of major projects, including the railway line to Imphal, national highway projects linking the state capital with the rest of the country and the expansion of the airport terminal.

These projects have the potential to transform Manipur's development landscape, he said.

Singh also sought NITI Aayog's support for projects such as the Imphal Ring Road, an elevated highway in Imphal and the Imphal-Moreh railway project.

The chief minister said that although the Act East Policy envisions Manipur as India's land gateway to Southeast Asia, implementation of key projects often faces delays due to cross-border political instability and related challenges.

Noting a persistent implementation gap, he (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

State Assembly Budget session from July 6

GUWAHATI, June 12: Governor Laxhman Prasad Acharya has summoned the Budget session of the state's 16th legislative assembly from July 6, according to an official notification issued on Friday.

The session will convene at 9.30 am on that day and will last for 21 days.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had last week said that the benefits of all development schemes will be disbursed from August 1 after the full Budget is passed during the session.

He said that due to the elections, only a vote-on-account, not the full Budget, could be passed and as a result, the benefits of the schemes could not be disbursed. The new assembly's first session was held for four days from May 21, during which the Speaker was elected, the newly elected MLAs took the oath, and the Uniform Civil Code was passed. Among other businesses of the House. (PTI)

Akhil's security beefed up following threat inputs



HT Correspondent

JORHAT, June 12: The Assam government has strengthened the security cover of Rajiv Dal president and Sivasagar MLA Akhil Gogoi following intelligence inputs suggesting a possible threat to his life. Gogoi, who is currently staying at Lakhurakhon village in Selenghat near Mariani after the demise of his mother last week, informed reporters on Friday that his

security arrangements were enhanced from Wednesday.

According to Gogoi, six additional house guards have been deployed for his protection, while a pilot vehicle with six security personnel has also been provided.

The Sivasagar MLA said the move followed reports received by the state government regarding a potential threat to his life and an alleged conspiracy to tar-

get him. Stating that the government had reviewed his security arrangements after receiving the intelligence inputs, Gogoi said police were searching for suspected shooters and had already detained one or two individuals for questioning.

The development comes amid heightened vigilance by security agencies following the reported threat assessment.

Naga body petitions Amit Shah and Manipur CM UNC seeks abrogation of SoO pact, action against KNF-P after killing of six Naga hostages

IMPHAL, June 12: Two days after the recovery of the mortal remains of six Naga hostages, the United Naga Council (UNC) has petitioned Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Manipur Chief Minister N. N. Meitei, demanding the abrogation of the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement with all Kuki militant groups and stringent action against those allegedly involved in the abduction and killings.

In its memorandum, the apex Naga body alleged that personnel of the Kuki National Front-President (KNF-P) group were involved in the abduction of 18 Naga civilians, including two pastors, from Leilon Vaiphei village on May 13 and the subsequent killing of six of them.

The UNC demanded the immediate arrest and prosecution of all KNF-P members allegedly involved in the abduction and

killings, as well as those linked to the murder of Wilson Thanga Chiru at Joujangtek on the same day.

The council also sought the arrest of Lalboi Vaiphei, chief of Leilon Vaiphei village, along with other villagers, including women, whom it alleged were involved in the abduction and murder of the Naga civilians.

It further demanded action against a serving Manipur Police personnel, Thanggilian Vaiphei, alleging his involvement in the incident.

The UNC urged the Centre to declare the KNF-P a terrorist organisation and sought the removal of Manipur Deputy Chief Minister Nemcha Kipgen, alleging a conflict of interest as she is the wife of Semthiang alias Thangboi Kipgen, president of the KNF-P.

The council stated that the mortal remains of the six hostages

would not be formally received by the Naga community until its charter of demands is addressed and justice is delivered to the victims' families.

According to the UNC, the six hostages were among a group of Naga civilians abducted on May 13.

While 14 others were later released, the six remained untraced until their mortal remains were recovered on June 10.

The organisation claimed that the bodies were recovered in a mutilated condition and described the incident as a grave violation of human rights.

Expressing solidarity with the bereaved families, the UNC said the incident had caused deep anguish among the Naga community and had shaken public confidence in the government's ability to protect innocent civilians. The council urged both (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

From TV to radio, Centre proposes common broadcasting regulations

NEW DELHI, June 12: The Centre has proposed a single regulatory framework for television and radio broadcasting services, extending the obligation of airing programmes on "themes of national importance and social relevance" from TV channels to private radio services.

The draft Telecommunications (Television, Radio and Associated Services) Rules, 2026, made public by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Friday, state that while TV channels "shall" broadcast content on these themes for a minimum of 30 minutes daily between 6 am and 11 pm, radio stations will have to dedicate one hour for the same purpose every day.

While airing of such content was made obligatory for TV four years ago under the 'Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Television Channels in India, 2022', no time slot was specified in the rules. The draft seeks to address that gap. Also, under the FM Policy

Phase-III, private radio stations were so far required to broadcast "public interest announcements" for one hour every day "as may be required by the Central government/state government".

The draft rules, however, state that every authorised private radio service shall "broadcast programmes focusing on themes of national importance and social relevance, in such manner as the Central government may specify, for a minimum duration of one hour per day", making the potential nature of the public interest announcements clearer.

Moreover, while the current guidelines state that TV channels "may undertake public service broadcasting", the draft seeks to change it to "shall", making the obligation more airtight.

The suggested themes of content - education and spread of literacy; agriculture and rural development; health and family welfare; science and technology; women's welfare; welfare of weaker sections of soci-

ety; protection of environmental and cultural heritage; and national integration - in the existing rules have been retained in the draft.

The obligation will exempt certain categories where compliance may not be feasible, the draft says.

Channels unplinked from India exclusively for foreign audiences will not be covered, subject to government clearances and ensuring that content does not affect India's sovereignty, integrity, national security or foreign relations, it says.

Incidentally, a clause in the existing guidelines for television that the Centre may issue a general advisory to channels for telecast of "content in national interest, and the channel shall comply with the same" finds no mention in the draft rules.

"The draft rules have been framed to consolidate the various guidelines issued for television and radio services under the erstwhile Telegraph Act, 1885, within the framework of the Telecommunications (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

NEET-UG: NTA announces more rough-work space

NEW DELHI, June 12: The National Testing Agency (NTA) on Friday announced a series of student-friendly measures for NEET (UG) 2026, including additional rough-work space, and an extended examination window.

The medical entrance examination is scheduled to be held on June 21.

According to the NTA, the examination will be conducted from 2 pm to 5:15 pm, providing a total window of 195 minutes. The duration of the examination has been extended by 15 minutes.

"This window is designed to accommodate the invigilation formalities at the start and end of the examination, such as the signing requirements, which candidates earlier felt reduced their effective working time," the agency said.

The NTA has also doubled the number of pages provided for rough work in the question-paper booklet from two to four pages, giving candidates additional space for calculations (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Non-government entities for funding IN-SPACE selects five space technology use-cases

NEW DELHI, June 12: The IN-SPACE has selected five space technology use-cases by non-government entities under its seed fund scheme, officials said on Friday.

The scheme aims to provide funding to pilot projects utilising space technology and satellite data for practical solutions in several key sectors.

One of the key use-cases short-listed is by Infosys, Bhoomicam and AgCane Science and Services, which will work on pest and disease forecasting and early detection of biotic stress in major crops.

Another one is by JalViks, Nansei Restoration LLP, Semantic Technologies and Agritech Services, which will develop synthetic aperture radar applications using NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) data, officials said.



Also, Vassar Labs IT Solutions, Prithvi Anusandhan and Infosys Limited have been selected for glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) monitoring and early warning systems (EWS).

In a statement, Rajeev Jyoti, Director (Technical Directorate) of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE), said, "The selected grantees will now proceed to pilot

demonstrations using satellite data, AI/ML techniques and ground-based IoT (Internet of Things) devices to validate the effectiveness of their proposed solutions."

IN-SPACE's seed fund scheme aims to foster innovative and scalable space-enabled solutions, addressing national priorities in agriculture, disaster management, water security, critical infrastructure monitoring and other sectors, he said.

Pawan Kumar Goenka, the IN-SPACE chairman, said in a statement, "This initiative marks a defining moment for India's space economy. What makes this milestone truly transformative is the pathway it creates: successful pilot demonstrations are positioned to receive operational orders from user agencies, turning today's proofs-of-concept into tomorrow's national programmes." (PTI)

Man gets lifer in murder case

TEZPUR, June 12: A court in Assam's Sonitpur district has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for murdering a fellow villager five years ago.

The court of District and Sessions Judge Kaushik Hazarika on Thursday found Tolon Das guilty and sentenced him to life imprisonment, while also imposing a fine of ₹ 20,000.

The court also directed that failure to pay the fine amount would attract an additional jail term of six months.

According to the prosecution, the incident occurred on the evening of May 14, 2021, in Balijan Kacharigaon in Dhekiajuli police station area in Assam's Sonitpur district, when a personal dispute led to a violent confrontation.

During the altercation, Das attacked fellow villager Swapnil Das on the head with a sharp weapon, causing (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Retail inflation quickens to 3.93 pc in May, shows govt data

NEW DELHI, June 12: Retail inflation inched up to 3.93 per cent in May from 3.48 per cent in the preceding month due to higher food prices, as the impact of rising global energy prices began to affect domestic retail petrol and diesel rates, impacting input costs.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation in the food basket was 4.78 per cent in May, higher than 4.2 per cent in April, according to the National Statistics Office (NSO) data.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which mainly factors in CPI while arriving at its monetary policy, has been mandated by the government to ensure the headline inflation remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2 per cent on either side.

Precious metal jewellery, tomato, ginger, and raisin (kish-mish) and monacca were the five items with higher inflation in May,

according to NSO data.

On the other hand, potato, peas, motor car and jeep, cumin (jeera) and "motorcycle and scooter" were the top 5 key items with low inflation at the all-India combined level in May 2026.

Last week, the RBI raised the inflation projection for the current fiscal to 5.1 per cent from 4.6 per cent, largely due to mounting input costs, triggered by the pass-through of higher global energy prices to retail rates of petrol and diesel.

Since May, retail fuel prices have been raised cumulatively by 7.4 per cent for petrol and 8.4 per cent for diesel.

The increase implies a direct impact of about 36 basis points on headline inflation, which, along with second-order effects, would be reflected in consumer price inflation (CPI) in the coming months, (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

AFFIDAVIT

My name is Chow La Sringkhet and my son's name is Chow Singwa Sringkhet as in our certificates and other documents but in the Class X registration certificate of my son, his name was wrongly recorded as "Singwa Sringkhet" instead of the actual and correct name "Chow Singwa Sringkhet" and my name was wrongly recorded as "Laa Sringkhet" instead of my actual and correct name "Chow La Sringkhet".

Chow La Sringkhet,

F/o- Chow Singwa Sringkhet,

Vill.- Lekang Khamti (Piyong Circle),

P.O.- Wingko, P.S.- Namsai,

Dist.- Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh.

LOST

I, SHINA CHAKRABORTY daughter of BABUL KUMAR CHAKRABORTY resident of Lumding lost my original CBSE Mark sheet cum certificate bearing Roll No 16130809 somewhere in Lumding

PROVISION OF MINIMUM ESSENTIAL AMENITIES

E-Tender Notice No. LMG/Engg/44 of 2026. Works tenders through "E" Tendering system for and on behalf of the president of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Brief Description of Item:** Provision of minimum essential amenities such as High level platform at stations (Thakurkuchi, Raha, Jakhlabandha and Moirabari), PF shelter, drinking water facilities, Divyangjan toilet including tactile path, entrance ramp and parking for divyangjan etc. at stations (Panikhaiti, Thakurkuchi, Barlongfer, Raha, Bebeja, Rupahigaon, Dhing Bazar, Dhing, Moirabari, Puranigudam & Jakhlabandha) under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/Lumding. **Tender Value:** ₹16,90,31,003.81/- **Earnest Money:** ₹33,80,600/- **Date & time of Closing of tender:** At 15.00 hrs. 13-07-2026 & opening at 15.00 hrs. on 14-07-2026. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 13-07-2026 in the website www.ireps.gov.in

DRM (W), Lumding
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

HDFC BANK
Registered Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013 and having one of its office as Retail Portfolio Management at HDFC Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjurmarg (East), Mumbai - 400042.

SALE INTIMATION AND NOTICE FOR SALE OF SECURITIES PLEDGED TO HDFC BANK LTD.

The below mentioned Borrowers of HDFC Bank Ltd. (the "Bank") are hereby notified regarding the sale of securities pledged to the Bank, for availing credit facilities in the nature of Loans/Overdrafts/Against Securities. Due to persistent default by the Borrowers in making repayment of the outstanding dues as per agreed loans / facilities terms, the below loan / facilities accounts are in delinquent status or classified as NPA (Non-Performing Asset). The Bank has issued multiple notices/loan recall notice to these Borrowers, including the final sale notice on the below-mentioned date whereby Bank had invoked the pledge and provided 7 days' time to the Borrower to repay the entire outstanding dues in the below accounts, failing which, Bank would be at liberty to sell the pledged securities without issuing further notice in this regard. The Borrowers have neglected and failed to make due repayments, therefore, Bank in exercise of its rights under the loan agreement as a pledgee has decided to sell / dispose off the Securities on or after 20th June 2026 for recovering the dues owed by the Borrowers to the Bank. The Borrowers are hereby notified to treat this as a notice of sale in compliance of section 176 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872. The Borrowers are, also, notified that, if at any time, the value of the pledged securities falls further due to volatility in the stock market to create further deficiency in the margin requirement then Bank shall at its discretion sell the pledged security within one (1) calendar day, without any further notice in this regard. The Borrower(s) shall remain liable to the Bank for repayment of any remaining outstanding amount, post adjustment of the proceeds from sale of pledged securities.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Borrower's Name	Outstanding Amount as on 10 th June 2026	Date of Sale Notice
1	XXXXXXXXXX9350	PAUL LYNGDOH	4,73,605.82	11-06-2026

Date: 13.06.2026
Place: MEGHALAYA
Sd/-
HDFC BANK LTD.

PRESS NOTIFICATION

No. E/227/Recit./CMP/LMG(O)/2024 Dated: 10-06-2026

"WALK-IN-INTERVIEW" FOR THE POST OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS ON FULL TIME IN LUMDING DIVISION OF NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

DATE OF INTERVIEW : 23-06-2026 (Tuesday)
TIME : 10.30 hrs.
VENUE : CMS Office/Lumding, Divisional Railway Hospital, Lumding, N.F. Railway.
NUMBER OF POST : 04 (Four) Contract Medical Practitioners (Full Time)
COMMUNITY WISE BREAK-UP (EWS-01, OBC-01 & SC-2)

SN	Name of the Hospital/HU	Total No. of post
01	Divisional Railway Hospital/Lumding = 04	04

Educational/Technical Qualification: (a) Specialist. The candidate should possess MBBS with Post Graduate Degree/Diploma in respective subject/field as a Specialist and should be registered with Indian Medical Council. (b) General Duty: The candidate should possess MBBS Degree and be registered with Indian Medical Council.

AGE : (i) Not exceeding 60 years of age on 01-06-2026. (ii) For retired Government Medical Officers of State Government and Central Government, the age to consider is 67 years as on 01-06-2026.

Monthly Fee Remuneration Structure: • Specialist (1st Year): ₹1,23,500/- PM. • Specialist (2nd Year): ₹1,30,000/- PM. • Super Specialist : ₹1,42,000/- PM. • General Duty (Full Time): ₹95,000/- PM. (The fee indicated against each is subject to the condition that no Govt. accommodation is provided. If Govt. accommodation is provided, an amount equivalent to the sum of HRA & license fee of the accommodation so provided will be deducted from the monthly remuneration).

Detailed notification is available at www.nfr.indianrailways.gov.in (general info-departments-personnel-interview).

The willing candidates should report to the Divisional Railway Hospital/Lumding, near Lumding Railway Station, Lumding on 23-06-2026 at 08.00 hours along with copies of all certificates/testimonials IN ORIGINAL and attested/ true copies, and also two passport size photographs for verification of documents and eligibility for the "WALK-IN-INTERVIEW" at Conference Hall, DRH/Lumding on 23-06-2026 at 10.30 hours. In the event of any wrong information /fake academic certificates/testimonials etc. the candidates will be liable to be taken up under the Govt. of India's law in force.

Divisional Railway Manager (P), Lumding
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Govt bars bulk users to buy through petrol pumps

Diesel sales to 200 litres per vehicle in a day

AFFIDAVIT

My actual and correct name is Chou Tethiwa Manang, my father's name is Chau Netra Manang and my mother's name is Nang Roidoi Manang. My name was written as Tithiwa Manang, my father's name as Jeetu Manang and mother's name as Roidoi Manang in his Class X school registration certificate and other documents related to him. For all intent and purposes my correct name is Chou Tethiwa Manang, father's name is Chau Netra Manang and mother's name is Nang Roidoi Manang.

Chou Tethiwa Manang,
S/o- Chau Netra Manang,
Vill.- Lekang Khamti,
P.O.Wingko & P.S., Namsai,
Dist.- Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh

AFFIDAVIT

I, Smt. Margret Lalpiengthari, D/O. Late Rongkhak Hrangchal (Father), resident of Rongkhelan, Diphu through court notary changed my name : my old name is "Margret Lalpiengthari" and my new name is "Margret Hrangchal and from now onwards, I shall henceforth be known as "Margret Hrangchal. The name "Margret Lalpiengthari" and "Margret Hrangchal" are both the same and identical person. This is true.

CANCELLED OF TENDER NOTICE NO. DBWS-NIET-04-2026-27 DTD. 21-05-2026

With reference to the above Tender. Cleaning of coaches has been published the Notice No. DBWS-NIET-04-2026-27, dated, 21-05-2026 has been cancelled on administrative ground. For details please visit in website www.ireps.gov.in

CWM, DBWS
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile



NEW DELHI, June 12: The government has capped diesel sales to a vehicle in a day at 200 litres and restricted industrial, commercial, and institutional users from buying petrol and diesel from petrol pumps in a bid to prevent local shortages amid global supply disruption, according to an official order.

Retail outlets can sell diesel only into a vehicle tank or PESO-approved container, and not more than 200 litres per customer or vehicle per day.

Also, industrial, commercial and institutional consumers will no longer be allowed to buy petrol or diesel from retail outlets. They must source their fuel from their own consumer pumps.

The restrictions, which will be in place for up to 90 days, follows abnormal demand growth, particularly that of diesel, in some pockets after bulk users started buying fuel from petrol pumps due to the pricing difference. While diesel at petrol pumps costs Rs 95.20 a litre in Delhi, bulk sales are priced at Rs 134.50.

The differential arose as state-owned oil companies modulated retail prices to insulate common users from the spike in cost that followed the West Asia crisis in late February. While bulk users such as telecom towers and industries using diesel for power generation and other feedstock needs are charged market price, the retail pump rates are way lower than cost.

Commercial customers like trucking companies and state road transport buses, too, had been tapping pumps for their needs, resulting in abnormal rise in demand in some pockets.

The price differential has also led to a shift in sales pattern with volumes shifting to PSU petrol pumps from private sector outlets that priced petrol and diesel at higher rates.

In May, three state-owned firms IOC, BPCL, and HPCL saw a 4.8 per cent jump in petrol sales and 6.4 per cent surge in diesel.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on June 11 issued the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Temporary Regulation of Supply through Retail Outlets) Order, 2026, directing fuel retailers and oil marketing companies to curb bulk purchases from retail outlets for periods of up to 90 days at a time.

The government said the move was necessitated by the "current prevailing geopolitical situation affecting certain regions of the world" that has adversely impacted international petroleum supply chains, shipping logistics and the availability of petroleum prod-

LOST

I lost my B.A. original registration card bearing enrollment No. 19006272 of K.K.H.S.O.U., Guwahati, two days ago at Lorulungso market. If anyone found may kindly inform to this mobile contact No. 86389 - 78724.

AJ Bhuyan,
Diphu Commerce College, Amalapaty
P. O. & P.S., Diphu, district Karbi Anglong, Assam.
Pin Code- 782460.

AFFIDAVIT

My actual and correct name is Chau Naraseng Khamhoo and my son's name is Nang Suchale Khamhoo and my mother's name is Nang Niru Khamhoo as in our certificates and other documents.

My name has been wrongly recorded as Naraseng Khamhoo and my child's name as Suchale Khamhoo and mother's name as Niru Khamhoo in his Class X school registration certificate and other documents related to him.

Therefore, for all intent and purposes my actual and correct name is Chau Naraseng Khamhoo, my child's name is Nang Suchale Khamhoo and my mother's name is Nang Niru Khamhoo.

Chau Naraseng Khamhoo,
F/o- Chau Khewhout Khamhoo,
Vill.- Mokrun, PO: Piyong & PS Namsai,
Dist.- Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh, presently residing at Village Mokrun, P.O. Piyong & P.S., Dist.- Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh

70% of young jobseekers find landing first job harder than before: Indeed report

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, June 12: Securing a first job has become significantly more challenging for young Indians, with 70 per cent of jobseekers believing it is harder today than it was three to five years ago, according to a new report released by employment platform Indeed. The report, based on a survey of 2,633 jobseekers and employees across India, highlights increasing competition, rising employer expectations and limited access to internships and industry exposure as major hurdles for young professionals entering the workforce. According to the findings, 72 per cent of respondents said entry-level positions frequently require prior work experience, creating what the report describes as an "experience paradox" for fresh graduates. Despite these expectations, only 20 per cent reported having access

to paid internships during their studies, while 18 per cent said they had no access to internships, projects, placement support or freelance opportunities at all. The study found that many young candidates are being compelled to compromise on their career aspirations due to financial pressures and limited employment opportunities. Only 14 per cent of respondents said they expected their first job to match their preferred role, company and location, while 43 per cent admitted that practical considerations were influencing their job choices. The report also identified the recruitment process itself as a major challenge. Nearly half of the respondents (49 per cent) said getting shortlisted was the biggest obstacle in securing employment, while 61 per cent reported that they rarely or never received responses after submitting job applications.

Contd. from Page 1...

Attack on vessels:

prevent the loss of civilian life," the MEA said in a statement. India on Thursday said three merchant ships with Indian crew members came under attack from the American military off the coast of Oman this week, resulting in the death of three nationals.

It was New Delhi's first public acknowledgement that the US Navy targeted the three ships with Indian crew members. A Palau-flagged oil tanker, Marivex, carrying 24 Indian seafarers, was disabled by US forces on June 8. All crew members were safely rescued. On June 10, the US struck another Palau-flagged tanker, Settebello, killing three out of the 24 Indian sailors on board.

Another vessel, Jalveer, a Guinea-Bissau-flagged tanker with 20 Indians, was attacked on Thursday. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Thursday that the three separate strikes on the Settebello, Marivex, and Jalveer "came from the US Navy".

Jaiswal said two of the three vessels were subject to sanctions administered by the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), while another had been classified as non-compliant.

The OFAC is the financial intelligence and enforcement agency of the US Treasury Department and it acts against vessels involved in violating US sanctions on the sale of Iranian and Russian oil. (PTI)

Modi's 12-yr tenure

the rapid expansion of India's maritime and inland waterways sector, stating that the growth of National Waterways and increased cargo movement on rivers such as the Brahmaputra and Barak are creating new opportunities for trade, tourism and employment in the Northeast.

Referring to Dibrugarh's emergence as a major inland waterways hub, he said investments in river transport, logistics infrastructure and tourism projects, including the successful voyage of the MV Ganga Vilas, have reinforced the city's strategic importance.

He further cited projects such as the Bogibhel inland waterways hub, the Namrup fertiliser expansion, the Numaligarh Bio-Refinery and the Jagiroad semiconductor plant as examples of the transformative development taking place in Assam. Sonowal said these achievements have laid a strong foundation for a developed India by 2047 and reaffirmed Assam's growing role as a key engine of economic growth in the country.

NE to be at

efficiency, but by national integration, regional balance and long-term competitiveness". "Our greatest asset is our youth... The next phase must align skilling with emerging sectors like semiconductors, AI, green energy and advanced manufacturing," he said.

Sarma asserted that Assam was ready to serve as a growth hub, a gateway economy and a strategic bridge to the wider Asian region. (PTI)

'Development most effective

proposed the setting up of a high-level 'Act Fast Implementation Unit' to protect critical cross-border logistics infrastructure from localised disruptions.

Singh pointed out that internal security challenges and civil friction create a risk which heavily discourages private investment and inflates the construction and maintenance costs of projects in the state.

Singh also stated that Manipur relies heavily on central grants, with its own tax revenue making up only about 10 per cent of revenue receipts, thereby severely constraining its independent development funding. (PTI)

NEET-UG: NTA announces

and reasoning. "Candidates may preferably use the rough-work pages provided at the beginning and at the end of the booklet for this purpose," it said. In another change, the agency has redesigned the placement of rough-work pages to better support left-handed candidates.

Earlier, rough-work pages were provided only at the end of the booklet. Under the revised format, two rough-work pages will be placed at the beginning of the booklet, immediately after the instruction page, in addition to those at the end in both English and regional-language versions of the question paper.

"The booklet now offers rough-work space at both the front and the back, allowing every candidate to work comfortably, and is especially helpful for left-handed candidates, who account for nearly 10% of all candidates," it said.

The NTA said these measures reflect its recognition that small, thoughtful changes in examination design can make a meaningful difference to a candidate's comfort during the high-stakes hours of the examination.

"NTA reaffirms its commitment to conducting NEET (UG) 2026 in a fair, secure and candidate-friendly manner, and to continuously improving the examination experience for the lakhs of aspirants who appear for it," it added. The NEET-UG for admissions into medical courses took place on May 3 this year but was cancelled by the NTA on May 12 amid allegations of a paper leak. The CBI is currently investigating this matter. (PTI)

From TV to radio

Act, 2023," the ministry said in a statement. "With this set of rules, the industry will now have a unified and significantly simplified rule book. These rules are designed to simplify and harmonise the existing regime while promoting ease of doing business in the television and radio broadcasting sector," it added, inviting comments and suggestions till July 27. A long-standing demand of the FM industry to allow it to air news would remain unmet if the draft rules are approved.

The draft retains the existing policy that private radio players can only broadcast the "unaltered news bulletins of Akashvani", other than certain other "non-news" subjects, including sports events, information related to traffic and weather, examinations, and results.

The draft rules also seek to provide a formal regulatory framework for Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services, bringing them within the ambit of television broadcasting services.

At present, IPTV services operate through internet networks and are governed through a mix of frameworks depending on the nature of the service and the provider.

The draft rules propose to recognise IPTV as a broadcasting service and lay down provisions for authorised entities offering such services. (PTI)

UNC seeks abrogation

the Union and Manipur governments to take prompt and decisive action to ensure justice and restore public trust. (NNN)

Retail inflation quickens

the RBI said in its monetary policy statement. According to the NSO data, urban inflation was below the national average of 3.93 per cent in May, while it was at 4.25 per cent in rural India.

Among states, the highest inflation was in Telangana (6.15 per cent) and the lowest in Mizoram (1.03 per cent). Commenting on the CPI data, Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist, Crisil, said inflation rose in May, led by broad-based pressures from food and non-food segments, with the latter contributing more significantly.

"Rising input costs for producers -- reflected in the Wholesale Price Index inflation of 8.3 per cent in April -- are now increasingly feeding into consumer prices. The impact of the West Asia conflict, which has now entered its fourth month in June, is therefore starting to percolate household budgets," she said.

President of industry body Assocham, Nirmal K Minda, said that inflation at 3.93 per cent for May 2026 remains in benign conditions, even though global headwinds escalated and crude oil prices witnessed a spike. The supply-side measures and the relatively lower pass-through of the impact of high crude oil prices to consumers have supported these benign inflationary conditions, he said.

"Going ahead, we expect the inflation trajectory to remain within the RBI's target band, supporting our economic growth and providing room for the RBI to maintain the status quo in the coming policy review too," Minda added. Megha Arora, Director, India Ratings and Research, said geopolitical tensions and El Nino conditions continue to remain upside risks to inflation.

"Though crude prices today eased following the news of an agreement between Iran and the US. However, it will take time for crude prices to move towards USD70/bbl, closer to pre-West Asia conflict level," she said. The rating agency expects the RBI to hold rates in the August 2026 monetary policy review. The key indicators to monitor include currency and liquidity, besides the crude oil price.

On the May numbers, Rajeev Sharan, Head of Research, Brickwork Ratings, said the inflation print is broadly in line with expectations, but the rise in food inflation to 4.78 per cent underscores persistent price pressures in perishables, particularly tomatoes, ginger and other vegetables.

Geopolitical tensions and higher crude oil prices likely added to transport, logistics and input costs, while moderation in several other categories helped prevent a sharper spike.

"Overall, May's print reflects a gentle re-acceleration in inflation, shaped by both weather-related food volatility and imported cost pressures, even as core categories continue to provide an anchor," Sharan added.

NSO under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation collects real-time price data from selected 1,407 urban markets (including online markets) and 1,465 villages covering all States/UTs. (PTI)

Man gets lifer

fatal injuries. The following day, the victim's mother, Shanti Das, lodged a complaint at Dhekiajuli police station, following which police registered an FIR and arrested the accused. (PTI)

Silghat Jute Mill remains shut for over four months, workers face hardship



HT Correspondent
NAGAON, June 12: The Assam Co-operative Jute Mill at Silghat, one of the state's oldest industrial units and the only co-operative sector jute mill in the country, has remained closed for more than four months, leaving hundreds of workers and employees in financial distress. Production at the mill was suspended on February 1 this year due to an acute shortage of raw jute and a sharp rise in procurement costs. Since then, the unit has remained idle, affecting the livelihoods of workers and creating concern among local residents. Although the management has been providing ex-gratia payments ranging

from ₹4,000 to ₹6,000 per month, involving a monthly expenditure of around ₹35-40 lakh, workers say the amount is insufficient to meet basic household expenses. Many employees have reportedly turned to daily wage labour and small-scale vegetable vending to support their families. While the official reason for the shutdown is the shortage of raw jute, local residents have alleged that administrative inefficiency and corruption among certain officials, along with poor decision-making by sections of the management, have contributed to the crisis. Questions have also been raised over

the role of the workers' union, which some have accused of remaining silent on issues affecting employees. Established in 1971 after construction began in 1960, the Assam Co-operative Jute Mill was once considered a profitable enterprise and a symbol of industrial development in Assam. The mill faced major financial difficulties in the 1980s and was closed in 1984 before resuming operations in 1986 following the Assam Accord. It returned to profitability in the 1990s and continued operations despite several challenges over the years. According to local sources, the present impasse is linked to pending dues worth

several crores owed to raw jute suppliers by a Kolkata-based firm associated with the mill's operations. Citizens and local organisations have demanded a high-level inquiry into the matter. The prolonged closure has also affected business activities in and around Silghat, while machinery and equipment at the factory are reportedly deteriorating due to prolonged inactivity. Local residents, workers and various organisations have appealed to the newly elected state government to intervene immediately, address the issues facing the mill and take steps to resume production at the earliest.

ABSU observes 39th Bodoland Martyrs' Day

Delayed implementation of BTR Accord draws sharp criticism from student body

HT Correspondent
KOKRAJHAR, June 12: The All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) on Friday observed the 39th Bodoland Martyrs' Day at Bhatipara in Kokrajhar, commemorating the death anniversary of Sujit Narzary, the first martyr of the Bodoland movement. The programme was organised by ABSU in association with its Kokrajhar district committee. On the occasion, the newly constructed Martyr Sujit Narzary Centre, built by the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) government, was inaugurated by ABSU president Khwrmmdao Wary and BTC Deputy Chief Executive Member Rihon Daimary in the presence of ABSU leaders, members and local residents. Earlier, Wary hoisted the ABSU flag at half-mast and led floral tributes to martyr Sujit Narzary. Addressing the gathering, Wary reflected on the history of the Bodoland movement and the sacrifices made by thousands of people in pursuit of political identity, dignity and self-determination for



the Bodo community. He said the movement gained momentum following the death of Sujit Narzary during a mass rally on June 12, 1987, under the leadership of Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma. Wary noted that the movement passed through several phases, resulting in the Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) Accord of 1993, the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Accord of 2003 and the BTR Accord of 2020. While these agreements brought

Committee meeting on the BTR Accord by the Ministry of Home Affairs, stating that such delays create uncertainty and weaken confidence in the peace process. Wary urged both the Central and State Governments to honour their commitments and ensure the full implementation of the BTR Accord, including the augmentation of powers and constitutional provisions proposed under the Sixth Schedule framework. He warned that continued delays could compel the Bodo masses to reconsider their democratic course of action and revive a renewed phase of the Bodoland movement. Paying tribute to all martyrs of the movement, Wary reaffirmed ABSU's commitment to safeguarding the rights and aspirations of the Bodo people and pursuing a just and honourable political solution. "The sacrifices of the martyrs shall never be forgotten. Their dreams and aspirations continue to inspire us in our pursuit of dignity, justice, peace and self-respect," he said.

Guardian Minister Ranoj Pegu reviews development projects, flood preparedness in Biswanath



HT Correspondent
BISWANATH CHARIALI, June 12: Assam's School Education, Tribal Affairs (Plains) and Information Technology Minister Ranoj Pegu, who has recently been appointed as the Guardian Minister of Biswanath district, chaired a review meeting with officials of various government departments on Friday and assessed the progress of ongoing development projects in the district. During the meeting, Pegu reviewed the implementation status of various government schemes and directed departmental officers to expedite pending works and ensure timely completion of projects. A detailed review was also conducted on preparedness measures to tackle possible flood situations during the monsoon season. The minister instructed the district administration and concerned departments to remain fully prepared for disaster management and ensure prompt relief and assistance to affected people, if required. Pegu held discussions with officials of the Water Resources Department, Public Health Engineering Department, District Disaster Management Authority, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, Agriculture Department, Health Department, Education Department, Public Works Department and other line departments. Emphasising the need for improved infrastructure in the newly created district, the minister reviewed the progress of major projects, including the Biswanath Medical College, the Integrated District Commissioner's Office Building and the proposed Engineering College. He stressed the importance of completing these projects at the earliest and making them operational for public benefit. The meeting was attended by Sonitpur MP Ranjit Dutta, Biswanath MLA Pallab Lochan Das, Gohpur MLA Utpal Bora, Behali MLA Munindra Das, Biswanath District Commissioner Lakhinandan Saharia, Senior Superintendent of Police Ajagouran Basumatari, Zila Parishad CEO Ranjit Konwar, Biswanath Chariali Municipal Board Chairman Amrajyoti Barthakur, Behali Co-District Commissioner Kabita Kakati Konwar, Additional District Commissioners Amrit Prabha Das and Asim Bargohain, Gohpur Co-District Commissioner Aditya Pratap Singh, along with circle officers, assistant commissioners, municipal executive officers and heads of various departments.

Excise raid in Ledo: One arrested, liquor seized from roadside dhaba

HT Correspondent
MARGHERITA, June 12: The Excise Department of Margherita Excise Circle conducted an enforcement raid at several roadside dhabsas in the Ledo area under Margherita Co-District on Thursday night as part of its ongoing drive against the illegal sale and distribution of liquor. The operation was led by Excise Inspector Nabajeet Buragohain with assistance from officials of the Excise Department and personnel of Ledo Police. During the raid, the team detected a case under Section 53(1)(a) of the Assam Excise Act and arrested one person in connection with the offence. The accused is being produced before the competent court for further legal proceedings. The enforcement team seized 6 bulk litres of Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL), 6 bulk litres of country spirit and 20 bulk litres of beer, all meant for sale within Assam, from the establishment. Officials said the action was part of the department's continuing efforts to curb illegal liquor trade and ensure compliance with excise laws across the region. The Excise Department further informed that, in accordance with decisions taken during a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) in Tinsukia, the concerned establishment has been placed under the due judicial process for legal sealing by the competent authority.

Foundation stone laid NBCC condemns Manipur violence, appeals for peace and reconciliation

HT Correspondent
KOKRAJHAR, June 12: The foundation stone for the upgradation of the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Kokrajhar, into a Centre of Excellence (CoE) was laid on Friday at the institute's campus. The project will be implemented at an estimated cost of ₹10.91 crore and is aimed at strengthening teacher education and enhancing the quality of educational infrastructure in the region. BTC Deputy Chief Executive Member Rihon Daimary laid the foundation stone in the presence of government officials, academicians, students and staff members of the institute. An open meeting was held on the occasion at the DIET premises. Addressing the gathering, Daimary expressed satisfaction over the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Kokrajhar and said such institutions play a crucial role in human resource development and improving the quality of education. He noted that the overall educational scenario in the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) has shown gradual improvement in recent years, as reflected in examination results and academic performance. Appealing to D.El.Ed students, Daimary urged them to pursue their studies with dedication and become competent educators, emphasising that teachers are the principal architects of students' futures.

HT Correspondent
KOKRAJHAR, June 12: The National Boro Christian Council (NBCC) has expressed deep concern over the recent incidents of violence and loss of lives in Manipur and appealed to all communities to work towards restoring peace and harmony in the state. In a press statement, NBCC President Enash Kumar Basumatary and General Secretary Mridul Baglari said they were saddened by reports of the deaths of six Naga civilians, including two pastors, who had been missing since May 13 and whose bodies were recently recovered in Kangpokpi district. The council also expressed concern over the reported killing of two Kuki men whose bodies were found in Kamjong district. The NBCC strongly condemned all forms of violence and killings, stating that every human life is precious and that such incidents bring immense suffering to families and communities. The organisation extended its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and expressed solidarity with all those affected by the violence. Appealing for peace and reconciliation, the council urged community leaders, civil authorities and citizens to reject violence and hatred and instead work together to rebuild trust and understanding through dialogue and mutual respect. The NBCC also called upon all stakeholders to uphold the values of humanity, justice and peaceful co-existence to ensure the return of peace, stability and normalcy in Manipur.

District Level Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani held at DIET Karbi Anglong

HT Bureau
DIPHU, June 12: The District Level Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani (DLBVP) 2026 was successfully organised on June 8 and 9 at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Karbi Anglong, under the theme "STEM for Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat." A total of 11 schools from different educational blocks of the district participated in the exhibition, showcasing a variety of innovative science models and projects aimed at promoting scientific learning and creativity among students. The inaugural session was attended by the Inspector of Schools, the Principal of DIET and BTC representatives, along with DIET faculty members and other education officials. The exhibits were evaluated by a panel

of judges from Diphu Government College. On the concluding day, District Commissioner of Karbi Anglong, Aranyak Saikia, attended the programme as the chief guest and interacted with the participants, encouraging them to pursue scientific innovation and research. The District Mission Coordinator of Samagra Shiksha Assam (SSA) attended as the special guest and motivated students to develop a scientific temperament. The programme was coordinated by Subhra Das and Masudul Hasan, lecturers of DIET Karbi Anglong. The event concluded with the distribution of prizes and certificates to participants and was widely appreciated for fostering scientific awareness, innovation and creativity among young students. The Guardian Minister was felicitated at the outset of the programme, while NCHAC Principal Secretary Partha Jahari delivered the welcome address. Acting on the directions of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, the Guardian Minister reviewed the preparedness of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) to tackle monsoon-related floods, storms and landslides. Additional Deputy Commissioner Shaurya Sharma briefed the meeting on

Guardian Minister reviews development projects, disaster preparedness in Dima Hasao



HT Correspondent
HAFLONG, June 12: A departmental review meeting was held at the conference hall of the Chief Executive Member (CEM), North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council (NCHAC), under the chairmanship of Assam Minister for Public Health Engineering, Hill Areas and Barak Valley Development, and Guardian Minister of Dima Hasao, Krishnendu Paul. The Guardian Minister was felicitated at the outset of the programme, while NCHAC Principal Secretary Partha Jahari delivered the welcome address. Acting on the directions of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, the Guardian Minister reviewed the preparedness of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) to tackle monsoon-related floods, storms and landslides. Additional Deputy Commissioner Shaurya Sharma briefed the meeting on

disaster mitigation measures and emergency response mechanisms in place across the district. Emphasising the need for accelerated development of the hill district, Paul identified tourism as a key driver of economic growth and revenue generation. He expressed confidence that Dima Hasao would witness significant progress under coordinated developmental efforts. The meeting also discussed issues relating to spring discharge storage and water stress in various parts of the district. The Chief Engineer of the Public Health Engineering Department called for greater coordination with NCHAC to ensure effective implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission and the Har Ghar Nal Se Jal initiative. MLA Rupali Langthasa highlighted the unique challenges faced by hill districts and stressed the need for proper surveys while implementing JJM schemes. Responding to the concerns, the Guardian Minister assured that he would personally visit areas with non-functional schemes and directed better coordination between the Public Works Department and the PHE Department. Joint Secretary Rebecca Changsan presented the district's waste management initiatives and recommended the use of motorised vehicles in place of tricycles for more efficient waste collection and disposal. The Guardian Minister also directed officials to take strict action against defaulting contractors involved in PWD projects, stressing that accountability and timely completion of works must be ensured. The meeting was attended by NCHAC Chief Executive Member Debolal Goroosa, MLA Rupali Langthasa, NCHAC Chairman Mohet Hojai, Executive Members and MACs of the council, HAD Secretary TT Daulaguppu, Principal Secretary Partha Jahari, Deputy Commissioner Gayatri Devidas Hyalenge, Superintendent of Police Ripunjoy Kakoti, Chief Engineer (Water) Pallab Kumar Das, Chief Engineer (Sanitation) Bhaskarjyoti Samah, Additional District Commissioner AK Illias Ahmed, heads of various departments and other senior officials.

'Baby Bhakat' chapter brings national recognition to Nagaon wildlife rescuer and his family

Kampur family's civet cat story finds place in CBSE Class 10 syllabus

HT Correspondent
NAGAON, June 12: A remarkable story of compassion and wildlife conservation from Kampur in Nagaon district has found a place in the CBSE Class 10 English syllabus, bringing pride and joy to the local community. The chapter, titled "Baby Bhakat", is based on the real-life experience of wildlife enthusiast Dharani Saikia of Vrindaban Nagar in Kampur, who, along with his family, rescued and raised an orphaned civet cat cub in 2009. According to the account, a civet cat cub, locally known as Jahamal, fell from a tree in Telisora village. Local residents informed Dharani Saikia, popularly known as the "Forest Man" of Kampur for his long association with wildlife rescue activities. With the help of his elder son, Saikia brought the helpless cub home. Faced with the challenge of feeding the newborn animal, the family made an extraordinary decision. Dharani's wife, Anjali Saikia, agreed to nurse the cub with breast milk alongside her six-month-old son, Gibon



Saikia. The family named the cub "Bhakat", and it soon became an inseparable member of the household. Over time, Bhakat adapted to family life, sharing meals and living alongside the children. The unusual bond between the civet

and the family later attracted the attention of conservation photographer Rommel Shunmugan, who visited Kampur and documented the story. Years later, Gibon Saikia, now a Class 10 student at a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, was surprised to discover that his family's story had been included in his English textbook. The chapter features photographs of his parents and himself as an infant alongside the civet cub. The lesson was first introduced in the CBSE Class 10 English syllabus for the 2024-25 academic session and has been retained for 2025-26. For Dharani Saikia, who has been involved in wildlife rescue and conservation activities since his school days, the inclusion of "Baby Bhakat" in the national curriculum is a matter of immense pride and recognition. Residents of Kampur have welcomed the development, saying the story not only honours the Saikia family but also promotes compassion towards animals and highlights the importance of wildlife conservation.

Four arrested in arms smuggling racket; pistol recovered

HT Correspondent
SIVASAGAR, June 12: Sivasagar Police have arrested four persons allegedly involved in an arms smuggling racket during raids conducted at various locations over the past few days. The arrested persons have been identified as Achintya Barua of Ganakpatti, Bobby Bikram Barua of Cherekapar, Papu Das of Bhatipara in Sivasagar and Amar Das alias John Mess of

Khatkhati in Karbi Anglong district. Addressing the media on Friday, Additional Superintendent of Police Maiful Islam said a pistol was recovered from a rented house in Dibrugarh based on information provided by Achintya Barua during interrogation. The police suspect that the group may have been planning criminal activities, including vehicle theft, extortion and illegal arms trafficking.

No: SCDB/AWDC/562/2024-25/

Dated Sidihi the 12th June, 2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed Tender are invited in F-2 Form for the works shown below from the intending Registered Contractor/Vendors of class-I and class-II (A, B & C) categories of Assam PWD (Roads & Building)/PHED with affixing Non-refundable court fee of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and twenty-five paise) only in a prescribed Form for 1 (One) No of construction work under SOPD fund for the year 2025-26. The Tender will be received on 05/07/2026 up to 2.P.M. in the office of the undersigned and will be opened on same day at 2.30 P.M. in the office of the undersigned.

Name of Work	Estimated Amount	Bid Security	Cost of BID document (D/D) @ 0.03% (Approx)
Construction of Manjhi Than under SOPD fund 25/26 at No.2 Deosri VCDC under Sidihi -Chirang Dev. Block	Rs.9,00,000.00	1% on Estimate amount for SI/SC/OBC & 2% for General	Rs.270/-

The details may be seen at Notice Board in the Office of the Block Development Officer, Sidihi-Chirang Development Block from 13/06/2026 to 05/07/2026 up to 2 P.M.

Sd/-
 Block Development Officer
 Sidihi-Chirang Development Block, Sidihi

IPR(BTC)/C/2026-27/526

QUOTE OF THE DAY

The objective should feel almost insane. If it doesn't, push harder. - Andrew Frame

Impact of war on economy

Resolution of the US-Israel war with Iran now appears further away than at any point in the conflict, with the latest American strikes pushing global markets into a more unsettled phase. The US launch of retaliatory attacks on Iranian defence and radar systems after Washington accused Tehran of responsibility for the downing of an American Apache helicopter near the Strait of Hormuz has shifted attention from the risk of a contained military exchange to the possibility of a prolonged confrontation in one of the world's most important energy corridors. For investors, the significance of the escalation lies not only in the exchange of fire, but in the location and timing. The Strait of Hormuz is central to global oil and liquefied natural gas flows. Any sign that military operations are becoming normalised near the waterway immediately feeds into crude prices, shipping insurance, freight rates and inflation expectations. Even without a full closure of the strait, the mere prospect of repeated incidents can add a substantial risk premium to every barrel moving out of the Gulf. The immediate danger is not necessarily a single dramatic escalation. A spectacular confrontation would be severe, but it might also force urgent diplomacy. The more difficult risk for markets is that the conflict becomes entrenched through intermittent strikes, retaliatory operations, drone incidents, cyberattacks, warnings to vessels and proxy activity across the region. That pattern would be harder to price because it would keep supply fears alive without producing a single decisive moment of crisis.

Washington may describe its strikes as limited and retaliatory, but the military threshold has moved. Tehran is unlikely to treat attacks on its defence infrastructure as an episode that can be absorbed without response. Israel, already deeply engaged in the confrontation with Iran, may view any Iranian move as further justification for military action. Each side can say it is responding rather than escalating, yet the cumulative effect can still be a wider and more durable conflict. That prospect matters because markets had grown used to absorbing geopolitical shocks as long as energy supplies remained broadly intact. The present confrontation is different because it directly links military risk to inflation. Oil price spikes are not just a commodity-market issue. They raise transport costs, fertiliser costs, utility bills and food prices. They also complicate the work of central banks that are trying to ease policy without allowing inflation expectations to revive.

For the Modi government, the conflict poses a particularly sharp policy test. India is heavily dependent on imported crude, gas and fertiliser inputs, much of which is exposed to Gulf shipping routes. A prolonged confrontation near Hormuz would not merely raise the import bill; it would force New Delhi to decide how much of the shock should be absorbed by the state and how much should be passed on to consumers. That decision has economic, fiscal and political consequences.

Honored as Architects of the Nation, Denied safety at home

By: Lalit Garg

For decades, Indian society has proclaimed its commitment to women's empowerment. Women are described as the "other half of society" and equal partners in the nation's development. Numerous policies and programs have been launched to enhance their participation in education, employment, politics, and leadership. Governments have repeatedly pledged to ensure greater representation of women, including reserving 33 percent of seats in legislative bodies. Society proudly celebrates women's achievements across diverse fields. Yet, beneath these encouraging narratives lies a troubling reality that compels us to re-examine the true state of women's empowerment in India.

Recently, the Supreme Court of India made a landmark observation by recognizing homemakers as "nation builders." The Court acknowledged that the unpaid labor performed by women in managing households and caring for families possesses immense economic and social value and can no longer be ignored. At the same time, data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) reveal a disturbing truth: one in four women in rural India and one in six women in urban India experience some form of violence. This stark contrast exposes a profound contradiction. The woman who is hailed as a nation builder is often the same woman who lives under the shadow of insecurity, discrimination, and violence within her own home and society.

The Supreme Court's recognition of homemakers marks a historic step toward acknowledging women's unpaid labor. For generations, household work has been viewed merely as an extension of duty, affection, or sacrifice. Cleaning the home, preparing meals, raising children, caring for the elderly, maintaining family health and values, managing household affairs, and nurturing social relationships have all been considered a woman's natural responsibility. As a result, this labor has rarely been measured in economic terms. In reality, if a family were to hire separate individuals to perform all the tasks undertaken by a homemaker, the financial burden would be substantial. Despite this, homemakers receive neither wages nor adequate social recognition. They work around the clock, every day of the year, without holidays, promotions, or retirement benefits.

Therefore, the Supreme Court's assertion that homemakers contribute not only to their families but also to nation-building is far more than a legal observation—it is a transformative social message. In a motor accident compensation case, the Court suggested that the value of a homemaker's services should be assessed at a minimum of ₹30,000 per month. This is not merely a judicial determination; it is a challenge to the longstanding mindset that undervalues domestic work. Indeed, the invisible labor of women forms the foundation of the economy. If unpaid domestic work were formally measured and incorporated into the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), India's economic landscape would look remarkably different.

While the judiciary has acknowledged the immense contribution of homemakers, an equally important question remains unanswered: Are women receiving the dignity, security, and respect they deserve? Unfortunately, the answer remains far from satisfactory. According to NFHS data, violence against women continues to be a serious social challenge. Nearly 22 percent of married women between the ages of 18 and 49 have reported experiencing domestic violence during their married lives. This reality highlights a painful paradox. The woman whose labor sustains families and strengthens society often finds herself vulnerable to abuse within the very institutions she helps nurture. This situation persists despite the existence of numerous laws designed to protect women and widespread awareness campaigns promoting gender equality. A natural question arises: If legal protections exist, government schemes are in place, and women's empowerment has become a national priority, why does violence against women continue unabated? Why do many women still struggle to feel completely safe—whether at home, in public spaces, or in the workplace?

FIFA World Cup - The Historical Journey and Evolution

The opening decades of the twentieth century witnessed the dawn of a new era in international sports, and one of its most significant chapters was the conception of a global football tournament. Following the establishment of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, commonly known as FIFA, in 1904, efforts were made to bring football across the world under a structured and official framework. Although football had already been included in the Olympic Games, participation was restricted to amateur players, leaving a noticeable void for a grand stage featuring the finest professional footballers in the world. Under the visionary leadership and determined efforts of FIFA President Jules Rimet, a historic decision was finally taken during a conference in Amsterdam in 1928 to organize a separate world championship involving the strongest football teams on the planet. The outcome of that landmark decision was the inaugural FIFA World Cup, held in Uruguay in 1930. Uruguay was selected as the host nation primarily because of its remarkable success in previous Olympic football competitions and because the country was celebrating the centenary of its independence. No qualification matches were conducted for the first World Cup; instead, countries were invited to participate. Due to the hardships of lengthy sea travel and the prevailing economic depression, many European nations declined the invitation, resulting in only thirteen teams taking part in this historic beginning. In the final, played at the newly constructed stadium in Montevideo, host nation Uruguay defeated Argentina 4-2 to become the first-ever world champions. With that triumph, a new chapter in global sporting history was opened, one that would eventually immerse football lovers across the world in an unprecedented wave of excitement.

Following the remarkable success of the inaugural tournament, the second FIFA World Cup was held in Italy in 1934, with an expanded scope. Sixteen teams participated, and for the first time, qualification matches were introduced as a requirement for entry into the main tournament. Despite the influence of Fascist politics in the host nation, Italy produced outstanding performances on the field and defeated Czechoslovakia 2-1 after extra time to win its first World Cup title. Four years later, France hosted the third World Cup in 1938, where Italy maintained its dominance by defeating Hungary 4-2 in the final and becoming world champions for the second

consecutive time. Soon afterward, however, the devastation of the Second World War cast a dark shadow over both humanity and the sporting world. The catastrophic consequences of the conflict and the resulting economic instability prevented the World Cups of 1942 and 1946 from being held. After a twelve-year interruption, the tournament finally returned in 1950 in Brazil. The 1950 World Cup remains unique in many respects, chiefly because there was no traditional final match. Instead, the champion was determined through a final round-robin group involving the last four teams. Brazil required only a draw in the decisive match at the Maracanã Stadium, but Uruguay stunned the football world by defeating the hosts 2-1 and capturing their second World Cup title. The result became immortalized in football history as the "Maracanazo," or the Tragedy of Maracanã. The 1954 World Cup in Switzerland witnessed the emergence of a new football powerhouse: West Germany. In the final, West Germany defeated the seemingly invincible and heavily favored Hungarian side 3-2 to claim its first World Cup title, a victory forever remembered as the "Miracle of Bern."

The 1958 World Cup in Sweden marked one of the most important turning points in football history, for it introduced the world to a seventeen-year-old prodigy named Pelé. Inspired by the magical touch of the young Brazilian, Brazil displayed a dazzling brand of attacking football throughout the tournament and crushed Sweden 5-2 in the final to secure its first World Cup title. That triumph transformed football's aesthetic and tactical identity, a legacy that continued into the 1962 World Cup in Chile. Although Pelé was injured during the tournament, the brilliance of Garrincha carried Brazil to another title as they defeated Czechoslovakia 3-1 in the final and retained the championship. In 1966, the World Cup arrived in England, often regarded as the birthplace of football. Supported by passionate home crowds, England defeated West Germany 4-2 after extra time in the final and won its first and only World Cup title. The 1970 World Cup in Mexico elevated the tournament's popularity to unprecedented levels, becoming the first World Cup to be broadcast worldwide in color television. Led once again by Pelé, Brazil's legendary team dismantled Italy 4-1 in the final to claim its third World Cup title. According to the rules in place at the time, winning the tournament three times entitled Brazil



DEGREE OF THOUGHT

By: Himangshu Ranjan Bhuyan

to permanent possession of the original Jules Rimet Trophy. A new golden World Cup trophy was subsequently introduced and remains in use today.

The 1974 World Cup in West Germany ushered in a tactical revolution known as "Total Football." Under the leadership of Johan Cruyff, the Netherlands captivated the world with a fluid system in which players constantly exchanged positions on the field. Yet in the final, West Germany's disciplined organization and the strategic brilliance of captain Franz Beckenbauer enabled the hosts to defeat the Dutch side 2-1 and secure their second World Cup title. Four years later, Argentina hosted the tournament and restored South American dominance. In a thrilling final, Argentina defeated the Netherlands 3-1 after extra time to win its first World Cup, while the Dutch were forced to settle for runners-up status for the second consecutive tournament. The 1982 World Cup in Spain introduced another major FIFA reform as the number of participating teams expanded from sixteen to twenty-four. This change provided greater opportunities for nations from developing football regions such as Asia and Africa to showcase their talents on the world stage. Italy, guided by a formidable defensive structure and the goal-scoring exploits of Paolo Rossi, defeated West Germany 3-1 in the final and lifted its third World Cup trophy.

One of the most dramatic and individually influential chapters in World Cup history unfolded during the 1986 tournament in Mexico. The competition became synonymous with the genius of Diego Maradona, one of football's greatest icons. As captain of Argentina, Maradona delivered performances of extraordinary quality throughout the tournament. Most notably, in the quarterfinal against England, he scored two goals that remain among the most discussed moments in football history. The first was the controversial "Hand of God" goal, while the second,

scored just five minutes later after dribbling past five English defenders and the goalkeeper, has been officially recognized as the Goal of the Century. Argentina defeated West Germany 3-2 in the final to win its second World Cup title. The 1990 World Cup in Italy presented a contrasting picture, characterized by cautious tactics and a relative scarcity of goals. Once again, Germany and Argentina met in the final, but this time Germany emerged victorious through a penalty, winning 1-0 and securing its third World Cup title while avenging the defeat of four years earlier. In 1994, the World Cup was held for the first time outside Europe and South America, with the United States serving as host. The tournament proved enormously successful from a commercial perspective and shattered previous attendance records. For the first time in history, a World Cup final remained scoreless after normal and extra time, necessitating a penalty shootout. Brazil defeated Italy 3-2 on penalties and became world champions for the fourth time.

The final World Cup of the twentieth century took place in France in 1998, where the number of participating teams increased from twenty-four to thirty-two, laying the foundation for the modern format. Inspired by the brilliance of Zinedine Zidane, France overwhelmed the favored Brazilian side 3-0 in the final and captured its first World Cup title. The first World Cup of the twenty-first century followed in 2002 and was jointly hosted by Japan and South Korea, marking the tournament's first appearance in Asia. The competition was notable for a series of major upsets, with powerful teams such as France and Argentina eliminated in the group stage. In the final, Brazil defeated Germany 2-0, thanks largely to Ronaldo's remarkable goal-scoring exploits, and claimed a record fifth World Cup title, an achievement that remains unmatched. The 2006 World Cup in Germany witnessed another demonstration of European tactical excellence. The final between Italy and France became famous for Zinedine Zidane's infamous headbutt incident and subsequent red card. Italy ultimately prevailed 5-3 in a penalty shootout, securing its fourth World Cup crown.

The World Cup arrived on African soil for the first time in 2010 when South Africa hosted the tournament. Spain enchanted the football world with its "tiki-taka" style of short passing and controlled possession, defeating the Netherlands 1-0 after extra time in the final to win its maiden

World Cup title. Four years later, the tournament returned to football's spiritual homeland, Brazil, but the event proved deeply painful for the hosts. In the semi-final, Brazil suffered a historic and humiliating 7-1 defeat against Germany. Germany later defeated Argentina 1-0 after extra time in the final to lift its fourth World Cup trophy. The 2018 World Cup in Russia showcased a youthful and dynamic French side and introduced the world to the extraordinary talent of Kylian Mbappé. France defeated the resilient Croatian team 4-2 in the final and became world champions for the second time. The 2022 World Cup in Qatar was the first ever held in the Middle East, and its final is widely regarded as one of the greatest in football history. After a breathtaking contest between Argentina and France ended 3-3 following extra time, Argentina triumphed 4-2 in the penalty shootout. The victory fulfilled the last remaining dream in Lionel Messi's illustrious career and delivered Argentina's third World Cup title after a wait of thirty-six years.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup is currently being jointly hosted by three major North American nations—the United States, Mexico, and Canada. As part of FIFA's strategy to expand its commercial reach and further increase football's popularity worldwide, the number of participating teams has been expanded from thirty-two to forty-eight. Under the new format, teams are divided into twelve groups, while the total number of matches has increased from sixty-four to one hundred and four, necessitating the introduction of a new Round of 32 knockout stage. This significant transformation has strengthened the truly global character of the tournament, as it allows many smaller nations from Africa, Asia, and North America to represent their countries on football's grandest stage for the first time. What began in 1930 with just thirteen teams has evolved into a vast global spectacle featuring forty-eight nations in 2026. A review of this remarkable history reveals that the FIFA World Cup is far more than a sporting competition. It stands as a unique document of human history, reflecting the evolution of economics, politics, technology, and global unity. Held every four years, this grand festival has influenced not only tactical developments on the field but also the psychology and imagination of people across the world, and its journey of growth seems destined to become even more expansive and universal in the years ahead.

Growing mistrust in India-Bangladesh relations

India-Bangladesh relations hold special significance in South Asian diplomacy. India's political, military, and humanitarian support at the time of Bangladesh's independence in 1971 laid a strong foundation for friendship and trust between the two countries. Over the past five decades, significant progress has been made in many areas, including trade, security, energy, connectivity, water resources, and cultural exchange. India's "Neighborhood First" policy and Bangladesh's development-oriented foreign policy have also elevated the relationship to new heights. Nevertheless, recent years have witnessed signs of tension and mistrust in relations between the two countries. This situation underscores the fact that relations with neighboring countries are not driven solely by strategic interests, but also by sensitivities, public sentiments, and mutual respect.

India and Bangladesh share a border of approximately 4,096 kilometers, India's longest land border with any neighboring country. The two countries share deep cultural, linguistic, and historical ties. Over the past decade, significant progress has been made in land boundary agreements, border management, counterterrorism cooperation, energy trade, and regional connectivity projects. Bangladesh is today a major trading partner for India and plays a vital role in connecting India's northeastern region with the mainland. Therefore, trust and cooperation between the two countries are essential not only for bilateral stability but also for the stability and prosperity of South Asia as a whole.

Recent changes in Bangladesh's internal politics have impacted bilateral relations. Changes in power, political instability, and competition among various political parties have led to divergent perceptions of India's role. Some political groups in Bangladesh have developed a perception that India is more sympathetic to a particular political force, while India has consistently prioritized stability and development. Whether factually correct or not, such perceptions undermine the atmosphere of trust and create a psychological distance in relations.

The issue of sharing the Teesta River waters has long been a major bone of contention between the two countries. For Bangladesh, the Teesta River's waters are vital for agriculture and livelihoods. For

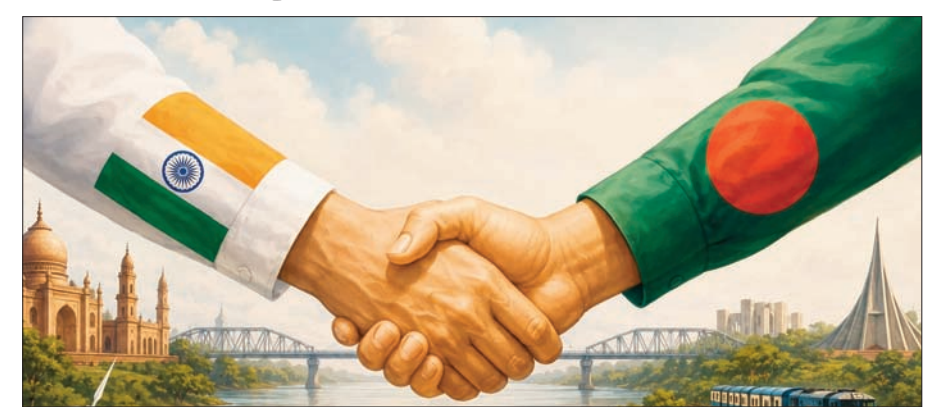
many years, a proposed agreement has been pending for various reasons, leading to a feeling in Bangladesh that its concerns are not receiving the necessary priority. The role of states in India's federal system also complicates the issue, but the delay in resolution has fueled mistrust. Building long-term trust appears difficult without equitable and sustainable management of water resources.

Border issues have also caused tensions in relations. Smuggling, illegal immigration, and border security challenges have often led to unpleasant border incidents. Incidents involving civilian casualties have generated widespread reaction in Bangladesh and impacted India's image. Although the border security agencies of both countries are making efforts to enhance coordination, such incidents continue to create negative sentiments among the public. Borders between neighboring countries are not just a matter of security, but also involve human and social values.

Issues such as the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) have also raised some concerns in Bangladesh. Although India has repeatedly clarified that these are internal policies, concerns have been expressed in Bangladesh that they could have an indirect impact on future relations between the two countries. In international relations, the public perception of policies, along with their actuality, is also important, and this is why such issues sometimes become part of diplomatic debate.

China's growing influence in South Asia is also a significant factor influencing India-Bangladesh relations. Bangladesh has increased economic and infrastructure cooperation with several countries, including China, to meet its development needs. India naturally has concerns that excessive influence by an external power in the region could impact its strategic interests. Bangladesh, on the other hand, seeks to maintain balance in its foreign policy while attracting investment and technical assistance from various countries. In this situation, transparency and dialogue become crucial for both countries.

Trade imbalances are also a contributing factor to mistrust. Although bilateral trade is growing steadily, India appears to be ben-



efiting relatively more. Bangladesh has long sought better access for its products to the Indian market and a reduction in non-tariff barriers. Persistent imbalances in economic relations can also impact political relations. Therefore, making the economic partnership more balanced and inclusive is the need of the hour.

Social media and digital media have also impacted relations. Today, misinformation, misleading propaganda, and content inciting nationalist sentiments spread rapidly. Even minor incidents are often exaggerated on digital platforms, leading to misunderstandings between citizens of both countries. In such an environment, the responsibility of governments and media institutions to promote factual dialogue and effectively control disinformation increases.

The biggest challenge facing India is to strike a balance between its strategic interests and the sensitivities of its neighbors. As a major regional power, India's policies naturally impact its neighbors. Therefore, an approach focused solely on national interests is not sufficient; it is equally important to understand the concerns and expectations of neighboring countries. Similarly, Bangladesh must understand that India's security concerns, especially those related to the Northeast region, are of utmost importance to it. Both countries must respect each other's legitimate concerns.

To restore trust, concrete steps are needed to resolve outstanding issues. Prioritizing the Teesta Water Treaty can send a positive message to both countries. Adopting a humanitarian approach to border management, increasing joint patrols and technical cooperation are also essential. To reduce the trade imbalance, Bangladeshi products can be given greater opportunities in the Indian

market. Accelerating energy, transportation, and connectivity projects can make the economies of both countries more interdependent.

It is also essential to regularize and institutionalize high-level political dialogue. When there is continuous communication between the top leadership of countries, the potential for misunderstandings is reduced. People-to-people contacts should also be enhanced through education, culture, sports, media, and tourism. Trust between citizens is as important as trust between governments. Cultural proximity is a major strength of both countries and can be effectively utilized to strengthen relations.

Promoting cooperation through regional forums such as BINSTEC and BBIN would also be useful. Regional cooperation based on shared economic and strategic interests can help reduce mistrust. Joint efforts in areas such as climate change, disaster management, maritime security, and energy cooperation could bring the two countries closer.

Ultimately, India and Bangladesh's relations are not just a partnership between two countries, but a special relationship forged by history, culture, language, geography, and shared struggles. The tensions and mistrust that have arisen in recent years certainly highlight the importance of maintaining a balance between sensitivities and strategic interests in relations with neighboring countries. Based on a spirit of dialogue, cooperation, mutual respect, and shared development, both countries can transform current challenges into opportunities. If India and Bangladesh rebuild their relations on a new foundation of trust, not only will bilateral ties become stronger, but the path to peace, stability, and prosperity in South Asia will also be more paved.

How To Clarify Your Values And Lead Without Compromise

By: Rodger Dean Duncan

At a time when corporate values are often reduced to wall art and mission statements, Paul Ingram has spent years studying what actually drives human behavior inside organizations. A professor at Columbia Business School and author of *What Do You Really Stand For?*, Ingram argues that values are not just abstract ideals—they are measurable, actionable, and, when properly understood, among the most powerful predictors of satisfaction and performance.

Yet most people, including seasoned executives, misunderstand their own values. They believe they know what they stand for, but their decisions often tell a different story. In my recent interview with Ingram, he laid out a rigorous, research-backed framework for identifying, testing, and applying values—one that challenges some of the most common assumptions in leadership today.

At the core of the problem is a simple but uncomfortable truth: many of the values people claim aren't truly their own.

"To start, recognize that values can be aspirational," Ingram told me. "My own top value is 'inner peace.' I'm not sure I have ever achieved inner peace, but I know I want to; that makes it my value. The trap is claiming a value not because we truly want it, but because others admire it."

That distinction—between aspiration

and social signaling—is where clarity begins. According to Ingram, the only reliable way to separate authentic values from borrowed ones is to confront trade-offs directly.

"To avoid that trap, force yourself to confront trade-offs," he said. "Would you rather work on a project that allowed you to be creative, or one that allowed you to help people? Imagine the visceral experience of making one choice over the other. Our true values feel better to us than the alternatives, and once we recognize that, we are more willing to own them."

This idea—that values are revealed through felt preference, not intellectual agreement—runs throughout his work. It also explains why leaders often struggle under pressure. When values are vague, they're easy to abandon.

By signing up, you agree to receive this newsletter, other updates about Forbes and its affiliates' offerings, our Terms of Service (including resolving disputes on an individual basis via arbitration), and you acknowledge our Privacy Statement. Forbes is protected by reCAPTCHA, and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.

"My research shows that leaders are more likely to act on their values, and resist pressure to compromise when those values are clear and salient," Ingram explained. "Clarify your top values, keep the list handy, and consult it when you



feel pressure to compromise."

Clarity, in this context, is not philosophical. It's operational. Ingram advises people to move beyond generalities and define their values with precision, then rank them. Without that ranking, difficult decisions become guesswork.

"Most people have a vague awareness of one or two values," he said. "The ideal is to find the exact words that capture your five to eight top values and rank them by importance. Having the right words allows you to access the power of values for motivation, resilience, wellbeing, and ethics. Having the ranking allows you to make hard choices in a way that is more satisfying."

That emphasis on language may seem surprising, but Ingram ties it directly to neuroscience.

"Values are part of embodied cognition, the truth that what we think is intertwined with what we feel physically," he said. "Your most powerful values are the words you attach to your strongest positive experiences, your body's response to

an ideal situation." In other words, the right word doesn't just describe a value—it activates it.

For busy professionals, Ingram offers a practical shortcut: reflection. It's a deceptively simple method that surfaces values through lived experience rather than abstract reasoning.

"I'd recommend reflection because it's a simple, reliable way to surface values through personally significant experiences," he said. "Think of your most satisfying experience at work in the last year. What was present in that situation that made it so satisfying for you? What else? Now, think of the project that's currently most important to you. What does that project represent that explains why it is so important to you? What else? Values are the principles we use to judge what is good, bad, or important. So, the 'whys' behind good, bad, and important experiences are values."

Once values are defined, they can be applied with surprising rigor—especially in major decisions. Ingram suggests a scoring approach that brings structure to what is often treated as intuition.

"Score each option against your top values," he said. "Imagine choosing Job A; to what extent do you anticipate each of your top values being satisfied? Job B? That score is a strong predictor of how satisfied you will ultimately be with the choice."

That predictive power is not theoretical. Ingram's research suggests that val-

ues alignment is one of the strongest drivers of job satisfaction—far more than compensation.

"Most executives can recall a job where they were well paid and still dissatisfied," he noted. "If they still insist that compensation drives job satisfaction, I tell them of my research on turnover in a medium-sized company that found that a two-standard-deviation increase in alignment between an individual's values and those of the organization had the same effect on the odds of staying as a 40% increase in pay."

For organizations, this raises a critical question: why do so many values initiatives fail?

Ingram is blunt about one common symptom. "Ask employees what the 'official' values are," he said. "If they can't tell you, the values are not shaping the culture. Even worse, if they roll their eyes, it's a sign the stated values are viewed with cynicism."

The difference between performative values and effective ones comes down to resonance and reinforcement.

"Company values translate into positive cultures when two conditions are met," he explained. "First, the values must resonate with employees. Ideally, they look at the company values and say, 'those feel like my values, even if the wording is different.' Second, the values are made concrete by translating them into expected behaviors, and building them into feedback, hiring, and promo-

tion decisions." That alignment doesn't happen by accident. It requires a process that blends leadership intent with employee input.

"The ideal process to define organizational values is both top-down and bottom-up," Ingram said. "Top-down from the strategy, which clarifies what the organization must do to succeed. Bottom-up from the employees' own values, which should be documented as a source of guidance as to what organizational values will resonate with employees. And, although top leaders are responsible for the final choice, employees should be asked which value statements they think are best (more true, more useful) for the organization. This gives employees a voice, not a vote, and it is a key input for producing organizational values that will be accepted and implemented."

Taken together, Ingram's paradigm re-frames values from soft rhetoric into hard discipline. It challenges leaders to replace assumption with evidence, and aspiration with clarity.

The deeper implication is hard to ignore: if values can be defined, tested, and measured this precisely, then misalignment is not a mystery—it's a choice. And in a world where pressure is constant and trade-offs are unavoidable, the leaders who thrive won't be the ones with the most impressive value statements, but the ones who know, with unusual precision, what they are—and aren't—willing to stand for. (Courtesy: Forbes)

Directorate of Geology & Mining Recruitment 2026 – 11 Assistant Geologist Posts

Assam Public Service Commission (APSC) has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 11 Assistant Geologist vacancy in the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam under the Mines and Minerals Department. Candidates looking for Geology Jobs in Assam, Mining Jobs, etc may apply for these posts through online mode.

Minimum educational qualification for these posts are Post Graduate degree in geology or applied geology. Last date submission of application is 15th July 2026.

Assam Geology and Mining Recruitment Details:-

Name of post: Assistant Geologist in the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam

Name of department: Mines and Minerals Department, Assam

No of posts: 11 posts

Category-wise vacancy:-

UR: 8 OBC/MOBC: 1 SC: 1 STP: 1

Scale of Pay: Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 1,10,000/- Grade Pay: Rs. 12,700/- Pay Band -4

Educational Qualification: Candidate must have at least Second Class (45%) in: M.Sc. in Geology, M.Sc. in Applied Geology, M.Sc. Tech in Applied Geology, M.Sc. Tech in Applied Geology and Integrated M.Sc. Tech in Applied Geology from any University or Institution recognized by the Government.

Age Limit for Geology & Mining Recruitment

Age Limit: The candidates should not be less than 21 years of age and not more than 38 years of age as on 01/01/2026.

Age Relaxation: The category-wise age relaxation is as mentioned below.

SC: 5 years

ST: 5 years

OBC/ MOBC: 3 years

PwBD: 10 years

For more details pl read the official notification/s.

Other Criteria

Citizenship: Candidates must be Indian Citizens as defined in Articles 5 to 8 of the Constitution of India.

Residency:

(i) The candidate must be a permanent resident of Assam.

(ii) The candidate must produce PRC issued in Assam for educational purpose/ Employment Exchange Registration certificate as proof of residency along with the online application form.

Employment Exchange Registration: Candidates must be registered themselves in any of the employment exchanges of Assam.

Small Family Norms: The candidates have to submit a declaration regarding "The Small Family Norms" in Form-A at the time of applying for the post.

Application Fee:

General/EWS: 297.20

OBC/MOBC: 197.20

SC/ST/BPL: 47.20

PwBD: 47.20

Payment Mode: Online

How to Apply for Directorate of Geology & Mining, Assam Recruitment?

Interested and eligible candidates may apply online for these posts by visiting at official recruitment portal of Assam Public Service Commission. They may follow below mentioned steps .

Scroll down, go to Important Web-Links section .

Click on Online Application Form link .

A new webpage will be opened.

Enter all your personal and educational details as required .

Upload your passport sized photograph and signature and other required documents.

Pay the application fee as per your category and at the end click on submit button .

Don't forget to take a print of submitted application form .

Important Dates of Mines and Minerals Department Recruitment 2026

Starting date of submission of online application: 16th June 2026

Last date of submission of online application: 15th July 2026

Central Bank of India Apprentice Recruitment 2026 – 4500 Posts, Online Apply

Name of Post: Apprentice
No of Posts: 4500 posts
Qualification: Graduate
Age Limit: 20 to 28 Years
Application Fee: Rs. 236/- to Rs. 944/-
Start Date: 12th June 2026
Last Date: 22nd June 2026

Central Bank of India Apprentice Recruitment 2026

Central Bank of India has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 4500 Apprentice Posts under Apprentices Act, 1961 and as per Apprenticeship policy of the Bank. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online here.

Minimum educational qualification is to be a graduate and last date of submission of application is 22nd June 2026.

Central Bank of India Recruitment Details

Name of post: Apprentice
No of Training Seats: 4500 seats
No of seats @ Assam: 118 seats

Category-wise vacancy:

SC: 701 # ST: 393 # OBC: 1049 # EWS: 454 # UR: 1903

Duration of training: Period of engagement shall be of 12 months.

Registration: Candidates Registered on NATS portal are eligible to apply.

Stipend/Benefits: The apprentices are eligible for a stipend of Rs 15,000/- per month for the engagement period of one year. The apprentices are not eligible for any other allowances/benefits.

Assessment and Certification: After the completion of apprenticeship training, apprentices may need to go through an assessment test. The certificate will be awarded as per prevailing guidelines.

Eligibility Criteria

Age Limit: Age must not below 20 years and Not above 28 years as on 31.05.2026 i.e. Candidates must have been born not earlier than 31.05.1998 and not later than 31.05.2006 (both days inclusive).

Age Relaxation: The category-wise age relaxation is as mentioned below.

Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe: 5 years

Other Backward Classes: 3 years

PwBD (UR/EWS): 10 Years

PwBD (OBC): 13 years

PwBD (SC/ST): 15 years

Educational Qualification: Must have a Degree (Graduation) in any discipline from a recognized University by the Govt. of India or any equivalent qualifications recognized as such by the Central Government.

Local language proficiency: The candidates applying for training seats of a particular state, should be proficient (reading, writing, speaking, and understanding) in any one of the specified local/official languages of that State, as mentioned in the official notification.

Application Fee

Application/Examination/Intimation fee to be remitted by all eligible applicants to the scrutinizing/examining body deputed by the Bank is as under (GST @ 18% extra will be charged on application fee). Fee is to be paid through online mode.

Category	Fee
PWBD/ Transgender	Rs. 236/-
SC/ ST	Rs. 236/-
General/EWS/OBC (Female)	Rs. 708/-
General/EWS/OBC (Male)	Rs. 944/-

How to Apply for Central Bank of India Recruitment ?

Interested and eligible candidates may apply online for these vacancy by visiting official apprenticeship portal. Candidates may follow below mentioned steps to apply online.

Scroll down, go to Important Web-Links section.

Click on the "Online Application Form" and complete the registration process by clicking "New Registration".

In the next stage, click on "Online Application Form" Link and Login.

Fill your all personal and educational details and upload necessary documents.

At the end, pay the application fee and submit the form.

Don't forget to take a print out of the application form.

Important Dates of Central Bank of India Vacancy 2026

Starting date for submission of application: 12th June 2026

Last date for submission of application: 22nd June 2026

Date Of Online Examination (Tentative): 1st week of July 2026

The selection process of Apprentice posts under Central Bank of India consists of following two stages: MCQ type Online Examination and Test of Local Language.

Online Examination

The structure of online written examination would be as follows:

Section	Questions	Marks	Duration
General / Financial Awareness	20	20	
Quantitative & Reasoning Aptitude	20	20	
Computer Knowledge	20	20	
General English	20	20	
Central Bank of India Products & Services	20	20	
Total	100	100	60 minutes

Note: There will be no negative marks for wrong answers in the Objective tests. Test of Local Language

The test for knowledge of specified opted local language will be conducted as a part of selection process. It will be conducted after qualifying the online examination. Candidates who fail to qualify this test may not be engaged for apprentice. However, candidates who produce 10th or 12th standard mark sheet having studied the specified opted local language of the State will not be required to undergo the language test.

SSC CGL Recruitment 2026 – Online Apply for 12256 Posts

Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has released the official notification of Combined Graduate Level (CGL) Examination 2026 for the recruitment of approximately 12256 Group B and Group C posts in different Ministries/ Departments/ Organizations of Government of India and various Constitutional Bodies/ Statutory Bodies/ Tribunals, etc.

SSC CGL Recruitment Details

Name of examination: Combined Graduate Level Examination, 2026

Name of posts: Various Group B and Group C Posts (Assistant Audit Officer, Assistant Accounts Officer, Assistant Section Officer, Inspector, Sub Inspector, Inspector of Posts, Statistical Investigator, Office Superintendent, Auditor, Accountant, Tax Assistant, Postal Assistant/ Sorting Assistant, etc)

No of posts: 12,256 posts (approximately)

Pay Scale: Pay Level 4 to Pay Level 8 (Pay Scale of ₹ 25500 to 81100 till ₹ 47600 to 151100, as per level of posts)

Helpline No: 1800 309 3063 (Toll Free)

Eligibility Criteria of SSC CGL Recruitment

Age Limit: There are four categories of age ranges: 18 to 27 years, 20 to 30 years, 18 to 30 years and 18 to 30 years.

Age Relaxation: Category-wise age relaxation is as mentioned below

SC/ST: 5 years # OBC: 3 years # PwD (Unreserved): 10 years

PwD (OBC): 13 years # PwD (SC/ST): 15 years

Educational Qualification:-

Junior Statistical Officer:

Bachelor's Degree in any subject from a recognized University or Institute with at least 60% Marks in Mathematics at 12th standard level;

Or

Bachelor's Degree in any subject with Statistics as one of the subjects at degree level.

Statistical Investigator Grade-II:

Bachelor degree in Statistics or Mathematics or Economics or Demography or Population Studies or Operation Research or Information Technology or Computer Science or Computer Engineering or Computer Technology or Computer Application or Data Science or Artificial Intelligence from a recognized University or recognized Institute.

All Other Posts:

Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University or Institute.

The candidates who have appeared in their final year of their graduation can also apply, however they must possess Essential qualification as on 01.08.2026.

Application Fee of SSC CGL Exam

General/ OBC: Rs. 100/-

SC/ ST/ Women/Ex-Servicemen: Nil

Payment Mode: Through Debit/ Credit Card/SBI Challan/SBI Net Banking

Exam Centres in North Eastern Region (NER)

Here is the list of examination centres in North Eastern Region states:

Itanagar (5001) # Dibrugarh (5102)

Guwahati (Dispur) (5105)

Jorhat (5107) # Silchar (5111) # Tezpur (5112)

Dimapur (5301)

Kohima (5302) # Shillong (5401) # Imphal (5501)

Churachandpur (5502)

Ukhrul (5503) # Agartala (5601) # Aizwal (5701)

How to Apply for SSC Recruitment ?

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

Scroll down, go to Important Web-Links section .

Click on the "Online Application Form" and complete the registration process.

In the next stage, click on "Online Application Form" Link and Login.

Fill your all personal and educational details and upload necessary documents.

At the end, pay the application fee as per your category and submit the form.

Don't forget to take a print out of the application form .

Important Dates of SSC CGL Recruitment 2026

Starting date of submission of online application: 21st May 2026

Last date of submission of online application: 22nd June 2026

Date of SSC CGL Tier I Examination: August-September, 2026

Dates of Tier-II Examination (CBE): December, 2026

Scheme of SSC CGL Examination

The Computer Based Examination will be conducted in two tiers as indicated below:

Tier-I

Tier-II

Marks scored by candidates in Computer Based Examinations, if conducted in multiple shifts, will be normalized by using the formula published by the Commission. There shall be no provision for re-evaluation/ re-checking of the scores of any stage/ Tier(s) of the examination.

Scheme of Tier-I Examination

The Scheme of Tier-I exam is as mentioned below.

Type of questions: Tier-I will consist of Objective Type, Multiple choice questions. The questions will be set both in English & Hindi except for English Comprehension.

Negative marking: There will be a negative marking of 0.50 for each wrong answer.

Duration of exam: 1 hour (1 hour and 20 minutes for the candidates eligible for scribe as mentioned in the official notification).

Normalization of marks: Marks scored by candidates in Computer Based Examinations, if conducted in multiple shifts, will be normalized by using the formula published by the Commission vide Notice No: 1-1/2018-P&P-I dated 07-02-2019 and such normalized scores will be used to determine final merit and cut-off marks.

Syllabus of CGL Tier-I Exam

Subject	No. of MCQs	Marks
General Intelligence and Reasoning	25	50
General Awareness	25	50
Quantitative Aptitude	25	50
English Comprehension	25	50

Scheme of Tier-II Examination

Tier-II will include conducting of Paper-I & Paper-II in separate shift(s)/ day(s). # Paper-I is compulsory for all the posts.

Paper-II will be for only those candidates who apply for the posts of Junior Statistical Officer (JSO) in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and Statistical Investigator Grade-II in the office of Registrar General of India (M/o Home Affairs) and who are shortlisted in Tier-I for these Posts.

For more details about Tier-II Examination, pl check official notification.

NHI</

SC dismisses Natarajan's plea challenging rejection of nomination for RS election

NEW DELHI, June 12: The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed Congress leader Meenakshi Natarajan's plea against rejection of her nomination papers for the Rajya Sabha election from Madhya Pradesh while granting her liberty to raise the challenge in an election petition.

A bench comprising justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Atul S Chandurkar rejected the argument by senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Natarajan, that Article 32 can be invoked to cure "glaring and manifest" errors in the rejection of her nomination.

The top court said whenever an attempt has been made to invoke the jurisdiction of this court under Article 32, or that of the High Courts under Article 226, during the process of elections, it has repeatedly declined interference due to the constitutional mandate contained in Article 329(b) of the Constitution.

"If the court accepts arguments to find out glaring cases which are required to be interfered under Article 32/226, and the other sets of cases, where the rejection is not so improper prima facie to relegate them to election petitions, this court would be reading some prin-

ciple which is not provided for under Article 329.

"We are afraid, that any such interpretation that in some of the matters this court can interfere while leaving some others to avail the remedy of election tribunal cannot be encouraged," the bench said.

Article 329 of the Indian Constitution bars courts from interfering in electoral matters, ensuring elections proceed without judicial delays.

The apex court refused to accept Singhvi's submission that SC should intervene where the rejection of a nomination is ex facie illegal, manifestly arbitrary and demonstrably erroneous.

"To accept the petitioner's submission would amount to reading into the constitutional scheme an exception which has not been provided by the Constitution itself," it said.

The top court clarified that any observations made in this order concerning the basis of rejection of the petitioner's nomination have been made only for the purpose of considering the maintainability of the present proceedings.

"Nothing stated herein shall affect the rights and contentions of



the petitioner, or of any other person, in any election petition that may be filed before the competent High Court in accordance with law," the bench said.

At the outset, Singhvi submitted that the returning officer acted completely arbitrarily and referred to Section 33A of the Representation of the People Act and said only the criminal cases where charges have been framed by the trial court need to be disclosed in the nomination papers.

Singhvi submitted that Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nagarika Suraksha Sanhita stipulates that

the potential accused has to be sent a notice before taking cognisance on a private complaint.

The senior lawyer argued that that Natarajan has only received the notice under Section 223, and the court has neither taken cognisance on the complaint nor charges have been framed.

Without cognisance, there is no criminal proceeding in the eyes of law, he said.

At this juncture, the top court remarked that a court issues summons in the case only after applying its mind and finding a prima facie case.

Singhvi submitted that good governance requires that electoral processes be allowed to function according to law.

"The Election Commission's role is to facilitate elections, not to frustrate them. Equally, judicial review of an order passed by the Election Commission should facilitate the democratic process rather than impede it," he said.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the returned candidate, submitted that the right to contest an election has consistently been held by this Court to be a statutory right and it is not a fundamental right.

Rohatgi questioned the maintainability of the plea under Article 32 of the Constitution and said Article 329 creates a constitutional bar "The effect of Article 329 is that the remedies under Articles 32 and 226 stand excluded in matters relating to elections," he said.

Rohatgi said the constitutional scheme is that any challenge must ordinarily await the completion of the election process and be raised through the election law mechanism.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the MP government, submitted that the state govern-

ment was supporting the other contesting candidate.

Senior advocate DS Naidu, appearing for the Election Commission, referred to section 100 of The Representation of the People Act, 1951, and said the Election Tribunal has exclusive jurisdiction to deal with the election disputes.

It was submitted that non-disclosure of information required under Clause 5 of Form 26 would make the affidavit incomplete and it justifies rejection of the nomination.

An order by the Rajya Sabha election returning officer Arvind Sharma stated that it was found after examining available documents that Natarajan submitted an incomplete affidavit, omitting a court complaint in Form 26 submitted with her nomination.

According to a Madhya Pradesh assembly official, the ruling BJP candidate, Mahesh Kewat, filed a complaint with the returning officer alleging that Natarajan had not mentioned in her affidavit a case registered against her in Telangana.

After the scrutiny of papers, the returning officer on Thursday declared all the three BJP candidates elected unopposed. (PTI)

ED issues fresh summons to former Kerala CM's daughter in PMLA case

KOCHI, June 12: The ED, which is probing a money laundering case involving minerals company CMRL, has issued a fresh summons to Veena T, daughter of former Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, directing her to appear for questioning on June 17, sources said on Friday. The ED had earlier asked Veena to appear before its Kochi unit on Friday.

However, following an email from Veena seeking more time, citing health issues, the agency issued a fresh summons, sources said.

The ED has asked Veena to appear at its Kochi office at 10 am on June 17, along with relevant documents related to transactions involving her IT firm, Exalogic Solutions Private Limited.

The probe pertains to allegations that Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd (CMRL) made payments amounting to ₹ 2.78 crore to Exalogic without receiving any services in return.

According to the ED, another company, Empower India Capital Investments Private Limited (EICPL), operated by CMRL Managing Director Sasidharan Kartha, had extended loans worth Rs 50 lakh to Exalogic despite the company allegedly failing to make timely repayments.

The agency has alleged that Veena and the management of CMRL, led by Kartha, generated "proceeds of crime" through these transactions.

The ED registered a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on the basis of a prosecution complaint filed by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) before a court in Ernakulam in April 2025.

The SFIO is the investigation arm of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. (PTI)

Three members of a family killed, two critically injured in Govindpuri building fire

NEW DELHI, June 12: Three members of a family, including a speech-impaired woman, were killed while two others were critically injured after a fire broke out at a five-storey residential building in southeast Delhi's Govindpuri area on Friday, police said.

The blaze is suspected to have been caused by a short circuit, they said.

The deceased were identified as Pankaj (28), his maternal grandmother Sushila Devi (70) and his sister Soni (20), all residents of the third floor of the building, police said.

Pankaj's other sister Moni (18) and his mother Guddi Devi (50) sustained critical injuries and are undergoing treatment.

Residents said around nine families lived in the building, but many of them were away on vacation at the time of the incident. Combined with the swift response of neighbours and local residents, this helped prevent a higher death toll, they claimed.

A PCR call regarding the blaze was received at 2.31 am. "A coordinated evacuation effort was carried out as heavy smoke engulfed the building, trapping several residents inside. Eight occupants were rescued from the structure and shifted to Safdarjung Hospital and AIIMS Trauma Centre for treatment," DCP (Southeast) Hemant Tiwari said.

Police said that preliminary inquiry suggests that the fire may have originated due to an electrical short circuit on the ground floor of the building and at least six two wheelers, including motorcycle, scooters and bicycle caught fire.

Local residents rushed to the spot to help rescue the people who got trapped inside the building before emergency services could reach the spot.

"Many were recording videos when I shouted at them to stop recording and bring buckets from their houses so that people who got trapped could be saved," Renu Bhutani, a local resident told PTI.

Bhutani said she and her son, along with several others, brought

buckets from their homes and tried to douse the flames which erupted on the ground floor and spread to six-seven two-wheelers. As thick black smoke engulfed the residential building, local residents claimed that they risked their lives, breaking doors, climbing adjoining structures and using makeshift arrangements to rescue trapped occupants before firefighters arrived.

The tragedy claimed three lives, but residents said the toll could have been much higher had neighbours not launched immediate rescue efforts in the densely packed locality, where buildings stand almost wall-to-wall and lanes are barely wide enough for emergency access.

Pawan, a local shopkeeper who rushed to the spot after hearing cries for help, said smoke from the fire was rapidly moving upwards through the building.

"I reached the spot immediately. Dense smoke was billowing towards the upper floors. Some people were brought out from the front side while others were rescued through the rear. Residents tied ropes and even sarees to help people climb down," he said.

According to residents, the narrow lanes and closely built houses became crucial during the rescue operation. People placed wooden planks between neighbouring terraces and climbed across rooftops to reach those trapped inside.

Several residents also used iron cutters to break grills and create escape routes. Others climbed onto adjoining buildings and poured water on themselves before entering smoke-filled areas in repeated attempts to rescue victims.

Pawan said one of the major obstacles was a locked terrace door. "The terrace gate was locked. If it had been opened in time, perhaps the outcome would have been different. Fire and local residents managed to bring out the elderly grandmother and tried to revive her by giving CPR," he said.

Residents said Pankaj's family shifted to the building nearly two years ago. His mother is unable to speak and communicates largely through gestures. (PTI)

Dissident TMC faction to approach LS Speaker, seek recognition as 'real TMC'

NEW DELHI, June 12: Dissident TMC MPs will meet Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Monday to seek recognition as the "real TMC", rebel MP Jagadish Chandra Barma Basunia said on Friday, and claimed that 19 members are currently backing the faction. Basunia, the MP from Cooch Behar and among the lawmakers seeking to support the NDA in the Lok Sabha, told PTI Videos that the group has already submitted a representation to the Speaker.

"We have submitted the letter... On Monday, we will go to the Speaker and stake our claim to form the real TMC parliamentary group. We will

ask the Speaker to give recognition to our claim," Basunia said. He said that the process to collect signatures began on June 8 and that 19 MPs had signed the representation so far. Sources said the timing of the meeting has not been finalised yet. Basunia hit back at TMC MP Kirti Azad over his remarks that dissident MPs were being given money to shift loyalty, and said, "Kirti Azad is a liar. This is not right to say. We are 19 MPs and he is also an MP... it is not right to make such allegations".

Asked about senior Trinamool Congress leader Kalyan Banerjee's remarks on Abhishek

Banerjee, Basunia said, "He is saying the right thing. We support Kalyan ji's statement".

The TMC plunged into a crisis following the party's defeat in the West Bengal assembly elections and rebellion by a large section of its legislators. The turmoil later spread to Parliament, with dissident MPs claiming the support of more than 20 Lok Sabha members.

On Thursday, Rajya Sabha MP Prakash Chik Baraik became the third TMC parliamentarian to resign from both the party and the Upper House this week, after Sukhendu Sekhar Ray and Sushmita Dev. (PTI)

AI crash: Kin of 15 victims decline belongings; ₹ 1 cr ex gratia paid to 91 pc families

AHMEDABAD, June 12: Families of 15 of the 260 persons killed in last year's Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad have declined to collect the personal belongings of their loved ones, the Tata Group, which owns the airline, said on Friday.

Ex-gratia payments of ₹ 1 crore have been disbursed to 91 per cent of the families of the deceased, with remaining cases primarily constituting of situations in which documentation is incomplete, or where families have declined to accept payment, it said in a statement.

Air India has provided an interim payment of ₹ 25 lakh each to the families of the deceased to help address immediate financial needs. Interim compensation has been paid to families of 96 per cent of the deceased. The remaining cases are primarily those where documentation is incomplete or where there are ongoing family disputes, it said.

In terms of personal belongings of the deceased, the process of returning them was carried out "with utmost respect, dignity and accuracy," the Tata Group said.

Over 22,000 personal belongings were preserved and listed and families received information about each of these items through email, and a dedicated website was established, it added.

"Families of 15 of the deceased have declined to take the personal belongings," it said.

"Of the associated personal belongings pertaining to 187 deceased, personal belongings have been returned for 139 deceased in India and in the UK, with remaining cases primarily constituting situations in which documentation is incomplete, or where families have declined to accept personal belongings," it said.

Associated personal belongings are items that could be confidently linked to an indi-

vidual based on documentation, labelling, location of recovery, or verified identifiers. Each of these items has undergone multiple layers of checking to ensure that the final set being returned to relatives is accurate and complete, the company said. "Of the unassociated personal belongings pertaining to 77 deceased, personal belongings have been returned to families of 60 deceased in India and in the UK, with remaining cases primarily constituting of situations in which documentation is incomplete, or where families have declined to accept personal belongings," it further said.

Unassociated personal belongings are those that could not be directly linked to any specific individual. These may include belongings without names, or objects recovered in a manner that did not allow us to link them conclusively to an individual.

Belongings have been handed over physically and personally in a manner that honours families' grief and privacy. The process has been carried out after taking appropriate regulatory clearances, the Tata Group said.

Of the 25 digital devices recovered, 16 have been returned to the respective families, with remaining cases primarily constituting situations in which documentation is incomplete, or where families have declined to accept them, it added.

The company said the ex gratia of Rs 1 crore was announced as part of Tata group's philanthropic commitments and went beyond legal compensation requirements.

It further said 94 per cent of those who were injured on the ground have either got one-time full and final compensation or interim compensation, based on the nature of injury incurred and any loss of livelihood. The remaining individuals collected a form from the helpdesk after the crash, but have since not submitted them. (PTI)

Modi, Macron to inaugurate Bharat Innovates 2026 in France tomorrow

NEW DELHI, June 12: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron will jointly inaugurate Bharat Innovates 2026 in Nice on June 14, the Ministry of Education said on Friday.

The event, being organised at the Palais des Expositions de Nice, will feature 120 Indian innovators, around 15 higher education institutions (HEIs) and over 500 investors, including leading corporate and venture capital firms, along with global CEOs and industry leaders, the ministry said.

"The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, along with the President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron, is scheduled to jointly inaugurate Bharat Innovates 2026 on 14th June 2026 at Palais des Expositions de Nice, France," it said.

Organised by the Government of India, Bharat Innovates 2026 is an initiative of the Union Ministry of Education.

The event will cover 13 key sectors, including advanced computing, semiconductors, space technology, biotechnology, energy, healthcare and manufacturing, highlighting India's growing innovation and deep-tech ecosystem.



Prime Minister Modi is expected to be accompanied by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Ajay Kumar Sood, who headed the Technical Oversight Committee that selected the 120 start-ups from India for Bharat Innovates 2026, is also expected to be present.

"The maiden edition of Bharat Innovates 2026 will showcase India's deep

tech innovators and start-ups to the global investors and industry in Nice," the ministry said.

The event is expected to serve as a high-impact platform for advancing innovation-led partnerships between India and global stakeholders.

Several key announcements and outcomes are expected during the event, including strengthened collaboration frameworks in deep tech, research and development, start-up scaling and cross-

border investment facilitation.

The ministry shared that the event will also highlight new avenues for institutional partnerships between Indian and French innovation ecosystems, with a focus on co-development, technology exchange and acceleration of emerging technologies.

"Bharat Innovates is designed to connect participating innovators and institutions with investors, corporations, universities, research organisations and government stakeholders for investments, technology validation, co-development opportunities, pilot projects, manufacturing partnerships, create pathways for technology transfers and absorption, market entry and international scaling of Indian innovations," the ministry said.

According to the ministry, Bharat Innovates 2026 is expected to significantly deepen India's engagement with global innovation networks and reinforce its position as a leading hub for technology-driven growth and entrepreneurship.

It is being organised under the aegis of the India-France Year of Innovation, which was inaugurated jointly by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France in February 2026 in Mumbai. (PTI)

ADVERTISEMENT NO. 01 (A) OF 2026

Applications are invited in **STANDARD FORM** from the suitable desirous candidates for engagement of **41 (Forty One) nos. of Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs)**, who are local residents of Karbi Anglong district along with documents related to Educational Qualification, Caste Certificate (if any), two numbers of Passport Size Photographs etc. who are willing to serve as a Para Legal Volunteer (PLV) at Karbi Anglong district under District Legal Services Authority, Karbi Anglong. The applicants should have the following qualifications to apply for the selection of PLVS-

1. The applicant must be a citizen of India and a local resident of Karbi Anglong District.
2. The applicant should have passed at least matriculation, possess the capacity for overall comprehension, and have a mindset to assist the needy in society. The applicant must demonstrate compassion, empathy, and concern for the upliftment of marginalized and weaker sections of society. They must also have an unflinching commitment to the cause, which should be reflected in their work.

Vacancy Details :-

Name of the Vacancy	No. of Post	Remarks
Para Legal Volunteer (PLV)	41 Nos.	Out of 41 nos. of vacancy, 2 nos. of vacancy are reserved for Persons with Physical Disabilities.

Eligible applicants may belong to the following groups:-

- a. Teachers (including retired teachers)
 - b. Retired Government servants and senior citizens
 - c. M.S.W students and teachers
 - d. Anganwadi Workers
 - e. Doctors/Physicians
 - f. Students and Law Students (till they enrol as lawyers)
 - g. Members of non-political, service-oriented NGOs and Clubs
 - h. Members of Women Neighbourhood Groups, Maitri Sanghams and other Self-Help Groups including of marginalized/vulnerable groups
 - i. Educated Prisoners with good behaviour serving long-term sentences in prisons.
 - j. Spouses or adult children of currently serving defence personnel
 - k. Any other person whom the District Legal Services Authority deems fit to be Identified as a PLVS.
3. The works of PLV do not carry any salary, remuneration or wages except honorarium fixed by the National Legal Services Authority/Assam State Legal Services authority from time to time, as per rules.
 4. Preferably the PLVs shall be selected, who do not look up to the income they derive from their services as PLV, but they should have mind to assist the needy in the society coupled with the compassion, empathy and concern for upliftment of marginalized and weaker sections of the society with commitment to work for free legal services.
 5. The filled up application should reach the office of the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Karbi Anglong on or before **30/06/2026 (till 5 P.M.)**. **The applicants must submit their mobile/contact number in their application for further Communication.**
 6. Incomplete applications will be rejected. No applications will be entertained after the last date fixed.
 7. The decisions of the Selection Committee in short listing the number of candidates for interview and selection of PLV shall be final.
 8. In case of any objection regarding selection of PLV's the decision of Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Karbi Anglong shall be final and binding to all concerned.
 9. List of shortlisted eligible candidates for interview, if any, will be notified in the Official Notice Board as well as uploaded in the Official Judiciary website of Karbi Anglong District i.e. <https://karbianglong.dcourts.gov.in/> for interview. No other mode of communication will be made to the candidates.
 10. Canvassing directly or indirectly will disqualify the candidate.
 11. No TA/DA will be provided for appearing in the interview.
 12. The District Judge-cum-Chairman, DLSA, Karbi Anglong reserves the right to alter/modify or change any terms or conditions including selection criteria etc. mentioned in the advertisement and in such an eventuality due notice thereof will be published at the discretion of the undersigned only via the official website of Karbi Anglong District Judiciary.
 13. All other condition(s) which are not specially provided herein shall be decided by this Authority time to time.

Sd/-
District Judge
-cum-
Chairman, DLSA
Karbi Anglong

DIPR /D/HLT/11/13-Jun-26

Modi's 12-year tenure laid strong foundation for Viksit Bharat, say Nagaland BJP leaders

KOHIMA, June 12: Nagaland BJP leaders on Friday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for completing 12 years in office, describing the period as an era of transformative governance marked by welfare delivery, infrastructure development, economic growth and India's rising global stature.

Addressing a press conference at the party head office here, Nagaland BJP Legislature Party leader and Deputy Chief Minister Yanthungo Patton said Modi became the longest-serving elected PM in India's history on June 10, completing 4,399 consecutive days in office and surpassing the record of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Patton said the Modi government had dedicated the past 12 years to "trust, development and public welfare" and credited the PM's 'Nation First' approach for empowering youth, women and farmers while driving progress in infrastructure, digital innovation, social welfare, economic development and national security.

Highlighting key achievements of the NDA government, Patton said more than 81 crore people receive free foodgrains every month, over four crore houses have been



constructed under the PM Awas Yojana and more than 10.5 crore rural households have been provided tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

He said over 32 crore women have opened Jan Dhan bank accounts, around three crore women have become 'Lakhpati Didis', nearly 10 crore toilets have been constructed, and more than 91 lakh self-help groups have been strengthened across the country.

According to Patton, over ₹ 40 lakh crore has been disbursed through the Mudra Loan Scheme, while thousands of startups have been supported through government initiatives.

He also cited health insurance coverage for more than 70 crore

people, direct income support exceeding ₹ 4.3 lakh crore under the PM-KISAN scheme and large-scale investments in roads, railways, metro networks and airports.

The Deputy Chief Minister further stated that India had emerged as the world's fastest-growing major economy and was on course to become the third-largest economy globally by 2027.

Congratulating the PM on behalf of party workers in the state, Patton expressed confidence that Modi would continue to lead the country towards the goal of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'.

Minister for Tourism and Higher Education and former BJP president, Temjen Imna Along, de-

scribed Modi's 12-year tenure as the foundation of a developed and self-reliant India.

Along said the period since 2014 represented not only a change in government but a broader resurgence in national consciousness, giving new direction to India's social, economic, cultural and global identity.

The minister further credited Modi with advancing social justice and inclusive development through welfare measures for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward classes, minorities, persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

Along said India's national security had been strengthened through a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism, enhanced border security and increased self-reliance in the defence sector.

"The last 12 years have written a new story of India's capabilities, resolve and achievements," Along said, expressing confidence that under Modi's leadership India would achieve its vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047 and emerge as a global example of progress, democracy and human welfare. (PTI)

2 militant outfits launch rail-road blockade, demand implementation of ₹ 250 cr package

AGARTALA, June 12: Members of the two militant organisations, which had signed a peace agreement two years ago, launched a 72-hour rail-road blockade in West Tripura district on Friday, demanding the implementation of a ₹ 250 crore rehabilitation package announced by the Centre.

The blockade by the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) disrupted vehicular movement on national highways and train services, an official said.

"We had a meeting with Tribal Welfare Minister Bikash Debbarma yesterday where we reached some positive outcomes, but two important demands were not fulfilled, prompting us to launch the rail-road blockade", NLFT leader Prasenjit Debbarma told reporters at Hatai Katar in West Tripura district.

The government has engaged an agency to implement the rehabilitation package for the surrendered

militants, which "violates the main spirit of the peace accord," he claimed. A Memorandum of Settlement was signed, in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, among the Centre, the Tripura government and the two organisations in September 2024.

"The process of screening our members to extend benefits under the rehabilitation package is very slow. We demanded that the process be expedited at the earliest", the NLFT leader said.

He appealed to the Centre and the state government to consider the demands of the organisations because the blockade causes inconvenience to the people.

"We are waiting for a call from the Centre and the state government for an amicable solution to our longstanding problem", he said. The train services were badly affected, while vehicular movement came to a standstill on the Assam-Agartala and Agartala-Kamalpur national highways. (PTI)

Tripura attracted ₹ 30,000 cr investment proposals last year with ₹ 8,000 cr projects executed: CM

AGARTALA, June 12: Tripura attracted investment proposals worth more than ₹ 30,000 crore in the last year, with projects exceeding ₹ 8,000 crore already implemented, Chief Minister Manik Saha said.

Saha also said his government has adopted a long-term vision, 'Lakshya 2047', aligned with the national goal of 'Viksit Bharat', to ensure an inclusive, prosperous and healthy future for the northeastern state.

Speaking at the governing council meeting of NITI Aayog, the premier policy think tank of the Centre, the chief minister on Thursday said Tripura has doubled its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in the last six years and emerged as India's third fully literate state.

"The state has attracted investment proposals worth more than Rs 30,000 crore in the last year, with projects exceeding ₹ 8,000 crore already grounded," Saha said.

Major companies, including Bharti Airtel, are establishing strategic facilities such as a data centre in Agartala to serve Eastern India, he said.

The chief minister also highlighted the state's efforts to em-

power women and the youth.

"Around 4.96 lakh rural women are actively engaged in 55,676 self-help groups (SHGs). The 'Samridhi' (welfare scheme for SHGs) campaign has accelerated credit flow to women-led SHGs and enterprises, while efforts are underway to integrate SHG-based micro-enterprises into the formal MSME ecosystem," Saha said.

He said the state has also achieved complete digitalisation and paperless functioning across administrative work, from the cabinet level to gram panchayats.

"The state has adopted a long-term vision, 'Lakshya 2047', aligned with the national goal of Viksit Bharat @ 2047, ensuring an inclusive, secure, prosperous, and healthy future for all citizens", he said.

Saha stated that medical education has also witnessed remarkable growth, with MBBS seats increasing from 225 to 550 and postgraduate seats from 85 to 196 in the past few years.

He said significant progress was also being made in tourism, with the development of the Mata Tripura Sundari Tourism Circuit and the Buddhist Circuit. (PTI)

Empowered women key to building developed India: CM Khandu

ITANAGAR, June 12: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Friday said women have emerged as leaders, entrepreneurs and equal partners in nation-building during the 12 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure, reflecting a significant shift in their role in society.

In a series of posts on X, Khandu said the Modi government has created unprecedented opportunities for women through initiatives aimed at promoting dignity, financial independence, entrepreneurship and political participation.

"For generations, Indian women carried the weight of families, often without the opportunities and recognition they deserved. Today, under the leadership of Modi, they are emerging as leaders, entrepreneurs, decision-makers and nation-builders," the chief minister said.

He said flagship initiatives such as Ujjwala, Jan Dhan and Mudra have expanded access to clean cooking fuel, financial inclusion and entrepreneurship, while the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam has opened new avenues for women's participation in the country's democratic process.

Khandu said the rise of women across sectors has become an integral part of India's development journey.

"The story of New India is incomplete without the story of its women. No longer confined by circumstance, they are shaping the future of the nation with confidence, dignity and determination," he said. (PTI)

Mizoram Congress accuses ZPM govt of failing to deliver on promises of transparency, reforms

AIZAWL, June 12: Mizoram's opposition party Congress on Friday launched a scathing attack on the ruling Zoram People's Movement (ZPM), accusing it of failing to deliver on its commitments of a clean and transparent government and system reforms.

Addressing a political session at the Congress Bhavan here, senior party leader Lalnunmawia Chuauango said the previous Mizo National Front (MNF) administration headed by Zoramthanga was rejected by the voters in the 2023 assembly polls because people were dissatisfied with its handling of public funds.

The ZPM came to power in the assembly polls after it promised transparent and accountable governance and administrative reforms, the state Congress vice president said.

"The ZPM, however, failed to deliver on those commitments and instead continued with the practices of the previous MNF government that it had then criticised," the former state chief secretary said.

He alleged that the practices of issuing tenders only after deciding who should receive contracts and excessive use of restricted tenders have continued and even intensified under the present ZPM administration.

Chuauango alleged that departmental work and contracts awarded through work supervisors to favoured individuals have become increasingly common. He further alleged that the ZPM



government has attempted to weaken anti-corruption mechanisms by changing provisions related to the Mizoram Lokayukta Act.

The Congress leader also accused the chief minister's office (CMO) of concentrating power to approve all restricted tenders and major contracts, which, according to him, could create more problems than improve governance.

Highlighting Mizoram's financial dependence on central funds, Chuauango said the state has benefited significantly from the Centre, receiving substantial funds every year for development.

He pointed out that Mizoram's Budget estimate for the 2026-27 fiscal stood at ₹ 17,496.91 crore, which is over ₹ 9,458 crore higher than the ₹ 8,038.39 crore estimate in the financial year 2016-17.

He said that, however, the state's own revenue contribution remains limited, with only ₹ 2,759.75 crore or less than 16 per cent of the total Budget, expected to come from the state's own tax revenues and other internal resources.

The remaining funds are largely sourced from the state's

share of central taxes, Finance Commission allocations, central grants and centrally sponsored schemes, he said.

Noting that Mizoram has been a major beneficiary of central tax devolution, the Congress leader said the state received the equivalent of ₹ 56,000 per person from the state's share of central taxes in 2025.

He also claimed that for every Rs 100 Mizoram contributes to the Centre in direct taxes, the state receives approximately ₹ 3,583 in return, making it a major beneficiary of central transfers.

"The chief minister and other ministers are only custodians of public money. The funds entrusted to them do not belong to them and must be used fairly and according to law. They cannot be used for personal gain or to favour selected individuals," Chuauango said.

He claimed Congress is committed to fighting corruption and establishing a government that ensures people receive their rightful benefits.

Despite repeated attempts, no ZPM leader could be contacted for comments. (PTI)

APIC reschedules hearing of 20 appeal and complaint cases

HT Correspondent
ITANAGAR, June 12: The Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) has rescheduled the hearing of 20 appeal and complaint cases that were earlier scheduled for July 6 and July 8 before State Information Commissioner Khojoley Thaley.

According to an official notification issued by the Commission, the hearings have been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances.

The cases fixed for July 6 will now be heard on July 13 at 10.30 am, while those listed for July 8 have been rescheduled to July 15 at 2 pm.

A total of 10 appeal cases, involving departments such as Panchayati Raj, Public Works, Higher and

Technical Education, Forest and Climate Change, and Public Health Engineering, have been listed for hearing on July 13.

Another 10 appeal and complaint cases pertaining to departments including Rural Works, Public Works, Power and Higher Education have been rescheduled for hearing on July 15.

The Commission has requested all appellants, complainants and respondents concerned to take note of the revised dates and appear accordingly.

The notification was issued by State Information Commissioner Khojoley Thaley and circulated by the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission, Itanagar.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER:: WEST KARBI ANGLONG:: HAMREN::

e-mail:- dc.westkarbianglong@gov.in
No.: WKAH/ASPBP/2025/83 Dated: 10/06/2026

NOTICE FOR RECRUITMENT

Applications are invited for temporary engagement of 1(One) no. of Fellow for Amri Development Block under Aspirational Block Programme, West Karbi Anglong, Assam for a period of 9 months.

Eligibility criteria:

- The candidate must be a citizen of India, preferably a resident of the state of Assam.
- Age limit: Shall not be less than 21 years and not more than 35 years as on 30th June 2026.
- Post graduate in any discipline from a recognized institution. Candidates with MSW degree will be given preference.

For the prescribed application form, detailed selection criteria, and full notification, applicants should visit the official district web portal at <https://westkarbianglong.assam.gov.in/>.

Sd/-
District Commissioner,
West Karbi Anglong, Hamren

Tony Koyu conferred Lummer Dai Literary Award 2026 at Pasighat ceremony

HT Correspondent
PASIGHAT, June 12: The Lummer Dai Literary Award 2026 was celebrated with literary fervour at IGJ Government Higher Secondary School in Pasighat, bringing together writers, intellectuals, students and literature enthusiasts to honour the legacy of renowned litterateur Lummer Dai and promote the literary traditions of Arunachal Pradesh.

The programme began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the chief guest, guest of honour, office-bearers of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS) and award recipient Tony Koyu.

The event featured Assamese and Hindi poetry recitations and literary presentations highlighting the contribution of Lummer Dai to the growth of indigenous literature in the state.

The highlight of the programme was the presentation of the prestigious Lummer Dai Literary Award 2026 to Tony Koyu in recognition of his contributions to literature and society.

Accepting the award, Koyu expressed gratitude and reaffirmed his commitment



to promoting literature, culture and intellectual discourse.

Several distinguished literary personalities, including Dr N Lego, Arak Megu, Maliyang Perme, Mading Pertin and Ato Lego, were also felicitated for their contributions to literature and cultural preservation.

Addressing the gathering, former Chief Minister Mukut Mithi underscored the role of literature in preserving indigenous knowledge systems, strengthening cultural identity and shaping a progressive society.

Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering lauded the efforts of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society in nurturing literary talent

and providing platforms for creative expression.

Earlier, APLS leaders, in their welcome and keynote addresses, stressed the need to document oral traditions, encourage young writers and preserve the linguistic heritage of Arunachal Pradesh.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by APLS Executive President Batem Pertin, followed by a community lunch.

The event served as a celebration of literature, culture and identity, reaffirming the importance of the written word in connecting the past, present and future of Arunachal Pradesh.

ASSAM POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED

Registered Office: Bijulee Bhawan, Paltanbazar, Guwahati-781 001, Assam
CIN: U40101AS2003SGC007239

Tel.No.: 0361-2739502, Fax No.03612739546/22

Extension Notice

SHORT TENDER NOTICE NO. APGCL/KLHEP/GM/Tech-10(E)/2026-27/21(E) Dated: 11/06/2026
The tender invited vide Notice No.: APGCL/MSHEP/GM/Tech-10(E)/2026-27/21 dtd. 20/05/2026 has been extended as follows: -

"Overhauling of 03 nos. of 4000 KVA 3.3/33 KV Generator Transformer at MSHEP-I & 03 nos. of 2000 KVA 3.3/33 KV Generator Transformer at MSHEP-II."

Financial Involvement: Rs. 13,57,590.00 (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Fifty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Ninety) only

Tender Paper Issue : Up to 13:00 hrs. of 20-06-2026
Tender receiving : Up to 12:00 hrs. of 22-06-2026
Tender Opening : At 15:00 hrs. on 22-06-2026

Details tender documents may be obtained from the O/O The General Manager, KLHEP, APGCL, Lengery, West Karbi Anglong, Assam during working hours. The tender inviting authority reserves the right to accept or reject any bid/tender and to cancel the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award.

Sd/-
General Manager KLHEP, APGCL

Rohit, Reddy in focus as India begin 2027 WC prep with maiden ODI series against Afghanistan



DHARAMSALA, June 12: Rohit Sharma's match fitness will be tested but India's team management would also closely monitor Nitish Kumar Reddy's performance as a back-up for injury-prone Hardik Pandya when they formally begin their 2027 World Cup preparations with the first ever ODI series against Afghanistan here on Saturday.

Having nursed a hamstring niggle during the IPL, Rohit has managed to regain full fitness just in time for the three games against Afghanistan while top draw Virat Kohli will miss the series due to a rare hamstring injury.

As India plan for the World Cup in South Africa in October-November 2027, there are doubts over whether the 39-year-old Rohit can last till the ODI showpiece.

India are scheduled to play 25 odd ODIs before the mega event, giving the team enough time to experiment with players and combinations.

With two losses in three series, the start to Shubman Gill's ODI captaincy has not been smooth and working alongside head coach Gautam Gambhir, he would be looking to expand his footprint in the dressing room.

Shubman and Rohit are expected to open the innings while there would be a toss-up between comeback man Ishan Kishan and Yashasvi Jaiswal at number three in Kohli's absence.

Newly appointed T20 captain Shreyas Iyer will bat at number four. Both Rohit and Shreyas linked with the India squad in Chandigarh before the team travelled to the picturesque hill town on Thursday.

K L Rahul, the number one wicket-keeper batter in the side, is part of the middle-order and Nitish Kumar Reddy is likely to follow him in the batting line-up at number six.

Reddy's batting credentials have never been in doubt but whether he can consistently do the job with the ball as Hardik's back-up remains to be seen.

Like Hardik, Reddy too has had his fair share of injuries and the selectors would be keen to see if he is good enough to last 10 overs with his medium pace.

Reddy did make his presence felt with both bat and ball in the IPL and he would aim to replicate that form in one-day cricket.

The ball travels fast in the high altitude of Dharamsala with the pitch usually offering decent

pace and bounce. The other all-rounder in the side would be off-spinner Washington Sundar while the second spin option is likely to be Kuldeep Yadav, who has not been in the best of forms but will carry the confidence of 194 wickets in 120 ODIs.

Uncapped left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey, who can also bat, is another spin option in the squad.

Arshdeep Singh and Prasidh Krishna form the pace battery while Prince Yadav or Gurnoor Brar could make their international debut as the third fast bowler.

Both Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj have been rested from the series for workload management.

Afghanistan, who were outplayed in India in the one-off Test, are a far better white-ball side.

They would be bolstered by the return of Rashid Khan, who has shelved red-ball cricket for the time being following a back surgery.

Veteran Mohammed Nabi will also lend balance to the side led by Hashmatullah Shahidi.

Afghanistan would take heart from their ODI World Cup performance in India back in 2023 when they nearly made the semi-finals.

Pacer Mohammad Saleem, who took a six-wicket haul in the Test in Chandigarh, has been duly added to the ODI squad.

Players who played in the brutal heat of Mullanpur would be more than happy to take the field in the cooler climes of Dharamsala with the snow-capped mountains forming a breathtaking backdrop.

Squads:
India: Shubman Gill (c), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul, Kuldeep Yadav, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Prasidh Krishna, Shreyas Iyer, Rohit Sharma, Hardik Pandya, Washington Sundar, Harsh Dubey, Ishan Kishan, Arshdeep Singh, Gurnoor Brar, Prince Yadav.

Afghanistan: Hashmatullah Shahidi (c), Sediqullah Atal, Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Ikram Alikhil (wk), Azmatullah Omarzai, Bilal Sami, Nangeyalia Kharoti, Fareed Ahmad Malik, AM Ghazanfar, Mohammad Nabi, Rashid Khan, Darwish Rasooli, Ibrahim Zadran, Zia Ur Rahman Sharifi.

Match starts 1.30 PM IST. (PTI)

Hwang In-beom sparks South Korea's 2-1 comeback win over the Czech Republic at the World Cup

GUADALAJARA (MEXICO), June 12: Hwang In-beom scored a goal and set up another as South Korea rallied to defeat the Czech Republic 2-1 in the second match of the 2026 World Cup on Thursday night.

After a lackluster first half in which both teams were jeered as they left the field, the Czech Republic took the lead in the 59th minute on a header by captain Ladislav Krejci after a long throw into the penalty area.

South Korea equalized in the 67th, when Hwang scored after faking a shot with a nifty move to clear two Czech players. The midfielder who plays for Dutch club Feyenoord then made the cross from the right flank for Oh Hyeon-gyu's decisive strike in the 80th in a match played in front of hundreds of empty seats at Guadalajara Stadium.

The South Korean squad celebrated with its fans behind one of the goals after the final whistle. Players later posed for a photo with the fans behind them.

"It was our first game and a very difficult one," South Korea coach Hong Myung-bo said. "The win itself makes me happy, but what's even more positive is that our boys won by not giving up. I knew that we were more than capable of winning, so at 1-1, I told the boys to



keep playing the way we've been playing."

It was South Korea's first opening World Cup win since it beat Greece in 2010 in South Africa. South Korea beat European opponent in the tournament for a third straight time, following wins over Portugal in 2022 and Germany in 2018.

Let by star forward Son Heung-min, South Korea controlled possession and outshot the Czechs, who were making their first World Cup appearance since 2006. The Koreans, ranked 25th by FIFA, had most of the significant scoring

chances against the 38th-ranked Czechs but failed to capitalize early.

Son was looking to become South Korea's top goal scorer at the World Cup and the Asian player with the most goals in the tournament. The 33-year-old former Tottenham star, who now plays for Los Angeles FC of Major League Soccer, entered Thursday having scored three goals over three prior World Cups.

Appearing in his fourth World Cup, Son had a couple of good opportunities to add to his tally but missed wide in the first half and

had a close-range shot saved in the second.

The Czechs thought they had retaken the lead with another set piece in the 77th, but Tomas Soucek was ruled offside on his header.

Czech Republic coach Miroslav Koubek said "probably the better team won." But he said his team could have had a better outcome if it weren't for "some mistakes."

"We played very well, it could have been a draw and we could have won as well," Koubek said. The announced attendance was 44,985 at the 45,664-capacity Guadalajara Stadium, a crowd that included FIFA President Gianni Infantino. Sections in the middle of the stands had many unoccupied seats and there were other empty seats scattered across the stadium.

South Korea is making its 11th straight World Cup appearance and 12th overall, the most of any Asian country. Its best result was a fourth-place finish at the tournament it co-hosted with Japan in 2002. Since then, the South Koreans have never gone beyond the round of 16.

In the other Group A match on Thursday, co-host Mexico defeated South Africa 2-0 in the tournament opener in Mexico City. (AP)

Sooryavanshi is going to be bigger than Sachin and Kohli put together at the end of his career: Steyn



BENGALURU, June 12: Former South African pacer Dale Steyn has made a bold prediction that wonder kid Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is going to achieve far bigger things than stalwarts Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli by the time he finishes his career.

Sooryavanshi had an astonishing run in IPL 2026, scoring 776 runs to bag the Orange Cap and the left-hander subsequently has been included in the India T20 squad to tour Ireland and England.

"Sooryavanshi is a different gravy, man! He's better than most international players right now. He is a boy wonder, somebody who is a treasure for Indian cricket," Steyn told a select media gathering during an interaction facilitated by SA20 in the lead-up to Season 5.

However, Steyn underlined the importance of taking care of the young talent to ensure a long career for him.

"You think of guys like Sachin, Virat, and this kid is going to explode. He's going to be bigger than both of them put together at the end of his career. So, I would caution how you manage him and look after him because with great responsibility, comes great reward."

"But there's a big threat there that you could lose him at some point if you don't look after him well enough," he added.

So, what makes the 15-year-old the most noticed batter in contemporary cricket?

"He's a fantastic ball striker. I've watched him play in India where the wickets are good. The fields are slightly smaller, just slightly. And with the wickets as good as they are, he's exploited that really well. He's a very good player who can do that."

However, Steyn, who has 699 international scalps, thought Sooryavanshi can be stopped if bowlers can instill a bit of "fear factor" in the left-hander.

"I think (Kagiso) Rabada bowled at him well. You've got to test him upstairs and he's still young, he's only 14-15, and if you can throw a little bit of fear factor into the game, I mean, cricket is a fear factor game."

"... if you're going to the game scared, if you're fearing somebody, not for your life, but even just fear bowling to them or fear facing them, fear can make you do silly things. So, the short ball towards him is probably a good option," he noted.

The 42-year-old also lauded 37-year-old Kohli for holding his own amidst the rush of fresh talents.

"I think Kohli's ability to sustain his mental approach to the game, stay fresh, stay wanting to continue to perform says a lot about him."

"He's got a lot of self-drive, which is something that I think all of us cricketers had when in my era, and that's the only thing that we had," he said. (PTI)

Sindhu storms into semis; Tanvi crashes out

SYDNEY, June 12: Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu stormed into the women's singles semi-finals of the Australian Open Super 500 badminton tournament with a commanding straight-game victory, here on Friday.

The third-seeded Indian outclassed Chinese Taipei's Chen Su Yu 21-6, 21-9 in a one-sided quarter-final contest that lasted just 27 minutes.

The former world champion Sindhu will next face top seed Akane Yamaguchi of Japan, who ended the impressive run of Indian teenager Tanvi Sharma with a 21-14, 21-14 victory in 32 minutes.

Sindhu incidentally holds a narrow 15-13 head-to-head advantage over the world No. 3 Japanese.

Sindhu dominated proceedings from the outset, using her superior reach and court coverage to keep her opponent under constant pressure. She raced through the opening game before maintaining the momentum in the second to seal her place in the last-four.

The semi-final appearance marks a significant boost for Sindhu, who has endured an inconsistent season and has been searching for rhythm on the BWF World Tour and is in search for her first title since Syed Modi International in December 2024.

Earlier, Sindhu had defeated compatriot Isharani Baruah in the pre-quarterfinals to advance to the last-eight.

But the Indian men's doubles pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun exited in the quarterfinals after conceding their match while trailing 19-21 9-16 against Chen Cheng Kuan and Liu Kuang Heng of Chinese Taipei. (PTI)

Williamson announces international retirement; says it's the right time to step away

CHRISTCHURCH/LONDON, June 12: One of the finest batters of his time and the face of New Zealand cricket's most successful era, Kane Williamson announced his retirement from international cricket on Friday, ending a distinguished career marked by consistency, impeccable temperament and exemplary leadership.

Arguably New Zealand's greatest ever batter, Williamson's announcement pulls the curtain down on a glorious 16-year international career that has seen him play 378 games for his country, setting countless batting records and earning the respect and admiration of the cricketing world.

His decision follows an earlier call to step away from T20 Internationals in 2025.

"I've thought about it for a while, but over the last few days it's become clear now is the right time. I've always felt a strong drive and hunger for international cricket, and I take pride in knowing I've given it my all in every match I've played for New Zealand," Williamson said in a statement issued by New Zealand Cricket.

"Continuing with anything less wouldn't be right and I feel fortunate to step away on my own terms," he added.

The 35-year-old finishes as New Zealand's all-time leading international run-scorer across all formats with 19,346 runs, including over 9,500 runs in Test cricket with 33 centuries and six double tons. Across formats, he slammed 48 centuries and six double-centuries.



Under his leadership, the Black caps made two ICC World Cup Finals, three semi-finals, and won the inaugural World Test Championship in 2021. His personal accolades include being named the ICC Cricketer of Year for 2015 and the Test player of the Year for 2019.

Williamson is currently in England for an ongoing Test series and the Kiwis lost the opening match by 115 runs. Williamson could not make much of an impact in the game, logging scores of 0 and 18.

Asked why he chose to step aside at this point, Williamson said it's been a "process".

"...it sort of dawned on me in the last few days that it felt like the time was right for me to step away..."

"The other side of that is I see a group, a really, really talented group that have that journey ahead of them that are totally invested in wanting to do some special things with this New Zealand cricket team that I've been incredibly fortunate to have been a part of for such a long period of time."

"I just have so much respect for

the New Zealand team, the Black caps, and so much respect for the game. And so it feels right to be making this decision today," Williamson said.

In an age dominated by aggression, Williamson stood out for his composure, his technique, temperament and leadership making him the face of New Zealand's golden period.

Williamson said representing New Zealand for 16 years was a journey that evolved from a childhood dream into a lifelong commitment.

"The international game becomes a platform where you are constantly challenged and trying to be the best version of yourself every day. The Black Caps are not just about representing your country, but also about the bond of a group of players trying to create something special."

Reflecting on his career highlights, Williamson said the most satisfying aspect was being part of New Zealand cricket's growth rather than focusing only on individual achievements. (PTI)

Canada is ready to become a soccer nation as it hosts World Cup opener against Bosnia-Herzegovina

TORONTO, June 12: Luke Reece never played hockey growing up in the Toronto suburb of Mississauga. Instead, he played soccer, like many Canadians who are now adults.

The sport is so popular it has surpassed hockey and all other sports in youth participation, according to a recent report by Jumpstart, a Canadian charity that helps low-income youth play organized sports. It said half the nation's youth participate in organized soccer.

Reece was one of many locals sporting Canada soccer gear on Thursday ahead of their nation's World Cup opener Friday against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"Wish I had tickets to the game tomorrow, but I don't," Reece said. "I'm going to a game in Vancouver. It was cheaper to get a ticket out there."

Is Canada about to have a soccer moment?

"It already has a good hold in this country in terms of participation. I think we all expect that to grow. These tournaments inspire so many next-generation people to find their heroes, play the game," said Christina Linz, president of the women's Northern Super League. "I think (it) will really draw those emotional connections."

Thursday in Toronto looked a bit like



wear-your-favorite-soccer-jersey day as the tournament opened in Mexico. Canada's red tops, like the one worn by Reece, were among the most popular.

Mexico (No. 13) and the United States (No. 17), the other co-hosts for the World Cup, each sit higher in FIFA's rankings than Canada, which is 30th, but that means there's more to gain for the Canadians. Especially when it comes to generating passion for the sport.

Canada coach Jesse Marsch said Thurs-

day he has "felt a real momentum behind this team and behind this moment" as Canada Soccer, the sport's national governing body, looks to capitalize on hosting the World Cup for the first time.

"Canada has become more and more multicultural, and I think the excitement for so many different nations to be here in North America and in Canada, and to be playing with all of the greatest players in the world and some of the greatest coaches. I think that there's real excitement behind

what this will be," Marsch said.

Potentially stalling the potential of Marsch's squad is the absence of star defender Alphonso Davies, who was ruled out for Friday's match as he continues to nurse a hamstring injury sustained during Bayern Munich's Champions League semifinal against Paris Saint-Germain on May 6.

Marsch is hopeful that Davies will be able to return at some point in the group stage. He said Davies had an MRI on Wednesday.

"We're getting ready to ramp things up," Marsch said Thursday.

Davies is one of many Canada players fighting injuries. Defender Moise Bombito is recovering from a broken leg, but Marsch said Bombito is "ready to contribute."

Regardless of who's on the pitch for Canada, it's ready to make a statement, and players are eager to prove their country is a soccer nation.

"Every one of these boys is incredibly Canadian, and the pride they have in putting on the jersey, representing the country, hearing the national anthem," Marsch said. "These guys sing the national anthem, belt it out to the top of their lungs, because they want to show the country how proud they are to be here, to be Canadians, and to represent what Canada is." (AP)