

NEWS BEARER

NEWS FROM NEAR & FAR

■ RNI No. ASSENG/2015/66506 ■ VOL 09, ISSUE 15 ■ DIMA HASAO ■ PAGES: 8 ■ PRICE 10.00 ■ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024

CDAA held its Executive Committee meeting at Hotel Borail, Silchar

Haflong: The Chemists and Druggists Association of Assam (CDAA) held its Executive Committee meeting at Hotel Borail View, Silchar on 17 November, 2024 attended by delegates from across Assam. The event, chaired by CDAA President Dr. N.L.

Agarwala, was graced by Assam State General Secretary Jitu Barman, State Treasurer Koustav Kr. Guha, and leaders of the Cachar Medicine Retail and Whole Sellers Association, including President Karuna Sindhu Dey and Secretary Montosh Paul and Organizing Secretary Shibaji Bhattacharjee. The meeting began with a formal felicitation and condolence session, setting a respectful tone before diving into a packed agenda. A highlight of the event was the unveiling of 'Medishine Bulletin', a publication offering pharmaceutical updates and insights from district-level associations within Assam and beyond. Key resolutions were adopted during the meeting, addressing challenges faced



by the pharmaceutical sector. Social Media and Website Cell formation of a dedicated cell to enhance communication and utilize WhatsApp for efficient information dissemination. GST mismatch notices discussion on resolving discrepancies and current status of notices impacting members. Cold Chain Logistics proposals to introduce specialized containers for better pharmaceutical transshipment. Discount awareness programs to educate members about ongoing discount policies and their implications. Licensing Issues (U/S 32/b) deliberations on challenges related to pharmacists' licenses. A significant focus was on the alarming rise in Not of Stan-

dard Quality (NSQ) medicines. Over fifty such medicines were recently flagged by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), raising concerns about substandard and potentially harmful drugs in circulation. Call for Action the CDAA resolved to appeal to the state government for the establishment of district-level testing laboratories to regularly evaluate pharmaceutical products and identify NSQ medicines. Delegates emphasized that such measures are critical for ensuring public safety and maintaining the quality of medicines.

Concerns were also raised about how aggressive discount policies might contribute to

the prevalence of substandard drugs. At a joint press briefing, CDAA President Dr. N.L. Agarwala, General Secretary Jitu Barman, and spokesperson Debashish Swami reiterated the urgency of addressing the NSQ medicine issue. They announced plans for a new test laboratory under the Department of AYUSH in Assam and called on the government to expedite the establishment of district-level facilities. Currently, the region has only one functional test laboratory, underscoring the pressing need for more infrastructure. The leaders stressed the responsibilities of the CDSCO under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, including drug approval, clinical trial oversight, and collaboration with state drug regulators to uphold stringent quality standards. The meeting reflected the association's proactive approach to tackling challenges in the pharmaceutical trade, highlighting its commitment to public health, professional ethics, and the welfare of the community.

Additional chief secretary reviews development projects in Dima Hasao



Haflong: The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Biswaranjan Shamal, IAS, conducted a comprehensive review meeting today with departmental heads under the jurisdiction of the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council. The meeting was convened in the Principal Secretary's conference hall at the Council Secretariat. Principal Secretary Thai Tsho Daulagupu, along with council secretaries and officers, participated in the discussions. The review meeting aimed to assess the progress of ongoing development programs and schemes in the district. It brought together key stakeholders, including the Additional Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, council secretaries, and departmental heads. The visit forms part of Mr. Shamal's three-day tour

of the Dima Hasao district to monitor the implementation of council-led initiatives. During the meeting, Shamal reviewed the physical and financial status of various flagship programs and other key schemes. He expressed satisfaction with the departments' efforts and progress while emphasizing areas requiring additional focus. Notably, he highlighted the importance of enhancing food storage capacity to ensure adequate supplies during disasters. He also urged the health department to intensify efforts to promote institutional deliveries, aiming to improve maternal and child healthcare outcomes. As part of his visit, the Additional Chief Secretary is scheduled to inspect various project sites to evaluate work progress on the ground before returning to Guwahati.

Tribal Rights and Recognition: Dima Hasao Honors Birsa Munda on 150th Birth Anniversary

Haflong: The Dima Hasao district proudly observed Janjatiya Gaurav Divas today, commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of the legendary tribal leader and freedom fighter, Dharti Aaba Biswan Birsa Munda. The occasion aligned with nationwide celebrations, including the inauguration of schemes worth ₹6,900 crore by Prime Minister Narendra Modi via live telecast from Jamui, Bihar. The event highlighted the district's commitment to honoring tribal heritage while fostering inclusive development. Mohet Hojai, Chairman of the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council, emphasized Birsa Munda's lasting legacy in advocating for tribal recognition and rights. He discussed the scope of the newly announced initiatives targeting the upliftment of tribal communities, stressing the need for widespread awareness to ensure these schemes benefit underserved residents. Hojai also urged inter-departmental collaboration to address challenges and achieve holistic progress in Dima Hasao. District Commissioner Simanta Kumar Das drew parallels between Birsa Munda's struggles and the ongoing fight for tribal rights and freedoms. He underscored the importance of preserving cultural identity and called for efforts to fill developmental gaps, envisioning Dima Hasao as one of the top five districts in the state.

The event also recognized the achievements of five deserving beneficiaries from each of the district's five blocks, who were awarded certificates under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) for rural housing. Birsa Munda, born on No-



vember 15, 1875, in Ulihatu, Jharkhand, remains an iconic figure in India's history. His leadership during India's resistance against British colonial rule and his advocacy for tribal rights and autonomy have cemented his place as a symbol of courage and resilience. The celebration was attended by NCHAC Secretary Partha Jahari, Haflong Municipal Board Chairman Ripa Hojai, Additional Deputy Commissioner James Aind, and a host of officials, civil society members, and students, making it a memorable tribute to the tribal leader's enduring impact.

CBI charges Monalisa Das in online trading scam case

Guwahati: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed a chargesheet against Monalisa Das, a representative of DB Stock Consultancy, on November 18, 2024, in connection with a fraudulent online trading scheme in Assam. The chargesheet was submitted before the Special Judge for CBI cases in Chandmari, Guwahati.

The CBI's investigation alleges that DB Stock Consultancy lured investors through unregulated deposit schemes, promising guaranteed returns since 2018. However, irregular payments soon surfaced, leaving many investors without their promised returns.

According to the chargesheet, the accused collected significant sums from depositors by providing documents on Rs 100 stamp paper as proof of investment. The chargesheet includes violations of Section 25 read with Sections 21(1), 21(2), and 21(3) of the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019; Section 409 of the Indian Penal Code; and Section 316(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. The investigation began in late October following a recommendation from the Assam government. Monalisa Das, the first person arrested in the case, was taken into custody by Assam Police on August 22 and remains in judicial custody.

Dima Hasao District Congress Committee holds solemm prayer for peace and prosperity in Manipur

Haflong: The Dima Hasao District Congress Committee (DHDCC) organized a heartfelt prayer session and candle-lighting ceremony to invoke peace and prosperity in the conflict-stricken state of Manipur. The program took place at the Old Boat House, located near the Council Rotary in Haflong, and was marked by an atmosphere of solemnity and unity. The event saw the participation of senior Congress leaders, party members, and concerned citizens from various walks of life. With the ongoing unrest and challenges faced by the people of Manipur, the program aimed to express solidarity and offer prayers for harmony and well-being in the region.



The ceremony began with a collective prayer led by prominent leaders of the district Congress. Attendees, holding lit candles, stood in silent tribute to the spirit of peace and the hope for reconciliation. The Old Boat House, with its serene surroundings, provided a fitting backdrop for the occasion, enhancing the solemnity of the moment.

Speaking at the gathering,

senior leaders Nirmal Langthasa, Mihir Gorlosa, Kalijoy Sengyung and H. Jeme emphasized the importance of unity and compassion during times of crisis. They urged everyone to remember the values of humanity and peace, which are essential for overcoming turmoil and rebuilding a prosperous future for Manipur. This program is our way of showing that we

stand with the people of Manipur in their time of need. Through prayer and unity, we hope to send a message of hope and healing,” one of the senior Congress leaders remarked. The attendees also reflected on the urgent need for collective efforts to restore normalcy in Manipur, appealing to all sections of society to work towards peace. The candle-lighting ceremony concluded with a pledge to continue advocating for harmony and development in the region. The DHDCC’s initiative was appreciated by many, as it highlighted the importance of empathy and solidarity in addressing the challenges faced by neighboring states.

Haflong Celebrates Guru Nanak Gurburab with Festivity and Unity



Haflong: Guru Nanak Gurburab, also known as Guru Nanak’s Prakash Utsav and Guru Nanak Jayanti, was celebrated with great fervor and joy in Haflong, the headquarters of the Dima Hasao district. This sacred Sikh festival commemorates the birth of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikhism.

The day-long celebration commenced at the Haflong Gurdwara with prayers, Kirantan, and Ardas (devotional prayers). People from various communities joined the Sikh congregation to mark the occasion. A highlight of the celebration was the “Guru Ka Langar,” a community meal served to all attendees, symbolizing equality and selfless service. The event witnessed the presence of notable dignitaries, including Ripa Hojai, Chairperson of the Haflong

Municipality Board. She was honored with the highest Sikh distinction, the “Saroopa,” in recognition of her participation. Addressing the gathering, Hojai reflected on the teachings of Sikh Gurus, emphasizing their timeless messages of peace, unity, and service to humanity. The Sikh faith celebrates Gurburabs, or anniversaries of the 10 Sikh Gurus, as moments of prayer and festivity. Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, born on April 15, 1469, in present-day Nankana Sahib, Pakistan, is revered as the pioneer of Sikhism, whose teachings continue to inspire millions worldwide. Nirmal Singh, Secretary of Sri Gurdwara Singh Sabha Haflong, and the Sikh community extended heartfelt wishes for peace, unity, and prosperity among all communities and tribes in the Dima Hasao district

National Press Day Observed in Haflong : Focus on ‘Changing Nature of Press’

Haflong: Along with the rest of the country, National Press Day was observed in Haflong with great enthusiasm, highlighting the evolving role of media in society. The event was organized by the District Information and Public Relations Office (DI&PRO) under the N.C. Hills Autonomous Council, Dima Hasao, Assam. This year’s theme, ‘Changing Nature of Press,’ was the central focus of the discussions. The program commenced with a warm welcome from Rijit Kachari, SDIPRO of Maibang, who introduced the theme and emphasized its relevance in today’s rapidly transforming media landscape. The event saw the presence of notable dignitaries, including Ngulminlal Lienthang, Deputy Chairman of the N.C. Hills Autonomous Council and in-charge of DI&PRO, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dina Nath Loying, Additional Director of Information and Public Relations, and Purabi Phonglo, District Information and Public Relations Officer, were also in attendance, along with offi-

cialists from DI&PRO and a diverse group of journalists from both print and electronic media. The program provided an open platform for media professionals to share their insights on the challenges and responsibilities of journalism in the modern era.

Discussions revolved around ethical journalism, sustainability of print media, and pressing issues such as health insurance, remuneration, and financial grants for local newspaper houses. The journalists collectively urged the N.C. Hills Autonomous Council to address these concerns to ensure the survival and growth of local media in the changing press environment. On the other hand, Purabi Phonglo, District Information and Public Relations Officer, took on the role of moderator, facilitating the discussions initiated by the media professionals.

She provided thoughtful insights and steered the conversation towards a broader evaluation of the issues raised, ensuring a comprehensive and constructive dialogue.



Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Ngulminlal Lienthang spoke about the vital role of media as the fourth pillar of democracy. He emphasized the responsibility of journalists in disseminating accurate and timely information to the public. He also assured the attendees that he would work with the council authorities to address the issues raised by the local media community. The observance of National Press Day in Haflong not only celebrated the importance of journalism but also highlighted the need for collaborative efforts to adapt to the evolving nature of the press.

Haflong F&ESS Successfully Responds to Ring Well Rescue Operation

Haflong: The Dima Hasao District Congress Committee (DHDCC) organized a heartfelt prayer session and candle-lighting ceremony to invoke peace and prosperity in the conflict-stricken state of Manipur. The program took place at the Old Boat House, located near the Council Rotary in Haflong, and was marked by an atmosphere of solemnity and unity. The

event saw the participation of senior Congress leaders, party members, and concerned citizens from various walks of life. With the ongoing unrest and challenges faced by the people of Manipur, the program aimed to express solidarity and offer prayers for harmony and well-being in the region. The ceremony began with a collective prayer led by prominent lead-

ers of the district Congress. Attendees, holding lit candles, stood in silent tribute to the spirit of peace and the hope for reconciliation. The Old Boat House, with its serene surroundings, provided a fitting backdrop for the occasion, enhancing the solemnity of the moment. Speaking at the gathering, senior leaders Nirmal Langthasa, Mihir Gorlosa, Kalijoy Sengyung

and H.Jeme emphasized the importance of unity and compassion during times of crisis. They urged everyone to remember the values of humanity and peace, which are essential for overcoming turmoil and rebuilding a prosperous future for Manipur. This program is our way of showing that we stand with the people of Manipur in their time of need.

Peru becomes the 2024 cultural partner of the Hornbill Festival

Kohima: Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio and the Ambassador of Peru to India, Javier Manuel Paulinich Velarde, announced in New Delhi that Peru will be a Partner Country for the 25th edition of the Hornbill Festival, which starts on 1st December, 2024. The Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues including both the Deputy Chief Ministers had a meeting with the Ambassador of Peru at New Delhi and made the formal announcement. With this announcement, Peru becomes the third country to Partner with the Nagaland Government at the Hornbill Festival following the earlier announcements of Wales and Japan partnering with the Nagaland Government. The Peru Ambassador informed that artists, cultural performers and dancers from the South American country



are expected to participate in various events of the festival. Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio welcomed the participation of Peru at the forthcoming festival and expressed confidence that the partnership would bring the two countries closer, strengthen bilateral ties and enhance people-to-people contact. He appreciated the efforts of the Ambassador in making the partnership a reality and conveyed that Nagaland is looking forward to welcoming the Peru delegation to the “Festival of Festivals”.

Keerthy Suresh to marry longtime boyfriend Antony Thattil in December

Bengaluru: Actor Keerthy Suresh, who is all set to make her Bollywood debut with Varun Dhawan's *Baby John*, will get married to her longtime boyfriend, Antony Thattil, in the second week of December. According to reports, Antony is a Dubai-based businessman and the two have been in a steady relationship for the past 15 years. It is said that Keerthy and Antony will have a destination wedding in Goa next month. The wedding will happen with the blessings of their respective families. The grand wedding is expected to take place on December 11 and 12 in Goa. An official announcement regarding their union will re-



portedly be made in the coming days. It is rumoured that Antony Thattil and Keerthy Suresh went to school together, and they were high school sweethearts. More details about Antony, his profession and his relationship with Keerthy are awaited. The Goa wedding will see family members and

close friends in attendance. The guest list is yet to be out. In 2023, when Keerthy Suresh went to school together, and they were high school sweethearts. More details about Antony, his profession and his relationship with Keerthy are awaited. The Goa wedding will see family members and

once got it right (sic).” Keerthy Suresh is the daughter of film producer G Suresh Kumar and actor Menaka. She began her career in the world of cinema as a child actor in the early 2000s. She made her debut in a lead role in the Malayalam film *Geethanjali*. Today, she is one of the leading actors in the Tamil and Telugu film industries. She won the National Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Mahanati*, a biopic on the life of legendary actor Savitri. On the work front, she will be seen next in Varun Dhawan's *Baby John*, a remake of Atlee and Thalapathy Vijay's *Theri*. The film will release in theatres on December 25, 2024.

Nayanthara quit films at her peak in 2011



Mumbai: Nayanthara has been reclusive and silent about her personal life. The actor, known for giving few interviews, recently opened up about her life and career in a documentary, *Nayanthara—Beyond the Fairytale*. In the documentary, the actor confirmed the long-held notion that she quit films during her peak on the advice of a romantic partner. In *Nayanthara - Beyond the Fairytale*, the actor speaks about her relationships but does not name the men. While discussing her second relationship, Nayanthara said, “It was the man who told me to quit cinema. It wasn't like I had an option. I was told to leave cinema, and I agreed.” Nayanthara was reportedly in a relationship with Prabhu Deva around 2010-13, even though the latter was married. Prabhu Deva publicly expressed his desire to leave his wife, Latha, and marry Nayanthara. However, the actor

maintained her silence. Eventually, Nayanthara quit films for about two years in 2011 despite her career going very well. According to reports, Nayanthara and Prabhu Deva called it quits during her hiatus from cinema, as the director faced pressure from his family and wife to end the relationship. Nayanthara returned to films in 2013, and she credits Nagarjuna with giving her the offer ‘when everyone thought I was done’. In the documentary, Sathyan Anthikad, who launched *Nayanthara* with the 2003 hit, *Manasinnakare*, spoke about her comeback and said, “One day, after the two-year break, she just called me. We spoke for about 4-5 hours that day. At some point, you just need someone to listen to. It wasn't about my advice or anything. She just needed to talk to someone who knew her from the beginning. It defined her when she decided to come back.”

Samay Raina mocks backlash for Deepika Padukone

Mumbai: The controversy surrounding the joke on Deepika Padukone's depression on India's *Got Latent* has not fazed the show's creator, comic Samay Raina. Even as many online have criticised the joke and Samay's reaction to it, the comic posted on Monday asking people to outrage in a manner that would benefit him. On Monday, Samay took to his Instagram Stories and shared a screenshot of a Reddit notification about the controversy surrounding the joke. “Comedian's joke on Deepika's depression sparks outrage,” read the title. Samay wrote alongside, “To everyone who is outraging on Twitter, one request: Could you please outrage in my YouTube comment section so I get some ad revenue from the traction, at least.” The comedian then added the link to the YouTube video of the latest episode of India's *Got Latent* in which the joke was told. India's *Got Latent* is an online talent show created by Samay. In the latest episode, he was joined by Tanmay Bhat, Raghu Ram, neurologist Dr Sid Warrier, and Balraj Singh Ghai on the judges' panel. A contestant named Bunty Banerjee made a joke about the birth of Deepika and Ranveer Singh's daughter Dua. “Deepika Padukone also became a mother recently, right. Great, now she knows what depression really looks like,” she said. The joke was received with laughter and applause from Samay and the rest of the panellists. Following this, both the show and the comic were criticised online for trivialising mental health. One Redditor wrote, “People are finding it unfunny because it trivializes a common mental health condition and that too in a dumb way, comparing apples to oranges. It is punching down, unintelligently.” The judges, including Samay, were criticised for laughing at the joke. “As much hilarious the panel is at times, sometimes the panel has the most brain-dead takes like come on comedy ke naam pe kya kar rahe ho (what are you doing in the name of comedy),” read one comment.

Salman Khan takes Ashneer Grover to task, says 'I didn't even know your name'

Mumbai: At the recent Weekend Ka Vaar episode of *Bigg Boss 18*, Salman Khan confronted Shark Tank India judge and Bharat Pe co-founder Ashneer Grover for his controversial statements that he had made about the actor and his team in a podcast. Recently, the clip, showing Salman and Ashneer's full conversation on the reality show has gone viral on social media. The clip shows Ashneer entering the stage and Salman asked him, ‘Aacha aap ho (Oh it's you). You are known for your dialogue dogalapan,’ to which Ashneer replied, “Reputation toh waisa bann gaya hai (That's my reputation).” Quickly Salman confronted Ashneer about his remarks when BharatPe's team approached the actor to be the brand ambassador of the portal. Salman said, “Mere baare me kehte huye suna hai and mere team ke baare mein when you were in BharatPe. Meri oh aapse kabhi mulaqat hui nahi (I have heard you say things about me and my team despite me never meeting you).” Ashneer, who looked visibly taken aback, responded,



“There was an agency involved.” Salman countered him and said, “There was no agency involved. My team was involved. They don't talk like this. You spoke saying that you have signed me. Sab figures bhi aapne galat bataye. Toh phir yeh dogalapan kya hai? (I heard you talked about signing me and mentioned all the wrong figures.)

I have never met you. So what is this double standard?” Though Ashneer tried to clarify, Salman retorted saying, “Dogalapan hi hua na... because this conversation...we didn't even meet before.” Ashneer insisted that him and Salman had a meeting together. However, the actor refused the same and shared that he had a meeting with a team and he must be present there. Trying to save the situation, Ashneer explained,

“I want to clarify, taking you as the brand ambassador was one of the smartest moves I made.” Salman, however, pushed back, saying, “Please clarify because the impression that you gave was that you made us a fool by signing us in that amount. That was wrong.” He added, “Yeh jo attitude ab hai, tab wahan nahi dikha tha.” On the *Vagehra Vagehra* podcast last year, Ashneer had spoken about his experience with Salman. He had said, “Usko humne sponsor rakha tha, uske shoot ke liye mila tha, usko brief karne ke liye company ke baare mein. Teen ghante baitha tha uske saath, uske manager ne bol diya photo nahi khichwani, sir thoda bura maan jaate hain. Maine bola nahi khichwaunga photo, bhaad mein jaa tu, aisi kaunsi heropanti hogayi.”

Bodyguard reveals Diddy performed 'bird sacrifice'

Staff Reporter: Sean “Diddy” Combs' former bodyguard has made a sensational claim about an unusual ritual allegedly performed by the music mogul just hours before his acquittal in a 1999 nightclub shooting case. This was the same case in which budding rapper Shyne, now known as Moses Barrow, was held accountable and sentenced to prison time. Gene Deal, speaking in the Hulu documentary *The Honorable Shyne*, recounted witnessing Diddy ‘sacrificing a bird’ on his way to court for the final trial. The infamous 1999 nightclub shooting, involving disgraced music mogul Sean “Diddy” Combs and his then-girlfriend Jennifer Lopez, remains a dark chapter in hip-hop history. While Combs and Lopez walked away without hurting their reputation, the spotlight fell on Shyne, a 19-year-old rising rap star under Combs' Bad Boy Records. Despite maintaining his innocence, Shyne was sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2001 for “assault, reckless endangerment, and illegal weapon possession.” Now Shyne's journey—from a promising artist to his fall from grace and eventual comeback—will be documented in *The Honorable Shyne*, a new documentary by Disney-ESPN's *Andscape*. The show is scheduled to premier on Hulu on Nov. 18. The film promises to disclose what really happened that fateful night. Gene Deal, Sean “Diddy” Combs' former bodyguard, shared a startling account of events leading up to the rapper's 1999 trial verdict. Deal recalled seeing Combs make an unexpected stop at Central Park on his way to court. There, according to Deal, Combs dropped to his knees in front of another man surrounded by smoke. The man, holding a Bible, reportedly prayed while laying his hands on Combs before instructing him to release a white bird from a cage.

Super.money launches SuperFD, offers up to 9.5% returns via UPI



Guwahati: Super.money has unveiled SuperFD, a pioneering fixed deposit (FD) product leveraging UPI for a fully digital and paperless investment experience. In partnership with leading small finance banks, users can now open FDs on the app with amounts starting at ₹1,000 and earn interest rates of up to 9.5%. This industry-first initiative targets India's young, digitally-savvy investors, providing an easy onboarding process that takes under two minutes, complete with eKYC and optional video KYC. All FDs on SuperFD are insured up to ₹5,00,000 by the DICGC, ensuring safety alongside competitive returns. Prakash Sikaria, Founder & CEO of Super.money, said,

"SuperFD combines the ease of UPI with attractive FD rates to redefine savings. This aligns with the RBI's vision of making deposits appealing for the modern investor." Guwahati, a key emerging market for fintech adoption, stands to benefit significantly from SuperFD. With its low entry point and high returns, the product is an ideal savings solution for the city's growing pool of young professionals and entrepreneurs seeking secure and rewarding financial tools. SuperFD is the latest addition to Super.money's suite of UPI offerings, including SuperUPI and SuperCard, aiming to bridge India's credit and deposit growth gap while offsetting inflation.

Nissan hosts exclusive 'Weekend Carnival' to delight customers nationwide

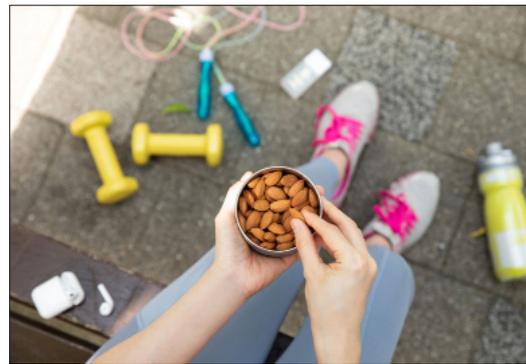
Guwahati: Nissan Motor India has rolled out its exclusive 'Weekend Carnival' across dealerships nationwide, running from November 15-17. The event is designed to engage both current and prospective Nissan customers with exciting prizes, family-friendly activities, and a showcase of the brand's vehicles. The carnival offers guests the opportunity to test drive the New Nissan Magnite



and Nissan X-TRAIL while enjoying a variety of family-oriented games, contests, and a dedicated play area for children. Customers can also share their cherished Nissan experiences through video testimonials on social media using #NissanFamilyConnect. These engaging activities aim to strengthen the bond between Nissan and its customers. In Guwahati, the event holds promise for potential car buyers in the region, where Nissan's growing presence is supported by the popularity of models like the Magnite. The carnival provides a platform for prospective buyers in Guwahati to explore Nissan's offerings in a festive and engaging environment, catering to the city's family-centric customer base. Nissan invites families to join this celebratory weekend, emphasizing a warm and welcoming atmosphere across all its showrooms. With prizes, lucky draws, and fond memories in store, the event underscores Nissan's commitment to building lasting relationships with its customers.

Almonds: The new fitness hero for recovery, reveals study

Guwahati: Could a handful of almonds be the secret to bouncing back stronger after exercise? A new study published in Current Developments in Nutrition suggests so, revealing that consuming two ounces of almonds daily may reduce muscle damage, ease soreness, and improve recovery performance. Sponsored by the Almond Board of California, this research highlights almonds as a nutrient powerhouse for active lifestyles. The study, conducted on 26 middle-aged individuals, compared the effects of almonds to pretzels during an eight-week trial. After an intense treadmill session designed to induce muscle damage, those in the almond group exhibited lower levels of creatine kinase



—a key marker of muscle damage—and reported reduced soreness and improved muscle performance up to 72 hours later. In Guwahati, where the fitness movement is steadily gaining ground, almonds are becoming a staple among health enthusiasts. The city's rising demand for functional foods has driven local retailers to highlight almonds' benefits, promoting them as an ideal

post-workout snack. Nutrition experts in the city emphasize almonds' rich blend of protein, fiber, and antioxidants, making them a preferred choice for those pursuing fitness goals. As almonds gain popularity in wellness circles, this study adds another layer to their appeal, offering a natural, nutrient-packed option for recovery and strength. Fitness just got tastier.

UTI Asset Management Company announces the opening of its UFC at Aizawl in Mizoram

Aizawl: UTI Asset Management Company (UTI AMC), one of India's leading asset management firms, has elatedly announced the opening of its UFC at Aizawl in Mizoram at A 57, Zote Bakery, Lower Zarkawt, Chanmari, Aizawl, Mizoram, 796007. The company has announced opening of 19 new UTI Financial Centres (UFCs) across South, East, and Northeast India on 18th November 2024. UTI

aims to extend its reach across the length and breadth of the country to foster financial inclusion and bring investors from B30 cities and beyond into the mainstream financial ecosystem through mutual fund investments. Mr. Imtaiyazur Rahman, MD and CEO, stated, "We are strategically opening new UTI Financial Centres to ensure seamless access to the full range of our offerings in closer proximity. The growth

in participation of individual investors in mutual fund investments in the last few years, especially in B30 cities, has been remarkable and very encouraging." UTI Mutual Fund remains dedicated to reaching its investors through a robust distribution network that includes Financial Centers (UFCs), Business Development Associates, Mutual Fund Distributors (MFDs), and strategic partnerships with banks.

According to Dr. Nirmal Kumar Jain, 7 essential vaccinations for children after the age of 1

Guwahati: While immunisation coverage in the first year of life is high in India, the rate tends to drop after the first birthday. Hence, a significant number of children in the country remain partially vaccinated. It is essential for children to receive key vaccinations even after their first birthday to strengthen their immunity against serious vaccine-preventable diseases, ensuring a happy and healthy future. The Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) recommends 7 vaccinations for children aged 1 to 2 years: two doses of chickenpox and hepatitis A, a second dose

of meningitis and MMR, booster doses of PCV and DTP Hib IPV, and an annual dose of flu. These 7 essential vaccinations protect against 14 diseases, such as chickenpox, hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, meningitis, measles, mumps, rubella, pneumonia, influenza, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, and Hib infection. Speaking on the need for these essential vaccinations, Dr Nirmal Kumar Jain, Senior Child Specialist, Institute of Human Reproduction, Guwahati, said, "Vaccination is a key step to shield children from preventable diseases and their complications."

Godrej Jersey carries out a survey among Indian parents

Guwahati: As the nation celebrates Children's Day, Godrej Jersey has carried out a survey amongst the Indian parents to understand their rationale for giving milk to their child. While some highlighted the need to remain fit and weight management in addition to gaining some energy and as a meal replacement, 60% of parents across the country said that they give milk to their kids to maintain intake of calcium. Titled 'Bottoms Up...India Says Cheers to Milk!' the comprehensive study covering consumer responses from Delhi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, and Kolkata provides valuable insights into evolving consumer preferences and industry trends. Commenting on the findings, Bhupendra Suri, CEO, Godrej Jersey, said, "Multiple research studies globally and in India have proven the nutritional value of milk, which is good for children." Another interesting insight which came from report was that 90% of Indian kids drink milk more than 4-5 times a week, and more than 40% of parents were open to consider flavoured milk as a school meal, for consumption during the day, or more specifically during playtime.

MG Windsors felicitates Indian Olympic Medalists 2024



Guwahati: The Indian contingent at the 2024 Paris Olympics has exhibited sheer resilience in gaining a respectable feat and paving the way for other aspiring future athletes. In recognition of their hard work and relentless pursuit of excellence, JSW Sports and JSW MG Motor India honored these sports stars with the MG Windsor, India's 1st intelligent CUV that has created a disruption in the Indian passenger electric car market. The Olympic medalists from India participated and won medals in various sporting events such as Javelin Throw, Pistol & Rifle Shooting, Wrestling and Hockey. These celebrated Olympians received the keys to their MG Windsors at an event in Chandigarh from company representatives. The MG Windsor combines the comfort of a sedan and the expanse of an SUV, offering a luxurious business-class experience to customers. In addition, customers are ensured complete peace of mind ownership experience through various initiatives such as Battery-As-A-Service, a lifetime warranty on the battery for the first owner, assured 60% buyback after three years, and one-year free charging at public chargers using the eHUB by MG app.

Growing Up Life Skills celebrates by Durex TBBT at the 2024 Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival

Guwahati: Durex The Birds and Bees Talk (TBBT), an impactful program by Reckitt, global leaders in consumer health and hygiene, has once again made a significant mark at the highly anticipated Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival 2024. The event was inaugurated by Shri.

Conrad K. Sangma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, alongside Shri. Sniawbhalang Dhar, Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Meghalaya, Shri. Paul Lyngdoh, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, and Shri.

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister of Development of the North-Eastern Region, Govern-



ment of India, among other dignitaries. Durex TBBT emphasized its five key pillars—Inclusion, Consent, Protection, Awareness, and Equity—through a dynamic graffiti competition curated by Pulak Rabha, a renowned Guwahati-based artist specializing in sculpture, painting, graphics, and applied arts.

On this occasion, Gaurav Jain, Executive Vice President, Reckitt—South Asia, shared,

“Through Durex Birds and Bees Talk, we're proud to be part of the Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival, a unique confluence of art and culture that fosters meaningful conversations.” Shri Abhilash Baranwal, IAS, Deputy commissioner, Ri Bhoi District, Meghalaya, said, “I hope this impactful work expands to regions like Ri-Bhoi District and wish the team continued success.”

Jindal (India) Limited strengthens national leadership with 30 percent market share



Guwahati: Jindal (India) Limited, part of prestigious B.C. Jindal Group and one of the leading downstream steel products manufacturers in India, has further consolidated its pan-India market presence by capturing 30 percent share in Assam's coated steel segment. The company, which maintains strong nationwide leadership across multiple steel product categories, has also achieved 22 percent market share in Assam's colour coated steel segment, reinforcing its dominant position across India. Building on its 70-year legacy of excellence, Jindal (India) Limited's growth in Assam was driven by its flagship brand, Jindal Sabrang, which has established itself

as a trusted name across India. The company's premium offering, Jindal Neucolor+, continues to gain significant traction nationwide, including strong acceptance in Assam. In the half year ended September 2024, the company's innovative “Jindalume” (Aluminium-Zinc Bare Galvalume coils and sheets) witnessed particularly strong demand in Assam, complementing its robust performance across other markets. Sharing insights on the business growth, Jindal (India) Limited's spokesperson said, “As a leading national player in India's downstream steel sector, we continue to strengthen our pan-India presence while achieving significant milestones across key markets.”

UTI Mutual Fund opens a new financial centre at Dibrugarh

Dibrugarh: UTI Asset Management Company (UTIAMC), one of India's leading asset management firms, has elatedly announced the opening of its UFC at Dibrugarh in Assam at 1st Floor, House of Subhas Chandra Jain, New Market, H S Road, Near Hotel East End, Dibrugarh, Assam (786001). The company has announced the opening of 19 new UTI Financial Centres (UFCs) across South, East, and Northeast India on 18th November 2024. UTI aims to extend its reach across the length and breadth of the country to foster financial inclusion and bring

investors from B30 cities and beyond into the mainstream financial ecosystem through mutual fund investments. Mr. Imtaiyazur Rahman, MD and CEO, stated, “We are strategically opening new UTI Financial Centers to ensure seamless access to the full range of our offerings in closer proximity.” UTI Mutual Fund remains dedicated to reaching its investors through a robust distribution network that includes Financial Centers (UFCs), Business Development Associates, Mutual Fund Distributors (MFDs), and strategic partnerships with banks.

Godrej Industries backs Jane Goodall Institute's India Youth Council launch

Guwahati: The Godrej Industries Group has partnered with the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) India to launch its Youth Council Programme, a platform empowering young changemakers. The initiative, part of JGI's global Roots & Shoots movement, aims to foster community-centered projects promoting environmental protection, animal welfare, and social causes. The launch event featured Burjis Godrej, Executive Director of Godrej Agrovet Limited, and Dr. Jane Goodall, the world-renowned primatologist and anthropologist. Burjis Godrej, serving as a mentor for the council, expressed excitement about the initiative: “This council stands for every act of

goodness, whether protecting our environment, advancing animal welfare, or supporting causes that make a positive difference. We look forward to the compassion and impact these young leaders will bring.” Dr. Jane Goodall emphasized the crucial role of youth in addressing global challenges. “Young people give me hope,” she said. “Even if they choose one goal to pursue with their friends, they can make a visible positive impact.” Roots & Shoots mentors Valerie Mascarenhas and Vandana Pandey were also honored for their exemplary work in youth-led initiatives. The council is set to inspire the next generation of empathetic leaders for lasting change.

Provivi and Godrej Agrovet partner to launch pest control solutions for Indian agriculture

Guwahati: Provivi, a global leader in pheromone-based crop protection, and Godrej Agrovet Limited (GAVL), a leading Indian Research & Development focused food and agri-business conglomerate, have announced a strategic collaboration to deliver sustainable pest control solutions tailored for India's critical rice and corn farmers.

The company will distribute Provivi's YSB Eco-Dispenser, specifically designed to control Yellow Stem Borer (YSB) in rice, and will hold exclusive commercialization rights for the FAW Eco-Dispenser targeting Fall Armyworm (FAW) in corn in India. Commenting on the collaboration, Balram Singh Yadav, Managing Director, GAVL, said, “With changing climatic conditions leading to increased pest challenges, it's more important than ever to empower Indian farmers with innovative, sustainable technologies that enhance productivity.” As a major player in the global rice market and a significant producer of corn for various industries, including food, animal feed, and manufacturing, India is well-positioned to benefit from innovations in sustainable pest management. Added, Rajavelu NK, CEO, Crop Protection Business, GAVL, said “Yellow Stem Borer and Fall Armyworm continue to pose significant threats to rice and corn crops, driving up production costs for farmers.”



NSDC organises a mega job fair in Rajasthan's Bharatpur

Guwahati: The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), has organised a mega job fair, Kaushal Mahotsav, in Bharatpur on November 19, announced Shri. Subhash Garg, MLA, Bharatpur, on Thursday, highlighting the job fair give youth an opportunity to take career in their respective domain. Making the announcement during a press conference. Shri. Subhash Garg. “Skilling and entrepreneurship has been the focus of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji because, in a country as big as India, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is the only ministry that can cater to the needs of growing India.” Present during the occasion, Shri Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and managing Director NSDC International said, “Our government's focus has always been on providing job security for the youth.” These training sessions will be held across 15 centres in Bharatpur and nearby areas. This initiative supports Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, prioritizing skill development, upskilling, and reskilling for India's youth and workforce.

Can Manuka honey help treat breast cancer?

Manuka honey is made by bees who collect the nectar of the Manuka tree, which is indigenous to Australia and New Zealand. For this study, researchers used both mouse and breast cancer cell models to find out how Manuka honey might impact breast cancer. “Manuka honey has a number of unique nutrients and bioactive compounds that likely contribute to its health benefits as a ‘nutraceutical Trusted Source’,” Richard Pietras, MD, PhD, professor of medicine in the Division of Hematology-Oncology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, director of the Stiles Program in Integrative Oncology, and senior author of this study told Medical News Today. “As we referenced in the published manuscript, there were a number of traditional, anecdotal, and preclinical reports on anti-tumor effects of Manuka honey, which was also described as possessing antioxidant Trusted Source and wound-healing. Trusted Source properties. This collection of information precipitated our interest in pursuing the antitumor efficacy of Manuka honey in more formal experimental models of this disease,” he said.

Bored of Baingan Ka Bharta This Delicious Shalgam Bharta Recipe Will Be Your

New Delhi: Winter's here, and it's time to dive into the seasonal wonders that make this time of year so amazing. From leafy greens to hearty root veggies, the season's produce is all about comfort. And one veggie that doesn't get enough love? Shalgam (turnip)! Its subtle sweetness and versatility make it a winner when cooked right.

Whether you're a die-hard fan or just looking to try something new, we've got the perfect recipe for you—Shalgam ka Bharta. Simple, tasty, and a game changer for your lunch routine. Serve it with dal and roti, and you've got a warm, satisfying meal. What are you waiting for? Let's make this! Grind the ginger, gong, black peppercorns, cinnamon, fennel seeds, cloves, and cardamom pods into a fine powder using a mortar and pestle. Boil the Water: Boil the water in a pot. Add Spices: Add the ground spice mixture and dried rose petals to the boiling water. Add Tea Leaves: Add the black tea leaves and bring the mixture to a boil. Add Milk: Add milk to the tea and bring it to a boil again. Sweeten: Add jaggery powder to taste and stir well.

Serve Hot: Strain the tea and serve hot. So, the next time you're feeling under the weather or simply need a cosy drink, try this Gond Masala Chai. Shalgam ka Bharta is a beloved



North Indian dish that turns humble turnips into something delicious. It's easy to make, perfect for everyday lunches and brings out the best of winter's produce.

The best part? It's super versatile—just like baingan ka bharta—so you can adjust the ingredients however you like. If you're

a fan of baingan ka bharta, this flavorful twist will quickly win you over. Why You Shouldn't Miss Out On Shalgam This Winter Beyond being a winter staple, shalgam is packed with health benefits that make it a must-have for your meals. Shalgam is rich in dietary nitrates that may help lower blood

pressure and promote better blood vessel health. Thanks to lutein, an antioxidant, shalgam can keep your eyes healthy and help prevent issues like cataracts. Full of fibre, shalgam aids digestion by absorbing water in the intestines, making bowel movements smoother. Shalgam is also high in lipids that can boost your metabolism, helping with fat storage and regulating blood sugar levels. Not to mention, this shalgam ka bharta is super easy to whip up and makes for the perfect family lunch. Getting kids to eat shalgam ka bharta can be a challenge, but there's an easy fix. After making the bharta, add a dollop of butter to make it extra creamy. You can even toss in some sautéed veggies and spread it on a crispy paratha.

Roll it up and serve as a fun and tasty lunchbox option! Making shalgam ka bharta is a breeze! Here's how to do it, thanks to the recipe shared by @dillifoodies on Instagram: 1. Prepare Turnips Wash and peel 5-6 turnips (shalgam), then chop them into cubes. In a pressure cooker, add some water, bring it to a boil, and toss in the chopped turnip. Cook for 3-4 whistles, then mash the turnip once the pressure is released. 2. Prepare Masala Heat oil in a kadhai, then add chopped onions and cook them on medium heat.

Tips To Store Jaggery And Easy Ways To Add



New Delhi: Winter is that magical time when food tastes just a little better. While fresh veggies are the stars of the season, there's one ingredient that quietly steals the show—jaggery. Known for its natural sweetness and cosy vibes, jaggery is a go-to for many after meals, thanks to its health benefits and its ability to keep the body warm. Whether it's jaggery tea or halwa, this sweetener has a special place in our hearts. But here's the catch—if you don't store it right, it can go bad. Don't worry, we've got you covered! Here are some super easy tips to store jaggery and keep it fresh, plus some fun ways to include it in your winter diet. How To Make Jaggery Paratha: The Sweet, Nutritious Winter Comfort You Have Been Missing Here Are 3 Easy Tips To Store Jaggery: 1. Use a Zip Lock Bag Ziplock bags are your BFF when it comes to keeping jaggery fresh. Before storing, wrap the jaggery in a paper towel and then pop it into the bag. Here's the key: make sure there's no air trapped inside. Press out all the air, seal it tight, and you're good to go. If you don't have a zip lock bag, a regular plastic bag works too—just be extra careful about sealing it. Pause Unmute Fullscreen 2. Store in The Fridge Skip the countertop and keep your jaggery in the fridge. Pro tip: ditch the plastic containers and use steel ones instead. Steel helps preserve both the taste and colour of jaggery better than plastic ever could. 3. Add Bay Leaves to the Container Want to keep jaggery fresh and bug-free? Toss a few bay leaves into the container.

A Taste of Home and the World The Rise of Glocal Food Trends

New Delhi: In an interconnected world, food has become a melting pot of flavors, cultures, and traditions. Yet, amidst this global culinary exchange, a new trend is making waves: glocal food. A beautiful blend of familiar comforts from local cuisine with an exciting twist from abroad—a culinary reflection of various palates coming together through each inch of creativity. Glocal food trends celebrate the best of both worlds. Local ingredients, techniques and cultural nuances inform how this group adapts global dishes while infusing exotic elements into traditional recipes. These are not your average Instagrammable meals but a window into the changing landscape of our palates, driven by migration, technology and more taste-making openness to being different or hybrid: think ramen burgers, turmeric lattes or tikka masala pizza! This trend isn't just about taste; it's also about sustainability and identity. By using locally-sourced ingredients in globally-inspired recipes, glocal food reduces environmental footprints while supporting local economies. At the same time, it honors the heritage of both the local and the global, creating an inclusive dining experience. As the world becomes more connected, our plates tell a story of unity and innovation.

Two chefs from APCA, bringing their expertise to the table and sharing recipes inspired by the latest glocal food trends. Explore how glocal food is reshaping dining habits and redefining what it means to taste the Coriander Praline Chocolate “Coriander Praline Chocolate is a unique twist on tradition, blending the nutty crunch of praline with the earthy freshness of coriander. Perfect for the holiday season, this recipe is a delightful fusion of flavors, bringing warmth and sophistication to your festive celebrations,” says Chef Sehaj Ghuman, Head Chef, APCA, Gurgaon. Coriander Praline Chocolate recipe “Mango Sticky Rice Pudding is a celebration of simplicity and flavor & a perfect blend of creamy coconut-infused sticky rice, sweet ripe mangoes, and a hint



of salty indulgence. This classic dessert, rooted in Thai tradition, brings a tropical twist to the holiday season. Whether served at festive gatherings or enjoyed as a cozy treat, its vibrant colors and harmonious flavors promise to delight. From our chef's kitchen to yours, savor the magic of this timeless recipe!” shares Chef Khushi Kaushal, Assistant Pastry chef, APCA, Gurgaon.

It is these glocal food trends that strike a balance between tradition and innovation, giving us the opportunity to enjoy the tastes of home while enjoying the diversity of this world. It is a celebration of diversity on our plates that reinforces sustainability and promotes cultural exchange. With globalization of tastes, glocal food will be the future of food. Glocal food trends celebrate the best of both worlds. Local ingredients, techniques and cultural nuances inform how this group adapts global dishes while infusing exotic elements into traditional recipes. Coriander Praline Chocolate recipe Ingredients Almond with peel: 14 Almond without peel: 60 Sugar: 212g Water: 65g Coriander seeds: 2g Cocoa butter: 30g Milk chocolate: 30g.

Mohammed Siraj Mocks Bowling Coach Morne Morkel In Team India Nets, Gets Praised As A Legend

Staff Reporter: Team India is training hard at the Western Australian Cricket Association Ground Perth ahead of the 1st IND vs AUS Test match. The team under Gautam Gambhir, Morne Morkel and Abhishek Nayar has been playing intra-squad warm-up games in order to get ready for the series opener. This time around the Border-Gavaskar Trophy (BGT) will be played across five-Test matches and this adds a lot of spice to the series. India also have their sights firmly set on the World Test Championship (WTC) Finals that will be played next year. After a 3-0 home series drubbing against the Kiwis, India's chances of playing the WTC finals looks bleak and they'll



have to defeat Australia atleast by 4-0 in order to make a case for themselves and to qualify for the marquee finals. The Border-Gavaskar Trophy starts on November 22, 2024 at the Optus Stadium, Perth. The Indian cricket team will be without their regular skipper Rohit Sharma in the first Test match and will be led by Jasprit Bumrah. The Indian Team has been

training hard to counter the Australian conditions and to adapt to them as quickly as possible.

There have been a couple of injury concerns for Team India and Shubman Gill might possibly miss the first Test match. The Board of Control for Cricket In India (BCCI) shared a video of India's match simulation on their official Instagram account where the likes of Virat

Kohli, KL Rahul, Jasprit Bumrah and others can be seen playing their hearts out. Towards the end of the video, Mohammed Siraj was seen mocking bowling coach Morne Morkel who hailed Siraj as a legend and praised his aggressive mindset. The Australians last won a Border-Gavaskar Trophy in 2014 and since then, they've been waiting to get their hands on the coveted silverware. India on the other hand have been in a dominant force in the BGT and have won four consecutive series (2016, 2018, 2020 and 2023). The Indian team is eyeing yet another series win against the Aussies 'Down Under' which might end up being their fifth consecutive BGT series victory.

Pakistan bat first, debut for Jahandad Khan

Pakistan: Pakistan have won the toss and decided to bat first in the third and final T20I. Salman Agha, who captains the side in place of Mohammad Rizwan, who missed out today, is looking to avoid an Australian clean sweep after the hosts won the first two T20Is.



This game, being played in Hobart, is the final contest of the tour, with Pakistan moving to Zimbabwe for another white-ball series that begins later this week. Haseebullah Khan returns to the side and will keep wicket, while Jahandad Khan comes for his international debut. Australia are unchanged, fielding the same side for the third straight game. Jahandad is a young left-arm medium pace bowler and left-hand batter from Rawalpindi. He made his mark with impressive performances for Pakistan TV in Presidents Cup and Stallions in Champions One-Day

Cup over last few months. He also played the last season of the PSL for Lahore Qalandars.

Australia: 1 Jake Fraser-McGurk, 2 Matt Short, 3 Josh Inglis (capt, wk), 4 Glenn Maxwell, 5 Tim David, 6 Marcus Stoinis, 7 Aaron Hardie, 8 Xavier Bartlett, 9 Nathan Ellis, 10 Adam Zampa, 11 Spencer Johnson

Pakistan: 1 Babar Azam, 2 Saibzada Farhan, 3 Haseebullah Khan (wk), 4 Usman Khan, 5 Salman Agha (capt), 6 Irfan Khan, 7 Abbas Afridi, 8 Shaheen Shah Afridi, 9 Jahandad Khan, 10 Haris Rauf, 11 Sufiyan Muqem

Omkar Salvi as fast-bowling coach of IPL 2025



Bengaluru: Royal Challengers Bengaluru have roped in former Kolkata Knight Riders assistant bowling coach Omkar Salvi ahead of Indian Premier League 2025, according to several media reports. Salvi, who did wonders with Mumbai recently in domestic cricket, will join RCB after the competition of the ongoing season. Reportedly, Salvi has been roped in as the fast-bowling coach at RCB. This will be Salvi's second IPL stint after spending time at KKR. Salvi has kept himself low-profile as far his coaching stints are concerned. He has done a great job with Mumbai, leading them to Ranji Trophy and Irani Cup titles recently and will oversee them in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament as well. Salvi is contracted with Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) until March 2025. For the unknown he is the younger brother of former India international Avishkar Salvi. Omkar has played just one List-A game for Railways in 2005. Meanwhile, RCB have appointed former wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik as batting coach and mentor ahead of IPL 2025.

Navneet Kaur steps up to break deadlock, Deepika continues to shine as India beat Japan

New Delhi: When the Indian women's hockey team registered good results in tournaments over the last few years, Navneet Kaur invariably would be the heartbeat of the team's attacking plays. As the Rani Rampal era slowly wound down after the Tokyo Olympics, Navneet – who also hails from Shahbad's famous hockey nursery like the former captain – emerged as one of India's most valuable attacking outlets. Now the vice-captain and one of the senior members of the Indian women's hockey team in a new Olympic cycle, Navneet has to shoulder much more of the attacking burden on the pitch.

On Sunday in Rajgir at the Asian Champions Trophy, she stepped up to do just that in the third quarter when India were being thwarted by a resolute Japanese defence. With the match tied at 0-0, Navneet produced a fabulous finish for the breakthrough goal, before Deepika added two more in the fourth quarter. India's 3-0 win ensured that the hosts and defending champions finished first in the pool stage and will face Japan again in the semifinals on Tuesday. Deepika – leading the goalscoring chart with 10 strikes – seems to have hit the stride in this tournament now, and scored two more well-taken drag flick goals. India's final penalty con-



version on the night was 2 out of 9, but to contextualise that, Japanese goalkeeper Yu Kudo was in inspired form, saving from PC situations when India seemed certain to open the scoring. It was a night with the stakes not really high for either side. India just had to avoid defeat to ensure they finished first. Japan's qualification to the semifinals was already confirmed before the match with Korea losing against China. The realistic ambition for Japan would have been to fight for a draw perhaps and sneak into third position and avoid a semifinal against India. But China isn't exactly an easier opposition anyway. India, especially after a highly intense match against China 24 hours earlier, didn't hit their top gear in the first half. Japan didn't offer much in terms of attacking threat – they didn't have a circle entry until midway through the second quarter. Adding to India's frustrations was Kudo's brilliance in the first two quar-

ters. At one point, she made a triple save from one Penalty Corner routine for India with Navneet, Sushila Chanu and Sangita Kumari all thwarted in the space of 10 seconds. But once again in this tournament, India hit a better tempo right out of the half-time break. The passes got quicker, the attacks grew more direct and at the center of it often was Navneet. Moments before breaking the deadlock, she offered a reminder of why her childhood coach in Shahbad, Baldev Singh, regards her as one of the best in the business when it comes to dribbling and dodging defenders. She drove through the heart of Japan's defence to draw a foul. And when Lalremsiami took the free hit, she passed the ball behind to Navneet, who made a semi-circular run into the circle and unleashed a powerful tomahawk the backhand strike whistled past the previously impenetrable Japanese defence with Kudo finally beaten.

Gukesh's rapid improvement in the World Chess Championship

Agency: Eleven years ago, as Viswanathan Anand jousted against Magnus Carlsen with the world champion's crown on the line, a boy barely seven years of age and his father made their way into the Hyatt Regency in Chennai to catch that action live. The boy was just starting to make his first tentative moves on the chessboard and his father thought watching two greats trade punches would be a good nudge for him into the sport. That day, there were no spots free for the duo to sit, so both of them lined up behind the seats in the spectator area and watched the action standing up. In a few days' time, Carlsen became the 16th world champion in the sport. Just over a decade since that heady moment, chess could witness another turn-of-the-page moment: that seven-year-old boy who stood and watched the game is now bidding to join Carlsen and Anand as the 18th world champion. When Gukesh takes on the reigning world champion Ding Liren in Singapore from next week in a 14-game royal rumble, he will be wooing history.



No one in history has been as young as Gukesh is at present when they became a world champion for the first time. Carlsen raises his hands to his forehead and does a gesture that's halfway between his mind getting blown and a shrug as the five-time world champion explains how Gukesh is still a "mystery" to him. "I cannot.... It's weird to have someone who is so unbelievably much better at classical than he is," Carlsen points out while speaking of Gukesh's ability to be better in the classical format than in the faster time controls of rapid or blitz. I think he just calculates non stop. In classical chess, it works out quite well. But then you see in some games he just makes very strange positional decisions because he doesn't have the same filter," adds Carlsen in an interview with a new chess app called Take Take Take.

“He Must Play”: Sourav Ganguly Fires Warning To Gautam Gambhir Over Snubbing India Veteran For Perth

Agency: Former India captain Sourav Ganguly is convinced that seasoned spinner Ravichandran Ashwin “must play” in the Border Gavaskar Trophy series opener against Australia in Perth. After months of wait, India and Australia, two heavyweights in the world of Test cricket, will begin their fierce rivalry in Perth from Friday. With last-minute injuries and the dwindling form of players in the Indian camp, the selection will be a headache for head coach Gautam Gambhir, especially after suffering a home series whitewash against New Zealand. Ashwin, who has been a reason for debate among former cricketers and fans for being sidelined in defining matches, including the World Test Champions finals in 2023, is again the talk of the town. With a traditional Perth surface offering plenty of value to pacers, spinners have struggled to fish out advantages while hunting for wickets. In the presence of Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar, the most probable scenario would be



India fielding just one tweaker in the playing XI. On the back of his lacklustre outing in the recent Tests, Ashwin could be on the verge of missing out on another big overseas match. However, for the former BCCI president, there is no debate about Ashwin’s selection. For him, the 38-year-old stands as the clear favourite ahead of Jadeja and Sundar, who impressed during the New Zealand series defeat. “There is no debate. Ashwin must play. Your best spinner must play. In Test cricket, play specialists. Also, against the number of left-handers in the Australian lineup, Ashwin is certain to have an impact,” Ganguly said while

speaking to Boria Majumdar on Revsportz. Ashwin had a rare slump on home conditions in red-ball cricket against the Kiwis. The crafty off-spinner’s fruitless endeavour was reflected in his failure to hit the double-digit mark in the wicket’s tally across the three Tests. While Sundar and Jadeja stood at the summit with 16 wickets a piece, Ashwin could only get nine for himself. Another striking factor in Ashwin’s performance was his failure to churn out wickets in the first and the third Tests. On two occasions, he went wicketless, including the second innings of the series opener and the first innings of the final Test at Wankhede. De-

spite his woes, Ganguly banked on Ashwin to make it into the playing XI because the veteran stands as India’s “best spinner.” “Yes, there is [Ravindra] Jadeja and Washington [Sundar] and both bat well, but you must go in with your best spinner in the first Test. Play with specialist batsmen and bowlers, and that’s where Ashwin is my choice,” he added. India’s squad for Border-Gavaskar Series: Rohit Sharma (c), Jasprit Bumrah (vc), Ravichandran Ashwin, Mohammad Shami, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel (wk), Sarfaraz Khan, Virat Kohli, Prasad Krishna, Rishabh Pant (wk), KL Rahul, Harshit Rana, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Siraj, Washington Sundar. Australia squad for the first Test: Pat Cummins (c), Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Mitch Marsh, Nathan McSweeney, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc.

Champions Trophy saga: Blame lies with ICC leadership

New Delhi: We are here again. Not for the first time and probably not the last. With under 100 days to go for the 2025 Champions Trophy, scheduled in Pakistan, the ICC has still not formally announced the dates for the tournament. The schedule, too, has not been finalised. Why? India, one of the eight participating countries, will not travel to Pakistan - a decision taken by the Indian government, according to the BCCI in its communication to the ICC. We have been here, not once but twice, as recently as 2023. Take your memory back to last year’s Asia Cup and ODI World Cup and you will see a similar pattern. In the first instance, the PCB was forced to loosen its stance that the event would be held solely in Pakistan after the BCCI said India did not have permission from their government to travel across the border. Eventually it was Pakistan, the hosts, who ended up boarding flights to and from Sri Lanka, where India played all their matches, including the final. At the World Cup, the PCB pushed to get the ICC to adopt the hybrid model, but Pakistan eventually travelled to India. They travelled, it has since emerged, despite deep reservations within the Pakistan government. Twelve months later we are once again in familiar territory: the BCCI has made its move, comfortably standing in one corner, arms folded. At the opposite end, the PCB stands steadfast, refusing to blink or budge. The ICC, in theory the adjudicator, remains tight-lipped. It is a shambolic situation. Who actually gains from this brinkmanship? That is only part of the question. The more important question, though, one that never gets asked properly is: who is responsible for this standoff? Unequivocally the answer is the ICC, the game’s governing body, which has once again escaped scrutiny. To be precise, the ICC leadership: the ICC board. In November 2021 the ICC board allocated hosting rights for various global events in the 2024-31 rights cycle to several boards. The PCB, which had bid for two events, was allocated the 2025 Champions Trophy. The ICC board approved the hosts based on recommendations drawn up by a smaller working group that included Sourav Ganguly, then the BCCI president, and Ehsan Mani, the former PCB chair and ICC head. That ICC board was headed by Greg Barclay. Ganguly, one would assume, had the backing of the Indian board, whose secretary was Jay Shah (who takes charge as ICC chairman from December 1).

Harry Kane Helps As England Beat Ireland 5-0

Agency: England faced off against Ireland in their UEFA Nations League match in what was the last game for the interim manager Lee Carsley and the team led by striker Harry Kane managed to give him a proper farewell as they ran through Ireland by putting five goals past the Irish. Harry Kane opened the scoring for his side in the second half and after that point, the barrage of goals never seemed to stop as following Harry Kane’s goal, four more goals were scored by the English. With the win against Ireland, England are now into the knockout stages of the UEFA Nations League. Harry Kane’s 69th international goal sparked a second-half scoring spree that fired England back to the top tier of the UEFA Nations League on Sunday. In temporary head coach Lee Carsley’s final game in charge, a 5-0 win against Ireland secured promotion and ensured England will be back among Europe’s leading nations in the next edition of the competition. “I wanted the England team to be exciting to watch and attacking,” Carsley said. “I see them do it day in, day out on the training ground. And now we’ve seen it.” England won its group on goal difference ahead of second-placed Greece, which beat Finland 2-0. Kane’s 53rd-minute penalty at Wembley was a record-extending goal for his country after Liam Scates brought down Jude Bellingham in the box and was sent off for a second yellow card offense.

Australian Pacer Mitchell Johnson Opens Up On Battles With Virat Kohli

Staff Reporter: The battles between legendary Australian pacer Mitchell Johnson and India’s batting icon Virat Kohli during the Border-Gavaskar series are some of the most iconic in the cricket world. The two stars have engaged in several heated battles and due to this have given some of the best performances in their career. One of the most memorable events from their battle is when the two stars got into a verbal spat after Johnson chucked a ball at Virat Kohli which hit him on the shoulder. Mitchell Johnson has recently opened up on his battles with Virat Kohli as one of India’s greatest batter heads into another BGT tour. Mitchell Johnson recently opened up on



his battles with Virat Kohli and how the Australians tried to get Kohli off his run scoring mojo. “Most of our differences stemmed from the Boxing Day Test in 2014, when a ball I threw hit him on the body.

I was legitimately trying to run him out but he didn’t like what I did. He made some comments in the media that night about having no respect for me as a player, which annoyed me. The goal from our

point of view was generally to get Kohli riled up as soon as he came out to bat and take his focus away from his skills. Get him annoyed and get him playing a big shot early,” said Mitchell Johnson on Virat Kohli and his battles with the Indian star. “In that Test match at the MCG we got him off guard early and had him playing at a ball he didn’t need to in frustration and unfortunately we dropped him on not many.

Indian Female Chess Star Touches Magnus Carlsen’s Feet

Kolkata : Rich in tradition, sporting events in India continue to produce stories that transcend all boundaries. As world no. 1 Magnus Carlsen was about to hand the winner’s trophy to India’s Bristy Mukherjee in Kolkata, a stunning incident unfolded. Mukherjee, who won the All India Women Rapid event (Event B) at the Tata Steel Chess India Festival 2024 with a 7/7 score, touched the Norwegian chess legend’s feet before receiving the coveted trophy. Carlsen couldn’t believe eyes as the gesture from the Indian put a big smile on his face.

Bristy Mukherjee who won the All India Women Rapid event (Event B) at the Tata Steel Chess India Festival 2024, didn’t miss out on the opportunity of seeking blessings from Carlsen, a legend of the game. She had earlier done the same after coming across Vishwanathan Anand, who was also present at the closing



ceremony event. After being called to accept her trophy, Mukherjee first touched the feet of Anand before making her way to Carlsen. The smile on Magnus’ face confirmed the emotions that flew through the Norwegian’s heart, in reply to the gesture from the 20-year-old Indian. Mukherjee first shook Carlsen’s hand and then touched his feet, inviting a loud cheer from the fans at the venue. “It was definitely a fun experience to play (in Kolkata). It never really fit my schedule the last few years. But it’s really good to be back to play against these youngsters on Indian soil. I’m happy that I can still play well,” Carlsen said at the event.