



# SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 300 | Gangtok | Saturday | 25 November 2017

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

*HC quashes notification that reduced excise duty exemption from 100% to 56%*

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 23 NOV:**

The High Court of Sikkim has quashed the 2008 notification issued by the Centre reducing the excise duty exemption to industrial units set up in Sikkim from 100% to 56%. According to the High Court, the Centre failed to establish the 'superior public interest' that such a cut would serve.

Under the North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 known as Industrial Policy, 2007 the Central Government had provided 100% excise duty exemption which was reduced to 56% vide Notifications No. 20/2008.

Sun Pharma Laboratories Limited had filed four petitions challenging the impugned notifications. The division bench of the High Court of Sikkim headed by Chief Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri and Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan observed that, "the facts and circumstances of the present writ petitions, squarely falls within the parameters of the doctrine of promissory estoppel and that it would be unconscionable on the part of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue to shy away from it without fulfilling its promise."

**GANGTOK, 24 NOV [IPR]:** The two-day Kanchanpanda Start-up Fest 2017 was inaugurated today at Manan Kendra in Gangtok in the presence of Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest. The inaugural session was attended by Speaker-SLA, KN Rai, Member of Parliament-Lok Sabha, PD Rai, Cabinet Ministers, Principal Economic Advisor-Government of India, Sanjeev Sanyal, Heads of Departments and officers of the state government led by the Chief Secretary, dignitaries from Government of India, leading entrepreneurs from across the country and abroad, and local entrepreneurs.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Chamling exhorted the youth to embrace entrepreneurship as the new profession. He called for the need to change our mindsets and look beyond traditional professions.



He urged the youth to develop sense of respect and dignity for work, inculcate sense of ownership, responsibility, accountability, belongingness and the zeal and enthusiasm to work. He stated that Sikkim offers its youth unlimited opportunities in

any field, but there have hardly been any takers. He urged the budding entrepreneurs to develop a positive mindset and work towards meeting the huge demand.

The CM elaborated on three major areas where the youth of Sikkim can focus

namely Organic Agriculture and allied sectors, Tourism related businesses and the field of Technology. He however laid great stress on the unlimited prospects of Organic Agriculture and termed it as a profession which is never out-dated.

Highlighting the merits of Organic Agriculture, the CM stated that it is the world's oldest profession and is life-saving, earth saving, sustainable, lucrative and is the only solution in the mitigation of global warming.

He also highlighted some of the allied areas of organic farming, apart from production, where the youth could focus, namely marketing, packaging, value addition, agrobased industry, and engaging local artisans for packaging of the organic produce.

He further stated that the demand for Sikkim's organic produce outside the State is as high as 99.99%, but we have failed to realize our potential to meet this burgeoning demand. He again exhorted the youth to bring back the sense of respect and dignity for work and labour and to meet the global demand.

Mr Chamling also encouraged the young and budding entrepreneurs to realize the huge demand in tourism and allied sectors and in the field of technology.

He called in the State Government officers to create an enabling environment for the entrepreneurs in the State and to encourage them at every step. He concluded by stating that the youth of the State should shift their mindset from being mere consumers to being producers and job providers.

He assured full assistance from the Government through programmes like these.

Earlier, Principal Economic Advisor-GoI, Mr Sanyal, in his address, termed the Kanchanpanda fest a highly significant initiative as it synchronized with the vision of New India envisioned by

*turn to pg02*



## INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON ECO CRITICISM CONCLUDES AT SGC

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 24 NOV:** Prof. Ron Paul Salutsky of Atlanta, Georgia USA speaking with Prof. Murali and Prof Irsagad on the last day of the three-

day International Seminar on Eco Criticism titled 'Why Ecocriticism?' organized by the Department of English, Sikkim Government College, and FSLE, Foundation for the

Study of Literature and Environment. During the seminar, the resource speakers discussed and deliberated on more than 80 papers presented simultaneously at four

venues on campus. The paper presenters have congregated from all corners of the country, ranging from the Northeastern states to Udhampur and Kerala.

## Gurung claims political persecution by Bengal govt

**New Delhi, Nov 24 (PTI):** Gorkha Janmukti Morcha leader Bimal Gurung today claimed in the Supreme Court that he was being politically persecuted by the West Bengal government, as the state police sought "reversal" of the order restraining it from taking coercive action against him.

Gurung's counsel alleged before a bench of Justices AK Sikri and Ashok Bhushan that West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was opposed to him "tooth and nail" and has sought a CBI probe in the killings of several Gorkhaland activists during the recent agitation for a separate state.

The West Bengal Police told the bench that the apex court's November 20 order restraining it from taking any coercive steps against Gurung should be vacated, as the "morale" of the entire force was down since there were several cases of serious nature against him.

On November 20, the top court had issued notice on his plea and said "in the meantime, no coercive steps shall be taken against the petitioner".

Senior lawyer AM Singhvi, appearing for the police, said there were a number of cases, including of murder and rioting, against Gurung and a 26-year-old police official was also killed during the recent Gorkhaland agitation.

He argued that details of these cases were not given to the court at the time when the November 20 order was passed and said, "look at what the state will feel. The state will feel that it is impotent as far as this person is concerned".

Singhvi gave a list of 53 FIRs lodged against Gurung and said he was facing trial in another 24 cases as well.

He also alleged that several incriminating material like AK 47 rifle, live ammunitions and bombs were recovered by the police from the activists during the protests.

Senior advocate P S Patwalia, appearing for Gurung, countered Singhvi's submissions and said a number of FIRs were lodged against him which amounted to political persecution.

"It is rather my case that these FIRs



are part of political persecution by West Bengal government against me. I am the President of Gorkha Janmukti Morcha. The present chief minister of West Bengal is tooth and nail opposed to me and a separate Gorkhaland," he said. Patwalia also claimed that 21 pro-Gorkhaland activists were killed during the recent 104-day protest and there should be a CBI investigation in the matter.

When Singhvi referred to the cases lodged against Gurung and said "we want reversal of the order", the bench observed, "we were not aware of all these cases".

The bench also asked Gurung's counsel to file a reply to the application of the police and posted the case for hearing on November 28.

"You (police) have levelled allegations (against Gurung) which are serious. So let him file a reply. We will have it on Tuesday," the bench said.

The bench also asked Gurung's counsel to ensure that there is no "public speech" and "demonstration" till then.

The GJM central committee had recently suspended Gurung for six months and appointed Binay Tamang as the party's new president.

The police had earlier claimed that Gurung and some of his aides were absconding after being booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in connection with the violence in Darjeeling hills during the recent agitation for a separate Gorkhaland.

Gurung has approached the apex court seeking an independent probe into the alleged killings of Gorkhaland supporters during the protests.

## Song Bing Hot Spring Festival commences at Lingdem

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA**

**MANGAN, 24 NOV:**

Deputy Speaker-cum-MLA of Dzongu, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, today inaugurated the nine-day Song Bing Hot Spring Festival at Lingdem, under Lingthem-Lingdem GPU, in Upper Dzongu, North Sikkim.

He was accompanied by Sub Divisional Magistrate-Dzongu, Tshering Dorjee Bhutia, SDM-Chungthang, ST Topgay, Block Development Officer-Dzongu, KR Limboo, Child Development Project Officer-Dzongu, Netuk Lepcha, and other dignitaries.

President of the celebration committee, Karma Lepcha, underlined about the festival and also highlighted the developmental works done by the state government. He also placed the demands pertaining to Chenrezig Statue to be installed at Kayam, construction of eco foot path from Ruklu to Monslung at Lingthem, community hall at Ruklu and Lingdem, eco friendly foot path from Song Bing, carpeting of road from Mantam lingdem, 20 home stays at Ruklu Kayam, Laven and Lingdem and 3 KM road from Mandong to Lingdem Monastery.

Deputy Speaker, Mr Lepcha, while addressing the public,



said, "Dzongu has changed with its overall development and the people of Dzongu can proudly speak about their identity."

Mr Lepcha further stressed on the completion of REDRH and CM-RHM houses in Dzongu at the earliest and directed the concerned Panchayats and the administration to monitor it for early completion.

He has appealed to all the people of Dzongu to be united as development can be achieved only through unity.

The function also coincided with National Women's Day today wherein CDPO-Dzongu, Netuk Lepcha, highlighted the importance of the day.

Social Welfare Department also provided gift hampers to women Self Help Groups who participated in the function. A cultural programme was also presented by the women SHGs of the area.

Also present in the function were Medical Officer-Passingdang PHC, Dr SK Rai, Zilla member, Nimkit Pakimoo, Panchayat President, Gyatso Lepcha, Range Officer-Forest, Norden Zangpo Bhutia, Panchayats and the general public.

As part of the festival, a football tournament is also being organized. In the first match played today, Manik Veteran thrashed Lingdem 6-0. In the second

match, Namok team defeated Ambithang by 2 goals to nil.

The finals of the tourney will be held on 01 Dec and will have a cash prize of Rs 40,000 for the winner and Rs 25, 000 for the runner-up team along with trophies.

The nine-day festival also features traditional games, organic food, traditional cultural programme and a dip in the famous Lingdem hot spring along with visits to Song Bing Cave near the venue. One can also visit Mantam Lake and walk on the long bamboo bridge.

President of the celebration committee has welcomed all to be a part of the festival.



## SKM to start 'Jatiya Ekta Ani Sadhbhawna Yatra' from West Sikkim

### SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party has announced its state-wide 'Jatiya Ekta Ani Sadhbhawna Yatra' to begin on 25 Nov from West Sikkim. The yatra is scheduled to conclude in North Sikkim in the month of December.

A joint press release issued by the acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, and chief coordinator, Sonam Lama, alleges that SDF has been indulging in divide and rule politics by breaking communal harmony of the State for the past 23 years. The party has appealed to the people of Sikkim to maintain peace, patience and communal harmony in such a 'state of crisis' in the State.

Meanwhile, citing a news report published in a national English daily where the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry is said to have opposed the proposal of conferring tribal status to eleven left-out communities of Sikkim, SKM has demanded that the state government issue a clarification on the same.

## Forest Guard assaulted

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

Four persons hailing from Rorathang Bazaar in East Sikkim allegedly assaulted a forest guard posted at Rorathang forest check post on 24 Nov and further vandalized the government property of the forest check post.

## Two caught with drugs

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

During routine checking of incoming vehicles at Rangpo check post on 23 Nov, one taxi coming from West Bengal side was intercepted by Police. During search, one resident of Baman Pokhari in Kurseong and another from Lachen in North Sikkim, were found in possession of 280 capsules of Spasmo-proxyvon and 09 tablets of N-10 concealed in a back pack and kept beside the gear box of the said vehicle.

# Women entrepreneurs share their experiences at Startup Fest

NITESH R PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

Sharing stories of hope were Sikkimese women entrepreneurs in the plenary session 'Women in business' at the Kanchan Panda Startup fest in the capital today.

The programme had founder-Remanti Sangeet Academy, Remanti Rai, founder-Beautiful Earth, Priya Dahal, founder-The Accelerator Academy, Pragma Sathpathy, CEO-Eduin [Moderator], Meeta Sengupta, founder-Namchi Designer Candles, Smita Rai, and founder-Fidgety Fingers, Devika Gurung, in the panel.

The opening of the plenary session had Sucharita Easwaran and Shobha Tshering Bhalla, both leading examples of women startups, sharing their own experiences. They also shared valuable insights on problems faced by entrepreneurs, especially women.

She listed access to finance, market and technology as some of the hindrances that cause women entrepre-



neurs to shy away from taking risks.

Therefore, there is a need for "catalysts and an ecosystem" for women entrepreneurs to get ideas and exchange ideas in a conducive environment, she added.

Similarly, Shobha Tshering Bhalla who heads the

only magazine for Indians residing abroad which is based in Singapore stated that in any new entrepreneurial business, content and marketing is the key and has advised new entrepreneurs to do a proper market survey to what their respective audiences want.

"We don't realise that we are empowered," held a young woman entrepreneur of the State, Devika Gurung, who narrated her own struggles with her knitting and yarn startup, Fidgety Fingers and further stated that empowerment comes with self realisation.

Adding further, she held that marketing tools like branding should be given more priority and focus as the reach is important.

The programme discussed various inspiring stories and ways for enhancement and cooperation between entrepreneurs.



## National Women's Day celebrated at Mangan

SUMMIT REPORT

MANGAN, 24 NOV:

National Women's Day was celebrated at Mangan Bazaar with the participation of different ICDS and Anganwadi centres in a programme organised by Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department. The CDPO Mangan, Lanzey Donka told the gathering

about the significance of Women's Day and why it is celebrated.

The function was participated by 107 women and children from different areas. Various games like musical chair, needle and thread, etc were held on the day wherein prizes were given to the winners.

The celebration concluded with vote of thanks and lunch.

## Soreng B.Ed College organizes its first Fest



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

Government B.Ed College Soreng organized its first Fest since its inception in 2010. The fest was organized from 21 to 23 Nov, informs a press release.

Chairperson, Sports & Youth Affairs, Khem Dahal inaugurated the fest followed by flagging off of the Open Marathon.

Sports activities like Badminton, Volleyball, Chess, TT, Relay Race and tug-of-war were

organized and in the afternoon, a literary programme was held which included debate, quiz & poem recitation. Song & folk dance competition was also organized, the release mentions.

On the second day, the finals of the first day's activities were conducted. The judges were from Tharpu SSS, Soreng SSS, Chakung SSS and Timburbong SS.

On the third day, the College building was formally inaugurated by

HRDD Minister, RB Subba. This was followed by the inauguration of stalls, cultural programme, release of the first College Souvenir 'Educare' and prize distribution.

Present on the occasion were Addl. Chief Secretary, GP Upadhyaya, Advisor, Dr. AD Subba, Chairperson, JB Tamang, Sub divisional heads and staff members, School Principals and Head Masters, Zilla Members, Panchayats, CLC members and retired officials.

## Man assaulted in West Sikkim

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

One 46-year-old male hailing from Salley in West Sikkim was physically assaulted on 22 Nov by three persons, two of them hailing from Salley and the other from Lower Lingchom in West Sikkim, causing the victim grievous injuries. While two of the accused have been arrested, the third accused is absconding. Efforts are being made to trace the third accused.

## Four booked under SADA

GANGTOK, 24 NOV:

Rangpo Police nabbed four persons and booked them under Sikkim Anti Drugs Act at Rangpo on 23 Nov. One of the accused was a 36-year-old drug peddler who was apprehended by Police while trying to deliver a drug consignment by crossing River Rangpo Chu near Goli ground in Rangpo. It was further informed that one vehicle was parked near the river bank to receive the consignment. The driver of the vehicle, one 29-year-old male hailing from Duga in East Sikkim was apprehended as well by the Police. On investigation, 38 bottles of Phen-cyrex cough syrup, 03 files of Spasmo-proxyvon and 02 files of N-10 were recovered. One co-accused male who had fled from the spot was later rounded up from IBM in Rangpo. Further investigation revealed that one 30-year-old male hailing from Duga and presently residing in Rangpo had given Rs 4000 to the accused to receive the consignment. He has also been taken into police custody.

### CONTACT

### Summit TIMES

REPORTERS  
NAMCHI

9832048410,  
9775736596

SINGTAM  
7699771651

MANGAN/ DIKCHU

9832612485/  
9434011213

SILIGURI  
9609066814

## Youth should focus on Agri, Tourism and...

contd from pg01

Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He maintained that entrepreneurship and risk-taking has been a part of the Indian civilization, dating back to the Indus Valley civilization. He thus encouraged the youth of Sikkim to embrace entrepreneurship.

Chief Minister Mr Chamling was also felicitated during the programme by the organizers and the Sikkim Entrepreneurs Association. Member of Parliament-Lok Sabha, Mr Rai, presented a brief concept note of the two-day Start up Festival. He expressed his gratitude for the support and the encouragement provided by the Chief Minister towards motivating the youth to start their own ventures.

Earlier, Principal Secretary-Commerce & Industries Department, Arvind Kumar, presented a brief introduction about the Kanchanpanda Start up Scheme.

The programme was also ad-

ressed by entrepreneur and founder of i-Shippo, Karma Michung Bhutia.

The leading entrepreneurs participating as guest speakers and resource persons were Atit Danak [Engagement Lead at Zinnov], B Paul Muktieh [CMD-NED-FI], Cohan Sujay Carlos [Founder & CEO, Aiaioo Labs], ES Paul Edward [Engineer, Teamindia], Hari Nair [Founder, Holiday IQ], Karma Bhutia [Founder, i-Shippo], Karma Lendup Bhutia [Design Lead- Honeywell Technologies], Karma Palzor [Journalist], Dr Madanmohan Rao [Research Director, Your Story Media], Lalitha Iyer [Independent Consultant], Parag Prasad [Managing Director, Sohamsa], Prabir K Das [Jurisdictional Director-NER & WB, STPI], Prashanth Prakash [Partner- Accel India], PD Rai [MP Lok Sabha

Sikkim], Ramanan Ramanathan [Mission Director, Atal Innovation Mission], R Ambarish [Financial Services Expert], Sanjeev Sanyal [Principal Economic Advisor, Government of India], Shobha Tsering Bhalla [Founder & MD at Indiaase Media], Subhrangshu Sanyal [CEO-IIM Calcutta], Sonam Wangchuk [Engineer, SECMOL, Ladakh], and Sucharita Eashwar [Catalyst for Women Entrepreneurs].

In the end of the inaugural session, the leading entrepreneurs and invitees from different parts of the country were felicitated by the CM.

The inaugural programme was followed by the technical sessions of the KanchanPanda Start-up Fest 2017 which commenced in the afternoon at Chintan Bhawan in Gangtok, which had focused panel discussions and interactive sessions. All the experts and resource persons along with the local entrepreneurs participated in the discussions.

# RAMOLA CELLULAR

LALL MARKET ROAD (THARO LINE) GANGTOK  
CONTACT:9832062684/9733115163

## WINTER OFFER

GET EXCLUSIVE OFFER ON YOUR PURCHASE OF IPHONE, NOKIA, VIVO AND OPPO SMARTPHONES

AVAILABLE HERE

BUY ANY SMARTPHONE ON EMI

BAJAJ FINSERV EMI FINANCE

NOKIA 5 WITH 3GB RAM

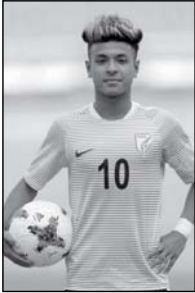
Selfie Expert Dual Selfie Camera OPPO F5

OPPO SMARTPHONE

VIVO Smart Phone V7 PLUS



**Gangtok on Saturday, 25 Nov**  
**Temp:** 18°C /07°C  
**Forecast:** Partly sunny with a passing shower or two.  
**Sunrise:** 06:03 AM  
**Sunset:** 4:41 PM



**Komal denies being dropped from Indian Arrows team**

**SAURABH RAI SILIGURI, 24 NOV:**  
A lot of speculation has been going on in social media circles about Komal Thatal's future and his being 'dropped' from the Indian Arrows team of the All India Football Federation which will be playing in the I-League.

Speaking to Summit-Times, the youngster from Sikkim clarified that he was not dropped from the team.

"It is not correct that I was not selected to play for the Indian Arrows. I opted out of it and I did not sign with them as I have other plans," said Komal.

Speaking about his plans, Komal said that he will disclose that soon and did not give out any further details.

Any of the three things is certain. The boy from Timberbung might either be joining one of the Indian Super League or the I-League clubs or might be packing his bags and heading off to a foreign country.

**HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?**  
email news@summittimes.com

**Red Panda Carnival to kick off on 08 Jan next year**

**GANGTOK, 24 NOV [IPR]:** The second preparatory meeting for the celebration of Red Panda Winter Carnival 2017 was held at the chamber of Minister of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department today.

The meeting was chaired by Tourism Minister, Ugen Gyatso, and attended by IPR Minister, AK Ghatani, and Principal Secretary-Tourism Department, Secretaries and officials and representatives of all the line



departments. The meeting discussed at length various programmes and reviewed progress made so far. The involvement of all the departments and stakeholders for the successful conduct of the car-

nival was also discussed. During the meeting, it was decided that the carnival will kick off from 08 Jan and go on till 18 Jan 2018. The 10-day event will have various activities ranging from cultural programmes consisting of dance, songs, flower shows, adventure sports, food stalls, showcasing delectable cuisines, handlooms and handicrafts stalls, organic products stalls and photo and art exhibition, etc.

**KVK West conducts Kisan Gosthi on 'Samrat' green gram**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 24 NOV:**  
Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Sikkim conducted a Field day cum Kisan Gosthi on Green gram variety 'Samrat' at Rungdu village, West Sikkim on 23 Nov, as per a press release.

The mandates of Krishi Vigyan Kendra were highlighted and the Green gram variety 'Samrat' was introduced to the farmers. The performance of the Samrat variety in comparison to the local cultivar of green gram was also discussed, the release mentions.

KVK enacted the theory of 'Learning by doing' and 'Seeing is believing' for which the farmers were actively involved in



the crop cutting session. KVK West demonstrated the use and importance of Super Grain Pro Bag and distributed 20 super grain pro bags to the progressive farmers. Fourty-two farmers who were present for the programme were also informed about the importance of de-

worming, vaccination, and different kinds of diseases of livestock cattle and its management by SMS Animal Husbandry. Tomato growers were provided with the name and dose of different bio fungicides and bio pesticides for the management of different pests and diseases by SMS Horticulture.

**SGC Tadong mourns demise of Dr Mahendra P Pradhan**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 24 NOV:**  
Sikkim Government College held a condolence meet today to mourn the untimely demise of Dr Mahendra P Pradhan [Department of Botany], who passed away on 17 Nov at the North Bengal Neuro Centre in Siliguri.

A press release informs that Late Dr Pradhan is survived by his wife Karuna and two children Sne-

hlata and Suyajya. At the meet, a condolence message was read out by Professor TB Chettri which would be offered to the bereaved family. Many colleagues and associates of Late Dr Pradhan spoke about his kind and caring nature as a friend and teacher who would be remembered for his dedication to his subject. Principal, Dr Lily Alley, in her address, mentioned that Late Dr Pradhan had been in the first batch of students she had taught in 1983 while the college was still located at Nam Nang. She announced that the proposed Botanical Garden in the College will be named 'Dr Mahendra P Pradhan Memorial Park' as a mark of respect to one of the finest members of the college's teaching faculty, the release adds.



**Moti Chaat for the love of chaat and spices**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 24 NOV:** If your taste buds are craving for some spicy fiery delicacy this winter, try out Moti Chaat. Located near Hari Store at MG Marg in Gangtok, the recently opened chaat house serves seven varieties of chaat at Rs 80 per bowl. The best selling chaats are the matka chaat, barma tikki and balle chaat. The house opens at 11:30 a.m. and closes at around 8:30 p.m.

**184 killed in militant attack on Egypt mosque**

**CAIRO, NOV 24 (PTI):** At least 184 worshippers were killed and 125 others injured when militants struck a mosque during Friday prayers in Egypt's restive North Sinai region, in the deadliest terror attack in the country.

The militants launched a targeted bomb and gun attack on the al-Rowda mosque in Al-Arish city during the Friday prayers, the state-run MENA news agency reported. After the bomb ripped through the mosque, the gunmen on four off-road vehicles opened fire on the worshippers who tried to escape from the site after the explosion, it said. The Egypt government has announced three days of mourning, even as President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi chaired an emergency meeting with officials to review security situation after the deadly attack.

**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS  
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
SOOCHANA BHAWAN  
TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders are invited from the reputed firms to quote the rate for printing of Sikkim Today, a bi-monthly magazine during 2017-18.

1.Quantity : 3000 copies (English) and 2000 copies Nepali (bi- Annual)  
2.Size : 7.9x10.63  
3.Pages : 44 (inside) pages approximately.  
4.Paper (inside) : art paper 130 gsm inner art paper.  
5.Cover Board : 170 gsm art paper, matte finish  
6.Colour : Four Colour.  
7.Binding : Centre Stitch Binding.  
8.Delivery : 10 days from the issue of work order

The rate should be inclusive of all taxes, commission, layout and designing.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

It is very important that party quoting the rate must have experience in the field of printing of magazines and books in the past and must have their reputation of successfully printing and supplying of high quality products. Mere experience in printing does not qualify them for award for printing work. The tender form can be obtained from the office of the Joint Director (Admin), during office hours from 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 to 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 on payment of Rs.2,000. (Rs two thousand only) (non-refundable) deposited under head 0220-IPR 60-others-800-Other Receipts.

Sealed quotations along with TDR of Rs.1,00,000. (Rs. One Lakh) only (refundable) may be dropped inside the tender box provided in the office from 10 am to 12 noon on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 to be opened on the same day at 2 pm at Soochana Bhawan, Tadong by the tender opening committee in the presence of the tenderers.

The parties quoting rates must include at least two different samples of layouts/designs along with their quotations as this will also be a deciding factor for award of work. The rates quoted should not exceed more than Rs.150/-per copy.

The following documents should be submitted with the quotations:

(i) Sikkim Subject or COI,  
(ii) Valid Trade License,  
(iii) GST Registration,  
(iv) Experience Certificate.

Rate should be F.O.R. destinations and inclusive of packing & forwarding Charges.

In case of the firm fails to execute the work to the satisfaction of the Department, the security deposit will be forfeited.

If the party does not meet any of the required conditions mentioned above, their quotation will be rejected outright.

Draft of the magazine should be shown to the department and approval in writing should be obtained before the same is sent for the final printing. The Tender Committee reserves the full right to accept or reject any or all quotations/tenders without assigning any reason or reasons thereof and reserves the right to award the work to any tenderers found competent and competitive.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PUBLICATION)  
INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT.**  
R.O. No. 426/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 24.11.2017

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT  
JORETHANG, SOUTH SIKKIM**

**No.20/EPROC/UDHD Date:21/11/2017**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer (S/W, Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, Jorethang invites percentage rate through e-procurement among the eligible bidder as per the Notification No: 373/R&B/Secy, dated 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2017. The bids should be submitted online through the website [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in) for the work as listed below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Tender Reference no.	Date
1.	Infrastructure Development works at Chakung Bazaar, West Sikkim	17/EPROC/UDHD	21/11/2017
2	Construction of Road to Ugen Choeling from Jorethang Bazaar and construction & upgradation of internal road of Gairi Goan at Jorethang, South Sikkim	18/EPROC/UDHD	21/11/2017
3.	Construction of Open Car Park & Public utilities at Yangang, South Sikkim	19/EPROC/UDHD	21/11/2017

The calendar of tender events and bidding documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in).

**Sd/-  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER( SOUTH/WEST CIRCLE)**

**No.38/ UDHD/JRT Date:21/11/2017**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Divisional Engineer (S/W), Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, Jorethang invited bids from the eligible bidder as per the Notification No: 373/R&B/Secy, dated 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2017. The bids should be submitted to the Divisional Engineer (S/W), Urban Development & Housing Department Jorethang at Housing Colony on the date & time prescribed below.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Bid Security @ 2.5% of the bid Value(Rs.)	Bid Value (Rs.)	Cost of Tender Form	Completion Period
1	Beautification & Upgradation of Soreng Bazaar, West Sikkim	Rs.1,46,900.00	Rs.58,76,000.00	Rs.15000.00	12 Months

**Calender of Events are as under:-**

Sl.No.	Particulars	Date
1.	Sale of Tender Form	12/12/2017 & 13/12/2017
2.	Date & Time for Seeking Clarification	15/12/2017 till 1300 hrs.
3.	Last Date & for Submission of Bids	7/1/2018 till 1600 hrs.
4.	Date & Time for opening of bids	9/1/2018 at 1100 hrs.

**Sd/-  
DIVISIONAL ENGINEER(SOUTH/WEST CIRCLE)**  
R.O. No. 424/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 22.11.2017

**KUTSE ZHIPCHU SHERGU**

*Say not in grief: "She is no more",  
but live in thankfulness that she was."*

Our Gratitude to all our Friends,Relatives and well wishers for their support and love during the time of our bereavement.

My Mother passed away peacefully at our home on the 16th of October 2017.  
Her KUTSE ZHIPCHU SHERGU (49 day prayers) falls on TSE CHONGA (15th day of the 10th lunar month) corresponding to the 3rd of Dec 2017.

With all humility we request everyone whose lives my mother touched and connected them to her and her family, to please join us in prayer at our residence in Gyalshing.

Ugyen Chopel  
The Shangdarpa Family of Gyalshing  
The Yuskom Family.



# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Engage When Offended

...or live with offensive conduct becoming the new normal

An audio tape, supposedly the recording of a telephonic conversation of a Minister discussing panchayat election mechanizations with one of his underlings, has been making the rounds for a while now. By Sikkim standards, it has gone viral; but really, the recording is so long and actually quite boring, a combination which is fatal for anything with online fame aspirations, that apart from those who need to hear it, those who like to jeer at such things and those who are required to comment on such things, it is unlikely that too many of the others have listened to the entire recording. Yes, there are bits in it which are offensive not only because they are callow but also for the easy caricatures with which communities and their politics can be pigeonholed in Sikkim. And this comment holds irrespective of the authenticity of the recording itself because the people have accepted the conversation as plausible and no one has really scoffed in doubt over the superficiality with which the recording suggests that politics can be "played" in Sikkim. It also appears that the episode has danced its way out of the public domain for now. Yes there were calls demanding action against the Minister for his alleged comments, but the political momentum has slackened and this incident will most likely return only much later to support political positions and arguments when elections are closer.

The incident, however, is one which requires some continuing conversations. The authenticity of the recording notwithstanding, the fact that it is in the public domain and has largely been accepted as a real conversation and has caused some amount of heartburn requires that it not be just ignored into amnesia. While it is never advisable to sensationalise issues, especially those with potential for communal mischief, to ignore them is even more ill-advised. Whether a reference is offensive or not is a subjective matter, so let us not even debate whether part of the recording was insensitive or not. Moreover, everyone who has commented on the issue, including the Minister in question who has rejected it as a doctored audio, has condemned the communal nature of the references. The focus should instead be on the general response to the surfacing of the audio. Save the Opposition parties and one group claiming to be speaking for the community stereotyped in the conversation, no one and no other agency has engaged in the matter. There are no surprises in the statements coming from the Opposition camp which is almost by-the-numbers routine, but the general absence of any other voices is worrying because it suggests that people's organizations are becoming increasingly only about themselves and their groups. If something offensive or communally sensitive is circulated in the public domain, then everyone with a stake in public affairs needs to make a comment. For Opposition parties, the choice is easy and the condemnations quick, for the apolitical however it is not so much about establishing blame and condemning individuals as conveying what kind of conduct is acceptable and which statements unacceptable. The apolitical organizations need to clearly communicate the high standards they desire and this they can do without naming names or taking sides and by simply engaging and conveying what is proper and what offends them. If they do so often enough, the message will get through and those pursuing political careers will become more conscious about how they conduct themselves. The dangers of not engaging when offensive remarks have been passed in casual conversations is there for the entire world to see in how the level of public debate has fallen USA, the Philippines and even in our country.

### WRITE US:

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

# Three decades on, stigma still stymies HIV prevention and treatment

LINDA-GAIL BEKKER  
*theconversation.com*

There have been great strides and many important victories in the fight against HIV. Scientific innovations and sustained investment have been the most important weapons in this ongoing battle.

Nevertheless the epidemic retains a powerful grip – especially on people in Africa. In sub-Saharan Africa, 19.4 million are living with the virus. In 2016 an estimated 15 000 new infections occurred every week in the region.

Treatment and prevention of HIV are twin endeavours; they rely universally on two elements. The first is the interaction of HIV positive and negative people with HIV services. The second is the willingness of people to modify their risky behaviour and avoid negative health consequences.

Adherence is the cornerstone of these processes: a commitment to taking medication or adopting a risk-reducing behaviour consistently over time. By adhering to their antiretroviral (ARV) regimens those living with the virus are able to lead long, healthy lives. They are able to eliminate the chance of passing on the virus to their partner(s). The concept of an undetectable virus is an untransmissible one is now acceptable.

With good adherence to an HIV prevention pill or pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or consistent use of condoms, HIV negative people can protect themselves from infection.

But real and perceived stigma can undermine all these efforts. This is because stigma stops people from getting tested, stops them discussing their test results with intimate partners when they do test, and then staying on their treatment. Unless stigma is addressed, the aim of ending the AIDs epidemic by 2030 – one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals – is unlikely to become a reality.

### THE LOGIC BEHIND STIGMA

Stigma happens when disgrace and shame become associated with an attribute, such as being HIV positive. It results in the person with the attribute being discredited or socially renounced. When

stigmatised beliefs are widely held in a community, hostility and discrimination towards stigmatised people becomes common.

A stigmatised person can start to believe these views as well and develop a self-deprecating internal representation of themselves. This is known as internalised stigma. It can lead to diminished mental health and emotional distress. Both general and internalised HIV-related stigma can compromise a



person's ability to seek and stay on treatment. And it can prevent people from taking steps to prevent infection.

For instance, a woman living with HIV could choose not to go back for more medication because she's scared someone from her community will see her and learn her status.

Conversely, a sexually active teenager might not ask a healthcare professional how she can prevent HIV if she is afraid of being judged for having sex.

There is evidence that these scenarios still play out. The HIV Stigma Index conducted in South Africa in 2014 found that about 45% of the respondents experienced internalised stigma. And 39% lived in fear of potential stigma. Young people between the ages of 15 and 24 were particularly affected by all types of stigma.

### STIGMA ON TOP OF STIGMA

Stigma has the negative psychological consequence of making it more difficult for people to cope and find social support. It also reduces their ability to overcome other barriers to adherence, such as

unfriendly healthcare services or side effects from medication.

The research shows that people who do not experience internalised stigma tend to be more successful in adhering to treatment and more capable of overcoming other barriers to access treatment and prevention services. HIV stigma poses additional difficulties for positive people who already belong to stigmatised population groups, such as men who

have sex with men transgender people, sex workers, and people who inject drugs.

Stigma against these groups already reduces access to healthcare services and social support. But disclosure of being HIV positive can result in people facing even more stigma, discrimination and hostility.

This is especially the case in African countries where homosexuality and sex work are criminalised.

Moralistic support for criminalisation often interferes with public health initiatives. As a result, stigmatised populations are frequently made more vulnerable to HIV infection due to this discrimination and restricted access to healthcare services.

### CHANGING THE TIDE

The good news is that stigma can be reduced if three basic interventions are put in place.

Firstly, through the implementation of effective and sustained mass media campaigns and health promotion aimed at dispelling the common myths. These campaigns should involve HIV positive people as message bearers.

Secondly, normalising and promoting the interaction with HIV prevention services. What is needed here are more people openly engaging about HIV testing and taking PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis).

And thirdly laws and policies that protect those living with the virus from discrimination and promote them being able to access healthcare services. These are especially important for key population groups living in countries where criminalisation disrupts public health strategies.

*[the writer is Professor of medicine and deputy director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town]*

# The way we tell the story of Hollywood sexual assault and harassment matters

SARAH L. COOK  
*theconversation.com*

Reporter Paula Froelich claims she once observed Harvey Weinstein assault a woman at a book party. Her editor responded with, "Maybe it's not really a story."

As it turns out, Weinstein and others are becoming a never-ending story, as more women reveal experiences with powerful men – not just in Hollywood, but across multiple industries. This story typically has two acts. First come the women's reports – followed by the inevitable dismissal and undermining of them.

As a scholar who has studied violence against women for more than 20 years and watched public outrage over harassment and assault wax and wane, my question is: Could this time be different?

Of course, the volume of reports is new. Never before have we witnessed such an outpouring. It's also new to see organizations such as the newsroom at NPR or the Academy of Motion Picture Artists hold leadership accountable for failing to act.

But other aspects of this cultural moment are all too familiar. Already, the act of making a report of harassment or assault has been termed "Weinsteining," and the collective action of women who have done the reporting has been termed the "Weinstein effect." The use of these terms removes the women from the stories, and maintains a narrow focus on a singular perpetrator.

These cutesy terms also diminish the agony women face when deciding whether to make a formal complaint to an authority. Those who have been victimized report fear of reprisal or of being disbelieved, and feel shame, guilt and embarrassment. These fears and reactions are evident across women's recent accounts. Many spoke of years of torment, fear,



Hollywood women who have spoken out against sexual harassment.

shame and guilt, including physical reactions like nausea when recalling the event.

Let me be clear. Such fears are rational. Though some actors allegedly victimized by Weinstein or James Toback continued in the industry and found success, many others were excluded from major films, and a good number left the industry entirely. Other women were encouraged to sign agreements that effectively stopped them from telling their own stories.

Another way of undermining women's reports is to downgrade the women's experiences from the categories of harassment, sexual assault and rape and instead label them abuse, minor bad behavior or

innocent miscommunication. For example, the claim that Toback engaged in "low-level lechery" and not sexual assault is absurd. What Toback has been accused of – obtaining sexual stimulation or orgasm by rubbing against a person without the person's consent – is a crime called frotteurism.

### NO WOMAN IS IMMUNE

The victimization of powerful celebrities shows that no woman is immune.

Years of social science data underscore the pervasiveness of sexual violation in women's lives. The sad truth is that the number of women who have been raped or assaulted in their lifetime has not decreased during the past 30 years, or longer.

An analysis of different studies of women in academia, government, the private sector and the military – representing 86,000 women in all – documented that 58 percent said they had experienced at least one instance of sexually harassing behavior. Recently, researchers at the University of Oregon were surprised to find that nearly 60 percent of women graduate students reported experiences of sexual harassment. In 2010 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that 20 percent of American women overall have experienced rape. Estimates of rape and attempted rape in higher education students has remained at a steady 20 percent since psychologist Mary Koss's 1987 groundbreaking study.

If we look at Hollywood as a microcosm of society, men like Weinstein and Toback effectively exerted a pattern of intimidation, fear and social control through sexual predation. As author Susan Brownmiller wrote in her classic 1975 book, "Against Our Will," the behavior of these men isn't about sex – it's about intimidation, fear and social control.

Diminishing and undermining the process of women bravely reporting experiences of sexual harassment, rape and other forms of sexual assault by calling it "Weinsteining" allows predators to hold onto power. Describing women's real experiences with words that match the horror they faced is a first step toward dismantling that power and the structures that support it. If more women come forward and name their experiences and others remember that bad manners, assault and harassment are not synonymous, this time may be different. I'm hopeful; but only time will tell.

*[the writer is Professor & Associate Dean, Georgia State University]*



## Assam to celebrate 'Lachit Divas' in different state capitals

**GUWAHATI, Nov 24 (PTI):** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today said the Assam government would celebrate 'Lachit Divas' at various state capitals in the country from next year to promote the ideals of Lachit Borphukan -- the legendary general of Assam's history.

Taking part in the Lachit Divas celebration at the statue of the General at Brahmaputra riverfront here, Sonowal said Borphukan is one of the best examples of heroism and patriotism in world history.

Lachit Borphukan was a commander in the Ahom kingdom in Assam known for his leadership and valour in the 1671 Battle of Saraighat that thwarted a drawn-out attempt by Mughal forces under the command of Ramsingh I to take back Kamrup now modern day Guwahati.

"People all across the country and especially the youth, must know about his heroic deeds and how he fought for his motherland even when he was severely ill. The youth must emulate his ideals and get inspired by his vision and patriotism," Sonowal said.

The first such countrywide celebration would take place in New Delhi followed by state capitals such as Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kolkata in a phased manner, he said.

Sonowal also called upon the Assamese diaspora to join hands with the state government in successfully celebrating Lachit Divas in different parts of the country.

Sonowal said a chapter on the life and accomplishments of the Ahom dynasty 17th century army General Lachit Borphukan would be included in the school curriculum.

He also said the park in front of Lachit Borphukan's statue on the bank of River Brahmaputra would be shortly developed as part of the Smart City mission reflecting the rich legacy of Borphukan.

Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley in his speech highlighted the secular nature of Lachit Borphukan's character citing the example of Ismail Siddiqui alias Bagh Hazarika who was one of his able lieutenants in the fight against Mughals.

Doley also urged the people to follow Lachit Borphukan's footsteps to maintain peace and harmony amongst all communities in the state.

# Democracy under threat, Oppn should work together: Mamata

**KOLKATA, Nov 24 (PTI):** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today said that democracy is under threat in the country under the BJP rule and called upon Opposition parties to work together for the greater interest of the people before the next Lok Sabha polls. She accused the NDA government of trying to halt the developmental process in her state.

"Democracy is under threat in this country under the present central government. It is a super emergency that is going on in the country. I have been an MP for nearly two decades but I have never seen such a government at the Centre," she said at the India Today Conclave East here.

"I believe in collective



leadership... At present all are working together and that is the best policy. Let us work

together," Banerjee said about the Opposition, adding she shares good relations with the

DMK, the SP, the BSP and the BJD and is working with the Congress inside Parliament

on various issues.

When asked whether she is hinting at a broader opposition coalition with the Congress before the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, she said, "In Bengal, the Congress and the Left are working with the BJP at the state level. But at the national level for greater interests I think we should work together."

To a question whether the country would see a grand opposition coalition ahead of 2019, she said, "It depends. We are working together in Parliament. I went to (RJD chief) Lalu Prasadji's programme in Patna."

Banerjee said, "I have good relationship with (Samajwadi Party chief) Akhilesh ji and (BSP chief) Mayawati ji

in Uttar Pradesh, with Stalin ji (DMK), Naveen ji (BJP)... I maintain the best of relations with so many other people. Even, within the BJP I maintain good relation with some people, but not with all."

Bengal will never accept divide and rule politics of the BJP, she asserted and dismissed that it was a challenger to the ruling (TMC) Trinamool Congress government.

"The BJP is nowhere in Bengal but only on media and social media. They only shout. Let the BJP shout along with their bike vahini, but they cannot do anything in Bengal," Banerjee said.

The BJP is trying to position itself as the main opposition in the state.

## NEUFC woman fan heckled by Chennaiyin supporter; owners slam it

**CHENNAI, Nov 24 (PTI):** Chennaiyin FC's resounding win over NorthEast United here in their Indian Super League match was marred by the heckling and mocking of a visiting side fan by a home supporter which was strongly condemned by both the team owners.

Videos of a man, who is seemingly a supporter of Chennaiyin FC, making curious gestures towards a female NEUFC supporter were posted on Twitter, which drew condemnation.

Chennaiyin FC, who had emerged 3-0 victors in the match last night, has condemned the alleged "unbecoming behaviour" by a section of their fans against a group of North-East United FC fans during the ISL game at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and said the club will take strong action.

"Chennaiyin FC has a very strict and firm policy against racism and any unbecoming behaviour in the stadium. The club strongly condemns any such act. We are looking into any such incidents



and will take strong action against it," Chennaiyin said in their official Twitter handle.

NorthEast United owner, Bollywood actor John Abraham too slammed the incident and said the team stood by the fan who was "victimised".

"It's deeply disturbing to me when sports becomes an unsafe or unharmonious place for anyone. Everything I have taken back from sport has been only positive, from learning to play with people who are different, learning to take loss with a sense of sportsmanship, winning

with humility," Abraham said.

"To the girl who was victimized by these insensitive and thoughtless people, 'we stand with you and you will never feel alone you must've felt at that moment. I will personally meet you and make sure you are OK'"

"To the 'fans' who troubled her, I'll call you personally because I know that Abhishek or myself would never condone this behaviour from our own true fans. I will find you and make sure you are punished and apologize for your behaviour," Abraham said.

## Slain scribe's phone recovered from arrested TSR commandant

**AGARTALA, Nov 24 (PTI):** The mobile phone of slain journalist Sudip Datta Bhaumick has been recovered from the possession of arrested Tripura State Rifles (TSR) commandant Tapan Debbarma, police said today.

Debbarma, who was arrested on Wednesday in connection with the case, had a mobile phone that belonged to the journalist, Superintendent of Police (west) Abhijit Saptarshi told PTI.

Datta Bhaumick, a senior crime reporter of local Bengali newspaper 'Syandan Patrika', was allegedly shot dead on Tuesday inside the headquarters of the 2nd battalion at RK Nagar, 15km from here, when he had gone there to meet Debbarma.

"Sudip was called by TSR 2nd battalion commandant Debbarma and shot inside the battalion headquarters. The journalist had written 11 news items about the commandant's misdeeds," Editor of 'Syandan Patrika' Subal Kumar Dey told reporters.

Tripura Journalist Union (TJU) secretary Pranab Sarkar said the Press Council of India (PCI) has taken cognisance on the killing of the journalist.

"PCI Chairman Justice C K Prasad informed me through e-mail that it had suo motu registered a case on the killing of Datta Bhaumick inside the battalion headquarters. After receiving the email, I called him up and requested for a visit by a PCI team to the state. He assured to do the needful," Sarkar said.

Meanwhile, editors and working journalists yesterday convened a meeting and expressed their deep concern over the safety and security of



journalists in the state. They formed a new platform -- Forum for Protection of Journalist -- to launch a democratic movement here demanding more safety and security for journalists.

"Within two months two journalists have been killed in the state. We have decided to launch regular movements demanding security for journalists. We have also decided to keep in touch with journalists' organisations in Delhi and other parts of the country asking them to raise their voice against the killings," Sarkar told reporters.

In September, TV journalist Shantanu Bhowmick was killed when he had gone to Mandai in West Tripura district, about 20 km from here, to cover a political event organised by the Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura (IPFT).

## Illegal logging on the rise in Arunachal

**ITANAGAR, Nov 24 (PTI):** Despite Supreme Court's ban on timber operations in Arunachal Pradesh, illegal logging at Pasighat Reserve Forest in East Siang district continues unabated.

Hundreds of timber trees have been felled by the mafias during the monsoons, posing a serious challenge to the officers of the forest department, additional deputy chief conservator of forest (ADCF) Tasang Taga said.

Recently, a team of forest officials, led by Taga, seized heaps of timber logs, especially of Hollock (Terminalia Myriocarpa) variety, from Loki - a riverine island - under Pasighat reserve forest.

"The mafias take advantage of the flood situation in the area during the monsoon season. We came across 100 stumps in Loki. There could be more in other parts of the reserve forest," said Taga, who is in charge of a mobile squad under chief conservator of forest of central Arunachal circle.

Taga also rued the lack of means for proper patrolling in the reserve forest.

"Hollock trees have a huge demand in the timber market. The mafias use power chain saw and push cart with motor bike wheels to cut down and skid the logs to the Siang River. There they build a raft that could float down the river. But we do not have enough manpower to control the menace," he explained.

Pasighat Range Forest Officer (RFO) Jumgo Geyi said the department had been trying their best to stop illegal felling in the area, notwithstanding the adverse weather



conditions during the monsoons.

"On several occasions, we have arrested people involved in illegal timber operations, but all of them got their bail pretty easily. I have even engaged a local youth, paying him Rs 3000 from my pocket, to keep vigil on such activities," Geyi said.

Around ninety per cent of staff under Pasighat forest division is women. They keep a tab on the check gates and nursery or engage themselves in administrative works. Only a few officials are tasked with patrolling duties, he said.

"Arunachal lacks its own Forest Act and for tackling such activities, the state still goes by the forest laws of Assam," Geyi added.

Illegal timber operations are also rampant at Mebo reserve forest in the district, Range Forest Officer Obang Tayeng admitted.

The department was short of

manpower and equipment to deal with such activities, he said.

"At times we are not even in a position to bring the seized logs from jungles to our office for auctioning due to lack of vehicles. Also, it takes time to process funds for auctioning under Suspense Work Advance Recovery (SWAR)," Tayeng added.

According to the forest officials, the easy availability of power chain saws in the market needs to be regulated by the state government to check the felling of trees.

Lok Sabha MP from Arunachal East constituency Ninong Ering said he had had informed Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Tabang Jamoh and East Siang SP Pranav Tayal about the illegal logging operations, but not much was done about it.

"No initiatives were taken to stop the illegal activities during the monsoons," Ering added.



Contact  
**Summit TIMES**  
at  
**9832556698,**  
**9832369520**  
news@  
summittimes.com





## Bopanna to pair with Roger-Vaseline in 2018 season

**BENGALURU, Nov 24 (PTI):** India's leading doubles player Rohan Bopanna today revealed that he will team up with world number 26 Edouard Roger-Vaseline for the 2018 season since the Frenchman is focused only on doubles unlike Pablo Cuevas.

"One of the reason for choosing Vaseline is that he is fully focused on doubles. Pablo focused more on singles events. That is when I decided to hunt for someone who only plays doubles. And that is how, I have partnered Vaseline from next season," Bopanna told reporters.

The 36-year-old Indian, ranked 18 in the world, had paired with Uruguayan Cuevas last year.

The honour was bestowed in recognition of his mixed doubles Grand Slam victory at French Open this year.

Bopanna had lifted his maiden Major title with Canadian partner Gabriela Dabrowski.

"It always helps if you have a partner whom you have partnered earlier. I and Vaseline played together for a brief period. Vaseline is good at returns which gives me a chance to play my aggressive style of tennis," he said.

On Davis Cup trial two-day best-of-three set matches for in Group I, Bopanna said it is likely to work in India's favour.

"Nobody has played two-day best-of-three set matches. We have to really balance out our team. I think the advantage of having one more member on the team gives us a little more breathing space," he said.

# Not '2' good: Nagaland all out for 2 in BCCI women U-19 match

**GUNTUR, Nov 24 (PTI):** The BCCI's U-19 women's one-day super league match between Kerala and Nagaland on Friday ended in farce as the Northeastern state was shot out for just two runs with as many nine batters getting out for duck here.

Electing to bat after winning the toss, Nagaland were all out for just 2 runs from 17 overs in an astonishing display.

Nine batters were out for duck while opener Menka scored one run (off 18 balls) from the only scoring shot of the innings in the Group B match at JKC college ground here.

Priyanka remained not out on nought after facing three deliveries.

The way Kerala notched up the win -- to pocket four points -- added to the farcical nature of the match.



Nagaland's Deepika Kaintura bowled a wide and from the other legitimate ball, Kerala opener Ansu S Raju scored a boundary to win the match by 10 wickets. Kerala reached 5 for no loss in

0.1 overs while chasing 3 for a win with Ansu S Raju not out on 4.

The Nagaland players provided on the BCCI website had only their first names except for two. Most of their names ap-

peared to be of players hailing from outside the state.

As per the Lodha Committee recommendations, the BCCI will now have to include the Northeastern states in their accredited tournaments.

Earlier this month, an astounding 136 wide balls were bowled in a match of the same tournament between Nagaland and Manipur in Dhanbad.

The match, a part of the inaugural NE-Bihar U-19 one-day competition being organised by the cricket board, saw Manipur bowling 94 wide balls while Nagaland were a shade better with 42.

Nagaland won the match by 117 runs to log four points, but it was learnt that the girls from both the Northeastern states were at times not even able to land the ball on the 22-yard square.



## Mumbai City FC look for first win against FC Goa

**MUMBAI, Nov 24 (PTI):** Hosts Mumbai City FC would look to shrug off their defeat against Bengaluru FC and chase their first win of the season when they take on FC Goa in an Indian Super League (ISL) match here tomorrow.

Bottom-placed Mumbai, who will miss services of injured Leo Costa, were unable to score against Bengaluru, who thrashed them 2-0.

The hosts have some good forwards in Balwant Singh, Rafa Jorda, Everton Santos who need to fire and convert chances.

Mumbai City head coach Alexandre Guimaraes would also be keen that his defenders and mid-fielders put up a spirited show and don't concede any goals.

Their hopes also depend on the performance of their star goal-keeper Amrinder Singh, who would look to repeat his last year's heroics, when he earned the Golden Glove award.

Guimaraes today admitted that his side was more prepared for tomorrow's game than the opening one.

We have a tough game. Goa did very well against Chennaiyin. We have to improve our performance from the first game. For tomorrow, we are more complete in our squad compared to first game and we are prepared, the Costa Rican told reporters ahead of

the game.

"So we are prepared and are hoping that it's going to be a good game and we go for a win, Guimaraes added.

Mumbai had only a shot on target in the last game. When asked about it, the coach said, "We had key players like Balwant (Singh) injured after 12 minutes of the game. Leo Costa got injured."

Goa, who are at number four in the table, on the other hand started on a winning note by defeating Chennaiyin FC 3-2.

And they will look to continue the winning streak.

With forwards like Adrian Colunga Perez, Ferran Telechea, Manvir Singh and a host of good mid-fielders and defenders, their coach Sergio Lobero would expect a complete performance at the Andheri Sports Complex.

"We did have a very good start in the last game, but as it is in football living in the past will not get you anywhere, so all of us are thinking of the next game, and we are all on tomorrow, We don't want to focus on past results, Spaniard Lobero said. The FC coach also said that striker Colunga is injured.

The only injury we have is Collunga. He failed to recover from the injury he was carrying last week but beyond that the team remains the same, he said.

# Over 60 speakers from India and abroad at 10th Bookaroo fest



**NEW DELHI, Nov 24 (PTI):** India's very own children's literature festival -- Bookaroo -- is back in town with over 60 award-winning writers, illustrators, poets and storytellers from across the globe.

In its 10th edition, the nine-city festival organised by the city-based Bookaroo Trust, will be held here on November 25-26 at Children's Park near India Gate.

However, celebrations have already begun

with 10 walls around the city being painted with illustrations from children's books, as part of Bookscapes, a wall art series.

Artists such as Priya Kuriyan, Ajanta Guhathakurta, Charbak Dipa have come together to paint walls of public spaces -- libraries, schools, a juvenile home and metro stations, to create visual stories that would become part of the larger narrative of the city's public art space.

This year, the festival will also see some additional interactive activities like a ski slalom, a story mountain, the original oranginus tragonus transmuted, an Indian beach and an upside down forest, two duelling illustrators competing in the 'Battle of the Brushes' and history in a bowl of paneer makhani.

Some of the Indian speakers will include Karthika Nair, Nandana Sen, and Roshni Vyam, who will pair up with

French writers and illustrators, Joelle Jolivet, Kris Di Giacomo and Sampurna Chattarji to blend styles, cultures and worlds.

"Step into the Indian Jungle with wildlife conservationist Vivek Menon, discover amazing facts about the animal world with author Ranjit Lal, and never say no to history again as 'Champion of Champion' at BBC Mastermind India Archana Garodia Gupta," organisers said.

Storytelling will come alive as performers from Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Australia and India present stories with songs, guitar, viola, puppets, poems, beatboxing, mime and more.

The festival will also celebrate five decades of Amar Chitra Katha with myths, superheroes and a unique workshop to create a comics page in just 60 minutes.

The festival will come to a close on November 26.



## Tomato prices harden, hit Rs 80 per kg in Delhi

**NEW DELHI, Nov 24 (PTI):** Tomato prices in retail markets of the national capital soared to Rs 80 per kg today in view of tight supplies, trade data showed.

The key kitchen staple has become equally dearer in other parts of the country.

For instance, tomato prices in Bengaluru, one of the major producers, are ruling at Rs 45-50 per kg in retail markets. In Aizawl in Mizoram, these are being sold at around Rs 95-100 per kg.

"The availability of tomato is less at present because the crop has been hit badly due to recent rains in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh," said Ashok Kaushik, President of Tomato Merchant Association at Azadpur mandi.

Traders could not source it from Madhya Pradesh as 90 per cent of the crop in the state too

got damaged. Farmers have sown again and that crop will arrive in the next 15-20 days, he said.

At Azadpur mandi, Asia's largest wholesale market for fruits and vegetables, tomato is being sold at Rs 40-50 kg.

The same tomato is being retailed at a higher rate.

Tomatoes in Delhi retail markets are selling at Rs 70-80 per kg, depending on the quality and locality, whereas it was available at Rs 30-35 in the year-ago period.

According to Kaushik, tomato supplies in the national capital are less by 25 per cent at present.

On an average, 225-250 tonnes of tomato are traded in six major mandis in Delhi on a daily basis. Now, 170-180 tonnes are being traded. Some quantities are being sourced from Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh, he added.

# Oxygen Chamber: For a breath of fresh air

**GURGAON, Nov 24 (PTI):** Want to breathe long and deep? Longing for that whiff of fresh air, so elusive in Delhi-NCR? Just head to the Oxygen Chamber that offers you oodles of clean air and it's free.

That the Oxygen Chamber is next to the Huda City Metro station, crowded and chaotic with lots of people inside and lots of traffic outside, makes the contrast starker.

Built by Nurturing Green, the Oxygen Chamber is a welcome break in a city where masks and air purifiers are increasingly the norm as air pollution levels fluctuate between severe, very poor and poor.

Equipped with an air purifier and NASA approved air purifying plants such as areca palm, peace lily and sansevieria trifasciata (also known as mother-in-law's tongue or snake plant), the place, spread over 13,000 sq ft, is a treat for



the eyes and, more important, for the lungs.

The NASA approved air purifying plants available in the Oxygen Chamber absorb harmful gases like xylene, benzene, formaldehyde and CO2 to

bring freshness indoors, Nurture Green Founder Annu Grover told PTI.

We are practically breathing poison," she said.

So, enter the chamber and levels of PM (particulate matter)

2.5 and 10 -- microscopic particles that can enter and embed deep into the lungs and subsequently the bloodstream get into a free-fall, making a safe and pollution-free landing at 8-10 from the hazardous 300-400.

There's a catch, however. The chamber also has an electronic air purifier.

These air purifying plants are not there to replace the air purifiers. No. We are saying that both complement each other.

It works like this. The air purifying plants absorb the harmful gases, while the electronic air purifier takes care of your PM level, said Nikhil Grover, senior marketing manager of the company.

Using medical analogy, he said an electronic air purifier works like allopathy, and the air purifying plants are somewhat close to homeopathy.

According to him, it would cost Rs 15,000-20,000 to build an oxygen chamber in a home.

The place also sells all kinds of green plants indoor and outdoor as well as theme based garden and balcony furniture, among a host of other things.



North Koreans wash up in Japan: official

**TOKYO, Nov 24 (AFP):** A group of eight fishermen claiming to be from North Korea washed up in northern Japan after drifting there when their wooden vessel developed problems, authorities said today.

Television footage from a pier in the city of Yurihonjo on Japan's northwestern coast showed a wooden boat rigged with bare light bulbs, used to attract fish and squid.

"We understand that the eight individuals are reporting that they came from North Korea for fishing, but drifted there after their ship experienced (mechanical) troubles," said Hachiro Okonogi, chairman of the National Public Safety Commission.

Local police told AFP they were alerted about the group early today and took them into custody. The men were able to walk unaided, according to national broadcaster NHK.

Sometimes their occupants have already died at sea, with their vessels delivering headless skeletons and rotten corpses to Japan's fishing ports, with media occasionally calling them "ghost ships."

Mnangagwa sworn in as Zimbabwe president

**HARARE, Nov 24 (AFP):** Emmerson Mnangagwa was sworn in as Zimbabwe's president today, marking the final chapter of a political drama that toppled his predecessor Robert Mugabe after a military takeover.

Mnangagwa, until recently one of Mugabe's closest allies, took the oath of office at the national sports stadium on the outskirts of Harare before thousands of supporters, dignitaries and foreign diplomats.

Snipers took up positions around the stadium amid tight security as jubilant Mnangagwa supporters streamed in, many dancing as music played.

The man known as "The Crocodile" wore a dark suit, red tie and matching handkerchief, and a row of medals



on his chest for the ceremony.

"We are excited and expecting a lot from Mnangagwa. We have been under a dictatorship for a very long time," 23-year-old Sharon Maunyaka said, referring to Mugabe.

"Mugabe is very old -- we do not expect that he will be punished for his crimes. How do you punish a 93-year-old? But his wife and others must

when the military intervened after he had sacked Mnangagwa as vice president.

"We thank you our soldier," said one banner in the sports ground. "The people have spoken," said another.

A group of elderly women dressed in blue and white gyrated in time to a big band to wild applause from the crowds.

Mugabe is in increasingly frail health and had been positioning his wife Grace as his successor, but the army chiefs acted to halt the plan and usher in Mnangagwa.

State-run media had earlier claimed that Mugabe may even attend his successor's swearing-in -- but later suggested that after he and Mnangagwa talked about the inauguration, he agreed he "needed time to rest".

Mnangagwa also "assured him and his family maximum security and welfare" for their future as private citizens, the state-run Herald news site also reported.

Presidential spokesman George Charamba confirmed to AFP that Mugabe would not attend.

Buses brought well-wishers to the 60,000-capacity stadium from the early hours today.

Leader of the main opposition Movement for Democratic Change Morgan Tsvangirai received rapturous applause as he arrived at the packed stadium for the swearing-in.

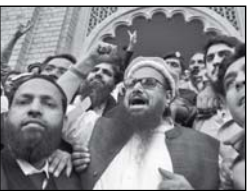
Opposition stalwart Joice Mujuru was also at the event at which military units stood in formation on a multi-purpose grass sports pitch, under the shadow of a big-screen TV.

Saeed gives Friday sermon after release from house arrest

**LAHORE, Nov 24 (PTI):** Hours after his release from house arrest, Mumbai attack mastermind and Jamaat-ud-Dawah chief Hafiz Saeed gave an hour-long Friday sermon at the JuD headquarters here, accusing the Pakistan government of taking "dictation from foreign masters" to appease India.

A large number of JuD activists had gathered at the Jamia Masjid Al-Qadisia at Chauburji here.

After Friday prayers, the charged workers greeted Saeed on his release and renewed their pledge for "Kashmir Jihad".



Saeed in his speech also targeted the Pakistani government for "taking dictation from foreign masters" and spoke of "Indian atrocities" in Kashmir.

He told his supporters the "reasons" behind his 10-month detention, and also as to why

Nawaz Sharif was ousted as prime minister.

"Ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif has been punished for forsaking Kashmiris. Sharif is ousted from the prime minister house because he committed treason with Kashmiris. He wanted friendship with India and completely ignored the Kashmir cause," he said and warned the PML-N government not to bow before the international community for loans.

"The rulers must not take dictation from the US and other countries and take its own decisions," he said.

Saeed walked from house arrest as a free man in the early hours of today after the Pakistan government decided against detaining him further in any case.

He had been under detention since January this year.

The JuD head, who carries a bounty of USD 10 million announced by the US for his role in terror activities, reiterated that he was detained for raising his voice for the Kashmiri people.

He said Pakistan should not hold peace dialogue with India till it withdraws its army from Kashmir.

13 Myanmar passengers killed in Thai van crash: police

**BANGKOK, Nov 24 (AFP):** Thirteen Burmese people were killed today when their van collided with a truck in central Thailand and burst into flames, police said, the latest gruesome accident on the kingdom's notoriously dangerous roads.

The van was travelling from the border town of Mae Sot, a common entry point for Myanmar migrant workers, to Bangkok when it crashed into the 10-wheeler in Singburi province early this morning, said a local police officer.

"Authorities are still identifying (the victims) as their bodies were heavily burned," the officer said, adding that the Thai driver was also killed in the accident.

Thailand's roads are some of the most lethal in the region.

Around 24,000 people die on the kingdom's roads each year, a figure well above the relatively prosperous country's neighbours, according to data from the World Health Organisation.

While more than half of accidents involve motorcycles, bicycles and pedestrians, bus crashes involving migrant workers and other travellers are also common.

Earlier this month four Japanese tourists and their Thai guide were killed in Ayutthaya province when their van crashed into a truck and was engulfed by flames, leaving no survivors.

Nepal closes border with China, India ahead of Nov 26 polls

**KATHMANDU, Nov 24 (PTI):** Nepal today closed its border with India and China as it gears up for the historic round of provincial and parliamentary polls, eleven years after the country began its journey toward democracy, that many hope will bring much-needed political stability to the Himalayan nation.

Land-locked Nepal is holding provincial and parliamentary elections in two phases on November 26 and December 7.

The elections are being seen as the final step in Nepal's transition to a federal democracy following a decade-long civil war till 2006 that claimed more than 16,000 lives.

More than 300,000 members of the security forces will be deployed for the two-stage election, with northern provinces voting on Sunday and southern areas and Kathmandu going to the polls on December 7.

Results are expected a few days after the second vote.

While many hope Nepal's first state elections will hasten regional development, others fear they will spark a fresh wave of violence.

In 2015, when Nepal adopted a new Constitution that



split it into seven states, dozens of people were killed in ethnic clashes over territory and rights.

"We created the Constitution after years of struggle, but that is not enough," said Nabin-dra Raj Joshi, a senior leader of the Nepali Congress, the country's largest political party.

"The most important part is implementation. This election will launch the provincial administration that will turn our achievements into reality."

Following the adoption of the new Constitution in 2015, the ethnic Madhesi group, mostly of Indian-origin, protested for months, saying they were not getting enough ter-

ritory in one of the states and were also facing discrimination.

Violent clashes not only left more than 50 people dead, but also left the country with severe shortages of fuel and medicine because protesters blocked the borders with India.

The protesters finally agreed to the elections after some amendments were made to the constitution.

According to officials, the crossing points with India will be sealed from today till the evening of Sunday.

Nepal-China border crossing at Rasuwagadhi and Kimathanka have been closed for 72 hours from midnight, ahead of the first phase of elections scheduled for

November 26.

According to Rasuwa Chief District Officer Chomendra Neupane, the move is in line with the mandatory requirement to seal international borders ahead of the elections. The borders will remain shut till Sunday midnight.

Navaraj Dhakal, an official with the Election Commission, said there have been some incidents where candidates and their supporters have been attacked during the campaign. He said the federal government and security forces have a plan to ensure voting remains peaceful, The Himalayan Times reported.

The Election Commission has said no political party, candidates, party office bearers, independents, civil society, voters and mass media can be involved in publicity for the polls.

The EC has urged the media not to violate the election code of conduct during the silence period as that would influence voters of the first-phase polls even though campaigns for the second phase vote scheduled for December 7 continue in the remaining 45 districts.

In the first phase, 3,191,945 voters are eligible to cast their ballot from 4,465 poll-

ing centres. As many as 702 candidates—including 282 (266 male and 16 female) for the federal parliament and 420 (400 male and 20 female) for the provincial assemblies—are contesting for 37 federal and 74 provincial seats, according to election officials.

With stiff competition expected from the UML-Maoist alliance in the polls, the Nepali Congress (NC) and Madhes-based parties are under pressure to forge electoral alliances across the Madhes districts neighbouring India even at the eleventh hour, according to political observers.

Party insiders said there was mounting pressure from local level leaders and cadres in various districts to work further on the electoral alliance.

Earlier, the NC and the two Madhes-based parties had been engaged in negotiations, but could not forge an electoral alliance.

Election campaign will end on Friday mid-night, 48 hours ahead of the polls.

The polls are taking place under a new Constitution passed by lawmakers in September 2015 as part of a peace process that began with the end of a decade-long civil war.

~ SummitTIMES ~

CLASSIFIEDS

WINTER CRASH COURSE

X & XII CBSE / ISC / ICSE - 2017-18

REGULAR & CRASH NEET / IIT JEE, ADVANCED COACHING FOR CLASS X & XII GOING ON.....

Try & continue, highly experienced faculties,

BEST SUCCESS RECORD SINCE 2007.

ACHIEVEMENTS

NEET & JEE mains qualified, selection of students-17 MBBS, 13-BDS, 41-Engineering, through entrance.

We Complete Syllabus, weekly mock test, last minute questions & answers preparation, Parents can check Regular attendance & weekly MOCK test performance

Don't go far away from home! Giving best Coaching, SPECIAL CARE & HOSPITALITIES, HOSTEL available for BOYS & GIRLS separately Join Advance Coaching for X & XII (Appearing in xi May Join)

UDISHA PNG SCHOOL ROAD, GANGTOK.

Call: 9434137448 / 9083289834

visit us at

www.summittimes.com

CONTACT

Summit TIMES

REPORTERS

NAMCHI

9832048410,

9775736596

SINGTAM

7699771651

MANGAN/

DIKCHU

9832612485/

9434011213

SILIGURI

9609066814

GANGTOK

8016270440,

9832082664

news@sum-

mittimes.com

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR VULTURE EVENING

Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward

Draw No:17 DrawDate on:24/11/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 82A 53745

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9498/- 53745 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

00991 01436 02933 09663 36379

39937 65048 75063 82156 93254

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4365 6438 6606 6654 7619 8297 8372 8961 9331 9426

4th Prize Rs.250/- 1009 1580 2682 3139 3626 4021 4076 4604 6518 7814

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0331 0447 0469 0474 0620 0677 0750 0769 0816 0986

1055 1121 1150 1195 1347 1378 1446 1506 1573 1608

1876 1967 1974 2066 2190 2391 2468 2499 2517 2526

2638 2853 2865 3019 3039 3084 3478 3525 3544 3548

3549 3579 3708 3880 4092 4269 4475 4562 4654 4754

5071 5111 5180 5197 5300 5379 5409 5466 5504 5584

5595 5632 5721 5737 5750 5887 5916 6054 6101 6115

6398 6646 6652 6706 7085 7122 7222 7416 7461 7662

7763 7811 7997 8110 8143 8266 8433 8574 8823 8878

8896 8998 9346 9388 9541 9567 9596 9681 9846 9856

Issued by:

The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries Kohima, Nagaland

For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR ADMIRE MORNING

Draw No:12 DrawDate on:24/11/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 90C 33648

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9498/- 33648 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

04740 05615 18648 37315 39209

39658 72852 75920 77829 99921

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4115 5044 7042 7121 7458 7947 8043 8217 8459 9857

4th Prize Rs.250/- 1387 1759 4507 5244 6313 8159 8198 8243 8270 8818

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0185 0255 0380 0405 0428 0434 0483 0537 0611 0659

0695 1131 1278 1343 1407 1486 1508 1568 1610 1616

1773 1862 2031 2175 2216 2238 2503 2539 2609 2809

2839 2876 3197 3310 3374 3385 3437 3504 3615 3621

3747 3792 3902 3933 4357 4564 4721 4961 5001 5011

5081 5238 5459 5471 5523 5545 5555 5591 5713 5770

5903 6111 6316 6529 6558 6580 6639 6841 7021 7093

7306 7323 7331 7420 7593 7627 7694 7716 7760 7866

7954 7972 7996 8101 8323 8332 8380 8613 8655 8918

8931 8959 9001 9056 9087 9096 9261 9475 9840 9949

Issued by:

The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102, Gangtok, Sikkim.

Please Visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE





**READY TO POP!** Business mogul and mother of two with one on the way, pregnant Jessica Alba shows off baby bump during pre-Thanksgiving shopping spree as she was spotted on a solo shopping trip in Los Angeles.

## AFTER WINNING HEARTS IN INDIA, SECRET SUPERSTAR HEADS TO TAIWAN, RUSSIA

Amir Khan's "Secret Superstar" will release in Russia in over 50 screens on 03 Dec. The film, which features Zaira Wasim and which lit up the box office in India on Diwali, opened in 73 screens in Taiwan on Friday.

In "Secret Superstar", Zaira, who hails from Jammu and Kashmir, plays a teenage girl named Insia who dreams of becoming a singer. The film is about how she fulfills her dreams by keeping her identity hidden.

Zee Studios International



is taking the film to the foreign market, read a statement. "Russia and Taiwan are great markets for Indian films with Indian cinema legends like Raj Kapoor still revered there. We are ecstatic to showcase 'Secret

Superstar' to such countries and offer them a film that's truly heart-warming and distinctive," said Vibha Chopra, Head - Zee Studios International [Film Marketing, Distribution, and Acquisition].

"We stand committed to

taking our films to international territories, known and unknown, as we strongly believe that good content should not be restricted by borders," Chopra added. "Secret Superstar" is written and directed by Advait Chandan and produced by Amir Khan and Kiran Rao. The film has already made a mark in markets like the UK, the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, the UAE and other Gulf countries as well as Pakistan.

## Jordin Sparks Expecting Baby Boy with Dana Isaiah



The former American Idol winner and beau Dana Isaiah announced last week that they secretly wed in July and are expecting their first child together. On Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, they announced on her Instagram page that she is pregnant with a baby boy.

"IT'S A BOY!!!" she wrote, alongside a photo of her and Isaiah holding blue streamer paper.

"We have so much to be thankful for and this is definitely at the top of the list!" she continued. "@\_danaisiah's gonna have a little mini me running around! We can't wait to meet him. We love you lil man!"

Sparks, 27, had revealed this past summer that she was seeing Isaiah, a 25-year-old model and fitness enthusiast. Their child is due in the spring.



## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

**25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**WORLD HISTORY**

**1926:** 27 Tornadoes including an F4 that struck the town of Heber Springs, Arkansas on Thanksgiving weekend killed 76 people across southern states.

**1973:** 3 Palestinians hijack KLM B747 above Iraq, to Dubai.

**1983:** Syria and Saudi Arabia announce cease-fire in PLO civil war in Tripoli.

**1987:** Supertyphoon Nina the strongest typhoon [category 5] to strike the Philippines in 20 years with wind gusts in excess of 200 mph and one of the worst storm surges ever to strike the Philippines.

**1992:** Because of growing nationalist tensions in the country over economic differences the Czechoslovakia Federal Assembly votes to split the country into two countries

the Czech Republic and Slovakia from 01 Jan, 1993.

**2001:** It was reported that Osama Bin Laden was hiding in the Jalalabad [eastern Afghanistan] area. At least one source also revealed that Bin Laden had allegedly been traveling around by horseback during the night hours.

**2009:** The unfolding story of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon was given to the public with more than 500,000 intercepted pager messages [many from US officials] published online in the order in which they were sent.

**2011:** Police discovered twenty-six bodies of men who had been killed by drug gangs in Guadalajara, Mexico. The killings were a sign of an escalation of violence between drug gangs in the city. The find came about a week after seventeen burned bodies were found in cars in Sinaloa.

**INDIAN HISTORY**

**1898:** Debaki Bose, Bengali film director and writer, was born

**1985:** Yashwantrao Chavan, Indian politician, passed away.

## Wells Adams Takes Sarah Hyland on a Bachelor-Style Date for Her Birthday



Head of the Modern Family actress' 27th birthday on 26 Nov, the reality star and radio host surprised his girlfriend Wednesday with a special date: a helicopter trip to Santa Catalina Island. Hyland shared photos and videos with fans Thursday, prefacing it with a warning.

"Now, I'm going to do an Instagram story of really, really annoyingly cute vomit-worthy videos of my day yesterday," she said. "Get out your vom buckets 'cause it's about to get real in this cute house."

"Wells surprised me with a birthday trip," Hyland added, biting her lip. "It was awesome."

Hyland shared photos and pictures, often doodling on them. "I can't. I'm all gushy," she wrote over one of the pictures. In yet another shot with Adams, she said, "Very grateful for this one."

For the last picture, she wrote, "OK, I think I'm done with the gush for now."

Hyland then resumed her Instagram Story. "Um, hi. That was annoyingly cute, and I'm very sorry I had to put you all through that," she said while playing with her hair. "I just... like it a lot."

Rather than leave her bed, the actress decided to share another message with her 5.4 mil-

lion followers on Thanksgiving.

"Cherish the ones you love. Be grateful for what you have," Hyland said "Don't take things for granted. Never push for something that doesn't want you back or that feels wrong, that doesn't work out the first couple of times, whatever in life that may be."

Hyland and Adams spent the holiday together, sharing even more Instagram Stories. The couple took their romance public in late October, and just last week, the actress revealed to E! News' Will Marfuggi that she was "rooting" for him when competed on ABC's The Bachelorette.

## Uma Thurman Lashes Out at Harvey Weinstein: "You Don't Deserve a Bullet"

Uma Thurman is grateful for a lot of things in 2017—chief among them, the downfall of Harvey Weinstein. She's shared credits with the disgraced producer in seven movies, including her Academy Award-nominated role in Pulp Fiction and Quentin Tarantino's Kill Bill, Vols. 1 and 2, and after the first wave of sexual misconduct allegations against him came out in October, Access Hollywood asked Thurman how she felt about them. "I don't have a tidy soundbite for you, because I have learned, I am not a child. And I have learned that when I've spoken in anger, I usually regret the way I express myself," she said at the time, carefully choosing her words. "So, I've been waiting to feel less angry, and when I'm ready, I'll say what I have to say."

Thursday was the day Thurman decided to say something.

Sharing a still of herself as Beatrix



Kiddo, a.k.a. The Bride, from Kill Bill, she wished her Instagram followers a happy Thanksgiving. "I am grateful today, to be alive, for all those I love, and for all those who have the courage to stand up for others. I said I was angry recently, and I have a few reasons, #metoo, in case you couldn't tell by the look on my face. I feel it's important to take your time, be

fair, be exact, so...Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!" Thurman wrote. "Except you Harvey, and all your wicked conspirators. I'm glad it's going slowly. You don't deserve a bullet."

Cryptically, the 47-year-old actress said, "Stay tuned." Thurman, who is making her Broadway debut in Beau Williamson's The Parisian Woman, exited CAA after two years earlier this week.

As for Weinstein, he voluntarily checked himself into an outpatient treatment facility in Arizona as a growing number of women, led by Ashley Judd and Rose McGowan, publicly accused him of sexual assault—and, in some cases, rape. A spokesperson for the producer previously told E! News that in addition to denying any non-consensual sex ever occurred, he also maintained "that there were never any acts of retaliation against any women for refusing his advances."

what you're thinking about anyway.

**VIRGO:** You love to have very serious discussions about important issues well into the night. You rebuild the world the way you'd like to see it with your friends. But now you start yawning around ten and are in bed within the hour. This is true today, too. Are you tired or do you need to be alone to think about things?

**LIBRA:** Do you often act as if the world is static and nothing ever changes? Sometimes you may think that humankind is a certain way, the world is a certain way, and so this is what you're going to do. Have you ever heard of evolution? The human

**ARCTIC CIRCLE**



**BABY BLUES**



race is constantly evolving, and so is the world. Look around!

**SCORPIO:** Today let your emotions mingle with your thoughts. What good is telling yourself that you must like something if you really can't stand it? What good are grand principles if your heart isn't in them? Take the time to put your head in sync with your heart today.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Today you may feel like going into your past. One half of you feels nostalgia for the "good old days." The other half lives for the future and is unafraid to project into the unknown. Even though this sounds a bit contradic-

tory, both these sides of you help the world move forward. Think about this today.

**CAPRICORN:** You're sensitive to the world around you. It's like you're thinking with your heart. It's possible you'll be more impressionable and less objective when your emotions get the better of you in your relationships. If you'd hoped to hide something from someone, it won't work. Even if you say nothing, it's written on your face.

**AQUARIUS:** If you had to take a test today and had a choice between poetry and physics, you

wouldn't hesitate. Poetry. Today is about interpretation, not analysis. A change in the atmosphere over the next few days is going to affect your thinking. You should expect some confusion in your contact with the people closest to you.

**PISCES:** Do you have a talent for writing? You seem to have a precise and clear way of expressing yourself. And it's possible you use this gift of yours in your career. Today you might want to use it to express your feelings about someone. Whether you write to a family member or compose a love letter, you'll be particularly inspired.