

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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**SYA Deptt carries out block-level "mapping" of sports talent among tribal children**

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

The Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim carried out Block Level Mapping of Tribal Sports Talent in 31 Block Administrative Centers [BACs] on the request of Director, Tribal Research Institute, Social Justice Empowerment & Welfare Department, in July-August 2017 in all-round physical fitness, battery test and skills in Football, Archery, Boxing and Table Tennis.

A press release received from the Department of SYA informs that 116 boys and girls between 11 to 14 years of age have been selected from all districts.

The State Level Mapping of Tribal Sports Talent will be conducted on 21-22 Sept by SJE&WD with the technical support from SYA Department at Paljor Stadium for Football, White Hall Complex for Boxing & Table Tennis and at Archery Complex, Tathangchen for Archery, it is informed.

Food and Lodging and Travel Allowance for the participating children will also be arranged by SJE&WD.

The main objectives of this programme is to know the level of fitness as well as the talent in the aforementioned sports disciplines among the tribal children in the State and also to motivate & boost their morale in the society through the medium of sports, the release details.

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## State to take concrete steps to ease process of shooting films in Sikkim

**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT (IPR):** The state government will take concrete steps to ease out the process of planning and shooting films in Sikkim. A single window clearance system will be in place with a dedicated nodal officer facilitating the various regulatory processes through effective coordination with all concerned departments. This was decided in a meeting held today at Manan Kendra chaired by Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava.

The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary cum Home Secretary, SC Gupta, PCCF cum Secretary Forest Department, Thomas Chandy, Secretary Tourism, C Zangpo, Secretary Culture, Yasodha Bhandari, Secretary Ecclesiastical Department, Samten Dolma, Special Secretary IPR Department, Namrata Thapa, and officers of



all concerned departments.

It was decided in the meeting that the Department of Information & Public Relations would be the coordinating department dealing with all the proposals

for making films in Sikkim by local, national and international film-makers through an effective single window clearance system.

The Department will func-

tion as a common facilitation centre. Once the proposals are submitted to the Department, it will liaise with concerned departments like Forest, Home,

turn to pg05

## GJM activists clash with police, 12 GJM supporters arrested

**SUMMIT REPORT  
KALIMPONG, 15 AUG:**

Gorkha Janmukti Morcha supporters and police clashed twice here today on the 93rd day of the ongoing indefinite bandh. By evening, 15 GJM supporters had been arrested, agitators lathi-charged, several people, including a journalist (despite having identified herself as a reporter covering the event), injured.

It all started in the morning when GJM supporters vandalized a school jeep at Damber Chowk here. The Morcha supporters had started to gather around Damber Chowk like every day, until at around 11.30 this morning, police arrested 15 GJM supporters, including the ward no 7 councillor Bimla Chhetri from CST Fatak area where they were picketing on the roads.

As news of the arrest reached Damber Chowk, they moved to the Motor Stand area from where the police vehicle with arrested GJM workers would have to pass.

The supporters tried to stop the vehicle and raised slogans against the police and situation turned tense. Soon,



stones were also pelted on the police, following which a lathi-charge was ordered and tear gas lobbed at the mobs.

As the situation was returning to normal, Nisha Chhetri, the Kalimpong correspondent for the Statesman and the Himalayan Mirror, was attacked by the Additional SP. She was struck despite having identified herself as a journalist covering the incident.

The GJM supporters gathered again at Damber Chowk and the situation remained tense as they burned tyres at the

main road and the street was littered with bottles and stones.

Meanwhile, at around 4 pm, a defence vehicle which was going towards Motor Stand was allegedly stopped by GJM supporters and a police team moved towards the main road from one side and Motor Stand from the other. Amidst stone-pelting, police fired tear gas shells and rubber bullet to disperse the mob. The clash lasted about an hour until evening police took control of Damber Chowk and market area.

Several shops and

markets which had reopened in Kalimpong yesterday downed its shutters.

GJM chief Bimal Gurung had yesterday asked

partymen to intensify the bandh and said the shutdown will continue till a tripartite meeting was convened by the central

turn to pg03

## Priyanka Chopra apologises for Sikkim insurgency comment

**MUMBAI, SEP 15 (PTI):** Actor Priyanka Chopra on Friday apologised for hurting the "sentiments and pride" of the people of Sikkim by incorrectly describing the state as insurgency-hit.

The state government had condemned the actor and demanded an apology while social media users dubbed her "politically illiterate".

In an interview at the Toronto International Film Festival, the actor-producer had said her film "Pahuna" was the first film to come out of the region which was troubled with insurgency.

Hoping to pacify the government and the people of Sikkim, the "Quantico" star issued a lengthy statement to apologise.

"It saddens me that a comment I made during a recent interview at TIFF has caused this much pain when that was never the intention at all. I never meant to imply that Sikkim has insurgency. My statement was in context of the film that deals with people who seek refuge after they suffer from conflict," she said.

Describing Sikkim as a "peaceful, green state with peace loving people", she said, "I know that my statements have hurt the sentiments and pride of the people of Sikkim and for that I truly apologise."

The actor said she took "full responsibility" for her remarks and admitted



that she should have been better informed.

"I have always taken pride as being someone who is informed about the world but this time, some of the statements made were incorrect and while I should have been better informed about certain facts, I take full responsibility for what I said," she said.

Priyanka also retracted her statement that "Pahuna", which is produced by her, is the first film to come out of Sikkim.

"I understand now that our film was not the first Sikkimese film to be made, but our aim has always been to provide local talent, both actors and technicians, a global platform to shine..."

"I understand the impact of the statements made and hope that the people and Government of Sikkim find it in their hearts to forgive me," the actor said.

She also praised the government and the local people for supporting her during the shooting of the movie.

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## Web-based app ERO-Net to ease voter enrollment

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

Election Commission of India [ECI] has developed a web-based app, ERO-Net, for bringing in seamless processing of forms, easy handling of the databases, regular and simple way of mon-

itoring the Electoral Roll activities, a press release received from the Election Department informs.

Citizens can apply online for inclusion, deletion, modification and transposition in the Electoral rolls through [www.nvsp.in](http://www.nvsp.in). Electoral Registration Of-

ficer [ERO], Assistant Electoral Registration Officer [AERO] and Supervisory Officers of the respective Assembly Constituencies have been provided with adequate training for processing of the various forms submitted online and offline.

As per the directives of the ECI, ERO-Net will be implemented in the state from the ensuing Summary Revision with reference to 01 January, 2018 as the qualifying date which is commencing from 18 September, 2017, the release adds.

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## Ban Pahuna in Sikkim says SKM

SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has criticized and condemned the statement of actress Priyanka Chopra on Sikkim. The party has alleged that the state government has been proven weak and criticized the incapability of the government in the incident.

An SKM press release issued by its general secretary [press & publicity], Bikash Basnet stated that Tourism Department invested in Pahuna, a film produced by Priyanka Chopra, to encourage the movie crew but the recent statement by the actress about Sikkim being 'troubled with insurgency' is a big insult to the people of Sikkim on a global platform.

The party has further alleged that the incident proves that the state government failed to educate the film's crew about Sikkim.

The state government should send a legal notice to Priyanka Chopra for her statement through the Chief Secretary and not a Minister, SKM has said and further demanded that the film Pahuna be banned in Sikkim. The state should also take immediate steps to ban the film in the nation as well as internationally, the party adds.

Further, SKM has demanded that the state government ask the producers of the film to refund the financial support extended to them.

If the government fails to do so then SKM will send a legal notice to Priyanka Chopra and write to the Film Censor Board to ban the film.

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## Press Club condemns lathi charge on journalist in Kalimpong

GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:

Press Club of Sikkim has condemned the alleged lathi-charge on a journalist during a Gorkha Janmukti Morcha rally in Kalimpong today.

In a press release, the Press Club has said that the journalist, Ni-

sha Chettri, was attacked in the lathi-charge even though the police personnel were aware that she was a media person. The Club has demanded that the West Bengal government ensure the security of media persons in the Hills.

## SWACHHATA HI SEVA PLEDGE ADMINISTERED IN ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

GANGTOK, 15 SEPT: The 'Swachhata Hi Seva' pledge was administered in all government offices, district headquarters, block panchayats and gram panchayats of the State today, a press release informs. Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava has issued a circular directing all department heads and District Collectors of the State to administer the pledge of 'Swachhata Hi Seva' today.

## Meeting at Tumin Lingee discusses preparations for Panchayat polls

YOGEN THATAL  
SINGTAM, 15 SEPT:

A constituency level meeting of Tumin Lingee constituency in East Sikkim was conducted today here at the auditorium hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat in the presence of area MLA-cum-Minister of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Ugen T Gyatso.

The meeting was conducted to discuss preparations for the upcoming Panchayat election.

During the programme, a Panchayat Selection Committee was constituted for carrying out a survey for selection and recommendation of the candidates contesting from a party or independently.

"Recommendation from an area MLA or a Minister will not be entertained during the elections this year. The committee will be submitting names of the candidates with proper acknowledgment for activities in developing the society. The candidate has to be an active member of the party and should



have a renewed identity card. The committee while submitting the names has to maintain a form which indicates date and time of survey and the location. The Panchayat Amendment Act

shall be imposed on both independent and party candidate if found guilty of anti social and other illegal activities," informed Public Relations Officer to the Chief Minister, Dev Gurung.

A letter of agenda was handed to all the sitting Panchayats and members of the committee. The attendees of the meeting were also handed a memento during the programme.

## Bengal holds business summit roadshow with diplomats

KOLKATA, SEP 15 (PTI): The West Bengal government today held a roadshow with diplomats from various countries

in New Delhi to promote the fourth edition of Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) 2018. State government

organised an interactive session with diplomats from nearly 31 countries including Australia, turn to pg05

## Sensitization programme for tourist guides and tour operators begins



GANGTOK, 15 SEPT (IPR): In line with the vision of the Chief Minister of making the people of Sikkim self sufficient and self reliant, the Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation is conducting a two-day sensitization programme for Tourist Guides/Tour Operators and Taxi Drivers at Paryatan Bhawan, Tadong as part of the World Tourism Day Celebration 2017.

On the first day while addressing the gathering, Joint Director of Information and Publicity, Tourism department, MK Pradhan said that this sensitization programme is organized to equip stakeholders with skills and traits necessary for a successful entrepreneur. This programme through the knowledge and experience sharing of experienced resource persons will help mould an individual into a professional tourism entrepreneur, he said.

Tourism Officer, Manoj Chettri gave an overview of Sikkim Tourism and the future prospects of the tourism industry in the state. He also highlighted the different process of permits given to local and foreign tourists who visit Sikkim.

Assistant Director of Sikkim AIDS Control Society, Namrata Pradhan said as tourism industry is booming in the state, simultaneously health related issues are also increasing and thus we

have to be careful and informed so that various communicable diseases are curbed and people as well as tourists visiting the state are protected. She informed that in Sikkim, 409 AIDS cases have been detected so far and there are so many cases which are unreported due to social stigma and other social factors.

Vice-president of Travel Agents Association of Sikkim (TAAS), Barap Namgyal stated that tourism industry of our state is very vibrant, thus the tour operators and stakeholders should encourage more youth to enter this sector.

Dr. Ashish Gurung spoke on first-aid help and various processes of giving first aid to patients.

Chief instructor of IHCAE, Kunzang Wangdi said, "Most of the foreigners visit Sikkim to experience adventure and mountaineering and we have identified numerous places for such tourists who want scenic beauty. Sikkim has huge scope on mountaineering and adventure and we have to be more professional and discover that area of tourism."

Eco-Tourism and Community Development Promoter, Narayan Pradhan was also one of the resource persons of the day. The programme was attended by tour operators, tourists guides and students of Sikkim University.

WRITE US: Readers are invited to comment on, criticise, run down, even appreciate if they like something in this paper. Letters carrying abusive/ indecorous language and personal attacks, except when against people responsible in this newspaper (who are fair game), will have to be ignored. Letters which carry forward a conversation or initiate a dialogue will command immediate attention and receive prominence.

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**Gangtok on  
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**Temp:** 28°C / 16°C  
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sunny with a thun-  
dershower in spots.  
**Sunrise:** 05:21 AM  
**Sunset:** 05:40 PM



## Gangtok girl tops fourth semester BDS Course at RIMS

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

Failing from Development Area in Gangtok, 22-year-old Sivani Darjee has been awarded with the Dr Y Iboyaima Memorial Gold Medal for scoring the maximum marks in the fourth semester of her Bachelor of Dental Surgery Course at the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences [RIMS] in Imphal.

Daughter of Sunil Darjee and Arati Darjee, Sivani was conferred with the award during the 46th Foundation Day of RIMS on 14 Sept.

"I have always been passionate about my studies. I did my schooling from PNG School and scored 92% in Class X and 89% in Class XII [Physics-Chemistry-Biology]," said Sivani.

She further informed that she got admission in RIMS in 2013 for BDS through the State Government quota and National Eligibility Entrance Test [NEET].

Sivani had previously topped and secured gold medals in Physiology, Biochemistry & Preclinical Prosthodontics [1st Sem, 2014], Oral Pathology [3rd Sem, 2016] and Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Periodontology [4th Sem, 2017].

At present, Sivani is undergoing an internship programme at Dental College, RIMS-Imphal.

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# Governor inaugurates Swachhta Hi Seva campaign in Sikkim

**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT (IPR):** Governor Shrinivas Patil inaugurated the 'Swachhta Hi Seva', a fortnightly campaign launched simultaneously across the country today. The Governor visited Sikkim Government College at Burtuk and participated in the construction of a six-unit toilet being built by the State Human Resource Development Department as a part of its initiative to ensure toilets in every school and college. After undertaking voluntary labor or 'shramdaan' in the construction of the toilet, the Governor and the visiting officers participated in a cleanliness drive at the site.

The Governor was joined in the programme by HRDD Minister, RB



Subba, Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, Additional Chief Secretary cum Home Secretary, SC Gupta,

HRDD Additional Chief Secretary, GP Upadhyay, Urban Development & Housing Department Sec-

retary, GT Bhutia, senior officers of the HRDD & UD&H, Ward Councilor, Principal, Faculty and

Management Committee of the College.

The campaign was launched at the national

level today by the President of India in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Government of India has appealed to the Governors and Chief Ministers of all the States to rope in Ministers, MPs, MLAs and other public representatives in providing leadership to the campaign in their respective constituencies, through sanitation related activities.

It may be recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his 'Mann Ki Baat' address on 27 Aug called upon the nation to undertake the 'Swachhta Hi Seva' campaign from 15 Sept to 02 Oct, 2017. The aim of the campaign is to intensify the focus and create an environment of cleanliness across the

country in the spirit of a 'Jan Andolan'.

The nation-wide mass mobilization drive aims to accelerate the ODF (Open Defecation Free) progress in villages and urban areas through construction of toilets as well as carry out activities to advocate behavior change.

The Governor, in his address, stated that Sikkim has led from the front by becoming the first ODF state in the country and many more distinctions. He however urged the people of Sikkim to work towards sustaining the momentum and make sanitation a way of life. He appealed to people from all walks of life to join the campaign to realize the vision of Mahatma Gandhi.

## Rotary Club organizes Cross Road: 21st Century Teachers programme



**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

Rotary Club of Gangtok South organized 'Cross Road: 21st Century Teachers' on the occasion of the extended Teachers' Day celebration to recognize teachers from different schools who were conferred with the Nation Builder Award (Rotary India Literacy Mission) by the club at Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School today supported by Shridevi Group of Institutes, Bangalore.

The programme witnessed an interactive session attended by retired teacher, Lowden Bhutia along with teachers Chung Chung Bhutia from Modern Junior Secondary School, Indira Tiwari from West Point Senior Secondary School and PK Dong from Sikkim University who shared their views, experiences and challenges as teachers in the 21st century.

Human Resources Development Department Principal Secretary, GP Upadhyay attended the

occasion as the chief guest to present the awards to the recipients of Nation Builder Award.

Keshari Pardhan from Modern Senior Secondary School, Meera Subba from West Point Senior Secondary School, Rita Mukhia from Enchey Senior Secondary School, Vikash Chettri from Ahopul Kishan Secondary School, MB Sunna from Assam Lingzey Senior Secondary School and Thinlay Youser from Tathangchen Senior Secondary School were felicitated on the occasion.

## Modern Sr Sec School celebrates Hindi Diwas

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

Modern Senior Secondary School celebrated Hindi Diwas at the school auditorium on 14 Sept. The celebration started from the morning assembly with the speech and oath to dedicate the day towards Hindi while interacting in Hindi for the whole day in the school.

A programme on the occasion was started with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and offering of khadas to the portrait of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, by Vice Principal,



Keshari Pradhan.

The event featured Hindi patriotic songs and poem recitation along with essay recitation and

open poem recitation competitions.

The programme was organised by Hindi Culture Department of Mod-

ern SSS led by teachers, Ram Chandra Adhikari and Prabha Thapa, and students' representative, Suraj Prakash Sharma.



## Hindi Pakhwada concludes in Sikkim University

**GANGTOK, 15 SEPT (PIB):** Sikkim University, Gangtok, observed Hindi Pakhwada from 01-14 Sept during which many competitions were organized by the Hindi Cell of the University including dictation for admin vocabulary, letter writing, extempore speech and official noting in Hindi.

The faculty members and non-teaching staff participated in the competitions with much enthusiasm and fervor. The competitions were organized to encourage faculty members

and staff to use Hindi in official matters.

The closing ceremony of the Hindi Pakhwada was held on 14 Sept wherein certificates and prizes were distributed to the participants and winners of the competitions.

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the importance of the Hindi language and took pride in the fact that some of the official works in the University are bi-lingual. He also congratulated everyone for participating in the programme.

## GJM activists clash with police...

**Contd from pg01**  
government.

He had also asked the GJM cadre to intensify the bandh in the hills and ensure that no one made an attempt to break it.

Though the state-run North Bengal State Transport Corporation plied a few buses, they were escorted by security personnel.

The buses were oper-

ating from Siliguri to Darjeeling via Kurseong. Buses were also plying between Siliguri and Mirik in Darjeeling district, police said.

For the seventh day in a row, the police, along with the administration, appealed to the locals via public address systems to open shops and restore normalcy in the hills.

Peace rallies were taken out by residents

in Kurseong, Darjeeling and Mirik.

GJM supporters took out rallies in some parts of Darjeeling, Sonada and Kalimpong supporting creation of Gorkhaland and the ongoing shutdown, police said. Kalimpong Press Club has condemned the attack on the scribe and submitted a memorandum to DM Kalimpong demanding action the ASP.



## OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMANDANT GENERAL HOME GUARDS & CIVIL DEFENCE GANGTOK-737101

**PH: 03592-202371 (O) 207910(F)**

No. 216/POL/SHG/17

Dated: 13/09/2017

## NOTICE TO PERSONS REGISTERED WITH THE HOME GUARD OFFICE FOR ENROLMENT AS HOME GUARD

All persons who have registered themselves with the Home Guard & Civil Defence office up to 04<sup>th</sup> September 2017 for enrolment as Home Guard are hereby informed that physical measurement and Physical Efficiency Test (PET) for enrolment of 100 Home Guards (30 Female and 70 Male) would be conducted at SAP Camp, Pangthang on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017 starting at 10 am.

2. They should therefore, collect their admit card from the office of SSP/HG&CD, Gangtok, on any working day between 10 am to 4 pm on or before 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 for which they should report with two passport size photographs.

3. Only those candidates who fulfil the following eligibility conditions and possess SSC/COI will be considered for PET:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| i. Education Qualification | : Minimum X Pass from recognized Board.                |
| ii. Age                    | : Not less than 18 yrs and not more than 26 yrs.       |
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| v. Weight                  | : 50 Kgs Minimum for male, 45 kgs. Minimum for female. |

4. The qualification standards for the PET are the same as for selection of a constable in the Sikkim Police and may be downloaded from the Sikkim Police website [sikkimpolice.nic.in](http://sikkimpolice.nic.in).  
5. Candidates who do not collect their admit cards by 4 pm on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 will not be considered for selection and their names will be struck off from the register maintained in the HG&CD Office.

**NB: NO SEPARATE CALLING LETTER WILL BE ISSUED.**

6. No TA/DA will be paid.

7. Relevant documents in original should be brought for viva-voce/skill test, date for which will be communicated later.

8. Preference will be given to the candidates having technical qualifications such as Plumber, Electrician, Driver, Motor Mechanic, Welder, Carpenter, etc.

9. It may please be noted that Home Guard is not a REGULAR SERVICE. It is a temporary appointment.

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# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Disaster Preparedness

*Confer with the people on disaster management plans, don't just 'teach' them*

Disaster preparedness should nuance the mood next week as Sikkim marks the sixth anniversary of the 18 September Earthquake which pulled a wicked surprise on the State. The surprise came in the realisation that Sikkim harboured tectonic potential to push a 6.8 scale earthquake. Through the recorded history of earthquakes in the region, all the Big Ones of the past century and a half had been earthquakes with their epicentres at established troublespots at faultlines many hundred kilometres away from Sikkim. In some warped sense of misplaced security, this had convinced people at a subconscious level in these parts that the State could do very little to cushion the impact of the next big one and that Sikkim's distance from the expected ground zeros would dissipate some of the fury and dissipate the impact. This attitude was admittedly wrong because no one can prevent an earthquake, but everyone can and should work towards mitigating it. And now, even that excuse (of distance) is no longer available with the tectonic plates holding Sikkim up announcing that even they can pack a mean punch. In effect then, natural disasters are no longer about "if and when" and have now become "here and now".

As the amplified fury of end-monsoon showers are bringing home, it's not just about earthquakes, but a host of challenges like landslides, cloudbursts, GLOFs etc and if the winter runs dry, there will be forest fires and man-animal conflicts as well. Natural disasters do not play in isolation and when these incidents acquire disaster proportions, they work in combinations. As Sikkim marks a major disaster's anniversary, after it has recollected the experience and taken stock of repairs and restoration, it should test the practicability and resoluteness of its proposed responses for future calamities. Modern lifestyles have a way of blindsiding obvious realities, and if any lesson is to be learnt from the 18 September horror, it should be in rediscovering the traditional knowledge base.

Centuries of living in a particular region grooms people to instinctively respect the brute force of nature and adopt lifestyles which mitigate the impact of the nature of disasters indigenous to a particular region. Sikkim obviously had this instinctive safety calibration, but lost it in the past fifty years or so. These need to be remembered, and all disaster preparedness plans should respect the knowhow of resident populations and reinforce traditional practises with scientific verification and planning. It would be a good idea to begin conferring with people when it comes to drafting disaster preparedness plans instead of talking down to them. Sikkim's planners should try that for a change.

## Nearly 3 weeks into Rohingya crisis, refugees still fleeing



**COX'S BAZAR (BANGLADESH), SEP 15 (AP):** Nearly three weeks into a mass exodus of Rohingya Muslims fleeing violence in Myanmar, thousands were still flooding across the border in search of help and safety in teeming refugee settlements in Bangladesh.

The crisis has drawn global condemnation, with UN officials demanding Myanmar halt what they described as a campaign of ethnic cleansing that has driven nearly 400,000 Rohingya to flee Rakhine state.

One of the dozens of boats carrying Rohingya to the Bangladesh border town of Teknaf capsized yesterday and at least two people drowned, police said. That brought known drownings in the Naf River to 88 since the crisis began.

Those who arrived Wednesday in wooden boats on beaches near Shah Porir

Dwip fishing village described ongoing violence in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, where smoke could be seen billowing from a burning village, suggesting more Rohingya homes had been set alight.

One Rohingya man said his village of Rashidong had been attacked six days earlier by Myanmar soldiers and police.

"When military and police surrounded our village and attacked us with rocket launchers to set fire, we got away from our village and fled away to any direction we could manage," Abdul Goffar said.

Myanmar presidential office spokesman Zaw Htay said that out of 471 "Bengali" villages in three Rakhine townships, 176 were now completely empty while at least 34 more were partially abandoned. Many in Myanmar

turn to pg06

# Turkey, the Rohingya crisis and Erdoğan's ambitions to be a global Muslim leader

SIMON P. WATMOUGH  
theconversation.com

The emerging humanitarian crisis that has been rocking Myanmar - where an estimated 370,000 Rohingya have been forced out of the country - has prompted broad international condemnation. But so far it has translated into little concrete action.

United Nations (UN) human rights chief Zeid Raad Al Hussein has called the Rohingya's plight a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing" following a similar statement from UN Secretary General António Guterres. While Western countries have been slow and hesitant to respond, leaders of Muslim-majority countries - particularly Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Pakistan - have sought to place as much international pressure as possible on the Myanmar government.

The strongest and most vocal response of all has come from Turkey. Indeed the Turkish president, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, appears to have appointed himself as the international voice of the Rohingya Muslims.

### TURKEY'S AID RESPONSE

According to a Turkish government statement, Erdoğan is the first one that managed to get permission for humanitarian aid to enter Myanmar. The Burmese government had, at the peak of the violence, blocked all UN aid towards the Rohingyas.

And so, on September 7, Turkey's foreign aid agency, TİKA, became the first foreign outfit to deliver an initial shipment of 1000 tons of basic foodstuffs and medicine to the conflict zone in Rakhine state, where the majority of Rohingyas live.

Turkey simultaneously announced plans to distribute humanitarian aid to the Rohingya camps in Bangladesh. The move was widely publicised as Emine Erdoğan, the Turkish president's wife visited the camps at the same time.

### PUBLIC DENUNCIATION

Meanwhile, during a meeting in Astana, Kazakhstan, Erdoğan as the current chief of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) formally condemned Myanmar's attitude towards Rohingyas, taking the lead on the topic on behalf of the organisation. He had previously called the ongoing violence a genocide.

Since the crisis broke on August 25, the Turkish president has taken several actions to gather Muslim leaders across the world to put pressure on the Myanmar government. On August 31, he spoke with the leaders of Mauritania, Pakistan, Iran and Qatar urging them to join forces to find a way to stop the violence against the Rohingyas.

Alongside Erdoğan, other Turkish politicians have addressed the issue. Remarks by Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu,



Turkish Muslims pray near Fatih Mosque in Istanbul during a protest against the attacks on the Muslim people in Arakan in Myanmar.

the foreign minister, garnered global attention. Mehmet Şimşek, deputy prime minister, even tweeted unrelated images to raise the point, creating a bit of an embarrassment.

So how are we to explain Turkey's ambition to take the lead in this current crisis?

### GLOBAL AMBITIONS

The political vacuum prompted by the Trump administration's retreat from global leadership has surely played a part. But, more evidently, Turkey's longstanding pro-Western approach has shifted. Turkey is a NATO member and aspired to join the EU for years, but under President Erdoğan's lead and the current AKP government, the country's foreign policy has shifted towards the global south, seeking new opportunities.

Turkey's foreign policy doctrine now promotes what Bilkent University academics Pinar Bilgen and Ali Bilgiç label "civilisational geopolitics", "an understanding of culture and civilisation as preordained determinants of international behaviour".

As Bilgin and Bilgiç argue, this new doctrine aims at placing Turkey at the core of geopolitical issues between the West and the rest of Asia, justifying this global engagement by its political heritage - mainly based on its Central Asian and Ottoman history.

The shift became most obvious at the end of the 2000s. It has been identified most closely with Ahmet Davutoğlu, a scholar of geopolitics and Turkey's foreign minister from 2009-14. In 2010 Foreign Policy called him "the brains of Turkey's global reawakening".

Under Davutoğlu's watch, Turkey's global diplomatic footprint expanded dramatically, especially in

Asia and Africa. He opened Turkey's first embassy in Myanmar in 2012 both to take advantage of the potential trade opportunities from the country's post-2008 liberalisation and because of the Rohingya issue.

A subsequent trip in 2013 saw him tour refugee camps and call on the Burmese government to extend citizenship rights to the Rohingya people. This new foreign policy coincides with Turkey's decade-long ambition to become a global humanitarian power or what Turkish scholars E. Fuat Keyman and Onur Zakak call a "humanitarian state".

The Turkish humanitarian approach has been cast by journalist and former Somali Minister of Planning, Abdurahman Ali, as a middle way between the Western aid model and its Chinese counterpart. Whereas the former is highly conditional, bureaucratic and often security-focused and the latter tends to bolster corrupt, authoritarian regimes, the Turkish approach - Ali claims - typically bypasses bureaucracy and emphasises "a 'moral' standard anchored in protecting human rights and helping the weak".

Turkey has backed this ambition with increased funding for humanitarian assistance over the last five years. Development Initiatives - a UK based NGO - recently reported that now Turkey ranks second in the world for humanitarian aid, having spent around US\$6 billion in 2016 (the top-ranked US spent \$6.3 billion).

### THE CHAMPION OF MUSLIMS' RIGHTS

One of the other factors is domestic politics. Indeed, much of Erdoğan's public posturing on the Rohingya issue is entirely self-serving. The image of a strong Turkey reaching out to

Muslim's everywhere in the world plays very well at home. During his 15-year tenure as Turkey's leader, the country's once-marginalised pious Muslim citizens have become increasingly prominent in media, business and politics.

Ardent supporters in Turkey - not to mention large segments of public opinion across the Muslim world - thus see him as a champion of Muslim rights everywhere.

Erdoğan has studiously crafted this image throughout other crisis, such as in Egypt's during the 2011-12 Morsi regime or in Palestine. His very public spats with Israel and the West have led some pro-Palestinian columnists in Arabic newspapers to call him the "new Nasser".

### COMPETITION AHEAD

Nevertheless, in recent days there has been a modest push back from Saudi Arabia, which appears to be chaffing at Turkey's leadership on the crisis. Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Turkey released a statement emphasising the Kingdom's strong, decades-long support for the Rohingyas. Iran has followed too, promising shipments to reach Myanmar soon.

Erdoğan has promised to raise the Rohingya issue on September 19, at the annual meeting of the UN General Assembly - which Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi is avoiding.

His calls to protect Muslims worldwide could be a key moment for Turkey's diplomatic leadership but whether other Muslim countries would follow or not will tell the limits of Turkey's so-called "humanitarian politics".

*[the writer is Postdoctoral research associate, European University Institute]*

# How everyday language casually stigmatises obesity- and what to do about it

TARA COLTMAN-PATEL  
theconversation.com

Obesity is a highly stigmatised condition. Those with obesity are frequently subject to prejudice and ridicule at home, school, work and even from health care professionals. Every day, they face social rejection and are deemed lazy, unattractive, unmotivated and unhappy. Alarming, many obese individuals feel unable to challenge such stigma, so they passively accept and sometimes believe it.

We live in a world where we are constantly reminded that obesity is a "crisis", an "epidemic", that it is crippling the economy, and that it is a burden on society. These ideologies are disseminated throughout the news media, social media, by politicians and by health care professionals - and they are the birthplace of weight stigma.

Weight stigma can manifest itself in several different ways. It can be overt, such as verbal and physical abuse, but it can also be indirect and subtle. My research focuses on the subtle and subconscious language choices that do not appear stigmatising on the surface and my results are drawn from a data set of 16,500 British newspaper articles about obesity.

### THE 'EPIDEMIC'

"Obesity epidemic" was one of the most frequently used phrases in the newspaper articles. And it is not just limited to the press - it's a phrase that is used widely in a range of contexts, often in everyday speech by everyday people.

The word "epidemic" is used as a metaphor to highlight the rising prevalence of obesity. But the

definition of "epidemic" is the wide spreading occurrence of an infectious disease.

I would argue that this generates a level of fear and anguish towards obesity, perhaps suggesting that you should avoid obese people. It also obscures the fact that obesity is incredibly complex. Becoming complacent with such language choices has led to divisive and negative attitudes towards those with obesity.

The "obesity epidemic" is only one of the many negative language examples I have found. Even more subtle, subconscious and potentially stigmatising is the coupling of the words "are" and "obese" in statements such as "One in eight people ARE obese"; "Children who ARE obese", and "How can you tell if you ARE obese."

### THE 'ARE' PROBLEM

The word "obese" occurs 24,011 times in my data. On 28% of these occasions, it is preceded by the verb "are". So what's the problem, you might be wondering?

Well, it can be argued that obesity is a medical condition. Three years ago, the American Medical Association adopted this position and the NHS recognises that obesity can be more complex than just a result of overeating and a lack of exercise.

So if obesity is a medical condition, it is not something that you "are", it is something you "have". It is rare that people are defined by a medical condition they have. You will never hear the phrases, "you are lupus", or "you are meningitis".

But there are important exceptions. Tellingly, the medical conditions that are used alongside the verb

"are" are those that are also unfairly stigmatised.

- You ARE HIV positive.
- You ARE dyslexic.
- You ARE a leper.
- You ARE obese.

Defining people as obese causes severe conflation and it insinuates that that is all they are. It becomes easy to issue blame, it implies that all negative weight related ideologies apply to them, and it creates a very narrow and inaccurate identity for those that have obesity.

These examples were extracted from newspaper articles, but they are language choices that are subconsciously made by the majority of people, not just journalists. It is astonishing that phrases we use without the intention to stigmatise have the power to change the way an entire concept is represented and viewed.

I would argue that the language we use when discussing this issue needs to be evaluated and more calculated so that we can use powerful platforms such as news media, that reaches out to a large audience, to educate as opposed to discriminate. The language we use represents the way we think, and the language we read, hear and digest shapes the way we think.

It is a powerful tool and highlighting examples of our complacency with it could be the first step in the right direction towards changing the way we treat this issue and reducing the weight stigmas which are currently so widespread in society.

*[the writer is PhD candidate in linguistics, Nottingham Trent University]*



## Assam forms 'State Capital Region' around Guwahati

**GUWAHATI, SEP 15 (PTI):** In line with the National Capital Region, Assam will have a 'State Capital Region' encompassing Guwahati and its peripheral areas with the passing of a bill in the state Assembly today.

The Assembly passed Assam State Capital Region Development Authority (ASCRDA) Bill 2017 by voice vote to set up the regional authority for preparation of a plan for rapid development of the SCR.

Introducing the bill in the House, senior minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the SCR shall comprise the districts of Kamrup Metropolitan, Kamrup, Nalbari, Darrang and Morrigaon, fully or partly.

Capital Guwahati is in Kamrup Metropolitan district.

The authority and guidelines of existing Guwahati Municipal Corporation Development Authority (GMDA), Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC) and other urban authorities were not sufficient for desired development and growth of SCR, Sarma said.

ASCRDA will be the overall authority to direct, implement and monitor the development of SCR, said the state's health, finance and education minister.

## Bengal holds business summit roadshow with...

contd from pg03

Austria, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Peru, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand and UAE among others, a statement said here.

BGBS 2018 is scheduled on 16-17 January 2018 in Kolkata.

The state said landmark event of the state, has witnessed growing international interest and enthusiasm. BGBS 2017 received participation from 29 countries with multiple delegations from Europe, America and Asia participated at the Summit.

# 50 rhino calves swept away in recent floods in Nepal

**KATHMANDU, SEP 15 (PTI):** Around 50 calves of one-horned rhinoceros from Nepal's Chitwan National Park might have swept across the Indian border in the recent monsoon floods.

Severe flooding has devastated communities and destroyed crops in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

"Around 50 calves of rhino are born every year, and that many calves along with their mothers might have been washed away in the disaster," CNP's Chief Conservation Officer Ram Chandra Kandel.

Three rhinos were killed in the flooding, he said.

Chitwan National Park is the largest rhino conservation centre of park of Nepal.

So far eight rhinos that were swept away in the disaster were rescued and returned to the CNP, he said.

The Chitwan National Park (CNP) has proposed a rhinoceros count next year, breaking the regular routine of conducting a rhino census in every four years. Last time the count was conducted in 2015.

A rhinos, which was washed in the calamity, is stranded in Narasahi in Nawalparasi and another one is at Tribeni with its calf.

The rhinos were swept away by the extensive floods triggered by the incessant rainfall in August. Most of the rhinos were rescued from the Indian area are adult rhinos.

According to the park employees, the



rhinos in the park are in a chaotic condition as they were washed away from their habitat to new places by the floods.

Even the rescued rhinos are feeble and in an emaciated condition as they went without food and post-disaster trauma for nearly three weeks.

Chief Conservation Officer Kandel said that they were proposing to hold a rhino census in 2018 for determining the exact rhino population in the park after the flooding.

As per the 2015 rhino census, the number of rhinos in the park was 605. Eight rhinos were shifted to Bardia and five to Shuklaphanta wildlife reserves in the western Nepal from the CNP in the subsequent years.

The park is also planning to hold a tiger census to ascertain the tiger population as they were also washed away by the flood. Hundreds of herbivores, including wild boars, deer and spotted deer among others were also killed in the recent floods.

# Doklam issue handled with great maturity: Hardeep Puri

**NEW DELHI, SEP 15 (PTI):** The Dokalam issue was handled "very well" and with "great maturity", Union minister and former Indian ambassador to the UN Hardeep Singh Puri said today.

India and China last month ended a 73-day standoff in Doklam area of the Sikkim sector that was triggered by China's move to build a road in the border area.

"The Doklam issue was handled very well and with great maturity," Puri, who is the housing and urban affairs minister in the Modi Government, told reporters on the sidelines of an event here.

On a query over grievances of homebuyers who have invested their hard-earned money in housing projects in the national capital region,

Puri said his ministry is looking at "different options" to tackle delays in completion of the housing projects.

Asked what options his ministry is mulling, Puri said, "Let us complete the exercise... I am not going to speculate."

My clear approach here is that we are seized of the matter."

Realtors have been facing protests and litigation from homebuyers due to huge delays in completion of projects in the national capital region.

"If you look at social media, those who have been adversely affected by the action of the builders are already acknowledging that they are getting help from different quarters like central and state governments and courts," the minister said.

# SC anguished over children deaths in child care institutions

**NEW DELHI, SEP 15 (PTI):** The government is "oblivious" to the deaths of children in custody, the Supreme Court said today, expressing "distress" that these kids were not only "voiceless" but seem to be "dispensable" as well.

Voicing discontent over the lack of documentation on the number of unnatural deaths of children in child care institutions, a bench of Justices M B Lokur and Deepak Gupta asked the Centre and state governments to document such deaths of kids who are in need of care and protection, "with far greater concern than has been shown so far".

"The unnatural death of any child in need of care and protection or in conflict with law and in a child care institution needs attention since it is these voiceless children who need to be heard," the bench said.

It also said that it is "rather unfortunate that the Central Government and the State Govern-

ments are oblivious to the possibility of death of children in custody in child care institutions."

The strong observations by the top court came in a verdict on a 2013 PIL on "inhuman" conditions prevailing in 1,382 prisons across the country.

"This is distressing. The pain and anguish of the next of kin of children who pass away in custody is not less, but more than the pain and anguish of the next of kin of any prisoner who suffers an unnatural death in custody," the court said, adding that "it seems that apart from being voiceless, such children are also dispensable".

While passing a slew of directions regarding unnatural deaths and prison reforms across India, the bench said the dignity of an individual is not a "plaything for those in authority".

It said those in authority must show greater degree of sensitivity towards persons in custody as all forms of custodial

violence makes it "abhorrent" and invite disparagement from all sections of civilised society.

"Like most societies, we are not strangers to custodial violence and unnatural deaths but our vibrant democracy permits us to debate and discuss these issues with rational arguments."

"However, right sounding noises critical of custodial violence (in any form) cannot achieve any useful purpose unless persons in authority hear the voices of the victims or the silence of the dead and act on them by taking remedial steps," the top court said.

It directed the Ministry of Woman and Child Development to discuss with official concerned of the state governments and formulate procedures for tabulating the number of children who suffer unnatural death in child care institutions.

The bench observed that National Human Rights Commission has an extremely important role to play in cases of un-

natural death in jails and although the NHRC has issued detailed instructions from time to time, "it does appear however that these instructions are not being taken seriously but are being followed more in the breach".

"All that we can say in this regard is that while the Central Government may have noble intentions and is perhaps taking steps to improve prison administration and to bring about reforms in prisons, the fact remains that conditions in prisons leave a lot to be desired and there are quite a few unnatural deaths in prisons," it said.

It said that suggestions and recommendations made by the Centre do look good on paper but they do not seem to have any remedial effect and the Ministry of Home Affairs must take a proactive interest in prison reforms.

It also said that no state government could "shirk" its duties and responsibilities for providing better facilities to prisoners.

# Meghalaya CM slams Centre for delay in examining state govt's proposal

**SHILLONG, SEP 15 (PTI):** Meghalaya Chief Minister Mukul Sangma today slammed the BJP-led NDA Government for the alleged delay in examining the state government's proposal to resolve the National Green Tribunal ban on coal mining.

The chief minister also warned the people of the state about a "misinformation campaign" on the issue.

"What prevents the BJP government from further examining this or are they intentionally blocking it... that means they are conniving to deprive our people from the benefit of the provision of the Constitution," he said.

He was reacting to BJP leaders claim recently that it would resolve the ongoing NGT ban on coal mining in Meghalaya within a span of six to eight months if elected to power in 2018.

The state government had taken up with the Government of India (GOI) to invoke Para 12 A (b) of the Sixth Sched-



ule to the Constitution in order that the provisions of the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act, 1973 and MMDR Act 1957 are exempted through a presidential notification.

"The outcome of such exercise is that Centre has constituted a Committee headed by the Union Cabinet secretary to examine this proposal of the state government as per the provision of the Constitution of India," he said.

The members of the Committee constituted by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) also include secretaries of ministries of coal, mines, environ-

ment and chief secretary of Meghalaya.

He said a number of meetings had taken place and that the state government was sincere in this regard.

Questioning the delay, the chief minister said, "Are they (BJP) trying to clandestinely deprive the right even if you are delaying and depriving that is also deprivation?".

He also alleged that a misinformation campaign is going on now. Mukul said, "I would like to warn our friend from this misinformation campaign because what does the law of the land provides..."

# State to take concrete...

contd from pg01

GMC and Ecclesiastical through the nodal persons in each of these departments to complete the clearances within a stipulated time frame of 15-30 days. This time frame should strictly be abided by for the convenience of the film-maker.

The Chief Secretary called for creating an enabling environment through simple procedures and possible incentives. He stated that the Film Board created by the Government should be more active and should meet frequently to further the objectives spelt out in its terms of references.

Additional Chief Secretary stated that single window system would not mean doing away with regular clearances and added that the nodal officer instead would have to facilitate the entire process within the stipulated time frame.

Meanwhile, PCCF cum Principal Secretary Forest, Dr Thomas Chandy informed that the Department can issue permissions to shoot films in the general areas under forest cover after verifying the requisite documents and

credentials, but for issuing permission to shoot in the Wildlife Sanctuaries, the Chief Wildlife Warden is the sole authority as per Wildlife Protection Act. He added that the Department will continue to levy the stipulated fees as has been the norm.

The meeting was also addressed by Secretary Tourism wherein he insisted on the need to ease out the processes and to create a mechanism for providing logistical and financial support to film-makers.

Secretary Culture, Yasodha Bhandari suggested that the cultural troupes affiliated with the Culture Department could be strengthened so that they get opportunities to work in films being shot in Sikkim.

Likewise, Special Secretary IPR Department, Namrata Thapa suggested that a policy should be in place to categorize documentary films and have a screening process to determine their quality.

Echostream representative, Sonam Tashi Gyaltsen and Line Producer of Films in Sikkim, Raj Sitoula also participated in the discussions and gave their inputs.

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## SIKKIM PREMIER LEAGUE UPDATE



## FC Pune City part ways with head coach Habas

**PUNE, SEP 15 (PTI):** Indian Super League side FC Pune City has mutually parted ways with the team's head coach Antonio Lopez Habas and assistant coach Miguel Martinez Gonzalez with immediate effect.

"FC Pune City thanks Habas for his efforts over the last one and half years and wishes him the best in his future endeavours," the club said in a statement.

The franchise added that a new head coach will be appointed shortly. Talking about his association with the club, Habas said: "It was a very professional and pleasant experience working with FC Pune City in ISL.

"However, due to longer season, it is unfortunate that I cannot continue as I have already made prior contractual commitments.

## SSA and Dzungri FC play out a draw, SHSC outplays Boys Club

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 SEPT:**

State Sports Academy played out a draw against Dzungri Football Club in the ongoing Play247 Sikkim Premier League 2017 here at Paljor Stadium today. The contesting match ended level at 1-1 with the two teams sharing a point each.

A goal by Ishmiel Tamang in the 34th minute helped Dzungri FC finish the first half 1-0 ahead.

Soon after the second half began, Sanjay Rai of SSA scored the equaliser for his team in the 51st minute. With no further goals, the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

In the second match of the day, Sikkim Himalayan Sporting

Club outplayed Boys Club, Gangtok 2-0.

Bright Mands won an early lead for SHSC in the 9th minute itself and with another goal by his teammate, Sangay Bhutia, in the 44th minute, SHSC ended the first half with a 2-0 lead.

In the second half, Boys Club players played hard to bounce

back into the match but could not score any goals.

On 16 Sept, the first match will be played between Pakyong United Football Club and Sikkim Aakraman Football Club while in the second match, Royal United Sikkim Football Club will take on Sikkim Police in evening under flood lights.

## Sindhu seals semifinal spot, Sameer sinks in Korea

**SEOUL, SEP 15 (PTI):** Olympic silver medallist P V Sindhu progressed to the semifinals of women's singles but it was curtains for Sameer Verma in men's singles event at the USD 600,000 Korea Open Super Series, here today.

Sindhu, who had won the silver at the World Championship last month, recovered from a mid-game slump to stave off the challenge from World No. 19 Minatsu Mitani of Japan 21-19 16-21 21-10 in a match that lasted 63 minutes.

The fifth seeded Indian, who had a 1-1 head-to-head record against the Japanese, will next face either third seed Sung Ji Hyun or China's He Bingjiao, seeded sixth at the SK Handball Stadium here.

A little more than



five months ago, Sameer had defeated Son Wan in the opening round at India Super Series in March but since then the Korean has climbed to the top of world ranking.

Early this morning, Sameer once again tried to get across the Korean but top seed Son Wan dished out a gritty performance to beat the Indian 20-22 21-10 21-13 in an hour and nine min-

ute duel.

In the women's singles, Sindhu eked out a 6-2 lead early on in the opening game but Mitani managed to claw back and turn the tables around, reaching 11-9 at

the break. After a close battle till 16-16, Sindhu jumped to 19-16.

Mitani then erased the deficit but Sindhu ensured she had the bragging rights after the first game as she sealed it quickly.

In the second game, Mitani opened up a 8-4 lead but Sindhu surpassed her soon and was leading 12-9. But the Japanese once again clawed back at 13-13 and then moved away from the Indian to roar back into the contest.

In the decider, Sindhu showed her class as she didn't give any chance to Mitani to make any recovery after zooming to a 9-2 lead. She was 11-6 at the break, which she extended to 19-9 after the interval, before slamming the door on the Japanese.

## ManU has the best squad in EPL: Giggs

**MUMBAI, SEP 15 (PTI):** Backing his former club to the hilt, Ryan Giggs said here that he expected a close fight for the coveted title between his old club, Manchester United, and Manchester City in this year's English Premier League.

"This season will be decided between Manchester United and Manchester City because of the recruitment. It's also (City manager) (Pep) Guardiola's and (United manager) (Jose) Mourinho's second season. They have the best squads. City have very good attacking players, probably best in the league, but United's squad is the best," the ManU legend told reporters today.

"They got the best squad in the league, in Europe and to handle injuries and suspensions. The other clubs - Tottenham, now playing their home games at Wembley, I thought it would be a problem. Chelsea (is) not recruiting like City or United.

"Liverpool also - I don't think they've got the goalkeeper or defenders to win the Premier League. I could be wrong, it's tough to predict," said the 43-year-old former Welshman, who had turned out for ManU for close to a quarter century until his total retirement in the game.

Giggs is in the city to lead the Kry-



tal Mumbai Warriors in the second season of the Premier Futsal, commencing here tonight.

The former Wales star also defended Englishman Wayne Rooney's decision to quit international football and also welcomed his move to his former club, Everton.

"It's always difficult when you retire from international football. You have to look at everything because playing for your country is important. He wanted to move to a new club and give his all there. He hadn't become an automatic choice for England. When you play for 15-20 years with a big club and then

you play in the Champions League, internationals, you literally don't get any rest," he said.

"I retired at 33 from international football and then I played for another seven years. So for me, it was a massive thing because during that international break, you get a little rest and a little time to recuperate and recharge the batteries. It was huge for me and hopefully, it will be the same for Wayne," he said.

Giggs also termed ManU's decision to appoint Mourinho as a difficult one but said the club went for someone who was proven.

"It was a difficult decision after Lou-

is Van Gaal left. Do they get a young coach and give him three or four years to build or do they get someone who has over the years guaranteed success and get them back to the top quickly. So they went for someone who is proven, who comes with a baggage also of not lasting long, is very outspoken, but gets the job done.

"I could see both sides of the argument. United used to having coaches like (Sir Alex) Fergusson who believes in young players and believes in United's philosophy of attacking football or you have someone like Mourinho who is more pragmatic, but there are also downsides with the way he works," he added.

Asked that United fans hoped that he would get the job of the Club's manager, Giggs said, "Yes, I felt I was ready for the job. I know the club and the traditions, so there were phases, but I also didn't have the experience in coaching before."

Does he see himself return to the Old Trafford as a manager, and Giggs quips "who knows."

"I don't think so, but who knows. After Mourhino, depending on how long he lasts and if he is successful, so all these things will determine who the next appointment is," he said.



## Ban Ki-moon tapped for IOC ethics chair

**LIMA, SEP 14 (AP):** Former United Nations secretary general Ban Ki-moon has been elected chair of the International Olympic Committee's ethics commission.

The South Korean, who served as leader in the UN from 2007 through 2016, will take over for Youssoupha Ndiaye.

In his acceptance speech today, Ban called his new task "a serious responsibility."

Among his immediate tasks will be a vote-buying scandal involving last year's Olympics in Rio de

Janeiro.

A Brazilian IOC member, Carlos Nuzman, is under investigation for his alleged role in a USD 2 million vote-buying scheme to bring the games to Brazil.

Earlier this week, IOC president Thomas Bach said the committee was awaiting word from Brazilian authorities before determining next steps.

One IOC member, Dick Pound, said the committee needs to act more decisively, and the ethics commission should be conducting its own investigation.



## Bureaucrats, dabbawalas join Maha football awareness campaign

**MUMBAI, SEP 15 (PTI):** Senior bureaucrats, including IAS and IPS officers, and even the famed 'dabbawalas' of Mumbai chipped in as the Maharashtra government today launched a campaign to create awareness about football, with the country all set to host the FIFA Under 17 football World Cup.

Members of Mumbai's Dabbawala Association and school students played here this morning after Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the 'Maharashtra Mission 1 Million' event in south Mumbai.

In coastal Raigad, district collector Vijay Suryawanshi came on the ground dressed in football gear, to the surprise of other officials and school students present.

"This was an occasion to refresh my memories of school, where I played football regularly," the IAS officer said. He asked the students to develop a healthy lifestyle by embracing sports.

In Jalgaon, district Superintendent of Police Datta Karale joined

district collector Kishor Rajee Nimbalkar in flagging off the local football event there. Karale was also dressed in football gear. The IPS officer attributed his good physique to 'lot of football' played in his school.

As part of 'Mission 1 Million', the state distributed over 90,000 footballs, three each in 30,000 schools across the state, Vinod Tawde, state minister for sports said.

"Maharashtra is the first to organise such an event, wherein average 50 students from each school participated in school matches," the minister said.

To encourage young students to take up football, the government, during the monsoon session in August, had organised a friendly match of legislators from both the Houses of the state legislature.

"The event will promote field games too, as students nowadays are getting addicted to indoor games and video games on cell phones or on computers," Tawde said.

## India, Pak hold talks on Indus Waters Treaty



**WASHINGTON, SEP 15 (PTI):** India and Pakistan are holding high-level talks on technical issues of the Indus Waters Treaty here, a senior World Bank official has said.

"These meetings are a continuation of a discussion on how to safeguard the Treaty for the benefit of the people in both countries," a World Bank spokesperson told PTI.

The meetings be-

tween India and Pakistan on the technical issues of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) are taking place in Washington on September 14-15, the spokesperson added.

The World Bank in August had said that under the IWT, India is permitted to construct hydroelectric power facilities on tributaries of the Jhelum and Chenab rivers with certain

restrictions.

Pakistan opposes the construction of the Kishanganga (330 megawatts) and Ratle (850 megawatts) hydroelectric power plants being built by India, it had said in a fact sheet issued at the conclusion of secretary-level talks between the two countries over the IWT.

The IWT was signed

in 1960 after nine years of negotiations between India and Pakistan with the help of the World Bank, which is also a signatory. The World Bank's role in relation to "differences" and "disputes" is limited to the designation of people to fulfil certain roles when requested by either or both of the parties, the fact sheet said.

## Nearly 3 weeks into Rohingya crisis, refugees still fleeing

**contd from pg04**

bar use that term as part of the long-standing refusal to accept Rohingya as citizens of the country.

Myanmar has accused the Rohingya of burning their own homes and villages, a claim the UN human rights chief criticized as a "complete denial of reality."

UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters at UN headquarters yesterday that 10,000

people reportedly crossed the border that in the last 24 hours.

Combined with the Rohingyas who fled during the last round of violence in Rakhine state last October, Dujarric said "it's estimated that some 40 per cent of the total Rohingya population have now fled into Bangladesh."

An estimated 60 per cent of the Rohingyas arriving in Bangladesh are children, Dujarric said.

The crisis and refugee exodus began on August 25, when Rohingya insurgents attacked police posts. Myanmar's military retaliated with "clearance operations" to root out the rebels, but the fleeing Rohingya say Myanmar soldiers shot indiscriminately, burned their homes and warned them to leave or die.

Others have said they were attacked by Buddhist mobs.

Hundreds have died, mostly Rohingya, and some of the refugees have needed treatment for bullet wounds.

Facing growing condemnation globally, Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi will not attend UN General Assembly meetings September 19-25 to instead deal with what the government said were domestic security issues.

UN Secretary-General An-

tonio Guterres told reporters Wednesday that ethnic cleansing was taking place against Rohingya in Rakhine state. The term "ethnic cleansing" is defined as an effort to rid an area of an unwanted ethnic group by displacement, deportation or even killing.

And Amnesty International said yesterday that it has turned up evidence of an "orchestrated

campaign of systematic burnings" by Myanmar security forces targeting dozens of Rohingya villages over the last three weeks.

The UN Security Council has called for "immediate steps to end the violence" and ensure civilian protections. Rohingya have faced decades of persecution in Myanmar, and are denied citizenship despite centuries-old roots in the Rakhine region.



North Korea fires missile over Japan

**SEOUL, SEP 15 (AFP):** North Korea fired a ballistic missile over Japan and into the Pacific today, responding to new UN sanctions with its furthest-ever missile flight in what analysts called a demonstration of its ability to target Guam.

The launch, from near Pyongyang, came after the United Nations Security Council imposed an eighth set of measures on the isolated country following its sixth nuclear test earlier this month.

The blast was by far its largest to date and Pyongyang said it was a hydrogen bomb small enough to fit onto a missile. In New York, the Security Council called an emergency meeting for later today.

The US Pacific Command confirmed Friday's rocket was an intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM) and said it did not pose a threat to North America or to the US Pacific territory of Guam, which Pyongyang has threatened to bracket with "enveloping fire".

Seoul's defence ministry said it probably travelled around 3,700 kilometres (2,300 miles) and reached a maximum altitude of 770 kilometres.

It was "the furthest overground any of their ballistic missiles has ever travelled", Joseph Dempsey of the International Institute for Strategic Studies said on Twitter.

Physicist David Wright, of the Union of Concerned Scientists, added: "North Korea demonstrated that it could reach Guam with this missile, although the payload the missile was carrying is not known" and its accuracy was in doubt.

The North has raised global tensions with its rapid progress in weapons technology under leader Kim Jong-Un, who is closely associated with the programme and regularly pictured by state media overseeing launches and visiting facilities.

The North's last missile launch, a Hwasong-12 IRBM just over two weeks ago, also overflowed Japan's main islands and was the first to do so for years.

Several hurt in 'terror incident' on London Underground train

**LONDON, SEP 15 (PTI):** An explosion on an underground train at a busy station in southwest London today left several commuters injured in what the Scotland Yard described as a "terrorist incident". The incident occurred during rush hour on a District Line Tube train as it pulled into Parsons Green station.

Several people are said to have suffered facial burns after the blast in a bucket towards the rear of the District Line train. Some commuters reportedly were trampled and suffered crush injuries in the rush to escape. Scotland Yard's counter-terrorism squad, SO15, arrived at the scene at Parsons Green Tube station and took the lead in the investigation from the British Transport Police.

"Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu, the senior national coordinator for counter-terrorism policing, has declared it a terrorist incident," the Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

"The Metropolitan Police Service and British Transport Police attended the scene, along with colleagues from the London Fire Brigade and London Ambulance Service. At present we are aware of a number of people who have suffered injuries," the statement said.

"It is too early to confirm the cause of the fire, which will be subject to the investigation that is now underway by the Met's Counter



Terrorism Command. The station remains cordoned off and we are advising people to avoid the area," it said.

Downing Street said Prime Minister Theresa May was "receiving regular updates" on the situation. Some of the injuries are believed to be related to the direct impact of

the explosion involving a large white plastic bucket in a supermarket plastic bag in one of the carriages.

Images of the bucket with wires sticking out have emerged on social media. However, many commuters were also injured in the chaos that followed as people panicked and tried to escape from the scene, resulting in a stampede at the station.

While the exact nature of the explosion is not yet known, Metropolitan Police bomb squads and fire crews remained at the scene including London Ambulance's Hazardous Response Units.

"We have sent multiple resources to the scene including single responders in cars, ambulance crews, incident response officers and our hazardous area response team, with the first of our medics arriving in under five minutes," the London Ambulance said.

"Our initial priority is to assess the level and nature of injuries," it said.

Eyewitnesses from shops outside the station had reported seeing people with facial injuries. Many have been told to stay in lockdown as police evacuated the area and placed a wide zone under a police cordon.

Passenger Chris Wildish told the BBC that he saw a bucket in a supermarket bag with "low-level flames coming out of it" by the door of the rear carriage.



China 'opposes' NKorea missile launch, urges restraint

**BEIJING, SEP 15 (AFP):** China condemned North Korea's launch of a ballistic missile over Japan today and appealed for restraint to avoid inflaming tensions in the region.

"The Chinese side opposes the DPRK's violation of the resolution of the (UN) Security Council, and its use of ballistic missile technology for launch activities," foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told a regular news briefing.

"The concerned parties should exercise restraint. They should not take any further action that could aggravate the

situation on the peninsula and in the region," Hua said. The launch, from near Pyongyang, came after the United Nations Security Council imposed an eighth set of measures on the isolated country following its sixth nuclear test earlier this month.

It was by far its largest nuclear test to date and Pyongyang said it was a hydrogen bomb small enough to fit onto a missile. In New York, the Security Council called an emergency meeting for later Friday.

The United States, meanwhile, called on China and Russia to take

"direct actions" to rein in North Korea.

"China supplies North Korea with most of its oil. Russia is the largest employer of North Korean forced labor," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in a statement.

"China and Russia must indicate their intolerance for these reckless missile launches by taking direct actions of their own."

Asked at the briefing if Beijing would change its approach, Hua said China will "continue to comprehensively and completely implement the relevant resolutions of the Security Council."

'India pushing Myanmar to take back Rohingya refugees'

**DHAKA, SEP 15 (PTI):** External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has expressed solidarity with Bangladesh over the Rohingya crisis and said India is putting pressure on Myanmar to take back refugees who have fled the Buddhist-majority nation, a top aide of Bangladesh Prime Minister has said.

More than 300,000 Rohingya have poured into Bangladesh since the latest flare-up in violence on August 25, adding to around 300,000 refugees already living in Bangladesh, close to the border with Myanmar.

"She (Swaraj) called our Prime Minister last night and conveyed her country's solidarity with Bangladesh over the Myanmar refugee issue," Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina deputy press secretary Nazrul Islam told PTI.

Swaraj, he said, told the Bangladesh premier that the crisis by now appeared as an international issue while India was trying to put "pressure bilaterally and multilaterally on Myanmar to stop persecution on ethnic minority Rohingya Muslims" and take back the refugees who fled to Bangladesh.

According to the spokesman, Hasina, on the other hand, said Bangladesh was forced to offer refuge to the refugees on humanitarian ground as they fled their home at Myanmar's western Rakhine state to evade atrocities.



He said Hasina explained Swaraj the helplessness and miseries of the refugees, particularly of the minor children and women, and said Bangladesh is trying to address their basic needs.

"She (Hasina) told Swaraj that Bangladesh required external supports to handle the refugee issue and return them to Myanmar," the spokesman said.

Hasina said her government allocated land for makeshift shelters of the Rohingyas "but, it will certainly create a big problem for Bangladesh if they stay for long".

The premier's spokesman said Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Harsh Vardhan Shringla was present at the Hasina's Ganabhaban residence when Swaraj called. Swaraj's call came hours after the external affairs ministry issued a statement expressing India's readiness to provide Bangladesh "any assistance" in tackling the refugee crisis.

India, yesterday, rushed 53 tonnes of relief materials to Bangladesh and pledged all help to Dhaka in tackling the humanitarian crisis.

Shringla said India will provide 7,000 tonnes of relief materials to Bangladesh. Dhaka earlier said Bangladesh required India's assistance in its efforts to handle the situation and send the refugees back home.

"The entire world today is worried with the Rohingya issue (and) their (India's) concern and stand beside us is very crucial at this moment," ruling Awami League general secretary and senior minister Obaidul Quader said earlier this week.

**GENERAL LAND FOR SALE:**

Roadside plots (general land) available for sale at Adampool, east Sikkim.

Contact **9434117687** for further details and to arrange site visits.

**NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES**

DEAR VULTURE EVENING

Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward

Draw No:7 DrawDate on:15/09/17

1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 968 45690  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 45690 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

08822 11874 19853 21340 26047

35904 41992 57392 58028 86225

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-

16741 20325 20781 27003 30195

32484 37983 70308 76171 98723

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0809 2002 4064 5015 6628 7125 7689 8598 8729 8819

5th Prize Rs.500/-

0674 0832 1821 4586 4629 4640 5332 5731 7731 9868

6th Prize Rs.250/-

0242 0453 0518 0590 0696 0726 0778 0796 0802 1100

1127 1135 1208 1258 1374 1465 1479 1654 1758 1783

2099 2225 2240 2349 2419 2441 2445 2825 2932 3016

3043 3157 3236 3452 3864 3959 3975 4149 4161 4191

4208 4281 4485 4540 4585 4604 4610 4774 4836 5232

5323 5395 5517 5528 5626 5705 5876 5932 6096 6149

6292 6352 6503 6540 6544 6702 6730 6825 7054 7062

7228 7267 7422 7438 7494 7518 7523 7546 7581 7609

7713 7730 7732 7817 7826 8282 8286 8339 8352 8450

8707 8879 8982 9070 9103 9402 9645 9658 9702 9795

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The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland

For Result, Please Visit : [www.nagalandlotteries.com](http://www.nagalandlotteries.com)

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

**SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES**

**DEAR ADMIRE MORNING**

Draw No:2 DrawDate on:15/09/17

1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 921 66765  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 66765 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

09747 23180 27867 32328 39137

52638 70449 71193 75096 80686

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-

08382 12940 29707 54470 68300

73183 75715 76241 78402 98291

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0162 0530 1076 1481 3830 4133 4562 7411 7861 8063

5th Prize Rs.500/-

1404 1883 2272 3782 3896 4374 6445 7369 7499 8011

6th Prize Rs.250/-

0030 0078 0285 0317 0642 0806 0987 1111 1184 1245

1374 1699 1947 1957 1961 1969 1971 2024 2190 2218

2503 2768 2874 2907 2955 3055 3399 3425 3497 3573

3687 3704 3823 4040 4145 4146 4161 4228 4297 4343

4563 4592 4627 4681 4728 4768 4780 4845 4891 4898

4906 4951 5001 5094 5101 5183 5283 5362 5390 5415

5555 5557 5822 5826 5971 6152 6489 6505 6534 6636

6803 6874 6896 7013 7032 7197 7268 7322 7393 7448

7782 7928 7980 8004 8139 8308 8455 8599 8728 8797

8836 8945 9194 9211 9229 9394 9506 9801 9971 9995

Issued by :

The Director , Sikkim State Lotteries , Gangtok

Please Visit : [www.sikkimlotteries.com](http://www.sikkimlotteries.com)

**DEAR TENDER**

Draw No:7 DrawDate on:15/09/17

1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 896 15774  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 15774 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

14740 68594 75336 75828 76152

86414 86996 94695 95670 99577

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-

01105 02853 35602 35741 59475

67099 70696 71561 86802 96474

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0949 3363 4462 4815 5970 6468 6892 7967 9480 9555

5th Prize Rs.500/-

0391 1062 1104 4252 4260 4459 5029 5681 5924 7047

6th Prize Rs.250/-

0154 0217 0242 0618 0960 1016 1350 1409 1699 1833

1845 1938 1940 2013 2071 2190 2271 2301 2359 2399

2597 2614 2643 2653 2690 3005 3086 3176 3225 3584

3699 3765 3771 3921 4009 4017 4348 4562 4578 4819

5250 5505 5560 5661 5703 5704 5771 5798 5883 5963

5985 6059 6163 6184 6517 6535 6540 6614 6630 6632

6690 6834 7176 7260 7336 7512 7686 7737 7782 7843

7939 8012 8036 8058 8065 8069 8086 8243 8375 8432

8437 8467 8909 8948 9029 9060 9234 9269 9303 9391

9395 9427 9471 9501 9670 9812 9875 9895 9905 9961

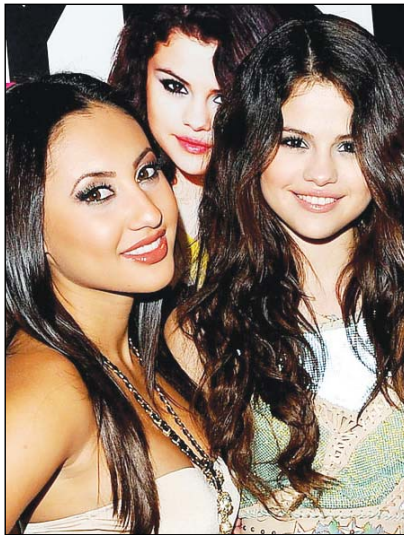




**SHINING BRIGHT:** Rihanna slayed in a stunning black gown at her 03rd Annual Diamond Ball in New York City.

### BEST FRIENDS FOREVER!!

## FRANCIA RAISA SAYS HER LIFE 'CHANGED' WHEN SHE DONATED HER KIDNEY TO SELENA GOMEZ



Hours after Selena Gomez revealed that she had a kidney transplant over the summer, her donor and best friend, Francia Raisa, is speaking out. "I am beyond grateful that God would trust me with something that not only saved a life, but changed mine in the process," the Bring It On actress, 29, wrote alongside an Instagram picture on Thursday, September 14, of herself and Gomez, 25, in hospital gowns before the transplant. "This was part of our story and we will share it soon, but what is important

now is that this is not the only story. Love you sis, so glad we're on this journey together," Francia captioned a pic of her and Sel in their hospital gowns.

The Secret Life of the American Teenager alum and the "Bad Liar" songstress have been longtime friends and have featured one another on their respective Instagram accounts numerous times.

The 13 Reasons Why producer was diagnosed with Lupus in 2015 and revealed in August 2016 that she would be taking a break from her music to pri-

oritize her health.

"I want to be proactive and focus on mining my health and happiness and have decided that the best way forward is to take some time off," the former Disney star said at the time.

"Thank you to all of my fans for your support. You know how special you are to me, but I need to face this head on to ensure I am doing everything possible to be my best. I know I am not alone and by sharing this, I hope others will be encouraged to address their own issues."

**ARIES:** Don't get discouraged if it seems like everyone but you is getting a piece of the pie, Aries. Your time will come, but it probably won't be today. While you may want to sink into tender feelings and sensitivity, others may want to float on the surface and dabble in fantasy worlds. Feel free to escape in your own world for a while, but don't be surprised if others don't follow.

**TAURUS:** Make some room for long communications with good friends, Taurus. This is an important day to get the word out to people you love. Keep things light and energetic, which you do well anyway. Express your showmanship and make sure your bright

presence lights up every room you enter. The world is your stage, so act the role you enjoy the most - your true self.

**GEMINI:** You may be the party-pooper today unless you do something to remedy your serious tone, Gemini. This is a day for light, social activities and fun-loving times with friends. Don't worry if things don't seem rational. Sometimes it's the unlikely route that ends up being the best. Don't discount the fanciful and bizarre. Take a walk on the wild side.

**CANCER:** You're the missing piece of the puzzle today, Cancer. As a result, people will look to you for answers. The good news is that

you'll have them at the ready. Trust yourself. Information and new ideas may be flying around, and you may be called upon to make sense of it all. Don't be afraid to err on the side of the fanciful. This may be exactly the answer needed.

**LEO:** You may run into trouble if you penetrate too deeply today, Leo. Keep things light and energetic if you can. Ironically, the harder you push to get something done, the more roadblocks you're apt to encounter. Things will flow easily if you're willing to let them. Give up some control and let a more whimsical energy lead the way.

**VIRGO:** Give your adventure-some, world-traveling spirit room

to soar, Virgo. This is a good time to embrace and express your dreams. Write them down, talk to others, and say them out loud. Communication and information are key elements today. Things may move quickly, so stay alert and tuned into the energy that's buzzing all around you. The best things in life may come on a whim.

**LIBRA:** Stop planning and start doing. There may be pressure to leave your normal routine and do something on a whim, Libra. Although this may not be your usual way to do things, it certainly isn't a reason not to. Let your mind explore new realms. Feel free to pick up loose pieces of an old dream

that you left hanging in midair. Re-kindle your passion for life.

**SCORPIO:** The answer for you today is "yes." Explore, reach out, and expand your mind to the far corners of your world and beyond, Scorpio. There's no need to be tied down to reality. Don't restrict yourself to linear thinking. Take time out and enjoy the clouds. Information you receive should be extremely helpful in the pursuit of your wildest dreams.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Today you should take action in areas where you usually keep quiet, Sagittarius. The more you explore your mind, the safer you'll feel in your external reality. Be confident of your dreams. This

is a day to connect with others about the things that feel most pleasurable. Indulge and enjoy. Take action. You have everything you need to make it all start working for you.

**CAPRICORN:** There's a light, uplifting flavor to the day, Capricorn, which you should latch onto and take charge of. You'll find that there's a rather dreamy yet expansive quality to this energy that encourages you to soar higher and achieve more. Jump on opportunities, but be careful that you don't act based on misguided information. Pipe dreams will get you nowhere.

**AQUARIUS:** Try not to take things too seriously today, Aquarius. Realize that the best plans are

sometimes the ones that were never made in the first place. Keep the lines of communication open and don't discount things that sound off the wall at first. Dream big and don't restrict yourself by thinking that your radical ideas have no basis in reality.

**PISCES:** This is a tremendous day for you, Pisces. You may find that dreams really can come true. Make sure you stay abreast of communication and periodicals. Let your fingers dip into many different pies and keep a notepad handy. Your brilliant strokes of inspiration may come on a whim, so be ready to receive them. The genius within you yearns to spring forth.

## PRIYANKA CHOPRA CHOSEN AS A PRESENTER ONCE AGAIN AT EMMYS 2017

Globetrotter Priyanka Chopra has yet again joined the list of presenters for the 69th Primetime Emmy Awards which includes the likes of Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Shailene Woodley and Matt Bomer. Priyanka has rose to superstardom down in west with her popular TV show Quantico and her Hollywood stints.

Last year at the Emmys, Priyanka presented an award with Tom Hiddleston and quite much created a storm at the red carpet in her stunning bold red gown. Though, this year Priyanka has not been nominated in any category at the Emmys but being a presenter once again at these prestigious awards is surely impressive.

Earlier, in her interview with an international mag-



azine, Priyanka spoke about her experience at the Emmys last year. She told, "I walked out with this big train, and I did it for the first

time because I was like, 'Oh, it's so pretty. I feel princessy, and after I twirled once, I was twirling all night. All the photographers were like, 'Can you twirl? Can you please twirl?' And even on stage, Tom [Hiddleston, her fellow presenter] made me twirl. And I was only twirling!"

The 69th Primetime Emmy Awards will be held on September 17. Priyanka is currently in Jordan as a good-will ambassador for UNICEF.

### SAM SMITH AND ELTON JOHN REFLECT ON EMOTIONAL COMING OUT EXPERIENCES IN A REVEALING INTERVIEW

Not every coming out story is created equal, as was made evident by Sam Smith and Elton John's interview for Attitude magazine's October issue.

The singer-songwriters spoke candidly with the British LGBT-centric mag, giving readers an insight into their first brushes with sexuality. When Sir Elton complimented Smith on his upcoming track "Him," the pop artist admitted it's "only semi-autobiographical."

"I came out when I was 10," Sam, 25, explained. "I'd just finished primary school, going into secondary school, and I came out to my best friend when I was nine or 10. I was very sure of, and in, myself."

He continued, "When I told my mum she said she always knew, she said she knew

when I was three, and my dad just asked if I was absolutely sure. And I was sure, even at that age, but they were incredibly supportive." The "Too Good at Goodbyes" singer said his father expressed concern over the possible mistreatment of Smith because of the London neighborhood they lived in. "I think my dad was scared for me, because of his own life experience," he said, adding, "I think he saw a lot of kids get bullied and just felt really nervous for me."

"Especially when, at 16 and 17, I used to wear a lot of makeup and dressed very differently at school," Sam remarked. "He didn't have a problem with it, but he was really worried about me." When asked if he was ever bullied for being gay, Sam revealed that he did endure some "awful" moments. "I've always said I wasn't [bullied]," he told John, "because I don't think my experience was as bad as others I've heard of, but when I look back at it now, it wasn't the easiest time."

"I was lucky, I had a very good group of friends around me, but some of the other boys could be absolutely awful to me at times. It's nothing that has scared me, though," Smith concluded.

When it comes to Sir Elton, 70, he said that because of the time period he grew up in, it was nearly impossible to address his sexuality.



#### 16TH SEPTEMBER

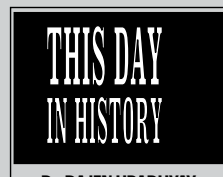
**1810:** Mexico declared its independence from Spain after 300 years of Spanish Rule.

**1920:** A bomb believed to be planted by radical anarchists rocked Wall Street killing 38 people and wounded over 400. It was never solved but was widely attributed to radical anarchists.

**1928:** The Okeechobee Hurricane strikes Lake Okeechobee, Florida with winds of around 140 mph a major levee broke with the resulting flood covering an area of hundreds of square miles with water that in some places was over 20 ft (6 m) deep and some 2,500 people drowned.

**1931:** As the world recession continues the British economy is heading for an all time low with thousands of ships rusting in harbors because there are no goods to export, the budget deficit continues to grow and currently stands at \$600 million budget deficit this year.

**1932:** Mahatma Gandhi begins his hunger strike in opposition



**Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY**  
Assistant Professor in History,  
Namchi Govt. College

to Britain's new Caste Separation Laws.

**1978:** A 7.7 Magnitude earthquake rocks Tabas, Iran, killing more than 20,000 people and flattening the town to the ground. Rescue operations are continuing in the hope of finding survivors who were buried but may still be alive.

**1963:** The Beatles release "She Loves You" in the United States. The song went to claim the Number 1 position on the charts on March 21st 1964 and remained there for 2 weeks. "She Loves You" helped set a record in the United States by being one of the five Beatles songs which held the top five positions in the American charts simultaneously. "She Loves You" had already been released in the UK on August 23rd.

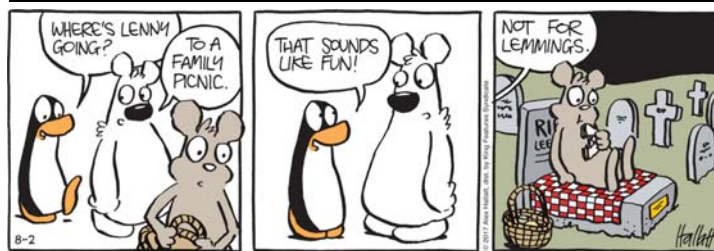
**2012:** A roadside bomb in the Lower Dir region of northwest Pakistan killed fourteen people and injured another seven. The bomb hit a van that was carrying villagers towards the marketplace.

#### LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"LEROY IS CONSTANTLY BRINGING HIS WORK HOME WITH HIM."

#### ARCTIC CIRCLE



#### BABY BLUES

