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State government is working to transform Assam into economic frontier of Viksit Bharat: CM



Assam CM meets top industry leaders in Delhi



New Delhi: Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma met top industrialists here and asked them to fulfill their commitments made during Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment and Infrastructure Summit in Guwahati. "The Chief Minister met the Chairman of Vedanta Group, Anil Agarwal at his official residence here on Friday evening and asked him to operationalise the group's investment commitment made during

Advantage Assam Summit held in February this year. "Chairman of Vedanta, Agarwal said the group is wholly committed to Assam's growth journey and is keen to expand its footprint in the State's hydrocarbon sector. "Later, taking to X (formerly Twitter), the Chief Minister wrote, "Today in New Delhi, I met the **see page 10**

Minister Pijush Hazarika takes stock of embankment breach repair work in Udalguri



Udalguri: Minister for Water Resources etc., Pijush Hazarika, accompanied by officials from the Water Resources Department, conducted an inspection today in Udalguri see page 10

Dispur: Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma said that Assam government with an active support of the Central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken comprehensive steps to transform the vision of Viksit Assam. Speaking at the 10th Governing Council meeting of the

NITI Aayog on 'Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat @ 2047' in New Delhi today, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said, "The pursuit of a Viksit Assam has long been a cherished aspiration of our people. The Prime Minister's vision of a Viksit Bharat presents us with an opportunity to transform that aspiration into reality and reclaim and rejuvenate the rich legacy of a prosperous Assam". The Chief Minister said that guided by the vision of the Prime Minister, Government of Assam has embarked on a transformative journey, nurturing the ambitious goal of making India the second largest economy. From exports and innovation to digital infrastructure, from railways to rocket launches, India is scripting a see page 10

Assam CM, Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways discuss ongoing NH projects in Assam

New Delhi: Assam Chief Minister Dr.Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday met Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari at the latter's official residence here and discussed various ongoing National Highway projects in Assam. "The meeting discussed threadbare the ongoing NH projects in Assam



and explored ways to further strengthen surface communication network across the State. Several ongoing important road projects came up for discussions as well as new projects on the anvil. "Chief Minister Dr.Sarma also thanked Union Minister Gadkari for floating the tender for the prestigious Jorhat-Majuli bridge over the Brahmaputra. "The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Assam, Dr.KK Dwivedi and Resident Commissioner, Assam Bhawan, New Delhi, Kavitha Padmanabhan. "Later, the CMO Assam posted in X (formerly Twitter) about the meeting, "HCM Dr. @himantabiswa called upon Union Minister Shri @nitin_gadkari today in New Delhi. "The discussions focused on ongoing road infrastructure projects in Assam and explored ways to further accelerate connectivity and development across the state."



No--90 Metre-Naam

(An Assamese metre):

Rama Hari the victorious Hari.

O triumphant Gopal Govinda Rama Hari

O triumphant Rama- Hari Rama Rama.

O Hari Hari Rana,

Rama Hari Rama Govinda

Triumphant Rama

O Mukunda Murari Rama.

O Rama Rama Krishna

Rama Narayana

Krushna Govinda Rama

O victorious Rama -Krishna Rama Krishna Rama Rama Krishna Rama Narayana.

Rama Krishna Rama Krishna Siva Sanatana

O Govinda, You are the own wealth of the devotees

The triumphant Hari the triumphant Rama

The praise of Madhava is

The supermost weal

O victorious Hari Rama.

Rama Krishna Rama the victorious Rama,

Rama Krishna Rama,

O Rama Kamalapati

You are the the Saviour of the unsaved ones.

I the foolush one

Donot know how to worship and pray to you.

O Gopala, victorious Rama Ram, Govinda.

Gopal Govinda Rama Krishna Rama Mukunda.

Govinda Govinda the offspring of Daivakee

Hari Rama Narayana.

Gopal Govinda Mukunda Rama

Hali Rama Shri Rama Rama

O triumphant Rama Hari Rama Rama

O Hari Rama Rama

Siva Siva Siva Siva

Siva Sanatana,

You are the living being of the world.

Madhava Madhava Modhuripu

Govinda Krishna Hari Hari Rama.

Narayana Niranjana Nirakara Niramaya

Murari

O Hari Rama.

O the Super preceptor Hari, Purushattama

Purushattama the victorious Purushattama.

Rama Krishna Rama Krishna victorious Narayana

My master Narayana Paramananda Hari Paramananda Rama Krishna Rama Narayana.

Rama Rama Krishna Rama Krishna Rama

The saviour of the fallen downs unique Hari Rama.

Gopal Govinda Hari Rama Rama

Rama Krishna Rama Krishna Rama Rama.

The Supreme being Siva Sanatana

Ananta Achyuta Nitya Niranjana.

Rama Niranjana O Rama Niranjana

Nirakara Hari Rama.

■ **Rita Borua** 99545-94823

to be continued

Assam Mountaineering Association Awards Certificates in Dispur

Dhubri: Certificates were distributed by Assam Mountaineering Association among the participants at PWD Convention and Training Center located in Dispur on Sunday. Certificates were distributed among those who had taken part in various adventure sports expeditions and training programmes organized by the association last year. These included "Triple Peak Expedition" and Kyagar La Trekking Expedition to three virgin peaks in Ladakh, a trek by three members to the Everest Base Camp, the summer camp held at Panchratna Eco Camp in Goalpara, the 56th Annual Basic Rock Climbing Training Course, and the 34th Children Adventure Orientation Camp. The event was presided over by president of the association by Dr. Devendra Nath Mahanta. The event also featured chief convener Satyen Sharma, who gave a detailed account of the association's history and achievements. General secretary, Manash Barooah, proudly announced the successful naming process of previously unnamed peaks in Ladakh Himalaya in the honour of Ahom General Lachit Borphukan.

SSB Holds Mega Vaccination & Animal Health Camp in Golaghat



Guwahati: 1st
Battalion, Sashastra
Seema Bal, Sonapur,
under the Civic
Action Programme
in the Northeastern
Region, organized
"Mega Vaccination
& Animal Health
Camp jointly with
the Animal Husbandry Veterinary
Department,

Golaghat, at Gulung Temera village, Golaghat (Assam), in the jurisdiction of "D" Coy Halmira, Golaghat. This camp was organized under the guidance of Sunil Kaushik, Commandant, 1st BN SSB Sonapur. During this veterinary camp, a total of 340 animals were examined and treated. Further, free medicines were distributed to 70 villagers. In addition to administering treatment, the camps also provide guidance on how to prevent future infections, such as improving hygiene, ensuring proper nutrition, and vaccinating animals against certain diseases. Local villagers have praised the initiative, urging the authorities to increase the numbers of such programmes in the future, which are vital for village economies and livelihoods, stated a press release.

То

The Editor

The Assam Jyoti

Guwahati

Subject: Solicitation for mentioning poet's name.

Sir,

With due respect I would like to state that "Dihiri o Dihiri" named poem was published on The Assam Jyoti paper on last 16 th of May, 2025. The poet's name is Bitopan Gogoi from Lakhimpur. I have translated that poem from Assamese to English. But, unfortunately, his name was left off while publishing.

Therefore I request you to kindly look into this matter and oblige. Looking forward for sending more poems in the near future.

With regards Shri Chandana Choudhury Baihata Chariali **Mobile :**7002371415

The Modern Journey of Assamese Literature

■ Lalit Nath Itakhola, Sonitpur

The history of Assamese literature is like a flowing river. where the confluence of cultural, social and intellectual currents over time has created new dimensions and depths. The influence of modernity, beginning in the mid-19th century, liberated Assamese literature from traditional constraints, allowing it to evolve in parallel with world literature. British colonial rule, Christian missionary activities and Western education brought radical changes to the language, themes, style and perspective of Assamese literature. This essay analyzes the impact of modernity from the Arunodoi era through the role of magazines, romanticism, realism, modern poetry and stories and contemporary trends.

The advent of modernity in Assamese literature began in 1846 with the publication of 'Arunodoi', a magazine by American Baptist missionaries. This era, known as the Arunodoi era, marked a transformative phase. Editors Nathan Brown, A.H. Danforth and Miles Bronson laid the foundation for Assamese prose by publishing articles on religion, science, general news and education. Anandaram Dhekial Phukan emphasized the restoration of the Assamese language's prestige, its use as a medium of education and the promotion of science and culture. Gunabhiram Barua's 'Bilator Bhraman Kahini' introduced a new genre of travel literature. These works showcased the linguistic potential of Assamese prose. 'Arunodoi' also published articles against social evils like sati, child marriage and lack of women's education, sparking reformist thought and establishing literature as a tool for social change. The introduction of printing presses facilitated the standardization and widespread dissemination of Assamese literature.

Following 'Arunodoi', magazines like 'Jonaki' (1889), 'Banhi' (1909), 'Awahan' (1929), and 'Ramdhenu' (1952) paved the way for modernity in Assamese literature. Under the leadership of Lakshminath Bezbaroa, Chandrakumar Agarwala and Hemchandra Goswami, 'Jonaki' introduced romanticism. The poetry, stories and plays of this era reflected nature's beauty, the exuberance of love, and nationalist sentiments. Chandrakumar Agarwala's 'Bonkunwari', published in 'Jonaki's first issue, is considered the first Assamese romantic poem. Bezbaroa's play and Hemchandra 'Litikai' Goswami's sonnet 'Priyatamar Chithi' pioneered new literary forms. Agarwala's poetry collections 'Pratima' and 'Binboragi' blended Western romantic influences, such as Byron and Shelley, with Assamese cultural essence.

In 1890, the newspaper 'Bijulee' serialized Padmanath Gohain Barua's novels 'Bhanumati' and 'Lahari'. From 1909 to 1933, Lakshminath Bezbaroa's 'Banhi' enriched Assamese literature with writings on science, literature, philosophy and society. Poets like Jatindranath Duwara and contri-

butions from Cotton College students added new dimensions. 'Awahan' magazine promoted modern poetry and stories in the first half of the 20th century. Jyotiprasad Agarwala's poems, plays, and the film 'Joymoti' expressed nationalism, women's empowerment and social reform. Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya's novels 'Mrityunjay' (1970) and 'Iyaruingam' depicted complex social issues, class conflicts, and philosophical questions, earning him the Jnanpith Award for 'Mrityunjay' and the Sahitya Akademi Award for 'Iyaruingam'.

From the mid-20th century, the influence of modernity became more pronounced in Assamese poetry and stories. Navakanta Barua's works like 'He Aranya He Mahanagar', 'Kapilipariya Sadhu' and 'Kokadeutar Haar' elevated Assamese literature with vivid portrayals of nature, human conflicts and contemporary complexities, blending Western influences like T.S. Eliot and Pablo Neruda with Assamese folk culture. Homen Borgohain's novels 'Matsyagandha', 'Pita-Putra' and 'Timir Tirtha' analyzed modern life's conflicts and identity crises. Nilamani Phukan's 'Golapi Jamur Lagna' and 'Selected Poems' merged mythological elements with modern complexities, pioneering experimental styles. Mamoni Raisom Goswami's 'Dasharathir Khoj' and Nirupama Borgohain's 'Abhiyatri' explored societal issues from a woman's perspective, raising questions of social justice.

In the late 20th and early 21st centuries, digital technology

added new dimensions to Assamese literature. The internet and social media provided newgeneration writers with platforms for global outreach. Nilim Kumar's poems and Arupa Patangia Kalita's 'Felanee' gained popularity on digital platforms, addressing feminist perspectives and social justice. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has played a transformative role in preserving and promoting Assamese literature. Digitization of ancient manuscripts, folk tales, and texts, along with AI-assisted translations, has made Assamese literature accessible globally. AI's language processing capabilities have aided in refining vocabulary, crafting poetic forms and experimenting with new literary styles. Works like Jyotiprasad Agarwala's 'Joymoti' have been repopularized through digital platforms, while Navakanta Barua's poetic themes find new expressions through AIdriven experiments.

The impact of modernity has elevated Assamese literature to global standards. Romanticism, realism and contemporary trends have made Assamese prose and poetry more refined and diverse. The digital age has opened new avenues for literary creation and dissemination. However, preserving the cultural essence and originality of Assamese literature while leveraging technology remains a key challenge for future writers. By balancing tradition and modernity, Assamese literature will continue to secure a prominent place on the global literary stage.

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Capacity Building Workshop on Improving Education System Completed in Tea Garden Areas of Dibrugarh



M Hashim Ali, Dibrugarh: With the aim of improving the education system in the tea garden areas of Dibrugarh district, a three-day capacity building training workshop was successfully conducted from May 22 to May

24. The initiative was organized by the Brahmaputra Foundation for Social Research and Livelihood Practice (BFFSR&LP) for teachers of primary schools managed by tea garden authorities. "The workshop, held

at the auditorium of the Community Radio Center, Brahmaputra Radio, was inaugurated by Dr. Samiran Bora, Inspector of Schools, Dibrugarh, and Dr. Dhruvajyoti Bhuyan, Superintendent of Assam Medical College. Hospital. Both dignitaries highlighted the importance of quality education at the primary level and encouraged the participating teachers to actively engage in addressing learning gaps."Dr. Pranjal Buragohain, Assistant Professor of the Department of Education, Dibrugarh University, reviewed the outcomes of learning gap assessments and discussed locally viable solutions with the

teachers."Subject matter experts Jugol Konwar, Nilabh Nayan Bordoloi, Rintu Chetia, Lalin Tai, Madhurya Chetia, and Dimbadhar Chetia provided training focused on language and mathematics development at the primary level. A total of 19 teachers from various primary schools across 19 tea garden areas under the Lahowal and Barbarua development blocks of Dibrugarh district participated in the three-day workshop. The workshop emphasized enhancing the standard of primary education in tea garden areas and identifying as well as addressing challenges faced by students in language and mathematics learning.

What does the military leadership of two Indian female officers signify?

■ Deborshi Gautam

Bangaon

In retaliation for the inhumane acts carried out by Pakistanbacked terrorists in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Army launched a strike on terrorist camps operating on Pakistani soil. The terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir clearly indicated that it was not merely an attack but a well-planned conspiracy by the Pakistani government, Pakistani army, and Pakistan's intelligence agencies to spread communal tension in India. Nearly nine terrorist camps located in Pakistan were destroyed by the Indian Army's strikes. Importantly, India targeted only terrorist camps—no harm was done to the Pakistani military or civilians. However, Pakistan, which harbors and supports terrorism, could not accept India's retaliatory action calmly.

As a result of this attack on terrorist camps, a war-like situation emerged between India and Pakistan. To address the details of the attack and counterattack, a press briefing was held, where Foreign Secretary Vikram Mishri represented the government, and Colonel Sophia Qureshi and Wing

Commander Byomika Singh represented the Indian Army. Colonel Sophia Qureshi is a senior officer in the Indian Army, while Wing Commander Byomika Singh is a female officer in the Indian Air Force.

Instead of assigning a senior male military officer to address the press conference, the decision to have two female officers represent the Indian armed forces and speak before the world created a historic precedent. Through this act, India sent several powerful messages to the world:

India does not tolerate terrorism under any circumstances. India will not wait for any thirdparty approval to respond to terrorist activities against it. India possesses the capability to respond to terrorists in their own language. India made it clear to both Pakistan and the world that it is a secular nation. No one in India receives privileges based on religion or caste; everyone earns their place based on merit. Indian women are strong and always ready to serve the nation. Indian women have the power to lead the country and are equally devoted to its defense, just like their male counterparts. The two female of-

ficers became living examples before the world of how Indian women stand equally with men in defending the country. Pakistan often attempts to spread false narratives that religious minorities, particularly Muslims, are persecuted in India. The presence of Byomika Singh and Sophia Qureshi at the press briefing served as a fitting response to such misinformation. India demonstrated that all Indian citizens, regardless of religion, caste, or community, unite as one for the nation. Pakistan and its army must now clearly understand that, unlike the training in religious and ethnic divisions provided in their military, the Indian Army trains all individuals equally—irrespective of religion or caste. The leadership of Indian women in the military not only strengthens the armed forces but also enables them to take swift and intelligent action against enemies. This was evident in Operation Sindoor, which the world witnessed. Just as Indian mothers are nurturing and protective toward their children, they become impenetrable fortresses when it comes to defending their motherland. Operation Sindoor demonstrated not Sobdobak.)

only India's robust defense and formidable strike capability but also showed that there is no gender or communal discrimination in India. Suitable authority lies in the hands of capable individuals. India's democratic structure is strong, and values like patriotism and brotherhood are deeply rooted. Every eligible and skilled citizen of India has the right to serve in the armed forces. Based on merit and capability, individuals can earn promotions and ascend to top military positions. Under well-established rules and policies, every citizen—regardless of religion, caste, or gender has the right to reach the highest ranks in India's military. Operation Sindoor proved that whether it is a man or a woman, every officer in the Indian Army is ready to lead any challenging mission at any time, and every soldier is committed to ensuring the mission's success. The two female officers showcased to the world that the Indian Army is in no way inferior to any other military in the world.

Mobile: 69139-30829 (The author is Executive Editor of Assamese E- Magazine Sobdobak.)

Darrang College receives Government of India's prestigious FIST grant



Tezpur: Darrang College, Tezpur, one of the most prestigious institutions of higher education in Assam, has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the only college in Assam to receive the FIST (Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions) grant from the Government of India's Department of Science and Technology. This announcement was made during a special general meeting of the Darrang

College Alumni Association, held at the college alumni hall. The meeting witnessed the participation of former students from various regions. Presided over by retired administrative officer and association Dhrubajyoti Das, the session began with introductory remarks by former joint secretary Pankaj Baruah and Acting Secretary Indrani Tamuli. Retired professor and former association president Dr Dharmendra Kumar Sarmah delivered the welcome address. During the meeting, Dr Hemanta Jyoti Nath, Head of the Geography Department, was elected as the new General Secretary, and Senior Office Assistant and Achyut Sarmah was elected as the Assistant Secretary, filling two vacant positions the association. President Dhrubajyoti Das emphasized the need for a fresh approach and strategic planning to make the association more dynamic. He urged alumni to maintain strong connections with their alma mater and contribute toward its academic growth and excellence.

Jagiroad residents demand relocation of dry fish market

Jagiroad: The foul odour from dry fish has engulfed the heart of the growing town of Jagiroad, causing immense inconvenience to its residents. It is alleged that Asia's largest dry fish market, unscientifically situated along the railway station road and its surroundings, has created severe problems for local people. It is further alleged that heavy trucks from Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and other states haphazardly park on the busy station road for loading and unloading, causing frustration among local residents and visitors to the railway station. Many locals also use this road to access essential services, including the local SBI branch, BSNL office, Post Office, Nakhola High School, and more. It is learnt that, with the establishment of Tata's Semiconductor project in Jagiroad, the importance of the only premier railway station in Morigaon district has increased manifold. However, the unauthorised occupation of the area by large dry fish market trucks has made the surroundings unhygienic. Concerned citizens have urged the district administration and the state government to relocate the market to a nearby area and develop it with scientific planning.



The most Popular Fort visit in India

Mehrangarh Fort covers an area of 1,200 acres (486 hectares) in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India. The complex is located on a hilltop around 122 metres above the surrounding plain, and was constructed c. 1459 by Rajput ruler Rao Jodha, though most of the existing structure is from the 17th century. Inside its boundaries there are several palaces known for their intricate carvings and expansive courtyards, as well as a museum housing various relics. A winding road leads to and from the city below. The imprints of the impact of cannonballs fired by attacking armies of Jaipur can still be seen

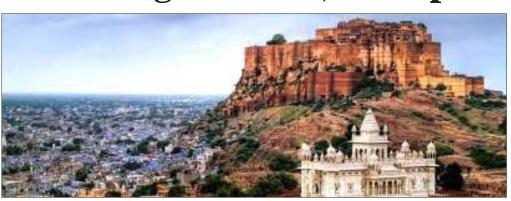
on the second gate. At the north-east of the fort is the chhatri of Kirat Singh Soda, a soldier who fell on the spot defending Mehrangarh.

There are seven gates, which include Jai Pol (meaning 'victory gate'), built by Maharaja Man Singh to commemorate his victories over the Jaipur and Bikaner armies in 1806. The Fattehpol (also meaning 'victory gate'), commemorates victory of Maharaja Ajit Singh over the Mughals.

Some of the notable festivals taking place here include the World Sacred Spirit Festival and Rajasthan International Folk Festival.



Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur



History

Rao Jodha, the chief of the Rathore clan, is credited with the origin of Jodhpur in India. He founded Jodhpur in 1459 as the capital of Marwar (Mandore was the previous capital). He was one of Ranmal's 24 sons and became the fifteenth Rathore ruler. One year after his accession to the throne, Jodha decided to move his capital to the safer location of Jodhpur, as the one thousand years old Mandore fort was no longer considered to provide sufficient security. With the trusted aid of Rao Nara (son of Rao Samra), the Mewar forces were subdued at Mandore. With that, Rao Jodha gave Rao Nara the title of Diwan. With the help of Rao Nara, the foundation of the fort was decided on 12 May 1459

9 kilometres (5.6 mi) to the south of Mandore. This hill was known as Bhakurcheeria, mountain of birds. According to legend to build the fort he had to displace the hill's sole human occupant, a hercalled Cheeria Nathji, the lord of birds. Cheeria Nathji was a man with the local population as his followers and hence influential in the region. When requested to move he refused categorically. This happened many times. Rao Jodha then took extreme measures sought help from another more powerful saint, Karni Mata of Deshnoke who was a hindu warrior sage born in Charan caste. At the request of the king, she came and asked Cheeria Nathji to quit immediately. Seeing a superior power he left at once but cursed Rao with words

"Jodha! May your citadel ever suffer a scarcity of water!". Rao Jodha managed to appease the hermit by building a house and a temple in the fort. Karni Mata laid down the foundation stone of the Mehrangarh Fort. Today only the forts of Bikaner and Jodhpur remain in the hands of Rathores, both their foundation stones laid by Shri Karni Mata. All other Rajput forts of Rajasthan were abandoned for some or the other reasons by the respective clans. Only the Rathores of Jodhpur and Bikaner have their forts with them till date. This fact is considered a miracle by the local population and is attributed to Shri Karni Mata. Rao Jodha also granted villages of Mathania and Chopasni to the two Charan warlords who were sent by him to request maa Mehaai to come to Jodhpur.

Golkonda Fort, Hyderabad

Golconda is a historic fortress and ruined city located in the westoutskirts Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It was originally Mankal called (manugallu). The fort was originally built by Kakatiya ruler Prataparudra in the 11th century out of mud walls. It was ceded to the Bahmani Kings by Deo Rai, Rajah of Warangal during the reign of Sultan Muhammad (1358-1375 A.D.) of the Bahmani Sultanate. Following the death of Sultan Mahmood Shah, the Sultanate disintegrated

and Sultan Quli, who had been appointed as the Governor of Hyderabad by the Bahmani Kings, fortified city and made it the capital of the Golconda Sultanate. Because of the vicinity of diamond mines, especially Kollur Mine, Golconda flourished as a trade centre of large diaknown Golconda Diamonds. Golconda fort is currently



abandoned and in ruins.

by Jodha on a rocky hill

The complex was put by UNESCO on its "tentative list" to become a World Heritage Site in 2014, with others in the region, under the name Monuments and Forts of the Deccan Sultanate (despite there being a number of different sultan-

Diamond

The Golconda fort used to have a vault where the famous Koh-i-Noor and Hope diamonds were once stored along with other diamonds. Golconda is renowned for the diamonds found on the south-



Kollur, Guntur district, famous for diamond Paritala and Atkur in Krishna district and cut in the city during the Kakatiya reign. Āt that time, India had the only known diamond mines in the world. Golconda was the market city of the diamond trade, and gems sold there came from a number of mines. The fortress-

east at Kollur Mine near city within the walls was trade. Its name has taken a generic meaning and has come to be associated with great wealth. Gemologists use this classification to denote a diamond with a complete (or almost-complete) lack of nitrogen; "Golconda" material is also referred to as "2A".

continue to page 8

Assam Chess Premier League begins, Verma applauds Franchise-Based Chess League in Guwahati



Guwahati: The All Assam Chess Association has earned praise from the All India Chess Federation (AICF) for launching the Assam Chess Premier League, a franchise-based chess tournament aimed at promoting the game in the region. The competition got under way in the city on Saturday. Speaking to The Sentinel at the side line of the opening ceremony, held at a city hotel, AICF Head of Operations A.K. Verma lauded the initiative, describing it as a significant step for the development of chess in Assam and the North East. "It's a commendable effort, and I'm genuinely pleased to see ners up team is Rs 2 lakh

Assam hosting such a tournament. It offers local players the invaluable opportunity to compete with some of the country's top talents, which will certainly boost their skills and confidence," said Verma. The two-day event features 56 players across eight teams, including five Grandmasters and 6 International Masters which included Sahil Dey, Assam's first International Master and the highestbid player in the tournament. The tournament promises to be a highlevel showcase of strategy and talent where the winning team will receive cash award of Rs 3 lakh. The cash award for run-

Double Crown for Arnavi, Nibras at AATA-AITA Tennis



Guwahati : Arnavi Debnath and Nibras K Hussain , both from Assam, lifted double crown in the AATA-AITA at the All Assam Tennis Association complex in the city on Friday. Arnavi bagged double crown by

winning the girls U-16 singles and doubles while Nibras K Hussain won the titles of U-14 boys singles and doubles titles. In a Championship Series brief prize distribution cer-Tennis Tournament for emony trophies and certifiboys and girls U-14 and cates were distributed by 16 years which concluded General Secretary of All Assam Tennis Association Ankush Dutta. FINAL RE-SULTS: Boys singles U-Athary Anand beat 16:

Parthiv Kalita 6-1, 2-6, 6-3, Boys singles U-14: Nibras K Hussain beat Chandogya T Pathak 6-2, 2-0 (concede). Girls singles U-16: Arnavi Debnath beat Arisha M Choudhury 6-2, 6-1. Girls singles U-14: Arisha M Choudhury beat Sanskriti S Borah 6-4, 6-1. Boys doubles final U-16: Chandogya T Pathak / Parthiv Kalita beat Rik Rout / Sarthak Anand 6-3, 6-1. Boys doubles U-14: Nibras K Hussain / Chandra Mohanty beat Rehman Ayyan Eashandeep Boro 6-1, 6-1. Girls doubles U-16: Arnavi Debnath / Soni Prajapati beat Debasmita Roy / Prapti Baruah 6-1,

Six Students Awarded Black Belt in **Dibrugarh Ceremony**



Dibrugarh: JEET KUNE DO Martial Arts Association of Assam under Global International Martial Arts Federation (GIMAF) on Thursday organised Black belt distribution ceremony among the students of Martial Arts in Dibrugarh. Six students of Dibrugarh who were trained under Sifu Nirmal Kanti Seal was awarded black belt at a programme organised at DHSK commerce college, Dibrugarh. "We are happy that six of our students get Black belt. All of them trained under me. Till date, 13 of my students were graded with Black belt," Seal said. DHSK commerce college principal Joydev Gogoi and lecturer of college Bani Kachari were present during the programme.

Guwahati Storms into Semis with 8-Wicket Win over Dibrugarh

Guwahati Guwahati secured a spot in the semifinals of the Nuruddin Senior Inter-District Cricket Championship with a dominant 8-wicket victory over Dibrugarh at



Tinsukia on Friday. Chasing a modest target of 45 runs, Guwahati reached 45 for 2 in just 8.4 overs. Rajveer Singh led the chase with a brisk 21, while Subham Mandal remained unbeaten on 18 to seal the win. Earlier in the day, Dibrugarh resumed their second innings at 44 for 8 but could only add 13 more runs before being bowled out for 57 batting 5.2 overs. Gunjan Jyoti Deka was the lone bright spot with 28 runs. Guwahati's bowling attack, led by Avinav Choudhury, proved too strong for Dibrugarh. Choudhury finished with impressive figures of 5 for 20, while Rohit Singh chipped in with 4 for 29 to dismantle the opposition in the second innings. Rohit finished 8 for 49 in the match.



Continue from page no 6

Chittorgarh Fort, Chittorgarh

The Chittorgarh (liter- tory towers. ally Chittor Fort), also known as Chittod Fort, is one of the largest forts in India. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The fort was the capital of Mewar and is located in the present-day city of Chittorgarh. It sprawls over a hill 180 m (590.6 ft) in height spread over an area of 280 ha (691.9 acres) above the plains of the valley drained by the Berach River. The fort covers 65 historic structures, which include four palaces, 19 large temples, 20 large water bodies, 4 memorials and a few vic-

In 2013, at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Chittorgarh Fort, along with five other forts of Rajasthan, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as a group called the Hill Forts of Rajasthan.

History

Chittorgarh (garh means fort) was originally called Chitrakut.[9] It is said to have been built by a local Mori Rajput ruler Chitrangada Mori (Maurya) who was



a Mauryan ruler. According to one legend, the name of the fort is derived from its builder. Several small Buddhist stupas dated to 9th century based on the script were found at the edge of Jaimal Patta lake.

The Guhila ruler Bappa Rawal is said to have captured the fort in

either 728 CE or 734 CE. One account states that he received the fort in dowry. According to other versions of the legend, Bappa Rawal captured the fort either from the mlechchhas or the Moris. Historian R. C. Majumdar theorizes that the Moris (Mauryas) were ruling at Chittor

when the Arabs (mlechchhas) invaded north-western India around 725 CE. The Arabs defeated the Moris, and in turn, were defeated by a confederacy that included Bappa Rawal. R. V. Somani theorized that Bappa Rawal was a part of the army of Nagabhata I. Some historians doubt the historicity of this legend, arguing that the Guhilas did not control Chittor before the reign of the later ruler Allata. The earliest Guhila inscription discovered at Chittor is from the reign of Tejasimha (mid-13th century); it mentions "Chitrakuta-maha-durga" (the great fort of Chittor).

Jhansi Fort, Jhansi

Popularly known as 'Jhansi Rani ka Quila', Jhansi Fort was built in 1613 by Raja Bir Singh Ji Deo - king of Orchha. It is situated on the rocky hill known as Bangra. It extends to an extensive land of 15 acres and this colossal structure is around 312 meters long and 225 meters wide. The fort has 10 gates, including Khandero Darwaja, Chand Darwaja, Datia Darwaza, Sainyar Darwaja, Unnao



Darwaja, Orchha Darwaja, Jharna Darwaja, Sagar Darwaja and Laxmi Darwaja. The fort features a great collection of sculptures that give an insight into the historical legacy of Bundelkhand.

There are many other fortifications and colossal forts in India where one can go to discover the historical legacy of the country. EaseMyTrip offers the best deals on hotels of these destinations.

History



The construction of the Jhansi fort is ascribed to the Bundela Rajput chief and the ruler of the Kingdom of Orchha, Veer Singh Deo Bundela in 1613. It is one of the strongholds of the Bundelas. In 1728, Mohammed Khan Bangash attacked Maharaja Chattrasal. Peshwa Bajirao helped Maharaja Chattrasal defeat the Mughal army. As a mark of gratitude, Maharaja Chattrasal offered a part of his state, which included Jhansi, to Peshwa Bajirao. In 1742 Naroshanker was made the subedar of Jhansi. During his tenure of 15 years, he not only

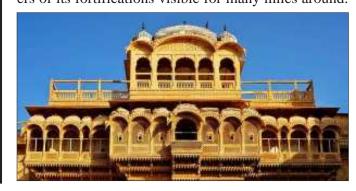
extended the strategically important Jhansi fort (the extension is called Shankergarh), but also constructed other buildings. In 1757, after Naroshanker was called back by the Peshwa. Madhav Govind Kakirde and then Babulal Kanahai were made the subedars of Jhansi. From 1766 to 1769 Vishwas Rao Laxman served as the subedar of Jhansi. Then Raghunath Rao (II) Newalkar was appointed the subedar of Jhansi. He was a very able administrator, increasing the revenue of the state and building both the MahaLakshmi Temple and the Raghunath Temple. After the death of Shiv Rao his grandson Ramchandra Rao was made subedar of Jhansi. His poorly administered term ended with his death in 1835. His successor Raghunath Rao (III) died in 1838. The British rulers then accepted Gangadhar Rao as the Raja of Jhansi. The inefficient administration of Raghunath Rao (III) left Jhansi in a very poor financial position.

Jaisalmer Fort, Jaisalmer

Jaisalmer Fort is situated in the city of Jaisalmer, in the Indian state of Rajasthan. It is believed to be one of the very few "living forts" in the world (such as Carcassonne, France), as nearly one fourth of the old city's population still resides within the fort. For the better part of its 860-year history, the fort was the city of Jaisalmer. The first settlements outside the fort walls, to accommodate the growing population of Jaisalmer, are said to have come up in the 17th century. Jaisalmer Fort is the second oldest fort in Rajasthan, built in 1156 AD by the Rajput Rawal (ruler) Jaisal from whom it derives its name, and stood at the crossroads of important trade routes (including the ancient Silk road).



The fort's massive yellow sandstone walls are a tawny lion colour during the day, fading to honeygold as the sun sets, thereby camouflaging the fort in the yellow desert. For this reason it is also known as the Sonar Quila or Golden Fort. The name Sonar Quila (Bengali for Golden Fortress) was popularized by tourists after famous Bengali film of the same name, that was shot in this fort by eminent filmmaker Satyajit Ray. The fort stands amidst the sandy expanse of the great Thar Desert on Trikuta Hill, hence also known as Trikutgarh. It is today located along the southern edge of the city that bears its name; its dominant hilltop location making the sprawling towers of its fortifications visible for many miles around.





Deepika Padukone, Diana Penty and Saif Ali Khan starrer Cocktail to re-release on May 30, 2025



talgia-driven re-releases Diana Penty, and Saif Ali continues in Bollywood, Cocktail, the 2012 romantic drama starring will be re-released in the-

Khan, is set to return to the big screen. The film

atres on May 30, 2025, as confirmed by the official social media handle of PVR INOX.

Directed by Homi Adajania and produced by Maddock Films, Cocktail originally hit cinemas on July 13, 2012, and quickly became a favourite among urban audiences for its contemporary take on friendship, love, and emotional conflict. The film also featured memorable performances by Boman Irani, Dimple Kapadia, and Randeep Hooda in supporting

Kajol unveils fierce look in Maa motion poster; trailer to drop on May 30

The makers of Maa, the upcoming supernatural thriller starring Kajol, have unveiled a spinechilling motion poster that offers a glimpse into the actress's intense transformation for the film. In what promises to be a high-stakes showdown between light and darkness, the motion poster features Kajol facing off against a terrifying demonic entity, setting the tone for what lies ahead in this gripping horror saga. After teasing the audience about an update dropping on Monday, the makers kept their prom- May 30. The makers cap- 4 days."



ise by unveiling a fierce new poster which was followed by the announcement that the trailer will be released on

tioned the reveal with a chilling message, "Rakshak. Bhakshak. MAA. The protector. The destroyer. Trailer drops in

Ajay Devgn and Jackie Chan team up for fun virtual chat ahead of Karate Kid

Ahead of the release of Karate Kid: Legends on May 30, Sony Pictures Entertainment India has dropped a teaser from a fun conversation between Jackie Chan and Ajay Devgn, possibly making it the biggest collab this year for movie

Manushi Chhillar joins Wella Professionals as new brand ambassador for India



Wella Professionals has officially announced Manushi Chhillar as its new brand ambassador for the Indian market. The reveal was made during the grand finale of TrendVision 2024-25, the brand's annual celebration of hairstyling creativity. This marks the first time in years that Wella Professionals has introduced a face for its India campaigns. The association signals a fresh chapter for the brand, which continues to focus on bold expression and contemporary hair transformations. Manushi, who represented India on the world stage as Miss World 2017 and has since made her foray into acting, is expected to front upcoming campaigns and brand stories that highlight Wella's range of colour and haircare solutions. Interestingly, the actress has already collaborated with the brand in the past in October last year for one of their haircare ad campaigns.

Harshvardhan Rane-Sonam Bajwa's film shifts production from Vikir Films to Play DMF

The much-anticipated romantic drama featuring Harshvardhan Rane and Sonam Bajwa has undergone a major behind-thescenes development — the film has officially shifted production houses. Initially



announced under Vikir Films, the project will now be spearheaded by Play DMF, the production company helmed by Anshul Garg. This transition marks a significant shift in the film's journey. Under Vikir Films, the movie had gained traction with its first teaser and working title Deewaniyat. However, creative differences and strategic direction prompted the team to move forward under a new banner. Anshul Garg, a powerhouse name in the music and digital space, is now taking full creative and production control under Play DMF.



From page 1

State government is working to transform Assam into

new chapter of progress. He, therefore, called for collective efforts incorporating the strength, innovation and inclusive progress of each state to fulfil the vision of Viksit Bharat. Giving the state of development of Assam before independence, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that before independence, Assam was a land of prosperity, with a per capita income higher than the national average. The state's premium tea exports had already gained global recognition. Assam enjoyed robust connectivity with the global economy—railway lines connected Dibrugarh to Chittagong by 1904, and the Brahmaputra served as a vital waterway linking Assam to ports like Chittagong. The state was firmly positioned as a hub of international trade. However, the partition of India in 1947 severed these arteries overnight. Assam was left with only a narrow and vulnerable lifelinethe Siliguri Chicken Neck—connecting it to the rest of India. The Chittagong Hill Tracts, despite a population that was over 97 per cent non-Muslim, were awarded to East Pakistan. On August 15, 1947, Chakma leaders hoisted the Indian flag in Rangamati, hoping to join India. However, the allocation of Chittagong to East Pakistan dashed those hopes. Despite their appeals, Pandit Nehru declined to intervene. His tacit acceptance of this decision dealt a significant and lasting blow to the Northeast's access to global trade. Again, in 1971, during the creation of Bangladesh, Smt. Indira Gandhi had a historic opportunity to negotiate a broader and more secure geographical corridor to the Northeast. Despite her decisive leadership in securing Bangladesh's liberation, this moment too passed without seizing that strategic opportunity. These were pivotal junctures where bold leadership could have altered the trajectory of Assam and the Northeast. Instead, the region was let down by the political leadership of the time. Today, under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, Assam and other North Eastern states are no longer considered the prisoners of history. Assam is reclaiming its rightful role as a gateway to Southeast Asia reviving inland waterways, restoring connectivity and building infrastructure that will reposition Assam as a dynamic economic frontier of Viksit Bharat. To truly unlock the region's promise, the Chief Minister said, "We must implement dedicated transport and logistics corridors, revival of inland waterways and critical railway infrastructure, freight subsidies and long-haul incentives for industries, affordable and reliable power with appropriate cost equalisation mechanisms". He further said that Assam and the Northeast are not peripheral—they are strategic, economic, and cultural frontiers. They are the gateways to Southeast Asia, rich in human capital and opportunity. He, therefore, said, "Let us correct the failures of past political vision with bold policy clarity today. Let us match the Prime Minister's commitment with institutional responsiveness, and replace inertia with action". Speaking on the importance of Viksit Assam for Viksit Bharat, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that State government has taken decisive steps to build a prosperous, empowered and self-reliant Assam. He further said that the state currently boast of a robust Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of USD 68.7 billion, with a remarkable 19 per cent growth recorded in the last fiscal year and an impressive 17.8 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over the past three years. Moreover, elaborating the government's strategy for Viksit Assam, the Chief Minister said, "We have identified several key sectors like tourism, textiles, pharmaceuticals, electronics hydrocarbons, agriculture and infrastructure. We are also investing in future-oriented domains like new-age skills, green jobs and the circular economy". Dr. Sarma on the occasion sought sustained guidance of the Prime Minister and cooperation of the Council to bring the vision of a Viksit Assam to life setting new benchmarks of progress and prosperity in the state. It may be noted that the 10th meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi witnessed the attendance of Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of the states, Lt. Governors, Union Territories, Vice Chairman NITI Aayog, full-time and ex-officio members of NITI Aayog, and special invitees to the Governing Council.

Assam CM meets top industry lead

very enterprising Chairman of @Vedanta_Group, Shri @AnilAgarwal_Ved Ji. "We spoke on operationalising the group's investment commitment made during #AdvantageAssam2. Vedanta is keen to expand its footprint in the state's hydrocarbon sector." "Later, the Chief Minister met Managing Director of ITC Hotels, Anil Chadha at his official residence here and discussed the potential of investment in the hospitality sector. "Chadha told the Chief Minister that his group is very keen in exploring opportunities in the hospitality sector in Assam. "Informing about the development, CMO Assam, tweeted, "Shri Anil Chadha, MD, @ITCHotels called upon HCM Dr. @himantabiswa in New Delhi today."They discussed the potential of investments in Assam's hospitality sector as Shri Chadha expressed keen interest in exploring opportunities for expansion in the state." The Advantage Assam 2.0 has secured investment commitments worth ?5.18 lakh crore over the next five years, "It may be mentioned that Chief Minister Dr. Sarma, who is closely monitoring the investment commitments made by different companies during the Advantage Assam 2.0, will hold one-to-one meeting with the industry honchos in the national capital on May 26.""The Hon'ble Chief Minister has started individual discussions with the companies about how to go about realising the investment on the ground, what kind of incentives they might need, land they would need. We will prepare the preparatory roadmap over the next six months," a senior official privy to the development said. ""If even a significant portion of the pledged investments materialises, Assam could emerge as a leading industrial hub in the Northeast and beyond. Therefore, the focus now shifts to implementation and execution, ensuring that these investments translate into job creation, infrastructure development, and long-term economic benefits for the state," the official added. To achieve this goal, the Government of Assam plans to carefully analyse investment proposals in the current financial year and work toward a comprehensive roadmap within the next six months.

Minister Pijush Hazarika takes

district to take stock of the progress of repair work on a breached embankment along the Golondi River. The visit forms part of a broader initiative by the Water Resources Department to strengthen flood management infrastructure in Assam's flood-prone districts through a combination of engineering interventions and site-specific reinforcements.""Addressing the media at the site of the visit, the Minister explained that floodwaters descending from the Bhutan hills had repeatedly caused breaches in the Golondi River embankment, posing significant risks to the surrounding areas. He stated that to address this issue, the Water Resources Department's Udalguri Division has constructed a 4.4-kilometre Ready Made Embankment (RME) along the right bank of the river. This structure, he added, has been reinforced at vulnerable locations with geo-bags and porcupine barriers to prevent further erosion.""Saying that Assam's flood problem is almost becoming an issue of the past under Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma's leadership, Minister Hazarika noted that following the monsoon season, geo mega tubes would be installed, with additional protective measures to be implemented in a phased manner to ensure long-term flood protection. He also mentioned plans to extend these installations to the opposite riverbank after the monsoon, thereby providing comprehensive protection to the region. The officials on site provided the Minister with updates regarding ongoing maintenance and future planning for the embankment system, including the monitoring mechanisms currently in place to assess structural integrity during periods of heavy rainfall.

Top ULFA (I) Commander Rupam Asom Arrested in Joint Operation

Tinsukia: In a significant seized items were one M14 rifle, Asom, alias Binod Bora or Kanto, a top commander of the banned insurgent group ULFA (Independent), during a high-stakes operation along the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border. The operation, conducted in a forested area of Tinsukia district, led to the recoverv of a substantial cache of arms and ammunition from Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh. Among the

eakthrough for security forces,three magazines,and 120 live Assam Police have arrested Rupam rounds of ammunition. Additionally, police recovered several incriminating materials linked to ULFA (I)'s militant activities. Rupam Asom, long considered one of the region's most wanted insurgents, has played a key role in orchestrating multiple anti-national operations in Upper Assam. His arrest marks a significant blow to ULFA (I)'s organizational strength and operational capabilities in the region.



Dr. Ranoj Pegu Distributes Smartphones to Anganwadi Workers in Sivasagar New Governing Body of Paralympic Association of Assam formed Guwahafi • The General Assembly Meeting of



Sibsagar: In a significant step toward strengthening digital governance in nutrition services, Assam Education Minister Dr. Ranoj Pegu distributed smartphones to Anganwadi workers in Sivasagar. The distribution, held at Sukapha Conference Hall, was organized by the District Social Welfare Office with support from the district administration. It aimed to support digital nutrition tracking under the Poshan Abhiyaan. The smartphones will enable

real-time data entry through the Poshan Tracker app, enhancing monitoring of child and maternal nutrition across the district. Key officials, including the deputy commissioner and heads of departments from ICDS and Social Welfare, attended the event. Dr. Pegu reiterated the government's commitment to empowering frontline workers with digital tools and highlighted the role of data in combating malnutrition and improving child development outcomes. Meanwhile, Dr. Ranoj Pegu distributed financial assistance to indigenous places of worship under the Department of Indigenous and Tribal Faith and Culture at the GMCH auditorium in Guwahati on March 9. The minister distributed Rs 5 crore to All Bathou Mohasabha (ABM) for its under-construction Heritage Centre at Gorchuk in Guwahati for the financial year 2024-25, Rs 50 lakh for the triennial conference of the ABM, and Rs 10 lakh each as the second instalment of five tribal institutions

Rare 'Vulnerable' Snake Species Discovered in Dibrugarh by Dr. Tikendrajit Gogoi



Dibrugarh : A rare species of snake, Elaphe taeniura, commonly known as the Beauty Snake or Striped Trinket as 'Vulnerable,' indicating Snake, has been discov- a high risk of endangerthe observation of Dr. Tikendrajit Gogoi. The significant finding has sparked interest among conservationists and wildlife experts across the region. According to the

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, the Beauty Snake is classified ered in Dibrugarh under ment in the wild. This discovery highlights the fragile yet biodiversity of the region and underscores the importance of continued research and conservation efforts in Assam. Earlier,

a group of herpetologists discovered a new frog species in Garbhanga Reserve Forest, a major biodiversity hotspot near Guwahati, Assam. The species, Leptobrachium aryatium, is named in honor of Arya Vidyapeeth College because of the researchers' affiliation with it. The frog is identified by its orange-and-black eyes, clear throat marks, and a unique melodious call that resonates at dusk. The findings were published in the April 14 edition of Zootaxa, a respected journal based in New Zealand that focuses on animal taxonomy. The research team comprised Javaditva Purkayastha, Dipankar Dutta, Jayanta Gogoi, and Saibal Sengupta, all of whom have connections to Arya Vidyapeeth College, either as alumni or faculty members.

Guwahati: The General Assembly Meeting of the Paralympic Association of Assam (PAA) was held at Kaziranga on Saturday, where a new Governing Body for the term 2025–2029 was constituted. In the newly formed committee, Chandan Kumar Baruah has been elected as President, while Rajib Dey will serve as the General Secretary. Khagen Chandra Kalita has been elected as Treasurer. Meanwhile, Riniki Bhuyan Sharma has been named as the Chief Patron of the association.





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