

Mega Medical Camp : Assam Rifles civic action Programme

IT News
Imphal June 24,

In its continuous endeavour towards ensuring good health care and creating a positive synergy between Assam Rifles and the locals in its AOR, Thoubal Battalion under the aegis of HQ 9 Sect AR organised a medical camp under the Assam Rifles Civic Action Programme at IRDEO in Village Wangbal in Thoubal District on 24 Jun from 0830 hr onwards.

A dedicated medical team comprising of Regimental Medical Officer 26 Assam Rifles, civil doctors from the District Hospital Thoubal & IRDEO medical staffs provided treatment and distributed medicines to approx 500 special children. Benefit of this mega medical camp was availed by maximum number of the Orphanages and Child Care Homes running in the Thoubal



District. A wheelchair was also provided to a crippled child by the Commandant Thoubal Battalion. The said event was also attended by Shri Radha Kanta Singh, ADM Thoubal and Shri K K Singh, Secretary IRDEO. On

culmination, an interactive session was also organised where the Orphanages staff & children were educated about the various seasonal diseases of the upcoming monsoon and means to encounter them. During the Medical camp a

sumptuous lunch was provided to all the attendees. The entire school, orphanages faculty and children thanked the unit for its excellent efforts in conducting such needed one day Medical camp with numerous facilities.

Budget 2019: In Sitharaman's 5-year road map, focus likely on 2 key issues



Agency
New Delhi June 24,

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman's maiden budget will set the stage for reforms over the next five years that could see structural policy changes in areas such as land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship to attract investment, offer incentives to boost consumption, and spend public money on social infrastructure for equitable growth, officials aware of the matter said.

As the interim budget presented on February 1 announced several popular decisions, this is being seen as time for consolidation and to present a five-year policy road map that would boost sagging economic growth and address unemployment, two main concerns for the government, said the officials cited above who asked not to be named.

While the coming budget may incentivise job-oriented private investment and focus on skill-development initiatives, the government is likely to persuade banks, particularly public sector ones, to slash interest rates in order to boost consumption, the officials said.

It is likely that the Reserve Bank of India could further lower lending rates to provide more room to commercial banks for cheaper loans, they said. The central bank cut the repo rate to 5.75% on June 6, its third cut this calendar year. "An indirect boost to consumption will also come through interest rate reduction. The policy rate has already been reduced by 75 basis points this calendar year. About 40% of this has been passed on to the lending rates and the RBI may endeavour to increase monetary

transmission further. One more reduction of 25 basis points in the repo rate may be considered later during the year," Dr DK Srivastava, chief policy adviser, EY India, said. "Private sector investment demand may also be stimulated through an interest rate reduction. To ensure that interest rates remain at a lower level, the government may adhere to the interim budget fiscal deficit target of 3.4% of GDP so that some investible resources remain available for the private sector at reasonable costs."

The officials quoted above said the government will continue its policy focus on rural India and the same is expected to be reflected in the budget as rural development has immense potential to create both demands and jobs. Srivastava said the government will be focused on the rural economy for boosting consumption.

"The main vehicle for this in the short run would be the income transfers under PM-KISAN, which would add to farmers' disposable income, and in the medium term, the government's productivity enhancing efforts to double farmers' income by 2022," he said.

According to recently released official data, India's GDP fell to almost a 20-quarter low of 5.8% in the last quarter of 2018-19, which brought down the full-year growth estimate to 6.8%, lower than the initial estimate of 7%. The GDP that grew at 8% in the first quarter gradually dropped below 6% in the fourth quarter mainly due to a slump in agricultural and industrial growth. The government is also concerned about growing

unemployment, which was also reflected in an official report released on Friday. According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report for July 2017 to June 2018, the unemployment rate soared to 6.1%. While the PLFS figures are not strictly comparable with earlier Employment Unemployment Surveys of the National Sample Survey Office, the numbers paint a grim picture on the employment front. What is particularly worrying in the PLFS numbers is the big increase in the unemployment rate among educated workers. The government's recent pension offer to the unorganised sector is also expected to boost consumption, officials said. "Supplementary support to disposable income would also come through a number of pension schemes covering small traders and retailers as well as farmers above 60 years of age," Srivastava said. The Narendra Modi government's second tenure is expected to be a precursor of major economic reform with an objective to make India a \$5 trillion economy by 2024, about double its current size. The government's ambition was reflected in its recent

interactions with experts, officials said. According to experts, the government could undertake a major infrastructure expansion programme that could be partially funded through budgetary resources and partially through external and private resources. Prashant Deshpande, partner, Deloitte India, said the budget could bring in reforms aimed at creating a tax- and business-friendly environment. He said that the government could give several tax concessions to exporters, particularly to boost domestic manufacturing. Officials said the budget might take some key decisions to boost the real estate sector which could have a multiplier effect on the economy as it would spur demand for steel, cement and labour, particularly in the unorganised sector. According to Surendra Hiranandani, founder and director, House of Hiranandani, the government's "housing for all" mission was expected to accelerate the economy, provided the government incentivised the key stakeholders through direct and indirect tax measures.

Two glasses, a pack of cigarettes that hold clue to three murders in Delhi

Agency
New Delhi June 24,

Two glasses half-filled with alcohol, a packet of cigarettes, some leftover food, missing cellphones and recordings of CCTV cameras may hold clues for the police in cracking the triple murder case of a couple in their late 70s and their 20-year-old nursing attendant, whose bodies were found in the Vasant Apartments' flat on Sunday morning.

The police suspect that the killer/s may have had a friendly entry into the couple's first floor flat. The police suspect that the nursing attendant, Khushbu Nautiyal, may have unknowingly let a 'friend' or a 'known person' inside the house without realising that her act

could prove fatal. "The glasses, with some alcohol in them, were found on a small round table in the dining room where Nautiyal's body was found on the floor with blood around it. Prima facie, it appears that the suspect had consumed alcohol. Who had the drink or who served the drink is a matter of probe," said a senior police officer privy to the probe. He added that the police teams were working on at least three different theories pertaining to the killings. The police said that the glasses and the cigarette packet found on the table have been sent to the forensics lab to find if there were traces of fingerprints on them. Of the two plastic glasses kept around the table, one appeared to be untouched.

Sport News

Double delight for Gayatri Gopichand at Senior Ranking Tournament as Lakshya Sen fights hard for the title win

From a Correspondent
Hyderabad, June 24,

Sixth seed Lakshya Sen staved off a stiff resistance from second seed Rahul Yadav Chittaboina to triumph in men's singles while Gayatri Gopichand finished on a high with two titles as the Yonex-Sunrise All India Senior Ranking Badminton Tournament-2019 concluded here on Sunday.

The 17-year-old, who reached the China Masters final in March, was put to a stern test by Chittaboina who edged the Prakash Padukone protégé 25-23 in the first game in an absorbing men's singles final that lasted 61 minutes. The 2018 Asian junior champion found his rhythm and range midway through the match to take the next couple of games on his way to a 23-25, 21-14, 21-13 victory that gave him his first title of the year.

Gayatri Gopichand, who had upset the fourth seed Aakarshi Kashyap this week, announced her arrival in the senior category with a title in women's singles as well as women's doubles. In singles, the 16-year-old, who was seeded 13th, needed just 37 minutes to see off the challenge of Tanvi Lad, 21-19, 21-16 to lay her hands on her first Senior Ranking Tournament trophy.

Gopichand later made it a memorable day when she teamed up with Rutaparna Panda to defeat the fourth seeds and reigning national champions Shikha Gautam and Ashwini Bhat K, 19-21, 21-14, 21-10 in a one hour twelve minute long match. There was no stopping the men's doubles top seeds Krishna Prasad Garaga and Dhruv Kapila who did not drop a game to record a 23-21, 21-17 win over seventh seeds Sri

Krishna Sai Kumar Podile and Gouse Shaik. They had won a gold medal at the Senior Ranking Tournament in Vijayawada earlier. Shaik, however, amended for his mistakes in the mixed doubles category. The seventh-seeded pair of Shaik and Mayuri Yadav fought for 50 minutes to register a thrilling 21-19, 13-21, 21-12 win over Krishna Prasad and Ashwini Bhat.

Final Results:

- MS: (6) Lakshya Sen def (2) Rahul Yadav Chittaboina 23-25, 21-14, 21-13-(037)
- WS: (13) Gayatri Gopichand def Tanvi Lad 21-19, 21-16-(050)
- MD: (1) Garaga/Kapila def (7) Podile/Shaik 23-21, 21-17-(042)
- WD: Gopichand/Panda def (4) Gautam/Bhat 19-21, 21-14, 21-10-(112)
- XD: (7) Shaik/Yadav def Prasad/Bhat 21-19, 13-21, 21-12-(101)

It's not IPL so pressure to perform will be different for Russell and Co - Chahal

Agency
Manchester, June 24,

West Indies players are box office entertainers when it comes to global T20 franchises, but the World Cup and the 50-over format will test them as it has 'situational pressure' as per Indian spinner Yuzvendra Chahal. India take on West Indies and many expect it to be a closely-fought contest. Jason Holder-led West Indies are all out of semi-final contention as they have already lost four out of their six games and the fitness concerns of Andre Russell has only compounded their problems. Having lost four out of their six games and Russell's hamstring issues have compounded their problems further. Chahal, who has had a good World Cup so far with seven wickets from four games at a decent economy rate of 5.45, will be ready to ask questions along with wrist spin partner Kuldeep Yadav, who has given less than five runs per over. "We would obviously have a plan. He (Russell) is a hard-

hitter but we have bowled to him enough," Chahal replied when asked about the possible gameplan for Russell and the other big-hitters in their line-up. The wiry leg-spinner, who is ready with his bag of tricks for the June 27 battle, is certain that the Caribbean batsmen will be under severe pressure as they are desperate for a win. "Playing for your country is very different from playing IPL. The pressure to win games is as much on them as it is on us. Look they are desperate to win. They are also trying to get some form back. So the conditions will be different and so will be the situation," Chahal had a word of caution for the opposition. Nursing a hamstring injury, Russell didn't play in West Indies' five-run defeat against New Zealand in their last game. However with all his pyrotechnics, the Jamaican marauder may come to the crease when the Windies might be four out for next to nothing and he would need to play as per situation, reckoned Chahal. "If Russell comes in after four have got out, then he would also

be conscious that he would like to play himself in. So we would also be changing our tactics as per game situation," he said. The Afghanistan game has been like a reassurance for the bowling unit that they can deliver even when the margins are lesser due to a low total. "This was one occasion when we scored below 230 (224). There would be some negative points that would come up and also a few positive points. When you win these types of games, you are confident that even scores less than 250 can be defended," he said. For Chahal, the big positive in a not so impressive batting performance was Kedar Jadhav's half-century at a time when the pitch was difficult for batting. "In the first innings, the positive was the manner in which Kedar batted when the pitch was offering turn. At the onset, we had thought of a score of around 270 but they bowled so well, then we readjusted the target in our minds. We were confident even 30 runs less would have done the job," he sounded assured.

We are drowned, but we'll take you with us - Gulbadin warns Bangladesh

Agency
Southampton June 24,

"We are already drowned darling, but we'll take you with us," Afghanistan captain Gulbadin Naib said, cheekily warning Bangladesh ahead of their World Cup clash here Monday.

Afghanistan are already out of the tournament after losing all their six matches so far while Bangladesh are still in the reckoning with five points from six matches. The Tigers will need to win against Afghanistan to remain in contention for a semi-final berth. "Hum to doobe hai sanam, tumko lekar doobeenge (We are already drowned darling, but we'll take you with us)," a smiling Gulbadin said when asked about the match against Bangladesh. Afghanistan have improved steadily over the past couple of matches and Gulbadin

believed his team, which has some highly-rated spinners, have what it takes to topple the world's best. Although yet to win a match, Afghanistan sparked over the past week, losing by just 11 runs to fancied India in Southampton on Saturday. Boasting the top-ranked T20 bowler in the world in the form of Rashid Khan as well as the considerable threat of Mohammad Nabi and Mubeen Ur Rahman, Gulbadin's side restricted a star-studded India line-up to just 224 at the Hampshire Bowl - their lowest total in this World Cup. Despite falling just short in their response, the Afghanistan skipper was optimistic about his spinners as they seek their first win of the competition. "You saw against India. India has the best batting attack all over the world. So if the wicket helps our spinners, maybe it's very difficult for everyone, not

only Bangladesh," he said ahead of Monday's match. "I know Bangladesh also have showed their skills in this tournament, how they played, and they chased 320 against West Indies. Our spinners are one of the best spin attacks in the world. When the wicket is suitable for us, it's very difficult, not only for Bangladesh, but for everyone." Key to the upturn in Afghanistan's fortunes has been the Hampshire Bowl pitch that is conducive to spin, and they are set to play their second successive game in the same venue. "We struggled a lot in these conditions in the first three or four games. The surface and the wickets are totally different. We didn't expect it. It's totally different in the last two games. It's a very good wicket for us especially, so it's like Asian conditions, the ball turning, especially in the last game against India.