

KRC

Barak Festival
NE INDIA ADVENTURE SPORTS,
ART & CULTURE PROMOTION



Barak Valley, Assam | JAN-MAR 2025
www.krctimes.com
Phone: 8721838313

KRC TIMES

STAY-ENRICHED

5E SUCCESS

STUDENT INTERNSHIP

Discover valuable experience and learn more about the industry.

POSITIONS

- Outreach Executive
- Event Management
- Programme Coordinator

Barak Festival
18-17 January 2025

APPLY NOW | 8721838313 | www.krctimes.com

VOLUME:1, ISSUE 516 | SILCHAR SUNDAY, JULY 06, 2025. EAST AND NE INDIA EDITION | e-mail: krctimes@gmail.com ,www.krctimes.com

Get all the latest and updated news of today in the evening. For subscribing to this e-paper contact at -8721838313

SUBSCRIBE
₹300 / year



WhatsApp payment details : 8721838313
info@krctimes.com

PERSPECTIVE

Surrender is often misunderstood. It is not giving up—it is the willingness to stop fighting life. In this softening, we discover that life itself is carrying us.

- Amoda Maa,
Contemporary spiritual teacher and author

Myanmar border clash kills Chin fighter, stray bullets hit Mizoram homes

AIZAWL
A fierce gunfight along the Myanmar border claimed the life of a CDF-Hualngoram cadre on Saturday, with stray bullets from the fighting whizzing into Zokhawthar village in Mizoram, damaging at least five homes and a parked car. The clashes erupted between the Chinland Defence Force-Hualngoram (CDF-Hualngoram) and the Chin National Defence Force (CNDP) near Rihkhawdar and Khawmawi — just a few kilometres from Zokhawthar — around 8.45 am and raged until 2.30 pm.

Amid the hail of bullets, a desperate plea rang out over a loudspeaker in Zokhawthar: "Your bullets are flying into our homes — please stop!" Local sources said the renewed fighting has triggered fresh panic and displacement along the Indo-Myanmar border.

Tragically, a refugee — a carpenter from Tahan in Myanmar's Sagaing region — drowned in the Tiau river after trying to flee back to India when the shooting broke out. His body is yet to be recovered.

In response to the volatile situation, the Assam Rifles sealed the Indo-Myanmar border gate at Zokhawthar, disrupting daily life for Myanmar nationals who regularly cross into Mizoram for schooling and medical care.

WHO SAID WHAT



By a factor of 2 to 1, you want a new political party and you shall have it!

When it comes to bankrupting our country with waste & graft, we live in a one-party system, not a democracy.

Today, the America Party is formed to give you back your freedom.

-Elon Musk,
American Entrepreneur

Manipur Governor calls for 'One Nation, One Constitution' & constitutional integrity



IMPHAL

The Governor of Manipur, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, on Sunday called upon the people to uphold the principle of "One Nation, One Constitution" during the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee at the Palace Auditorium, Manipur State Film Development Society, Palace Compound, Imphal.

The Governor appealed to everyone to remember and draw inspiration from Dr. Mookerjee's legacy of selfless service, unwavering commitment to national unity, and fearless pursuit of constitutional integrity.

The Governor also recalled Dr. Mookerjee's pivotal role in the integration of Jammu and Kashmir.

He encapsulated his firm stance in his well-known statement: "Ek

desh mein do Vidhan, do Nishan, do Pradhan nahi challenge," which reflected his unwavering commitment to the principle of "One Nation, One Constitution."

During the ceremony, the Governor offered floral tributes to the portrait of Dr. Mookerjee.

A documentary film highlighting the life and contributions of Dr. Mookerjee was screened, and a dedication song was performed by artists from Shri Shri Bal Mukunda Dev Music College. Speaking at the event, the Governor described Dr. Mookerjee as a towering figure in the history of modern India, a distinguished patriot, freedom fighter, visionary leader, and an intellectual of remarkable stature.

The Governor highlighted Dr. Mookerjee's immense contributions to nation-building.

As one of the key architects of independent India, Dr. Mookerjee played a significant role in shaping the country's political and educational landscape.

He was also a strong advocate for national integration and worked tirelessly to uphold the unity and integrity of the nation.

Government denies requesting ban on Reuters X handle in India

NEW DELHI

The Centre on Sunday, July 6 clarified that it had not issued any legal directive to microblogging platform X (formerly Twitter) to block the official account of international news agency Reuters in India. The denial came after Reuters's Indian X handle displayed a message stating it had been "withheld in India in response to a legal demand."

"There is no requirement from the Government of India to withhold the Reuters handle. We are continuously working with 'X' to resolve the problem," stated the Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The move sparked concern across journalistic and social media circles, with many pointing to the unexpected nature of the restriction.

According to government sources quoted by news agency PTI, an earlier directive had indeed been issued on May 7 during Operation Sindoor, but it was neither executed nor intended to be enforced at this stage. Officials now believe that X may have mistakenly acted on the previously dormant order.

"An order was issued on May 7 (during Operation Sindoor) but it was not enforced. X seems to have enforced that order now which is a mistake on their part. The government has reached out to X for resolving it at the earliest," said a source familiar with the development.

Following the block, Indian authorities reportedly sought an explanation from the social media company and urged it to immediately lift the restriction.

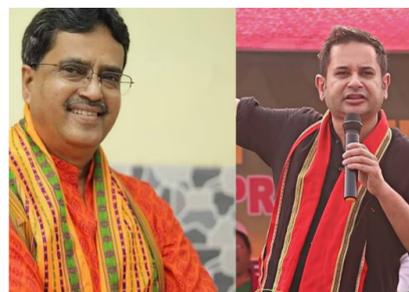
While several affiliated X handles of the agency including Reuters Tech News, Reuters Fact Check, Reuters Asia, and Reuters China remain accessible within India, both the main global handle (@Reuters) and Reuters World continue to be restricted.

Users trying to visit the affected pages encounter a standard X message stating:

"Account withheld. @Reuters has been withheld in IN in response to a legal demand."

On its help center page, X states that such messages typically indicate enforcement of a legal order or local law, compelling the platform to restrict content or entire accounts in specific jurisdictions.

Tiprasa accord implementation process underway: CM Saha in talks with Pradyot



AGARTALA

Tripura CM confirms Tiprasa Accord implementation process is ongoing. CM stays in contact with Tipra Motha founder Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma. Tipra Motha MLA accuses state and central governments of inaction.

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha, on July 6, asserted that the Tiprasa Accord will be implemented soon as the implementation process is underway. He also informed that he is in constant touch with the founder of the Tipra Motha Party, Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma.

CM Saha said this after Tipra Motha MLA Ranjit Debbarma

claimed that the state and central governments are not doing anything to implement the Tiprasa Accord.

On the MLA's claim of withdrawing support from the BJP, Dr. Saha said that this is an internal matter of the Tipra Motha Party and whatever they decide is their concern.

"I shouldn't comment on this matter, but I haven't received anything in writing. I am in touch with Pradyot Manikya and the process for implementation of the Tiprasa Accord is on," he added.

Earlier, speaking on various matters, Pradyot said, "Me and Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha are in touch. I will also be speaking with Ranjit Debbarma. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has given us time to meet this month, so we have to see what he says. The indigenous people are feeling insecure in their villages and are frustrated, which is genuine. We must solve this sentiment, which will be good for Tripura. What is now happening in Bangladesh—many people are crossing the border and settling here—is making the indigenous people here feel insecure."

13 deaths from Japanese Encephalitis spark concern at Assam's GMCH

GUWAHATI

Fifty JE cases admitted to GMCH between April and July 2024. Thirteen patients have died while six recovered and discharged. Most cases are from Kamrup, Nalbari and Darrang districts.

Japanese Encephalitis (JE) has claimed 13 lives at Guwahati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) since April, triggering renewed concerns among public health authorities in Assam. As of July 4, the hospital has confirmed 50 JE cases, with the majority of patients arriving from Kamrup (Rural), Nalbari, and Darrang districts. According to hospital officials, six patients have recovered and been discharged, while three left against medical advice.

"From April 1 to July 4, we admitted 50 JE patients. Thirteen have died," said Dr. Ujjal Kumar Sharma, Deputy Superintendent of GMCH. He added that the influx is largely from surrounding districts, with 14 cases reported from Kamrup, 10 from Nalbari, and seven from Darrang. Three additional cases originated from Kamrup (Metro).

State health records reveal a persistent threat from JE, a mosquito-borne viral infection that primarily spreads through Culex mosquitoes breeding in rural waterlogged areas. Between 2015 and 2024, Assam has reported over 840 deaths due to JE, peaking in 2019 with 161 fatalities.

Nationwide vigilance remains critical. In November 2024, an isolated JE case was reported in Delhi — a 72-year-old man from Uttam Nagar tested positive while being treated for other chronic conditions. Health officials confirmed there was no outbreak in the capital, and the patient was discharged after nine days.

Relentless rains trigger landslides, flooding in Nagaland's Kohima and Dimapur



DIMAPUR

Continuous rainfall over the past few days in Nagaland's capital Kohima, and commercial hub Dimapur, has caused landslides and severe waterlogging in several low-lying areas.

In Kohima, the retaining wall of the soil and water conservation department gave way on Friday, followed by a similar incident at the police headquarters on Saturday, officials said.

At least four vehicles were damaged in the incidents, they added.

Heavy downpour throughout the day also resulted in widespread waterlogging across multiple areas in Kohima town, disrupting normal life.

In Dimapur, flooding in low-lying areas caused severe traffic congestion, particularly along Nagarjan.

The worst-hit areas include United Colony (Nagarjan), Sachu Colony, Zeliangrongram Colony, and Burma Camp, where floodwaters remained stagnant for most of the day.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Dimapur, has issued a public advisory warning residents to stay away from rivers and streams due to the heightened risk of flash floods triggered by continuous rainfall.

The DDMA has urged the public to avoid fishing, picnicking, or engaging in any water-related activities along riversides, citing rising water levels.

All villages located near riverbanks have been requested to suspend such activities until the end of the monsoon season as a precautionary measure.

Assam BJP and Congress trade blame over indigenous people's land rights

GUWAHATI

Amid the persistent issue of land rights for indigenous people in Assam, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress traded allegations against each other.

While the ruling party affirmed its "resolute" stand in protecting the state's heritage, the opposition camp accused the government of acting like a "real estate broker" for big companies.

The Congress alleged that the Himanta Biswa Sarma-led state government was "grabbing" tribal land in the Sixth Schedule areas to hand over the resources to investors, besides carrying out "targeted eviction drives" across the state.

BJP state president Dilip Saikia said the party and the state government would continue with their efforts, guided by the unwavering resolve to safeguard the rightful place of the indigenous people in their homeland.

"Himanta Biswa Sarma is attacking the fundamentals of the Sixth Schedule area as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The power of the Sixth Schedule council is now with Sarma, and he operates it through remote control,"



state Congress president Gaurav Gogoi alleged at a press conference in Diphu.

"The proof is how Sarma is taking away thousands of bighas of land from the tribal communities and giving these land parcels to people of his choice," Gogoi

claimed, referring to proposed industrial and other investment in the Sixth Schedule areas of Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao and Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR).

The Congress leader alleged that 41,000 bighas of tribal land

are being "taken away by the CM", and leaders of autonomous councils have been "silent".

"The leadership of these councils have become weak and ineffective. They cannot protect their own people and have betrayed them...The Himanta Biswa Sarma government is acting like a real estate broker. But the Congress will fight for the land rights of the tribal people," he claimed.

A Congress Legislative Party (CLP) delegation, led by the Leader of Opposition Debabrata Saikia, called on Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya and submitted a memorandum, soliciting "constitutional intervention against the dispossession of tribals, indigenous, minorities and other families from their rightful properties on the pretext of development".

The memorandum claimed that the state government's evictions have "severely affected various communities, like Boro, Karbi, Garo and Ahom, besides Assamese Hindus and Muslims".

The party urged the governor to halt ongoing and proposed eviction drives "affecting indigenous, tribal and erosion-displaced communities, and constitute an inde-

pendent commission of inquiry into all evictions conducted since 2022, with a special focus on Sixth Schedule districts and Tribal Belt/Block".

The CLP leader also sought the governor's direction to the state government to publish a comprehensive land rights regularisation policy, clearly "distinguishing long-settled indigenous occupants from speculative encroachers, and ensure legal and humane rehabilitation measures". Meanwhile, BJP's state chief Saikia said the Assam government and the party are "resolute and uncompromising" in their commitment to protecting Assam's identity, land and heritage. "We will continue our efforts relentlessly, guided by the unwavering resolve to safeguard the rightful place of the indigenous people in their own homeland," he said in a release.

He claimed that the 'satras' (Vasihnavite monasteries) are "under siege, with 922 satras currently encroached upon".

"Our government and the party remain unwaveringly committed to restoring the lost glory and heritage of these revered institutions," the BJP leader said.

He alleged that instead of protecting the rights of the indigenous people during the nearly 70 years of its rule here since Independence, the Congress "relied on a particular religious community for its vote bank".

"This dangerous political appeasement has emboldened illegal infiltrators and led to the encroachment of thousands of bighas of land across Assam," the state BJP chief claimed.

He dared Gogoi and Congress' Dhubri MP Rakibul Hussain to publicly appeal to encroachers to vacate occupied land peacefully.

"Otherwise, it will only reaffirm what is already evident — that the Congress party has, for decades, served the interests of a specific community at the cost of the indigenous people of Assam," the BJP state chief alleged.

He maintained that the government is ensuring land rights for the indigenous people and also taking steps to free satra land from illegal encroachment.

"We will continue our efforts relentlessly, guided by the unwavering resolve to safeguard the rightful place of the indigenous people in their homeland," Saikia added.



VOLUME:1, ISSUE 516

DISMANTLING TERROR ECOSYSTEM



The directive by J&K LG to identify and take action against Government employees with a history of links to terrorism is a crucial step in the complete dismantling of the terror ecosystem that has plagued the region for decades. This move must be seen not in isolation but as part of a broader national effort to uproot the deeply entrenched separatist mindset that was allowed to flourish unchecked for over seventy years post-independence. For decades, appeasement-driven policies turned a blind eye to the growing menace of separatism and radicalism in the Kashmir Valley. The political establishment failed to acknowledge the brewing storm, permitting anti-national forces to penetrate every stratum of society from educational institutions and religious centres to Government departments. The result was a dangerous normalisation of extremist ideologies, where shutdowns, street protests, and violent insurgency became a part of daily life. Even the mere words of 'separatists' or 'terrorists' carried the weight of law, inducing fear and obedience from the common people.

Shockingly, known terrorists who were involved in killing innocent civilians and security forces not only roamed free but also joined mainstream politics, openly bragging about their misdeeds. They were never brought to justice. Instead, their families were rewarded with Government jobs and social security while they continued to fuel hatred from across the border. Such behaviour encouraged a sense of impunity and emboldened further subversion from within. It wasn't until the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 that the Union Government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, finally decided to confront the issue head-on. By banning separatist organisations, freezing their bank accounts, confiscating their ill-gotten properties, and initiating legal proceedings against their leaders, the Government began restoring the rule of law in the region. Street violence, stone pelting, and prolonged shutdowns have since become relics of the past. However, a sinister layer still survives – a Government-embedded terror ecosystem.

While around 100 Government employees have already been dismissed for their involvement in supporting terrorism, the LG's directive to further investigate and expose more such elements is a welcome step. Many of these individuals have gone dormant, hiding their true allegiances, while continuing to serve in sensitive departments. Their mere presence in public institutions is a threat to national security and to the safety of ordinary citizens. Identifying and removing them is not only necessary but also non-negotiable.

Equally commendable is the Government's renewed focus on the victims of terrorism – a group long-neglected and often silenced. The establishment of special grievance redressal cells, toll-free helplines, and a dedicated unit in the LG Secretariat sends a strong message: the Government will not only punish the perpetrators of terror but will also stand firmly with the victims. This includes ensuring the restoration of properties seized by terrorists or their sympathisers, provision of Government jobs to next of kin, and financial support through schemes like MUDRA to help them rebuild their lives. The significance of these initiatives cannot be overstated. Restoring the rights and dignity of terror victim families is not just an act of compassion – it is an act of justice. It signals the re-establishment of faith in the nation, in the Constitution, and democratic institutions.

At the same time, this approach serves as a clear warning to those still harbouring separatist ideologies: there will be no safe haven, no impunity, and no escape from justice. Whether they are living openly or hiding under the guise of civil servants, the net is tightening, and accountability is inevitable. Let it be clear to all, the systematic decimation of the terror ecosystem in J&K is not just an internal security measure – it is a national necessity. The battle is no longer just about territorial integrity but about ideological supremacy. The choice is now stark: a society governed by law, peace, and democracy, or one held hostage by extremism and fear. With bold administrative action and unflinching political will, the tide has decisively turned. Justice may have been delayed for decades, but it will no longer be denied.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men."

- Plato

INTO HIS NONAGENARIAN DAYS DALAI LAMA'S VORTEX OF SUCCESSION

COL SATISH SINGH LALOTRA

Seldom in living history do we come across personalities who have donned the mantle of guiding the masses of humanity in maintaining their moral and spiritual compass amongst the rough and tumble of their daily lives, despite themselves having neared their journey of life. His Holiness Dalai Lama is amongst those chosen few who despite having just stepped into his 90th year of existence this 06 th July 2025 on earth has never left the side of his personality which resonates and identifies him with his millions of followers ; namely the 'spiritual tryst'. The same tryst which saw the just turned nonagenarian embark on an unknown and hazardous journey across the dangerous paths and mountain passes of the great Himalayas in March 1959 , heading towards India with his select band of followers and close family members. Fortunately enough for us, the spiritual leader is still brimming with his standard bearer qualities of love, compassion, fortitude, patience and forbearance that goes to define his subtle traits which are almost nil to be found in today's world of profound 'expediencies of situations' as one confronts them. With fly by night Spiritual leaders abounding the world of ours having questionable reputation, it is the single most name of HH Dalai Lama that makes the masses gravitate towards his teachings even to this day and date.

'Tenzin Gyatso' , the 14th Dalai Lama , fled to India in 1959 after a failed uprising against Chinese rule. Born into a farming family in a small hamlet in Taktser, Amdoin Northeastern, Tibet he was recognized as the reincarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama when he was two years old. According to the website of the 'Central Tibetan administration (CTA) , established in India following the exodus from Tibet , the Dalai Lamas are believed to be manifestations of 'Avalokiteshvara' or 'Chenrezig' 'the Bodhisattva of compassion and patron saint of Tibet'. In Buddhism , Bodhisattvas are considered enlightened figures, even worshipped , but they are perceived differently by the various branches of the faith. As an example, the 'Mahayana Buddhism', which is considered a less orthodox branch, prioritizes taking everyone along on the path to true salvation and knowledge. Bodhisattvas are to live among the people, and help them alleviate their suffering and ultimately achieve an enlightened state, even if they must delay their own enlightenment. I have had my own tryst with the people of Tibet/ Buddhists while serving with the SFF (Special frontier force) a unique paramilitary organization for more than three years plus in the early/ mid 1990s. An organization that owes its unflinching loyalty and allegiance to His Holiness Dalai Lama and composed of almost all of its ranks from Tibetan people. Coming back to the present Dalai Lama and his utterings on the path to reincarnation. In the past, the reincarnation process involved , among other things , the new leader identifying some of the old leader's belongings as proof of remembering his past life. The current Dalai Lama once said- 'reincarnation is a phenomenon which should take place either through the voluntary choice of the concerned person or at least on the strength of his or her 'Karma, merit

and prayers'.

Since 'Reincarnation of Dalai Lama' process for selecting the next spiritual leader affects the Tibetan populace as well as recalibration of entire calculus for countries like China, India and the US in dealing with the core problem of Tibet; it is no wonder that this 06 th of July 2025 when the great spiritual guru of the world rings his birthday from the cool climes of Dharamshala bated breaths would be on display. Since HH Dalai lama has himself stated in no uncertain terms that he would discuss his future religious leadership issue on his 90th birthday, the statement assumes importance because way back in 2011 , his holiness had told that he would consult the Tibetan high lamas and the Tibetan people to re-evaluate whether the institution should continue when he turns 90. From July 02 to July 04 a Buddhist religious conference will be held in Mac Leodganj, Dharamshala (HP), which could mention the process for selecting the next reincarnation of the holy leader in most probable terms. If and whether it happens, is a matter of conjecture. This off and on changing of posture in so far as selection of next spiritual leader by the present Dalai Lama has only exacerbated the already deepening mystery of 'Reincarnation of Dalai lama' legacy. The Chinese government has since then described the 14 th Dalai Lama as a 'wolf in monk's clothes' and sought to extend its control over Tibetan Buddhism. In fact way back in 2019, the present Dalai Lama told Time Magazine quote- 'on one occasion the Dalai Lama institution started. That means there must be one occasion when the institution is no longer relevant. Stop. No problem. This is not my concern. China's communists, I think are showing more concern'. unquote. The suggestion of a possible abolishment had more to do with concerns arising out of Chinese mainland influencing the process, and choosing its own Pro-Beijing Dalai Lama. Was the institution of Dalai Lama founded way back in the 14th century so weak and fallible that it has got the potential of unhinging from its very roots under the onslaught of a constant Chinese hate propaganda within 75 years of Tibetan plateau being occupied by the PLA? Or is it just a figment of imagination of an exaggerated threat to the Tibetan Buddhism from the Han Chinese? Whatever may be the trigger for the holy spiritual leader for his utterances in the recent past, it comes to be believed that in case this exalted institution of Tibetan spiritual head is left to be decided by the expediencies of a changing Geo-political scenario, then the very idea of more than 80,000 Tibetans lugging themselves across the risky Himalayan passes along with their 23 year old spiritual head in March 1959 , and still continuing in dribs and drabs was a big sham.

The above fact when extrapolated means that millions of Tibetans who cling to their spiritual leader decades back and continue even to this day to seek path for peace and salvation is all in vain consequent to this institution going kaput in future. A most preposterous act ever to happen. A similar story played out in the selection of the Panchen Lama, the senior most spiritual leader in Tibetan Buddhism after the Dalai Lama. The Chinese Government announced 'Gyaltsen Norbu' as the

Panchen Lama in 1995, after the Dalai Lama chose Gedhun Choekyi Niyima as the Panchen Lama. The then six year old boy soon went missing , and there were allegations that the Chinese Government had played a role in his abduction. Chinese authorities have denied these allegations and occasionally provided sparse updates on Nyima. However the spiritual head propped up by the Chinese has not been seen publicly for the past more than three years. Chinese president Xi Jinping met 'Gyaltsen Norbu' in Beijing last month and spoke about him playing a greater role in forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation , systematically promoting the principle that religions in China must be Chinese in orientation. In 2011 , the present Dalai Lama had said that if the institution of the Dalai Lama were to continue , then there would be 'an obvious risk of vested interests misusing the 'reincarnation system' to fulfill their own political agenda. The same year he renounced his political duties, tasking the CTA with them. Is it again a red herring from the top spiritual head? Recently he said that he would draw up clear guidelines to recognize the next Dalai Lama 'So that there is no room for doubt or deception'. That is why the present week of July holds importance.

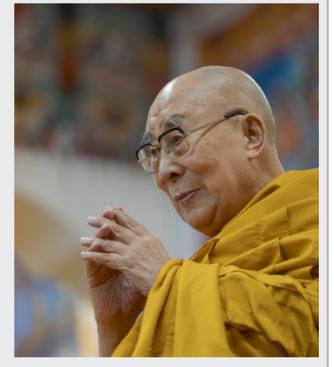
Actually from the late 1980s, Dalai Lama's aims have undergone a sea change with regards to Tibet. Though this aspect is not related to his succession which is under discussion here but merits mention nonetheless. Portraying his ambivalent and shifting stance that has an indirect bearing on the person who is going to wear the mantle of spiritual head of the Tibetans in future, if the present Dalai Lama himself remains indecisive on Tibet's future will it not embolden further Chinese consolidation of so called sinicization of his homeland? From Tibetan independence to greater autonomy for Tibet within the Chinese authority is a monumental shift in Dalai Lama's stand. Has the spiritual guru reconciled with his fate , thus putting his own people living in Tibet and elsewhere in a dilemma? Did the holy man seek wider acceptance of his people while ruminating with his ideas? The entire paradox of his thinking lies in the fact that last year the US administration put its seal of approval legally by passing the RTA (Resolve Tibet act) which is much more stringent in its application and a bold successor to the earlier two acts passed preceding it few years. This RTA (Resolve Tibet act) enjoins China to define exact geographical limits of Tibet after more than seven decades of Chinese occupation of Tibet. It tantamount to state that the Chinese occupation is temporary in nature and hence should be vacated. This US stand defined through its passing of RTA goes exactly opposite to what is being proposed by his holiness Dalai Lama. The passing of RTA by the USA was further given a fillip when its congressional team consisting of speaker Nancy Pelosi and house foreign affairs committee chairman Michael Mac Caul visited Dharamshala last year and met the spiritual leader. What more booster shot Dalai Lama wants in order to get his priorities right and inconsonance with his Tibetan masses when it comes to choosing his successor? None I suppose. Will he realign the

cherished goals that seem to have been misaligned by not proclaiming to scrap the system of 'Reincarnation of future Dalai Lamas'? As the famous Vietnamese Buddhist thinker cum philosopher had to say- quote ' If we believe tomorrow will be better , we can bear a hardship today' -unquote. Can the present Dalai Lama this week instill this sense of bearing hardships in his Tibetan masses by not scrapping the age old custom of reincarnation of future Dalai Lamas and also reverting back to attainment of full and final independence from the Chinese?

(The writer is a retired army officer.)

DIGITAL WAR OF WORDS

90th Birthday Message On the occasion of my 90th birthday, I understand that well-wishers and friends in many places, including Tibetan communities, are gathering for celebrations. I particularly appreciate the fact that many of you are using the occasion to engage in initiatives that highlight the importance of compassion, warm-heartedness, and altruism. I am just a simple Buddhist monk; I don't normally engage in birthday celebrations. However, since you are organizing events focused on my birthday I wish to share some thoughts. While it is important to work for material development, it is vital to focus on achieving peace of mind through cultivating a good heart and by being compassionate, not just toward near and dear ones, but toward everyone. Through this, you will contribute to making the world a better place. As for myself, I will continue to focus on my commitments of promoting human values, religious harmony, drawing attention to the ancient Indian wisdom which explains the workings of mind and emotions, and Tibetan culture and heritage, which has so much potential to contribute to the world through its emphasis on peace of mind and compassion. I develop determination and courage in my daily life through the teachings of the Buddha and Indian masters such as Shantideva, whose following aspiration I strive to uphold. As long as space endures, as long as sentient beings remain, until then, may I too remain to dispel the miseries of the world. Thank you for using the opportunity of my birthday to cultivate peace of mind and compassion. Tashi Deleg and with prayers, Dalai Lama 5 July 2025



A LOOK AT NATIONAL SPORTS POLICY

COL BRIJ MOHAN RAI MEHTA

Salient features: The Govt of India has recently approved the National Sports Policy 2025 which according to a Govt Press Release aims to drive excellence ,economic growth and social progress "while promoting well being of Citizens of India. The new comprehensive policy has twin objectives of "broad basing of sports and excellence in sports at national and international level to create a robust ecosystem that nurtures talent from the grass roots to the Olympic podium"

This new policy will replace the Sports Policy of 2001 and outlines a vision to make India a strong contender on the global stage, including at 2036 Olympic games. It has been aligned with the new education policy (NEP 2020) and makes a pitch for using economic potential of sports.

Sports Policy 2025 promotes the establishment of competitive leagues and competitions and develops sports infrastructure in both rural and urban areas; builds world class systems for training, coaching and holistic athlete support; enhances the capacity and governance of NSFs; encourages adoption of Sports science, medicine and technology to boost athletic performance & trains and develops sports personnel others including coaches technical officials and support staff. It will address the issues of long standing issues of factionalism, infighting and governance mismanagement in NSFs , the policy has aimed to establish a 'Sports Regulatory Board

'with powers to grant, renew and suspend affiliation of NSFs among others.

Indian Football: All India Football Federation the governing body of football was founded on 23rd June 1937 when representatives of football associations of six regions met at the then Army Headquarters, Simla. The six regions which attended the historic meeting were Indian Football Association (IFA), Army Sports Control Board (ASCB), United Provinces, Bihar, North West India Football Association and Delhi. It was affiliated to FIFA in 1948 and to AFC (Asian Football Confederation) in 1954 as one of the founding members.

Golden Era: The period from 1948 till 60's under Coach SA Rahim (Rahim Saab) is called as the best or golden era of football.

Under Rahim Sahib's able Coaching: London Olympics in 1948 was India's first major international tournament, where a predominately barefooted Indian team lost 2-1 to France before getting eliminated in the first round. India qualified by default for the 1950 FIFA World Cup finals as a result of the withdrawal of all of their scheduled opponents but AIFF backed out of the tournament as well, citing "disagreements over team selection and insufficient practice time".

The Indian team beat both Indonesia and Afghanistan 3-0 to reach the final where they beat Iran 1-0 to become the inaugural Asian Games

winners in 1951.

After the title honour at the Asian Games India became the first Asian team to play in an Olympics semi-finals in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic with Neville D'Souza became the first Asian to score a hat-trick in the Olympics.

There has been no major honours for Indian Football team after the 1962 Jakarta Asian Games where India defeated South Vietnam in the semi finals and South Korea to clinch the Gold.

India defeated South Vietnam in the semi-finals and South Korea in the final (2-1) to clinch the Asian Games gold in Jakarta, Indonesia. India had few more wins at AFC Challenge Cup 2008, Nehru Cup in 2009, 2011 & Inter Continental Cup in 2018 but no more of Asian Games titles except a third place finish in 1970 Asian Games.

There has been downward slide in India's FIFA ranking in both Men & Women. In FIFA Ranking India's best was 94 in 1996 and at one stage was 173 in 2015 stands at 127 in the latest rankings. While Women's football team are ranked at poor 70 which at one time was placed at 49 in 2013. Indian Men's team which once dominated SAFF Countries are struggling to defeat these South Asian neighbours.

India had released Vision 2047 document in Dec 2022 for development of Football in the Country. As per that Indian Men's team should have been in top ten in Asia and Women's team at top Eight in Asia at the end of first four year cycle of 2023-26 which

looks distant & unrealistic possibility as of now. Now let us analyse salient of National Sports Policy 2025 viz a viz Indian Football below :

Talent Identification ,grassroots: The age group at which young kids take to football is 12-14 years. This needs to be brought down to around ten years. Blue Cub League for children in 4-12 years age group is a right step in this direction. Kids play 2v2 or 7v7 to enjoy and play with maximum participation. AIFF has signed MOUs with FIFA for talent identification and development of Grassroots. FIFA Chief of Global football development Mr Arsenal Wenger has been consulted for development of Grass Roots and Talent Identification. His team is closely working with AIFF and the scouted talent are being trained in AIFF Academy. The team is conducting workshop for Indian Coaches and strengthening Talent Identification process across AIFF & other stakeholders. States and Clubs need to invest in GR development for talent identification and development of quality players. Govt / Corporates must invest in Developing new and professional Football Academies.

Competitive leagues and competitions: Good & competitive leagues across the world are the nursery to provide pool of players to the National team. India's National Football League was inaugurated in 1996 and won by JCT Phagwara. Later in 2010 it was redesignated as I League as a professional league of India on the lines of AFC.

Assam's tribal autonomy eroding under Himanta Biswa Sarma, alleges Congress's Gaurav Gogoi

DIPHU

Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Gaurav Gogoi has leveled a serious allegation against the BJP government led by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, stating that it is remotely controlling the constitutional powers granted to autonomous councils like BTR, Dima Hasao, and Karbi Anglong under the Sixth Schedule from Dispur.

Gogoi made these remarks during a press conference in Diphu on Saturday.

APCC president Gogoi asserted that those entrusted with protecting the spirit of the Sixth Schedule have instead undermined it.

He emphasized that despite the Sixth Schedule's aim to ensure administrative and financial autonomy for these regions, all real control now resides with Dispur.

"The Sixth Schedule was intended to empower various communities with self-governance. The people of these regions should have the authority to make decisions regarding their own development. The fundamen-



tal principle is decentralization of power. Authority should not be confined to Delhi or Dispur; it must extend to Diphu, BTR, and Dima Hasao," Gogoi stated.

He further stressed the Congress party's consistent respect for decentralization. "Today, local councils are disempowered.

The Chief Minister is making all decisions unilaterally. The future of the tribal people is now dictated by remote-controlled directives," Gogoi claimed, highlighting the Congress's history of empowering local leadership.

"Congress understands that a single ide-

ology cannot dominate our entire country, nor can it dominate Assam. We must decentralize power. Every group possesses its own aspirations. Everyone desires to strengthen themselves economically, socially, and politically. However, today, Himanta Biswa Sarma's government has attacked the very essence of the Sixth Schedule," he added. Gogoi, who is also the Deputy Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, recalled that during the tenure of late Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi, numerous development and autonomous councils were established for communities such as the Thengal Kachari and Rabha, based on the opinions of local leaders and the public.

"Tarun Gogoi prioritized decentralization, even at the cost of political expediency. He empowered local BTR leaders and made decisions in Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao after consulting with senior leaders and various organizations. Today, however, the situation is reversed. Power no longer rests with the councils but lies solely in the hands of Himanta Biswa Sarma," Gogoi alleged.

He further criticized current council

leaders, stating they have become weak and failed to safeguard their communities' rights. "We desire strong and capable council leaders. Even if they adhere to a different ideology, they must advocate for their people and region. Yet, all council leaders now appear to blindly follow Himanta Biswa Sarma's directives," he observed.

Gogoi also accused the Chief Minister of arbitrary distribution of land and public resources. "How can the Chief Minister distribute council land and public property according to his own wishes? Local leaders have been rendered powerless and lack the courage to protest," he asserted.

"This is not merely a political issue; it is about protecting the constitutional rights of our indigenous brothers and sisters. The current erosion of these rights signals a dangerous trend," Gogoi warned. He added that the state's tribal self-governance structure faces a serious threat. Indicating a more assertive stance, he announced that the Congress party would intensify its protests against such interference by the Himanta Biswa Sarma-led government.

Assam's "special pushback gesture": 18 illegal Bangladeshis deported

GUWAHATI

Assam deported 18 illegal Bangladeshi nationals on July 5 from Cachar and Sribhumi districts. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the pushbacks were done from the Cachar and Sribhumi districts.

As Assam intensifies its statewide crackdown on illegal immigrants, authorities on July 5 pushed back 18 Bangladeshi nationals who were found living without valid documents.

Terming the deportation as a "special gesture of PUSHBACK", Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the pushbacks were done from the Cachar and Sribhumi districts.

"Oh look who's going back to their home? In Assam, we welcome guests with open arms but those trying to illegally prolong their stay are treated with the special gesture of PUSHBACK," Sarma said in a post on X.

He also said, "18 illegal Bangladeshis pushed back today in wee hours from Cachar and Sribhumi." The Assam Police have launched a statewide crackdown on illegal immigrants, particularly Bangladeshis, residing without valid documents. Sarma had said earlier that nearly 330 illegal immigrants have been sent back from Assam in about last one month, with more expected to be pushed back soon.

Tripura court sentences man to 20 years in jail for molesting 6-year-old girl in 2022

AGARTALA

A court in Tripura's Unakoti district sentenced a man to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for molesting a girl three years ago, a public prosecutor said on Sunday.

Special court judge Amarendra Kumar Singh also slapped a fine of Rs 15,000 on the convict and said he would be in jail for an additional three months for failing to pay the amount.

"A six-year-old girl of Unakoti district's Madhya Nalakata, along with his grandfather, went to attend a religious programme at her relative's residence on April 9, 2022. A band member identified as Samar Suddakar (26) took the minor to a room and molested her.

"Her relatives went to the room after the girl screamed for help and rescued the minor. The accused was caught when he was

trying to flee the spot," Sanjib Debroy, an advocate of the prosecution side, told the reporters.

He said Pecharthal Police Station's investigating officer Dipesh Chandra Nath submitted a charge sheet against the accused after a thorough probe.

"After hearing the case, Special Judge, Unakoti district, Amarendra Kumar Singh on Saturday pronounced the verdict and sentenced the convict to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment. He imposed a fine of Rs 15,000, and if the convict fails to pay the amount, he will have to spend three more months in jail," Debroy said.

The prosecutor said that altogether 14 people turned up for deposition in the course of the trial, and the allegations against the accused were proved beyond any doubt.

GUWAHATI

Train services along the Mupa and Diyakhu hill sections of Dima Hasao district were brought to a standstill on July 6, following fresh incidents of landslides.

The disruption has severely affected movement along the hill line, with the 15615 Guwahati-Silchar Express currently stranded at Lumding Railway Station.

The landslides, triggered by persistent rainfall, have rendered the route impassable, halting rail traffic for several hours. According to sources, railway authorities have already launched restoration operations to clear debris and repair the damaged track. Despite these efforts, there is no official confirmation on when normal services will resume.

A significant number of passengers have been left stranded at Lumding, leading to heavy crowding at the station. The situation remains tense as uncertainty looms over the resumption of services.

Senior officials from the Lumding Railway Division have reportedly reached the



affected site by train to assess the extent of the damage and monitor restoration work on the ground.

Railway officials have appealed for pa-

tiency, stating that safety remains the top priority. However, as of now, no definitive timeline has been provided for the reopening of the hill section.

Landslides disrupt train services in Dima Hasao, Guwahati-Silchar Express stranded

Tripura CM leads public outreach in Agartala, highlights 11 years of BJP rule

AGARTALA

Marking 11 years of BJP-led governance at the Centre, Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha launched a public outreach campaign in Agartala on Saturday, engaging directly with citizens to highlight what he called "transformative achievements" under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Saha, joined by party workers early in the morning, distributed leaflets detailing the government's initiatives and held brief interactions with residents. The outreach, part of a nationwide campaign by the BJP, aimed to inform the public about key reforms and welfare measures implemented over the past decade.

Speaking to reporters during



the event, Saha said, "It is a day of pride for every Indian. Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has progressed on the path of peace, unity, and development. We bow in respect to Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who laid down his life for the unity of our nation."

One of the central themes of the campaign was the focus on the poor and marginalised through the BJP's Garib Kalyan initiatives. Saha said these efforts reflect the government's commitment to inclusive growth, adding that significant changes have been made in infrastructure, particularly in

transportation. The CM also cited major policy moves such as the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A, calling it a decisive step in achieving full constitutional integration of Jammu and Kashmir. The day coincided with the 125th birth anniversary of Syama Prasad Mookerjee, founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh. CM Saha paid tribute to Mookerjee, calling his role in India's national integration "historic and inspirational."

"We bow in respect to Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who laid down his life for the unity of our nation," he said.

The outreach in Agartala drew participation from party workers and local residents, with the atmosphere reflecting both political engagement and patriotic sentiment.

Shillong rolls out waste management overhaul ahead of 2027 National Games

SHILLONG

Shillong's waste management infrastructure under Mission Clean Shillong 2027 would now include seventy-four garbage collection vehicles, a 170-tonne-per-day composting plant, four waste recovery centres, and a 15,000 sq. metre sanitary landfill.

These developments were announced during a meeting attended by government officials, authorities from the civic bodies and community leaders. The meeting was held in preparation of the National Games to be held in the state in 2027.

Additionally, the state is also investing in clean mobility and green infrastructure. Under these initiatives, thirty new buses have been added to the STEMS school bus programme.

"Rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling, and zero-discharge systems are being promoted. Over 1.8 crore saplings have been planted across 27,000 hectares in the past five years," officials said.

Executive Engineer of the Shillong Municipal Board, FB Chyne, said that to achieve the goal of a clean Shillong

the effort would be community-driven waste management and stressed that infrastructure alone won't be enough and public participation is crucial.

Mission Director of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) 2.0, K Kharumnuid, said the "My City, My Pride" campaign is on track and citizens have been urged to send their suggestions to the Urban Affairs Department by August.

The Mission Director informed that the priority is to complete the scientific processing of solid waste, clearing legacy waste at the Marten landfill.

The other objectives include preventing solid waste discharge into rivers, restoring public spaces and building a grievance redressal system and these objectives are part of the government's broader Mission 10 (2022-2032) agenda for sustainable growth across Meghalaya.

On the other hand, community leaders raised concerns during the consultation about stray animals, septic tank oversight, tangled overhead cables, and the performance of waste contractors.

Meghalaya border guards learn elephant safety protocols at Indo-Bangladesh crossing

SHILLONG

Border Security Force personnel stationed at Meghalaya's Indo-Bangladesh frontier received specialised training on wildlife encounters, marking a significant step toward addressing conservation challenges along the international boundary in the northeastern state.

Thirty-three officers from the 193rd BSF Battalion at Ranikor's Gumaghat Border Outpost attended the program organised by Meghalaya's Forest Department, focusing on safe interactions with wild elephant herds that frequently cross the international boundary in the South-West Khasi Hills district.

The initiative addresses a pressing operational challenge: BSF personnel regularly encounter elephants while patrolling the border, creating potentially



dangerous situations for both humans and wildlife. These crossings have become increasingly common as elephant corridors intersect with security installations along the frontier. Dr Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar and Abhijit Baruah from conservation

organisation Aaranyak's Elephant Research and Conservation Division delivered detailed presentations on Asian elephant behaviour and conflict avoidance techniques. The sessions equipped border guards with practical knowledge about

elephant psychology and warning signs that precede aggressive behaviour. Wildlife trafficking emerged as another critical focus area.

Dr Jimmy Borah, a senior official from Aaranyak's Legal and Advocacy Division, outlined current smuggling trends and enforcement challenges specific to border regions. His presentation detailed how illegal wildlife trade operates across international boundaries and provided actionable strategies for BSF personnel to identify and report suspicious activities.

The training represents a collaborative approach between security forces and conservation agencies. Sankuphar Kharsyntiew, Forest Range Officer of Nongstoin Wildlife Range, announced plans for joint patrol operations and coordinated response strategies to manage human-elephant conflicts more effectively.

Inspector Shrawan Kumar of the 193rd BSF battalion oversaw the session, while Joseph Sawkmie, Beat Officer at Mawkyrwat Wildlife Beat, coordinated logistics for the program.

Quest!

1.3 million Earths could fit into the sun.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP

STOP DREAMING AND START DOING.

APPLY NOW

5eforsuccess@gmail.com

Live Project

Incentives

Certificate

Free Training

Sandeshkhali violence: CBI takes over probe, FIR filed against Ex-TMC leader Shahjahan Sheikh



KOLKATA

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has officially taken over the probe into the 2019 killings of three BJP workers, Pradeep Mondal, Devdas Mondal, and Sukanta Mondal during post-poll violence in Sandeshkhali, West Bengal. The agency has filed a First Information Report (FIR) naming former Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Shahjahan Sheikh as the prime accused.

The move follows a directive issued by the Calcutta High Court on June 30. Justice Joy

Sengupta ordered the formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) within the CBI to handle the case with the "utmost seriousness." The court also instructed that the investigation be supervised by a CBI joint director. The three BJP workers were found dead after an alleged mob attack on their village in Sandeshkhali, reportedly led by Sheikh. The case was initially investigated by the West Bengal Police's Criminal Investigation Department (CID), but the families of the victims later moved

the Calcutta High Court, expressing dissatisfaction with the state probe and requesting a CBI investigation. In his ruling, Justice Sengupta slammed the state police, saying they had repeatedly failed to act against Sheikh, both in this case and in previous incidents.

"The police failed to take action against the prime accused at different stages, leading to gross miscarriage of justice," the court noted. The judge further stated that the issue extended beyond local police to the CID, observing a pattern of inaction whenever allegations were made against Sheikh. Shahjahan Sheikh, a controversial figure in West Bengal politics, is already in judicial custody following his arrest on January 5, 2024. He was apprehended in connection with an alleged attack on Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials during a raid at his residence linked to a multi-crore ration distribution scam. During the raid, ED personnel were reportedly assaulted and their vehicles vandalised.

In addition to the murder case and the ED attack, Sheikh faces multiple allegations from women in Sandeshkhali, who have accused him and his associates of land grabbing and sexual exploitation. The CBI is already investigating three other cases related to the assault on the ED officials.

TMC MP Mahua Moitra moves Supreme Court against EC's revision of electoral rolls in Bihar



NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress leader and Member of Parliament Mahua Moitra has moved the Supreme Court challenging an order of the Election Commission of India for special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

In her plea, Moitra said she seeks setting aside of the order dated June 24 under which Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is being conducted in alleged violation of various provisions of the Constitution.

"The present writ petition has been filed in public interest under Article 32 of the Constitution seeking setting aside of order dated

24.06.2025 issued by Election Commission of India under which SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar is being conducted in violation of Articles 14, 19(1)(a), 21, 325, 328 of the Constitution and provisions of Representation of People (RP) Act, 1950 and Registration of Electors (RER) Rules, 1960 which, if not set aside, can lead to large-scale disenfranchisement of eligible voters in the country thereby undermining democracy and free and fair elections," it submitted.

Moitra further sought a direction from the apex court to restrain the Election Commission of India from issuing similar orders for SIR of electoral rolls in other states of the country.

"It is submitted that it is for the very first time in the country that such an exercise is being conducted by ECI, where electors whose names are already there in electoral rolls and who have already voted multiple times in are being asked to prove their eligibility," the plea filed through advocate Neha Rathi said.

Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Mahua Moitra.

The plea said "the impugned SIR order requires the inclusion or retention of a voter's name in the electoral roll upon production of citizenship documents, including proof of citizenship of either or both parents, failing which the voter is at risk of exclusion.

This requirement is ultra vires Article 326 and introduces extraneous qualifications not contemplated by the Constitution of the RP Act 1950.

A similar plea has also been filed by NGO Association of Democratic Reforms challenging the poll panel's direction for SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The EC on June 24 issued instructions to carry out an SIR in Bihar, apparently to weed out ineligible names and ensure only eligible citizens are included in the electoral roll.

The NGO has also sought setting aside of the order and communication, arguing that it violates Articles 14, 19, 21, 325, and 326 of the Constitution, as well as provisions of the Representation of People's Act, 1950, and Rule 21A of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.

The NGO's plea filed through advocate Prashant Bhushan said the EC order "can arbitrarily and without due process" disenfranchise lakhs of voters and disrupt free and fair elections.

"That the documentation requirements of the directive, lack of due process as well as the unreasonably short timeline for the said Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Roll in Bihar further make this exercise bound to result in removal of names of lakhs of genuine voters from electoral rolls leading to their disenfranchisement," the plea said.

According to the EC, the exercise was necessitated by rapid urbanisation, frequent migration, young citizens becoming eligible to vote, non-reporting of deaths, and inclusion of the names of foreign illegal immigrants.

It said with the exercise, it wants to ensure the integrity and preparation of error-free electoral rolls. The SIR is being conducted by booth officers, who are conducting a house-to-house survey for verification.

The EC said it will scrupulously adhere to the constitutional and legal provisions as laid down in Article 326 of the Constitution and Section 16 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, in carrying out the revision.

Several other civil society organisations like PUCL and activists like Yogendra Yadav have approached the top court against the ECI's direction.

INTERNATIONAL

'To give you back your freedom': Elon Musk officially launches America Party



WASHINGTON

Elon Musk, an ex-ally of US President Donald Trump, said Saturday he had launched a new political party in the United States to challenge what the tech billionaire described as the country's "one-party system."

The world's richest person, and Trump's biggest political donor in the 2024 election had a bitter falling out with the president after leading the Republican's effort to slash spending and cut federal jobs as head of the so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

Musk has clashed with Trump over the president's massive domestic spending plan, saying it would explode the US debt, and vowed to do everything in his power to defeat lawmakers who voted for it.

Now he has created the so-called America Party, his own political framework, through which to try and achieve that.

"When it comes to bankrupting our country with waste & graft, we live in a one-party system, not a democracy," the Space X and Tesla boss posted on X, the social media platform that he owns.

"Today, the America Party is formed to give you back your freedom."

Musk cited a poll -- uploaded on Friday, US Independence Day -- in which he asked whether respondents "want independence from the two-party (some would say uniparty) system" that has dominated US politics for some two centuries.

The yes-or-no survey earned more than 1.2 million responses.

"By a factor of 2 to 1, you want a new political party and you shall have it!" he posted on Saturday.

Musk also shared a meme depicting a two-headed snake and the caption "End the Uniparty."

Elon Musk reacts as President-elect Donald Trump speaks at a rally ahead of the 60th Presidential Inauguration, Jan. 19, 2025, in Washington

It is not clear how much impact the new party would have on the 2026 mid-term elections, or on the presidential vote two years after that.

The Trump-Musk feud reignited in dramatic fashion late last month as Trump pushed Republicans in Congress to ram through his massive domestic agenda in the form of the One Big Beautiful Bill.

Musk expressed fierce opposition

to the legislation, and ruthlessly attacked its Republican backers for supporting "debt slavery."

He vowed to launch a new political party to challenge lawmakers who campaigned on reduced federal spending only to vote for the bill, which experts say will pile an extra \$3.4 trillion over a decade onto the US deficit.

"They will lose their primary next year if it is the last thing I do on this Earth," Musk said earlier this week.

After Musk heavily criticized the flagship spending bill -- which eventually passed Congress and was signed into law -- Trump threatened to deport the tech tycoon and strip federal funds from his businesses.

"We'll have to take a look," the president told reporters when asked if he would consider deporting Musk, who was born in South Africa and has held US citizenship since 2002.

On Friday after posting the poll, Musk laid out a possible political battle plan to pick off vulnerable House and Senate seats and become "the deciding vote" on key legislation.

"One way to execute on this would be to laser-focus on just 2 or 3 Senate seats and 8 to 10 House districts," Musk posted on X. All 435 US House seats are up for grabs every two years, while about one third of the Senate's 100 members, who serve six-year terms, are elected every two years.

Some observers were quick to point out how third-party campaigns have historically split the vote -- as businessman Ross Perot's independent presidential run in 1992 did when it helped doom George H.W. Bush's re-election bid resulting in Democrat Bill Clinton's victory.

"You are pulling a Ross Perot, and I don't like it," one X user wrote to Musk.

Japan PM says won't 'easily compromise' to Trump on tariffs



TOKYO

Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba said Sunday he won't "easily compromise" in talks with Washington as Tokyo seeks to avert President Donald Trump's threat to impose tariffs of up to 35 percent on Japanese goods.

"We will not easily compromise. That's why it is taking time and why it is tough," Ishiba told a television talk show.

His comments came as Japan rushes to negotiate with the Trump administration before the Wednesday deadline for trade deals.

While Trump imposed a sweeping 10 percent tariff on imports from most trading partners in April, he unveiled -- then

paused -- higher rates on dozens of economies including Japan to allow room for negotiations.

This pause will expire July 9, meaning the elevated rates are due to kick in if countries fail to reach agreements with Washington to avert them.

Trump has said he was going to write a letter to Japan, asking it to "pay a 30 percent, 35 percent or whatever the number is that we determine," and called the bilateral trade relation "unfair."

He has particularly pressed Japan to accept more US automobiles and rice.

Ryosei Akazawa, Tokyo's trade envoy, held telephone calls with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick on

Thursday and Saturday. In the Sunday television show, Ishiba reiterated that Japan, as the biggest investor nation in the US economy, should be treated differently from other countries.

"What is unfair? How is it unfair? We need to examine each one" of the US claims, he said.

"We are allies, but we have to say what we have to say. We are the world's largest investor nation and the largest job creator (in the US). We are different," he said.

On another Sunday television show, Ishiba said Japan was "preparing to deal with all kinds of situations", when asked about how he plans to deal with Trump's letter.

The Dhaka Dilemma: INDIA'S NEXT MOVE



For years, a section of Bangladeshi political and intellectual circles painted India as a “bad neighbour”—accusing it of economic bullying and unequal deals. This view has long shaped mainstream opinion in Dhaka. However, a closer look at trade, connectivity, and power-sharing arrangements suggests a more complex reality—one in which Bangladesh has often been the beneficiary of asymmetrical advantages extended by India.

Recent Indian actions in trade policy offer a glimpse into this imbalance. Bangladesh imposed port restrictions on Indian yarn, prompting India to respond with port restrictions on key Bangladeshi exports like garments and jute. While the tit-for-tat may seem abrupt, the broader context reveals that for years, India had tolerated skewed arrangements, even at the cost of its domestic industries.

India's textile and jute sectors are large and labour-intensive. Yet, in the spirit of regional economic integration, New Delhi allowed growing imports from Bangladesh, helping Dhaka's exports to India rise to nearly \$2 billion during the Sheikh Hasina era. These concessions came with little reciprocal market access for Indian goods, thanks to Bangladesh's higher tariff wall. The asymmetry was evident but ignored—until now.

India's latest non-tariff measures seek to protect domestic economic interests and preserve jobs.

Brain VISION
Shaping Careers For a Successful Tomorrow

You don't control your desires—but you do control whether you obey them.

Seen in context, this is less a reversal of goodwill and more a course correction.

Power cooperation offers another example of how India extended preferential treatment. Bangladesh imports around 2,700 MW of electricity from India through a combination of bilateral and market-based channels. Of this, 250 MW is supplied at a regulated domestic tariff, 1,000 MW through the open market, and 1,600 MW via Adani Power's Jharkhand-based plant, which was built specifically for exports to Bangladesh.

The tariff from Adani Power is higher due to legacy factors: Indian domestic laws at the time prohibited the use of local coal for export-oriented projects, necessitating costly imported fuel; in addition, the company invested in dedicated transmission lines. This deal became a lightning rod for anti-India and anti-Hasina sentiment in Bangladesh, with critics alleging unfair pricing. Yet, when the Interim Government under Dr Muhammad Yunus promised a review, it eventually dropped the idea—quietly acknowledging that Adani's tariff was still cheaper than Bangladesh's domestic cost of generation.

India has since removed the restriction on using domestic coal for power exports, which will reduce generation costs for future units. Overall, Bangladesh continues to import electricity from India at rates below its domestic production costs—an advantage few countries in the world enjoy from a neighbour. Even the 40 MW of hydropower imported from Nepal benefits from India's cooperation. The electricity is transmitted via Indian territory, and the modest transmission fee paid by Bangladesh does not reflect the full scale of India's massive grid infrastructure. This gesture, rooted in regional collaboration, has not been reciprocated in the post-Hasina period.

What has changed is not India's basic approach, but the tenor of political messaging from Dhaka. Since the change of regime, Indian officials have noted a surge in hostile rhetoric—from blaming India for floods to student groups and opposition leaders amplifying “Boycott India” campaigns. Moreover, Dhaka has awarded infrastructure contracts to Chinese firms in areas considered sensitive to Indian security interests. While India has historically shown flexibility in dealing with Dhaka across political regimes, it draws a firm line when it

comes to national security—particularly in the northeastern region. This political climate could directly affect the future of bilateral water-sharing, especially the Ganga Water Treaty, which comes up for renewal in 2026. For decades, Bangladeshi opinion-makers have treated water-sharing as an entitlement, routinely expressing outrage over the delay in signing the Teesta accord. But the legal and diplomatic reality is different: there is no international mechanism that obligates India to enter a new agreement or release a specific volume of water. In fact, India is the only country in Asia that has signed water-sharing treaties with its neighbours—namely, the Indus Pact with Pakistan and the Ganga treaty with Bangladesh. The Ganga treaty, signed in 1996 during Sheikh Hasina's tenure, is particularly generous. Despite being the larger riparian and economy, India committed to sharing 50% of dry-season Ganga water and delivering a fixed volume—34,060 cusecs on average—even in the face of disruptions caused by climate change or upstream interventions in Nepal or China. As Indian strategic analyst Brahma Chellaney has noted, India essentially guaranteed Bangladesh's access to water regardless of natural or geopolitical circumstances—an extraordinary diplomatic gesture in a region marked by hydro-political tensions. Whether this generosity continues depends on how Dhaka engages with Delhi in the years ahead. A recent policy brief by a former Indian Deputy National Security Adviser argues that future agreements must also consider sharing shortages—not just surpluses—especially given climate unpredictability and upstream dependencies. At the core of the debate is a simple question: Is India truly the bad neighbour, or is Bangladesh selectively blind to the asymmetric benefits it receives? More critically, what explains how Dhaka secured those benefits in the first place? History suggests that governments in Dhaka that were responsive to India's core concerns—especially in countering terrorism and securing the Northeast—were rewarded with deep cooperation. Sheikh Hasina's decisive crack-down on anti-India insurgents earned her trust in Delhi and a flood of economic and strategic support. Today's leadership in Dhaka must decide whether it wants to build on that legacy—or dismantle it.

comes to national security—particularly in the northeastern region.

This political climate could directly affect the future of bilateral water-sharing, especially the Ganga Water Treaty, which comes up for renewal in 2026. For decades, Bangladeshi opinion-makers have treated water-sharing as an entitlement, routinely expressing outrage over the delay in signing the Teesta accord. But the legal and diplomatic reality is different: there is no international mechanism that obligates India to enter a new agreement or release a specific volume of water.

In fact, India is the only country in Asia that has signed water-sharing treaties with its neighbours—namely, the Indus Pact with Pakistan and the Ganga treaty with Bangladesh. The Ganga treaty, signed in 1996 during Sheikh Hasina's tenure, is particularly generous. Despite being the larger riparian and economy, India committed to sharing 50% of dry-season Ganga water and delivering a fixed volume—34,060 cusecs on average—even in the face of disruptions caused by climate change or upstream interventions in Nepal or China.

As Indian strategic analyst Brahma Chellaney has noted, India essentially guaranteed Bangladesh's access to water regardless of natural or geopolitical circumstances—an extraordinary diplomatic gesture in a region marked by hydro-political tensions. Whether this generosity continues depends on how Dhaka engages with Delhi in the years ahead. A recent policy brief by a former Indian Deputy National Security Adviser argues that future agreements must also consider sharing shortages—not just surpluses—especially given climate unpredictability and upstream dependencies.

At the core of the debate is a simple question: Is India truly the bad neighbour, or is Bangladesh selectively blind to the asymmetric benefits it receives? More critically, what explains how Dhaka secured those benefits in the first place? History suggests that governments in Dhaka that were responsive to India's core concerns—especially in countering terrorism and securing the Northeast—were rewarded with deep cooperation. Sheikh Hasina's decisive crack-down on anti-India insurgents earned her trust in Delhi and a flood of economic and strategic support. Today's leadership in Dhaka must decide whether it wants to build on that legacy—or dismantle it.

Today's leadership in Dhaka must decide whether it wants to build on that legacy—or dismantle it.

Today's leadership in Dhaka must decide whether it wants to build on that legacy—or dismantle it.

Today's leadership in Dhaka must decide whether it wants to build on that legacy—or dismantle it.

SPACE FOR YOU ONLY

Rs. 150/- per day

JOB OPENING

An infrastructure development company based in New Delhi, having its RO at Guwahati is looking for Business Development Executive for their Agartala, Silchar & Imphal operations. Graduate (Male/Female) with good communication, presentation and sales skills may send their resume to: [KRC Placements at: 5eforsuccess@gmail.com](mailto:KRCPlacements@5eforsuccess@gmail.com)

PLACEMENT SERVICES

Fresher, job seekers can register with KRC Placements. Send resume to - 5eforsuccess@gmail.com To source candidates, organisation can contact KRC Placements at info@krcfoundation.org For Details Visit: <https://bit.ly/krccplacements> Apply here: <https://bit.ly/KRCPlacementForm>

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Business establishments, educational institutions, individual service providers etc. can enlist themselves or advertise their products or services at the most reasonable cost in InfoCom Diary. Send your details to [InfoCom Solutions at: infocom.krc@gmail.com](mailto:InfoComSolutions@krcc@gmail.com) Submit Here: <https://bit.ly/InfoComDiaryForm>

STUDENTS' INTERNSHIP

Students can apply for a three-months internship with KRC Foundation. During the internship the student can get an opportunity to work on a live project. On successful completion the student is awarded a certificate. Apply to 5E for Success: 5eforsuccess@gmail.com For Details Visit: <https://bit.ly/krccstudentinternship> or www.krcfoundation.org/products-services/training-development-5e-for-success/internship

NE INDIA WRITING STAR CONTEST

Participate in NE India Writing Star Contest and get your writings published. Eligibility: From Class VI onwards. Each participant receives a digital participation certificate. Send articles at: info@krccfoundation.org For Details Visit: <https://bit.ly/NEIndiaWritingStarContest> www.krcfoundation.org/campaigns-csr/ne-india-writing-star-contest

CONNECT@ KRC TIMES

KRC TIMES

To engage with KRC TIMES, please use the following e-mails and WhatsApp Nos: For News: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313 For Advertisement: info@krccfoundation.org / WP: 9330830083 For Subscription: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313 Editor: biswadeep.gupta@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313

At Brain Vision Classes, We Provide What You Don't get in your Study Books...

[Know More](#)

Career building tools developed by: www.krcfoundation.org <https://bit.ly/KRCBrainVision>

info@krccfoundation.org [+91-8721838313](tel:+918721838313)



BARAK FESTIVAL

JANUARY 10-12, 2025

ACTIVITY PROGRAM



10 JAN
NE Cultural Fest
Any Form of Art and Cultural showcase can be showcased here. The Top performances will be invited to perform in the Main Event. Schools, Colleges, University Department, Individual & Group Competition.



11 JAN
Adventure Sports
Trekking & Canoe, Obstacle Navigation, Sport Climbing, Disaster Management Technique, Water Sports.



11 JAN
Barak Valley Conclave
Potential Issues and Challenges of Barak Valley by different sector stakeholders. Includes NGOs and Governmental institution for their participation. Awards & Certificate to be presented to participants. Participation through invitation only. Different awards are provided.



JAN'25
Online Global Fest
All can participate online and send a video clip on Poems, Songs and Dance Performances, Bengali, English, Hindi & Manipuri. Last Date: 31st December 2024.



BROADCAST PARTNER

Barak Festival

Adventure Sports, Art & Culture Promotion

12 JAN
River-Climate Conclave
State of the river will be discussed on Climate Change, pollution and river flooding. The Conclave will focus on the importance, treatment and protection of River Barak. Training & Geography competition and exhibition on River Barak, Climate Change.

11 JAN
Media Conclave
All Media related to Barak Valley.



REGISTER HERE

11 JAN
5E For Success Conclave
The 4th 5E For Success Conclave is going to be held on the theme: "From School to Campus to Corporate". Schools, Educational Institutions and corporate houses can join the Conclave as sponsors.

10 JAN
Media Conclave
Media Conclave from Barak Valley, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha, Haryana, Hubei and Guangdong are part of the "Barak Festival 2025". Theme: "One for All, All for One".

CONTACT: **WP: 0721300019**
info@krcfoundation.org

10-12 JAN
Science Studio
Real a glimpse of Science to its new heights. Class VI-XI | Teachers | Seniors, Administrators | Parents. Raw science out of textbooks into real-life experiences of students.

DEC'24-JAN'25
Photography
Online Photography Contest: River Barak | NE India | Art & Culture of NE | NE Culture. Real-Time Photography Contest of "Barak Festival 2025".



10-12 JAN
E-Sports
Full Blown! Don't miss! CASH PRIZES | Trophy

11 JAN
film festival
Award-Giving (this month) Film from Manipur. Short Films from Barak Valley, NE India, Wb. Media Talk | Exhibitions | Meet & Greet.

CONTACT: **WP: 0721300019**
info@krcfoundation.org

10-12 JAN
Book Bank
Anti-illiteracy Campaign Book Bank at Silchar, Assam | online

10-12 JAN
Book Club
Meet Authors, Publishers, Read & Discuss, Buy and Sell Books



10-12 JAN
Painting Carnival
Water Colour painting and Draw-Paint Campaign

STUDENT INTERNSHIP
Discover valuable experience and learn more about the Industry.

- Outreach Executive
- Event Management
- Programme Coordinator

APPLY NOW | **WP: 0721300019** | www.krcfoundation.org