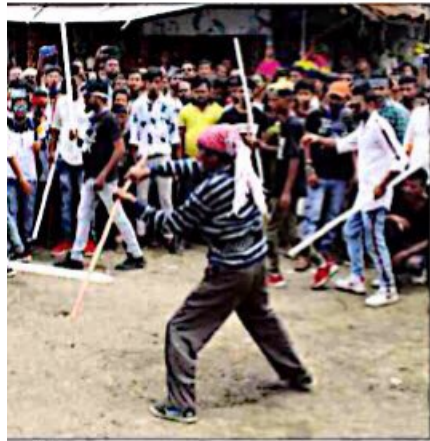




ion of Muharram, in Sivasagar on Tuesday — UB Photos

ang Transport Dept ue earning nosedives

INT has fallen about 37 per cent. The figure of 1,641 registered vehicles during April has declined to 1,131 in August. This figure was even worse in July, when only 1,035 vehicles of all kinds, including two-wheelers, were registered. The average sale of vehicles in retail outlets of more than a dozen transport dealers within the district over the last three months as per registered records stands at 1,113 only. It becomes evident from the above facts how revenue collection of the department has suffered as vehicle registration fee constitutes a major part of revenue which the department earns. Under such an unprecedented situation, officials of the department have been compelled to intensify other means of revenue generation like detection, detention and realisation of fine from default-

ers of the Motor Vehicle Act. It appears from the official record of tax realisation during the last two months that more than Rs 12 lakh has been earned, which includes arrears tax amounting to Rs 7,50,724 and fine amounting to Rs 4,66,700. Talking to *The Assam Tribune*, an office assistant of the department who did not want to be named said, "District Transport Officer Kumar Sanjay Krishna with the help of his Enforcement staff has been undertaking regular drives against motor vehicle offences which has yielded collection of a good amount of arrears tax and fine. Thus, the heavy losses sustained in tax collection through registration has to some extent been offset. During the past two months, our office recorded around 200 cases of motor vehicle offences."

e people about BJP's false nda: Gogoi to party workers

IDENT the Centre and in the State. The former Chief Minister appealed to the party rank and file to start from the grassroots in exposing the "failures and misdeeds" of the BJP before the people. He said the BJP had been carrying out massive misinformation campaigns and misleading the people and diverting attention from the burning issues which they miserably failed to address. Lambasting the Narendra Modi-led Government, he said the economy of the country was in a shambles due to the "wrong policies" of the Centre which were adopted to benefit the rich only. Gogoi pointed out that unemployment was at its peak now, while claiming to be highest in India's economic history. Stating that large number of people have been losing jobs since demonetisation by the Centre, which made the common people face lots of hardship, the former Chief Minister said that the industry sector was presently said to be

facing the worst downside. He urged party workers to take it to the people that BJP was excessively pro-rich and were least concerned about the poor, down-trodden and weaker sections of the society, unlike the Congress. Speaking at the meeting, AKC secretary and former Jorhat MLA Rana Goswami too took BJP to task for "decaying" the people by creating hype and hoopla. He alleged that a syndicate was controlling trade in Jorhat by having full support of several local BJP leaders leading to rise in prices of commodities. Goswami further stated that the businesses community was living under constant fear due to the "syndicate ray" with police administration turning a blind eye so as to let the syndicate operate unhindered within the district. The former MLA said that from September 12 onwards the party will start a membership drive across Assam to expand and strengthen the party's base.

Skill building training at Nalbari KVK ends

CORRESPONDENT NALBARI, Sept 10: The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad under the Prime Minister's Skill India programme organised a six-day training, which concluded here on Monday. The programme comprising 28 participants was organised in Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Nalbari under Skill Training for Rural Youth (STRY-MANAGE) programme titled, "Integrated fishery-based farming system" from September 2 last. The training programme aimed to increase skill areas of youths in fishery-based integrated farming for reaping maximum benefits from unit area in unit time. The skill training was coordinated by Dr Arjan Ali and Ankur Rambongshi, both scientists of KVK Nalbari of animal science and fisheries science division. The training comprised theory and practical classes, method demonstrations and exposure visits to farmers' field. The resource persons involved in the training programme were scientists Dr Mridul Deka, Manashi Chakravarty, Someswar Mazumdar and Suma F. Ali scientists from KVK, Nalbari; Binaj Bikas Sarma and Bhrigunani Dovan PFO, Nalbari; Dr Arjun Kalita, DVO, Nalbari and Dr Ambika Deka, Manager, District Poultry Farm, Nalbari and Jonali Sarma, DHO, APART, Nalbari. In the valedictory programme, Dr MDK Sa, Head KVK, Nalbari briefed about the activities of KVK, Nalbari on different areas of fishery-based farming, horticulture, crop and soil science. He urged the youths to utilize their knowledge gained during the training in expansion of farming works for doubling income by 2022. The session was attended by Dr A Kalita, DVO, Nalbari who encouraged trainees to attain expertise in different areas of integrated farming system, which can be opted as a source of income. Hemanta Kalita, Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture, Nalbari urged the participants to increase production and income from agricultural crops through integrated farming system. Finally, certificates were distributed to 28 enthusiastic youths from different parts of Nalbari who participated in the STRY training programme. Participants unanimously declared that they highly benefited from the training programme.

2 NDFB(S) linkmen with arms nabbed in Udalguri dist

CORRESPONDENT KALAIGAON, Sept 10: In a successful operation, Harisinga Police apprehended two NDFB (S) linkmen at Santipur village under Harisinga Police Station in Udalguri district on the morning of September 8.

The two linkmen, who were carrying arms, were nabbed while they were on their way to Santipur village. They were identified as [Name redacted] and [Name redacted]. They were both members of the NDFB (S) and were active in the area. The police recovered two firearms and some ammunition from them. The linkmen were taken to the police station and are being held for further investigation. The police are conducting a search for other members of the NDFB (S) in the area.

The NDFB (S) is a militant organisation that has been active in the region for several years. It has been responsible for several attacks on government officials and police personnel. The police are working to bring the organisation to a complete end. The linkmen were nabbed as part of a larger operation to dismantle the organisation. The police are confident that they will soon bring the organisation to a complete end. The linkmen were nabbed as part of a larger operation to dismantle the organisation. The police are confident that they will soon bring the organisation to a complete end.

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Teok TE lockout to be withdrawn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, Sept 10: Jorhat Deputy Commissioner Koshin A Korati stated that the lockout declared in Teok Tea Estate since September 1 following the killing of Dr Deben Dutta will be lifted soon as the management and the workers' union signed a memorandum of settlement on Monday. Korati said on Monday that the garden management agreed to withdraw the lockout after holding several rounds of talks with the workers' union since the past one week under the aegis of the district administration. She said the management of the estate, owned by Amalgamated Plantations Private Limited, as expected to announce the lifting of the lockout phase-wise in the five divisions of the garden after completion of the religious rituals of the deceased Dr Dutta. A district administration source stated that the garden management had put forward a few conditions before the workers' union to be fulfilled for withdrawing the lockout, which included furnishing a written assurance signed by all garden workers, stating not to indulge in any kind of violence in future and never al-

low repeat of the August 31 incident. It may be mentioned here that there was a big public outcry across the state and the country after the killing of the doctor by a mob at the hospital. Altogether, 32 people have been arrested in connection with the incident so far. The state government, meanwhile, has announced setting up of a fast-track court to conduct the trial and also order a high-level inquiry into the incident to be conducted by the Commissioner and Secretary of the Finance Department. She said the government was committed to ensure justice to the doctor and his family.

The lockout was declared after the killing of Dr Deben Dutta, a prominent leader of the workers' union. The management of the estate had accused the workers of being involved in the killing. The workers' union had denied the accusation and demanded a fair trial for the doctor. The district administration had mediated between the management and the workers' union to reach a settlement. The management had agreed to withdraw the lockout on the condition that the workers' union would provide a written assurance of non-violence. The workers' union had agreed to the conditions and the lockout was lifted.

Symposium on anthropology organised at DHSK College

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Sept 10: A day long symposium on 'Anthropology: Past, Present and Future' was organised at the DHSK College here on Saturday last. The symposium was organised by the Department of Anthropology, DHSK College as a part of the platinum jubilee celebrations of the college and on the occasion of diamond jubilee celebration of the Indian Anthropological Society and 100 years of teaching anthropology in India. Several eminent anthropologists, namely Prof Farida Ahmed Das (retd), Prof Ramendra K Kar (retd), Prof Sarthak Sengupta and Prof Nital K Gogoi from the Department of An-

thropology, Dibrugarh University and Dr Kalyan Baruah, retired Principal of Nalbari College delivered lectures during the programme, a release stated. The anthropologists spoke on the growth of teaching and research in anthropology in India in general and the North-east India in particular, current status and future challenges including the thrust areas of research. The inaugural lecture was delivered by Dr Hari C Mahanta, Registrar, Dibrugarh University, who is also an anthropologist of repute. Dr Mahanta dealt in detail on the growth of anthropology in India. He said that the diversity of Indian population is next to Africa and there is

so much for the anthropologists to explore. The welcome speech was delivered by the Principal of DHSK College, Dr Sashi Kanta Saikia. The head of the Department of Anthropology, Dr Anup J Bhattacharya said that the need of the hour is to popularise the important discipline of anthropology in all schools and colleges. In the day-long lecture programme, a documentary film on the journey of the Anthropological Society was also shown. The technical session was presided over by Professor Farida Ahmed Das. The inaugural session was moderated by Dr Sunanda Sahu and vote of thanks was offered by Dr Bhaskar Das.



AJYCP activists staging a protest against alleged corruption in the PWD department, in Nagaon on Tuesday — UB Photos

Preparatory meet on 'Poshan Maah' held at Sivasagar

ANN SERVICE

SIVASAGAR, Sept 10: Along with the rest of the nation, month-long observance of 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah' under the flagship programme named Poshan Abhiyan began in Sivasagar district from September 1. It aims to improve the nutritional status of children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. With a view to finalise the list of events and programmes for the 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah', the district convergence committee meeting-preparatory sitting was held under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner Joonmora Sonowal on September 3 in the office of the Deputy Commissioner. District Social Welfare

Commissioner and the district Social Welfare Department. After three-hour discussion over the list of events and programmes that were lined up for observing the Maah in a fruitful manner, DDC Sonowal stated that besides creating mass awareness on the importance of nutrition, this month-long celebration will definitely have a positive impact on improving the nutritional status of the children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. She called upon all the line departments to work in proper coordination and renewed zeal so that Poshan Abhiyan turns out to be a 'Jana Andolan' or people's movement in the district. During the meeting, the District Development Commissioner also administered

organisation the Prasanta Pratim Sarma Singing Competition on songs of Dr Narmal Prabha Bordoloi and Padmasree Dipali Borthakur at the Munim Dutta memorial cultural programme at Sivasagar Natya Mandir on September 15. In a meeting held at the Lakshminath Bezbaroa Sishu Bhawan, a reception committee was formed with Dr Prabhata Chetia as president, Sitala Devi and Prabhu Bezbaroa as vice presidents and Raju Kumar Das as secretary. Amrit Kumar Sarma, president, Pankaj Bhattacharya, executive president and Bijoy Rabi Kashyap, secretary of the Silpi Samaj informed that the competition will be followed by a musical extravaganza which is expected to be attended, among others, by popular artists from Mumbai.

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