A. The process of admission for students into the Higher Secondary (HS) First Year Course for the session 2023-24 in different institutions across Assam will be conducted under the 'DARPAN' portal. The portal will be made accessible from May 29 to June 17, 2023.

The registration process for the session 2023-24 will be started in the first week of August 2023 and only those students will be allowed to complete the registration process that have completed the admission process through the "DARPAN" portal.

The AHSEC states that the students will be able to submit their applications online for admission into different institutions by visiting http://www.darpan.ahseconline.in or http://www.ahsec.assam.gov.in.

The important dates for the admission process are:

1. Submission of Online Applications by Applicants – May 29 to June 9

2. Preparation of Selection List/waiting list by the institutions – June 10 to June 12

3. Publication of provisional selection list/waiting list (valid up to June 15, 2023 – June 12 (midnight)

4. Acceptance of admission by students – June 13 to 15

5. Confirmation of admission by institutions in 'DARPAN' (online) – June 16 to 17

The AHSEC has also released important guidelines/SOP for students and institutions for the smooth conduct of the admission process.

The guidelines issued to the students are as follows:

1. An Applicant has to submit an application online through the “DARPAN” Portal

2. A student can apply up to a maximum of five (5) no. of applications.

3. The profile of a student can be edited only once before verification of the applications by the institution

4. The published Selection List and Waiting List for admission into HS first year will be made available in the DARPAN portal for the students The students will be notified of their selection through SMS

5. After the publication of the Selection List, students are advised to accept only one admission offered by the institution for admission using their login id in the portal at the earliest After approval, there will be no option for a student to change institutions The student must take admission in the institution concerned within the stipulated time period to complete the admission process.

6. Students will be allowed to change their preferred Subject(s)/Stream at the time of admission and the institution concerned will have to update the same in the portal on the day of admission

The guidelines issued to the institutions are:

1. The Institutions to ensure that online verification shall be conducted for admissions into HS First 1 Year course On receiving the applications, the institution concerned wilt be able to

verify the submitted application

2. After verification of applications, the Selection List and Waiting List for admission into HS first year will be prepared by the institutions concerned

3. Selection List and Waiting List for admission will be made available the portal (www.dapan.ahsec.in) for the students Moreover, students will also receive notification of their selection through SMS

4. The Institution concerned will have to update the Selection List from the Waiting List on a regular basis on the arrival of vacancies in the Selection List to alter acceptance of admission by the students.

5. Once a selected student accepts the admission offered by the institutions, the institutions will have to click the “Confirm admission” button to complete the admission process in the portal using Institution Login ID on a daily basis during the admission process latest by 17 June 2023. The institution will be able to confirm the admission of only those students who have accepted the Admission Offer. At the time of admission, all the Institutions concerned are requested to physically verify all the relevant documents submitted by the students.

6. The institutions will be able to change the preferred subject (s)/Stream of a student at the time of admission only with due consent from the student and the institution concerned will have to update the same in the portal on the day of admission. Moreover, changes/modifications in the stream and Subjects of students will be available in the DARPAN portal even after the admission process is over. However, on the final submission of registration, a student shall not be allowed to change the subject(s) or stream.

7. The institution concerned will be allowed to remove the students from the Selection List who have not accepted the admission offer in the stipulated time, if desires so. Accordingly, the institution will be able to add new students from the Waiting List after removal of application(s) from the Selection List

8. Institutions should refrain from getting students admitted without his/her consent

9. Institutions registered under the DARPAN portal shall not allow to get enrolled students of other Institution(s) through them.

10. In case of wrong upload of document(s) by the students, the institution concerned will be able to upload the correct required document (s) as provided by the students.

B.

A new Medical Oxygen Skill Laboratory was inaugurated in Assam Medical College & Hospital in Dibrugarh on Friday. The Medical Oxygen Skill Lab has been designed to provide hands-on training and skills development in the use of medical oxygen, a critical element in the treatment of patients with respiratory illnesses. The lab is said to be equipped with state- of-the-art facilities and equipment and a team of experienced trainers will be on hand to provide expert guidance and support.

The laboratory established with the support of United States Agency International Development (US AID), Reaching Impact, Saturation, and Epidemic Control (RISE) & Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH) is said to be the second Oxygen skill laboratory in India that is established after Amritsar.

The main objective of this skill lab is to provide technical support to the hospital. During the Covid-19, the necessity of oxygen has been seen, we have the oxygen plant in AMCH but the technical support is not there but now the Medical Oxygen Skill Lab will provide adequate technical support and training to the people

C.

Two Assamese film critics have been chosen as members of the Indian Chapter of the Fédération Internationale de la PRESse CInématographique. Aparajita Pujari and Pranjal Bora are the latest Assamese members on the team from India. Aparajita Pujari is a film critic based out of Guwahati. Apart from being a known poet and translator, she is a regular contributor to E-Cineindia, which is the official journal for the FIPRESCI's India Chapter. Her writeup entitled "Symptoms of Feminist Mystification in Indian Cinema" found its place in the Critics of Indian Cinema published by FIPRESCI Pranjal Borah is a faculty with the English Department of the Dikhowmukh College located in the Sivasagar district of Assam. He was the recipient of the best film critic award given by the Directorate of Cultural Affairs under the Government of Assam in the year 2018. He was also awarded the Prag Cine Award for the best film critic position in the year 2017. And he is currently the joint secretary of the Assam Film Society. The Fédération Internationale de la PRESse CInématographique commonly known as the International Federation of Film Critics is the apex body for movie critics in the world. It dates back to the year 1930 when the organisation was created in Brussels of Belgium. The organisation is headquartered in Munich of Germany. It has a group of national organizations of professional film critics and film journalists from as many as 50 countries. The Indian Chapter of FIPRESCI was founded in 1992 by renowned critic and historian Chidananda Dasgupta. He was also a pioneer in the firm sector of the country. Five people from Assam have been a part of this organisation in the past. Their names are Utpal Dutta, Utpal Barpujari, Bitopan Borborah, Manoj Barpujari and Parthajit Baruah. Out of them Utpal

Dutta and Utpal Barpujari are no longer members of the Indian Chapter of the organisation.

D.

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has announced the empanelment of Prof JP Verma, Vice Chancellor of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University, as a consultant. This prestigious appointment comes after Prof. Verma's active participation and valuable contributions during a personal interaction with the committee in virtual mode on April 24 and April 25. AIU expressed its appreciation for Prof Verma's keen interest in providing consultancy services to member universities in various academic areas. Prof. Verma's name was recommended for empanelment in the AIU panel of consultants.

Based on his expertise, the member universities of AIU have already submitted requisitions for consultancy services, which are currently being examined. Other universities are also urged to submit their proposals for consultancy requirements. Once the proposals are received, AIU will match them with Prof. Verma's areas of expertise and convene a face-to-face meeting to sign a tripartite agreement between AIU, the Consultancy Seeking Institutions, and the Consultant. The empanelment of Prof. J. P. Verma is expected to enhance AIU's consultancy services and strengthen its support to universities and higher education institutions across the country. Prof. Verma's extensive knowledge and experience in the field of sports education and administration are anticipated to be invaluable assets in assisting universities in achieving their academic goals.

E.

Actor Rajib Borthakur has brought a message of hope for the people of Jamugurihat. The actor has been nominated for the Prag Cine Awards North East, 2023 held recently. He is the

first person in the wider region to be nominated for a Prag Cine Award for his villainous role in his latest film ‘Rhino Express’. The film was released last year and is full of comedy. The actor made his big screen debut with the film “Shankardev” and later starred in films like “Pani”, “Bakul”, “Rough and Tough” and “Dham Dhama Dham”. Rajib is a familiar actor of Assamese TV serials. The actor, who has been involved in acting since his student days, made his debut in plays while studying at Jamuguri Higher Secondary School and THB College. Later, he was able to perform in several full-length plays under the direction of stage pioneers Bhaben Borah and Rafiqul Hussain. Rajib Barthakur is the cultural secretary of the Srimanta Sankardev Festival and a member of the Assamese Film Censor Board.

F.

A group of environmental activists had conducted a signature campaign on Friday at Bongaigaon to save golden langur.

environmental activists Sankar Rabha, Dharam Ranjan Ray and Mahidhar Ray said that recently the government has planned to install high voltage electric line from Kokrajhar to Nangal Bibra area of Meghalaya. Already a company has prepared the diagram for it. According to the diagram, this high voltage line will move through Bhairab Hill Reserved Forest of Bongaigaon. This is the living area of rare species golden langur. This will bring a high threat to the life of golden langur. Hence we oppose this and appeal the government to connect the line without touching Bhairab Hill Reserved Forest. The activists had submitted the signed memorandum to Chief Minister of Assam through Bongaigaon DC.

G.

The muga cultivators under Dhakuakhana subdivision of Lakhimpur district have once again

faced with severe problems due to unexpected death of thousands of matured muga silk worms, locally known as Jethua Muga and Bor Muga.

the muga silk worms of the current season have met with untimely death at the time of being matured in the muga chomanis (Chom tree plantation area for muga rearing) located at different places under the subdivision. But the reason of the death of the muga silk worms can still not be ascertained. The phenomenon has caused grief to hundreds muga cultivators under Dhakuakhana, which is called as the ‘Land of Golden Thread’.

These cultivators collected per thousand muga seeds from different distant places under Northeast Region at the cost of rupees six thousand to seven thousand. Despite such circumstances, most of them could not produce at least one thousand muga cocoons till date and they have suffered massive loss. However, no officials from the Sericulture Department under the Government of Assam has met the muga cultivators and visited the muga chomanis which are under threat till date.

Notably, the North Eastern Region of the nation is enriched with sericulture bio-diversity and the place is believed to be the origin of Antheraea species in the world. Muga silk is produced by a worm of Antheraea Assama species which is available only in North Eastern India. The intensive cultivation of this worm is found in the Brahmaputra valley of the State. Lakhimpur district in general and Dhakuakhona sub division in special is the traditional muga growing area in the world. As per report there are 10,000 traditional muga cultivators in the sub division who are actively involved in this culture covering an area of about 1600 hectares land with Muga food plants. In most cases these cultivators are not integrated regarding muga production but they have conserved the culture and respective bio-resources through interlinking it with their crop cycle since the time immemorial.

The National Muga Day was first observed by the Wild Silk Society-North East, an NGO from Dhakuwakhona headed by Jitul Saikia in 2009. It adopted a resolution asking the State Government to declare muga silk as national wealth and its host trees like Som as national plant. Their resolution also asked the state to plant Som trees on river banks, government grasslands and compounds of public institutions for the promotion of muga silk rearing. It also asked the Assam Government to declare activities like brick industries, pesticides that affect the host trees of the muga silkworm as illegal. However, after a ten years of apathy and lack of response from the state, the Muga farmers gathered on Sunday to celebrate May 19 as the Muga Day with a one-day programme at Bordoi Panchayat Hall, Ghilamara. A 31-member celebration committee was formed with Muga farmer Amiy Barua as President and Lakshi Prasad Dutta as Secretary.

H.

The two-day meeting of the registrars convened at Raj Bhavan to discuss the important academic and administrative issues of the universities ended on Friday. Governor Gulab Chand Kataria convened the meeting with the registrars of the Central and State government universities to take stock of the state of academic and administrative affairs prevailing in both the Central and State universities. As a part of the meeting, the representatives of the universities either registrar or any senior professor on behalf of the university presented their academic programmes and the future plan of action. Representatives from 18 universities had presented their comprehensive action plan along with the steps to roll out the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The Governor said that in view of implementing the provisions of NEP 2020, the universities need to ramp up their academic and administrative mechanisms to help the students cope with the changing dynamics of education. The Governor discussed in details as to how the institutions of higher education should meet the aims and aspirations of the students. He also took stock of the presentations given by the

respective universities in this regard. The Governor said that the assemblage of the registrars and professors serves as a testament to the collective pursuit of Raj Bhavan Assam to elevate the educational landscape for the state to contribute to the India of 2047.

I.

Merely a fortnight after returning with a silver medal at the World Cup in Azerbaijan, Assam shooter Hriday Hazarika clinched a gold medal in the men's 10m Air Rifle event at the ongoing Khelo India University Games (KIUG) on Friday.

Representing Cotton University, Hazarika shot 252.5 to top the podium after a close contest with Punjab's Arjun Singh Babuta (250.8) at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in Faridabad.

Shooting competitions at the Khelo India University Games 2022 Uttar Pradesh are being held in Faridabad.

Displaying exceptional skill and composure, Hazarika consistently maintained his lead throughout the competition before walking away with the winner's title.

After the KIUG, Hazarika will compete in a domestic competition in June followed by national selection trials in July to cement his place for the August 14 to September 1 Baku World Championship, which is an Olympic qualification event.

J. Over 18 lakh houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) have been sanctioned in Assam so far, with construction of more than 11 lakh houses completed

more than 19 lakh beneficiaries are covered under the PMAY-G in the state.

Since the inception of the programme and in alignment with the objective of the programme, i.e ‘Housing for All’, Assam has sanctioned 18,30,400 PMAY-G houses.

Of these, 11,63,417 houses have be completed, of which 7,59,163 were done during the last two years

Since the fiscal 2022-23 till date, the state has incurred an expenditure of Rs 12,504.79 crore for implementation of the PMAY-G

The state government has so far provided land to 40,096 landless PMAY-G beneficiaries.

To accommodate the landless PMAY-G beneficiaries, the state has taken the initiative to provide land to construct a cluster of PMAY-G houses. Simultaneous efforts are being undertaken to mobilise funds from different programmes and CSR to provide other facilities in the cluster

seven clusters have been completed so far covering 99 beneficiaries and work in 19 clusters are going on, covering 838 beneficiaries, across 10 districts

Govt has also formulated a standard operating procedure for PMAY-G housing in tea garden areas. So far, 81,638 beneficiaries have been covered under it

the state government is planning a mass ‘griha pravesh’ ceremony for more than 2.5 lakh completed houses.

K.

Today Cotton University (erstwhile Cotton College) celebrated 122 glorious years.

Cotton University (erstwhile Cotton College) is a historic institution that has carried the light of higher education in the region and is a hub of intellect & culture.

The Cotton College was inaugurated on 27 May 1901 by by Sir Henry Stedman Cotton, Chief Commissioner of the former British province of Assam.

The college was started with five professors, which included Frederick William Sudmerson, the first principal of the college, and 39 students.

This Institute is one of the oldest institute of higher education in Assam and all of Northeastern states of India.

This College provide many times many talented student of Assam like Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma the present Chief Minister of Assam, Hem Barua, Bhupen Hazarika, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya, Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Homen Borgohain (famous Assamese writer and journalist), Akhil Gogoi, Aftab Hussain Saikia, Rita Chowdhury (famous poet and novelist), Zerifa Wahid.