

NOTES Girl charred to death

KENDRAPARA, OCT 3 /- A girl was burnt to death when her house caught fire at a village in Kendrapara district of Odisha Wednesday, police said. The incident occurred at Bausamula village when the family members of the girl were not at home. Though the local people had tried to douse the fire, they could not save the girl, identified as Priyasmita Rout. Her charred remains were retrieved later. Preliminary investigations said an electrical short circuit might have caused the fire though the exact cause is yet to be ascertained, the police said. (PTI)

Mizoram Cong MLA resigns from party, Assembly

AIZAWL, OCT 3 /- Congress MLA Lalrinliana Sallo today said he quit the party and Mizoram Assembly for "refusal" of the Congress government to create a separate district comprising his home turf. The former minister's resignation was accepted by Speaker Hihpei, Assembly secretary sources said. He later submitted his resignation to state PCC chief Lal Thanhawla from the Congress party. He told reporters that he resigned as MLA and from the ruling party due to "refusal" of the Congress government to fulfil the promise of creating a separate Khawzawl district comprising his home turf. Thuchang Assembly seat. Sallo said that he would join the Opposition to the National Front (MNF). He had been elected to the Assembly for three consecutive terms in 2003 and was a Cabinet minister keeping portfolios like health and trade and commerce. (PTI)

Man held with pistols, ammunitions

AGARTALA, OCT 3 /- A man was arrested from a hotel in North Tripura district after three pistols and 25 live cartridges were seized from his possession, police said on Wednesday. He was arrested from the hotel in Dharmanagar, about 175 km from here, the police said. Acting on a tip-off, the police carried out a raid at the hotel on late Tuesday night and arrested one Pranji Das, a criminal and recovered the arms and live cartridges from his possession. The Superintendent of Police (SP) of North Tripura district, Bhanupada Chakrabarty, told PTI. Silencers were attached to the pistols, Chakrabarty said, adding, Das came from Silchar in Assam by train and was staying in the hotel in Dharmanagar. (PTI)

Ruling BJP sweeps panchayat by-elections in Tripura

AGARTALA, OCT 3 /- The ruling BJP swept the panchayat by-election in Tripura by winning 113 out of 130 gram panchayat seats, State Election Commissioner G K Rao said Wednesday. The BJP also won five out of the seven panchayat samiti seats, he said. The Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura (IPFT), an ally of BJP won nine gram panchayat seats, the SEC said. The opposition Congress and CPI(M) won four gram panchayat seats respectively, Rao said. The by-election for the 132 gram panchayat seats and seven panchayat samiti seats was held on September 30. The state election commission declared for re-polling in two gram panchayat seats in Khowai block of Khowai district on October 5 and results would be announced on October 7, Rao told media. (PTI)

Caring Minds celebrates National Cerebral Palsy Day



(L-R) Saymedh Mukherjee (R) Den: Dr Kazi Arafat Basir, Paediatric Physiotherapist, Caring Minds; Dr Asis Ghosh, Deputy Director, IICP; Dr Sandeep Samanta, MSVP, Dr B C Roy Post Graduate Institute Of Paediatric Sciences; Dr H N Das, Sr Physiotherapist, Drbroygpps; Ms Jeeta Ghosh; Prof (Dr) A K Palit, HOD, PMR Drbroygpps; Dr Jayanty Bose, Paediatrician, Matribhawan; Dr Aditi Bandyopadhyay, Dance and Movement Therapist and Minu Budhia, psychiatrist and founder group director of Caring Minds were felicitated as the "Role Model of Courage" on the occasion.—EOI P

EOI CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA, OCT 3 /- Caring Minds celebrated National Cerebral Palsy Day on 3rd October 2018 by exploring the theme of Inclusive Opportunities. Jeeta Ghosh has broken many barriers and achieved many firsts, her latest being the first Indian woman born with cerebral palsy to adopt a baby. A graduate of prestigious educational institutions like Presidency College, Delhi University, UK, she

is a faculty member at Kolkata's Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP). Her extraordinary journey and indomitable spirit have inspired a documentary 'Im Jeeta'. Saymedh Mukherjee presently suffers from a

very rare genetic disorder called Dopa Responsive Dystonia (DRD) and is wheelchair-bound. He has worked as a radio jockey, an executive producer in a Bengali film, authored a book named 'Memoirs of Time', and is presently working at the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP) as an Advocacy and Technical Assistant. Everyone is different and people don't fit neatly into boxes. This makes awareness and acceptance about physical and intellectual challenges essential for an inclusive society. Creating opportunities for inclusion in educational institutions and the workplace both complement and facilitates awareness and acceptance, empowering special needs individuals like Minu Budhia, founder-director of Caring Minds, stressed on the importance of providing platforms for special needs individuals to realize their potential. Dr Sandeep Samanta was the chief guest and Prof

(Dr) A. K. Palit moderated the panel discussion. Paediatric and developmental physiotherapist Kazi Arafat Basir, spoke about the importance of physiotherapy for the well-being of children with cerebral palsy. He treats infants and children with sensory motor difficulties in Caring Mind's multi-sensory room designed for children with sensory impairments, physical, and developmental delays. Such a set up benefits the children by providing sensory stimuli in a specialized environment to develop sensory skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, communication skills, and hand-eye coordination. Caring Minds is a state-of-the-art centre for mental healthcare established under the leadership of Minu Budhia. A psychological wellness centre, it aims to help people in need of a guiding hand for their overall emotional

wellbeing. A sprawling super-specialty facility that introduces to the community a one-stop solution for all problems related to psychological health, it offers an easily accessible and committed environment for people to consult with a highly efficient group of experts. Mental health professionals (psychiatrists and RCI registered psychologists) provide expert services for both clinical and non-clinical issues across all age groups from children to the elderly. Indian Academy of Cerebral Palsy (IACP) aims to propel perceptions of disability from a label to the empowerment and enablement of ability to achieve inclusion in all streams of life. Their vision is to contribute to the welfare of persons with cerebral palsy and related neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families at all socioeconomic levels.

AFSPA extended in Arunachal Pradesh for 6 months

NEW DELHI, OCT 3 /- The Centre has extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 in the districts of Arunachal Pradesh and its eight police station areas bordering Assam by another six months, in view of continuing activities of banned insurgent groups in the Northeast. According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts of Arunachal Pradesh and eight police stations bordering Assam were declared "disturbed" areas under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), 1958. Now, therefore, Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts in Arunachal Pradesh and eight police stations under the jurisdiction of the following eight police stations in the districts of Arunachal Pradesh, bordering the State of Assam, are declared as "disturbed area" under Section 3 of the Armed

Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 up to March 31, 2019 w.e.f. October 1, 2018, with effect from the date of the notification said. The police stations include Balemu and Bhalukpong police stations in West Kameng district, Sejosa police station in East Kameng district, Balijan police station in Papumare district, Namsai and Mahadevpur police stations in Namsai district, Roing police station in Lower Dibang Valley district and Sunpara police station in Lohit district. The decision was taken following a review of the law and order situation in the three districts and eight police station areas concerned, a home ministry official said. Banned insurgent groups National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM), United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) and National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) are active in these areas of Arunachal Pradesh. (PTI)



General Manager of Metro Railway, Kolkata (2nd from left) on a press conference on the special arrangements and services to be made by Kolkata Metro during Durga Puja on Wednesday.—EOI P

Justice Ranjan Gogoi first CJI from N-E

NEW DELHI, OCT 3 /- Justice Ranjan Gogoi, who was sworn in as the 46th Chief Justice of India, is the first person from the Northeast to reach the top position of judiciary and will have a tenure of a little over 13 months before retiring on November 17. Justice Gogoi hails from Dibrugarh in Assam and was born on November 18, 1954. He did his schooling in Don Bosco School Dibrugarh before studying history in Delhi University's St. Stephen's College. Son of former Assam chief minister Keshab Chandra Gogoi, he practised in the Gauhati High Court on constitutional, taxation and company matters. He was appointed as a permanent judge of the Gauhati High Court on February 28, 2001. On September 9, 2010, he was transferred to the Punjab and Haryana High Court. He was appointed the chief justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court on February 12, 2011 and then a judge of the Supreme Court on April 23, 2012. Justice Gogoi has delivered various significant judgements, including Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC), setting up of special courts to exclusively try MPs and MLAs, Rajiv Gandhi assassination case convicts for remission of their life sentences and appointment of anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal among others. The legal fraternity in Guwahati Wednesday welcomed the swearing-in of Justice Ranjan Gogoi as the chief justice of India. The association in the northeast to occupy the post, calling it a "huge moment of pride" for Assam and the region. Gauhati High Court Bar Association president Atul Buragohain said the association members are very happy over the appointment of Justice Gogoi, as he is its first member to become the chief justice of India. Justice Gogoi was a member of the association after he became an advocate of the high court nearly four decades ago. He was born in Dibrugarh in Assam on November 18, 1954, and had enrolled as an advocate of Gauhati High Court in

1978. He practised law on constitutional, taxation and company matters. Buragohain described Justice Gogoi as a "jewel of the northeast" and not just of Assam. "He is an illustrious son of Assam—a man of principles and a very honest and upright man with a vision for independence of judiciary and protection of democratic rights", Buragohain told PTI. The members of the bar association pray for the success of Chief Justice Gogoi and for his long life and good health to serve the country and its people in general and the judiciary in particular, he added. Justice Gogoi will have a tenure of a little over 13 months. Senior Supreme Court advocate Upamanyu Hazarika said the assumption of office of chief justice of India by Justice Gogoi is a "huge moment of pride for northeast India and Assam." "It's only fitting that the first chief justice from the region should be a worthy representative like Justice Gogoi—a repository of the values of truthfulness, courage and honesty characterising people of the region and widely acknowledged as one of the finest judges in the Supreme Court", Hazarika said. Justice Gogoi, he said, is also a source of inspiration, particularly for the younger generation in Assam as he had built his career as a lawyer and a judge by being only in Guwahati during the six years when he had studied in Delhi. "This demonstrates that to reach the highest position in one's chosen profession and become an accomplished judge it is not necessary to go out of Assam. Rather, there are immense possibilities in one's own place and in the process, contribute to the growth and development of the region.", Hazarika added. Senior advocate of the high court Sidhartha Sankar Dey said Justice Gogoi has matured as an advocate under the guidance of late advocate J P Bhattacharyya and he practised in all branches of law. As a balance Justice Gogoi meticulously judicious law, equity and social

Odisha panel to aid seismic mapping of Bhubaneswar

BHUBANESWAR, OCT 3 /- The Odisha government has set up a committee to facilitate a survey, the state government has formed a committee under the chairmanship of Vice-Chairman BDA Technology Department. The survey is required as the BDA falls under Seismic Zone-II. However, the risks have multiplied with two possible fault lines passing through the geological area. (PTI)

country to be taken up for such a survey by the ministry, the official said. In its bid to facilitate the survey, the state government has formed a committee under the chairmanship of Vice-Chairman BDA Technology Department. The survey is required as the BDA falls under Seismic Zone-II. However, the risks have multiplied with two possible fault lines passing through the geological area. (PTI)

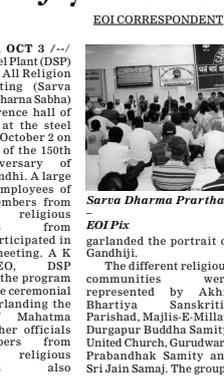
Additional District Magistrate Bhubaneswar, a member from IIT Bhubaneswar, City Engineer, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation and a senior official from the Science and Technology Department. The survey is required as the BDA falls under Seismic Zone-II. However, the risks have multiplied with two possible fault lines passing through the geological area. (PTI)

Gandhi Jayanti celebrated at DSP

DURGAPUR OCT 3 /- Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) organized an All Religion Prayer Meeting (Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha) at the conference hall of Ispat Niwas at the steel township on October 2 on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. A large number of employees of DSP and members from different religious communities Durgapur participated in the prayer meeting. A K Rath, CEO, DSP inaugurated the program by lighting the ceremonial lamp and garlanding the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi. Other officials and members from different religious communities also performed religious songs and highlighted the importance of religious harmony in our country. The program ended with all singing in chorus 'Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram'. The senior officials also garlanded the portrait of Lal Bahadur Shastri on the occasion.

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Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha in progress at DSP