

US COVID-19 deaths top p**2** 70,000, cases cross 1.2 mn

p5 171 doctors providing online consultation in State

Concern over coal mining p11 in Dehing Patkai

#### NEWS apsule

#### **New COVID-19** case

GUWAHATI, May 6: Another person from Cachar district tested positive for COVID-19 today, taking the total active cases in Assam to 10. The total number of COVID-19 patients in the State now stands at 45. Thirty-four COVID-19 patients have been discharged till date and one died of the disease so far, tweeted health minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. – Staff Reporter

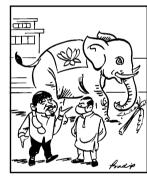
#### **Grace period**

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Assam government has allowed an additional grace period of 30 days in addition to the present 30-day grace period as per ATPPF & PF and DLI Fund Scheme Act for deposit of PF contribution from the date of its collection from the wages for the months of March, April and May. -Staff Reporter

#### COVID-19 lab

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Indian Council of Medical Research has recognised the Assam Medical College and Hospital at Dibrugarh as an accredited laboratory for testing COVID-19. With this latest accreditation, the total number of such labs in the State has now gone up to seven. - Staff Reporter

#### JOCOSERIOUS



Our elephant has been vaccinated.



Passengers at the Afala ferry ghat in Majuli after relaxation of lockdown norms on Wednesday. – UB Photos

many American, Japanese

and Korean companies are

contemplating to shift their

production facilities from

China to India. To woo these

companies, we have already

taken up the matter with the

Department for Promotion

of Industry and Internal

Trade (DPIIT), Invest India,

Japan External Trade Or-

ganization (JETRO), US-In-

dia Business Council and US

Chamber of Commerce to

facilitate and advise those

companies to set up their

production facilities in As-

sam as the State has strate-

gic locational advantage,

vast natural resources, be-

sides robust industrial infra-

structure and reliable con-

nectivity etc," Patowary

>> SEE PAGE 6

## State govt to woo firms moving out from China

#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: With companies from countries like the US, Japan and South Korea reportedly contemplating to shift their production base from China, Assam Government is trying to cash in on the opportunity by offering them attractive offers including land.

As part of its effort to woo them, the State Government has already vouched for setting up of a Japanese Industrial Township to attract investment from Japanese industries.

Industry Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary while talking to mediapersons also said that the government is ready to offer land for setting up of such industries.

"It is going around that

#### Public transport may resume soon: Gadkari

NEW DELHI, May 6: Public transport services may resume operations soon and the government is formulating guidelines for safe usage adhering to social distancing norms to check the spread of coronavirus, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday.

"Public transport is likely to resume soon... Guidelines will be there," Road Transport, Highways Minister Gadkari said while addressing members of Bus and Car Operators Confederation of India through video conference.

He said opening of transport and highways will go a long way in instilling confidence among the public and cautioned towards maintaining social distance and adopting all safety measures like hand wash, sanitizing, face masks, etc while operating buses and cars. - PTI

## **CM directs proper** screening of people **entering State**

GUWAHATI, May 6: Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Wednesday directed the Kokrajhar and Dhubri district administrations to ensure proper screening of people entering the State through Srirampur and Chagolia-Boxirhat gates along the border with West Bengal to check the

ple from across the inter-state boundary.

"The civil and police administration should jointly keep a tab on every entry point of districts to ensure that nobody can enter Assam without going through COVID-19 screening protocols", he said.

## Quarantine centre at Tezpur varsity campus opposed

#### CORRESPONDENT

TEZPUR, May 6: The Tezpur University fraternity has expressed strong resentment over Sonitpur district administration's move to requisition the varsity campus for facilitating it as an institutional quarantine centre for the people stranded outside the State who are coming back to their native place. In order to contain the

Vigilance stepped-up at Srirampur and Chagolia-**Boxirhat** gates along the border with West Bengal

The Chief Minister also asked the police to keep a strict surveillance on some reported vulnerable points to thwart any design of unauthorised movement from the neighbouring state.

Dhubri Deputy Commissioner Anantlal Gyani apprised the Chief Minister about the existence of 15 such vulnerable points where CRPF, police personnel and village defence parties have

spread of COVID-19 as per

State health department's

directions, the district ad-

ministration has set up a

zonal screening venue at

Tezpur Central University,

Napaam to screen all people

belonging to Udalguri,

Sonitpur, Biswanath, Lakhimpur and Dhemaji dis-

tricts who will be returning

>> SEE PAGE 6

from outside the State.

years, was killed on Wednesbeen deployed for round the day by security forces in his village in Kashmir's Pulwaclock surveillance. ma district, police said. The district administration has set up a quarantine cen-Anticipating a law and ortre at an area adjacent to

der problem, authorities sus-Chagolia Gate with all facilipended mobile telephone services of private operators ties to quarantine around one and mobile internet services Kokrajhar Deputy Comacross the Valley. missioner Partha Pratim Ma-

**Top Hizbul** 

ultra killed

in J&K

ror group Hizbul Muja-

hideen's de facto chief Reyaz

Naikoo, on the run for eight

SRINAGAR, May 6: Ter-

Security forces engaged with militants in two gunbattles in the south Kashmir district, one in Sharshalli village where two unidentified militants were killed and the other in Beighpora in Awantipora where they finally put down Naikoo who was holed up with another terrorist. His accomplice attempted

arrangements have been made to screen the health status of drivers, handvmen and to escape by charging at security forces but was also others coming to the State through Srirampur Gate and killed. The gunning down of maintained that strict instructhe Hizbul Mujahideen commander comes three tion has been given to ensure days after eight security that nobody can enter the personnel were killed in State without going through mandatory screening. - PTI Handwara. - PTI

thousand people.

Walks .

zumdar apprised Sonowal

that the district administration

has ensured constant moni-

toring along the Sonkosh riv-

er to prevent people from

sneaking into the State by

swimming across the river.

He also said that adequate

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#### spread of COVID-19. The Chief Minister visited a screening camp adjacent to Srirampur gate at Gossaigaon Sub-Division in Kokrajhar to review the measures taken to screen the movement of peo-



said.

(R)

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## State tea industry incurs Rs 600-cr loss



#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: The State tea industry has incurred a loss of nearly Rs 600 crore during the lockdown, with the decline in production estimated at 32 million kilograms.

In view of prevailing situation, the State government has already announced the waiver of the minimum fixed charge of supply of natural gas to the tea gardens which were closed during the lockdown period. This was informed by Industry and Commerce Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary talking to the media here today.

"Tea industry is the biggest industry in the State and being seasonal, the lockdown coincided with start of the new season. The tea industry has been hit hard as their major production period has been affected. The tea production in India during 2019

was 1,389.70 million kg. Tea production in Assam in 2019 was 715.49 million kg, i.e., 51.51 per cent of the total tea production in India," the minister said. He also informed that tea

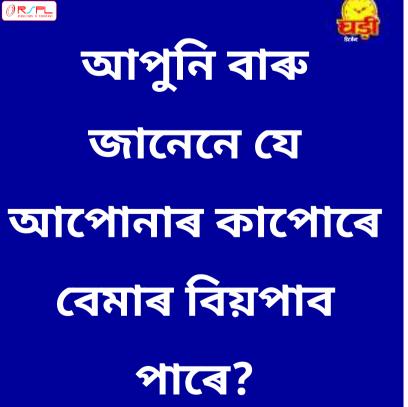
auction has restarted in Guwahati and all tea warehouses have also been opened.

Patowary further stated that all the 15 gardens and factories of Assam Tea Corporation Limited (ATCL) have been allowed to function in full capacity and that the State government has also ensured the payment of full wages to all 16,720 workers and employees of ATCL during the lockdown period. The industries in Assam contribute 39 per cent to the

State GDP and provide direct employment to approximately four lakh people and indirect employment to around 20 lakh people.

>> SEE PAGE 6

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আজি ময়লা কেৱল সেয়া নহয় যাক দেখা পোৱা যায়। কবনোৱাৰাকৈ বহুতো ভাইৰাচ আপোনাৰ কাপোৰত লাগি কিবা ডাঙৰ বেমাৰৰ কাৰন হব পাৰে । সেই কাৰনে আপোনাৰ কাপোৰ সদায় ধোব। লগতে এই সাৱধানতা অৱলম্বন কৰিব।









## ——— International

#### Two-month-old baby among 17 new cases in Nepal

KATHMANDU, May 6: A two-month-old baby was among 17 new COVID-19 cases reported in Nepal, the health ministry said on

Wednesday. As many as 14,096 coronavirus tests have been conducted so far in Nepal.

Seventeen people, aged between two months and 66 years, from Birgunj city in Parsa district have been tested positive for the coronavirus, taking the total number of COVID-19 cases in the country to 99, health ministry officials said.

The officials said three patients who were cured of the viral infection have been readmitted to the isolation facilities after they were tested positive for the virus in the follow-up tests.

A 58-year-old man from Kathmandu who was discharged on April 23 and a 19-year-old youth from Rautahat and a 44-year-old man from Parsa who were discharged on April 26 have been tested positive for the coronavi-

rus again, they said. Meanwhile, six Indian nationals, who had come to Nepal after attending the Tablighi Jamaat gathering in Delhi in March and were tested COV-ID-19 positive, have been discharged from hospital after they were cured of the disease, the officials said.

They will be kept in isolation for a week to monitor their condition before being allowed to return to India, the health ministry said. - PTI

### TENDER NOTICE NO. TMC/USFD/07/ 2020-21; DATED: 11-03-2020

Due to the country wide lockdown up 03-05-2020 as a measure to prevent the preading of pandemic COVID-19, it i ecided to extend the above tende losing & opening period as under Date & time of closing of tender: 15.00 hrs of 26-05-2020. Date & time of opening of tender: 15.30 hrs of 26-05-2020. The omplete information with the tende cument of above e-tender will b vailable upto 14.30 hrs. on 26-05-2020

n the website www.ireps.gov.in. Dy. Chief Engineer/TMC

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2020-21 Dated 03-03-2020 Due to the country wide lockdown up to 03 05-2020 as a measure to prevent spreading of pandemic COVID-19, it i ecided to extend the above tende closing & opening period as under: Date time of closing of tender: 15:00 hrs. of 26 05-2020. Date & time of opening of tender 15:30 hrs. of 26-05-2020. The complete formation with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto **14:30** hrs. o 26-05-2020 in the website www.ireps.gov.i

Dy. Chief Engineer/TP

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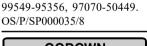
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## US nCoV deaths top 70,000, cases cross 1.2 mn

WASHINGTON, May 6: The num- the United States topped 70,000, rep-Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

Meanwhile, the death toll from the disease in the country hit 70,646, Xinhua news agency reported.

New York remains the hardest-hit state, with 321,192 cases and 25,073 deaths, followed by New Jersey with 130.593 cases and 8,244 deaths. Other states with over 50,000 cases include Massachusetts, Illinois, California, and Pennsylvania, according to the CSSE. The number of COVID-19 deaths in

Actor Antonio Bolivar, who

According to a report in The

admitted to a hospital in Leticia,

Colombia, last week with

COVID-19 symptoms and

passed away on May 1.

Celina and son Pedro.

reach the final five.

the last of his tribe."

southeastern Colombia and

northern Peru, and was one of

He was also a translator of

indigenous languages, including

Tikuna and Cubeo, which are

spoken among the inhabitants

of the Orinoco and Amazon

region. Bolivar recently starred

Netflix 2019 miniseries Green

Frontier, which was also

ACHIEVEMENT

directed by Guerra. - PTI

coronavirus. He was 72.

ber of COVID-19 cases in the United resenting over a quarter of all the vi- tional Institute of Allergy and Infec- being taken in a phased manner in more States reached 1,201,337 as of 6 p.m. rus deaths reported worldwide, as (2200 GMT) Tuesday, according to the Americans give negative marks for the federal government's handling of the outbreak.

While Americans overwhelmingly think highly of what federal scientists have done to deal with the contagion, they continue to give President Donald Trump negative marks for his handling of the coronavirus outbreak, showed The Washington Post-University of Maryland poll released on Tuesday.

The poll surveyed a random national sample of 1,005 adults by phone from April 28 to May 3. It has a 3.5-point margin of error.

Anthony Fauci, director of the Na- businesses despite such measures are tious Diseases, earned 74 per cent of and more states across the country. positive rating and won widespread bipartisan consent, showed the poll.

The nation's top infectious disease expert gained approval from more than two-thirds of Republicans and independents, and nearly nine in 10 Democrats.

Trump's ratings are 44 per cent positive and 56 per cent negative, with per cent oppose reopening gun nearly 80 per cent Republicans but just about 20 per cent Democrats viewing hair salons with 69 per cent opposi-Trump positively as relates to the pandemic, said the poll.

Also, the poll indicated a majority of oppose reopening golf courses, the Americans oppose reopening most poll showed. - IANS

#### Antonio Bolivar, best known for Embrace Fauci debunks theory coronavirus Antonio Bolivar, best originated in Chinese lab of the Serpent. dies aged 72 LOS ANGELES, May 6:

WASHINGTON, May 6: Top US infectious disease expert starred in Oscar-nominated Anthony Fauci said that SARSfeature Embrace of the CoV-2, the virus that causes Serpent, has died of COVID-19, could not have been artificially or deliberately manipulated. City Paper Bogota, Bolivar was

Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), made the comments in an interview with National Geographic.

He is survived by his wife While answering a question regarding evidence that the vi-The actor played "the rus was made in or accidentally shaman Karamakate in released from a lab in China, *Embrace of the Serpent*, directed Fauci said, "If you look at the by Ciro Guerra. The film evolution of the virus in bats, premiered in Cannes Director's and what's out there now is Fortnight in 2015 and went on very, very strongly leaning toto become the first Colombian ward this (virus) could not have film ever to receive a been artificially or deliberately nomination for a best foreign manipulated - the way the mufilm Academy Award and also tations have naturally evolved," reported Xinhua news agency Bolivar was a member of the on Tuesday. Huitoto indigenous people "in

"A number of very qualified evolutionary biologists have said



that everything about the stepwise evolution over time strongly indicates that it evolved in nature and then jumped species." he said

Asked about the possibility that the virus was found outside the lab, then brought back and escaped, Fauci said, "That means it (virus) was in the wild to begin with."

in on this circular argument," he said.

According to the National Geographic report, Fauci is most concerned that the United States will be put to the test this fall and winter by a second wave of COVID-19 if the country

Afghanistan could've one of 'highest world

UNITED NATIONS, May 6:

rates in the world, a global migration organisation has warned, voicing concern that the expansion of conflict in the war-torn country is exacerbat-

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) said that es and 90 deaths as of May 5,

China asks Pompeo to show 'enormous evidence'

#### COVID-19 originating from Wuhan lab

BEIJING, May 6: China on Wednesday dared US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to show the "enormous evidence" he has to prove that the novel coronavirus originated from a lab in Wuhan and asserted that the matter should be handled by scientists instead of politicians out of their domestic political compulsions in an matter should be handled by scientists and election year.

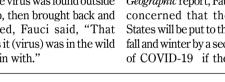
In recent days, US President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Pompeo have claimed that the deadly virus originated from the Wuhan accusations a political strategy to "smear China" Institute of Virology in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, where the outbreak was first detected last December. The two leaders have also said that China has refused to give international scientists access to learn what happened. The claim has drawn fierce rebuttal from Beijing, which on Wednesday described the accusation as "smear" intended to bolster President Trump's re-election chances in November.

"He (Pompeo) said 'enormous evidence'. Then show us," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing here.

"Pompeo cannot present any evidence because he does not have any," Hua said. "This professionals instead of politicians out of their domestic political need.'

China's Foreign Ministry called the withalmost2,900 confirmed cas-

## infection rates'



does not blunt the infection rate by the summer. The United States needs to

Respondents are most opposed to

reopening movie theatres, with 82 of

them saying so. Meanwhile, 78 per

cent said they don't want gyms to re-

open, while 74 per cent are opposed

to the reopening of dine-in restaurants

As for other types of business, 70

stores, followed by barber shops and

tion. 66 per cent oppose reopening

clothing retailers while 59 per cent

and nail salons.

have not only an adequate supply of tests available before a second wave hits, but also a system for getting those tests to the people who most need them, Fauci said.

"I don't think there's a chance that this virus is just going to disappear," Fauci said. "It's going to be around, and if given the opportunity, it will resurge."

The United States should also focus this summer on properly reinforcing the nation's health care system, ensuring the availability of hospital beds, ventilators, and personal protective equipment for health care workers, Fauci was quoted by Na-

tional Geographic as saying. He also stressed the importance of continuing social distancing everywhere until the case counts start to fall in cities

The number of confirmed coronavirus cases suggests that Afghanistan could have one of the highest COVID-19 infection

ing the disease response.

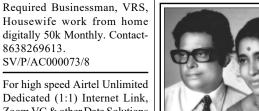
and states. - IANS

"That's why I don't get what they're talking about (and) why I don't spend a lot of time going

with

fond

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Raiib Baruah Assistan Professor, Department of Statistics. A.D.P. College Nagaon has been awarded

> Philosophy (Ph.D) bv Dibrugarh University for his thesis entitled "Empirical Realities of Mahatma Gandh NREGA and Mid Dav Mea Scheme in Nagaon and Morigaon Districts, Assam: A Statistical Investigation". He has conducted his research under Dr. Sarat Chandra Professor Kakaty, Department of Statistics Dibrugarh University. He is the son of Mr. Cheniram Baruah and Mrs. Purabi Baruah, Pathari Kahali Gaon Nagaon and Husband of Pinky Baruah, Assistant Professor in Statistics Nowgong College.

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Mr. Chandra Kant Pawe Assistant Professor of Geography

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Pragjyotish College, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Geography by Gauhati University for his thesis entitled

'Landscape Changes, Urban Sprawl and its impact on forest cover in the Guwahati Metropolitan Area". He carried out his research work under the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Anup

of Geography Saikia Department, Gauhati University. He is the elder son of Padma Kanta Pawe and Sunmai Pawe of Nakari, North Lakhimpur and husband of Mrs. Lekha Borah. Achieve/P/SP000030/1

for Republicans ahead of the 2020 election.

"The recently-exposed US Republican strategies shows they are encouraged to attack China under the pretext of the virus," Hua said, adding that China was "fed up with such tricks."

"We urge the US to stop spreading disinformation or misleading the international community. It should deal with its own problems and deal with the pandemic at home," she said. - PTI

## First Hindu youth joins **Pakistan Air Force!**

first, a Pakistani Hindu youth has become the first person from the minority community to join the Pakistan Air Force.

Rahul Dev has been recruited as a General Duty Pilot Officer, the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) said in a tweet.

Dev hails from Tharparkar district of Sindh province.

Sharing the picture of the young man, the PAF recently tweeted, "Good news during #COVID19 tense situation.

very remote village of Thar-

Wednesday said it is "for the first time in Pakistan's history" that a Hindu youth has been recruited

Last year. Kainat Junaid became the first woman from Khyber-Pakthunkhwa province to have been selected for fighter pilot training. Junaid not only secured

the top position in PAF's test for General Duty Pilot, but also became Pakistan's first female fighter pilot to serve the country alongside her father.

Her father Ahmed Junaid PAF. The Express Tribune in a is a Squadron Leader in the

Afghan officials have emphasised that in the absence of urgent actions, up to 80 per cent of the country's total population of 35 million could be infected.

"The number of confirmed cases suggests that Afghanistan could have one of the highest COVID-19 infection rates in the world.

"Furthermore in recent days, results of a randomised sample of 500 persons in Kabul, a city of between five and seven million people, showed an alarming infection rate of 50 per cent,? it said in a statement on Tuesday.

The global agency also warned that Afghanistan is struggling to safely absorb the more than 271,000 people who have returned from Iran and Pakistan since January amidst the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said that Afghan refugee returns from Iran and Pakistan are suspended due to COVID-19 precautionary measures. - PTI

RENOVATIO REST HOUSE

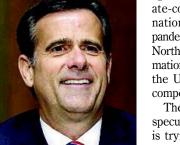
05-05-2020. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: SN-Tender No. 12-AP-II-2020. Name of wor At Alipurduar Jn.- Renovation of Officer Rest House along with other ancillary work the jurisdiction of SSE/W-II/Alipurduar Fender Value: ₹58,15,117.54. Earnes Money: ₹1,16,400/-. Cost of tende document:₹5,000/-. Tender will be close on **04-06-2020** at **13:00** hrs.& will be open on 04-06-2020 at 15:00 hrs.For detail ease visit in website www.ireps.gov.ir DRM (W), Alipurduar Jn

GARBAGE COLLECTION AND D Tender Notice No. CMS-01 of 202 2023, Dated: 16-04-2020; Open Tend d cover is invited for the follo ork: Description of work : "Door Door garbage collection in Net oochbehar Railway Colony an lisposal at dumping ground area thre 03) km away from New Coochbel olony (near burning Ghat), Total 39 uarters in the area. Two (02) laboure hould be engaged for three (03) year 095 days with one (01) day re-Approximate cos ₹15.77.458.56: Earnest Monev :₹31.60 Cost of tender Paper :₹2,000/-; Last dat nd time for submission of tender 18-05-2020 at 12:30 hours. Date & tim of Opening : 18-05-2020 at 15:0 ours. For details please visit websi

ww.ireps.gov.in CMS, Alipurdua NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

#### HIRING OF VEHICLE

E-Tender Notice No.: 33/W-2/APD ated: 05-05-2020; E-Tender are invit the undersigned for the followi ork; Tender No. : <u>11-AP-I-2020</u> Name of work : Hiring of 10 (Te umbers Multi-utility vehicle fo ansportation of P. Way materials, too and plants under SSE/P.Way/Net Bongaigaon, Fakiragram Jn. Cooc ehar, Alipurduar Jn. New Alipurdua amakhyaguri, Falakata, New Maynagu lathabhanga and Tufanganj under th risdiction of DEN/I/Alipurduar Jn. an EN/II/Alipurduar Jn. for 02 (two) years ender Value :₹ 1.32.17.472/-: Earnes loney: ₹ 2,16,100/-. Cost of tende ment : ₹ 5.000/-. Date and Tim f Closing of e-tender at 13:00 hrs n 04-06-2020. Date and Time Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. o 04-06-2020. For details please vis ebsite www.ireps.gov.in



The forced departures have left the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which oversees the nation's 16 spy

nation faces the COVID-19 pandemic, threats from Iran and North Korea, Russian disinformation campaigns to meddle in the US elections, and rising competition from China.

The turmoil has deepened speculation that the President is trying to place loyalists in charge of the nation's intelligence apparatus.

The Senators' questions reflected that skepticism: Would you communicate intelligence to Trump even if you knew the ligence," he said. - AP

agencies, without a single Sen- President strongly disagreed ate-confirmed leader as the with it"? "Of course," Ratcliffe replied.

Even if it put your job in jeopardy?

"Of course."

Ratcliffe added: "Anyone's views on what they want the intelligence to be will never impact the intelligence that I deliver. Never."

Variations of the question kept coming, but Ratcliffe offered the same answer: "No." "I will be entirely apolitical as the Director of National Intel-



Trump's top spy pick on intel strategy

WASHINGTON, May 6: Republican John Ratcliffe, President Donald Trump's pick to be the nation's top intelligence official, was nothing if not consistent as he told lawmakers a dozen or so times that he wouldn't allow politics to colour information he took to the president.

The Senators kept asking anyway as Trump's firing or forcing out of at least seven top US intelligence officials since last summer overshadowed the Texas Republican's confirmation hearing on Tuesday.

ISLAMABAD, May 6: In a Thar rocked again... Congratula- said the induction showed that

parkar has been selected as GD Pilot in #PAE"

known, those inducted in PAF at his level are often around 20. The official Radio Pakistan on

as a general duty pilot officer in report published on Wednesday PAF. - PTI

tions #RahulDev who hails from the PAF was breaking barriers. Though Dev's exact age is not

## NATIONAL ———

#### **Bengal** govt identifies thousands of respiratory, influenza-like illness cases

KOLKATA, May 6: The West Bengal government has identified over 92,000 cases of influenza-like illness and 870 people with severe acute respiratory illness across the State, findings that serve as "early warning signals" in the fight against COV-ID-19, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said.

Banerjee said the results were the outcome of her government's extensive door-todoor surveillance over the last one month, covering over 5.5 crore households, and the exercise will continue "till the virus is defeated".

"Massive door-to-door surveillance has been ongoing since past one month to identify severe acute respiratory illness and influenza-like illness cases across West Bengal.

"During the period from April 7 to May 3, over 5.57 crore household visits have been conducted. 872 cases of persons with SARI and 91,515 cases of persons with ILI have been identified and given necessary health advice," she said in a Facebook post on Tuesday.

The effort has been undertaken by 60,000 specially trained ASHA and health weeks, she said.

"The surveillance gives us fighting COVID-19," Banerjee, who also holds the health portfolio, said.

She said during the period, 375 people were admitted to different health facilities in the State, of which 62 tested positive for COVID-19 and are undergoing treatment.

Till Wednesday afternoon, West Bengal reported 72 COVID-19 deaths and the total number of cases rose to 1,456. – PTI



#### Magical Museum

The Mayong Central Museum and Emporium, Assam is renowned for its relics that propagated mysticism and sorcery. The museum contains numerous mythological manuscripts and ancient texts of Black Magic and Ayurveda.



oooo /apnedeshkojano | contribution@apnedeshkojano.com **Powered by: Priya Communications** 

## Disabled woman rides 18 hours to bring son home amid lockdown

MUMBAI, May 6: A distress call from her out thinking twice," the 37-year-old said. 14-year-old son forced a disabled woman from Pune to travel 1,200 km to Amravati on a twowheeler to bring him home amid the COVID-19 lockdown.

An accountant with a private firm, Sonu Khandare had no idea that the lockdown would force her to make the journey of a lifetime. On April 25, the 37-year-old disabled woman rode workers for the past four her scooter for 18 hours to bring her son home from a village in Maharashtra's Amravati district.

"My son Prateek had gone to my in-laws' place early warning signals and is an at a village in Anjangaon Surji tehsil on March 17 important proactive step in and was stuck there after the lockdown was announced on March 22," Khandare said.

The Khandare couple was initially not worried about the boy's wellbeing, but when the lockdown was extended further till May 4, they got restless. Khandare approached district authorities, applied for a travel pass online and even considered hiring a car for the journey, which would have cost her an exorbitant sum of Rs 8,000. After none of these options seemed viable, she personally went to the police commissioner's office to get special permission.

"When I was granted a travel pass for 48 hours on April 24, I just headed home, packed some food and water and left on my two-wheeler with- ney worth it, she said. - PTI

"I kept riding my two-wheeler even at night, with no light except the dim one coming from the headlight and to make things worse, I was stopped and questioned at every check-post along the way," she said.

Khandare made a pitstop at night at a petrol pump along the highway near Khamgaon, where she slept on the sidewalk under the watchful gaze of a CCTV camera.

"When I noticed the CCTV cameras near the petrol pump, I decided to rest there on the open ground, as I believed that if anything were to happen to me, it will be recorded," she said. She made an early start on April 25 and

reached her in-laws home in the afternoon. "I hardly spent a few hours there, as I kept thinking about getting back home safely, before my travel pass expired," said the mother of three. She managed to reach her home in Pune, with limited stops, at around 11 pm on April

26, just an hour before her travel pass expired. The trip took a toll on Khandare, who is pursuing her post-graduation in commerce in a bid to get a government job. However, knowing that her son was under the same roof during these unprecedented times, made the jour-

## India, EU need to act together on **COVID-19 impact: EU envoy**

European Union need to act together to have to share best practices, we have to overcome the impact of COVID-19 by ensure that knowledge and expertise are fostering research in innovation and coming up with coordinated response to deal with the economic consequences of the crisis, EU's Ambassador to India Ugo Astuto said on Wednesday.

Addressing a webinar on the EU-India cooperation in the post COVID-19 international environment. Astuto said the EU and India have converging interests and shared values and need to together unleash their full potential.

"We can succeed in overcoming this crisis if we act in a coordinated manner. We have to act together to meet the impact of the virus. We have to foster re- bal cooperation might come under pres- reliant. - PTI

COVID-19 infects 548 docs, nurses, paramedics across India NEW DELHI, May 6: Coro-

navirus has infected around 548 doctors, nurses and paramedics across the country so far, according to data maintained by the Centre, official sources said on Wednesday.

The figure does not include field workers, ward boys, sanitation workers, security guards, lab attendants, peons, laundry and kitchen staff among others.

According to an official source, it has not been ascertained from where these doctors, nurses and paramedic staff have acquired the infec-

tion The figure includes doctors, nurses and paramedics from Centre-run and State government-run facilities across States and Union Territories. "No epidemiological investigation of the cases were done. So there is no clear segregation on how many contracted the disease at workplace and how many got it from the community," the official source said. - PTI

invested and information is transparently shared," he said.

"We will need a coordinated response in the wake of the crisis and also to face economic consequences of the crisis. We are all in this together and we must together address the situation," Astuto added.

Speaking at the webinar, Fabian Zuleeg, chief executive of the Brussels-based think tank European Policy Centre, said there are a number of areas where the activities will not return to where they were after the COVID-19 crisis and glo-

Born:

NEW DELHI, May 6: India and the search in innovation and vaccines and we sure and there could be more challenges for multilateralism.

Shada Islam, director of Europe and Geopolitics, Friends of Europe think tank, said the coronavirus crisis has shown vulnerability of the global health system.

"In the post COVID-19 world, we need to build a massive health system. We need to work together for a vaccine and this crisis has shown the world the importance of migrants and health workers,' Islam said.

Harsh V Pant, director, Studies and Head, Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation, said the crisis has exposed the vulnerability of the global order and taught India to be self-



#### Shri Jomin Tayeng, IAS [Retd]

Formerly Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalava and MLA, Dambuk Assembly Constituency.

#### Fondly remembered on seventh death anniversary.

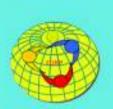
Mrs. Gum Tayeng, MLA, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

Mr. Makpel Tayeng, Mrs. Etel & Mr. Raju Tayeng, Mrs. Yatel & Mr. Bolin Tayeng, Mrs. Mimum & Mr. Tokbom Lego, Mrs. Jennifer & Mr. Abu Tayeng,

Linnyung, Ayang, Angul, Mingge, Lenong, Aman, Angki, Aseng, Leni, Alina, Leyi, Mitom and Anya. Phone: 9678787878



অসম চৰকাৰ



## Assam Community Surveillance Programme

Government of Assam has taken a pro-active step for conducting **Community Surveillance Programme at Village level across the state** 

In view of the current Covid-19 outbreak and to further check its spread in the community, our health workers will visit your houses to identify minor flu like cases/respiratory infections.

It's our earnest request to all to co-operate with our health workers and provide them with specific health details while they visit your homes.

NHM/19-20/D/241

Let us make Assam Community Surveillance Programme successful & fight against COVID-19 together

To know more contact your ASHA/ANM/DC control room or call 104

return as far as press freedom is

concerned? Just at a time when peo-

ple need an unfettered press be-

cause of Covid-19 so that they can

make informed choices, we have

#### MESSAGE FOR TODAY

Not how long, but how well you have lived is the main thing.

- SENECA

## The Assam Tribune

## Hopeful signs

The reliability of the statistics being updated hour by hour by the John Hopkins University tracker on the number of people infected or killed by the novel coronavirus at the global level, the number who have recovered, as also figures for individual nations, has been questioned. At the moment of writing the figures of people afflicted worldwide is approaching 4 million and the number of dead has crossed 2.5 lakhs, but most of these are accounted for by developed nations. The US has around 1.3 million infected and over 72 thousand dead and the UK has almost 30,000 deaths. Yet, contrary to the assumption that countries with poor health systems would be worse impacted, many nations in Asia, Africa and South America are showing lesser numbers, Indonesia (12,071/650), Bangladesh (10,929/ 183), Malaysia (6,383/106) being pertinent examples and Brazil (1,15,953/7958) being a notable exception. Fortunately, in India the figures so far (49,436/1695) too have not been high despite the fact that she has the second largest population in the world. Observers point out that the global tracker is dependent on data provided by individual nations, and many of the latter for some reason or the other have not been able to convey reliable information. However, no matter what level of inaccuracy mars this count, it does provide a broad idea that affluent nations of the West have been harder hit by Covid-19.

Though Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan has attributed the relative lower figures for India to the lockdown imposed by the Centre, the jury is still out as to how much contribution that form of containment had made. It must be noted that in many areas of the country, the lockdown was not total even before the relaxations were given, but this had not brought about an abnormal spike in numbers. A section of medical scientists have opined that India may have protective characteristics against Covid-19, and that lower number of elderly people, the heat and humidity in India, widespread BCG vaccination for tuberculosis, etc., might have lessened the severity of the pandemic. Now that there have been widespread relaxations in the lockdown, thereby enhancing manifold the chances of increase of cases, the figures obtained will no doubt provide a clue to the puzzle. If there is no sudden spike in numbers, and the death rate remains relatively on the lower side, those who believe that external factors have diluted the impact may be proved right. While the Indian people will keep their fingers crossed that unknown factors have provided a protective shield, as the Union Health Minister has said, they must not relax vigilance nor abandon healthy habits such as washing hands and keeping the environment clean. As he has asserted, behavioural changes amongst the people will not only protect them from Covid-19 but from a host of other diseases too.

## Street children's plight

A video of an 11-year-old child with folded hands praying for food for him and his three younger siblings that had gone viral across the nation midway through the lockdown epitomizes the harrowing ordeal that scores of such unfortunate street children had to endure during the crisis. This, together with the images of homebound migrant workers who had been compelled to walk hundreds of kms during the shutdown, sums up the sufferings of the country's have-not population for whom – unlike the affluent segments - self-quarantining is a luxury they cannot afford. India's large population of street children running into some 20 lakh and making their living by selling petty things or working in unhealthy and often hazardous occupations is naturally having to bear the brunt of the shutdown. The current situation has not only exposed them to the pangs of hunger but has also put them in a vulnerable position over sexual exploitation and trafficking. The street children are probably the most vulnerable segment of the population who lack savings to last them even for a day and therefore are completely dependent upon external help during a crisis of this magnitude. To make things worse, many happen to be invisible children, as they inhabit areas that are not easily accessible and the government authorities do not have proper data on them. While interventions from NGOs and the Government have been forthcoming for many such children after their tormenting tales came to light, what they are receiving could be far from adequate. There is undeniably a need for a sustained focus on the well-being of these children during the shutdown but even more crucial for their long-term well-being will be to have educational and healthcare interventions that can ensure them a dignified living. Also of utmost importance during the ongoing crisis is to educate them on the basic safeguards against the coronavirus. Taking note of the plight of the street children during the coronavirus lockdown, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has stressed the need for creating a database for linking it to various government social schemes. Such an intervention - if the government authorities pursue seriously - can go a long way in preventing these children from coming out on to the streets again. Given that many such children who are into ragpicking, street vending or begging are at shelter homes now, this could be the ideal situation to identify them and prepare a database – something that can help facilitate their long-term rehabilitation. It is also time to have a relook at the existing laws for street children and their efficacy. But rather than laws, it is the execution on the ground that will lead to effective remedies. All this will materialize only when the Government learns to honour the adage that the children are our future citizens and starts to invest heavily in child and woman development.

## Press freedom, Covid-19 and infodemic



orld Press Freedom Day on May 3 passed off quietly with many journalists not even aware about the importance of the day. Considering that information from official channels these days is sanitized before it is dished out to the media as press release, we ought to be wondering what we are actually reporting. We are told that medical ethics demand that names of any person testing Covid positive should not be revealed. If the name of the person is not revealed, how can people take precautions and stay away from him/ her during the period of infection so as to prevent the spread? That's a question that people ask.

It's here that we need to jump from medicine to sociology. Ours is both a medical and sociological problem. Governments are petrified that if people know of a Covid positive case, they might ostracize the person and not allow him/her to come into a locality or a residential premise. I tried checking out for stories of ostracization of Covid positive people anywhere in the world but what showed up were stories only from India. Is this because we are a country steeped in discrimination? We already have caste and creed differences; discrimination based on wealth ranking: on how we look (some Northeasterners were called 'Corona' in Mumbai, Bengaluru and Delhi and spat upon), so it is second nature for us to quickly discriminate people now, on the basis of an infectious disease that actually transcends all human differences. What an irony!

Covid-19 has willy-nilly forced us

in the media to daily struggle to place our stories in a politically and socially correct format and that is a hell of a balancing act to be doing day after day. Interestingly, most of the misinformation and conspiracy theories about Covid-19 originate not from traditional, mainstream media but from social media. These have created what experts now call 'infodemic'. Now here is a real time demonstration of how social media can be dangerous. Meghalaya Chief Minis-

ter Conrad Sangma tweeted on May 5, "The 11th patient who was positive was retested and unfortunately, the results are still positive. We have to retest again after three days." A WhatsApp post in Khasi interpreting the CM's tweet immediately went viral stating that 11 coronavirus patients have tested positive again. The person blamed the Government for being in a hurry to declare them negative

earlier. This is the danger of miscommunication!

We don't know how many have read that WhatsApp message but quite a few were perturbed to know that 11 more people had tested Covid positive when the Meghalaya Government was about to declare the State Covid-19-free after the last contact person tests negative which should be sooner than later. While social media is an unmediated beast and has the potential to create fear, paranoia and to stigmatize people and even lead to communal riots, it also has its uses. As a rapid communication strategy, social media quickly disseminates information from the government to the masses as has been seen during this pandemic. The Government has been using social media to announce curfew timings and opening of shops and wholesale stores and also to convey important information on hand hygiene, use of masks and sanitizers, etc. Hence all is not bad about social media. It's the irresponsible and mischievous use of the medium that is problematic. What's ironic however is that mainstream media is being blamed for the infodemic.

Covid-19 has of course taken a huge indirect toll on us media persons. Many newspaper houses had to stop printing (because it was ru-

Don't know why Covid has this intense dislike of us media persons. Perhaps it thinks we are competition and that we are virus too. Perhaps like someone said this is the time to also put the mirror to ourselves and our profession.

> moured that newspapers could be carriers of the sly virus), hence advertisements have dwindled and as a result revenues had begun to dry up. Several journalists from across the country and the region too were laid off. Just like that, one fine day they were given the golden handshake! Journalists are perhaps the least protected categories among those working in the informal sector. For those on contract, there's no health insurance coverage, no retirement benefits... nothing. Some media agencies have given their staff at least three months' salary before letting them off. But that's cold comfort when you consider the bleak horizon that stares at scribes. Don't know why Covid has this intense dislike of us media persons. Perhaps it thinks we are competition and that we are virus too. Perhaps like someone said,

this is the time to also put the mirror to ourselves and our profession. How many of us have become lap dogs licking out of the hands of politicians; tailoring news such that we say nothing against the ruling government and party; doing the bidding of politicians while pretending all the while that we are running a free and independent media!

It's unsure how the media will come of out this Covid phase. But many media owners are hurting and hurting bad. The other day while on a panel discussion *vis-a-vis* World Press Freedom day, a lady panelist suggested that media should not be adversarial towards the

Ve that media should not be es that media to should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap palled by this indiscreet are in that media to use the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that we have that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But being on hap that the not should I say indecent proposal. But the not should I say indecent proposal should I say indecent proposal. But the not should I say indecent proposal should I say indecent proposal should I say indecent proposal. But the not should I say indecent proposal should I say indecent proposal should I say indecent proposal

Is it time to redefine ourselves? Or are we now to conform to the new normal where prime time television channels are the real media? Is it journalism when people are called to engage in panel discussions and the dices are heavily loaded in favour of the ruling party with just a sprinkling of dissenting voices to pretend that the channel is objective? And those dissenting voices are finally shouted down?

And lest we forget, even during this pandemic there are many media persons who are hounded. Several have had FIRs filed against them on flimsy reasons but mainly because they are critical of the Central or State governments. Have we in this country reached a point of no

governments making it more difficult for journalists to function by imposing unnecessary restrictions on them. This is the time to critique our public health systems which have never been given the attention they deserve. Our primary health centres are in shambles in many States, more so in States like Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and also rural Assam. The attention of our State governments has been to provide health insurance to the masses but that is hardly the solution. Even with health insurance you still need to go to the hospital and if you are in the periphery, you want a hospital closer home. But that will not happen because hospitals closer home are run by government. They don't have doctors or nurses and function only once a week. This is hardly the way to run health services in a poor country. What insurance has done is to push people to private healthcare institutions. Hence in a sense the Government is promoting the private healthcare industry. But at what cost? Now when the pandemic has hit us hard, we realize how important the primary health centres are.

I wonder if governments will learn any lessons from the pandemic but I can say for a fact that without a free media to call out the government, it will be the poor of this country that will perish like flies because no one really cares for them. The plight of migrant labourers is just one case in point. There are many other areas where the government has not been circumspect about investing public resources judiciously. All these mismanaged institutions fail us at this critical hour.

(patricia.mukhim@gmail.com)

## Controlling the pandemic in Indian jails

#### Sukanya Singha

ndia is fifth in terms of prison population and the data from the National Crime Records Bureau also shows that the occupancy rate of prisoners is already 17% more than the actual capacity. This indicates the grim picture of the prisons which are not only very crowded in most States, but with pathetic facilities and hence are highly prone to the gravest risk of contracting the deadly coronavirus.

In this background in the last week of March, the Supreme Court of India took suo moto cognizance of overcrowding of prisons in the light of the novel coronavirus spread in the country. It has suggested setting up high-level panels to consider undertrials and even prisoners convicted of or charged with offences involving jail terms of seven years or less to be freed in prisons were already faced by many other countries like the USA, Italy and others and immediate steps to operate differently were being taken.

A look into the statistics reflect that if we exclusively shift our focus onto the number of undertrials in our jails, that will itself amount to almost 70% of the total inmate population. This means in India even if only these undertrials are granted bail in today's scenario, it will for sure be a big relief for these mean to let go off that individual scot free. It is a way to secure his attendance on the day of trial and also to ensure that he is available to receive his conviction. If such an objective of the concept of arresting a person is not jeopardized or eclipsed by the right of bail, then there is no harm in giving the right to that arrested person.

Surveys have shown that around 70% of the undertrials in India do not get bail as they are too poor to even afford the bail fee. It cannot be denied that the basic rule of criminal law is 'bail and not jail' as held by Justice Krishna lyer in the case of State of Rajasthan v. Balchand (1977). Hence, in some cases, bail can be exercised as a right while for others, it is left to the discretion of the court under Sections 436 and 437 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In such a pandemic situation, allowing to exercise the right of bail will not be unreasonable nor unjustifiable even if the fee cannot be paid.

a situation, not granting bail to those undertrials who are presumed innocent in the eyes of our legal system would be one of the most unfair decisions today. So the argument placed by many that the individual roaming freely will be a menace to the society will be incorrect in the case of undertrials. Bail cannot be exercised as a form of punishment.

of punishment. Therefore, our judicial system has indeed been undoubtedly active on this front by taking a very applaudable step to contain the pandemic by giving suggestions to the States to look into this matter very seriously. This timely approach to protect the rights of prisoners should not be overlooked; otherwise, if such decisions are left to delays and red-tapism, it will lead to defeating the purpose itself. On the one hand many States have taken proactive steps to control the spread of Covid-19 in prisons, like a high-powered committee (HPC) which is headed by a judge of the Delhi High Court has already recommended the release of around 1500 inmates on 'emergency parole' but by far it has been seen that only 650 have been released which is not even half of the total. Similarly in case of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, the State Legal Services Authority have directed the District Legal Services Authority which are headed by the principal district judge to comply with the directions by the apex court and recommendations of the HPC of the respective States. However, there are many States which are still to make some concrete decisions.

In the Gudikanti Narasimhulu Case (1978), Justice VR Krishna

on interim bail or parole. We already have seen in the recent weeks in the country how much havoc and devastation can take place if this pandemic spreads in the closed spaces. Similar situations to tackle the situation. Huge number of undertrial inmates is not the sole reason for putting so much emphasis on the bail of the undertrials. It is much more than that.

In legal jurisprudence, the concept of bail evolved to free prisoners or undertrials from the disease-ridden jails. Delayed trials kept them waiting in the jails for a long time so the idea was to shift the burden on a third party who would give assurance for the person arrested. Giving bail does not

It is again a very known principle of criminal law that 'one is innocent until proven guilty'. In such Iver said that the liberty of an individual and to live a life with dignity is a Fundamental Right under Article 21 and, hence, should not be allowed to be compromised at any cost as Article 21 is a golden pillar of our democracy. We cannot let slow decision making and procrastination to weaken the solemn affirmed rights to the undertrials and prisoners. Hence, it is the duty of all the States and judicial stakeholders to ensure early compliance with the Supreme Court direction.

### Letters to the EDITOR

Sir, – With the Phase 3 of the nationwide lockdown amidst the Covid-19 global pandemic imposed from May 4, 2020, this further extension has raised a question regarding how long the lockdown will continue. It's a veritable fact that the lockdown is the genuine need of the hour, with the nationwide confirmed cases tally nearing the 50,000 mark as of now and the number of fatalities crossing the 1500 mark.

However, there is no denying the fact that although the Lockdown 3.0 will carry a bunch of positives such as a much-needed check on the community transmission of the dreaded virus or the flattening of the curve of transmission of the novel coronavirus, still no one can rule out the fact that a few negatives will come to the fore from the incessant lockdown patch. With the global economy already sustaining a body blow in the wake of the nCoV crisis, with India too becoming no exception in this regard, really stiff or uphill

## .ockdown 3.0

challenges seem to be ahead of the government machinery across the country in the coming days in terms of reviving the already shattered and battered economy.

Although partial relaxations have been permitted to be given in the green and orange zones (non-hotspot zones), still I believe that the ongoing lockdown will have to be brought to an end sooner than later if we have to prohibit the occurrence of any further damage to our economy. Yours etc., ALAKESH DAS, Hengerabari, Guwahati.

#### Opening of schools

Sir, - The Assam Government is contemplating to reopen schools from June 1 next, but according to the oldest research institution in India, the Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, the coronavirus will reach its peak in India only in the last part of June. The country is in the phase three of the lockdown, still the single-day figure of infection and death was the highest on the first day of this phase, that is, May 4. The new normal for functioning schools in the midst of the pandemic situation includes proper hand-

washing and hygiene, socially distanced classrooms like the division of a class to 10 to 15 pupils, etc., which are impossible to implement in Assam due to the dilapidated school buildings, congested classrooms, unavailability of water, etc. Therefore, the State Government ought to wait till the end of June, and the reopening of schools can happen in the first week of July. During this period, the Class 10 and 12 students can be given tutorial classes at schools by select teachers as the students are on the final year of study. Other classes may be kept closed during this period. Yours etc., ANJAN CHOUDHURY, Pathsala. Virus-free certificate

Sir, – The Government may consider issuing a virus-free certificate to the general public after proper medical examination. The people will come forward at their will for having such a medical certificate. This health certificate will help people in various matters. By this process, the Government also will be able to trace the asymptomatic Covid-19 patients moving around in the society, if any. This will also

increase the number of test figures. The process will take time and will be a good step. Yours etc., BABUL BORAH, Borbari, Guwahati.

#### Woes of the poor

Sir, – Through your esteemed daily, I would like to express some views for the people of my village who work on a daily wage basis and how they are experiencing the ongoing nationwide lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Every step taken by the Government is praiseworthy but somehow the reach of the ration provided by the Government is too small and many poor and needy people who don't have BPL or ration cards are being isolated. As we know, only a fraction of people have government jobs. The rest are either doing private jobs or working on a daily wage basis. People who only depend on their wages are suffering economically leaving their family members half-starved. Their neighbours are at the same state as they also can't offer their helping hands. These people are not looking forward to any schemes or help to be offered by the government or others; they are only praying that

this Covid-19 pandemic ends soon

so that they can go back to work and earn their livelihoods. Yours etc., DIPANKAR DAS, Gauhati University.

#### **Opportunity at hand**

Sir, - Leveraging the advantage from the coronavirus pandemic, very recently the Uttar Pradesh Government held a video conference with around 100 US companies who are eager to shift their businesses from China to Uttar Pradesh. The UP Government is also making changes in its industrial and regional policies and would be providing special packages to woo those companies to invest in UP. Most of these companies include logistics, scientific instrumentation, electronics and automobile industries. It would be nice if the Government of Assam also takes similar measures to woo the companies who want to shift their base from China to Assam. This will create more employment opportunities for the State besides boosting economic development. Yours etc., ARUNAVA DEY, Ulubari, Guwahati.

Articles (within 1000-1100 words) and Letters to the Editor for publication in the editorial page may be sent to the email ID: *editor@assamtribune.com*.

Chief Secretary Kumar San-

jay Krishna gave a detailed

report to the Governor about

the COVID-19 situation in the

State and about activities of

different departments to miti-

gate the hardships being faced

by the people. He also stated

that 880 industries have start-

ed functioning following full

Principal Secretary H&FW

Samir Sinha briefed the Gov-

ernor on the treatment man-

agement of COVID-19 and the

health infrastructure and safe-

ty equipment pressed into

service for the frontline per-

sonnel engaged in treatment

ture Rajesh Prasad said the de-

partment has taken steps to reach

out to the farmers to mitigate their

woes. He also apprised the Gov-

ernor of another epidemic, the

African swine fever, that has hit

many districts of the State and of

steps taken by the veterinary and

animal husbandry department to

DGP Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta

drew the Governor's attention to

different activities carried out by

Assam Police. Strict actions are

being taken against lockdown vi-

olations. Video conferences with

all the SPs are being conducted

to ensure strict compliance with

lockdown norms, he added.

deal with the situation.

Principal Secretary Agricul-

and other allied activities.

social distancing protocol.



Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain/thundershower is very likely to occur. Maximum and minimum temperatures are most likely to be 30°C & 21°C respectively on Thursday. **TEMPERATURE:** Max 31.2° C Min 21.8° C

#### Guv extends Buddha Purnima greetings

GUWAHATI, May 6: Governor Prof Jagdish Mukhi has wished the people, particularly Buddhists, on the occasion of Buddha Purnima.

In a message, Prof Mukhi extended his warm greetings to all sections of people, especially those belonging to Buddhist community, and said Lord Buddha was one of the greatest spiritual religious teachers of the world and his teachings are universal and ever relevant. He urged all to avoid community worship and pray in their homes for a healthy tomorrow.-Staff Reporter

### Article contest

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Dept of Tourism Management, Pragjyotish College is holding an online article contest for tourism students on the topic 'Five Potential Strategies for Strengthening the Tourism Industry Post COVID-19'. Participants can send their writings within 1,500 in English or Assamese to tourismmanagement @pragjyotishcollege.ac.in before May 30. – Staff Reporter



NOVEL CAMPAIGN: Artists make use of their brush to convey a relevant message against coronavirus to the masses, as seen in Guwahati on Wednesday. - UB Photos

## 171 doctors providing online consultation in State

#### **RITURAJ BORTHAKUR**

GUWAHATI, May 6: As many as 171 State doctors have volunteered to join the long-distance patient-doctor communication platform eSanjeevaniOPD - India's largest public sector teleconsultation service.

While Assam was slow to come on board the national teleconsultation service, around 140 patients from various places of the State were offered online consultation through video conference since its launch three days back.

"It took some time because we had to provide the training to the doctors. The training is also conducted online by the Mohali-based Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a research and development organisation under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology," Additional Director of Medical Education Dr MK Choudhury told *The* Assam Tribune.

Even today, around 40 patients were provided the free consultation. The doctors operate from rooms provided in the medical colleges.

"The services are provided between 10 am to 2 pm. Most of the doctors remain online, whether at the institutions or through laptops,' Dr Choudhury said.

Even though the State has registered specialists from different departments, currently on consultation general medicine is being provided as per directions of the Central government. The specialists' consultation will take some time.

Nationwide, over 600 doctors from 13 states have been trained through video conferences to use the portal, and so far 2,953 patients have been given online consultation through the platform rolled out on April 13. The majority of states on eSanjeevaniOPD portal are currently only providing general consultations.

The eSanjeevaniOPD can be accessed smoothly by anyone with a computer with internet connection. A patient has to register on the portal, generate a token, wait for the turn and soon he or she gets connected to a doctor. A patient can upload health records and is sent an ePrescription at the end of the session. The optimal use is not possible through a smartphone, but C-DAC is planning to launch a mobile phone application soon.

The flow of patients in the State hospitals, particularly in OPDs, has dropped by more than half during the lockdown. In a bid to discourage people from visiting hospitals – where the chances of coronavirus contraction is high, the hospitals have also deferred the elective surgeries.

## 3-day blood donation camp at GMCH

#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Junior Doctors Association of GMCH and Asom Thalassaemia Society are organising a blood donation camp on May 6, 7 and 8 at GMCH.

In the wake of the COVIDcoming in to make donations, 19 outbreak and the subsethe society said in a release, quent lockdown, there are peorequesting interested persons ple in need of regular medical to participate in the camp.

assistance. Especially the transfusion-dependent tha-State for Health and Family lassemics who require a regu-Welfare inaugurated the lar supply of fresh blood transevent as chief guest along with fusion every 15-30 days. The other dignitaries and urged the already burdened blood banks IDA to continue with the blood are running dry due to the donation campaign in the fushortage of voluntary donors ture as well.

Dr Anup Kumar Barman, Director of Medical Education; Dr Ratna K Talukdar, Principal-cum-Chief Superintendent, GMCH;

Pijush Hazarika. Minister of Dr Ramen Talukdar, Superintendent, GMCH; Dr Tirtha Chaliha, in-charge, Model Blood Bank and Dr Jina Bhattacharya, HoD, Dept of Haematology were among the distinguished guests present on the occasion.

Archana Borthakur, founder of NGO Dinabandhu also attended the function and promised to collaborate with the JDA, GMCH in their activities.

#### Ferry services to resume today STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Inland Water Transport (IWT) Department will resume passenger ferry services between Guwahati-North Guwahati, Guwahati-Madhyamkhanda, Rajaduwar-Guwahati and Guwahati-Kuruwa from Thursday.

In this connection, Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary has directed the officials concerned to follow all the COVID-19-related regulations like social distancing, sanitization measures, etc., at the terminals (ghats) and vessels during the operation in the ferry services.

#### Ex-Kalakshetra secretary ill STAFF REPORTER

tam Sarma, former Secretary of Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, has been critically ill and facing great financial hardships. Sarma, who had made substantial contribution in building up the Kalakshetra as an ideal and robust organisation, needs public empathy and financial help from the Govern-

ment of Assam. Stating this, a joint statement by senior journalist DN Chakravartty, former parliamentarian Arun Sharma, actor Pranjal Saikia and social activist Ranajit Sutradhar urged the State government to arrange for Sarma's proper treatment at the earliest

## 'No vaccine yet, so social distancing only option' humanity from the threat

#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: Governor Prof Jagdish Mukhi while taking stock of the COVID-19 situation in the State, advised the health department to effectively implement 'contact tracing' to arrest the rise of novel coronavirus infection in Assam.

Reviewing the mitigation measures adopted and led by the health and family welfare department in close coordination with other line departments at Raj Bhavan here today, the Governor said with the detection of two more positive cases, - one each in Goalpara and Kokrajhar districts – concerted efforts should be made to aggressively implement contact tracing to ar-

rest the chain of transmission. Prof Mukhi said since the State was allowed to ease restrictions from May 5 and because of an anticipated further relaxation in days to come to strengthen its sluggish economy, an asymptomatic positive person may spread the infection to several others before he or she is detected as COVID positive. "So, we need to aggressively implement contact tracing to halt further progression of the dreaded virus and break the chain of transmission," he said.

Prof Mukhi asked the Chief

Health and Family Welfare and other senior officers of different line departments to sustain their series of good work in the next few months to keep the virus at bay. He also maintained that the situation in Assam in the next 14 days or so would be very crucial in the face of eased restrictions. At such a time, surveillance by the government would be of paramount important. "Our response of mitigation adopted during the lockdown period will have to be replicated and actively exercised during the present times also to track every poten-

#### Governor Mukhi reviews COVID-19 scenario

tial infection and its likely outbreak," the Governor added.

He also said in spite of the best efforts of the scientific community across the globe, since no vaccination has been developed as of now, social distancing remains the one and only protective tool to keep the virus away. He emphasised the need to enforce social distancing norms in letter and spirit.

During the meeting, the Governor also said that every department should follow the advisories set by the government for adding teeth to the administrative mechanism to win over the virus and save

**IIT-G steps up e-learning activities** this unexpected lockdown does

not delay their career growth," said an official of IIT-G. He said the Electronics & Information and Communication Technology (E&ICT) Academy of IIT-G aims to enable the scientific communitv bv organising online courses of both short and long duration, besides free threemonths-long online summer internships, interactive sessions and webinars.

The existing e-classroom facilities at IIT-G's Centre for Educational Technology (CET) are being used for recording lectures on various subjects, besides holding student-teacher interactions, and interactions with remote students through video conferencing.

These lectures are later edited for redistribution. In addition, the CET has three recording studios for recording the video content of various projects. The video lab is divided into two parts. They are basically for pre-production and post-production. For the lectures, the CET has developed a new video conferencing room having modern features," said the official, adding that the institute is seeking to utilise all the online facilities available.





Secretary, the Director General of Police, the Principal Secretary GUWAHATI, May 6: Gau-

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Guwahati has stepped up activities of its online educational facilities.

"During the lockdown, the institute is continuing its online classes for all the theory courses, numbering more than 350, and aims to complete them by May 15. The annual progress seminars, synopsis and viva-voce examinations of PhD students are also being conducted on an online mode to continuously monitor their progress as well as ensure that





## **Be Aware** of Dengue in advance

## Steps to prevent Dengue

- Don't allow water to stagnate in and around your house in open containers, coconut shells, flower pot etc.
- Use mosquito net (LLIN) while sleeping, even during the day. Dengue Mosquitoes bite during the day.
- Wear long sleeved clothes to protect yourself from mosquito bites.
- As soon as dengue like symptoms occur consult a doctor. Don't take medicine without consulting a physician.







### Symptoms of Dengue

- High Fever
- Headache
- Pain behind eyes
- Muscular pain
  - Joint pain
- Redness of the eyes
  - Rash on skin
- Bleeding from gums etc.

Prevent Breeding of Mosquitoes inside and outside of your home, save yourself from Dengue

Treatment for Dengue is available in all Govt Hospitals and lab facilities for testing is also available free of cost For more information contact your nearest Health Centre or dial 69133 47771/2/3

## NATIONAL

### Quarantine centre ...

will be able to book hotels at

themselves at such hotels as

identified by the authorities.

over the district administra-

Tezpur University campus as

a quarantine centre for the

migrant workers. Dr

Birendra Kumar Das,

Registrar and Dr Rajib

Kumar Doley, Director,

"Since we have not

campus dwellers will use

running water, drains, etc.

leading to community

certain common facilities like

transmission of COVID-19 if

even a single quarantined

virus with him/her," they

person carries the dreaded

said, adding, "Moreover, the

students will come back in

July to complete their final

semester examinations as

The academicians said that

since it is an emergency issue

objection, but since adminis-

per UGC guidelines."

there is nothing to raise

tion's decision to use the

Expressing grave concern

their own expense and

choose to quarantine

(Contd from page 1) The Community Hall along with the playground of Tezpur University is being used for screening of passengers, while the ring road around the playground will be used for parking of vehicles. The Kendriva Vidyalaya inside the campus will be used for setting up an institutional quarantine facility to accommodate around 250 persons.

Moreover, it is learnt that Centre for Inclusive Development, said the TU campus the Bijit Saikia Indoor Stadium and Polo Field in the town will is a residential one where a also be used to set up a 100number of aged people and bed institutional guarantine children live. centre. Two quarantine facilities are already operationnoticed any proper barricadal in Sirajuli and Kusumtola ing for the purpose, the model hospitals in the district quarantined people and the

with a combined strength of around 100 beds. It may be noted that as the government has initiated measures to bring back

people of Assam stranded outside the State, Tezpur, Kokrajhar, Guwahati, Silchar and Jorhat have been selected to set up zone-wise screening centres.

Mandatory registration, screening and guarantine for all people will be carried out in these centres in a bid to reduce the possibility of community transmission from probable COVID-19

· · ·	_	SI. No.	Name of
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM		1	2
No NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/3698/18/205 Dated:5 <sup>th</sup> May' 2020		1	Construct along the Haque's Group No
EXTENSION NOTICE -2 The tender notice issued vide No. NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/3698/18/ 202 Dated Guwahati the 21st March' 2020 and extended vide NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/ 3698/18/ 204 dated Guwahati the 17/04/2020 for the work "Strengthening		2	Construct along the Begum's I Group No
of Joypur SD in Dibrugarh District under NHM, Assam on turnkey basis" is hereby extended as follows:- 1. Submission of Bid: <u>19/05/2020</u> (end date) at <u>14:00 hrs.</u> (end time) 2. Opening of Bid: <u>20/05/2020</u> at <u>15:30 hrs</u>		3	Construct along the Anjir Ali's Group No
3. All other terms and conditions will remain same. Sd/- Mission Director, NHM, Assam		4	Construct Nagar to interlockir R.C.C. sla Nalbari. C
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM		5	Construct block fron to Sri Gou No. 2, Na
No NHM/C-CW/CHC/Bogapani/Tinsukia/1985/13/135 Dtd:5th May'20		6	Improvem

(Contd from page 1)

He further divulged that the Industries and Commerce Department has engaged world renowned firm Ernst & Young (E&Y) to study and assess the impact of lockdown on the industrial sector in Assam and suggest policy framework to attract industries who are planning to move out of China. He also informed that the

Industries and Commerce Department is also in touch with DPIIT and JETRO for setting up of a Japanese Industrial Township.

(Contd from page 1) Patowary said that since most of the industries were closed down during the lockdown period, it severely affected the

State's economy. As on May 5, as many as 820 industries are functioning and approximately 28,027 workers are at work in these industrial units. All 783 big tea gardens and 1.18 lakh small tea gardens have also been

reopened.

## State govt

Patowary also informed that the State Government has requested the Centre to consider Assam as one of the three places in the country where bulk pharma parks would be set up to reduce the reliance on China.

The Centre has decided to pharmaceutical industries set up three mega pharma have been realised and the parks in the country. "Indian Department of Fertilizers, pharmaceutical companies Ministry of Chemicals and are primarily dependent on Fertilizers has been China for raw materials. Now that the Centre has decided to set up the mega parks to reduce the dependency on the neighbouring

### State tea ...

In addition to these, 508 tea factories and 296 bought-leaf factories have been allowed to function. At present, 7.33 lakh workers are being engaged in the big tea gardens and about three lakh workers are working in the small tea gardens.

"Regular visits are being made by the department officers for ensuring compliance of COVID-19 guidelines in the industrial units," the minister added.

The State government has issued revised guidelines on May 5, allowing all industries in the State with their supply chain to restart without the need of

country, the Chief Minister

through a letter has asked

the Centre to set up one of

the three proposed parks in

addressing media persons

"During COVID-19

pandemic, the potential of

Assam," Patowary said

here today.

All the personnel working therein are also allowed to commute to work at all times. Warehouses, godowns, goods carrying vehicles, all construction activities have also been allowed to continue at all times.

High fatality rate in Gujarat, Maharashtra worrisome: Harsh Vardhan

NEW DELHI, May 6: Ex- measures in a systematic man- fatalities and 15,525 cases foltality rate among COVID-19 laid down by the Centre to Maharashtra and Gujarat, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Wednesday asked sis to reduce the number of

deaths in the areas. The minister held a high-

Deputy Chief Minister and Health Minister Nitinbhai Patel and Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope.

In the meeting, Vardhan stressed on the need for proper interventions like screening and testing of severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) and Influenza Like Illness (ILI) cases as this may prevent

pressing concern over high fa- ner and follow the protocols lowed by Gujarat with 368 deaths and 6,245 cases, accordpatients in some districts of prevent occurrence of fresh ing to the data provided by the cases," he said. Union health ministry.

It was pointed out that in The health ministry had on Tuesday said the nationwide some cases, the patients either the States to focus on early suppressed the information of COVID-19 case status will be surveillance, aggressive con- their infection or reported late updated on its website only tact tracing and early diagno- to the hospitals for treatment, once a day in the morning instead of twice a day as was

#### COVID-19 patients being done previously.

level meeting with Gujarat which may be indicative of Maharashtra reporting larger some fear or stigma associated with COVID-19.

Aggressive behavioural change and communication teams in containment areas, exercise need to be taken for community volunteers may removing the stigma against reporting COVID-19, which about the preventive measshall contribute towards timely reporting, clinical manage- ures like hand washing, physiment and reduction in fatality rates, the minister stressed.

"This shall also lead to peoprovide full support and handple reporting early for diagnoholding to the State governsis and treatment," he said.

ments through the National Of the 1,694 fatalities and Health Mission (NHM) for 49,391 cases of coronavirus health systems strengthening

cal distancing, etc.

In view of Guiarat and

number of coronavirus deaths

and cases, Vardhan suggested

that along with the surveillance

also be identified at the ward-

level to spread awareness

The health ministry would

special permission.

spread of infection in other areas. "Implementation of effective containment strategy needs be on the top priority of the States to reduce the mortality rate. It is the need of the infections reported till as part of the immediate and hour to take preventive, pre- Wednesday morning, Mahar- long-term measures, the emptive and comprehensive ashtra tops the tally with 617 health minister stated. - PTI SI. Name of work

community transmissionobjection, but since adminis-from probable COVID-19tration and the health depart-positive patients. People whoment have failed to carry outtest negative after 14 days ofthe act as per the guidelines of	Tr	o.NMB/NIT/95/2019-20/ <b>NOTICE INVITI</b> he Executive Officer, Nalbari Municipal Bo eriod of 180 (one hundred eighty) days from	ard, Nalbari invi	tes sealed	tenders w		No.	Name of work	Approximate Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (2%) Rs.	Cost of Tender Paper (Rs.)	Time allowed for completion	
compulsory quarantine willthe disaster managementbe allowed to go home.authority, now the TU staff asDistrict administrationwell as the foreign students insources revealed that thethe hostels are in panic that	Fe in of	ee Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and pa o printed F-2 Form from APWD Registered C f following works under 14th FC for the ye istallment) as stated in the table below.	aisa twenty five) class - I (A, B, C),	only subse Class – II	quently to & III for the	be drawn up construction	20   	Construction of road side pucca drain along the Islamsupa link road from Kutub Ali's house at W/No. 7, Nalbari Group No. FFC-20	2,54,000/-	5,080/-	500/-	30 days	
people, who do not want to they would be infected by the avail institutional quarantine deadly virus.	SI N	I. Name of work	ABLE Approximate Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender	Time allowed	į	Construction of link road from Barama Road via near Lakhi Hotel by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 8, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-21	4,36,000/-	8,720/-	500/-	45 days	
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION ASSAM	1	2	3	(2%) Rs.	Paper	for completion 6	22	Construction of link road from Jyotinagar path via Md.Abdul Mazid's house by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 8,	3,56,000/-	7,120/-	500/-	30 days	
No NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/3698/18/205 Dated:5 <sup>th</sup> May' 2020	1	Construction of Road side Pucca Drain along the Khatabari Road from Mainul Haque's house at W/No. 1, Nalbari	1,72,000/-	3,440/-	500/-	30 days	23	Nalbari. Group No. FFC-22 Construction/Improvement of Sonpur Rajohua Pukhuri by interlocking concrete	15,84,000/-	31,680/-	500/-	60 days	
EXTENSION NOTICE -2 The tender notice issued vide No. NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/3698/18/ 202 Dated Guwahati the 21st March' 2020 and extended vide NHM/C-CW/Strengthening/Sasoni CHC/Dibrugarh/	2	Group No. FFC-01 Construction of Road side Pucca Drain along the Khatabari Road from Tahima Begum's house at W/No. 1, Nalbari	2,07,000/-	4,140/-	500/-	30 days		block (remaining part) including road side pucca drain via Sri Prahlad Das's house at Sonpur, W/No. 9, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-23					
3698/18/204 dated Guwahati the 17/04/2020 for the work "Strengthening of Joypur SD in Dibrugarh District under NHM, Assam on turnkey basis" is hereby extended as follows:- 1. Submission of Bid: <u>19/05/2020</u> (end date) at <u>14:00 hrs.</u> (end time)	3	Group No. FFC-02 Construction of Road side Pucca Drain along the Debiram High School from Anjir Ali's house at W/No. 1, Nalbari	4,13,000/-	8,260/-	500/-	30 days	į	Construction of M.S. Grill of required pattern fixed to RCC Work around the Sonpur Rajohua Pukhuri at Sonpur, W/No. 9, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-24	5,94,000/-	11,880/-	500/-	45 days	
<ol> <li>Opening of Bid: <u>20/05/2020</u> at <u>15:30 hrs</u></li> <li>All other terms and conditions will remain same.</li> <li>Sd/-</li> <li>Mission Director, NHM, Assam</li> </ol>	4	Group No. FFC-03 Construction of link road from Krishna Nagar to Nirumani Barman's house by interlocking concrete block including	4,73,000/-	9,460/-	500/-	45 days		Construction of road side pucca drain from Back side of Lt. Lohit Das's house to BBNG road via Lakshi at W/No. 9, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-25	2,48,000/-	4,960/-	500/-	30 days	
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION	5	R.C.C. slab Culver at Ward No. 2, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-04 Construction of link road with paver block from Sri Maheswar Haloi's house	3,61,000/-	7,220/-	500/-	30 days		Construction of road side pucca drain along the Sonpur Link road to Shiva Mandir, Simalutal (remaining part) at W/No. 9, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-26	1,49,000/-	2,980/-	500/-	30 days	
ASSAM No NHM/C-CW/CHC/Bogapani/Tinsukia/1985/13/135 Dtd:5 <sup>th</sup> May'20	6		1,79,000/-	3,580/-	500/-	30 days		Installation of 16.0 M. LED High Mast light near Kali Mandir at Sonpur, W/No. 9, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-27	6,83,000/-	13,660/-	500/-	30 days	
EXTENSION NOTICE -3 The tender notice issued vide No. NRHM/C-CW/CHC/Bogapani/ Tinsukia/1985/13/132 dated Guwahati the 21st Mar' 2020 and extended vide NRHM/C-CW/CHC/Bogapani/Tinsukia/1985/13/133 dated	7	and sand gravelling from Malikuchi road to Iyachin Ali's house at ward No. 2, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-06 Construction of Road side Pucca Drain along the main Bidyapur Road from		13,860/-	500/-	45 days		Construction of link road from Puspakpur Adarsha Prathamik Bidyalaya to Puspakpur road by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 10, Nalbari Group No. FFC-28	6,32,000/-	12,640/-	500/-	45 days	
Guwahati the 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr' 2020 and NRHM/C-CW/CHC/Bogapani/Tinsukia/ 1985/13/134 dated Guwahati the 23rd Apr'2020 for the work "Construction of Community Health Centre [Ghoirali Model Hospital] including residential quarters at Phuloguri (Rangapara) in Sonitpur District under NRHM, Assam on turnkey basis" is hereby extended as follows:-	8	in front of Nalbari College boys hostel a W/No. 3, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-07	t 3,90,000/-	7,800/-	500/-	30 days	29	Construction of Road side Pucca drain along the Bangali Supa Link road at Puspakpur W/No. 10, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-29	3,58,000/-	7,160/-	500/-	30 days	
<ol> <li>Submission of Bid: <u>19/05/2020</u> (end date) at <u>14:00 hrs.</u> (end time)</li> <li>Opening of Bid: <u>20/05/2020</u> at <u>15:30 hrs</u></li> <li>All other terms and conditions will remain same.</li> </ol>	9	house by earth work & sand gravelling at W/No.3, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-08 Construction of Doulgobindapur link road from Sri Rajesh Bhagabati's house	6,93,000/-	13,860/-	500/-	45 days	30	Construction of Rajnagar link road from Circuit House (northern side) by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 11, Nalbari, Group No. FFC-30	4,83,000/-	9,660/-	500/-	45 days	
Mission Director, NHM, Assam SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER	10	by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 4, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-09 0. Construction of link road from Fakaruddin Ali Ahmed Path to Tanir Ali's house by		5,940/-	500/-	30 days	31	Construction of link road from Gopal Bazar Industry road via Sri Mahesh Sarma's house (remaining part) by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 11,	3,09,000/-	6,180/-	500/-	45 days	
The Additional Chief Engineer (Mechanical), Irrigation Department, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati- 3 on behalf of Governor of Assam invites online bids from Class-I registered contractor/firm of Irrigation	11	<ul> <li>interlocking concrete block at W/No. 4, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-10</li> <li>Construction of Kalafakirtola link road from Mamtaj Ali's house to Rejia Begum's house by interlocking concrete block at</li> </ul>		5,960/-	500/-	30 days	32	Nalbari. Group No. FFC-31 Construction of link road from Batiram road via Gagan Haloi' house by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 12,	4,49,000/-	8,980/-	500/-	45 days	
Department, Assam for the following works of Malancha Kalubari E.L.I.S under SOPD for the year 2019-20: <b>Group-A :</b>	12	W/No. 5, Nalbari Group No. FFC-11 2 Construction of Abdul Karim Path (remaining part) by interlocking concrete	2,16,000/-	4,320/-	500/-	30 days	33	Nalbari. Group No. FFC-32 Construction of link road from Sri Deben Kalita's house to Alternative road by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 12, Nalbari. Group No. FEC. 32	3,43,000/-	6,860/-	500/-	45 days	
Boring and Installation of 1 (one) No. of D.T.W & installation of 20 H.P Submersible Pump Set, etc. for Malancha Kalubari E.L.I.S. under SOPD for the year 2019-20 under Guwahati Mechanical Division	13	<ul> <li>Group No. FFC-12</li> <li>Construction of Kolafakirtola link road via Mukutar Rahman's House by</li> </ul>	2,78,000/-	5,560/-	500/-	30 days		Nalbari. Group No. FFC-33 The tender will be received by the undersig same date, place and hours thereof. Det ersigned from 08.05.2020 and tender pa	tail Particulars i pers will be iss	may be se ued on 11	en in the .05.2020	office of the during office	
(Irrigation), Guwahati in the district of Kamrup in the state of Assam amounting to Rs. 16,56,000.00 (Rupees	14	<ul> <li>interlocking concrete block at W/No. 5, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-13</li> <li>4 Construction of road side pucca drain</li> </ul>	2,13,000/-	4,260/-	500/-	30 days	Offic	rs on payment of Rs. 500/- in the form of D cer, Nalbari Municipal Board, Nalbari. 1. The tenderer will have to submit the					
sixteen lakh & fifty six thousand) only in 1 (one) package. <b>Group-B:</b> Fabrication & Installation of 2 (two) nos. of M.S. Pontoon including installation & commissioning of 10	15	along the Baruah road (Northern side) at ward No.6, Nalbari Group No. FFC-14 5 Construction of Hatkhola Bazar link	5,79,000/-	11,580/-	500/-	45 days	i	<ol> <li>License Certificate and PAN Card.</li> <li>The Contractor must submit the work of less than 40% of the estimated cost,</li> </ol>	done certificate o	of similar n	ature of w	ork value not	
H.P. vertical submersible pump set, painting, anchoring, supply & laying of canvas pipes, etc. for Malancha Kalubari E.L.I.S. under SOPD for the year 2019-20		road (remaining 5nos) by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 6, Nalbari Group No. FFC-15					i	<ul> <li>authorized Engineer in-charge.</li> <li>If for any reason, the last date of receip non working day, tender papers will be</li> <li>Rate is to be quoted both in figures an</li> </ul>	issued and rec	eived on su	ibsequent	working day.	
under Guwahati Mechanical Division (Irrigation), Guwahati in the district of Kamrup in the state of Assam amounting to Rs. 8,61,000.00 (Rupees eight lakh &	16	6 Construction of Santipur Maszid link road from Santipur Maszid to Saidul Islam's house by interlocking concrete block at W/No. 7, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-16	4,05,000/-	8,100/-	500/-	45 days		<ol> <li>Rate is to be quoted both in figures and words legibly as "As per" or percentage abo below the schedule of rates for roads, bridges &amp; culverts for rural roads for all divisio under APWD (R) Assam for 2017-18 and under APWD (B) Assam for the year 2013 or the rates in the Annexure of NIT.</li> <li>The contractor must deposit Earnest money @ 2%, 1% in case of ST, SC, OBC &amp; UI (UGE) on tender value in the form of call deposit/ Bank draft/ FDR duly pledged to undersigned along with tender, without which tender will be rejected straightway.</li> <li>The undersigned reserves all the right to reject or accept the tenders in respect of ra being quoted as per, above and below by the intending tenderer without assigning a</li> </ol>					
sixty one thousand) only in 1 (one) package. Details may be seen at website http:// assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 10-00 Hours of	17		, ,	9,700/-	500/-	45 days							
05.05.2020 & upto 14-00 Hours of 15.05.2020. All the above works must be completed as per direction of the Department and as per sizes and	18	<ul> <li>8 Construction of link road from Dilip Sarma house's to Jiten Sarma's house by interlocking concrete block at Santipur W/No. 7, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-18</li> </ul>	1,75,000/-	3,500/-	500/-	30 days	8	<ul> <li>reason thereof.</li> <li>7. Terms &amp; Conditions will as per printed</li> <li>8. Payment will be made subject to a</li> <li>9. All machineries and materials will have</li> </ul>	vailability of fu				
specifications provided by the Department. Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer (Mech) Irrigation Department, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati 3	19	<ol> <li>Construction of road side pucca drain along the Islamsupa road from Ajgar Ali's house to Majamil Ali's grocery shop at W/No. 7, Nalbari. Group No. FFC-19</li> </ol>	1,67,000/-	3,340/-	500/-	30 days		10. The tender amount for each work has I	0	l including S	all taxes ( <b>d/- Exec</b> i	GST, L/Cess) utive Officer icipal Board	
Janasanyog/C/226/20 Chandmari, Guwahati-3.							Jana	sanyog/CF/145/20				Nalbari	

#### requested to support the State Government in setting up a bulk pharma park in Assam," the Minister said.

Forecast for North Eastern States : Rain/thundershower is very likely to occur at most places over Assam, Meghalaya Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura and at many places over Arunachal Pradesh

Warning: Thunderstorm with lightning is very likely to occur at isolated places over Arunacha Pradesh. Thundersquall with wind speed exceeding 60 kmph is very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Heavy rain is very likely to occur at isolated places ove Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura

Temperatures :

lax (°C)	Min (°C)
30.7	23.0
27.6	21.6
28.0	21.6
29.8	21.2
28.0	21.9
29.4	22.3
21.3	-
22.2	15.1
26.1	16.9
23.7	14.4
30.2	23.0
28.8	21.0
29.1	18.9
30.2	23.2
	30.7 27.6 28.0 29.8 28.0 29.4 21.3 22.2 26.1 23.7 30.2 28.8 29.1

#### Arunachal CM greets people on Buddha Purnima CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, May 6: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has greeted the people of the State on the occasion of Buddha Purnima, which will be observed tomorrow.

A devout Buddhist himself, Khandu said Buddha Jayanti is an important day in the lives of Buddhists, but Buddha Purnima holds specific importance as it falls on a full moon day considered truly holy.

He called upon the people, irrespective of their religious affiliations, to take time out to reflect on Lord Buddha's teachings of compassion, peace and honesty - the virtues that are losing out to modern day's ma-

terialistic cravings. Khandu appealed to all to follow the guidelines circulated by the Health Department and be safe by maintaining social distancing and following safety protocols.

#### Drugs seized CORRESPONDENT

AIZAWL, May 6: A joint team of Mizoram Police and

## **Tripura Govt seeks** report from BSF IG

#### COVID-19 outbreak at BSF Bn HQ

subsequently discharged from hospital.

The entire Dhalai district has been notified as a Red Zone following the outbreak and a three-km radius each in three localities has been marked as containment areas, restricting public movement.

The State Government has asked the BSF IG as to how the outbreak took place inside the battalion headquarters.

Meanwhile, State Education Minister Ratal Lal Nath said all the BSF jawans who tested COVID-19 positive

would be shifted from the GB Pant Hospital to the BSF Tripura Frontier Headquarters Hospital at Salbagan on the outskirts of the State capital as early as possible.

"A request came from the BSF authority to shift all the COVID-19 patients from the GB Pant Hospital to the BSF hospital at Salbagan. The matter will be decided shortly," said an official here today. Meanwhile, there are al-

legations that 12 BSF personnel, who have tested positive, complained of incon-

venience during their shifting from Ambassa to the GB Pant Hospital on Tuesday. The ambulance in which they were travelling, stopped at Mungiakami and then at Champaknagar as the jawans expressed resentment over the alleged poor facilities provided by the Dhalai district administration.

Till date, 5,850 COVID-19 tests have been carried out in Tripura, while a total of 6,287 swabs have been collected by Health workers. As many as 173 individuals have been put under facility quarantine and 855 people have been homequarantined.



## Mizoram Govt employees take pay cut to fight COVID-19

#### CORRESPONDENT

AIZAWL, May 6: Mizoram Government employees have decided to donate 5 to 10 per cent of their salaries to the State's exchequer to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic. A decision to this effect was taken in a meeting chaired by State Chief Secretary Lalnunmawia Chuaungo and attended by representatives of various government employees' bodies on Tuesday. Representatives of

955 stranded

persons return

to Meghalaya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, May 6: Alto-

gether 955 stranded persons entered Meghalaya from dif-

ferent parts of the North East

at least 75 associations were present in the meeting.

Group A, B and C employees will forego 10 per cent of their basic pay, while Group D employees will give up 5 per cent of their basic pay, official sources said. The salary cut will start from May and continue till December.

Chuaungo briefed the associations on the unprecedented crisis the State has been facing due to the coronavirus outbreak. "Global economy is shattered and the actual im-

pact on the economy is yet to be known. Due to the nationwide lockdown, tax revenue has considerably declined. While the Central funding has reduced, crores of rupees are being spent on fighting against COVID-19 from the State's annual budget," he pointed out.

Chuaungo urged all government employees to make collective efforts to join the fight against the virus outbreak in view of the gradual economic slowdown

#### ORTH EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED CIN U40101ML1976GOI001658 SHORT NOTICE INVITING BI

IB No. 356 Dated 05-05-202

NEEPCO invites e-tenders for "Supply of 400 Nos. of MS Windows Server CAL Installation, configuration, commissioning of MS Windows Server OS, DNS and Active Directory, client configuration, deployment and technical support for a period of 1 year for Corporate Office, Shilong, For details, visit https://www.neepco.co.in. Subsequent notifications against this tender shall be updated on the above mentioned websites only

Sd/- Chief General Manager I/c C&

#### ASSAM ELECTRICITY GRID CORPORATION LIMITED NOTICE INVITING TENDER

General Manager, Bongaigaon T& T Circle, AEGCL, invites sealed offers (single stage two envelope in prescribed form from reputed Electrical Firm/ Dhaligaon, procedure) Contractors/ Suppliers with sound technical and financial cap

Contractors' suppress with sound technical and hnancial capabilities for the following work. "Empanelment of party/ firm/ contractor for a period of 2(Two) years with provision to extend by 1(One) year for works related to various O&M works in Grid Sub Stations of AEGCL under Bongaigeon T&T Circle, AEGCL, Dhalligaon". Cost of Tender Paper is ₹1000/- only.

	Date of issue of tender papers	All working days w.e.f. 06-05-2020 to 28-05-2020
-	Last date of submission of tender papers (offline)	
-	Techno-Commercial Bid Opening Date & Time For detail, please visit AEGCL's official webs	15:00 hrs. of 29-05-2020 site: www.aegol.co.in
<b>S</b>	The intending bidders have to download th the AEGCL website (www.aegcl.co.in). It	e bidding documents from S
n	issued from this office (Except in case of from this office). Sd/- DGM, Bongaigaon T&1	error paper will be issued g

#### ASSAM POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED A fully customer centric co

SHUT DOWN NOTICE

This is for general information to our valued cor the ongoing renovation works of 33KV and 11KV line infrastructure under Amingaon Electrical Sub-Division, the normal power supply to the areas mentioned below will be affected w.e.f. 07-06-2020 to 20-05-2020 from 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM. However, every made to minimize the interruption of power

Areas affected: Kolbari, Abhoypur, Majgaon, Dihing Ghoramara, Moriapotti, Amingaon Bazar, Bishal Estate, Bhetamukh Tiniati, Bor Rangmahal, Madhupur, Katabazar, Rudreswar, Madhyamkhanda, Lenga, Kurua, Satgaon, BIP, Changsari, Chowkigate, Jalah, Dadara, Pochoria, Molong, DIC, Gouripur, Dependentioner, Dakabari Edung, Reidusr etc. Dhopatoribozar, Dekabari, Fulung, Rajaduar etc

Inconvenience that may be caused to cur valued consumers is highly regretted. The undersigned reserves the right to restore the power supply at any time after completion of work.

Sd<sup>/,</sup> Assistant General Manager Guwahati Electrical Division (W) APDCL, LAR, Amingaon

Please pay your energy bill on time and help us to serve you better!

#### CANCELLATION OF TRAIN SERVICES DURING THIRD PHASE OF LOCKDOWN

Due to the measures taken in the wake of COVID-19 it has been decided that:

(1) All originating Long-distance Mail/Express (including Intercity trains) and All originating passenger trains shall remain cancelled from 04-05-2020 to 17-05-2020.

(2) All Narrow Gauge trains will remain cancel upto 17-05-2020. (3) Freight & Parcel train operations shall continue.

However, Shramik Special trains will carry stranded persons shortlisted and brought to Station by concerned State Governments only

No one shall come to any Station for their journey tickets. Inconvenience caused to the Passengers is regretted

EXTENSION NOTICE



Residents of Meghalaya registering themselves at the entry point in Ri-Bhoi district for medical tests, following their return from other North Eastern States, on Wednesday. - UB Photos

## Focus on agriculture: Rio to people

#### hospital in Tuensang.

He congratulated the people and the Tuensang Chamber of Commerce and Industries on setting up an ICU in the hospital. Rio asked government departments, civil societies, churches and NGOs to work together for the safety of the public.

"As elderly people are more vulnerable to COVID-19, we will continue to take care of them on the basis of the guidelines to contain the infection even though we do not have any positive case in Nagaland till date," Rio said. He also gave details of relaxation of lockdown and inter-district movement of stranded people.

Deputy Chief Minister Patton, who also holds the Home portfolio, asked Tuensang DC Kumar Ramnikant to direct all villages to open their entry points and allow the stranded people returning from other places, to enter their respective villages.

sponding to a memorandum on installation of a ventilator at the Tuensang District Hospital, said ventilators are currently being installed in Kohima and Dimapur. He asked the district administration and the medical department to check the quality of the incoming medical consignment and return it if it is not up to the mark.

bear train fare for stranded

people of the State. It also

decided to provide Rs 200

per head per day along with

medical items and support to

the stranded persons during

their stay at the community

It may be mentioned here

that a meeting of the State

Consultative Committee for

COVID-19 held on May 5

discussed the arrangement

of community guarantine

guarantine centres.

till 6 pm on Wednesday. According to figures available, the maximum number of 557 people entered through the Byrnihat check gate in Ri-Bhoi district, followed by 277 people who entered through

the Bajengdoba check gate in North Garo Hills district. As many as 76 persons entered through the Ratacherra gate in East Jaintia Hills district and 45 people through the Tikrikilla gate in West Garo Hills district.

ment started to take in the people belonging to the State, who are stranded in other North Eastern States, from Tuesday. warns of stern action against

SHILLONG, May 6: The the social media. A similar pic-

CORRESPONDENT DIMAPUR, May 6: Naga-

CORRESPONDENT

AGARTALA, May 6: Tak-

ing serious note of the out-

break of COVID-19 in the head-

quarters of the 138th Battal-

ion of the BSF based at Jawa-

harnagar in Dhalai district of

Tripura, the State Govern-

ment has sought a report from

the Inspector General (IG) of

the BSF, Tripura Frontier, on

This follows after 13 more

BSF jawans tested positive

for COVID-19 in Tripura

last night, taking the total ac-

tive cases of the disease in

the State to 40. Two earlier

patients were treated and

the development.

land Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today asked the people of the State to focus on agriculture and allied sectors, and progressive entrepreneurship.

meeting of district officers, members of civil societies, church leaders and NGO representatives in the conference hall of the Tuensang Deputy

Rio clarified that the COVand equipment. The Naga-

#### posed a six-rupee cess on petrol and a five-rupee cess

on diesel from the midnight of April 28.

Appreciating the hard work of frontline and other workers in the ongoing fight against COVID-19, Rio gave details of the video conference held with the Central Government on the law-andorder situation. success sto-

Health Minister Phom, re-

The Meghalaya Govern-

The returning persons are being screened and tested, if necessary, at the check gates. They will have to undergo a 14-day quarantine at home, together with their family members once they are back, the Government has notified. Meghalaya Govt

hunting incidents STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Meghalaya Government has warned of taking stern action against those who killed a bear in an East Khasi Hills village recently. Pictures of villagers trying to burn the fur of the killed animal have surfaced on

He was addressing a joint

Commissioner's office. ID-19 cess on fuel prices in the State has been levied to reinforce medical facilities

## land Government had im-

main closed.

Young Mizo Association seized a huge quantity of heroin and methamphetamine from the residence of one Lalchungnunga (32) at Zokhawthar in Champhai district near Myanmar border today.

Police sources said they recovered 24 hawngs (one hawng is equal to 15 grams) heroin, 9,000 methamphetamine tablets and about 1 kg of methamphetamine powder. The value of the seized drugs is estimated to be Rs 10 lakh. The accused has been booked and forwarded to judicial custody.

## Main Manipur markets to remain closed

#### CORRESPONDENT

May 17 with exemptions for

order supersedes the order IMPHAL, May 6: The issued on May 3.

ries and loopholes.

Later, along with Deputy

Chief Minister Y Patton, Min-

ister for Environment, For-

est and Climate Change CM

Chang and Health and Fami-

lv Welfare Minister S Pang-

nyu Phom, the Chief Minis-

ter inspected the COVID-19

essential services. Today's

The essential services/ac-Manipur Government today decided to continue the locktivities which are permitted down in the State. The main during the lockdown period markets in Imphal, including (May 6-17) in the State include women's markets, will resupply of essential goods, movement of cargo, healthrelated activities, public utili-State Chief Secretary Dr J Suresh Babu today issued an ties, agricultural and allied acorder to this effect following tivities, fisheries, animal husbandry, finance sector, social a Cabinet decision on continuing with the lockdown till sector, online teaching, MGN-

and private establishments. construction activities, offices of Central and State Governments, etc.

Earlier, Chief Minister N Biren Singh chaired a Cabinet meeting and reviewed the prevailing situation in the State after relaxation of the lockdown and discussed issues related to bringing back Manipuri people stranded in other parts of the country.

The meeting resolved to centres in the State. ture of some persons carrying the carcass of a barking deer had earlier appeared on the social media.

petrators of the crime.

the foothills of Pynursla.

identification of those involved

in the killing of the barking deer.



Dated 05.05.2020 NIT No. Name of Work Value of work Providing LED street light with pole through that "appropriate action would UG cable at the locations : Teacher's Qtr. No. т/19-20/ be initiated" against the per-3 to 30: Old SBI to Teacher's Qtr No. 53 and 42,95,239/-364 up to Sundarbari Gate via New Teacher's fla The Asiatic black bear is an in GU campus (under RUSA-2). Г/19-20 Widening of road from Bio-diversity to RCC-2 endangered animal found in 29,51,570/ 365 Boy's Hostel at Gauhati University (under many Asian countries includ-RUSA-2) ing Bangladesh, which lies on It is for information of all concerned that the last date of submission o Tender for the above works is hereby extended up to 2.00 p.m. of 22.05.2020 on account of COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and will be Meanwhile, the State Govopened on same day at 2.30 PM. Other terms and conditions will remain ernment has placed advertisehe same. For further details, bidders are requested to visit the GU website ment in local newspapers for www.gauhati.ac.in

> Sd/- Superintending Engineer Gauhati University

General Manager (Operations)



ERGA works, commercial

#### CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, May 6: In order to discuss the economic hardships faced by small traders and entrepreneurs following the nationwide lockdown since March 25 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein today held a meeting with members of State's apex trade body, Arunachal Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI), and senior officers of the Departments of Finance, Planning and Investment and Agriculture at his Secretariat office here.

The Deputy Chief Minister stressed: "Amid the pandemic, we have to carry out our day-to-day activities like office work, agriculture and industrial works, etc., in order to thrive. However, we must do it with certain restrictions while maintaining social distancing and by ad-

hering to other government norms and guidelines in order to contain the further spread of the disease."

Admitting that small traders and entrepreneurs have been hit hard during the prolonged lockdown period, Mein urged officers to bring in economic reforms by optimum

utilisation of technology and through innovative ideas.

While giving emphasis on agriculture and allied activities to make the State selfsufficient in food and vegetables, the Deputy Chief Minister called for optimum utilisation of the vast land resources of the State.

He also made a case for reviving the Arunachal Pradesh Marketing Corporation to market farm produce and regulate the flow of fruits and vegetables from the districts into the State capital region. During the meeting, a committee was formed under the chairmanship of the

Principal Secretary (Finance) to find out a feasible policy to tide over the existing situation in conformity with the Central Government's directives, if any.

ACCI secretary general Toko Tatung, while submitting a proposal to the State Government for COVID-19 working capital gap funding for business enterprise as relief, said that this sector provides maximum employment to the unemployed youths of the State, and sought government support. Principal Secretary (Finance) AC Verma, Commissioner (Planning and Investment) PS Lokhande, Finance Secretary YW Ringu, Planning and Investment Secretary Himanshu Gupta, Agri-

culture Secretary Bidol Tayeng and Director Anong Lego, Lead Bank Manager S Ranjit Singh and ACCI president Tarh Nachung attended the meeting.



#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) COMMERCIAL/ OFFICE SPACE REQUIRED ON LEASE

SBI Infra Management Solutions Pvt. Ltd. invites offers on behalf of SBI from owners / Power of Attorney holders for premises on lease rental basis for Commercial / Office use for SBI Regional Business Office (RBO)-IV, at Nalbari, Assam having built up area of approx. 743.00 Sqm (8000.00 Sq ft) to 790 Sqm (8500.00 Sqft), located in and around Nalbari Town area (non congested area). The detailed terms and conditions, formats for submission of bids may be obtained from the office of "Regional Manager, Regional Business office, Region-IV, State Bank of India, Swagota Square, 6th floor, ABC Point, G. S. Road, Guwahati-781005 Assam" and also can be downloaded from website www.sbi.co.in under procurement news. The last date for submission of tenders is up to 1700 hours on 18.05.2020 Circle Head & Assistant Vice President (Civil)

## State \_\_\_\_\_

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**



Despite prohibition on children coming outdoors during the third phase of the nationwide lockdown, mothers seen carrying their children on the main NT Road in North Lakhimpur today. – Photo: Farhana Ahmed

#### Wild mushroom claims one

JORHAT, May 6: A youth identified as Kiran Palang (24) of Titabar Sariyapathar Misinggaon under Titabar subdivision (Civil) of the district died today at the Jorhat Medical College and Hospital reportedly after consuming poisonous wild mushrooms. A JMCH doctor stated that Kiran died due to food poisoning suspected of toxic mushroom consumption as told by the patient and family members. The doctor said the deceased's father Mahipal Palang (51), who is in a serious condition due to same cause, has been referred to the GMCH.- Staff Correspondent

Ex-CRPF jawan lynched

NILAMBAZAR, May 6: An ex-CRPF jawan was lynched by a youth at Ghoramara village under Badarpur Police Station recently. The deceased has been identified as Parikshit Das (48). Meanwhile, police has registered a case against Pritom Das and Swapan Das. - ANN Service

#### Sanitisers, masks distributed

DOOMDOOMA, May 6: The Labour Union of IOC (AOD), Digboi on Tuesday distributed sanitisers, masks and sweets among the inmates of Keshav Bahety Surjudoy Children Home located at Gangabari here. The Union also handed over a cheque of Rs 10,000 to the superintendent of the Children Home, Jinti Gogoi and the Director of Surjudoy, Akhil Chandra Baruah. - Correspondent

#### Masks distributed among scribes

BARPETA, May 6: Mediapersons associated with Barpeta Press Club were provided masks by the Barpeta Municipality Board under Urban Livelihood Mission. District Information and Public Relation Officer Bikash Sarma and Executive Officer of the Municipality cum Circle Officer, Barpeta Nabajit Pathak handed over the masks to the scribes at a function held at the Barpeta Press Club which was conducted by Mintu Pathak Manager of Urban Livelihood Mission Barpeta. The masks were prepared by the members of a women's self-help group under the Livelihood Mission.- Correspondent

#### Policemen, medics feted

DOOMDOOMA, May 6: As a part of expressing gratitude to the doctors and other medical staff and police personnel who have been extending their tireless service to the people and the nation at this critical time of COVID-19 pandemic, the students of Tinsukia Law College on Tuesday felicitated the Officer-in-Charge of Doomdooma PS, Moni Mohan Konch and a few other officials of Assam Police and CRPF for all the staff of the PS. - Correspondent

#### Stranded people returning

GOSSAIGAON, May 6: As per the decision of the State Government, the people who were stranded in various places in the country have started returning to their homes in batches through Srirampur inter-state border since yesterday. Two buses carrying the stranded people at various places of Rajasthan arrived at the gate. After their arrival, they thermal checking was conducted by doctors and the medical staff. They have been kept under 14-day quarantine as per the norms set by the State Health department. - Correspondent

## Containment zone tag lifted

#### CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, May 6: With the or influenza like illnesses. lapse of 28 days since the last tested

ed positive case and no report of any severe acute respiratory infections The order stated that the deci-

## **COVID-19 preliminary tests in Golaghat,** Barpeta districts begin today

#### CORRESPONDENT

DERGAON, May 6: In a bid to speed up coronavirus testing, the Golaghat district administration has set a target of covering 2.34 lakh households for conducting novel coronavirus tests in its first phase.

In this connection, nearly 58 medical teams have been constituted by the administration from the 144 health sub-centres and all the members of the teams will be engaged to conduct house-to-house survey to collect the data of the people. The survey will commence from tomorrow. The teams consist of ASHA workers, surveillance workers, anganwadi workers amd Community Health Officers.

The entire programme will be

supervised by the medical personnel of four Community Health Centres, five Model Hospitals, 36 Mini Primary Health Centres, State Dispensaries and five Block Primarv Health Centres of the district. The team members will first

collect data on the basis of symp-



Health workers stamping a man for home quarantine in Dergaon town of Golaghat district today. – Photo: Sanjoy Kr Hazarika

toms developed by the people. After that the doctors will check up the doubtful members with particular symptoms and then will collect sample by the laboratory technicians in case of any emergency. Golaghat Deputy Commissioner, Bibhash Chandra Modi revealed

that they would prepare a database of health status of the residents family wise.

Addressing a press meet at his conference hall, the DC said that the month-long programme would cover as many as 1145 villages, including 500 forest villages in the

district. The DC also sought cooperation from the people to make a complete data base to fight the coronavirus.

ANN Service adds from Patacharkuchi: The Barpeta district administration has decided to conduct COVID-19 tests on the peo-

ple from tomorrow. To carry forward the plan, the district administration has constituted 103 medical teams covering doctors, health workers, laboratory technicians, ASHA workers and panchayat members.

The teams will visit 1,005 villages in which the team members will collect detailed travel history and symptoms of cough and fever of the people. "If they get any symptoms of fever and cough, then laboratory technicians will collect blood and swab samples for the requisite COVID-19 test. During the new initiative, the members will also collect samples for conducting tests of JE, dengue, Rubella and other diseases," a highly-placed source said. An important meeting was held in this connection, which was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner of Barpeta, Munindra Sarma and it was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Sabyasashi Kashyap and Joint Director of Health, Dr Tirtha Nath Sarma.

## Odd-even formula begins in Jorhat

#### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, May 6: The Jorhat district administration has imposed the odd-even formula for plying of vehicles in the district with immediate effect.

An order passed on Monday by the Jorhat District Magistrate, who is also the Chairman of Regional Transport Authority, stated that all type of vehicles, both commercial and private, including two-wheelers, having registration numbers ending with odd digits (1,3,5,7,9) will be allowed to ply on Monday, Wednesday and Friday only.

The plying of vehicles with registration numbers ending with even digits (0,2,4,6,8) will be allowed on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, the order mentioned. The restrictions will not be applicable on Sunday, the order stated.

The order further said that the restrictions will not be applicable to medical services, police, Fire services, emergency response for restoring telecom and electricity and other law enforcing agencies and vehicles of print, electronic media personnel with proper identity.

The restrictions will also not be applicable on vehicles of Government offices, vehicles engaged Government scheme works which have been specifically permitted by the district administration, Jorhat, vehicles carrying essential goods including green tea leaves already

permitted by the district administration, Jorhat, and cash carrying vehicles to ATMs and vehicles of other districts passing through Jorhat district, the order mentioned.

Vehicles of on-duty employees specifically engaged in emergency and essential services carried out during the lockdown period for COVID-19, vehicles of officers/ employees of judiciary and advocates engaged for urgent court cases only too have exempted from the restrictions, the order stated.

The restrictions will remain in force until further direction in this regard, the order said. Any violation of the directions issued will attract penal action in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Act, the order said.

## Migrant toymakers stuck in Dhubri due to lockdown

#### CORRESPONDENT

ket, and , therefore, they ( toy-DHUBRI, May 6: A group of makers) come every year to Dhumigrant toymakers, who came bri and its neighbouring areas. from Saharasa and Khagaria dis-He also said, "This year our busitricts of Bihar, a couple of months ness is poor. We have finished whatback, are now stuck in Dhubri. They 'The lockdown has severely hit our which we manufactured for the Ashokastami Mela, remained with us due to lack of demand," Mohamamd Amim, the group leader told this correspondent.

The clay toys, which they make

#### Probe demanded into 'inflated' bill CORRESPONDENT

GOALPARA, May 6: A probe has been demanded into an allegedly inflated bill submitted by a firm for providing meals during the last parliamentary polls held in Goalpara in 2019. The district administration has refused to pass the bill and sent

#### CORRESPONDENT day on April 1. Ninety-nine per COVID-19 cases. been shifted to designated gov-

MANGALDAI, May 6: Like the frontline warriors such as doctors, paramedical and health workers, the drivers and staff of the 108 Mrityunjoy ambulance emercent of the cases transported have

While ruling out any possible risk of infection for ambulance staff ernment hospitals and guarantine and other patients on board, Prasfacilities. As many as 1,750 (76%) ad claimed, "We believe in the safecases have been shifted to medity of our frontline staff running our ambulances and have provided

respondent, Swarup Kalita, Emergency Management Executive (EME), Darrang, said that out of 26 ambulances operational in the district, three are especially placed in the service to combat COVID-19 for which altogether

it for reverification. It has come to notice that a catering firm 'Raj Enterprise' submitted a refreshment bill dated 27/05/2019 vide order no. GEL.,02/QUOTA-TION/2019/13-A, amounting to Rs 51,66,172/- for supplying cooked food items as meals and light refreshments to the office personnel engaged in connection with the conduct of the last parliamentary election, 2019. According to information available, the district administration has not given the nod for payment of the said bill till date and has sent the bill back for verification and rechecking to the ADC, I/c refreshment cell, parliamentary elections, 2019 vide letter no GEL-82/Various Bill/M.P., dated 11/03/20. Talking to this correspondent, social activist Noni Das while discussing the amount of the bill alleged that the amount was highly inflated considering the quality of food served during the conduct of the last parliamentary elections where there were several instances of resentment regarding the quality of food supplied by these caterers, especially during the training programmes. However, Noni Das was taken aback while going through a few food items on the refreshment bill submitted by the firm which mentioned that the bill amount mentioned under 'chicken biryani' was Rs 9, 37, 840/- for supplying 11,723 meals in eight days (i.e., 26, 27, 28, 29/03/2019 & 9, 10, 11, 12/04/2019) while some other prominent amounts that figured in the bill were of Rs 22,01,500/- for providing dinner to 18,500 numbers on April 23, 2019 and Rs 8,64,000 for providing lunch on April 22, 2019 to the staff and officers engaged in the conduct of the elections, respectively. Das while welcoming the initiative of the district administration also demanded a thorough probe on such an inflated bill submitted by the catering firm which was countersigned by the concerning officials.

generally make different kinds of clay toys and sell them to markets as per demand of the people. But due to the ongoing lockdown, they have not been able to sell their toys. people to a large extent as toys

ever we brought with us from Bihar. "We want to go to our native villages as we are facing shortage of food. A section of people has extended help by providing food, but how long will it continue," he asked. Amim appealed to the district administration to arrange a transport service so that they can return to Bihar. "We are spending sleepless nights as we do not have any money to buy food and medicines, if

have a huge demand in the mar-

such situation continues for a long time we will die," he said.

## 85 Mrityunjoy ambulances catering to COVID-19 cases

COVID-19 positive case and no report of any severe acute respiratory infections or influenza like illnesses, the Hailakandi district administration has lifted the containment and buffer zone tag from Borjurai village under the Hailakandi revenue circle with immediate effect.

In an order issued to this effect on Wednesday, District Magistratecum-Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority, Keerthi Jalli stated that the withdrawal of containment zone and seven-km peripherv buffer zone from Borjurai village has been done in view of completion of 28 days since the last test-

sion has been taken in compliance with the updated Containment Plan of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

It further stated following the withdrawal of the containment zone and buffer zone tag from Borjurai, the village is 'subject to same restrictions as it exists in other parts of the district'. Borjurai was placed under con-

tainment zone with a buffer zone of seven-km radius close to midnight of April 7 following the detection of a COVID-19 positive case. The 65year-old COVID-19 infected patient later died at the SMCH on April 10.

gency service have also been working relentlessly in the battle to combat the COVID-19 pandemic

With more than 500 staff, the 108 ambulance service has a current fleet of 696 surface ambulances in Assam and out of these, 85 ambulances have been exclusively designated to cater to only COVID-19 patients. "Our data indicates that 77 per

cent of the suspects being transported are males and 23 per cent are females. The highest number of suspected cases was 210 and they were transported in a single cal colleges and district hospitals, 184 (8%) to PHCs and 380 (16%) to CHCs," said Dhurbjyoti Prasad, State Head of Marketing and Communication, EMRI, the agen-

cy operating the service. According to Prasad, the authorities have also played a major role in the smooth operations of the 108 service where they have provided PPE kits to the ambulances whenever a COVID-19 suspect is to be transported. The district authorities have also played a crucial role by successfully implementing training programmes to the EMTs and pilots across the districts for handling

each and every ambulance in our fleet with sodium hypochlorite solution to sanitise the ambulance before and after the transportation of a suspected COVID-19 patient. All the ambulances have been provided with adequate number of hand sanitisers and face masks and video-based training on ambulance sanitisation along with standard operating procedure for handling COVID-19 patients."

He extended his heartfelt gratitude to their EMTs and pilots who have stayed undeterred in the frontline during these hard times. Meanwhile, talking to this cor-

14 staff have been engaged. "With four regular staff against each ambulance in addition to relievers during weekly off days not less than 14 employees have been engaged so far," Kalita said.

'Since the time of the lockdown, the district has recorded use of 108 ambulance service by a total of 203 suspected COVID-19 patients. Besides, these suspected COVID-19 patients, a total of 1,070 pregnant patients, 84 patients with breathing problem and 74 patients with high fever have availed the emergency service," Kalita added.

## Biraja Goswami Mahanta: a tribute

My mother Biraja Goswami Ma-



piness possible and enjoyed her moments to the hilt. Hailing from Nagaon, one of Assam's centres of literature and culture, she was an achiever in her own right.

A product of Motiram Bora Girls HS School at Nagaon, she was one of Assam's earliest trained beauticians with a degree from Shahnaaz Hussain. After returning from Delhi, she opened her own salon in Guwahati in the early nineties. She was also briefly a guest faculty at a women's polytechnic in Rehabari, Guwahati. In the midnineties she joined as a teacher in a government school at Khetri after which she was transferred to a government school at Rani after which she came to teach at a government lower primary school at

Uzan Bazar in the heart of Guwahati, from where she retired as the

Headmistress in the year 2015. Always full of life, she was helpful towards all and stood by her siblings and other family members in hours of happiness and crisis. She

was immaculate with her culinary skills, gaining much appreciation from none other than Sushma Swaraj, when the latter had visited our humble abode in the nineties for lunch. She loved travelling and had travelled widely across the length and breadth of the country. She also wrote sometimes and some of her writings and poems were published as well. She was a great favourite with her nieces and nephews and her passing away has left everyone heartbroken. However, even if she is physically distanced from us, her memories will

continue to be with us forever. To-

day, as I look back, her effervescent

smile and ringing laughter lingers

on in my memories and in the

– Kaustav Mani Mahanta

memories of my entire family.

to generate awareness on COVID-19 STAFF CORRESPONDENT SILCHAR. May 6: In a bid to

spread the messages of social distancing and wearing of face masks more vividly among the people, young artists in Cachar have painted graffiti on the streets.

Members of Day Light Club have chosen Rangirkhari, one of the prime locations of Silchar town to paint graffiti carrying the message " please wear masks, maintain social distancing.'

Raju Dey, secretary of the club informed that people at large are still unaware of the havoc the COVID-19 has created across territories. "This is a humble effort from us urging people to stay home, wear masks and maintain social distancing to defeat COV-ID-19. Unfortunately, there are a lot of people who are yet to realise the gravity of the times we all are facing. We want people to see the paintings and stay aware," he added informing that relief mate-



Cachar artists, youths paint street graffiti

A street graffiti being painted in Silchar to generate awareness on social distancing and wearing masks. - Photo: Arindam Gubta

rials were also distributed by the Club among the needy during the lockdown.

On the other hand, Netaji Forum along with young artists also made graffiti and painting on the street near Udharbondh police station. Bikramjit Paul, president of the forum said that local artists and members of the forum have made noble efforts to disseminate the message

"stay home, stay safe," for the masses to win the war against COVID-19. He also said that the step has been duly encouraged by local MLA Mihir Kanti Shome and police officials of the constituency.

Attendants violating guidelines: The authorities of Silchar Medical College and Hospital (SMCH) have urged the attendants accompanying the patients

admitted at the hospital to come in limited numbers maintaining social distancing and wear face masks as per COVID-19 protocol.

Expressing gross dissatisfaction over the state of affairs, Dr Bhaskar Gupta, vice principal of the hospital has alleged that while more than two attendants are accompanying patients at the hospital, none of them are following the bare minimum COVID-19 guidelines which is to maintain social distancing and wearing face masks mandatorily.

"Since the general treatment facilities resumed at the hospital from April 24, 4,537 patients have been treated at the Out Patients Department while 796 patients have been admitted so far. But those coming with patients do not wear face masks and disobey social distancing guidelines, engaging in arguments amid brawls with our security persons," Dr Gupta said.

## $\_$ Business & Economy $\_$ Govt working on structural reforms

#### Govt allows businesses to verify monthly GST return through EVC NEW DELHI, May 6:

With requirement of digital signature delaying monthly GST return filings and tax payment, the government has allowed businesses to verify the return through EVC till June 30.

In a notification, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said any registered person during the period from the April 21, 2020 to June 30, 2020, will be allowed to furnish the return under Section 39 in Form GSTR-3B verified through electronic verification code (EVC).

Currently, businesses are required to digitally sign GSTR-3B form while filing monthly return and paying taxes. However, with offices shut due to the lockdown, businesses are unable to generate digital signature which has led to delay in filing returns.

The low collection of goods and services tax (GST) in April has forced the government to defer the release of monthly GST revenue data on May 1.

Further, the CBIC has also introduced a new rule in Central GST rules stipulating furnishing of 'Nil' return by short messaging service (SMS) facility. This means businesses with nil or no entry in all the tables in form GSTR-3B can file return through SMS using the registered mobile number and the said return will be verified by a registered mobile number-based one time password (OTP) facility. Annual GST return filing

date extended: The government has extended the last date for filing annual GST return for financial year 2018-19 by three months till September 2020.

In another trade-friendly move, the CBIC has also extended the validity of e-way bills that were generated on or before March 24, and had expiry between March 20 and April 15, 2020. A notification has been issued to extend the time limit for furnishing of annual (GST) return and reconciliation statement for the financial year 2018-19 till September 30, 2020, CBIC said in a tweet. - PTI

#### IOB to revise MCLR

CHENNAI, May 6: Public sector Indian Overseas Bank would revise its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR), the bank said here

#### package for sunrise sectors: Kant NEW DELHI, May 6: The scale and size are required, Kant was quoted as saying in government is working on a package of structural reforms a statement by the AIMA.

across sunrise sectors to con-Manufacturing would be a vert India into a global mankey focus area for the governufacturing and exporting hub, ment in the post-COVID-19 NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh period, as India wants to take

Kant said. In an interactive online session organised by All India Management Association (AIMA) on post-COVID-19 scenario for Indian economy, he listed healthcare, education, mobility, genomics, AI, 5G network, fintech and manufacturing as high-priority areas for rapid and radical structural reforms.

"These are the new areas of growth where disruption is inevitable and where speed,

ward. He pointed out that the plan includes creating 2-3 autonomous zones without regular labour and land laws, and stressed that India also needs to make its ports more efficient.

single tender of the govern-

'Healthcare, education, mobility, genomics, AI, 5G network, fintech, manufacturing high-priority areas

advantage of the supply chain disruptions in China, Kant said. The government has con-

ed for global manufacturers to

should fix electricity and land tacted about 1,450 companies rates which would not escalate for the next 25 years. across the world for manufacturing in India, Kant said, add-He also suggested that for ing, facilities need to be creatthe next three years, every

invest quickly and move forment must be given only to Indian companies. "India has to beg, borrow, steal technology from abroad. China did that and that is why it could produce at low

costs," Kant said. On the issue of MSMEs, the NITI Aayog CEO said that the unorganised sector can be allowed to become organised in a dignified way by making the organised sector less regulat-To promote manufacturing, ed and tempering labour rules Kant suggested that the States

and employers' contributions. To promote start-up economy, the government will set up seven groups to look at technology to drive the new India led by start-ups, Kant said. - PTI

tava told PTI. He said that dealers have applied for permissions to open outlets in States where such clearances are mandatory.

Maruti reopens

600 dealerships,

introduces SOP

NEW DELHI, May 6: The

country's largest car-maker

Maruti Suzuki India (MSI)

today said it has reopened 600

dealerships which were

closed due to coronavirus-led

lockdown, and has even start-

The auto major said it has

put in place a comprehensive

standard operating procedure

(SOP) across its sales outlets

and reinforced digital infra-

structure for vehicle purchase

"Over the last few days we

amid COVID-19 pandemic.

have been able to make 600-

odd dealerships operational

across the country," MSI Ex-

ecutive Director, Marketing

and Sales, Shashank Srivas-

ed deliveries of vehicles.

The company, which has around 3,080 dealerships across 1.960 cities and towns in the country, has managed to open 474 Arena outlets, 80 Nexa dealerships and 45 commercial vehicle sales outlets.

The company has also started deliveries of cars with 55 units having already been dispatched over the last few days, Srivastava said.

MSI Managing Director and CEO Kenichi Ayukawa said, "All our dealerships have put in place steps to ensure complete safety, hygiene and sanitisation of all touchpoints." - PTI



Minister of State for Labour and Employment (Independent Charge) Santosh Kumar Gangwar during a video-conference with trade union representatives, in New Delhi on Wednesday. - PTI

#### NEW DELHI, May 6: The nues annually at 2019-20 level of consumption, industry of-Union government will gain close to Rs 1.6-lakh crore in ficials said. additional revenues this fis-

cal from a record hike in excise duty on petrol and diesel that has pushed total incidence of taxation on auto fuels to 70 per cent of the price. Late on Tuesday evening,

the government hiked excise duty on petrol by Rs 10 per litre and that on diesel by Rs 13 a litre to mop up gains arising from international oil prices falling to a two-decade low.

Petrol price remained unchanged at Rs 71.26 a litre and diesel at Rs 69.39 as state-owned oil firms set off the excise duty hike against

Centre to get Rs 1.6-lakh cr additional revenues

> Considering the slump in consumption due to travel restrictions imposed by coronavirus lockdown, the gains in the remaining 11 months of the current fiscal year (April 2020 to March 2021)

#### **Record** excise duty hike on petrol, diesel

will be close to Rs 1.6-lakh crore, they said.

Together with Rs 39,000 crore in annual revenues gained from the March 14 exper cent of the price of petrol and diesel. A litre of petrol costs only Rs 18.28 per litre in Delhi but after including excise duty (Rs 32.98), dealer commission (Rs 3.56) and VAT (Rs 16.44) the price for consumer comes to Rs 71.26 a litre.

Similarly, a litre of diesel costs only Rs 18.78 but after including excise duty (Rs 31.83), dealer commission (Rs 2.52) and VAT (Rs 16.26), it is priced at Rs 69.39 for consumers.

State-owned fuel retailing companies, Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) had frozen petrol and diesel prices since March 16, anticipating the government move and will now set off gains they accrued from the continuing drop in international oil prices against the excise duty hike. - PTI

## Tourism Ministry to release guidelines for various stakeholders

ion Ministry of Tourism is actively working to create a set of guidelines for travellers, monuments, guides, hotels and restaurants, tour operators and other stakeholders. The official document should be ready by the middle of this month and will be supported, endorsed and vetted by the ministry.

Ministry of Health guidelines and various ideas that are coming from the industry. This was stated by Additional Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Dr

Principal Secretary, Tourism, Art & Culture, Government of Rajasthan, Sreya Guha said that the Department of Tourism. Government of Raiasthan has been working closely with the heritage hotel industry to negotiate a revival package. A special task force has been formed by the government for economic revival. There has been a lot of interaction with the hotel and tourism sector in formulating various recommendations. Some of which have been given to the Finance department of the State.

Apart from this, salary sup-

#### NOTICE

Applications in prescribed format are invited for issue New Registration and Renewal of Contract registration under Industries & Commerce Department, Govt. of Assam under category of Class-I (A/B/C), Class-II, Class-III and Electrical for the year 2020-2021. The Application Form and guidelines will be issued from 08.05.2020 and received in the office of the undersigned in all working days and hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer Industries & Commerce Deptt. Assam :: Guwahati-21 Janasanyog/D/444/20

#### No.GRC/NIT/510./2018-19/1232 PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Superintending Engineer PWD(Roads), Guwahati Road Circle, Guwahati-01 on behalf of Governor of Assam invites bids online from approved and eligible registered contractors of APWRD for "Improvement of Basudev Namghar-Jalimura road to Railway line under SOPD(G) for the year 2019- 20" for 1 (one) nos. of work, amounting to Rs. 113.80 Lakh (Approx) (including 12% GST +1% LWC). Details may be seen in the website http://assamtenders.gov.in. and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours from 08.05.2020 to 14.05.2020 .

> Sd/- Superintending Engineer PWD (Roads), Guwahati Road Circle, Guwahati-01

Janasanyog/CF/147/20

#### No. PHE-8/MM/2014-15 (Vol-II)/T-1153-58 Short Notice Inviting Expression Of Interest E.O.I. No. 02 of 2020-21

On behalf of Governor of Assam, the Chief Engineer, PHE (Water) Assam, Public Health Engineering Department invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from registered Class-I contractors of various works department of Govt. of Assam (except PHE Department) & from registered contractors of various central works department of Govt. of India for "EMPANELMENT OF CONTRACTORS FOR DIFFERENT CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF PIPED WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF ASSAM UNDER JAL JEEVAN MISSION".

The detailed EOI document is available in the e-procurement portal www.assamtenders.gov.in from 07.05.2020 upto 16.00 hrs. of 27.05.2020. EOIs are to be submitted online in the portal www.assamtenders.gov.in on or before 16.00 hrs. of 26.05.2020. In no case manual submission will be entertained

Sd/- Chief Engineer (PHE), Water, Assam Janasanyog/C/230/20 Hengrabari, Guwahati-36

#### SHORT TENDER NOTICE

No.GDM.8/2019/64-65, Dated-04.05.2020: Sealed quotation affixing Court Fee Stamps worth Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and fifty paisa) only are hereby invited from the reputed Suppliers/Registered firms for supply of relief materials to the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara as and when required for relief purpose in different disasters like flood/storm etc. during the financial year 2020-2021. A security money of Rs. 10,000.00 (Rupees ten thousand) only will have to be deposited in the form of Bank Draft in favour of the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara along with the quotation by the bidders. The quotation will be received up to 3:00 PM on 12.05.2020 and shall be

# JAIPUR, May 6: The Un-

It will be in line with the

today. The rate of interest would be revised to 8.05 per cent from the existing 8.10 per cent for tenure of three months and 8. 10 per cent for six months from 8.15 per cent, IOB said in a BSE filing. – PTI

gains they accrued from fall in international oil rates. This is the second hike in

excise duty in less than two months and will help the government garner over Rs 1.7lakh crore in additional reve-

cise duty hike of Rs 3 per litre each on petrol and diesel, the government stands to gain as much as Rs 2-lakh crore.

After the excise duty hike, taxes-both Central excise and State VAT) – make up for 70

Rupinder Brar. She was speaking at a webinar organised by Indian Heritage Hotels Associations (IHHA). The theme of the webinar was 'Indian Heritage Hotels and the Impact of COVID-19'.

port, waiving of electricity charges, State tax reimbursement, reduction in bar fees, among others, have also been looked into. Guidelines have already been created for the monuments, she said. - IANS

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bic	bidder/his authorized representative.													
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Detail of notice including list of relief items and terms and condition may be seen at the undersigned office. Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara Janasanyog/C/212/20

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

#### AN APPEAL FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR REVITALISATION OF STATE ECONOMY IN THE BACKDROP OF SITUATION ARISING OUT OF **COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

It is hereby informed that Government of Assam has constituted an Advisory Committee for Revitalisation of the State Economy vide Notification No. PDP.19/2020/01 dated, 4th May, 2020, headed by Shri Subhas Ch. Das, IAS (Retd.) and seven other economists/experts as members

#### The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Committee are -

- The Committee will assess the macro-economic & socio-economic impact as well as sector specific impact of COVID-19.
- The Committee will study the fallout of the COVID-19 situation on the State's ii. finances
- iii. The Committee will suggest short-term and medium-term measures for revitalisation of the State's economy, while continuing the efforts to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.
- iv. The Committee will analyse, strategically, strengths & weaknesses of different sectors of State's economy, in view of the evolving situation and suggest a roadmap to convert threats into opportunities. The Committee will also suggest fiscal & non-fiscal stimulus to different sectors of the economy.
- The Committee will suggest ways to provide employment to local youths who have ٧. returned from other states of the country and also ways to provide skilled manpower to local industries
- vi. The Committee will suggest measures for sustaining economic activities during the coming flood season, in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic.
- vii. The Committee may suggest recommendation on any other matters on the subject, which may be considered important by the Committee.

The Committee requests the Members of Public, Stakeholders and Organisations to give their views and suggestions on the Terms of Reference of the Committee, as stated above. The Committee also requests the members of the Public, Stakeholders and Organisations to share with the Committee any information or other materials available with them and which are relevant to terms of reference of the Committee.

The views, suggestions, information and materials relevant to the terms of reference can be sent to the Committee within 18th May, 2020, through email ids given below:

advisorycommittee20@gmail.com

#### ii. bubuldutta1963@gmail.com

In case of any necessity, the following officers may be contacted:

- 1. Shri B.C. Dutta, Mobile-9435553938
- 2. Ms. Mousumi Das, Mobile-9864343859

via e-mail NEW DELHI, May 6: Retirement fund body EPFO today allowed employers to register their digital signatures

*EPFO allows* 

employers to register

digital signatures

online through e-mail, in view of the lockdown to combat COVID-19, according to a Labour Ministry statement.

Currently, authorised persons of employers have to go to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) offices to get their digital signatures registered.

In the current scenario of the lockdown and other disruptions, employers are not able to function normally and are facing problems in using their digital signatures or Aadhaar-based e-sign on EPFO portal, the statement said.

Many important tasks like KYC (know your customers) attestation, transfer claim attestation, etc., are being done online by the authorised persons of employers using their digital signatures (DSC) or Aadhaar based e-sign on EPFO portal. For using DSC/e-sign, one time approval from EPFO's regional office is required. But, due to the lockdown, many employers are facing difficulties to send the one-time registration request to the regional offices, it said.-PTI

Sd/- Chairman



### অসম লোকসেৱা আয়োগ **ASSAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

No. 127PSC/DR-6/1/2019-2020

#### ADDENDUM

In continuation of this office Advertisement No. 06/2019 issued vide letter No. 49PSC/DR-5/1/2019-20 dated 19.11.2019, it is notified for information to all concerned that the Govt. in Public Works Roads Department Establishment (B) Branch, have intimated additional 104 nos, of vacant post of Assistant Engineer (Civil) vide their letter No. RBEB. 159/2018/85 dated 20.03.2020. Over and above 156 posts already advertised as mentioned above to be filled up by direct recruitment. The breakup of 104 nos. of posts as intimated by the Govt. is given below:

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64	19	22	7	7	2	2	1	9	3	10	3	104	35	4																				

Those who intend to apply for the post mentioned above should submit their application in the prescribed form, obtainable by downloading from APSC's website www.apsc.nic.in application form D/R(New form). The last date of receipt of application is fixed on 16.06.2020. Those who have already applied earlier in response to Advertisement mentioned above need not apply again.

The other terms and condition of earlier advertisement will remain the same.

It may be mentioned that the Commission decided to hold Screening Test (OMR based) on the basis of advertisement mentioned above on 5th April/2020 which was notified vide No. 101 PSC/DR-6/1/2019-20 dated 6th March/2020. Subsequently the screening test (OMR based) was postponed due to outbreak of "CORONA VIRUS" vide notification No. 104PSC/DR-6/1/2019-20 dated 26/03/2020. The screening test so notified earlier is hereby suspended temporarily. Fresh notification for holding the screening test will be notified on the basis of present vacancy position i.e. 156+104=260 posts later on.

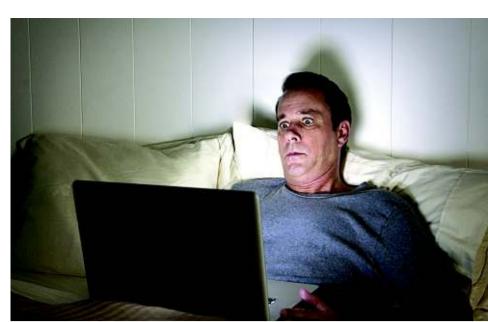
> Sd/- Secretary, Assam Public Service Commission Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Janasanyog/D/425/20

Advisory Committee for Revitalisation of State's Economy.

Janasanyog/D/444/20

## —— Leisure & Lifestyle ——



Porn pandemic

1 in 2 employees watching porn on device being used for work from home

mid coronavirus pandemic that has pushed office work inside home boundaries globally, half (51 per cent) of employees admitted watching more adult content on the same devices they use for work-related purposes, a new report said on Wednesday.

Nearly a fifth (18 per cent) of workers watch porn on devices provided to them by their employers, with 33 per cent admitting to watching adult content on their personal devices that they also use for office work.

"This can though potentially lead to malware infections if employees do not pay attention to the resources and websites

they visit," according to the report from cybersecurity firm Kaspersky.

Nearly a third (31 per cent) of workers said they are spending more of their time working than they did before.

However, 46 per cent said they have increased the amount of time they spend on personal activity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, May 7, 2020:

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

The report revealed that it has become harder for workers to separate work and personal activity, especially when it comes to IT. Additionally, 55 per cent of workers say they are reading more news now than they were before they started working from home, 60 per cent of this activity is done on devices that are used for

work.

Workers are also

developing a habit of

using their personal

services for working

purposes - increasing

sensitive information.

For instance, 42

per cent of employ-

ees use personal

the potential risks

from shadow IT,

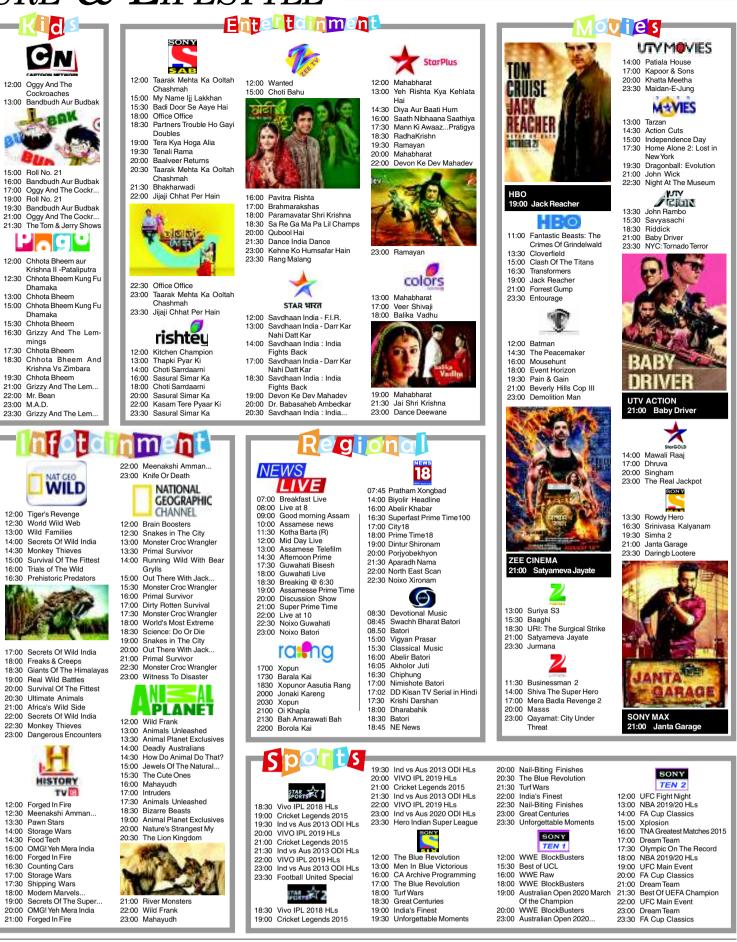
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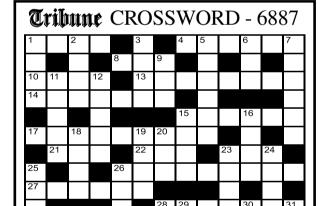
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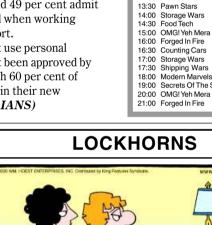
Workers are also developing a habit of using their personal services for working purposes - increasing the potential risks from shadow IT, including the disclosure of sensitive information

> email accounts for work-related matters, and 49 per cent admit their usage has increased when working from home, said the report.

Meanwhile, 38 per cent use personal messengers that have not been approved by their IT departments, with 60 per cent of them doing it more often in their new circumstances. (Source: IANS)













nancial commitments and investment strategies. Be careful of going overboard financially when passion conquers common sense. Disagreements over spending are likely, and romantic pressures lead to crises. Tonight: No online shopping.

★★★ Money matters will certainly be on your mind, and you rethink

Know your DAY

By JACQUELINE BIGAR

Aesthetic and devoted you loves beauty, so this year will be a challenge, although you will succeed in having a luxurious lifestyle. You will enjoy all that you have rather than lament what you lack. If single, you will have limited social contact and prefer the comfort and security of your own home. If attached, you take your relationship very seriously and do not beat around the bush. Your partner reciprocates. AQUARIUS can get a bit silly. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-

#### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

.40

 $\star\star$  Expect partners to be particularly irritable. Arguments might be easily provoked by nagging and could deteriorate into sarcastic mudslinging. However, a compassionate outlook may lead to creative problemsolving ... and a call to a marriage counselor. Tonight: By yourself

#### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Skip domestic decision-making, as any decision made will be subject to change. Besides this, you will find that you do not have all the facts. Today favors entertaining at home as well as interior decorating, which can be done in a unique style. Tonight: Celebrate.

#### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

ð \*\*\*\*\* Crab is the birth sign of more millionaires than anv in the zodiac. Dedicated effort allows you to join their ranks in years to come. Today you encounter a rare opportunity to right past mistakes regarding poor financial decisions. You are elated. Tonight: As you like.

#### **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  There is nothing small or petty about the way you usually decorate or entertain. Leo, and especially not today. Your mood is high and, in keeping with your already expansive nature, rather overindulgent. Enjoy while you can. It's been a while. Tonight: A fantastic dinner.

#### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 $\star\star\star$  Today brings financial assistance or ideas from another. There will be a great deal of commotion and many short outings. Remain focused, as there are distractions. Strive to be clear in your communications. Transportation issues might need attention. Tonight: Slow down.

#### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Finances are volatile this year. Develop an awareness of shifting economic conditions in the world around you. This will be key to achieving greater security. Check in on an elderly relative who just wants to talk. Tonight: Listen to a friend's gualms.

#### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star$  Your professional sphere is widening. There is opportunity, but many demands are placed on you. It is easy to feel overwhelmed. You might have to choose between business and a relationship. This starts a significant period of self-discovery. Tonight: Spend time with a child.

#### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

X ★★★★ Today finds the lone wolf part of your nature surfacing. Spend part of today in solitude. A dream or deep meditation can provide meaningful guidance as well as a brilliant - and profitable - idea. Tonight: Listen to someone you see every day for a suggestion.

#### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$  Friends suggest new goals and projects. Membership in an organization might prove invaluable. Today shows those who genuinely like you offering practical support. More tranquility than you have experienced in many months will be present. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

#### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

 $\star\star$  A job or project might be ending. Do not try to struggle against the inevitable. If one door closes, another will open. Your memory and learning ability will be in top form. Tonight: Take the night off and have a soothing herbal bath.

#### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

 $\star \star \star \star$  Emails and conversations lead to really important learning experiences. Ambitions will stir and your path will be especially important to you. Your flair for relating with all types of people leads to a worthwhile opportunity. Tonight: Follow through on exploring offers that come your way.

#### $\star \star \star$

Thought for the day Where can we go to find God if we cannot see Him in our own hearts and in every living being. - SWAMI VIVEKANANDA



**BLONDIE** DO YOU STILL HAVE RECESS SOFT RUBBERIZED PAVEMENT, WE CAN'T EVEN FLY OUR DRONES MULCH UNDER THE SLIDE AND IN THE CLASSROOM ANYMORE! AT SCHOOL, VEAH, BUT ELMO? NO MORE SCARY SEESAWS WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING FUN BECAUSE OF LIABILITY



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#### JUMBLED WORDS **HEALTH CAPSULES®** Given below are four jumbled words. Solve by Bron Smith he jumbles to make proper words and mo them to the respective squares below. Sele the letters in the shaded squares and jumb them to get the answer for the given quip. CAN BLACK SEED REDUCE MY BLOOD PRESSURE? LACER an ancient ISLAMIC ( ف ف Saving avers THAT ABISS CURE EVERYTHING BUT DEATH ITSELF BROP Mertin AHKNST BLACK SEED, ALSO KNOWN AS BLACK CUMIN, HAS BEEN SHOWN TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE BLOOD PRESSURE, A EINPGP MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY STUDY **REVEALED THAT AFTER 4** WEEKS OF TAKING 1/4 TBSP OF GROUND BLACK CUMIN SEED PER DAY, TEST The only way most people recognize the limits is by ----- on them - Tom Morris (11) SUBJECTS' BLOOD PRESSURE SOLUTION DECREASED BY 8 POINTS. aimoM moT- r recognize their limits is by trespassing Health Capsules is not intended

Answer: The only way most people to be of a diagnostic nature. Nords: Clear, basis/bassi, thanks, pigpen.



#### THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, GUWAHATI 11

## Online teaching for TE students introduced

#### PORES AIND

DIBRUGARH, May 6: In order that the learning process for students in the district is not paralysed due to the COV-ID-19 induced nationwide lockdown, the Elementary Education department and the office of the Inspector of School here today launched a special online teaching method for the students of tea gardens. Assistant teacher Debojit Ghosh of Bengali High School here, who has been appointed as a nodal teacher for Jalannagar tea estate, conducted the online class for students in presence of Inspector of School Dipika Choud-School, South Jalannagar using 'zoom' and 'diksha' apps. Inspector of Schools has said that

three from the garden would forth all students would be covbe trained in the applications ered under the online teaching of the teaching apps to conduct methods and that the methods classes so that all students from would be introduced in all oththe plantation from Class 1 to er tea gardens of the district.

#### Class X can attend the online classes.

According to the Inspector of Schools, students of tea gar- an objective to prevent any occurrence of African Swine dens could not be covered through online teaching methods like the other privileged students who are already untion 144 following which some dergoing online classes through zoom, diksha and google classroom etc. But since Deputy Commissioner Pallav Gopal Jha had directed that students from plantations must also have access to online class, the online teaching method has pigs at their shed itself. been realized today for the students of the tea gardens.

It needs to be mentioned here that the garden manage-

hury at St Jude Preparatory ment arranged a smart TV to

#### Fever (ASF) infection in Bokakhat subdivision. local civil administration has imposed Sec-

stringent measures have been put into place for the safety of the entire subdivision. According to information, no pig would be allowed to go out in open field for grazing. Pig owners would have to keep their

The order issued by Bokakhat subdivision administration said that in view of emerg-

facilitate the online teaching. Inspector of School Dipika Choudhury has said that hence-

#### CORRESPONDENT KAZIRANGA, May 6: With

State, nobody can sell any pig or pork in the market. Earlier, on Wednesday an important meeting was held at the office of Bokakhat Subdivision Officer (Civil), in which officials from Bokakhat Subdivision administration, Kaziran-

> ga National Park and local NGOs attended the meet. SDO (Civil) of Bokakhat Vivek Shyam asked the officials from State Veterinary de-

**Bokakhat admin imposes** 

partment to conduct massive awareness programmes among people of the subdivision who rear pigs. He also outlined the need to adopt spe-

Roadmap to tackle swine

disease prepared in Dibrugarh

Section 144 to fight ASF ing situation of African Swine cial measures to prevent or Fever (ASF) in many parts of inhibit any occurrence or transmission of African Swine Fever in the subdivision so that it cannot affect any wild animal like wild boar and other such wildlife of Kaziranga National Park, which is located close to Bokakhat subdivision.

Local administration also stated that if any person tries to hide any fact related to occurrence of African Swine Fever (ASF) in their place, then it will be considered as an illegal activity and proper action may be taken against those

who try to hide any fact related to African Swine Fever in the subdivision.

certain communities who con-

sume pork and are highly de-

pendent on pig farming for in-

come generation. "Our teams

are already in the field carry-

ing out awareness meetings

besides surveying. We are also

arranging awareness kits and

preparing to engage leaders

from certain specific commu-

nities for the awareness cam-

paign," said Dr Saikia.

#### **Gutkha seized**

SIVASAGAR, May 6: Twenty- five sacks of gutkha worth about Rs 7.6 lakh were confiscated from near Sivasagar PS yesterday. The harmful materials were recovered from one Ertaz Ansari who showed valid documents that the gutkha was procured by one Saha, owner of Santosh Paan Bhandar, Moran for Ansari of Sivasagar. Condemning the occurrence of such an illegal activity, several organizations haver requested Sivasagar Deputy Commissioner to take action against the middlemen behind the illicit business. - Correspondent

#### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No. AGRI/ENGG/4567/Civil Const"/2016-17/314 dated. 06.05.2020 The Director of Agriculture, Assam, Khanapara, Ghy-22 invites separate sealed tender affixing non refundable court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees Eight and twenty five paisa) only from the Registered Contractor of Agriculture Department (Class-II & III), for new construction of Grade-IV quarter at Bio and Organic Quality Control Lab. Campus, Ulubari, Guwahati. The detail Tender document is made available in the website: diragri.assam.gov.in and Intending Bidders having experience in similar nature of work may download the Tender document for the works. Tender will be received up to 1.00 pm on 22.05.2020 and will be opened at 1.30 pm on the same day in the office of the Executive Engineer (Agri), Kamrup Division, Ulubari, Ghy-07.

Sd/- Director of Agriculture, Assam, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Sd/- Registrar

<u>800</u>

ASSAM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY (A State University of Government of Assam constituted by "Assam Science and Technology University Act, 2009) Tetelia Road Near Assam Engineering College, Jalukbari, Guwahati-781013, Assam, www.astu.ac.in.

Invitation for quotation for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of I) Reflectorless Electronic Total Station II) Refrigerating and Heating Facility III) Auto Oxygen Bomb Calorimeter IV) Cetane and Octane Number Analyser V) PH Meter and VI) Crucibles. Bids are invited from experienced and registered organisations.

Janasanyog/CF/151/20

The detailed terms and conditions of the bid document can be downloaded from ASTU Website - www.astu.ac.in.

Last Date of Submission of guotation - 29.05.2020, 2:00 PM.

Note: Canvasing directly or indirectly will disqualify the bid document.

Janasanyog/CF/153/20

#### **Press Notice** e-procurement

#### NIB No. EE/Karimganj/PMGSY/19-20/02

Executive Engineer, PWRD, Karimganj North, Karimganj South & Badarpur Territorial Road Division, Karimgani, Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam, invites Online Item Rate Bids from eligible Bidders for the balance work of the following package originally sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Batch-2 for the year 2017-18

SI. No.	Name of District	Name of work/ Package No.	Construction	Maintenance	Bid Security (Rs in Lakh)	Time allowed for completion in months	Bid submission fee (in Rs)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
1	Karimganj	AS-13-211	13722412.00	1408673.00	302622	3	4500			
Detailed NIB and other details can be viewed on website http://nmgsytendersasm.gov.in.after										

16:00 Hours on 11-05-2020

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Karimganj North, Karimganj South & Badarpur **Territorial Road Division** 

#### **CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

This is for information of all concerned that in reference to the Advertisement No. Janasanyog/ D/417/20, Dated : 05.05.2020 (The Assam Tribune) the SI. No. 4 & SI. No. 7 of the advertisement shall read as under

SI. No.	Name of Posts	Minimum educational qualification	Scale of Pay	Total No. of Vacant post	Category Reservation									
4	Lower Division Assistant/ Computer Operator-cum- Clerk/ DTP Operator	Degree in any discipline with 1 year diploma/ certificate in computer application	14000-60,500+ GP- 5600	15	UR-6, OBC/ MOBC-4, SC-1, STP- 2, STH-1, EWS-1 (PwD-1)									
7.	Store Keeper- cum-Clerk- cum-Computer Operator	Degree in any discipline with 1 year diploma/ certificate in computer application	14000-60,500+ GP 5,600	21	UR-9, OBC/ MOBC-6, SC-1, STP- 2 STH-1, EWS-2 (PwD-1)									

Selection of Person with Disability (PwD) candidates will be as per Govt. Notification No. ABP.180/2017/105, Date : 07.01.2019 of Personnel (B) Deptt, Govt. of Assam Further, SI. No. 10 of the Advertisement for the post of Statistician, SI. No. 15 of the

#### NOTICE FOR CANCELLATION OF APPOINTMENT **OF CONSULTANTS**

The advertisement for appointment of consultants in State Bamboo Development Agency, Assam Issued vide No. SBM/2/2019/198 stands cancelled due to unavoidable administrative reasons. Inconvenience caused to the applicants is deeply

> Sd/- Mission Director State Bamboo Development Agency Udyog Bhawan, Bamunimaidam, Ghy-21

No. DPU/SOPD-G/05/2020/96

regretted.

Janasanyog/CF/135/20

#### PRESS NOTICE INVITING REBID

The Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B), Diphu Circle-I Diphu, on behalf of Governor of Assam invites Item Rate Rebid amounting to Rs. 867.2615 lakhs (approx.) for Improvement / Construction of roads under SOPD-G for the year 2019-20 of 19 Diphu (ST) LAC, 18 Howraghat (ST) LAC and 17 Bokajan (ST) LAC in the district of Karbi Anglong seen in the website Details mav be www.assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 06.05.2020 to 15.05.2020. The contractors with registration for the year 2019-20 may participate in the bidding process.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer P.W.D (R&B) Diphu Circle-I, Diphu Janasanyog/CF/141/20

No. DPU/SOPD-G/06/2020/93

#### PRESS NOTICE INVITING REBID

The Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B), Diphu Circle-Diphu, on behalf of Governor of Assam invites Item Rate Rebid amounting to Rs. 1899.527 lakhs (approx.) for Improvement / Construction of roads under SOPD-G for the year 2019-20 of 19 Diphu (ST) LAC, 18 Howraghat (ST) LAC and 17 Bokajan LAC in the district of Karbi Anglong. Details may be seen in the website www.assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 06.05.2020 to 15.05.2020. The contractors with registration for the year 2019-20 may participate in the bidding STAFF CORRESPONDENT ficer Dr Apurba Saikia, told ticularly planned to focus on The Assam Tribune.

DIBRUGARH, May 6: Tak-As per reports from the ing serious note of the prevail-Veterinary Office here, since ing health hazard in the district April about 158 pigs have so due to the fatal disease spreadfar died in the district in some ing among pigs, the district ad-66 villages including those ministration held a meeting with raised by the Department at the representatives of pig farm-Khanikar Piggery Farm here. ers and officials from the Ani-As deaths are sporadic and takmal Husbandry & Veterinary, ing into accounts unreported Agriculture and Public Health cases, the number could pos-Engineering yesterday evening sibly be more than the documented data, the Vet official and prepared a roadmap to control and prevent the disease. stated.

Although the swine disease The local DC, who presided has been ascribed as African over the meeting, asked the PHE officials to carry out san-Swine Fever in the State, the results of the samples sent for itization in all the affected aretesting from the district have as within the district and also not reached the authorities directed the Animal Husbandhere yet. "However, since rv & Veterinary Department samples from Dhemaji have and other stakeholders to been tested as African Swine jointly carry out massive awareness among the pig Fever, we are assuming that the disease prevailing among farmers, particularly in villagpigs in Dibrugarh is also Afries and tea gardens to prevent can Swine Fever as large and control the disease.

number of pigs are transport-Apart from general awareed from Dhemaji to Dibruness campaign in the rural argarh," District Veterinary Of- eas, the department has par-

**Concern over coal** mining in **Dehing Patkai** 

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Assam Environmental NGO Forum (AENF) has expressed deep concern at the approval

forest of the State.

of about 360 sq km of rain

covering Joypoore reserve

forest (RF), Upper Dehing

identified to be declared a

demanded at that time by

NGO Nature's Beckon,

km area was declared as

The AENF stressed that

the area earlier earmarked

covering 360 sq km area of

rain forests needed to be

Dehing Patkai WLS.

wildlife sanctuary (WLS) as

RF and Dirak RF was

forests in eastern Assam

conserved, as the area is having a very high biodiversity with outstanding universal values. "Although some areas of

these forests are included

OBITUARY Dhruba Phukan

formed.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, May 6: Dr Dhruba Phukan, a retired paediatrician, breathed his last on Tuesday at a private hospital in Guwahati due to multiple ailments. He was 71.

He worked under NRHM after his retirement from

Meanwhile, considering the gravity of the disease, the district administration has banned sale, movement and consumption of pork in the district. The administration has also ordered piggery farmers to keep their pigs in confinements. They were threatened with punishment and penalties in

default, district officials have

informed. Further, sale of pork

or movement of pigs if noticed

within the district, can be inti-

mated to the police on phone

numbers 0373-2329655 and

6002075019, officials in-

process.

Janasanyog/C/223/20

Sd/- Superintending Engineer P.W.D (R&B) Diphu Circle-I, Diphu Janasanyog/CF/139/20

#### SHORT e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE / **INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)** No. 03 of 2020-21

On behalf of the Governor of Assam, Bids are invited on line through e-Procurement system against IFB No. 03 of 2020-21 from the eligible registered contractor (Class -I C or above category) under Public Health Engineering Deptt., Assam, in two Part viz., Part - I Technical Bid and Part - II : Financial Bid, for the work "Conversion of Diesel Driven to Solar Power Operated Piped Water Supply Schemes in Two (2) different packages in different districts of Assam under BTAD under the programme of SOPD for the year 2019-20. The detail Bid Document is available in the web portal www.assamtenders.gov.in and can be viewed from 07.05.2020 up to 16.00 Hr. of 27.05.2020. Bid is to be submitted through online and in no case manual bid shall be entertained.

> Sd/- Chief Engineer (PHE), Water, Assam, Hengrabari, Guwahati - 36.

WALK-IN INTERVIEW FOR CLEANERS AT **COVID-19 HOSPITAL : GOLAGHAT** 

A walk-in interview for candidates willing to serve as CLEANERS engaged on temporary basis at designated COVID-19 Hospital will be held on 11th May 2020 at the office of the Joint Director of Health Services, Golaghat from 11 am onwards.

Educational	Qualification	:	Class VIII passed	
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No. of Positions : 8	(eight)	1	leg
Job requirements : C	andidates will be required to	1	hu
n r	nop floors, clean toilets	1	be
s	anitize spaces whenever		
r	equired, to manage	1	ga
b	iodegradable waste etc.	t	to
Remuneration : F	Rs. 15,000/- per month	0	dia
(	lumpsum)	1	asl
Documents required : F	hoto identity proof, self-	0	ch
a	ttested certificates and Mark-	5	St
s	heets related to educational	5	sp
c	ualification.	i	int
No TA/DA will be paid for at	tending the walk-in interview.	1	wi
Sd/- Joint Dir	ector of Health Services i/c	t	th
Janasanyog/DF/142/20	Golaghat	1	re

being given by the standing under Elephant Reserve, it is committee of the National not enough to offer real Board of Wildlife in its recent protection. Coal may be virtual meeting to extract coal extracted from other areas from Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary in eastern Assam, which is the remaining rain

where biodiversity is not that high. It will be suicidal for the government to allow coal mining in this pristine forest On June 13, 2004, an area area of eastern Assam," it said in a statement.

The rain forest area, the AENF added, has the potential to attract economic benefit through eco-tourism which will not only conserve the important rain forest areas, but would also ensure local livelihood through eco-tourism. although later only 111.19 sq

The AENF includes NGOs like Aaranyak, Kaziranga Wildlife Society, Green Guard Nature Organisation. Aranya Surakhya Samiti -Asom, Early Birds and Nature's Green Guard.

## Mangaldai College teacher arrested

CORRESPONDENT

controversial posts in a social MANGALDAI, May 6: media against eminent litera-Mangaldai police on Wednesteur of the State Syed Abdul day arrested Rupa Rani Bhuy-Malik.

were regarding her recent

an, a teacher of Mangaldai Col-"But instead of cooperating ge and a resident of Upawith the investigation officer, upara here on charges of mis-Bhuyan misbehaved with her ehaving with a police officer. and created an unruly atmos-Officer in-charge of Manphere. Later, on the basis of an aldai Police Station, Inspec- FIR of SI Goswami, a case (no. or Niranjan Baruah, told me-264 /2020 u/s 353 /294 & 506 apersons that Bhuyan was IPC) was registered. Subsesked to appear before the inquently, Bhuyan was arrested narge of the Mangaldai Police and sent to judicial custody," tation women cell Sub-In-Inspector Baruah said.

pector Twinkle Goswami for Earlier, three cases (no. 225/ terrogation in connection 2020, 236 /2020 & 241 /2020) ith three cases registered at under the IT Act have been rene police station. The cases portedly been registered at the egistered against Bhuyan police station against Bhuyan.

Government service He leaves behind his wife, two sons and a host of relatives. His death was widely mourned.

No. ASFC.9/19/36

Advertisement for the post of Librarian and SI. No. 18 of the Advertisement for the post of Medical Recrod Officer hereby stand cancelled. Other parts of the original advertisement shall remain same. Sd/- i/c Principal-cum-Chief Superintendent Lakhimpur Medical College & Hospital, North Lakhimpur

Janasanyog/D/439/20

Janasanyog/CF/154/20

No. LMC/02/2020/30

#### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders and the prescribed schedule of tender affixing non-refundable Court fee Stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and paisa twenty five) only are invited from experienced and registered Contractors for the works (Details are available in the Office Notice Borad).

, , ,		5	-		、 、		-	,
Name of the works	Name of the Site	Approximate value	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Forms	Time of Completion	Date of issue of Tender paper from	Last Date of receive of Tender paper	Date of opening Tender
A. Providing Sound System, sitting Arrangement Carpeting, Air Conditioning & Lectern of Conference Hall and purchase of Furniture for Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Officer's & Office	Assam State Film (Finance and Dev) Corpn. Ltd, Panjabari, Guwahati- 37	Rs. 8,49,007/-	Rs. 16,980/-	200/-	60 days	8.5.20	15.5.20 at 2 PM	15.5.20 at 3 PM
<b>B.</b> Renovation and Improvement of the Boundary Wall, Gate etc. of the campus of ASFFDC	Assam State Film (Finance and Dev) Corpn Ltd. Panjabari, Guwahati	Rs. 19,42,957/-	Rs. 38,860/-	200/-	90 days	8.5.20	15.5.20 at 2 PM	15.5.50 at 3 PM
C. Improvement of the office chamber of Chairman, Making of Souvenir Shop cum Reception Counter cum Sale Counter and Renovation of FAO and Technical Officer's room, Improvement of Toilet & Corridor	Assam Sate Film (Finance and Dev) Corpn Ltd. Panjabari, Guwahati- 37	Rs. 12,99,749/-	Rs. 26,000/-	200/-	90 days	8.5.20	15.5.20 at 2 PM	15.5.20 at 3 PM
D. Construction of Chowkidar's shed including Toilet & upgradation of Campus	Assam State Film (Finance and Dev) Corpn Ltd. Panjabari, Guwahti- 37	Rs. 18,86.839/-	Rs. 37,740/-	200/-	90 days	8.5.20	15.5.20 at 2 PM	15.5.20 at 3 PM

N.B. (Other Terms and Conditions as specified in the Notice Inviting Tender, which may be collected during office hours from the office of the undersigned).

Sd/- Managing Director Assam State Film (Fin. & Deve) Corpn. Ltd.

Janasanyog/CF/149/20

### Sports \_\_\_\_\_ Will need at least one month of training: Rahane MCC to offer Sangakkara 2nd term

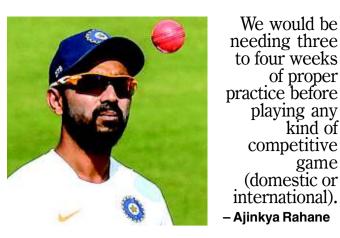
NEW DELHI, May 6: India's Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane on Wednesday said cricketers will need at least a month of training before resumption of competitive games, which should happen only after a vaccine for the dreaded COVID-19 is discovered.

Rahane also said that in a coronavirus-scarred world, the lifestyle of cricketers will undergo a change as far as pre and post-match routines are concerned.

"We would be needing three to four weeks of proper practice before playing any kind of competitive game (domestic or international)," Rahane, who was named brand ambassador of ELSA (English Language Speech Assistant) app, said during an online press conference.

"I am missing my batting. But obviously, cricket should only start when we get a vaccine to fight the virus," he asserted.

While the sports ministry is planning a phased resumption of national camps in Olympic disciplines, the BCCI is yet to spell out its plans on



cricket. Rahane said he is focusing on his fitness amid the lockdown.

"I am following the chart given by our trainer. I am also doing 'free weights' at home apart from meditation," he said.

He agreed that in future, players will be wary of wild celebrations and group hugs which they are so used to at the fall of wickets.

"I think we might go back to the good old days when fielders would

#### 'Transfer spending expected to fall'

LONDON, May 6: The transfer value of players in 10 of Europe's top leagues could plummet by up to 10 billion euros due to the economic crash caused by coronavirus, a study from accounting firm KPMG said on Wednesday.

Transfer spending is expected to fall dramatically, with clubs across the continent facing huge losses as a result of football's shutdown. The top divisions in England, Germany, Italy and Spain remain committed to trying to finish the 2019/20 seasons so they can honour huge TV contracts and minimise the financial hit.

KPMG estimates that Europe's top five leagues, including France, where the season has ended, could lose four billion euros (\$4.3 billion) if the campaigns cannot be completed. Those leagues are also the main drivers of the European transfer market. - AFP

### Sepak takraw workshop

GUWAHATI, May 6: The Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Sepak Takraw Federation of India, in collaboration with the Asian Sepak Takraw Federation organised an online 11-day coaching workshop from April 25 to May 5. This programme was initiated by the SAI and Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of India from Delhi during the lockdown period where 700 players and coaches from 28 states took part.

Dato Abdul Halim Bin Kader, president, Asian Sepak Takraw Federation inaugurated the coaching workshop while Boon Hai Lorhpitat, secretary general, Asian Sepak Takraw Federation was present in the closing ceremony yesterday. Informing this in a release, Bishnu Ram Nunisa, joint secretary of the Tawkwondo Federation of India and secretary of the Assam Sepak Takraw Association stated that the online programme was organised in order to keep the players all over the country applying latest techniques.

## Barca, Real players begin virus testing

of proper

kind of

game

still stand in their designated posi-

tions after the fall of a wicket and clap.

May be handshakes will be replaced

by a Namaste," the elegant Mumbai

take anything for granted. The safety

of the fans will be of utmost impor-

tance. There will be changes in life-

style while travelling. Especially be-

fore and after the match," Rahane said.

However he was non-committal on

"But once sport resumes, you can't

right-hander predicted.

MADRID, May 6: Players at Barcelona and Real Madrid started to undergo coronavirus tests on Wednesday as La Liga clubs planned to return to restricted training ahead of the proposed resumption of the season next month.

Barca captain Lionel Messi and France international Antoine Griezmann were among players pictured arriving one by one in their cars at the club's training centre early on Wednesday morning.

Players at Madrid, including Eden Hazard and Karim Benzema, also underwent health checks at Real's training base on the outskirts of the city.

Results from the coronavirus tests are typically known within 48 hours. The testing is part of the league's strict medical protocol with which teams must comply before a return to training.

Atletico Madrid, who will also carry out tests on Wednesday, are aiming to resume training immediately once the results are known if all goes to plan.

The first of a four-phase de-escalation programme announced by the Spanish government last week would allow players to initially train alone, with a maximum of six players allowed on the pitch.

Players will be expected to arrive on club premises already in their kit and wear a mask and gloves when not training. After each session they will be given a bag with clothes for the next day.

La Liga's programme will then permit training in small groups before a return to larger team sessions. - AFP

whether there should be a ban on the use of saliva to shine the ball, a topic of debate right now.

"I would like to wait and watch. You will only get a fair idea about revised rules once play resumes."

A couple of months back there were discussions about trying Rahane in white ball cricket because of his experience and IPL would have been a great platform for him to reaffirm his status as a quality whiteball player.

However, with the event postponed indefinitely, Rahane's chances of a comeback in limited overs certainly got affected.

But the seasoned batsman, who has played 65 Tests, 90 ODIs and 20 T20Is, wants to stay positive.

"It's all about being positive. I want to do well for my country in all formats. I have belief in myself. You never know what the future has in store for you.

"This lockdown has taught us to be more patient, believe in my routines and I am confident, the end result will be great," Rahane said. - PTI

LONDON, May 6: The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) on Wednesday announced that it would recommend a second term for its President Kumar Sangakkara owing to the global disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The former Sri Lanka wicketkeeper-batsman became the first non-British President of the club when he assumed office on October 1 last year.



has led the committee to rec-

ommend that Sangakkara, who

began his term of office on Oc-

tober 1, 2019, be invited to

serve as President of the Club

until September 30, 2021," the

The recommendation for

Sangakkara's extension will be

sent for approval to the club's

members at the Annual Gen-

club said in a statement.

eral Meeting, which has been "The disruption to the global cricketing landscape caused scheduled for June 24. by the outbreak of COVID-19

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020

The club also added that this was not the first time a president will serve beyond his one year tenure.

"Whilst Presidents of MCC only normally serve for a twelve-month period, it is not unprecedented for longer terms to be introduced to respond to extraordinary circumstances.'

During the two World Wars, Lord Hawke (1914-18) and Stanley Christopherson (1939-45) had served as president for longer than a year. The coronavirus outbreak has caused all international and domestic cricket around the world to be either cancelled or postponed.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has suspended all forms of professional cricket till July 1 due to the outbreak, which has wreaked havoc globally but more so in the United Kingdom. – PTI

## Bayern agree to sign Sane: report

BERLIN, May 6: Reigning

Sane on a five-year deal, according to a report.

Sport Bild claim the 24year-old has agreed terms with Bayern, but the fee is still to be negotiated.

According to the magazine, Bayern's director of sport Hasan Salihamidzic and board member Oliver Kahn want to pay 40 million euros (\$43 million) – half of Sane's estimated market value.

However, the Germany international has not played for City's first team since tearing his right knee ligament last August in the FA Community Shield match win over Liverpool at

Wembley. Having joined from Schalke in 2016 for a reported fee of 37 million pounds (42.5 million euros, \$45.8 million), Sane is under contract in

Manchester until 2021. A transfer fee of around 100 million euros had been reported last summer when Bayern were trying to sign him before injury struck.

According to Sport Bild, a few factors could help Bayern sign Sane for a lower fee, especially as he has been sidelined for most of the season.

Bayern could sign him for the price they want as the transfer market is deflated by the uncertainty over the coronavirus with all major European leagues currently suspended. - AFP

#### 8 9 6 9 1 4 8 2 1 4 5 3 6 9 3 7 2 5 4 8 3 2 7 6 3 8 4 1 7 2 6 Solution of last problem

SU DO KU

Originating from Japar 'su do ku' is a mind gam and a puzzle that can b solved with prope reasoning and logic. F the grid with digits in suc a manner that every row every column and ever 3 x 3 box accommodate the digits 1 to 9 without

repeating any

n,	8	9	3	6	4	5	7	2	1
ie ie	1	5	4	8	7	2	3	6	9
er	7	6	2	3	1	9	4	8	5
ill	2	4	7	1	6	3	9	5	8
h	9	1	5	2	8	4	6	7	3
N, ry	8 1 7 2 9 6 3 4 5	3	8	9	5	7	1	4	2
es	3	8	1	7	2	6	5	9	4
ut	4	2	6	5	9	1	8	3	7
	5	7	9	4	3	8	2	1	6
				-					_



Bundesliga champions Bayern Munich have reportedly agreed a transfer with Manchester City winger Leroy

সাম্প্ৰতিক সময়ত অসমৰ কেইখনমান জিলাত 'আফ্ৰিকান গাহৰি জ্বৰ'ৰ প্ৰাদুৰ্ভাৱৰ ফলত বিভিন্ন বয়সৰ প্ৰায় আঢ়ৈ হাজাৰৰো অধিক গাহৰি মৃত্যুমুখত পৰিছে। এই ক্ষেত্ৰত অসমৰ পশুপালন আৰু পশু চিকিৎসা বিভাগে বিষয়টো অতি গুৰুতৰ হিচাপে বিবেচনা কৰি ইতিমধ্যে যাৱতীয় ব্যৱস্থা গ্ৰহণ কৰিছে। ৰোগ বিধৰ নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ আৰু সংক্ৰমণ ৰোধৰ বাবে নিম্নলিখিত নীতি-নিয়মসমূহ মানি চলিবলৈ আপোনালোকক আহ্বান জনোৱা হ'ল -

- 🍮 গাহৰি পামসমূহৰ জৈৱ সুৰক্ষা নিশ্চিত কৰক।
- 🖕 গাহৰি পামসমূহলৈ অন্য ঠাইৰ পৰা নতুন গাহৰি আনি নুসুমুৱাব আৰু নিজৰ পামৰ পৰা কোনো গাহৰি অন্য ঠাইলৈ নপঠিয়াব।
- 🍮 গাহৰি পালকসকলে নিজৰ গাহৰিবোৰ মুকলিত চৰিবলৈ নিদিব।
- 🤩 নিজৰ নিজৰ গাহৰি পামসমূহ পৰিষ্কাৰ-পৰিচ্ছন্ন কৰি ৰাখিব।
- 🤩 গাহৰিপামত কোনো কাৰণতে অচিনাকি অথবা নতুন ব্যক্তিক প্ৰৱেশ কৰিবলৈ নিদিব।
- 😏 ইতিমধ্যে আক্ৰান্ত জিলা কেইখনত গাহৰি বা মাংস বিক্ৰী কৰাটো সম্পূৰ্ণৰূপে নিষিদ্ধ কৰা হৈছে।
- 🤹 যিকোনো কাৰণত গাহৰিৰ মৃত্যু হ'লে মৃতদেহ কমেও ছয় (৬) ফুট দ'কৈ গাঁত খান্দি মাটিৰ তলত পুতি থব। লগতে গাঁতত যথেষ্ট পৰিমাণে ব্লিচিং পাউদাৰ দিব।
- 🧙 অসংগঠিত ৰূপত বাসস্থানৰ ওচৰত পালন কৰা গাহৰিসমূহৰ ক্ষেত্ৰতো উল্লেখিত নিয়মসমূহ প্ৰযোজ্য হ'ব।
- 💿 গাহৰিৰ যিকোনো ৰোগৰ লক্ষণ দেখা মাত্ৰেই তাৎক্ষণিকভাৱে ওচৰৰ পশুচিকিৎসালয় বা পশুস্বাস্থ্য উপ-কেন্দ্ৰৰ সৈতে যোগাযোগ কৰক।
- 🖕 বৰ্তমান সময়ত ২০ দিনৰ বাবে গাহৰি জ্বৰৰ (Classical Swine Fever) ছিটাকৰণ সাময়িক ভাবে স্থগিত ৰখা হৈছে।
- 🧕 হোটেল বা ৰেষ্টুৰেন্টৰ পেলনীয়া খাদ্যবস্তু (মাংস মিহলি) বা অন্য উৎসৰ খাদ্য গাহৰিক নুখুৱাব।
- 🤩 মৃত্যু হোৱা গাহৰিৰ শৱ, নৈ, খাল-বিল আদি জলাশয় নাইবা মুকলি ঠাইত দলিয়াই পেলালে আইনমতে দণ্ডনীয় হ'ব।
- 🥃 প্ৰয়োজনীয় দিহা-পৰামৰ্শ আৰু যাৱতীয় অনুসন্ধানৰ বাবে খানাপাৰাস্থিত পশু স্বাস্থ্য কেন্দ্ৰৰ কেন্দ্ৰীয় নিয়ন্ত্ৰণ কক্ষৰ দূৰভাষ নং ৯৪৩৫০৬১৬০৮ আৰু ৭০০২৪৮৩৮১০ত যোগাযোগ কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ কৰা হ'ল।
- 😏 গাহৰি পালকসকলে যিকোনো সমস্যাৰ সন্মুখীন হ'লে ততালিকে বিভাগৰ বিনামূলীয়া দূৰভাষ নং ১৯৬২ত যোগাযোগ কৰক।

### পশুপালন আৰু পশুচিকিৎসা বিভাগ, অসমৰ দ্বাৰা জনহিতাৰ্থে প্ৰচাৰিত

