

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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## 3-day Bharat Utsav kicks off at MG Marg

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR (IPR):** Three-day Bharat Utsav was kicked off here at MG Marg today. The Minister for Cultural Affairs and Heritage, GM Gurung inaugurated the festival which is organized by the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department, Government of Sikkim.

Cultural Affairs Minister, Mr Gurung said, "This festival will encourage young artists of ethnic communities and others in the field of art and culture. We need to preserve our rich



folk cultures of India."

The festival will have folk dances from different states of

India. The EZCC is one of the seven cultural centers set up by the Government of India to

integrate the nation with cultural festivals.

Cultural troupes from 10 different states presented their folk and traditional dance during the inaugural function today.

During this fest, India's great cultural diversity (dance form) like Purulia Chhann, Bihu, Kalbelia and Chakri, Badhai, Sambalpuri, Rauf, Ghoomer, Bhangra & Jindua, Siddhi Dhamal and Lambari will be showcased. Many of these dances have been featured in the UNESCO Representative list of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of

Humanity.

Participant states will narrate folk tales, stories of heroism in the form of dances and songs. Besides, 21 diverse indigenous folk dance forms of Sikkim will also be performed in the festival.

The programme was attended by Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department Secretary, Yashoda Bhandari, representatives of EZCC and officials from Culture department.

EZCC representatives expressed their gratitude to the Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department for their cooperation and support.

## ITBP Constable risks life to save fellow soldier during Dhaulagiri expedition

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

Himveer of 11th Battalion [ITBP, Pegong], Constable [GD] Biman Biswas, risked his life to save Head Constable [GD] Krishna Kumar from the harsh climate and geographical conditions during the expedition to Mount Dhaulagiri, the world's seventh tallest peak in Nepal, a press release informs.

At the height of 8100 m during the summit expedition, due to cerebral oedema, Head Constable Kumar lost his mental control. However, Constable Biswas risked his life to save him and in the process, has lost fingers on both of his hands.

Surviving the sub-zero temperature without food and shelter for over 50 hours, the troops brought Head Constable Kumar down to 7050 m near the



base camp from where they were air-lifted.

In his speech today, Commandant of 11th Bn, Rajesh Kumar Tomar, praised the soldier for his courage and saluted his patriotism and nation service. He also assured all possible help to Constable Biswas from the Government of India and ITBP.

"Our country, ITBP and the unit is lucky to have a living hero among us. We need to learn from his heroism and print it in the heart of all personnel of the unit," said Commandant Tomar.

## Aircraft grounding: IndiGo cancels 488 flights, GoAir 138

**MUMBAI, MAR 15 (PTI):** Passengers are likely to face harrowing times with IndiGo and GoAir deciding to cancel more than 600 flights this month, of which 480 are by IndiGo alone, following grounding of 11 A320 neo planes with faulty Pratt & Whitney (P&W) engines.

The cancellations by the two budget carriers, which operate more than 1,200 flights daily on average, may significantly disrupt the summer schedule. There was no immediate clarity about the way possible compensation and alternative choices would be made available to the passengers already having tickets.

IndiGo, which has the largest share in the domestic aviation market, would be cancelling as many as 488 flights during the period March 15-31. GoAir has decided to cancel a total of 138 flights between March 15-22, as per announcements made on their respective websites.

According to the curtailed flight schedule submitted to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and posted on the airline's website, IndiGo would not operate 36 daily flights between March 15 and March 21.

Another 18 daily flights would remain cancelled between March 22 and March 24. The number of flights cancelled between March 25 and March 31 stands at 16 per day, the airline indicated.

This takes the total number of cancelled flights to 488 till the end of this month.

The revised schedule of Wadia group-promoted GoAir showed that the airline has cancelled seven daily flights to 10 destinations between March 16 and March 24 apart from cancelling six ser-

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## WOMEN'S DAY OBSERVED AT MANAN KENDRA

## Seven ladies felicitated emerging as role models

**REBYNA RANA/ IPR**

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

State Commission for Women, Government of Sikkim organized a programme to observe International Women's Day-2018 today here at Manan Kendra in the capital with the theme "Time is Now: Rural and Urban Activists Transforming Women's Lives".

Floriculture entrepreneur Tika Maya Chamling attended the function as the chief guest along with Minister for Social, Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Tulshi Devi Rai as the guest of honor. During the programme, seven women professionals were felicitated by the organizing committee for their contributions and dedication towards their respective fields of work.

Among the awardees were Senior Superintendent of Police [Traffic], Ongmu Bhutia, journalist, Kabita Sharma, Head Constable, Sikkim Police, Kul Bahadur Chettri, Constable, Sikkim Police, Kabita Sharma and social activists, Passang Tsher-



ing Bhutia, Kincho Lhamu Lepcha and Lalita Lama.

The awardees were presented with tokens and letters of appreciation by the chief guest.

The programme also featured dance performance by the girls of Subha Laxmi Home and skit play by Arithang Mahila Kalyankari Sangh. The participants along with the media representatives were also presented tokens of appreciation.

In her address, Ms Chamling expressed her gratitude and congratulated all the awardees. She said it is time to re-

flect on the progress made by women and called for change and celebration to honor the courage and determination displayed by women in every field of life.

As a pre-requisite to ensure women's rights she said that harmful practices against women and girls need to end.

Minister for Social, Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Tulshi Devi Rai while addressing the gathering said that this year International Women's Day 2018 comes on the heels of unprecedented global move-

ment for women's rights, equality and justice.

"It is an opportunity to transform the momentum into action, to empower women in all settings, rural and urban, and celebrate the activists who are working relentlessly to claim women's rights and realize their full potential," she added.

She also stated that it is an opportunity to consider how to accelerate the agendas, building momentum for the effective implementation of the goals and schemes made by the government.

During the programme an android application for women safety alert 'SAHAYOG' was also launched by the chief guest.

The programme also saw the felicitation of the chief guest on behalf of the State Commission for Women, Government of Sikkim.

The function was also attended by students from different schools, officials, panchayats, Gangtok Municipal Corporation members, cheli morma members and Sikkim Democratic Front party workers.

## SKM wants reciprocal transport agreement between Sikkim and WB to be made public

**CORRECT ANY MISTAKES, PARTY FURTHER DEMANDS**

**SAGAR CHETTRI**

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party has demanded that the State government make details of its reciprocal transport agreement with West Bengal public. The party has further urged the government to make immediate corrections, if there are any mistakes or oversights, in the agree-

ment in the interest of the drivers of Sikkim.

Addressing a press conference here today, SKM chief coordinator, Sangha MLA Sonam Lama, pointed out that Sikkim drivers have been facing problems and losses due to the countersign permit regime which is inconveniencing them.

"Drivers of the State faced the same problem last year as well due to countersign permit requirements, so the State government should have taken some steps in ad-

turn to pg02

## Calls for common oppn front against BJP in 2019 grow after loss in UP, Bihar

**LUCKNOW/MUMBAI, MAR 15 (PTI):** The reverses suffered by the BJP in the Lok Sabha and assembly bypolls in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar today triggered urgent calls by rival parties to forge an united opposition front to take on the saffron party in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

As Bahujan Samaj Party(BSP) supremo Mayawati led the opposition charge urging people not to let the BJP to come to power again at the Centre, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav indicated his party was keen on burying the hatchet with the BSP, saying sometimes "past incidents have to be forgotten". Mayawati also said the BJP may go in for early general elections.

Addressing a rally in Chandigarh, Mayawati said her party supported the SP candidates in Uttar Pradesh for the Lok Sabha bypolls in order to defeat the BJP.

In a stunning blow to the BJP yesterday, the party yesterday lost bypolls to all the three Lok Sabha seats it contested, including its bastion Gorakhpur, and Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh, besides Araria in Bihar.

While BJP's estranged ally Shiv Sena said the results will give a boost to the opposition, the Sharad Pawar-led NCP said it showed that a united opposition can defeat the BJP-led regime. The NCP termed the BJP's defeat as a "shape of things to come."

The results of the byelections in UP and Bihar will give a boost to the opposition, an editorial in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana' said, adding that people are now out of their "illusionary world".

Congress president Rahul Gandhi met NCP chief Sharad Pawar in New Delhi in a bid to step up efforts to put up an united front against the BJP ahead of the 2019 polls, sources said.

The sources said that Gandhi met Pawar at the latter's residence last night but no details were available.

Enthused by his party's strong showing in the Gorakhpur and Phulpur bypolls, Akhilesh Yadav declined to respond to a volley of questions on SP's future course of action on stitching any pre-poll alliance. "No one can say anything about the future," Yadav said when asked about the possibility of the bitter rivals—the SP and the BSP—coming together again. The SP won both the seats with BSP's backing.

Speaking to reporters in Lucknow, Yadav also said that his party's ties with Congress too continued to be good.

Yesterday, in a scene which seemed unimaginable only till the recent past, Yadav had rushed to the residence of the Mayawati shortly after his candidates emerged victori-

ous and thanked her.

Following SP's win in the bypolls, there has been much speculation about UP's two biggest regional parties joining hands to take on a formidable BJP in the 2019 general elections.

Buoyed by bypolls victory, the RJD MLAs staged a demonstration outside the Bihar assembly, demanding resignation of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar over the ruling coalition's defeat.

The RJD registered emphatic victories in Araria Lok Sabha and Jehanabad assembly seats. The BJP was defeated in Araria though it succeeded in winning Bhabhua assembly seat.

Kumar's JD(U) suffered a crushing defeat in Jehanabad.

NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik said the bypoll results are a victory of the united forces for social justice.

"There was no division of votes and the BJP could not benefit from such a split. In the 2019 general elections, when the division of secular votes will not be there, the BJP will be defeated. What happened yesterday will impact the general elections," Malik, a former Maharashtra minister, told PTI in Mumbai.

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said BJP is "sinking".

"We can see BJP is sinking ... It is sinking quite fast," the BJD leader said when asked to comment on the BJP's performance.

The CPI said fielding a common opposition candidate against the BJP would be the best strategy to defeat the lead party of the ruling NDA in the next Lok Sabha elections.

CPI General Secretary Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy said it is possible to adopt such an approach in most of the states.



## Officials visit Mantam, check progress of work

### SUMMIT REPORT MANGAN, 15 MAR:

Deputy Speaker SLA cum Dzongu MLA, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, along with Secretary, Land Revenue Department, Tsegyal Tashi, and Special Secretary, Chewang Ringzing Bhutia, visited Mantam Lake on 14 Mar to check the progress of the ongoing work.

Mr Lepcha stated that there was public demand for mitigation of soil erosion from the alternate route to the left bank. Secretary, Land Revenue Department, Mr Tashi directed the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Dzongu to undertake khola training and urged the Public Health Engineering Department to get involved in the mitigation work.

Police Department has been directed to assure that over loaded vehicles [more than 10 tonnes] do not ply over the newly constructed sliding bridge.

Mr Tashi also enquired about the under construction suspension bridge and sought reasons for the delay in completion of the same. The Roads & Bridges Department informed that the bridge will be completed by the end of April as it was getting delayed due to insufficient power supply for welding of iron plate.

The Secretary also directed the District Civil Supplies Officer [North] to store essential items like rice for Tingvong and Sakyong/Pentong GPUs before monsoon.

## Aircraft grounding: IndiGo cancels 488 flights...

Contd from pg01

vices per week between March 15 and March 22. On the whole, 138 flights stand cancelled.

Put together, IndiGo and GoAir have cancelled around 626 flights.

While the airlines have said that choice of alternative flights and refund would be offered for the passengers, it was not immediately clear how the process would be implemented.

While an IndiGo spokesperson said the airline follows all the guidelines as per the relevant provisions of the applicable regulations, to the same query, a GoAir spokesperson said, "We follow the process as specified by DGCA in its CAR (Civil Aviation Requirement). The same has also been published on our website."

The DGCA stipulates certain norms to be followed in case of cancelled flights and in the current situation, the grounding of a total of 11 A320neos, powered by faulty P&W engines has been done after the regulator's directive. While IndiGo and GoAir have a total of 45 A320 neo planes with P&W engines, 14 of them are on the ground.

# Ward level farmer's training prog held at Deythang in West

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 MAR:

Mevedir, Daragaon in collaboration with Horticulture Cash Crop Development Department organized a day-long ward level farmer's training at Deythang in West Sikkim today.

Mission Officer cum Horticulture Inspector,

BK Subba, Village Level Worker, Nam Singh Rai and Mevedir master trainers, Tika Sharma and Til Bahadur Chettri were the resource persons of the programme.

During the training, process for planting various crops like bitter gourd, beans, tomato, okra [ladies finger] and

bottle gourd was explained by the resource persons.

Mevedir master trainers demonstrated the preparation of planting beds and plantation of tomato and okra saplings explaining the spacing and fertility management of the crops.

Panchayat President,

Pramila Rai and panchayat members, Amrita Subba and Harka Man Rai along with 35 farmers of the ward attended the training programme.

Mevedir master trainers also explained about the seed treatment methods and preparation of liquid manure with locally available material

using cow dung and cow urine as major ingredients. Preparation techniques, dosage and method of application were explained to the farmers by the resource persons.

After the field demonstration, tomato planting materials were distributed to the participants along with okra seeds.



# South DC leads EFFD tour to Lingmo Paiyong

**NAMCHI, 15 MAR (IPR):** Under "Each Friday, Field Day" programme of the South District Administration, a tour and assessment of ongoing DAAV work at Lingmo Paiyong GPU was undertaken today. The team was led by DC South, Raj Yadav, accompanied by SDM Yangang, BDO Yangang, CDPO, AE BAC and other field officials.

During the inspection, the team handed over a water purifier, weighing scale, reading materials, PAC Pre School Kits and measuring scale to the Panchayat President.

Pradhan Mantri Vandana Yojana forms were also handed over to the Panchayats.

This scheme is for pregnant and lactating mothers and includes a cash assistance of Rs 5,000 to be handed over to each beneficiary on installment basis. The first installment of Rs 1,000 is released on registration at Aanganwadi Centres, the second installment of Rs 2,000 provided when pregnancy is six months old and the last installment of Rs 2,000 is released after child birth which has to be registered. A clause under the scheme also requires the newborn to receive immunization.

The DC South also requested the ICDS staff to create kitchen gardens at their respective ICDS centres.

CDPO Ravangla explained the scheme and handed over the required materials to the staff.

Meanwhile, the people of the area have requested for debris

clearance from Elaichi Khola to Kaw Khola. The DC consented and said it would be sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

At Lower Pepthang, the team learned that the link road from the ICDS centre to the main road was badly damaged and this too is proposed to be repaired through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

The Panchayat there also reported that water supply work has not been completed yet and shared that quality was not up to the mark. Hence, the concerned Department shall be called for a meeting and the issue sorted out after receiving a formal complaint from the Panchayat.

The Lower Paiyong ICDS is currently under construction and operating out of a rented accommodation. The issue of rent was the main problem being faced, it was learnt and the CDPO was accordingly directed to sort out the issue at the earliest.

Here, the public also shared problems related to road construction from Lingee to Paiyong School under the supervision of SPWD Roads. A meeting is now proposed with the Roads & Bridges Department regarding the same. Compensation for road acquisitions at Kaw has also not been provided to the public. Around 100 people had gathered to make representation to DC South.

The Middle Paiyong ICDS is also under construction and the repair of the footpath here

was sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA. Handing over of Disaster Management Rescue and Relief materials and equipment were also done to Panchayat President.

The team, upon reaching Kaw Primary School found that it had excess furniture. The DC South urged the staff to hold remedial classes on basics of mathematics and English. The school is also in need of repairs as it was damaged by heavy rainfall and recent earthquake. The same is to be repaired through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

Repair and restoration of the footpath was sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA

The CDPO has also been directed to undertake beautification works and develop one kitchen garden at the Kaw ICDS. Further the washed out footpath would also be repaired through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

At Gairigoan ICDS, the CDPO has been requested to carry out painting works. Repair and restoration of weak areas has been sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

Members of the Kanchenjunga Farmers Club of Kaw have sought construction of green houses and supply of poly-pipes. The same will be requested and done through Agriculture Department, it is informed.

The land for construction of GPK Lingmo Paiyong was also

inspected today and documents directed to be submitted to the Secretary RMDD to obtain sanction for the same. The old structure is in deplorable condition.

Lingee PHSC, which caters to a population of 4150 people, attends to both Lingee and Lingmo Paiyong GPU. The DC has urged the staff to make the PHSC a model one. The PHSC was found in dilapidated condition and repairs cleared through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

It was found that there is only one ASHA worker for Lingee, Pepthang and Upper Lingmo GPU. The public have requested for presence of Doctors and one Ambulance as well.

The team also inspected the construction of Lingee GPK where the Panchayat President requested for sanction for construction of a Meeting Hall through Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra under MGNREGA.

At Darakharkha Primary School remedial classes have still not begun and the DC requested the staff to continue remedial class for mathematics and English reading. The repair of old structure would be taken up under DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

The works shall only be taken up once the new structure construction commences. The SMC has also requested for felling of trees posing threat

At Upper Paiyong Chauridara ICDS, the DC requested the CDPO to carry out painting works.



## State BJP to launch 6-day awareness campaign on Centre's schemes

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 MAR:

Bharatiya Janta Party Sikkim Pradesh has decided to launch a six-day campaign to spread awareness on the Centre's pro-people programmes and schemes in the State from 16 Mar, informs a press release.

Meanwhile, the party has appointed former MLA and a senior leader of the party, Mohan Gurung, as the vice-presi-

dent of its State-unit. He was appointed during a meeting held at its zonal office at Singtam in East Sikkim today which was chaired by the State president, DB Chauhan. The release informs that the State president spoke about various sensitive pending issues of the State and alleged that the state government has failed to address these issues and people have been facing problems due to the same.

## SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

### DERBY MEET THURSDAY

Draw No:8 DrawDate on:15/03/18

1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 83A 4250

(Including Super Prize Amt)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

5064 5993 6276 6502 8718

3rd Prize Rs.3,000/-

0825 1020 3132 4432 4526 6073 8566 8677 8777 9800

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

2182 2865 3006 3202 4476 4507 8636 8990 9463 9856

5th Prize Rs.500/-

0289 2885 3328 3531 4304 5706 7468 8175 9047 9576

6th Prize Rs.100/-

0012 0019 0053 0076 0083 0107 0124 0127 0132 0135

0145 0158 0166 0194 0217 0219 0271 0300 0303 0306

0308 0311 0318 0346 0347 0348 0408 0411 0417 0418

0424 0453 0494 0495 0573 0577 0596 0598 0688 0759

0763 0777 0851 0887 0898 0921 0976 0981 1023 1032

1072 1114 1119 1121 1183 1225 1238 1249 1250 1251

1265 1270 1276 1288 1351 1371 1378 1419 1435 1473

1481 1492 1506 1543 1550 1552 1600 1619 1654 1686

1712 1727 1761 1777 1782 1793 1824 1863 1874 1909

1918 1922 1933 1948 1958 1980 1983 2025 2063 2093

2121 2125 2164 2177 2195 2199 2286 2290 2293 2312

2323 2344 2370 2371 2393 2395 2407 2421 2505 2518

2545 2556 2558 2561 2576 2588 2596 2637 2669 2689

2713 2727 2746 2751 2775 2810 2829 2833 2915 2930

2939 2972 3015 3022 3078 3087 3094 3095 3097 3109

3117 3121 3160 3177 3178 3179 3205 3208 3242 3273

3338 3368 3406 3415 3419 3421 3428 3448 3513 3545

3548 3566 3580 3643 3651 3654 3683 3717 3725 3726

3730 3731 3742 3743 3754 3807 3815 3833 3834 3836

3849 3860 3887 3902 3953 3987 3996 4016 4029 4047

4050 4054 4094 4095 4116 4120 4168 4230 4241 4273

4277 4317 4363 4370 4401 4415 4427 4457 4493 4510

4547 4569 4576 4589 4594 4612 4617 4621 4631 4642

4658 4668 4699 4715 4716 4718 4726 4744 4777 4826

4840 4953 4999 5000 5008 5010 5087 5112 5210 5235

5272 5294 5358 5367 5368 5394 5395 5408 5423 5456

5499 5505 5517 5569 5594 5624 5628 5637 5641 5681

5734 5745 5748 5752 5790 5811 5901 5916 5925 5938

5943 5955 5960 5970 6002 6008 6061 6106 6129 6153

6164 6175 6199 6215 6222 6225 6228 6239 6269 6282

6314 6334 6337 6343 6344 6349 6361 6408 6412 6433

6443 6463 6473 6493 6507 6514 6535 6581 6594 6615

6640 6641 6657 6664 6685 6765 6796 6869 6896 6898

6902 6917 6928 6933 6974 6975 7009 7014 7018 7023

7090 7095 7104 7125 7206 7231 7252 7306 7324 7332

7389 7390 7392 7418 7426 7437 7459 7461 7469 7480

7485 7488 7504 7576 7588 7623 7660 7671 7677 7751

7771 7778 7782 7789 7808 7836 7844 7900 7914 7922

7924 7941 7945 7975 8009 8023 8035 8066 8070 8072

8074 8109 8155 8178 8184 8188 8213 8261 8292 8304

8322 8328 8333 8358 8362 8373 8072 8374 8377 8382

8419 8432 8435 8471 8473 8490 8502 8544 8554 8561

8576 8600 8613 8625 8660 8668 8682 8691 8699 8704

8705 8709 8741 8759 8830 8848 8851 8863 8869 8899

8902 8909 8912 8916 8954 8957 8977 9000 9001 9009

9027 9030 9084 9103 9108 9122 9155 9202 9213 9252

9267 9271 9284 9292 9294 9316 9320 9324 9377 9410

9416 9457 9460 9492 9509 9518 9533 9541 9567 9568

9573 9614 9665 9675 9692 9728 9744 9751 9785 9853

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

## SKM wants reciprocal transport agreement between Sikkim...

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vance this year in the interest of the drivers to avoid a repeat," he said.

On the same, Mr Lama demanded that the State government immediately address the issue and also compensate the losses suffered by drivers due to the lackadaisical attitude of the State Government and its officers.

SKM working president, MP Subba, in turn mentioned that most of the taxi drivers have taken loans for their vehicles and have to pay installments. Disruptions in their profession thus



harms them very severely. He asserted that the government should take immediate action to sort out the problem faced by drivers.

Likewise, SKM working president, Navin Karki, mentioned that

local taxi drivers have been paying high taxes to the government and the rules were also not driver-friendly.

He stated that in other States, blue book and documents can be renewed in blocks of five

years, but in Sikkim they have to be renewed every year. On the same, he demanded that rules be made driver-friendly and so drafted so as to not cause any harassment to the drivers.

SKM spokesperson,

Jacob Khaling, alleged that SDF government was not concerned about the livelihood and other issues of drivers. He further alleged injustice and discrimination of taxi drivers in the State.

He reiterated the demand that the reciprocal transport agreement between Sikkim and West Bengal should be made public so that the public has full knowledge about the agreement.

Mr Khaling stressed that the government should not just collect high taxes from drivers but also work for their welfare.



**Gangtok on Friday, 16 Mar**

**Temp:** 22°C / 09°C  
**Forecast:** Clouds and sunshine a shower or thunderstorm around.  
**Sunrise:** 05:45AM  
**Sunset:** 5:44 PM

## Capacity building programme on research methodology organized at SU

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR [PIB]:** The School of Social Sciences, Sikkim University is conducting a capacity building programme on Research Methodology for young faculty in Social Sciences from 13-25 Mar. The inaugural session of the programme was held at Cauveri Hall of the University on 13 Mar. Dean, School of Social Sciences, Professor NK Paswan, welcomed Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Registrar, TK Kaul, Head of Department of Anthropology, University of North Bengal, Professor Sekh Rahim Mondal, faculty members and the participants from different colleges and Universities.

The capacity building programme is aimed to focus on the inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approaches of conducting research and also to facilitate the understanding of the basic, quantitative as well as qualitative research methods in social science and allied disciplines. It also aims at developing the capacity for conceptualizing and writing a research proposal and to enhance skills of preparing appropriate research designs.

The inaugural session of the programme was chaired by Vice-Chancellor Prof Tamang. The keynote address was delivered by Head of Dept of Anthropology, University of North Bengal, Prof Mondal, in which he stressed on the importance of the study of Research Methodology.

On the occasion, a book on "Northeast India: Conflict and Development Dynamics" edited by Dean, School of Social Sciences, Prof Nawal K Paswan, was released.

In his special address, Registrar Mr Kaul appealed to the young researchers to have faith in themselves and encouraged them to participate in the workshop and take full advantage of the opportunity of attending the programme.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Tamang mentioned the importance of having good knowledge on the subject and the importance of literature review. He also emphasized on developing good communication skills for the presentation of a good research paper. He congratulated the School of Social Sciences for organizing the programme and welcomed the participants to the University.

The participants of the programme include 38 faculty members and researchers from different colleges and universities.

# FCAS observes World Consumer Rights Day at Burtuk

**YOUGAN TAMANG GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

Federation of Consumer Association of Sikkim observed World Consumer Rights Day and also conducted a consumer awareness programme at Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk, Gangtok today with the theme 'Making Digital Market Places Fairer'.

The programme was held to make citizens aware of the basic con-



sumer rights and legalities attached to the con-

sumer and consumerism. The event included talks

on various issues and concerns related to con-

sumer rights and duties. Talks on Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and various consumer cases were delivered by Reader, Sikkim State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Sagar Mani Dhakal.

Assistant General Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Gangtok, WW Tigga delivered a talk on Banking Services and Consumer Redressal System and issues on e-com-

merce and suggestions for making fairer and safer digital markets.

The programme was also addressed by president, Federation of Consumer Association of Sikkim, Jayshree Pradhan. An open quiz was also organized as a part of the event.

The event was attended by East District Zilla Panchayat, Samsher Rai as the chief guest along with Chairperson, Gangtok Municipal Cor-

poration, Ashish Rai as the guest of honor.

The programme was also attended by students and representatives from different organizations of Sikkim.

The event was coordinated by Chief Coordinator, Federation of Consumer Association of Sikkim, Suresh K Lama, FCAS general secretary, Rohit Pradhan and FCAS secretary, Shekhar Khatiwara.



## CAEPHT organizes focus group meeting on examination system in agricultural education

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

College of Agricultural Engineering and Post Harvest Technology [CAEPHT], Central Agricultural University [CAU], Ranipool organized a focus group meeting with faculty members and students on Examination System in Agricultural Education in India on 14 Mar at ATIC Conference Hall of CAEPHT.

The programme was conducted under Externally Funded Research Project on Critical Analysis of Examination System in Agricultural Education in India sponsored by Education Division, Indian Council of Agricultural Research [ICAR], Government of India, New Delhi, a press release informs.

Organized by Professor/Head, Department of Renewable Energy Engineering & PI of Research Project, Professor Mahendra S Seveda, as convener and Associate Professor, Dr Deepak Jhajharia, as organizing secretary, the programme was chaired by Dean, CAEPHT, Prof PP Dabral.

Fifty-two participants including researchers, faculty members and students from Sikkim participated in the focus group meet.

Prof Seveda, in his welcome address, briefed that term examination makes a student unnecessarily nervous. At present maximum attention is paid by the universities, teachers, students and parents to the performance of students'

in the term examinations. This induces a tendency of last hour preparation in great hurry leaving no scope for digesting the knowledge. Learning is a continuous process and hence evaluation of learning outcome must be done on a continuous basis, he added.

Prof Dabral mentioned that one of the major components of our education system is examination. The education process in any discipline of learning ends with examinations. He also mentioned that several universities have introduced innovative practices to improve quality and efficiency in the various processes of their examination systems especially in the conduct, administration

and evaluation.

During the meet, it was recommended that the present evaluation system needs to be revamped to facilitate a more meaningful assessment of students' competence. The examination system should incorporate two basic features. Firstly, the process of assessment must be continuous so that the interest of students could be maintained till the end and examinations did not become purely a test of memory and secondly, the examination must test the critical and analytical abilities of students.

Organizing secretary, Dr Jhajharia, extended the vote of thanks to the chairperson, faculty members, students and other distinguished guests.

## Ghatani meets Health Ministry officials, submits demand for 100 bedded Jorethang Hospital



**NEW DELHI, 15 MAR**

**[IPR]:** Health Minister, Arjun Kamar Ghatani, and the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Health Department, Vishal Chauhan, called on high level officials in Health & Family Welfare Ministry, Government of India at Nirman Bhawan in New Delhi today.

As envisioned by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling to ensure quality health care services and upgraded infrastructures, Mr Ghatani submitted a demand of 100 bedded MCH Hospital at Jorethang Community Health Centre. In this context, Additional Secretary-cum-Mission

Director NHM, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Manoj Kumar Jhalani, assured to enhance bed strength of Jorethang CHC with an additional strength of 50 beds in the first phase.

Mr Jhalani suggested enhancing services and specialty in the health centre accordingly so that the hospital can be further strengthened to 100 bedded with additional strength of 50 beds in the second phase.

Joint Secretary, Gayatri Mishra, who is also the in-charge of Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal [RIMS] assured to look

into the demands of Sikkim for extension of date of applying for Post Graduate seats in RIMS for in-service regular doctors of Sikkim till 15 May 2018 in view of MCI guidelines.

It may be mentioned here that the Ministry has earmarked seven PG seats at RIMS, Imphal for regular in-service candidates from Sikkim.

Mr Ghatani also urged the Additional Secretaries, Department of Medical Education, Arun Singh and Sanjeeva Kumar to extend special support for the State of Sikkim in development of health sector.



## Bhakti Anusthaan to commence from 19 Mar at Kamerey

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 MAR:**

Kamerey village under Rhenock constituency is gearing up to organize weeklong Sri Madhagwat Saptaha Gyan Mahayagya Sangit Maya Bhakti Anusthaan from 19 Mar, a press release informs.

One of the members of the organising committee, DB Chettri, informed that spiritual leader, Bhagwat Bhushan Pandit Udaychandra Dahal, will be delivering a spiritual speech for a week along with bha-

jans, kirtans and jhankis presented by local and guest artists.

Organised under the banner of Sri Ram Mandir Dharmshala Bhawan Nirman Samiti, the programme will be attended by a huge gathering from in and around the State of Sikkim, the release informs.

The first day will have 50 KM long Kalash Yatra starting from Kamerey to Rangpo Indrakil Prayag. After collecting holy water from River Teesta, the Yatra will move towards Rangpo market,

Majhitar, Bagheykhola, Bardang, Singtam, West Pendam, Central Pendam, Duga and conclude at Kamerey.

The event will feature puja from 7.30 a.m. to 9 a.m. everyday followed by spiritual speech from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Evenings will be dedicated to spiritual night from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. wherein bhajans, kirtans and other programmes will be presented by spiritual organisations and guest artists.



## CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANISATION HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT GANGTOK

**Memo No: 738/CHSO/2017-18/HC, HS & FW**

**Date: 15/03/2018**

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed quotations are invited from eligible firms for the purchase of Ophthalmology Medicines and Consumables for the year 2017-18. The Tender Document with terms & conditions can be obtained from the Office of the Joint Director CHSO, Convey Ground, Tadong, Gangtok w.e.f 19.03.2018, 11:00 am onwards till 04.04.2018 (before 4:00 pm) on payment of Rs.1000/- (one thousand) only in the form of a Bank Receipt from the State Bank of Sikkim under 0210 Medical and Public Health.

The tender completed in all respect should be submitted at the Office of Joint Director (CHSO) & will be accepted up to 05.04.2018, 11:00 AM. Tenders will be opened on the same date i.e. 05.04.2018 at 12.00 Noon.

**JOINT DIRECTOR**

**CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANIZATION  
CONVOY GROUND, TADONG.**

**R.O. No: 629/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 15.03.18**



# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Evaluate Results to Empower People

*Change evaluation from input-driven to result-oriented*

It is not rare in the cramped huddles of share-cabs or service jeeps to overhear complaints of days and hours lost to making the rounds of government offices trying to get even routine works done. Lethargy and impromptu truancy remain ingrained habits in departments across the board. Of course, there is an impressive club of diligent officers as well, but accept it, their numbers pale in comparison to those who have too many other more important chores and distractions vying for their time. This situation as entrenched in head offices as in the branch offices and the inconvenience suffered by the people is also evenly spread out among the urban and rural aam janta.

Given the sheer number of government offices now opened across the State and the scale of personnel deployment this entails, it would be almost unfair to expect all these offices to be staffed by able and diligent officials. It will not be surprising to learn that there are more offices which are underperforming, but that really should not be the case since even if there are a more offices now, Sikkim is still a very small state and fixing accountability should not be too difficult.

Admittedly, that is easier said than done. It is not impossible though if the right administrative corrections are allowed through. In fact, the Administrative Reforms Commission [ARC] of the Government of India had made some interesting recommendations on how the country should be administered. And no, compulsory military training for all joining even the civil services was not one of the recommendations. It would be wonderful if the army itself was allowed more funds to improve training and arsenal, but that clearly is not how chest-thumping nationalists and their need to over-express their machismo thinks. But we are talking of the civil services here and the ARC, the draft report of which had suggested that bureaucrats be held responsible for service delivery. That was a decade ago in 2008! And service delivery remains unaddressed. No surprises there since the Centre believes announcements are enough to claim delivery. Hence, performance continues to be gauged on input-centric indices in our country and also the State. Bureaucrats, as also the schemes they oversee, are rated on the basis of money spent, man-hours supposedly devoted and manpower deployed. The ARC had noticed this fault a decade ago and recommended that assessment be based on quantifiable output targets. This was a good idea, even if an obvious one, and a welcome relief from attitudes which focus only on "effort" [which are all about claims] and ignore the all important aspect of "impact" [as in results]. Schemes are evaluated and sustained [with release of subsequent funds] based on Utilization Certificates. Although Sikkim's bureaucracy fares poorly even on this formality, as the Chief Minister and recently even the Chief Secretary admonished them for, should the ARC's recommendation be adopted [along with its penal clauses on failure], development could attain an even steeper trajectory here upwards.

More importantly, it would also fix accountability and embarrassments like complaints of delays even in routine official processes would not occur too frequently, and if they did, there would be a prescribed process to redress them. After all, officials who do not report to even push files will not fare too well in service delivery either. Basically, the problem with the present model of evaluation [and thus also work culture] is that because it is "input centric" it makes no demands on the bureaucracy to remain true to its public service epithet.

One of the biggest hurdles holding up effective decentralization of power, despite devolution of substantial responsibilities to the panchayat level, is that lay people still do not have an important enough say. While they can vote for change every five years, that is about the only control they have on delivery of development. They cannot touch the bureaucrats. And the babus can continue to talk down to them because when it comes evaluating their performance, it is based on data of inputs which they control along with the elected representatives [who become a part of the System the moment they get elected].

Should performances instead be evaluated on returns accrued on the inputs made, the end-recipients, that is the people, will have at least a deciding say because it will be their assessment of the effectiveness of administration's ability to deliver that will decide which officers stay and who is shown the door. Yes, the ARC draft had also recommended that civil servants who continually fail to "perform" are compulsorily retired. The Departments will automatically become populated by "public servants" in the real sense of the term. Devolution of power would have been attained and job-satisfaction ensured for public servants who make the grade and every penny of the pay commission rewards would have been well earned. That said, 10 years since the idea was mooted, it has still not happened...

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# Stephen Hawking's Spectacular Success Against all Odds

MARTIN REES  
theconversation.com

Soon after I enrolled as a graduate student at Cambridge University in 1964, I encountered a fellow student, two years ahead of me in his studies, who was unsteady on his feet and spoke with great difficulty. This was Stephen Hawking. He had recently been diagnosed with a degenerative disease, and it was thought that he might not survive long enough even to finish his PhD. But he lived to the age of 76, passing away on March 14, 2018.

It really was astonishing. Astronomers are used to large numbers. But few numbers could be as large as the odds I'd have given against witnessing this lifetime of achievement back then. Even mere survival would have been a medical marvel, but of course he didn't just survive. He became one of the most famous scientists in the world – acclaimed as a world-leading researcher in mathematical physics, for his best-selling books and for his astonishing triumph over adversity.

Perhaps surprisingly, Hawking was rather laid back as an undergraduate student at Oxford University. Yet his brilliance earned him a first class degree in physics, and he went on to pursue a research career at the University of Cambridge. Within a few years of the onset of his disease, he was wheelchair-bound, and his speech was an indistinct croak that could only be interpreted by those who knew him. In other respects, fortune had favoured him. He married a family friend, Jane Wilde, who provided a supportive home life for him and their three children.

### EARLY WORK

The 1960s were an exciting period in astronomy and cosmology. This was the decade when evidence began to emerge for black holes and the Big Bang. In Cambridge, Hawking focused on the new mathematical concepts being developed by the mathematical physicist Roger Penrose, then at University College London, which were initiating a renaissance in the study of Einstein's theory of general relativity.

Using these techniques, Hawking worked out that the universe must have emerged from a "singularity" – a point in which all laws of physics break down. He also realised that the area of a black hole's event horizon – a point from which nothing can escape – could never decrease. In the subsequent decades, the observational support for these ideas has strengthened – most spectacularly with the 2016 announcement of the detection of gravitational waves from colliding black holes.

Hawking was elected to the Royal Society, Britain's main scientific academy, at the exceptionally early age of 32. He was by then so frail that most of us suspected that he could scale no further heights. But, for Hawking, this was still just the beginning.

He worked in the same building as I did. I would often push his wheelchair into his office, and he would ask me to open an abstruse book on quantum theory – the science of atoms, not a subject that had hitherto much interested him. He would sit hunched motionless for hours – he couldn't even to turn the pages without help.



I remember wondering what was going through his mind, and if his powers were failing. But within a year, he came up with his best ever idea – encapsulated in an equation that he said he wanted on his memorial stone.

### SCIENTIFIC STARDOM

The great advances in science generally involve discovering a link between phenomena that seemed hitherto conceptually unconnected. Hawking's "eureka moment" revealed a profound and unexpected link between gravity and quantum theory: he predicted that black holes would not be completely black, but would radiate energy in a characteristic way.

This radiation is only significant for black holes that are much less massive than stars – and none of these have been found. However, "Hawking radiation" had very deep implications for mathematical physics – indeed one of the main achievements of a theoretical framework for particle physics called string theory has been to corroborate his idea.

Indeed, the string theorist Andrew Strominger from Harvard University (with whom Hawking recently collaborated) said that this paper had caused "more sleepless nights among theoretical physicists than any paper in history". The key issue is whether information that is seemingly lost when objects fall into a black hole is in principle recoverable from the radiation when it evaporates. If it is not, this violates a deeply believed principle of general physics. Hawking initially thought such information was lost, but later changed his mind.

Hawking continued to seek new links between the very large (the cosmos) and the very small (atoms and quantum theory) and to gain deeper insights into the very beginning of our universe – addressing questions like "was our big bang the only one?". He had a remarkable ability to figure things out in his head. But he also worked with students and colleagues who would write formulas on a blackboard – he would stare at it, say whether he agreed and perhaps suggest what should come next.

He was specially influential in his contributions to "cosmic inflation" – a theory that many believe

describes the ultra-early phases of our expanding universe. A key issue is to understand the primordial seeds which eventually develop into galaxies. Hawking proposed (as, independently, did the Russian theorist Viatcheslav Mukhanov) that these were "quantum fluctuations" (temporary changes in the amount of energy in a point in space) – somewhat analogous to those involved in "Hawking radiation" from black holes.

He also made further steps towards linking the two great theories of 20th century physics: the quantum theory of the microworld and Einstein's theory of gravity and space-time.

### DECLINING HEALTH AND CULT STATUS

In 1987, Hawking contracted pneumonia. He had to undergo a tracheotomy, which removed even the limited powers of speech he then possessed. It had been more than ten years since he could write, or even use a keyboard. Without speech, the only way he could communicate was by directing his eye towards one of the letters of the alphabet on a big board in front of him.

But he was saved by technology. He still had the use of one hand; and a computer, controlled by a single lever, allowed him to spell out sentences. These were then declaimed by a speech synthesiser, with the android American accent that thereafter became his trademark.

His lectures were, of course, pre-prepared, but conversation remained a struggle. Each word involved several presses of the lever, so even a sentence took several minutes to construct. He learnt to economise with words. His comments were aphoristic or oracular, but often infused with wit. In his later years, he became too weak to control this machine effectively, even via facial muscles or eye movements, and his communication – to his immense frustration – became even slower.

At the time of his tracheotomy operation, he had a rough draft of a book, which he'd hoped would describe his ideas to a wide readership and earn something for his two eldest children, who were then of college age. On his recovery from pneumonia, he resumed work with the help

of an editor. When the US edition of A Brief History of Time appeared, the printers made some errors (a picture was upside down), and the publishers tried to recall the stock. To their amazement, all copies had already been sold. This was the first inkling that the book was destined for runaway success, reaching millions of people worldwide.

And he quickly became somewhat of a cult figure, featuring on popular TV shows ranging from the Simpsons to The Big Bang Theory. This was probably because the concept of an imprisoned mind roaming the cosmos plainly grabbed people's imagination. If he had achieved equal distinction in, say, genetics rather than cosmology, his triumph probably wouldn't have achieved the same resonance with a worldwide public.

As shown in the feature film The Theory of Everything, which tells the human story behind his struggle, Hawking was far from being the archetype unworldly or nerdy scientist. His personality remained amazingly unwrapped by his frustrations and handicaps. He had robust common sense, and was ready to express forceful political opinions.

However, a downside of his iconic status was that his comments attracted exaggerated attention even on topics where he had no special expertise – for instance, philosophy, or the dangers from aliens or from intelligent machines. And he was sometimes involved in media events where his "script" was written by the promoters of causes about which he may have been ambivalent.

Ultimately, Hawking's life was shaped by the tragedy that struck him when he was only 22. He himself said that everything that happened since then was a bonus. And what a triumph his life has been. His name will live in the annals of science and millions have had their cosmic horizons widened by his best-selling books. He has also inspired millions by a unique example of achievement against all the odds – a manifestation of amazing willpower and determination.

*[the writer is Emeritus Professor of Cosmology and Astrophysics, University of Cambridge]*

## Many men are sexually harassed in the workplace—so why aren't they speaking out?

ROBIN BAILEY  
theconversation.com

The #MeToo movement has been a powerful force in helping to raise awareness of sexual harassment, especially in the workplace. It has provided a platform for those affected to speak openly about their ordeals. So far, most of the people who have come forward have been women, but there have been a few notable exceptions, including the actors Terry Crews and James Van Der Beek. Does that mean that very few men are victims of sexual harassment?

Academic research supports the idea that women do experience more sexual harassment in the workplace than men. However, emerging evidence suggests that sexual harassment against men in the workplace also exists and is on the rise.

When all reported complaints of sexual harassment to the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Fair Employment Practices agencies was analysed between 1997 and 2011, most of the cases were reported by women, however, the percentage of cases filed by men between these dates increased by 15%.

In a similar long-term study of 522 workers, up to 58% of women and 37% of men reported experiencing some level of sexual harassment. This sample seems to indicate that the gap is not as wide as some believe.

Overall, sexual harassment against men is not as widely studied as sexual harassment against women; this has called into question whether the reported figures of men who have been sexually harassed may actually be much higher than currently

stated. On top of this, men may be more reluctant to report sexual harassment than women. There are a number of suggested reasons for this – stigma being one of them. Many men may be too embarrassed to report sexual harassment, or they may consider it to be "unmanly" to report such behaviour.

Another reason may be perceptual differences. What is deemed to be sexual harassment may differ between men and women. A number of findings indicate that men can view certain behaviour, deemed as sexual harassment by women, as less threatening or serious – and sometimes even flattering.

### IT STARTS EARLY

Sexual harassment against men appears to occur in educational environments prior to working life. In both middle school and high school in the US,

turn to 05





## India committed to strengthening ties with Nepal: Prez Kovind

**KATHMANDU, MAR 15 (PTI):** India is committed to working with Nepal's leadership to further strengthen the wide-ranging bilateral ties for the benefit of people of both the countries, President Ram Nath Kovind has said.

Congratulating Nepal's first woman president Bidya Devi Bhandari on her re-election for a second term in office, President Kovind said he is committing to working with her to strengthen bilateral ties.

"President Kovind has said that he commits to working together to further strengthen wide-ranging cooperative bilateral ties for the benefit of people of India and Nepal," Kovind was quoted as saying in a letter to Bhandari by Indian Embassy.

Bhandari, 56, the Left alliance's candidate, was elected on March 13 with more than a two-thirds majority as she defeated her Nepali Congress (NC) rival Kumari Laxmi Rai in the presidential election.

## Drugs worth Rs 11.96 crore seized in Manipur, 1 held

**Imphal, Mar 15 (PTI):** Security forces apprehended a drug peddler and seized banned drugs worth Rs 11.96 crore from his possession in Manipur's Tengnoupal district, an Assam Rifles release said.

The drug peddler was apprehended by the security forces at a check post on Tuesday night, the release said yesterday.

Later, the drug peddler along with the seized drugs were handed over to the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) officials in Imphal, the release said.

## Judicial work at Cal HC hit for nearly four weeks

**KOLKATA, MAR 15 (PTI):** The nearly four-week long cease-work by lawyers' associations demanding appointment of judges continued to cripple judicial work at the Calcutta High Court today.

High Court Bar Association president Uttam Majumdar said that representatives of the associations are scheduled to meet the Chief Justice of India tomorrow and the Union Law Minister on Saturday to discuss the issue of early appointment of judges to vacant posts.

At present 39 posts of judges are vacant at the Calcutta High Court, the oldest and one of the three chartered high courts in the country, which has a sanctioned strength of 72 judges, Majumdar said.

Three new judges have taken oath on March 12, which has taken the strength of sitting



judges to 33.

Out of the 33 sitting judges, two preside over the Andaman and Nicobar Circuit Bench on rotation.

"We have been invited to a meeting with the Chief Justice of India tomorrow at New Delhi. We will place before the CJI the problems arising out of the

acute shortage in the number of judges at the high court," Majumdar said.

He said that the meeting with the Union Law Minister, Ravi Shankar Prasad which was earlier scheduled for today, would be held on Saturday at the national capital.

Apart from the Bar Associa-

tion, which commands the largest share of members, the Bar Library Club and the Incorporated Law Society are also participating in the cease-work which commenced on February 19.

Majumdar said that the lawyers' fora will also take up the issue of appointment of a chief justice at the high court, which has had acting chief justices at the helm for the last three years with the exception of just three months.

The agitation is scheduled till tomorrow and the lawyers' bodies will hold meetings with their respective members on March 19 to place before them details of their discussions with the CJI and the union law minister.

A decision on whether the cease-work would continue or not will be taken at the meetings, Majumdar said.



## ITBP soldier from Dzongu donates prize money for noble cause

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA**

**DZONGU, 15 MAR:**

All India Police Sports gold medalist, Yabsay Lepcha was welcomed and felicitated by the residents of Lum/Gor/Sangtok Gram Panchayat Unit, Lower Dzongu in North Sikkim today.

The gathered people including Yabsay's friends, well wishers and relatives accorded a warm welcome to the homeboy with traditional scarves (khada) in the presence of zilla member, Tshering Gyatso Lepcha and other panchayat members.

Indo-Tibetan Border Police recruit, Yabsay Lepcha had bagged gold medal in All India Police Sports held at Chennai in Tamil Nadu on 01 Mar.

Son of Late Nedup Lepcha and Phurzey Lepcha of Sangtok, Lower Dzongu, North Sikkim, Yabsay announced that his prize money will be utilized for a noble cause.

50% of the prize money has been provided to Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme and 50% will be utilized for physically challenged army personnel.

## India's first cloned Assamese buffalo born

**HISAR (HAR), MAR 15 (PTI):** A cloned Assamese buffalo male calf has been born for the first time, the Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes (CIRB) claimed here.

"We used unique methods and produced this clone calf, Sach-Gaurav, on December 22, 2017 through a normal delivery," CIRB cloning team head P S Yadav said today.

The calf was born to a Murrah buffalo. It was also the first to be born in the field, 100 kms from the cloning laboratory at Hi Tech Sach Dairy Farm here, he said.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research-CIRB is a central institute and it has a mandate to conserve superior animals of all buffalo breeds.

ICAR-CIRB Director Indrajeet Singh said the Assamese buffaloes were found only in the north-eastern part of the country and they were used mainly for agricultural work.

He said this was the second cloned male produced by ICAR-CIRB after Hisar-Gaurav, born December 11, 2015. His-



ar-Gaurav was producing quality semen from the age of 22 months and ten females of the institute's herd were pregnant with its frozen semen.

Yadav said the birth weight of the calf was 54.2 kgs and it was in good health. It had normal physiological parameters and blood profile, he said.

The genotype of the calf was confirmed by microsatellite

analysis (parentage verification) and chromosome analysis, he said.

Animal cloning can be an excellent reproductive tool for conservation and multiplication of selected superior animals of buffalo breeds, he said.

He said it was India's first cloned Assamese buffalo calf and the embryos were transported for about two hours be-

fore being transferred into the recipient mothers.

"The ovaries of Murrah buffaloes were used as a source of recipient oocytes... Small tissue of Assamese buffalo was airlifted from Veterinary College, Khannapara, Guwhati, 2000 km away from our cloning laboratory, to culture establish the donor cells," he said.

## Gangtok discusses LGBTQI with Dr Mark Macleod

**YOUGAN TAMANG**

**GANGTOK, 15 MAR:** 'Love is Love - a conversation with Dr Mark Macleod' and 'Exhibition of sketches by Devdutt Patnaik' - an evening dedicated to queer literature and art was organized at Rachna Books, Gangtok on 14 Mar.

Dr. Mark Macleod, Consultant Editor for India's first LGBT pub-

lishing house, Queer-Ink, talked about same sex love, the scenario in Australia and discussed the prevailing situation of LGBTQI in India. The event was an amalgamation of queer literature and exhibition of sketches by Devdutt Patnaik on the queer in ancient Hindu mythology.

The event saw participation from many

poets and authors from Gangtok wherein they discussed transgender rights, honor killings, sexual diversity, challenges, stereotypes and so on.

"The event is an encouragement to the LGBTQI fraternity in the state of Sikkim. Gangtok is slowly embracing change," said one of the participants.

## Many men are sexually harassed...

**contd from pg04**

there is evidence to suggest that boys can experience quite high levels of sexual harassment. Boys are especially likely to be victims of verbal sexual harassment.

Other findings have been observed where both men and women have experienced similar levels (61% and 62% respectively) of one or more forms of sexual harassment while at university. These studies show that many people experience sexual harassment even before working life begins.

### CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

An investigation into some of the factors that may contribute to men experiencing sexual harassment in the workplace was recently ex-

plored. One of the key findings indicated that men tend to experience sexual harassment if they deviate from traditional male gender roles and are pro-feminist, regardless of their sexual orientation.

Yet it was also found that displaying pro-feminist attitudes buffered against some of the negative effects of the sexual harassment. Men tended to experience more sexual harassment if they also worked in organisations that were more tolerant of such behaviours.

Research has shown, and the #MeToo movement has highlighted, that men have a tendency to tolerate the sexual harassment of women by other men. Evidence has emerged to suggest that women may also share

the same sexist attitudes when it comes to tolerating the sexual harassment of men.

In a 2015 study from Pennsylvania State University, the researchers found that there was no significant difference between males and females in terms of sexist attitudes that are known to reinforce gender inequality. This highlighted a shared set of beliefs across both sexes to justify toleration of sexual harassment. The researchers conclude that this shared set of sexist attitudes and toleration of sexual harassment may serve to enforce or maintain gender roles, for both men and women.

### IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH

One consistent finding across the evidence on male sexual harassment

is that it can have a detrimental impact on mental health. Men who have been sexually harassed are more likely to experience high levels of anxiety, depression and alcohol abuse. This can in turn lead to education and employment problems, such as dropping out of school, quitting work and low morale.

It seems that sexual harassment is an issue that impacts both sexes. The #MeToo movement has been very successful in helping women find their voice on this issue, maybe it's time more men found their voice. The #MeToo movement is inclusive, after all.

*[the writer is Senior Lecturer in Psychological Therapies, University of Central Lancashire]*





# Sindhu, Srikanth survive scare; Saina bows out of All England Championship

**BIRMINGHAM, MAR 14 (PTI):** Star shuttlers P V Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth prevailed in tough first-round battles but Saina Nehwal exited from the prestigious All England Championship after suffering a straight-game defeat against World No. 1 and defending champion Tai Tzu-Ying, here today.

World No 3 Srikanth recovered from a lop-sided opening game to struggle past France's Brice Leverdez, ranked 23, 7-21 21-14 22-20, while Olympic and world championship silver medallist Sindhu staved off a stiff challenge from Thailand's Pornpawee Chochuwong to prevail 20-22 21-17 21-9 in a 56-minute contest.

Srikanth will square off against either China's Huang Yuxiang or England's Rajiv Ouseph, while Sindhu faces the winner of the match between USA's Beiwen Zhang and Thailand's Nitchaon Jindapol.

Singapore Open champion B Sai Praneeth squandered an opening game advantage to go down 21-13 15-21 11-21 to fifth seed Korean Son Wan Ho.

Srikanth was no match for Leverdez in the first game as he failed to execute his strokes properly with most going wide and long. After a pep talk with coach Pullela Gopichand, Srikanth came back strongly in the second game.

He looked more aggressive and his approach earned him dividends as he forced the match into decider after winning 21-14.

In the third game, Srikanth was comfortably placed at 11-6 but Leverdez made fantastic recovery to make it 12-12. The duo fought hard and moved neck and neck till 18-18. Leverdez then won a long rally to grab a 19-18 advantage but Srikanth drew parity.

The Frenchman held a match point but the Indian once again levelled par and grabbed a match point, before managing to convert it.

Sindhu, on the other hand, blew a 11-4 advantage in the opening game as Pornpawee fought back to catch up with the Indian at 14-14. She went to the 20-18 game point advantage before Sindhu clawed back but in the end it was the Thai shuttle who pocketed the game.

Jolted by the reversal, Sindhu surged to a 14-6 and 15-7 lead in the next two games and didn't lose control despite some spirited fight by Pornpawee.

Saina, who had reached the finals in the 2015 edition, couldn't match up to the precision and athleticism of Tai Tzu and went down 14-21 18-21. It was Saina's eighth successive loss to the Taiwanese wizard in five years.


Among others, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy lost 14-21 13-21 to second seeded Japanese combo of Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi, while Jakkampudi Meghna and Poorvisha S Ram went down 14-21 11-21 to fifth seeded Japanese combo of Shiho Tanaka and Koharu Yonemoto 21-14 21-11 in women's doubles.

Men's doubles pair of Manu Attri and B Sumeeeth Reddy also suffered a 20-22 12-21 loss against English combo of Marcus Ellis and Chris Langridge to crash out.

After failing to keep pace with Tai Tzu in the opening game, the 27-year-old Indian blew a 16-11 advantage in the second game to bow out of the USD 1,000,000 world Super 1000 tournament.

Saina, who had lost to Tai Tzu in the finals of the Indonesia Masters early this year, showed a lot of grit to keep herself in the rallies but the Taiwanese was simply phenomenal and displayed her mastery of strokes in the 38-minute clash to once again outwit the Indian.

Saina took some time to get in the groove as her first serve sailed over to the back of the court. Tai Tzu didn't waste time and jumped to a 3-1 lead before moving to a 6-2 advantage when the Indian failed to connect a low backhand return.



## GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

### SIKKIM STATE TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT BOARD

#### UPPER SYARI, GANGTOK

Ref. No. 35 / SSTRB Dated: 14/03/2018

## NOTICE

On the basis of the Written Examination held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018, the following candidates in order of Roll Nos. given below are declared qualified for the viva-voce (interview) for selection to the post of Primary Teacher under Human Resource Development Department.

SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.
1	18200001	41	18200044	81	18200092	121	18200134	161	18200178
2	18200002	42	18200045	82	18200093	122	18200136	162	18200179
3	18200003	43	18200046	83	18200094	123	18200137	163	18200181
4	18200004	44	18200047	84	18200095	124	18200138	164	18200182
5	18200005	45	18200054	85	18200096	125	18200139	165	18200183
6	18200006	46	18200056	86	18200097	126	18200140	166	18200184
7	18200007	47	18200057	87	18200098	127	18200141	167	18200185
8	18200008	48	18200058	88	18200099	128	18200142	168	18200186
9	18200009	49	18200059	89	18200100	129	18200143	169	18200187
10	18200010	50	18200060	90	18200101	130	18200144	170	18200188
11	18200011	51	18200061	91	18200102	131	18200145	171	18200189
12	18200013	52	18200062	92	18200103	132	18200146	172	18200190
13	18200014	53	18200063	93	18200104	133	18200147	173	18200191
14	18200015	54	18200064	94	18200106	134	18200148	174	18200193
15	18200016	55	18200065	95	18200107	135	18200149	175	18200194
16	18200017	56	18200066	96	18200108	136	18200150	176	18200195
17	18200018	57	18200067	97	18200109	137	18200151	177	18200196
18	18200019	58	18200068	98	18200110	138	18200154	178	18200197
19	18200020	59	18200069	99	18200111	139	18200155	179	18200198
20	18200021	60	18200070	100	18200112	140	18200156	180	18200199
21	18200022	61	18200071	101	18200113	141	18200157	181	18200200
22	18200023	62	18200072	102	18200114	142	18200158	182	18200201
23	18200024	63	18200073	103	18200116	143	18200159	183	18200202
24	18200026	64	18200074	104	18200117	144	18200160	184	18200203
25	18200027	65	18200075	105	18200118	145	18200162	185	18200204
26	18200028	66	18200076	106	18200119	146	18200163	186	18200205
27	18200029	67	18200077	107	18200120	147	18200164	187	18200206
28	18200030	68	18200078	108	18200121	148	18200165	188	18200207
29	18200031	69	18200079	109	18200122	149	18200166	189	18200208
30	18200033	70	18200080	110	18200123	150	18200167	190	18200209
31	18200034	71	18200081	111	18200124	151	18200168	191	18200210
32	18200035	72	18200082	112	18200125	152	18200169	192	18200211
33	18200036	73	18200083	113	18200126	153	18200170	193	18200212
34	18200037	74	18200084	114	18200127	154	18200171	194	18200213
35	18200038	75	18200085	115	18200128	155	18200172	195	18200214
36	18200039	76	18200087	116	18200129	156	18200173	196	18200215
37	18200040	77	18200088	117	18200130	157	18200174	197	18200216
38	18200041	78	18200089	118	18200131	158	18200175	198	18200219
39	18200042	79	18200090	119	18200132	159	18200176	199	18200220
40	18200043	80	18200091	120	18200133	160	18200177	200	18200221
201	18200222	255	18200280	309	18200338	363	18200396	417	18200452
202	18200223	256	18200281	310	18200339	364	18200397	418	18200453
203	18200224	257	18200282	311	18200340	365	18200398	419	18200454
204	18200226	258	18200283	312	18200341	366	18200399	420	18200456
205	18200227	259	18200284	313	18200342	367	18200400	421	18200458
206	18200228	260	18200285	314	18200343	368	18200401	422	18200459
207	18200229	261	18200286	315	18200344	369	18200402	423	18200460
208	18200230	262	18200288	316	18200346	370	18200403	424	18200461
209	18200231	263	18200289	317	18200347	371	18200404	425	18200462
210	18200232	264	18200290	318	18200348	372	18200405	426	18200463
211	18200233	265	18200291	319	18200349	373	18200406	427	18200464
212	18200234	266	18200293	320	18200350	374	18200407	428	18200465
213	18200235	267	18200294	321	18200351	375	18200408	429	18200466
214	18200237	268	18200295	322	18200352	376	18200410	430	18200467
215	18200238	269	18200296	323	18200353	377	18200411	431	18200468
216	18200239	270	18200297	324	18200354	378	18200412	432	18200469
217	18200240	271	18200298	325	18200355	379	18200413	433	18200470
218	18200242	272	18200299	326	18200356	380	18200414	434	18200471
219	18200243	273	18200300	327	18200357	381	18200415	435	18200472
220	18200244	274	18200301	328	18200358	382	18200416	436	18200473
221	18200245	275	18200302	329	18200359	383	18200417	437	18200474
222	18200246	276	18200303	330	18200360	384	18200418	438	18200475
223	18200247	277	18200304	331	18200361	385	18200419	439	18200478
224	18200248	278	18200305	332	18200362	386	18200420	440	18200480
225	18200249	279	18200306	333	18200363	387	18200421	441	18200481
226	18200250	280	18200308	334	18200364	388	18200422	442	18200482
227	18200251	281	18200309	335	18200365	389	18200423	443	18200484
228	18200252	282	18200310	336	18200366	390	18200424	444	18200485
229	18200253	283	18200311	337	18200367	391	18200425	445	18200487
230	18200254	284	18200312	338	18200368	392	18200426	446	18200488
231	18200255	285	18200313	339	18200369	393	18200427	447	18200489
232	18200256	286	18200314	340	18200370	394	18200428	448	18200490
233	18200257	287	18200315	341	18200372	395	18200429	449	18200491

The scrutiny of the documents and the classroom demonstration will be done from 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 in the Conference Hall of SSTRB building, Upper Syari. The candidates are advised to bring with them the following documents in original along with a set of Xerox copies duly attested by the Exam Cell of HRDD, Gangtok.

1. Mark sheet and Certificates of Class X and XII.
2. Mark sheet and Certificate of D.El.Ed and STET/CTET.
3. COI/SSC and Unmarried Certificate in case of unmarried female candidates.
4. COI/SSC of Husband and Marriage Certificate in case of female married candidates.
5. COI/SSC of self in case of male candidates .
6. Caste/Category Certificate.
7. Renewed Local Employment Card.
8. BPL Certificate issued by DESME/District Authority in case of BPL candidates.
9. SPAE Certificate from the appropriate authority in case of SPAE candidates.
10. PWD Certificate from SJEWD in case of PWD candidates.
11. Lesson Plan for Classroom Demonstration.

The candidates from Serial No. 1 to 100 are to report at SSTRB Office on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 .

The candidates from Serial No. 101 to 200 are to report at SSTRB Office on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.

The candidates from Serial No. 201 to 300 are to report at SSTRB Office on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018

The candidates from Serial No. 301 to 400 are to report at SSTRB Office on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The candidates from Serial No. 401 to 500 are to report at SSTRB Office on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The candidates from Serial No. 501 to 575 are to report at SSTRB Office on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The viva-voce shall be held from 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 10 am at the Conference Hall of SSTRB Building as below:

Sl. No. 1 to 60	–	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2018;
Sl. No. 61 to 120	–	29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018;
Sl.No. 121 to 180	–	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2018;
Sl.No. 181 to 240	–	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018;
Sl.No. 241 to 300	–	2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2018;
Sl.No. 301 to 360	–	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2018,
Sl.No. 361 to 420	–	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2018;
Sl.No. 421 to 480	–	5 <sup>th</sup> April 2018;
Sl.No. 481 to 540	–	6 <sup>th</sup> April 2018;
Sl.No. 541 to 575	-	7 <sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Sd/-

(T.P. SHARMA, SCS)

CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS

SIKKIM STATE TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD

R.O. No. 627/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 15.03.18



# S Korean ex-president Lee admits taking \$100,000 from spy

**SEOUL, MAR 15 (AFP):** Former South Korean president Lee Myung-bak has admitted receiving 100,000 from the state spy agency while still in office, reports said today, after he faced a marathon interrogation by prosecutors over corruption allegations.

Lee returned home today after lengthy questioning as he became the last of the country's living ex-leaders to be embroiled in a criminal inquiry.

He denied most corruption charges but admitted taking the off-book funds from the National Intelligence Service (NIS) via a presidential aide, Yonhap news agency said today, citing a prosecution official.

Allegations of graft involving the conservative 76-year-old's relatives and aides during his term have mounted in recent weeks as prosecutors investigate multiple cases of bribery amounting to millions of dollars.

The probe means that all four living former South Korean presidents have been convicted, charged, or investigated for criminal offences.

Lee spent more than 21 hours at the prosecutors' of-



fice in Seoul from Wednesday morning, and did not reply to questions from journalists outside as he left.

"President Lee denied most of the charges," the prosecutor was quoted as saying by Yonhap news agency.

"But he accepted some facts. For example, he acknowledges the fact that he received 100,000 (106 million won) of the (1.7 billion won of secret) funds" Lee allegedly pocketed from the NIS, the prosecutor told Yonhap.

The news agency added that Lee refused to explain what he did with the 100,000. He denies receiving the rest of

the money.

A prosecution official contacted by AFP declined to comment on the report.

One of Lee's former aides Kim Hee-joong has told the Hankook Ilbo daily that he himself delivered the 100,000 to Lee's wife in 2011 when Lee visited the United States.

Lee, who was head of state from 2008 to 2013, has previously denounced the inquiry as "political revenge" and said Wednesday he hoped it would be the "last time in history" that a South Korean ex-leader was summoned for questioning by prosecutors.

"As a former president, I

have a lot to say about this but I will spare my words," he told reporters when he arrived for the interrogation.

Prosecutors are thought likely to ask a court for an arrest warrant for Lee in the coming days.

The allegations against Lee include claims that the Samsung Group bought a presidential pardon in 2009 for its chairman Lee Kun-hee, who had been convicted of tax evasion and given a suspended jail sentence.

Both Samsung and Lee have denied the allegations as groundless.

According to reports, Lee is also accused of accepting 2.2 billion won from a former CEO of a state-financed banking group for helping him assume the post.

In addition to allegedly pocketing 1.7 billion won from the NIS, he is accused of receiving 400 million won in bribes from a lawmaker and embezzling millions of dollars from DAS, an auto parts company he is said to own under the names of his relatives. Lee denied owning DAS under questioning Wednesday, the prosecution official told Yonhap.

South Korean presidents have a tendency to end up in prison -- or meet untimely ends -- after their time in power, usually once their political rivals have moved into the presidential Blue House.

Conservative Park Geun-hye was ousted last year over a massive corruption scandal that emerged in 2016, and the verdict in her bribery and abuse of power trial is due next month, with prosecutors demanding 30 years in jail.

Lee's own predecessor, the liberal Roh Moo-hyun, committed suicide by jumping off a cliff after being questioned over corruption allegations in 2009.

After the South embraced democracy in the 1990s former dictator Chun Doo-hwan and his friend and successor Roh Tae-woo were handed sentences of death and life imprisonment respectively for their involvement in a 1979 military coup and for receiving hundreds of millions of dollars in bribes from businesses.

Both their sentences were reduced on appeal, and they were eventually pardoned and released after serving about two years each.

## Pak summons its envoy in India for consultations over "harassment": FO

**ISLAMABAD, MAR 15 (PTI):** Upping the ante, Pakistan today said it has decided to call back its High Commissioner in India Sohail Mahmood for consultations after repeated incidence of "harassment" of its diplomatic staff in New Delhi.

Foreign Office spokesman Muhammad Faisal said that the Indian government failed to take notice of the increasing incidents of intimidation of Pakistani diplomats, their families and staffers by its intelligence agencies.

"Our High Commissioner in New Delhi has been asked to come to Islamabad for consultations," he said.

On Tuesday, the Foreign Office had summoned India's Deputy High Commissioner J P Singh over the alleged harassment of its officials and their families in New Delhi.

The Pakistan Foreign Ministry claimed that the staff and their families have been facing "harassment, intimidation and outright violence" from Indian state agencies in recent weeks.

Faisal today alleged that this deliberate continuing bullying was not confined to a single isolated event and "continues unabated despite repeated official protests lodged with the Indian High Commission here, and also with the Indian Ministry of External Affairs at the highest (level)."

He said the Pakistan High Commission shared with the External Affairs Ministry photographs identifying the individuals, who forcibly halted and took pictures of the officers but regrettably no positive action was taken by the Indian side so far.

"The total apathy and failure of the Indian Government to put a halt to these despicable incidents, sparing not even young children, indicates both a lack of capacity to protect foreign diplomats posted in India or a more reprehensible, complicit unwillingness to do so," he said.

## US agrees Russia responsible for spy poisoning in UK: WH

**WASHINGTON, MAR 15 (PTI):** The US today backed its closest ally the UK in a "reckless" nerve agent attack on a former spy and his daughter, saying it shares the British assessment that Russia is responsible for the "abhorrent" incident.

It also said that the UK's decision to expel 23 Russian diplomats in retaliation for the alleged attack was a "just response".

"The US stands in solidarity with its closest ally, the UK. The US shares the UK's assessment that Russia is responsible for the reckless nerve agent attack on a British citizen and his daughter, and we support the UK's decision to expel Russian diplomats as a just response," White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said.

British Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday expelled 23 Russian diplomats - in the "single biggest expulsion" in more than 30 years - and suspended high-level bilateral contacts, saying Moscow was "culpable" of the nerve agent attack.

Former Russian spy Sergei Skripal, 66, and his daughter Yulia, 33, were found collapsed after being poisoned last week. Both remain in a serious condition along with a police officer who came in contact with the same substance.

Russia denies its involvement in the attempted murder.

Sanders said the attack fits into a pattern of behaviour in which Russia "disregards the international rules-based order, undermines the sovereignty and security of countries worldwide, and attempts to subvert and discredit Western democratic institutions and processes".



Those from the UK travelling to Russia have been warned they could face "anti-British sentiment or harassment" amid the growing tension between the two countries. The Foreign Office has urged British nationals to "remain vigilant" in updated travel advice after Theresa May ordered the expulsion of 23 Russian diplomats on Wednesday. It was issued as the Prime Minister looked to take action after reaching a stalemate with Russia following demands for Moscow to explain the use of a chemical weapon in Salisbury.

## US challenges India's export subsidy programmes at WTO

**WASHINGTON, MAR 15 (PTI):** The US has challenged India's export subsidy schemes at the World Trade Organisation, saying these programmes harm American workers and manufacturers by creating an "uneven" playing field.

US Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Lighthizer argued that at least half a dozen Indian programmes provide financial benefits to Indian exporters, which allow them to sell their goods more cheaply to the detriment of American workers and manufacturers.

These programs are: the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme; Export Oriented Units Scheme and sector specific schemes, including Electronics Hardware Technology Parks Scheme, Special Economic Zones, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme and Duty Free Imports for Exporters Programme.

"These export subsidy programmes harm American workers by creating an uneven playing field on which they must compete," Lighthizer said yesterday.

"USTR will continue to hold our trading partners accountable by vigorously enforcing US rights under our trade agreements and by promoting fair and reciprocal trade through all available tools, including the WTO," Lighthizer said.

The announcement from Lighthizer came while Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale was on his maiden visit to the US.

In a statement, the USTR alleged that through these programmes, India is given exemption from certain duties, taxes, and fees which benefits numerous Indian exporters, including producers of steel products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, information technology products, textiles, and apparel.

According to the Indian government documents, thousands

of Indian companies are receiving benefits totaling to over USD 7 billion annually from these programmes.

The USTR said export subsidies provide an unfair competitive advantage to recipients.

A limited exception to this rule is for specified developing countries that may continue to provide export subsidies temporarily until they reach a defined economic benchmark.

India was initially within this group, but it surpassed the benchmark in 2015. India's exemption has expired, but India has not withdrawn its export subsidies, USTR alleged.

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES		NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES		NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR KIND MORNING		DEAR WORTHY		DEAR FALCON EVENING	
Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards		Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards		Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:15 DrawDate on:15/03/18		Draw No:15 DrawDate on:15/03/18		Draw No:33 DrawDate on:15/03/18	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- /961 88434		1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- /80K 85876		1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- /82C 33347	
(Including Super Prize Amt)		(Including Super Prize Amt)		(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- /88434 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)		Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- /85876 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)		Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- /33347 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-		2nd Prize Rs.9000/-		2nd Prize Rs.9000/-	
07075 30965 35022 37048 47552		02572 04769 28301 51497 53706		04769 14569 21200 35242 43094	
48955 55562 64650 98232 98489		56964 67554 75889 81442 88517		76646 79762 79948 85937 90670	
3rd Prize Rs.500/- /1107 4823 4927 4996 5332 5650 6112 7515 7662 8144		3rd Prize Rs.500/- /0639 1115 1903 3327 3967 4808 5226 5251 6389 8937		3rd Prize Rs.500/- /0179 0902 2418 3595 3926 4746 5176 8137 9236 9785	
4th Prize Rs.250/- /0972 1972 3344 4518 5115 5995 6731 7703 8917 9187		4th Prize Rs.250/- /2156 3136 4081 5803 6286 7263 8244 8362 9018 9205		4th Prize Rs.250/- /1513 1668 2401 3622 4138 5832 5863 7440 8115 9341	
5th Prize Rs.120/-		5th Prize Rs.120/-		5th Prize Rs.120/-	
0018 0021 0040 0158 0532 0689 0826 0833 0892 1055		0025 0028 0073 0086 0206 0254 0313 0878 1040 1180		0110 0201 0307 0335 0495 0565 0582 0676 0750 0812	
1077 1133 1521 1534 1591 1746 1950 1984 2088 2145		1346 1364 1385 1395 1410 1440 1482 1541 1726 1745		0822 0958 1082 1142 1179 1400 1558 1562 1570 1692	
2231 2241 2309 2371 2491 2790 2899 2928 2964 3103		1973 2053 2114 2177 2376 2434 2435 2511 2542 2552		1699 1706 1937 2031 2034 2091 2095 2182 2272 2462	
3115 3155 3198 3234 3347 3437 3465 3535 3612 3858		2663 2719 2862 3294 3301 3312 3358 3656 3672 3886		2705 3032 3038 3135 3298 3333 3388 3553 3671 3759	
4129 4274 4343 4363 4502 4547 4569 4588 4602 4716		4199 4337 4344 4370 4556 4694 5017 5233 5340 5368		3803 3942 4126 4510 4606 4774 4933 4945 4985 5007	
4748 4755 4821 5148 5228 5286 5353 5420 5524 5534		5388 5489 5593 5635 5726 6280 6378 6387 6422 6504		5036 5097 5269 5392 5400 5406 5475 5543 5609 5744	
5578 5759 5776 5877 5918 5974 6084 6162 6466 6476		6533 6548 6561 6671 6743 6844 6957 6996 7143 7156		5898 5925 5980 5985 6004 6257 6274 6309 6520 6842	
6509 6512 6599 6867 6978 7106 7452 7900 7924 8066		7157 7233 7241 7280 7291 7449 7522 7558 7599 7730		6905 6983 7076 7079 7207 7217 7272 7824 7937 8284	
8117 8225 8367 8472 8658 8885 8902 8910 8954 9170		7831 8138 8324 8397 8659 8709 8779 8972 9031 9072		8343 8347 8454 8562 8665 8708 8713 8937 9009 9027	
9200 9201 9240 9260 9476 9498 9517 9681 9767 9810		9094 9119 9262 9351 9444 9564 9686 9770 9781 9811		9036 9069 9093 9256 9349 9372 9430 9506 9620 9737	
Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Results, Please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com					
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE					

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES	
LABHLAXMI CANCER	
Draw No:6 DrawDate on:15/03/18	
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 3730	
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 6407 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4309	
4th Prize Rs.300/- 1162 5th Prize Rs. 203/- 6204	
6th Prize Rs.100/-	
1085 1105 1121 1134 1176 1192 1260 1282 1292 1302	
1314 1351 1359 1398 1408 1435 1472 1474 1476 1490	
1542 1544 1556 1561 1617 1705 1773 1777 1789 1820	
1826 1827 1831 1847 1861 1870 1880 1911 1927 1962	
1974 1980 1989 2004 2019 2048 2105 2160 2222 2269	
2281 2298 2370 2383 2384 2436 2451 2499 2527 2541	
2546 2644 2654 2662 2663 2666 2668 2680 2719 2738	
2745 2767 2779 2782 2805 2875 2992 3019 3026 3065	
3087 3145 3155 3188 3242 3243 3253 3312 3372 3397	
3413 3449 3463 3467 3469 3511 3530 3565 3584 3674	
3688 3708 3721 3722 3763 3776 3831 3841 3883 3910	
3922 3945 3950 3953 3960 3976 4004 4039 4087 4102	
4124 4144 4240 4254 4304 4305 4334 4368 4413 4440	
4445 4486 4501 4516 4529 4565 4606 4629 4631 4637	
4656 4678 4745 4752 4761 4766 4775 4812 4898 4920	
4972 4980 4991 5000 5037 5039 5047 5080 5142 5180	
5199 5222 5224 5234 5236 5246 5260 5266 5277 5318	
5345 5353 5363 5389 5453 5460 5468 5475 5534 5561	
5565 5571 5620 5629 5680 5683 5711 5733 5738 5751	
5753 5779 5849 5898 5918 5934 5946 5954 5968 5981	
6008 6030 6034 6052 6061 6076 6089 6099 6129 6193	
6208 6212 6239 6279 6390 6401 6417 6427 6429 6432	
6472 6474 6509 6528 6560 6579 6581 6593 6669 6680	
6721 6730 6732 6752 6769 6784 6868 6896 6933 6983	
Issued by:	
The Director ,Mizoram State Lotteries,	
For result please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com	

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES	
MUMBAILAXMI CHAND	
Draw No:6 DrawDate on:15/03/18	
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 1048 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 3207	
3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 2629 4th Prize Rs. 503/- 2723	
5th Prize Rs.200/-	
1023 1111 1134 1190 1237 1312 1336 1380 1453 1509	
1603 1710 1750 1756 1770 1843 1854 1899 1910 1942	
1996 2076 2085 2116 2274 2324 2325 2347 2362 2427	
2454 2497 2505 2592 2631 2670 2726 2737 2806 2832	
2835 2880 2944 2969 3104 3280 3288 3341 3345 3374	
3393 3536 3684 3829 3857 3906 3970 4009 4039 4133	
4171 4176 4187 4246 4563 4575 4629 4645 4760 4844	
4891 4929 4958 4994 5080 5111 5132 5196 5210 5282	
5305 5338 5390 5393 5396 5402 5421 5581 5616 5705	
5772 5820 5842 5845 5904 5916 5922 5926 5928 5946	
6th Prize Rs.100/-	
1005 1029 1066 1117 1125 1127 1201 1220 1222 1240	
1247 1256 1262 1291 1305 1313 1316 1318 1319 1356	
1417 1493 1517 1539 1545 1552 1553 1588 1602 1608	
1613 1614 1625 1631 1654 1673 1674 1724 1734 1818	
1821 1845 1897 1905 1943 1952 1957 1968 2015 2074	
2077 2088 2089 2100 2120 2132 2188 2198 2218 2219	
2273 2293 2348 2373 2383 2441 2448 2455 2531 2559	
2624 2637 2655 2682 2705 2727 2732 2821 2849 2882	
2917 2951 2998 3037 3053 3108 3124 3140 3171 3233	
3234 3238 3289 3292 3325 3370 3375 3379 3383 3388	
3487 3501 3509 3530 3534 3617 3618 3640 3663 3706	
3731 3766 3788 3819 3891 3895 3924 3932 3939 3959	
3962 3979 4012 4017 4058 4073 4144 4164 4172 4204	
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**SILLY SINGER!** "Havana" singer Camila Cabello struts her stuff in a plain black tee and overalls at the LAX airport.

## SALMAN KHAN POSTS RACE 3 TEASER THREE MONTHS BEFORE FILM'S RELEASE

Three months before the release of Race 3, the film's star Salman Khan released a teaser video from the film. Posting the short clip on Twitter, the actor wrote: "3 Months to go..." while also tagging his production company and the film's co-stars. The superstar is heard saying, "On your mark. Get set. Ready. Go," followed by the signature movie tune of the 'Race' franchise and the screeching of cars.

Abbas-Mustan directed the first two films in the Race franchise and Remo D' Souza will helm the third. While Anil Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan starred in both the iterations



of Race, Akshaye Khanna, Katrina Kaif and Sameera Reddy were seen in the first film and John Abraham, Jacqueline Fernandez and Deepika Padukone starred in Race 2.

The third instalment of the Race franchise is produced by Salman Khan Films

and Taurani under the banner of Tips Films. Race 3 will hit the theatres on Eid, June 15.

Race 3 stars Salman, Bobby Deol, Jacqueline Fernandez, Daisy Shah, Saqib Saleem and Anil Kapoor. The film will hit the theatres on Eid, June 15.



## SHAHID KAPOOR TO ESSAY THE ROLE OF MANOJ KUMAR IN THE REMAKE OF WOH KAUN THI?

Shahid Kapoor is currently shooting for Shree Narayan Singh's film Batti Gul Meter Chalu currently. The film also stars Shraddha Kapoor and Yami Gautam in pivotal parts. According to a source, Shahid has apparently signed a three-film deal with the Batti... production house. The group added when the production house considered making the remake of Woh Kaun Thi, Shahid's name came up to essay the part of Manoj Kumar.

Talking about Shahid being cast in the remake of the film, the source told a leading daily that, "Shahid has developed a great rapport with the producers in the course of Batti Gul shoot. After this project, he is committed to doing two more films with the studio. So, when they bought the remake rights of Woh Kaun Thi, he was one of the first choices to essay Manoj Kumar's role."

## LATEST WHATSAPP UPDATE BRINGS IN GROUP DESCRIPTION, VOICE-TO-VIDEO CALL SWITCHING AND MORE FOR ANDROID USERS

APP-DATE

Facebook-owned WhatsApp has been testing different features like group description and quick switching between voice and video calls for sometime now. The company even rolled out voice-to-video call switching feature to its iPhone users more than a month ago. And now, it's finally rolling out this feature to its Android users as well. However, that's not the only feature WhatsApp is rolling out for Android users. With the latest update, WhatsApp has also rolled out group description and group search feature to the Android app.

### GROUP DESCRIPTION

Let's talk about the Group Description feature first. As evident from its name itself, the Group Description feature allows the members of the groups to add a description to the group. This can contain any information related to the group like the purpose of creating that group or probably the rules of the group. You can also add emoji to the Group Description if you want.

Once the admin, or any other group member adds the Group Description, it will show up at the top of the group chat to the members who open the group chat for the first time after the description was added. And, it will also be visible to the members below the Group Name in Group Info section. However, the Group Description will also be visible when inviting someone via the



group's invite link. **SWITCH QUICKLY BETWEEN VOICE AND VIDEO CALLS** WhatsApp rolled out this feature to its iPhone users last month, and now, it has been rolled out to Android users as well. With this feature, users can quickly switch from on-going voice call to a video call without having to disconnect it.

To switch from voice call to a video call, all you have to do is tap on the video call button at the bottom in the center. After that, tap on 'Switch' when asked for a confirmation. This will send a switch request (see image on the right above) to the person at the other end of the call. If he accepts the request, only then will the voice call switch to video call.

That said, you can also switch from a video call to a voice call. However, in this case, both the parties will have to tap on the video call button at the bottom to switch to a voice call.

### GROUP SEARCH

WhatsApp has also rolled out the Group Search fea-

ture. With this feature, group members can quickly search for a participant in the group. To quickly search for a person in the group, head over to the Group Info section. There you will find a Search Icon (magnifying glass icon) above the list of participants. Just tap on it and you will see a search bar where you can type the name or number of the person you are looking for.

### WHATSAPP FOR IPHONE TOO GETS AN UPDATE

Apart from rolling out group description, voice-video call switching, and group search features to Android users, WhatsApp has also rolled out time and location stickers for iPhone users which are accessible by tapping the smiley icon when editing a photo or video.

Well, the aforementioned features for Android users are rolled out with WhatsApp version 2.18.79, and, with WhatsApp version 2.18.31 for iPhone users.

If you haven't got these features yet, we suggest you update your WhatsApp by heading over to the Playstore.

## PRIYANKA TO MAKE HER BOLLYWOOD COMEBACK WITH KALPANA CHAWLA BIOPI

Seems like Priyanka Chopra had almost settled down in America. Shooting for Quantico, Baywatch and 'A kid like Jake' and 'Isn't it Romantic' has kept the actor extremely busy which is why she hasn't gotten time to do a Bollywood project. But it seems like she finally has found some time for Hindi films. Priyanka Chopra recently wrapped up shooting for the third season of her television show called Quantico and she also is done shooting for the two Hollywood releases. According to reports, she will be returning to India and will be staying here for at least three to four months and will pick up her Bollywood career right from where she left. Jai Gangajal was the last Bollywood movie which featured Priyanka Chopra and it was released on March 4, 2016.



Going by the speculations it seems that the Kalpana Chawla biopic will be her final choice. It was mentioned in one of her interviews to a leading daily that Priyanka might be making her directorial debut with the project. Insiders later confirmed saying, "Priyanka's team has been involved in the project and have been planning the legwork of the film for past one year." Recently, Priyanka Chopra had gone live on Instagram on the occasion of the International Women's day, when fans asked

her about when they will get to see her in a Bollywood film, she replied by saying, "It's almost happening." She even said this to Ranveer Singh when he asked when she will be returning. If the Kalpana Chawla biopic is indeed the official comeback film for Priyanka, we have to admit, it is a pretty smart move considering the nature of the project. Kalpana

Chawla was India's first woman astronaut to fly into outer space. Originally, from Karnal, Haryana, Kalpana made the entire nation proud of her with this achievement. Her life came to a disturbing end in February 2003, when the space shuttle she was in exploded, killing her and her crew. Kalpana had spent 31 days, 14 hours and 54 minutes in the shuttle before the explosion occurred. This will also be Priyanka Chopra's second biopic after Mary Kom.

## THIS WEEK'S TOP 10 SONGS ON BILLBOARD HOT 100



1. Drake- God's Plan
2. Ed Sheeran- Perfect
3. Bruno Mars featuring Cardi B- Finesse [Remix]
4. Post Malone featuring Ty Dolla \$ign- Psycho
5. Bebe Rexha and Florida Georgia Line- Meant to Be
6. Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug- Havana
7. BlocBoy JB featuring Drake- Look Alive
8. Zedd, Maren Morris and Grey- The Middle
9. The Weeknd and Kendrick Lamar- Pray for Me
10. Migos- Stir Fry

**ARIES:** Communication problems might arise on the job. Perhaps a co-worker is in a bad mood and unresponsive to anything you say. Or perhaps the phones are out or the computers down. This could prove frustrating. Aries, and might interfere with relations among staff members. A phone call from a close friend or lover could go astray but reach you at the last minute. Don't worry; you'll still have a great evening! **TAURUS:** A project that you've worked on for a long time could bring some money your way, Taurus. Don't be too disappointed if you don't have it in your hands today. There might be a short delay of some kind, perhaps due to problems with the mail service. You might be turning your thoughts

now to new projects. While you have a lot of ideas, you aren't likely to make firm decisions today.

**GEMINI:** Relationships with others are important to you, Gemini. As a result, you've learned to be polite and congenial. Social engagements today could give you a chance to use your people skills. You could not only make some new friends but also valuable contacts. These activities could keep you away from home and family longer than you'd like, but you'll end the day with a strong sense of accomplishment.

**CANCER:** A powerful sense of inspiration could come from within today, Cancer. You might want to write down your thoughts or draw the pictures that pop into your head. However, social obligations,

possibly parties or visits, could interfere with putting your ideas on paper. You could also feel especially attuned to the thoughts and feelings of others, although you might not like what you're picking up!

**LEO:** Group activities could take up a lot of your time and energy today, perhaps too much. Your career concerns are very much on your mind, and you don't like being distracted from them. Nonetheless, these activities, not to mention your family, are important to you, Leo, and you'll find a way to squeeze them in even though it's frustrating. Remember, this isn't a good day to push yourself too hard!

**VIRGO:** Work could be a real drag today, Virgo. You might be expected to put in more hours

than normal. Your heart isn't in it right now. You have interests of your own that you'd rather pursue, plus you could be planning to get together with friends or your partner later. It's best to finish everything quickly, perhaps postponing nonessential tasks, and then go and enjoy yourself.

**LIBRA:** Body and soul might seem out of balance today. A part of you may long to break from society and live a more spiritual life, but worldly responsibilities and an attachment to your current lifestyle could get in your way. These things don't happen overnight, Libra. You have to let them develop in their own way, in their own time. Right now, find balance between the spiritual and the material.

**SCORPIO:** Strain within a group that you're associated with could be traced to money problems. Perhaps people are disagreeing over what needs to be done regarding fundraising or budgetary limitations. It's best to divorce yourself from this sort of thing if possible, Scorpio. It's draining. Strange, vivid dreams might haunt your sleep tonight, but don't read too much into them. They aren't the kind with any special significance.

**SAGITTARIUS:** You may get a chance to make some extra money today, perhaps by working overtime. However, this might interfere with a social event that you've committed to, and could cause disappointment among your friends and family members. It could also give rise to a

little trouble with your partner. However, remind yourself that this disappointment will pass, and the money will be more than welcome. Hang in there!

**CAPRICORN:** Although it looks as if the next few months should shape up to be a great time for your career, Capricorn, unfortunately, today it might appear hopeless. Mundane, routine, unrewarding tasks could take up a lot of your time on the job today. Nevertheless, don't let the frustration interfere with your outlook for the future. You're due for advancement in some way!

**AQUARIUS:** Your heart is longing for a romantic encounter tonight, Aquarius, and the partner in your life is more than willing to accommodate you. Nonetheless, circum-

stances beyond your control could interfere with your plans, and you might not be able to make contact tonight. This could bring frustration, dissatisfaction, and maybe even a little friction between you. Don't panic, though. It will pass, probably by tomorrow.

**PISCES:** Conflict between your responsibilities at home and career obligations, particularly those involving partners, could pose a problem today, Pisces. The problem isn't insurmountable, but does call for honest, open communication among all parties involved. You won't be happy at having to make a choice, and may find the two duties difficult to balance right now. Give it your best. By tomorrow things should be back to normal.