

THE ASSAM JYOTI

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Chief Minister Dr. Sarma hoists the national flag on Independence Day at Khanapara

Ramen Bharali, Bansar: Assam Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma hoisted the national flag as the chief guest at the central programme of the country's 80th Independence Day organised by the Assam government on 15 August at the Veterinary Science College playground in Khanapara. At the beginning of his address to the people of the state after hoisting the national flag, Assam Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma extended Independence Day greetings to everyone,

paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the recent devastating floods and expressed sympathy for those who lost everything in the disaster. In his more than hour-long Independence Day speech, he outlined the steps already taken and planned by the state government to assist the people of Sivasagar, Charaideo, Jorhat and Golaghat districts affected by the devastating floods. Chief Minister Dr Sarma presented a brief account of the progress made in Assam over the past five years and *see page 7*



Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma is inaugurating Integrated Office of the District Commissioner, Kamrup Metropolitan at Rupnagar on August 19, 2026.

Independence Day Celebrated in Dibrugarh

Minister Sushanta Borgohain
Hoists National Flag



M Hashim Ali, Dibrugarh : Like various parts of the country, the 80th Independence Day of the nation was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Dibrugarh yesterday. On this occasion, the central Independence Day celebration was held at the public playground in Khanikar, Dibrugarh, where the national flag was hoisted by Sushanta Borgohain, Minister of Water Resources, Judicial and other departments *see page 2*

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma - One of the Chief Architects or Builder of Modern Assam

■ **Ramen Bharali**
Bongsor

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma is an extremely influential and dynamic politician of Northeast India and the present Chief Minister of Assam. He was elected to the Assam Legislative Assembly since 2001. He took oath for the first time as the 15th Chief Minister of Assam on 10th May 2021, and in May 2026 he again assumed charge as the

Chief Minister of the state for a second consecutive term. Due to his strong leadership, administrative efficiency and development-oriented vision, he is regarded as one of the best Chief Ministers in the entire country. Early Life and Education "Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma was born on 1st February 1969 at Mission Hospital, Jorhat. His father, Late Kailash Nath Sharma, was a popular poet-lyricist and novelist. His mother, Mrinalini Devi, was a renowned litterateur, rich in spiritual



knowledge and was honored with the Adarsha Matri Award.

Dr. Sharma started his schooling at Jorhat Balya Bhavan *see page 7*

Street Drama in Kaliabor

Amulya Bora, Kaliabor : On August 18, a street play was staged in front of the Kaliabor College (Autonomous) campus with the slogan "Ragging-Free Campus, Safe Future." The street play was organised by the Kaliabor Constituency Committee of the Assam Chhatra Parishad and the Anti-Ragging Committee of Kaliabor College. Students of the college performed the play with the aim of creating awareness against ragging.



Srimadvagawata, Dasham,
Canto the tenth
Part-45

Stealing of the cow herd boys
and the calves by Brahma,
Lord Krishna's assumption of
the form of a cow calf to pro-
tect the cows._

After then came Brahma
And was greatly astonished at
the salvation of Agha.
Hoping to enjoy infant
Krishna's more power,
He was present there.
Stealing all the cows and calves
by dint of yoga,
He kept all this hiding with a
contemplate.

"I want to see how Krishna finds out"
Thinking so,Brahma went to his own place.
Not finding the calves in the jungle,
Krishna returned and got onto the sand,
Krishna looked but did not find a single calf.
Again Narayana entered the jungle and searched for the
calves,

But He found no one.
Meditating with sincere heart,
Krishna knew that Brahma had stolen His calves.
Chakrapani thought that if He left Braja
beyond taking the calves
Their mothers would die in grief.
"If I take them from where Brahma had kept
No pleasure the creator will get."
Thinking it, Hari took the forms of calves Himself,
In exact disguise of every cowherd boys as well;
With exact bodies, flute, clothes and pitchers,
And with exact voice and limbs,
Hari, the Master of the world appeared in the form of
them.

In the long run, Hari in abundance of pleasure,
Left for Braja, along with the cowherd boys, taking in front
of them, the calves.

Separating the calves, Hari kept them in different houses
Himself ,

Having heard the voice of flute
Their mothers too entered home in pleasure.
Stepping forward,they embraced their sons and smelled
their heads.

Taking Brahma for their child
All offered to Him their breast feed.
After,getting Him down, His mother bathed,fed and
dressed Him with ornaments.

Looking at her son's face,
She remained in boundless pleasure The complete pleasure
Hari, plays in Gokul

Making some religious moral,the Brajas got him at home,
Whom the yogies can not meet,
With His infancy,Krishna
made all the mothers laugh.

Then it became evening,
All the calves, came and making sounds entered their sheds
in anger.

Their calves too came in pleasure.
Their uddars were filled with milk
And began to offer the calves breast feed.

Getting Krishna as son

The people of Braja extended their love

Hari couldnot hide it but enjoyed

Hari Himself is the cowherd boys,

Makes Himself the calves.

Makes them graze for a year

Playing different games in Brindabana.

Being present there, Bolo bhadra didnt know it

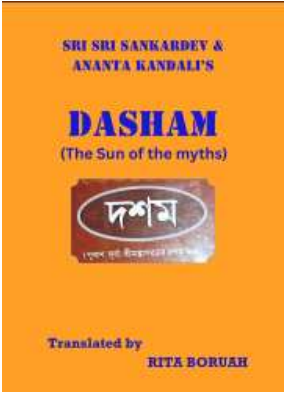
Krishna even fascinated him.

O Narayana, You are beyond any shape, I salute You,

Who has neither beginning no end.

Worshipping such Hari

Shankar composed the the Mahabharata' story.



Three-storey Sattriya art centre
inaugurated at Srimanta
Gopaldev Temple in Nagaon

Nagaon : A three-storey art building constructed to promote, practise and develop Sattriya art and culture was inaugurated on Saturday at the premises of Srimanta Gopaldev Temple on GRB Road in Fauzdaripatti, Nagaon. Nagaon-Batadroba MLA Rupak Sharma formally inaugurated the building. The building was constructed with the initiative and support of two culturally inclined families of the area. The ground floor has been dedicated to the memory of late Dharmakanta Mahanta and late Dharmeswari Mahanta of Sravani Satra. Their sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren — Vivek Goswami, Jagannath (Pratul), Rishav (Rana), Biswajit (Baba), Anjana, Dipali, Rinti, Poppy, Dangar Maina, Saru Maina, Raj, Rib, Parli, Palki and Prapti Mahanta — dedicated the ground floor in their memory. The first floor has been dedicated to the memory of late Dr Jayashree Goswami of Sri Sri Kalakata Satra by her husband, Dr Premananda



Goswami (Putu), their son Atri and other family members. The second floor has been dedicated to the memory of Dr Premananda Goswami's parents, late Jagadananda Goswami and late Prabha (Chikuni) Goswami of Sri Sri Kalakata Satra. During the programme, Srimanta Gopaldev Temple felicitated Vivekananda Goswami (Mahanta), Sattriya of Sravani Satra and donor of the ground floor, with a citation, a symbolic representation of the Guru Asana, a phulam gamocha and a seleng chador. Similarly, Dr Premananda Goswami, Sattriya of Kalakata Satra and donor of the first and second floors, was felicitated

with a citation, a symbolic representation of the Guru Asana, a phulam gamocha and a seleng chador. Senior members of the Namghar — Sarbananda Mahanta, Keshabananda Dev Goswami, Dev Goswami, Harikanta Mahanta, Shuwani Goswami and Kunjalata Goswami — were also specially felicitated. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Srimanta Gopaldev Temple president Sarbananda Mahanta, secretary Diganta Mahanta, Nava Kumar Mahanta, Prakash Mahanta, Runtu Mahanta, Amrit Mahanta and Devananda Mahanta, along with several members of the Satra Mahasabha.

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Independence Day Celebrated in
Dibrugarh

of the Assam govt.After paying homage to the brave freedom fighters who made the supreme sacrifice for the country and to the immortal martyrs through Shaheed Tarpan, Chief Guest Sushanta Borgohain inspected the guard of honour presented by the participating contingents and formally hoisted the national flag. Following the flag hoisting, the assembled contingents presented an impressive march-past.In his speech, Minister Borgohain paid deep tribute to the freedom fighters and martyrs and highlighted the significance of Independence Day, democratic values, unity and the sacred resolve to serve the nation. He also outlined Assam's ongoing development journey and emphasized the collective responsibility of every citizen in building a strong, prosperous and inclusive Assam as well as India. One of the major attractions of the programme was the impressive parade by the participating contingents and the performance by the Army band. In the professional category of the parade competition, the Assam Police (Women) contingent secured first place, the 171 CRPF Battalion secured second place, and the Assam Police (Men) contingent secured third place.In the non- professional category, Dibrugarh Government Higher Secondary Boys' School secured first place, PMC Bakul Higher Secondary School secured second place, and the NCC contingent of Graham Bazar Higher Secondary Girls' School secured third place. Meanwhile, the ACRD, Dibrugarh, also celebrated the 80th Independence Day. With a pledge to make society free from child labour, child marriage and child trafficking, the national flag was hoisted by ACRD District Coordinator Nibha Duwara. Through the programme, the sacrifices of the freedom fighters were remembered and the values of unity, freedom and peace were honoured.

■ Rita Boruah
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80 Years of Independence When Will Assam Be Free from Floods?

■ **Lalit Nath**
Itakhola, Sonitpur

India’s Independence Day is not merely a national festival; it is a sacred occasion that reawakens patriotism in the heart of every Indian and calls for fresh resolves toward the nation. As India completes 79 years of independence and steps into its 80th year, the country has achieved remarkable strides in science, technology, the economy and infrastructure. Digital economies have taken root, space missions have succeeded and vast urban landscapes have emerged. Yet, amid all this progress, a fundamental question remains unanswered for Assam: When will the state be free from the recurring curse of floods?

With every monsoon, apprehension grips the people of Assam. Rivers overflow, embankments breach, roads and bridges go underwater and houses and croplands are washed away.

The recent devastating floods in Sivasagar, Charaideo, Jorhat and Golaghat districts, along with the Nazira co-district, have once again exposed this grim reality. The surging waters of the Disang, Dikhow, Jhansiri Bhogdoi, Namdang, Demow and Darika rivers submerged vast swathes of land in a flash, bringing normal life to a grinding halt. In Sivasagar and Nazira alone, several innocent lives were tragically lost; countless livestock perished and thousands of bighas of agricultural land were inundated, destroying the dreams of farmers. Losing their hard-earned belongings, hundreds of families were forced to take shelter under tarpaulin sheets along roadsides and raised embankments.

Even after the floodwaters recede, a painful trail of destruction is left behind. Then begins another battle for survival—rebuilding homes and restarting cultivation. Generations have endured this hardship. However, living perpetually in distress and resigning to coexisting with floods cannot be the future of Assam.

Treating Assam's flood crisis merely as a natural disaster hides a larger truth. The powerful currents of the mighty Brahmaputra and its tributaries,

heavy rainfall and the silt brought down from the hills are undoubtedly natural causes. But what demands critical attention is how man-made factors have compounded these natural triggers over time. Uncontrolled deforestation in both hills and plains, illegal coal mining, soil erosion, obstruction of natural river flows and unauthorized construction on wetlands, ponds and low-lying areas have crippled the region's natural drainage system. Furthermore, rapid urbanization and global climate change have exacerbated the problem.

Beyond heavy rainfall and cloudbursts in the hilly areas of neighboring states like Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh, the sudden release of large volumes of water from hydroelectric projects and reservoirs without prior warning often triggers severe flash floods in Assam. Therefore, rather than viewing floods as temporary emergencies, it is imperative to find long-term solutions through scientific river management, environmental conservation and strategic planning. For decades, constructing or repairing embankments along riverbanks has been considered the primary flood control strategy in the state. While embankments serve a scientific purpose, relying solely on them is not a comprehensive solution. No matter how high or strong an embankment is, if the entire flood defense system relies on it, a sudden breach under intense water pressure leads to catastrophes far worse than the flood itself. Trying to confine rivers without respecting their natural flow does not solve the problem; it merely displaces it to other areas. Providing relief materials after a flood is a moral obligation of the government and society. However, focusing exclusively on temporary relief, compensation and relief camps every year leaves the root cause unaddressed. The key question is, How prepared are we before the floods arrive?

Well before the onset of the monsoon, vulnerable areas must be identified. The administration must ensure emergency rescue routes, safe shelters for livestock, clean drinking water, medicines and food supplies in advance. To prevent the educa-

tion of young children from being disrupted for months, specialized policies—such as flood-resilient classrooms, digital learning options and remedial classes—are essential.

Assam’s ancient wetlands, oxbow lakes and natural water bodies are not just ecological features; they act as vital natural reservoirs during floods. Unplanned urbanization has encroached upon and shrunk these water bodies. Deprived of space to accumulate, floodwaters spill directly into residential areas and streets. To mitigate floods, the focus must shift from merely damming water to clearing safe passages for its drainage. Unencroaching and protecting every wetland and natural drainage route in the state is an urgent national responsibility.

A permanent solution to the flood problem cannot rely on government efforts alone. Local panchayats, villagers, farmers, regional organizations and river management experts must be actively involved alongside government agencies. Local residents possess invaluable indigenous knowledge about the behavior of rivers and water movement in their areas. Combining this traditional wisdom with scientific data can yield robust solutions. Additionally,

real-time data on river water levels and embankment health should be made transparently available to the public, ensuring that flood management remains a well-considered policy priority rather than just an election promise.

As India marks its historic 80th year of independence, the central question for Assam must be: "How much have our river management plans succeeded in reducing flood damage this year?"

In a riverine state like Assam, completely eliminating floods may be naturally impossible; however, with proper planning, loss of life and property damage can be significantly minimized. Achieving this requires strong political will-power, clear scientific river planning, inter-state coordination, encroachment-free water bodies and modern early warning systems.

True independence is not just about hoisting the national flag on official occasions; it means ensuring a dignified and secure life for every citizen, free from fear, uncertainty and recurring disasters. Harnessing science, technology and strategic foresight to combat floods and build a self-reliant, resilient Assam must be our collective resolve.

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Youth’s body recovered after drowning in deep ditch near Ghunucha Temple in Sonitpur

Tezpur : A 23-year-old youth drowned while taking a bath at Bihaguri in Sonitpur district on Saturday. The tragic incident took place at around 1:30 pm near Ghunucha Temple, where a group of youths and teenagers from Nij-Bihaguri had gone to bathe. According to local residents, an excavator had reportedly dug up the area indiscriminately, resulting in the formation of a deep, pond-like ditch that subsequently filled with water. While bathing in the water-filled ditch, Jintu Kumar Nath, 23, reportedly slipped into a deeper portion and

drowned. When he went missing, his friends and others present at the spot began searching for him. For nearly 40 minutes, there was no trace of him, causing panic among those present. With the prompt intervention of local residents, Jintu’s body was eventually recovered from the ditch. The body was subsequently taken to the mortuary of Tezpur Medical College and Hospital, where it was kept for post-mortem examination. Doctors reportedly suspected that the youth died by drowning, with cardiac arrest possibly occurring as a result of the incident.

Kaliabor Botanist Contributes to Discovery of 43 Plant Taxa New to Science



Amulya Borah, Kaliabor : After nearly eight years of research, Dr Dipankar Bora, Assistant Professor in the Department of Botany at Kaliabor College, has made a significant contribution to botanical research by helping bring several previously unnamed plants of Assam and the Northeast to scientific recognition. Dr Bora has been engaged in plant research since 2018. One of his major areas of research is the discovery and scientific documentation of plants that have not yet been formally named. This process is known as botanical discovery. Many such plants are already known to local communities and may have traditional names, but remain scientifically undocumented. Through his research, Dr Bora has contributed to the description and documentation of 43 plant taxa new to science. These include *Aristolochia assamica*, *Begonia arunachalensis*, *Begonia atrofusca*, *Begonia bijantiae*, *Begonia egamii*, *Begonia himalaica*, *Begonia kekarmonyngensis*, *Begonia lorentzonii*, *Begonia markiana*, *Begonia neelamorum*, *Begonia pasighatensis*, *Begonia rushforthii*, *Begonia tripurensis*, *Begonia ziroensis*, *Boeica arunachalensis*, *Chlorophytum assamicum*, *Cremanthodium indicum*, *Didymocarpus nautiyalii*, *Henckelia adiorum*, *Henckelia adenocalyx* var. *flava*, *Henckelia arunachalensis*,

Henckelia college-sancti-thomasii, *Henckelia davidwoodii*, *Henckelia indica*, *Henckelia lallanii*, *Henckelia olabii*, *Henckelia siangensis*, *Impatiens pasighatensis*, *Lobelia arunachalensis*, *Mycetia arunachalensis*, *Mycetia assamensis*, *Pedicularis khoiyangii*, *Peliosanthes ligniradicis*, *Peliosanthes macrophylla* var. *assamensis*, *Peliosanthes maheswariana*, *Peliosanthes meghalayensis*, *Pseuderanthemum arunachalense*, *Rhynchothecum nirijuliense*, *Staurogyne arunachalensis*, *Strobilanthes sherdukpenorum*, *Strobilanthes siangensis*, *Strobilanthes twangensis* and *Whytockia arunachalensis*. Among these, *Chlorophytum assamicum*, *Aristolochia assamica*, *Peliosanthes macrophylla* var. *assamensis* and *Mycetia assamensis* are associated with Assam. The use of the terms “assamica” and “assamensis” in the scientific names reflects the connection of these plants with the state. “Several of the plants, including *Mycetia assamensis*, *Peliosanthes macrophylla* var. *assamensis* and *Chlorophytum assamicum*, do not have established Assamese common names. *Aristolochia assamica*, however, is locally known as “Ishwarimul” and is known as “Rui Etpi” among the Karbi community. Dr Bora has also honoured his parents through botanical nomenclature. Two of the plants, *Begonia bijantiae* and *Peliosanthes maheswariana*, were named in their honour. The research highlights the rich and still under-documented plant diversity of Assam and the Northeast. Dr Bora’s contribution has helped bring several plants from the region into the domain of formal scientific documentation, adding to the botanical knowledge of the region and its significance in global plant research.

SSB Rangia holds ‘Sunday on Cycle’ rally to promote Fit India and healthy living

Rangia : Under the Fit India Movement, the 24th Battalion, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Rangia, in coordination with Sector Headquarters, SSB, Rangia, organized a cycle rally on Sunday as a special edition of “Sunday on Cycle.” The objective of the cycle rally was to promote awareness and enthusiasm among troops and personnel towards healthy living, physical fitness, and regular exercise. Personnel of the 24th Battalion participated enthusiastically in the rally and conveyed the message of fitness and a healthy lifestyle through cycling. The rally commenced

from the 24th Battalion Headquarters and passed through Hahara and Bamun Gaon before returning to the Battalion Headquarters. During the rally, participants enthusiastically cycled along the route and inspired members of the general public to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle. On the occasion, the officers present stated that the “Fit India” campaign not only promotes physical health but also strengthens discipline, energy, and positive thinking. They emphasized that activities such as cycling encourage people to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle.

Writing poems

■ Parbika Sharma
Class VIII

Fransalian high school, Jonai.
It's like vacuuming out my
Emotion through pen
Love, Hatred, Anxiety
Sucked up from brain
Pulling out the heavy emotion
Abandoning it in page
It's the poems...through where I express
The things that my brain keeps in rest.
When words are not enough
Or anyone with whom I'll laugh
It's the poem where I express,
The things that my brain keeps in rest.
And when the world fall apart
And I have nowhere to start
A pen being my best friend
Saves my heart.

Eco-Organic Bio-Manure Unit, Vanilla Farming Promote Sustainable Agriculture in Kaliabor

Amulya Bora , Kaliabor : An eco-organic bio-manure production unit established by a farmer at Sulung in Kaliabor is emerging as an example of sustainable agriculture and rural entrepreneurship. Using his own land, Jivan Prashad Sarmah has set up a bio-manure production farm and is utilising the organic manure for vanilla cultivation. He has planted around 100 vanilla plants and aims to produce nearly 120 tonnes of bio-manure annually. Sarmah recently started marketing the bio-manure at Rs 2,000 per quintal. He said the initiative has received support from local people and expressed hope that the use of organic manure would encourage farmers to reduce their dependence on chemical fertilisers.

Hojai District Commissioner Sanjay Dutta Reviews Farmarpar High School



Hojai : Hojai District Commissioner Sanjay Dutta visited the Farmarpar High School within Hojai district on Tuesday to review its academic environment and teaching standards. During the visit, DC Dutta distributed uniforms and urged students to stay disciplined and work hard toward their goals. He also took classes in several rooms, teaching various subjects directly to the students. Additional DC (Education) Nitisha Bora and Inspector of Schools Ranjan Deka accompanied the DC during the visit.

LGBI Airport Advances Water Sustainability Through Integrated Rainwater Harvesting and Utilization Initiative

Guwahati : In line with its sustainability agenda and commitment towards achieving its Water Positive objective, Lokapriya Gopinath Bardoloi International Airport (LGBI Airport), Guwahati, has strengthened its focus on rainwater harvesting and utilization through an integrated water management approach across the airport ecosystem. Guwahati receives approximately 1,800–2,200 mm of rainfall annually, making rainwater one of the airport’s most valuable natural resources. The airport has already received approximately 1,320 mm of rainfall till 9 August 2026, presenting a significant opportunity to transform rainwater from a runoff management challenge into a sustainable source of water. As part of this initiative, LGBI Airport has two large rainwater collection tanks with a combined capacity of 1,000 KL. The collected rainwater is treated through the airport’s Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and subsequently utilized for various operational requirements, including drinking water fountains, equipment cleaning and cooling tower make-up water, among other applications. For potable applications, the treated water undergoes advanced multi-stage treatment and purification processes designed to ensure that it meets the prescribed quality standards for drinking water. In July 2026 alone, approximately 28% of the total water consumed at the newly built, state-of-the-art Terminal 2 was met through harvested rainwater, demonstrating the significant potential of

the initiative to reduce dependence on external water sources while optimizing the use of available natural resources. The integrated approach involves close coordination among the Engineering & Maintenance (E&M), ESG, Operations and Projects teams, enabling rainwater to be captured, treated and reused across multiple airport operations. With increasing passenger footfall and ongoing as well as future infrastructure development, the initiative is expected to play an important role in meeting the airport’s growing water requirements in a sustainable manner. The rainwater harvesting and utilization initiative at LGBI Airport is the first integrated project of its kind within the Adani Airport Holdings Limited (AAHL) network, positioning Guwahati Airport as a pioneer in sustainable water stewardship. The initiative also has the potential to serve as a benchmark for replication across other airports within the AAHL network. Through such initiatives, LGBI Airport continues to strengthen its commitment towards responsible resource management, environmental stewardship and building a more resilient and sustainable airport ecosystem. Recognised among the world’s most beautiful airports, LGBI Airport continues to demonstrate that beauty and sustainability can go hand in hand—creating an airport that is not only designed to inspire, but also built with a strong commitment to a sustainable future.

Adhani cultural Society felicitates senior citizens on Independence Day in Golaghat

Bokakhat : On the occasion of Independence Day, Adhani Cultural Society and Library, a leading voluntary organisation in Golaghat district, visited the homes of several senior citizens in the area and felicitated them with the objective of honouring their contributions to society, remembering the sacrifices of freedom fighters and promoting patriotic ideals. The organisation felicitated former president of the undivided Khumtai Gaon Panchayat Bhumidhar Rajkhowa; Chairman of Khumtai Cooperative Society Limited Sandhyaram Barua; former president of Kachupathar Gaon Panchayat Thagi Gogoi; directors of Khumtai Cooperative Society Limited Umesh Majumdar and Phuleswar Bora; retired headmaster of Khumtai Gyan Deep High School Binod Sahu; and Hirmaati Kurmi, a religious woman and ideal mother from Borahi village. They were presented with felicitation letters and traditional selangs. On behalf of Adhani Cultural Society and Library,

President Diganta Bailung, General Secretary Tarun Kurmi, volunteer Prakash Sahu and coordinator Sanjib Talukdar visited the senior citizens at their homes and felicitated them. The distinguished social workers and senior citizens became emotional while recalling their past initiatives in community building, their commitment to patriotic ideals and the sacrifices they had made for society. The initiative undertaken by the government-registered voluntary organisation in the Khumtai-Kachupathar area of Golaghat district on the occasion of the 80th Independence Day has been widely appreciated by various sections of society. Meanwhile, Adhani Cultural Society and Library also distributed educational materials, including notebooks, pens, pencils and drawing books, among around 170 students of Dhopabor Chetia-Sandikai village and Chontak Bor Mising village under the Nazira Legislative Assembly constituency, areas that were severely affected by floods.

Demise of Retired Superintending Engineer of the Irrigation Deptt, Alhaj Mujibul Haque

M Hashim Ali, Guwahati : Alhaj Mujibul Haque, a retired Superintending Engineer of the Irrigation Department, passed away at the age of 84 at his residence in Hatigaon, Guwahati, yesterday evening due to age-related ailments. Born on August 1, 1942, in Fesowal village of Golaghat district (currently a resident of Hatigaon Chariali), Haque passed his matriculation examination in 1960 from Forkating High School in Golaghat district. At the time, he was the only student from Fesowal village to secure a first division in the matriculation examination. Thereafter, Haque obtained his two-year P.U. degree from Cotton College, Guwahati. Subsequently, in 1966, he obtained a four-year B.E. degree in Civil Engineering from Jorhat Engineering College. In 1967, Haque joined the Irrigation Department as an Assistant Engineer at the Jakhalabandha Irrigation Division. Subsequently, he served at various places and in different capacities, including Bokulia and Langhing in Karbi Anglong district; as Assistant Executive Engineer in the Dhansiri Project Division (Water), Canal-I, Udalguri; and as Executive Engineer in the Dhansiri Project Dam Division (Water), Bhairabkunda. He also served in Jorhat, Sivasagar and Golaghat. Later, he served as Superintending Engineer in Nalbari and Dibrugarh and finally retired as Superintending Engineer from Jorhat in 2000. In 2006, he travelled to Makkah and performed the holy Hajj. At the time of his death, he leaves behind his wife, Samsun Ara Begum (Abeda), two sons, a daughter, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, brothers, nephews, nieces and many other relatives. “His Janazah prayer was held today (August 18, 2026) at the Sijubari Eidgah cemetery, Guwahati in the presence of a large number of admirers, well-wishers and relatives, following which he was laid to rest. Following his demise, the Golaghat Shantipur Jamaat, Fesowal Garanga Jamaat, Hatigaon Chariali Masjid Jamaat Committee, among others, expressed deep sorrow and conveyed their condolences to the bereaved family.



Administrative probe begins into Marwari Hindi High School dispute

Dibrugarh : The long-standing dispute surrounding Marwari Hindi High School and Shree Agrasen Academy has intensified with an administrative inquiry, a court-imposed restriction on the bank accounts of the Marwari Education Foundation, and the resignation of several key office-bearers. Dibrugarh District Commissioner Bikram Kairi has constituted a four-member committee to examine issues relating to the management, land, finances, recognition, and functioning of the school and the Marwari Education Foundation. The committee, headed by Sub-Divisional Officer (Sadar) Samujjwal Bora, comprises Assistant Commissioner Kartikeya Kumar, the Circle Officer of Dibrugarh East Revenue Circle, and Inspector of Schools Kabita Deka, who is also the member-secretary. The committee has been directed to hear all stakeholders, examine relevant records, and submit its report and recommendations within 30 days.

ATTSA honours meritorious tea garden students at Mikirsang



Bokakhat : The Mikirsang Primary Unit of the Assam Tea Tribes Students' Association (ATTSA), as part of the celebrations marking the country's 80th Independence Day, organised a special felicitation programme at the Mikirsang branch of Bihara Tea Estate under Bokakhat Sub-Division. Assam flood relief Students from the tea garden who successfully cleared this year's High School Leaving Certificate (HSLC) and Higher Secondary final examinations with distinction were felicitated at the programme. Held at the Mikirsang Natya Mandir, the programme also discussed the issue of wild elephants roaming in the tea garden and the recent damage caused by

elephants at Mikirsang Primary School. During the programme, leading nature organisation Aaranyak provided four technologically advanced rechargeable searchlights for the safety of residents in four neighbourhoods of Mikirsang. Uttam Saikia, Dr Pranjal Das and Forest Officer Aihom Shyam briefed the gathering on wild elephant behaviour, appropriate human responses towards elephants and precautions that members of the public should take to minimise human-elephant conflict. Following an advisory speech by Amrit Sagar, President of the Bokakhat branch of ATTSA, in which he congratulated the felicitated students, 15 students were presented

with phulam gamochas and certificates of appreciation by ATTSA. The programme was presided over by Abhishek Tanti, President of the Mikirsang Primary Unit of ATTSA, who also hoisted the national flag. Numaligarh Forest Range Officer Aihom Shyam; Uttam Saikia, Secretary of Bokakhat Press Club; Dr Pranjal Das, Central Assam Coordinator of Aaranyak; Amrit Sagar, President of the Bokakhat branch of ATTSA; Krishan Tanti, Executive Member of the Golaghat District ATTSA; Vicky Tanti, President of the Numaligarh Sub-Branch; Krishna Tanti, Secretary of the Mikirsang Primary Unit; Mohammed Noushad Alam, Manager of Bihara Tea Estate; Assistant Managers Hemanta Singh Shekhawat and Mohammed Nohel Ahmed; Pritam Tanti, President of the School Management Committee; along with local residents and students, were present at the programme

Assam Agitation's First Woman Martyr Baijayanti Devi Honoured on 46th Death Anniversary

Jamugurihat : Baijayanti Devi, regarded as the first woman martyr of the Assam Agitation, who died on August 16, 1980, was remembered on her 46th death anniversary at a memorial meeting organised by the Biswanath district committee of the Assam Gorkha Sammelan (AGS) on Sunday. The meeting was held at the conference hall of Pragati Club at Gosai Chapari, with Hari Sarma, president of the Biswanath district committee of the AGS, in the chair. The programme began with the ceremonial lighting of a lamp by the district president in front of a portrait of Baijayanti Devi, followed by floral tributes by the guests. Anjan Baskota, recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar, attended the programme as the

invited speaker. Speaking on the occasion, Baskota recalled the early life of Baijayanti Devi and her participation in the Assam Movement as a member of the Tezpur regional unit of the All Assam Students' Union (AASU). He recalled that Devi made the supreme sacrifice while participating in 'Ranashingha Divas'. According to accounts recalled at the meeting, she blew a conch during a procession, subsequently became unconscious and died on August 16, 1980. The programme was attended by district committee vice-presidents Ganga Dhakal, Tarabir Chetry and Shyam Chetry, along with Bhimarjun Sarma, Gobinda Upadhyaya, Bhuban Subedi and Sagar Dhamala, among others.

New Demow Police Station Building Inaugurated Under Moitri Scheme Ahead of 80th Independence Day



Demow : The new building of Demow Police Station, constructed under the Moitri Scheme, was inaugurated by Sushanta Borgohain, State Minister for Water Resources and Judicial Department, in the presence of Papori Chetia, Senior Superintendent of Police, Sivasagar, on August 14. Borgohain formally inaugurated the new building by cutting the ribbon. Demow Police Station was selected for the Best Police Station Award by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in February 2026. As part of the celebrations marking the country's 80th Independence Day, Demow Co-District Police organised a Tiranga Yatra on August 14. The yatra began at Demow Police Station and proceeded towards Demow Chariali through the town area. Sushanta Borgohain, Papori Chetia, police officers of Demow Police Station and local residents participated in the Tiranga Yatra.

Science Congress holds project preparation workshop in Biswanath

Biswanath Chariali : A one-day project preparation workshop was organised at Gyan Bikash Academy, Chatia, on Friday under the initiative of the Biswanath District Organising Committee of the National Children's Science Congress. The programme, moderated by Ripunjay Bordoloi, District Coordinator of the Biswanath District Children's Science Congress, began with a welcome address by Beauty Saikia, Headmistress of Gyan Bikash Academy. Teachers from government and private schools under the Biswanath and Naduar educational blocks participated in the workshop, which was held on the theme "Science and Innovation for Sustainable Development". During the technical session, conducted under the supervision of Sanjeev Gogoi and Sanjeev Bormudoi, Assistant District Coordinators of the Biswanath District Children's Science Congress, resource persons Dr Prashanta Neog, Dr Ratna Kinkar Goswami and Dr Hemendra Choudhury, Professors at Biswanath College of Agriculture, and Dr Debashish Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Biswanath College, elaborated on various aspects of the theme. Rana Prasad Hazarika, Working President, and Dr Bhakta Prasad Gautam, Advisor, attended the valedictory ceremony as Chief Guests. A similar training programme was also held at Pub Behali Higher Secondary School on Thursday for teachers from the Behali and Chaiduar educational blocks. The programme was coordinated by Gakul Mahanta, Educational Coordinator of the district committee. The District Children's Science Congress will be held on October 13.

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Chief Minister Dr. Sarma hoists the national flag on Independence Day at

referred to the ‘Assam model’ of development. He said that Assam is now capable not only of learning from others, but also of showing the way to others. In other words, a new trend of development has begun in Assam. Detailing the steps taken by the government in the past three months for public welfare and the overall development of Assam after assuming office in May, he also gave a glimpse of the roadmap prepared for the development of Assam over the next five years. According to Chief Minister Dr Sarma, an ‘Assam model’ of development is gradually taking shape. Standing under the sacred flag of Independence Day, Chief Minister Dr Sarma announced several resolutions for a developed Assam. He said that over the next five years, under the title ‘Developed Assam-2047’, the government has resolved to invest Rs 50,000 crore in various capital works in Assam. This money will be spent from the state government’s own funds on improving road connectivity, building infrastructure in educational institutions, developing urban areas, developing rural areas and other works. During this period, the government has also resolved to obtain Rs 1 lakh crore from the Government of India for capital expenditure. In other words, from 2026 to 2031, Rs 1.5 lakh crore will be spent on infrastructure development in Assam. Commenting that Swargadeo Chaolung Sukapha has occupied a unique and enduring place in the history of Assam, Chief Minister Dr Sarma said that 800 years will be completed in 2028 since Sukapha’s arrival in the Brahmaputra Valley. The state government is planning to celebrate this historic moment with a grand and unprecedented event. He appealed to the people of Assam to advise the government regarding this event. Mentioning that 2028 will be historic and important for Assam for another reason, he said that this year will mark 200 years since the revolt against the British led by Gomdhar Konwar in 1828. The state government has decided to specially celebrate the 200th anniversary of the struggle to protect Assamese self-respect. Chief Minister Dr Sarma also announced the formation of eight new sub-districts in the state. Accordingly, these sub-districts will be formed at Kamalpur, Barhampur, Ranganadi, Chichibargaon, Chabua-Lahowal, Khumtai, Katigorah and Barkhola. Informing that the third edition of Khel Maharan will be held in the state this year, he said that contact has been established with several sports organisations in the country to identify talented players. The government will take steps to send the talented players identified through Khel Maharan to various academies across the country. He announced that the government’s efforts to identify more than 50 complex diseases among children from birth to 18 years of age and provide free treatment will be further strengthened. Commenting that Assam’s resolve to prevent child marriage has become a model for the entire country, Chief Minister Dr Sarma said that the Assam Police has been directed to engage in another uncompromising campaign against child marriage for one month from next November. The state is facing another social malaise. If any government employee involved in polygamy abandons his first wife, it will be ensured that the abandoned former wife receives 20 percent of her husband’s salary for financial security. The government has taken steps to enact a law to apply this rule to employees working in the private sector as well. Mentioning that one lakh files and applications are pending in the Assam Secretariat, he said that including directorates and district commissioner’s offices, the number of applications or files lying undisposed of in the state would be more than five lakh. A committee comprising the state Chief Secretary and Additional Chief Secretaries will be formed, through which Project Sambhabana will be restarted from 2 October, and all files and public applications pending in the Secretariat, directorates and district commissioner’s offices will be disposed of expeditiously between 2 October and 31 January. Mission Basundhara-3.0 will be launched from next December. He also announced a financial grant of Rs 100 crore for the development of Cotton University, which has entered its 125th year since its establishment. Commenting that highly educated young men and women must be attracted to agriculture, he said that the government has decided to award the Chief Minister’s Farmer Excellence Award to 10,000 enterprising and progressive farmers over the next five years and 1,000 this year. Under this award, each selected farmer will be given a financial honour of Rs one lakh. Mentioning that concepts such as Gen-Z and Gen-Alpha are ideas originating from European culture, Chief Minister Dr Sarma described the younger generation as the future of the country and referred to them as sons and daughters. Stating that it is the government’s responsibility to work for the new generation and use the state’s resources for their welfare, he said that the government has decided to create an entirely new department called the Department of Youth Empowerment and Development to systematically guide the state’s younger generation towards development. Announcing the decision to specially notify 40 revenue circles in the state in the interest of protecting the existence of the indigenous and native people of the state and preserving their ancestral land rights forever, Chief Minister Dr Sarma said that only residents who have lived in areas under these revenue circles for three generations will be able to purchase land. In his Independence Day address, Chief Minister Dr Sarma made several important appeals to the people of the state.

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma - One of the Chief Architects or Builder of Modern Assam

and completed his school education from Kamrup Academy, Guwahati. He then completed his Bachelor’s degree in Political Science in 1990 and Master’s degree in 1992 from the renowned Cotton College, Guwahati (now Cotton University). Later he obtained his LLB degree from Government Law College, Guwahati, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Gauhati University.

Even during his student days in politics and law, his leadership qualities emerged. He was elected General Secretary of Cotton College Students’ Union three times. Before entering full-time politics, he worked as a lawyer in the Gauhati High Court from 1996 to 2001.

Political Journey “Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma entered active politics through the Indian National Congress and was first elected as MLA from Jalukbari Assembly Constituency in 2001. During Tarun Gogoi’s government in 2001, he held important portfolios like Health, Education, Finance, Agriculture, and Planning. During his tenure, unprecedented changes took place in Assam’s health and education sectors, and he brought revolutionary changes to the health sector. At that time, Assam had only 3 government medical colleges, which has now been increased to 15 — bringing about a major transformation.

In August 2015, he joined the Bharatiya Janata Party. He united non-Congress parties of the Northeast and formed NEDA - North East Democratic Alliance, and strengthened the BJP’s base across the entire North-east. After the BJP alliance’s huge victory in the 2021 Assembly elections, he took charge as the 15th Chief Minister of Assam. In May 2026, he took oath as Chief Minister for the second consecutive term.

As one of the best Chief Ministers

Due to his administrative promptness and quick decision-making, he has been ranked among India’s best-performing Chief Ministers in various national surveys.

Major achievements during Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma’s tenure as Chief Minister:

Transparency in Recruitment: During his tenure, over one lakh youth were given government jobs purely on merit, without any recommendation or corruption.

Health Sector: Several new medical colleges were set up in Assam, and with the establishment of AIIMS in Assam, the healthcare system has been upgraded to world-class standards.

Women Empowerment: He successfully implemented the large-scale social welfare scheme 'Orunodoi', which for the first time provided financial assistance to poor women to make them self-reliant.

Infrastructure Development: Work on bridges, flyovers and highways was completed at a fast pace to improve connectivity.

Establishing Peace and Administration: He was able to bring long-term peace and stability to the state by signing peace accords with insurgent groups. For this, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma deserves special credit.

Personal Life and Other Interests “He married Riniki Bhuyan Sharma in 2001. They have a son (Nandil) and a daughter (Ananya). Apart from politics, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma is deeply interested in sports and literature. He is currently serving as the President of the Badminton Association of India. In literature too he has made significant contributions, having authored three books that have enriched Assamese literature.

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma’s action-oriented leadership and far-sighted vision have given Assam a new momentum. Today, history will always remember Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma as one of the chief architects or the builder of Modern Assam.

Sibsagar University concludes three-day student orientation programme 'Diksharambh 2026'



Sibsagar : Sibsagar University concluded its three-day student orientation programme, 'Diksharambh 2026', on August 13, aimed at helping newly admitted students make a confident transition to university life. Held from August 11 to 13, the programme introduced freshers to the university's academic environment, courses, facilities, examination system, career opportunities and avenues for higher education. The programme also focused on promoting discipline, creativity, leadership, innovation and social responsibility. On August 11, various departments conducted separate orientation sessions, where faculty members explained course structures, study patterns, academic calendars, credit systems, university rules, laboratory facilities and safety protocols. Students were also briefed on higher education and career opportunities. Dean of Student Welfare Diganta Bora stressed responsible use of laboratories and university facilities and said talent-search activities were organised

in cultural, literary, creative and other co-curricular fields. The central programme on August 12 began with the university anthem. Vice-Chancellor Prof Mahadev Patgiri urged students to make effective use of university facilities while focusing on knowledge, academic excellence, creativity, discipline, ethical values and social responsibility. Registrar Dr Prafulla Chandra Kalita highlighted discipline, active academic participation and students' responsibility in maintaining a healthy academic environment. Prof Pranjal Borgohain of Dibrugarh University delivered a motivational lecture, encouraging students to maintain a positive outlook, set clear goals and pursue continuous self-development. Dr Nandita Goswami, Director of the Institution's Innovation Council, discussed career guidance, innovation, entrepreneurship and higher education opportunities. Controller of Examinations Dr Rupam Kumar Gogoi explained the Academic Bank of Credits and its role in flexible learning under the National Education Policy, 2020. Dean of Professional Courses Dr Bakul Chandra Patar urged students to contribute to a vibrant academic environment and properly use university resources. Students' Union president Sudipta Chetia welcomed the freshers, while newly admitted students presented cultural programmes on August 12 and 13.

Lions Club of Kaziranga extends relief to flood-affected families



Bokakhat : Members of the Lions Club of Kaziranga came forward to support flood-affected families at Socolani Pathar, near Kakodonga, an area recently severely affected by the rising waters of the Brahmaputra and the adjoining Dhansiri riverbanks. The club members packed and distributed essential relief and hygiene items, including phenyl, mosquito incense sticks, bathing soap, washing soap, ropes for hanging clothes,

candles, bleaching powder, detergent powder, shampoo and other necessary hygiene products. The affected residents have been facing considerable difficulties as floodwaters inundated their homes, forcing many families to depend on boats for commuting and accessing essential supplies. Understanding the urgent need for basic sanitation and hygiene materials, the Lions Club of Kaziranga undertook the relief initiative to provide immediate assistance to the affected community. Club members personally visited the affected area and handed over the relief materials to the residents. The initiative reflects the club's continued commitment to serving communities during times of distress and extending humanitarian assistance to those affected by natural calamities.

BGLA organises essay competition on forest and wildlife conservation

Kokrajhar : Coinciding with the celebration of the 80th Independence Day, the Bodoland Golden Langurs Association (BGLA), an NGO working for biodiversity conservation, organised an essay-writing competition on the role of youths in the conservation of forests and wildlife in the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) region. The initiative aimed to create awareness among students about the importance of biodiversity conservation. The competition was conducted especially for students of high schools and junior colleges in the peripheral areas of Raimona National Park, Sikhna Jwhlwao National Park and Charaikhola Wildlife Sanctuary, where the protection of forests, wildlife and habitats has become increasingly crucial in the face of rampant encroachment.

BA Animal Feed Centre

ইয়াত ব্ৰহ্মাৰ সকলো সামগ্ৰী পোৱা যায়।

ইয়াত গৰু, ভাগলী, হাঁহ, কুকুৰাৰ দানাৰ লগতে ব্ৰহ্মাৰ, হাঁহ, সোণালী, লোকেল পোৱালিৰ অৰ্ডাৰ লোৱা হয়।

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এম বি ৰোড
(নগাঁও চিভিল হাস্পাতালৰ পিছফালে)

BA Animal Feed Centre

ইয়াত গৰু, ভাগলী, হাঁহ, কুকুৰাৰ দানাৰ লগতে ব্ৰহ্মাৰ, হাঁহ, সোণালী, লোকেল পোৱালিৰ অৰ্ডাৰ লোৱা হয়।

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FINE DINE

Taste of Assam

ভাত

মাছ, মাংস, পৰ্ভা, পুৰি, ৰুটি

- ☞ Chowmin
- ☞ Burger
- ☞ Chicken Item
- ☞ Maggi
- ☞ Biryani
- ☞ Pasta
- ☞ Fried Rice
- ☞ Roll
- ☞ Mutton Item
- ☞ Paneer
- ☞ Pakora
- ☞ Coffee
- ☞ Tea

**A.T. Road, Near Morigaon Bus Stand
Nagaon (Assam)**