

NOTES
Ex-BJDMP joins JMM

BARIPADA, OCT 8 /-- Former BJD MP JMM Mayurbhanj Laxman Tudu on Sunday said he joined Jharband Mukti Morcha (JMM) in Ranchi after resigning from the ruling BJD. Tudu said he joined the JMM in presence of party president Sibhu Soren, leader of opposition in Jharkhand assembly Hemant Soren and other senior leaders. Tudu, who was Lok Sabha member from Mayurbhanj from 2009 to 2014, told PTI that he resigned from BJD on Saturday as he felt that the party, named after Biju Patnaik, had deviated from the ideals of the legendary leader. A three-time district president of BJD, Tudu was denied BJD ticket for the 2014 election. Tudu said he decided to join JMM, keeping the interest of the tribal people in the state and to ensure balanced development. (PTI)

Ex-Mizoram IGP joins Cong

AIZAWL, OCT 8 /-- Former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Lt Hrangchal has joined the ruling Congress on Monday and would be a party candidate in the November 28 assembly election, sources in the Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee said. Hrangchal may contest from Chalfih seat which is currently represented by H Ngurdlingiana of the Congress, the sources said. He is likely to be pitted against Lalrinliana Sailo, who quit the Congress and joined the Mizo National Front (MNF) last week. (PTI)

Mobilephones, ganja, cash seized from Bihar jails

PATNA, OCT 8 /-- Mobile phones, SIM cards, ganja and other banned items were seized during raids conducted at different jails of Bihar, a senior police officer said. The raids were carried out on Sunday in central, divisional and sub-divisional jails in all the districts of the state on the directive of home department principal secretary Amir Subhani. A total of 32 mobile phones, nine SIM cards, 50.5 gm ganja, 10 knives and Rs 48,890 in cash, besides other banned items, were seized during the operation. IG (Prisons) Mithlesh Mishra said in a release. Among the jails from where these were recovered are divisional jails of Sitamarhi, Munger, Jehanabad, Aurangabad Sasaram and Central Jail, Motihari, the release said. The raids were carried out just before the upcoming festival season in order to check incidents of crime, police said. (PTI)

Man held for theft escapes from police custody

BHAGALPUR, OCT 8 /-- A thief managed to escape from a hospital while he was in police custody in Bihar's Bhagalpur district. The thief identified as Anand Kumar Dubey was caught Sunday night while carrying out theft in a house located in Mirzanhat locality under Mujahidpur police station area of Bhagalpur town. Mujahidpur police station SHO Amar Biswas said Monday. The locals had beaten him badly before handing him to the police. The police took the thief to Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur for treatment and was supposed to produce him in the court here on Monday. Biswas said adding that the thief asked the two constables, who accompanied him, that he wanted to go to toilet. (PTI)

Bihar thrashing case: All 9 accused named in FIR arrested

SUPAUL, OCT 8 /-- Police have arrested all the nine accused, including three women, named in the FIR in connection with beating up of minor girl students of a state-run school here, a senior police official said today. Thirty minor girl students in Bihar's Supaul district were beaten by a mob after they protested against lewd comments on a wall allegedly written by boys of a neighbouring school. The incident happened on Saturday evening when the students of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), a residential school meant for SC, ST and OBC, were playing in the campus located at Darpakha village in Supaul under Triveniganj police station of the district. All the nine persons, who were named in the FIR, were arrested by Sunday night, Superintendent of Police Mrityunjay Kumar Choudhary said.

The FIR was lodged following a complaint by KGBV's hostel warden Reema Raj. The accused

have been identified as Mohan Kumar, Hariom Sardar, Munna Sardar, Madhwa Sardar, Ajit Kumar, Vijay Kumar, Paro Devi, Arni Devi and Gavita Kumari, the SP said. Three out of the nine were arrested by Sunday evening and the rest six were held by night, the officer said. A section of police force has been deployed at the girls' hostel for their security, Choudhary said. Darbhanga zone Inspector General (IG) Pankaj Kumar Darad said he was keeping a close tab on the case. Supaul district magistrate Baidyanath Yadav had said on Sunday that both the schools were in the same campus with separate buildings and a common playground. The boys allegedly wrote some lewd comments on the wall of the girls' school, which the girls resisted and beat up the boys before chasing them away. The middle school boys, all minors, narrated the incident to their mothers teamed up with other villagers and entered the

school premises and attacked the girls, the DM said. He said 74 girl students were at the playground at the time of the incident and 30 of them received injuries and were admitted to Triveniganj referral hospital for treatment. The remaining 10 are still undergoing treatment and will be released in a day or two, Yadav had said. Meanwhile, politicians made a beeline to the school. Congress Supaul Lok Sabha MP Ranjeet Ranjan, BJP MLA Nivraj Kumar Babu and his MLC wife Nutan Singh visited the girls hostel and also met the victims at the hospital and enquired about their well-being. Ranjan criticised the Nitish Kumar led state government, terming the incident as "very unfortunate" and said the incidents of atrocities against women and girls have witnessed a sharp increase during the so-called "Sushashan government", a nomenclature often used by the chief minister to highlight his governance. (PTI)

ER honours wards of railway employees



Wards of railway employees being honoured for outstanding performance in academics, drawing and essay competition—EOI Pix

KOLKATA, OCT 8 /-- Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (ERWFO) Sealdah honoured the wards of railway employees for their outstanding performance in Secondary Board Examination and Higher Secondary Board Examination, in a function held at Dr. B. C. Roy

Auditorium, Sealdah recently. Altogether, 15 such meritorious students were honoured with certificates along with cash award and mementoes. In addition, 26 children of railway employees who have come out in flying colours in drawing and essay competition, held recently, were also honoured with certificates and mementoes in the same function. Prabhas Dansana, divisional manager, railway managers, medical director / B. R. Singh and other branch officers of Sealdah Division attended the programme. (EOIC)

Truck runs over devotees in Jharkhand, 3 killed

DUMKA, OCT 8 /-- Three persons, including a woman, were killed and ten others sustained serious injuries on Monday when a speeding truck ran over them in Dumka district, a police officer said. The victims, all residents of Kurma village in Banka district of neighbouring Bihar, were on their way to Bahadur temple in Deoghar around 3am when they were moved down by the truck on Deoghar-Godda Main road in Saraiyahaat Police Station area. Inspector Anil Kumar said. All injured were taken to a nearby community health centre. The State Assessor, following preliminary treatment, referred them to Sadar Hospital in Deoghar, he said. "One of the devotees was killed on spot and two others succumbed to their injuries during the course of treatment. Of the ten injured, the condition of four was stated to be critical," he said. The truck driver managed to escape with his vehicle following the incident, Kumar said, adding that a team of police officers are looking for him. (PTI)

SC seeks response of Centre on plea seeking NRC for Tripura

NEW DELHI, OCT 8 /-- The Supreme Court today sought response from the Centre on a plea seeking implementation of the national register for citizens (NRC) in Tripura to identify illegal immigrants in the state. A bench comprising Justices Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S K Kaul and K J Joseph considered the petition filed by Tripura People's Front seeking registration of citizens of Tripura in the NRC to identify illegal immigrants. The Centre had on July 30 published a second draft NRC list of Assam in which out of 3.28 crore people, names of 2.89 crore were included. The first draft of the NRC list, which was published on the intervening night of December 31 and January 1, Assam, which has faced influx of people from Bangladesh since the early 20th century, is the only state having an NRC, which was first prepared in 1951. (PTI)



All the staff members of Sealdah Ranaghat Matribhumi Express run solely by women—Arijit Ganguly

Man gets bail in FB post case

PATNA, OCT 8 /-- A 28-year-old man was released on bail by a court here after he spent nearly three months in jail in connection with a Facebook post allegedly defaming a former DGP of Bihar, his lawyer said on Sunday. Jitendra Kumar, who was arrested on July 11, was granted bail by additional chief judicial magistrate Kumari Vijaya on Friday, his counsel Manish Shankar said. The court order follows a submission by the Kotwall Police stating it wants to close the investigation as the FIR itself appears to have been lodged on error of facts, Shankar said, adding that this proves Jitendra's innocence and he may be acquitted in due course. "My client was named by Aditya Kumar, the main accused in the case, against whom an FIR had been lodged at Kotwall Police Station in the city. Aditya had been accused of putting up an objectionable post on the Facebook page of retired IPS officer Abhyananand. "Unfortunately, Jitendra was picked up by the police and put behind bars merely on the basis of a statement given by Aditya. Till date, the police has not been able to show any incriminating object in Jitendra's possession nor did it bother to record his statement wherein my client would have got an opportunity to prove his innocence," Shankar said. Jitendra has spent 86 days in jail and his career as a private bank employee is in dire straits, the counsel said. "We hope the court takes note of the manner in which the police have proceeded in the matter. They lodged an FIR in a jiffy, based on a complaint received on e-mail by a third party, not the aggrieved IPS officer," Shankar said. On the basis of the statement of the named accused, the police picked up my client and made him languish in jail for three months without him committing any crime, the counsel said. On condition of anonymity, police sources said the "error of facts" in the FIR was established during a high-level inquiry that was ordered by top officials who took note of the complaint that Jitendra Kumar was falsely implicated. Incidentally, Jitendra Kumar is the next-door neighbour and reported friend of Super 30 founder Anand Kumar. Super 30 has on several occasions claimed that since its inception in 2002 nearly 500 students hailing from poor sections have cracked JEE and made it to different IITs. Incidentally, Anand Kumar and Abhyananand had worked together in the initial years of Super 30, only to go separate ways after a bitter feud. (PTI)

Cyclone to hit Odisha within 2-3 days: NERC

BHUBANESWAR, OCT 8 /-- The National Emergency Response Centre (NERC), under the Union home ministry, has cautioned the Odisha government against a looming cyclonic storm in the next two to three days, official sources said. In an advisory to chief secretary AP Padhi and Special Relief Commissioner P P Sethi, the NERC said today a depression formed over southeast Bay of Bengal was likely to move northwards towards Odisha coast over the next 72 hours. "The depression is likely to intensify by tomorrow (Tuesday) and turn into a cyclonic storm in the following hours. It is very likely to move northward towards Odisha and adjoining north Andhra Pradesh coast during the next 72 hours," the advisory said. The state government should take appropriate precautionary measures under such circumstances, it added. H R Biswas, the director of meteorological centre in Bhubaneswar, also confirmed in the morning that a "depression has been recorded at a distance of around 720 km from Gopalpur coast in Odisha". The state was likely to experience heavy rain on October 10 and October 11, he stated. Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) B P Sethi said he was in touch with the Indian Meteorological Department headquarters in New Delhi on the matter. The state government would issue alert to districts well in advance, he said. The IMD, in a special bulletin Monday afternoon, said Odisha could expect heavy to very-heavy rainfall at isolated places in the coastal areas for four days, beginning on October 9. Squally winds reaching a speed of 45 to 55 km per hour, gusting to 65 km per hour, were also likely to prevail along and off north Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal coasts from October 9 afternoon, it said. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into central Bay of Bengal from October 8 to 10 and northern part of the sea from October 9 to 11, the IMD bulletin added. (PTI)

Puri violence: 5 cops suspended for dereliction of duty

PURI, OCT 8 /-- Five policemen have been suspended for dereliction of duty following the violence that rocked Puri on October 3 over protests at Jagannath temple, police said. A havildar and four constables were placed under suspension Sunday for negligence in discharging duties during the bandh when protesters ransacked the house of revenue minister and Puri MLA, Maheshwar Mohanty, said Puri SP Sarthak Sarangi. The police personnel were deployed at Mohanty's residence at Kumutisahi locality in the pilgrim town. This apart, as many as 18 persons were arrested on Sunday in connection with the violent incidents that took place during the 12-hour shut-down called by socio-cultural outfit Sri Jagannath Sena to protest introduction of queue system for devotees at the Jagannath temple, he said. With this, the total number of people arrested in connection with violence during the bandh increased to 41 so far. Earlier, 23 people had been arrested by the police in connection with the incidents. As many as 47 persons have been identified for indulging in violence during the protest on the basis of CCTV footage, the SP said adding efforts are on to arrest the rest. The seaside town had virtually turned into a battlefield on October 3 after large-scale violence erupted during the bandh. (PTI)

Bru members set to cast vote in Mizoram: CEO

AIZAWL, OCT 8 /-- Members of the Bru community, currently lodged in six relief camps of Tripura, are exercising their franchise in Mizoram when it goes to polls on November 28, a top state election department official said today. The tenure of the 40-member Assembly expires on December 15. "The Election Commission of India (ECI) has instructed officials in the state to make poll arrangements for Mizoram for displaced

Bru families," chief electoral officer (CEO) SB Shashank told newsmen here. The ECI, however, was yet to issue detailed guidelines on the process that needs to be followed to move Bru voters to Mizoram for the polling exercise, he said. "Of the 11,232 Bru voters in Tripura - 8,777 are from Mamit district, along Mizoram-Bangladesh-Tripura border, 1,732 from Kolasib district of the state, along Assam border, and 723 from

southern Mizoram's Lunglei district," the CEO said. During the 2013 Assembly elections, Bru members were able to cast votes from their respective relief camps. The following year, too, displaced voters had exercised their franchise for parliamentary election from Tripura. An election department official said on the condition of anonymity that making adequate arrangements for Bru voters to cast votes in their respective polling

stations would be a "herculean task". He suggested establishing designated polling stations at a border town in the state to the displaced people. "Setting up designated polling stations at a border town, like Kanmum, where Bru voters can exercise their franchise, might be the best bet," he added. The voters' list in six Tripura relief camps were updated recently along with rest of the state amid protests by members of civil societies, who demanded that the process be undertaken after the final repatriation process. Thousands of Bru refugees from Mizoram fled to Tripura after ethnic violence of 1997. The clashes broke out after a forest official was killed by Bru National Liberation Front (BNLF) militants. The Bru community, in association with the governments of Mizoram and Tripura, had been trying to resolve its long-standing issues in phases. (PTI)