

SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 264 | Gangtok | Saturday | 14 October 2017

Pages 8 | ₹ **5**

Cop killed in exchange of fire between WB police and GJM supporters

SUMMIT REPORT DARJEELING, 13 OCT:

One policeman was killed today when West Bengal Police personnel cashed with Gorkha Janmukti Morcha sup-porters at a forest area near Patlebas. GJM has claimed that three of its supporters were also killed in the clash which has left four other police personnel critically injured.

West Bengal police claim that the GJM supporters fired at them during a raid of a sus-pected hideout inside the for-est where GJM Chief Bimal Gu-

rung was believed to be hiding. Additional Director Gener-07 Zilla and 135 Wards declared uncontested

South district, 07 Zil-

la Territorial Constitu-

ency candidates were de

clared uncontested today on the last day of with-

drawal of nominations

for elections to the Zilla Panchayat

Constituencies and Gram Panchayat Wards. Elec-tions will be held for the

remaining 21 Zilla TCs.
For the Gram Pancha

vat Wards, elections will

be held for 135 Wards as candidates for 148 Wards

were declared uncon-tested. All uncontested candidates belong to the

Sikkim Democratic Front. Under Sumbuk BAC, out of 33 Wards, 28 Wards were declared un-

contested while in Sikkim BAC, out of 16 Wards, 08

clared uncontested while

under Rabong BAC, out of 44 Wards, 18 Wards

In Yangang BAC, out of 34 Wards, 07 Wards

were declared uncon-tested and in Namchi BAC, out of 54 Ward, 41

Wards were uncontested.
Under Namthang
BAC, out of 55 Wards, 31

Wards were declared un-contested.

check out an experiment with some podcasting from Sikkim.

Thoughts

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ing-eden-506860426/stray

Have a story to share?

are uncontested. Under Temi BAC, out of 30 Wards, 05 were de-

are uncontested.

Territorial

in South SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI. 13 OCT:

al (law and order) Anuj Shar-ma told reporters in Kolkata that the police had specific information that Gurung and the group loyal to him were hiding near Patlebas, a stronghold of the GJM chief.

At 5 a.m, the search party

raided the hideout inside the forest when they were allegedly fired upon by GJM supporters.

ADG Sharma said the po-e, which faced "heavy fire power" from the group, retaliated. Sub-Inspector Amitabha Mullick lost his life in the firing. Six AK-47 rifles, one 9mm

nistol 500 rounds of ammunion and bombs had been recov

ered from the spot, he added.

He said the police had gath ered information of Gurung's links with Maoists and other rebel groups in the North East.

"Gurung has procured arms from them," he said. The GJM leader was in hid-ing in neighbouring Sikkim and had tried to enter the Darjeel-ing hills today, Sharma said, adding that he was now trying to get back to Sikkim.

The ADG said a cornered Gurung, who has lost mass support in recent times, was trying to foment trouble in the hills.

"We will not allow this to happen at any cost, even if we

expelled GJM

leader and Chairman of the Board of Administrators (BoA) for Darjeeling Binay Tamang blamed Bimal Gurung for to-day's violence in the hills and said the people of the region "will not allow Darjeeling to turn into Kashmir".

Gurung is absconding since August after the West Bengal government lodged cases against him under the Unlaw ful Activities (Prevention) Act for his alleged involvement in several bomb blasts in Darjeeling and adjoining areas.

While a faction of the GJM

still supports Gurung, the faction which is being backed by the state government is led by

Tamang.
"After so many days of an indefinite shutdown, the people are happy that peace is return-ing to the hills. It is really unfortunate that when peace and sta-bility are returning, Gurung and his men are making desperate attempts to disturb them. Gurung is entirely responsible for today's violence," Tamang, who is here to meet Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, told report ers at the airport.

"We will not allow Darjeel

5 Zilla and 129 Wards go uncontested in West

GYALSHING, 13 OCT [IPR]: draw nomination papers from the Panchayat polls scheduled for 03 Nov, West Sikkim saw a total number of 54 withdrawals of candidates today before the Panchayat Returning Officer [West] at District Administrative Centre in Rabdentse, West Sikkim.

Eight withdrawals of ndidates in Zilla Territorial Constituencies and 46 candidate withdrawals for Wards were accepted by the competent authority. Five out of 31 Zilla TC will go to poll uncontested.

Nanda Kumar Manger from Karzi Mangnam Dhu-pi, Madhu Maya Kami from Khongri Labdang Tashid-ing, Tara Lepcha [Gurung] from Melli Rimbi, Dhan Kumari Kami from Dhargaon, Zoom and Devika Subba from Siktam Okhrey Territorial Constituencies were the uncontested candidates belonging to the Sikkim Democratic Front [SDF] party. Meanwhile, in the

Panchayat Wards, 129 out of 348 Wards will go uncontested.

It was also confirmed today that Orange village ward under Siktam -Tikpur GPU did not receive any nomination papers Bye-election will be called for this ward after the Pan-chayat elections are held for the rest of the state.

The Returning Offi-cers have directed that the election agents' form is to be duly filled in and turn to pg02

07 Zilla and 90 Ward candidates declared uncontested in North

MANGAN, 13 OCT [IPR]: In North Sikkim, 07 out of 20 Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituen-cy candidates were declared uncontested today during the last day of withdrawal of nominations for elections to the Zilla Panchayat Territo rial Constituencies and Gram Panchayat Wards at the office of the Returning Officer-North.

For 34 Wards of Kabi Lungchok, 21 candidates

will go to poll uncontested while for 56 Wards of Dzongu, 47 candidates have been declared uncontested. For 23 Wards of

Lachen Mangan, 22 Pan-chayat Wards have been declared uncontested.

It is informed that no nominations have been received for one Ward in North Sikkim.
Seven Zilla Pancha-

vats and 90 Gram Panchaturn to pg02

Mohun Bagan in Gold Cup finals for the 12th time

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 13 OCT:

Mohun Bagan AC has entered the finals of the ongoing 37th All India Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament 2017 here at Paljor Sta-dium. This will be the 12th final for Mohun Bagan in the Governor's Gold Cup. Of the 11 times they have reached the finals, the Kolkata giants have won 9 times and lost only twice.

In the first semi-final match

today, Mohun Bagan registered an easy 5-0 victory over ONGC, Mumbai.

Mohun Bagan came out on the field with good crowd sup-port and kept constant pressure on ONGC side with its attacking game. Aser Pierrick Dipanda Dicka scored an early lead for Mohun Bagan in the 9th minute.

more goals in the first half which ended 1-0.

In the initial minutes of the

second half, Ghanefo Anshumana Kramah scored the second goal for Mohun Bagan in the 46th minute and soon completed his brace in the 61st minute. Aser Pierrick Dipanda Dicka also completed his brace in the 78th minute to extend the lead of Mohun Bagan to 4-0. In the dying minutes of the match, Naro Hari Sherstha seale the 5-0 victory of Mohun Bagan with his goal in the 55th minute.

With this easy victory, nine times winners and two times runners-up, Mohun Bagan has again secured its place in the fi-nals of the tournament.

The second semi-final match will be played between Calcut-ta Customs and Partha Chakra, Kolkata on Saturday afternoon at



73 Zillas and 286 Wards in East to go to polls

GANGTOK, 13 OCT (IPR): In East district, the num ber of contesting candidates for Zilla Panchavat Territorial Constituencies is 73 while there are 286 candidates for the Gram Panchayat Wards. Today was the last date for withdrawal of nominations.

Allotment of symbols to all the contesting candidates commenced at 3 p.m. at District Administrative Centre, Sichey. Following this, a meeting with all the contesting candidates for Zilla Panchayat Territorial

Panchavat Wards with Returning Officer and Assis-tant Returning Officer was conducted wherein contesting candidates were given a briefing about the Model Code of Conduct which shall be in force during election process.

All the contesting candidates were requested to abide by the guidelines and of the model code of conduct and to ensure that the election be conducted in a free and fair manner. The details of the Sector Magis

Governor Patil pitches for direct road link from Gangtok to Lhasa at Gov'nors Conference



SUMMIT REPORT

On the concluding day of the ongoing Government 2 ongoing Governors' Conference at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi today, Governor Shriniwas Patil raised several pertinent issues concerning the State of Sikkim. The first session of the day was also attended by Union Ministers for External Affairs, Fi-nance and Defence besides the Governors and Lieutenant Gover-

nors of the respective States.

A press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs that during his address at the session dedicated to the important issues of the State, the Govagitation for the separate State of Gorkhaland in the Darjeeling Hills over the last three decades has had serious implications on the economy and logistics of the State of Sikkim.

Besides disturbances in the supply of essential commodities and the flow of tourists, the agi-tation has seriously impeded the fortune of students seeking higher education outside the State along-side the patients going out of State to avail better treatment in the bigger centres, he added. He urged the Centre to arrive at a solution to this problem at the earliest.

On the matter of Indo-China border along Sikkim Sector, the Governor said that stability and peace at the border is primary to

the development of Sikkim and suggested that infrastructure on the Indian side of the border suggested should be upgraded and augmented to offset the advantage gained by China following its significant improvement of infrastructure including OTR on their side.

He also cited the recent standoff at Doklam causing psychological fear among the people of Sikkim which also obstruct-ed the Nathu La border trade and Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Nathu La midway into the season.

Towards boosting the tourism industry in the State further, the Governor suggested the centre to explore the possibility of *turn to pg03*

ernor stated that the recurring mittimes.com | news@summittimes.com | advertise@summittimes.com | letters@summittimes.com | 🖥 Summit TIMES Daily

Vulnerability Reduction Plan preparation training under SRLM concludes

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 OCT:

Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) under Rural Management and Devel-Department wrapped up the three-day Vulnerability Reduction Plan preparation training at Janta Bhawan Gangtok for the Block level Resource Persons (BRPs) and Block and State Mission Units, a press release informs.

Four National Level Resource Persons (NRPs); three from National Institute Rural Development, Guwahati and Hyderabad and one from National Mission Management Unit (NMMU), New Delhi imparted the training to SRLM staff and the BRPs of Sikkim.

In the program, State Project Manager, Project Managers, Deputy Project Managers and other staff of SRLM also attended the training. The valedicto-



ry session of the VRP training workshop was chaired by the Special Secretary-cum-CEO/Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission of RMDD. P Senthil Kumar today.

In the concluding session, the NIRD resource persons appreciated the efforts and pro-active approach of the SRLM and lauded the active participation of the SHG BRPs in the program. The NIRD stated that

Vulnerability Plan preparation module of Sikkim will be de veloped as a model template for VRP plan preparation for all other states in the country under NRLM as the process followed by the SRLM is worth replicating in other states. There will be follow up workshop after the field piloting of the VRP plan in order to final-ize the module for NRLM's VRP

plan preparations.

During the program, the CEO appreciated the quality inputs provided by NIRD and NMMU and assured them that the development VRP module for NRLM will be fully supported by the SRLM, Sikkim and directed the Block Proj ect Managers to proceed with the preparation of VRP for all Ward Development Societies

under SRLM in seven Intensive Block and to complete at least on VRP per Block by 30 Oct in enable its implementation by November 2017, informs the release.

Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) under Rural Management and Develop-ment Department is actively taking up the implementation of the National Rural Livelihood Mission in the State. At present, NRLM is being imolemented in all the blocks of North and East Sikkim.

The blocks of Khamdong, Regu, Pakyong, Duga, Rhenok in East Sikkim and Passingdong and Kabi-Tingda in North Sikkim have already completed the formation of SHGs and are functioning since last year. As of now around 1126 SHGs have been formed and are functional in these seven intensive blocks.

South District announces nominations for Best JHS and Primary Schools

NAMCHI, 13 OCT [IPR]: South District Administration had previously announced Best Junior High School and Primary School awards for which nominations were invited from all over the district.

After a thorough examination by a block level committee comprising of Block Development Officers and Assistant Education Officers after due verification and assessment compliance set by the South District Administration, 18 Junior High Schools and 20 Primary Schools have been approved for nominations

for the awards.

The nominations for Best Junior High School are- Kaizaley JHS, Pam-phok JHS, Mamring JHS, Lungchok JHS, Kamerey JHS, Suntaley JHS, Deythang JHS, Chumlok JHS, Tinzir JHS, Ghumpa Ghurpisey JHS, Alley Dara JHS, Salley-bong JHS, Denchung JHS, Bermiok Thangsing JHS, Challamthang JHS, Sokay JHS, Sripatam JHS and

Menglee JHS.
Similarly, the schools

ry category are- Basbotey PS, Nagi PS, Tangzi PS, Sukrabarey PS, Beeling PS, Bigyani PS, Chittary PS, Ralong Lingding PS, Lamaten PS. Mangbrue PS, Singithang PS, Boom tar PS, Purano Namchi PS. DarGaon PS. Nandugoan Suntaley PS, Amaley PS, Bermiok Dalep PS Banday PS, Badamtam PS and Rangang PS.

nominated under Prima

It may be noted here that a second round of verification will be carried out by the con-cerned Sub Divisional Magistrates and Human Resource Development Department Deputy Director, as per assessment sheets to select best schools at sub division level which will further be submitted by 15 Nov.

Eventually, the best three schools will be selected by District Collector and Joint Director [HRDD] in the third round of verification after which the Best Schools under the said cat-egories will be awarded on 26 Jan 2018 on the occasion of Republic Day.



6-week skill development prog in computer hardware concludes

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 OCT:

he six weeks long Entre preneurship cum Skill Development Programme in Computer Hardware. Maintenance and Network ing organized by Sikkim on and Infotech, Ra-

nipool in collaboration with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Institute, Gangtok concluded today, a press release informs

Guest lecturers from various organizations like Small Industries De-

velopment Bank of India Khadi and Village Industries Commission, District Industries and officers from MSME Development Institute. Gangtok delivered lectures on various aspects of entrepreneur-

Denzong Sherpa Association attends Global Sherpa Convention



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 OCT:

Denzong Sherpa Association [DSA] along with All Darjeeling and Terai-Dooars Sherpa Association and Sher-pa Buddhist Association Siliguri, West Bengal represented India at the recently concluded Global Sherpa Convention at

Nepal.
The four-day convention was attended by religious leaders, luminaries and representatives from 22 different countries around the world, a press release from DSA informs.

The programme was kicked off on 08 Oct by Ne-pal Prime Minister, Sher

5 Zilla and 129 Wards go uncontested in West Contd from pg01 brought to the DAC office.

The allotment of symbols for the independent candidates has been finalized and distributed The Identity Cards for

the candidates and the Election Agents are to be collected from their respec-tive Assistant Returning Officers at the earliest.

07 Zilla and 90 Ward candidates declared uncontested in North

Contd from pg01 yats have been declared as duly elected to fill the eats of the Zilla Territorial Constituency and Gram Panchayat Wards respectively by the Returning Officer. The contesting candidates were allotted the symbols and Identi-ty Cards and explained about the provisions re-lating to printing of pam-phlets and banners.

Rahadur Deuba and was wrapped up on 11 Oct.

Paper presentations on education, language, custom, religion, tradition, global investment, women's empowerment, youth and employment and global warming were made by experts from Sherpa community from all over the world.

Representing India on the convention DSA joint secretary, Dorjee Sherpa Phinasa spoke on 'Sherpa Language Development and Challenges in Sikkim'.

After detailed discussions and deliberations on the issues, the global convention decided on forming 'Jamling Sherpai Tshokpa' (World Sherpa Forum) with an objective to work towards protection and conservation of Sherpa language, reli-gion, customs and traditions around the world,

Police find stash of arms and

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Binay Tamang meets

Administrators of Gorkha Territorial Administration,

Binay Tamang, today met West Bengal Chief Minis-

ter Mamata Banerjee at

a "courtesy meeting."

"This was a courtesy meeting with the Chief

Minister. This was my first

meeting after the board was formed. We had a

very brief meeting today

Tamang described the meeting with Baneriee as

the state secretariat here

Mamata Banerjee KOLKATA, OCT 13 (PTI): Rebel GJM leader and chairman of the Board of

Seven Brothers in finals of Late Ralli Limboo Memorial football tourney



SUMMIT REPORT

The second semi-final The second semi-final match of the ongoing Late Ralli Limboo Memorial Open Football

Tournament was played today at Tibuk Junior High School in Mangshila, North Sikkim

Brothers played Dikchu Veterans 5-3 to advance to the finals of the tourney to be played on 05 Oct.

07 Brothers will now face Gnon Sangdong who defeated Rongong Youth Club 5-3 on Thursday.

73 Zillas and 286 Wards in East to go to polls

Contd from pg01

trates were also given to all the contesting candidates.

Further, the First Level Checking of Elec-tronic Voting Machines (EVM) which are to be

used in the upcoming General Election to Zilla Panchayat/Gram Pan-chayat Election is being carried out by Engineers deputed by State Election Commission. The commissioning of Electronic

Voting Machines (EVM) for the Zilla Panchayat and the Gram Panchayat Wards will be conducted on 25 and 26 Oct respec-tively at Modern Secondary School, Tathangchen.

Lachung and Pegong in finals of ITBP handball tourney SUMMIT REPORT



GANGTOK, 13 ОСТ:

he second match of the Handball tour-The second match of the handless of the second match of the handless of the handless of the second match of the handless of the handless of the second match of the handless o Lachung village wherein the latter won by a score of 7-5. The last and final match will be played on Sunday between Lachung village and Pegong village. The winner will be presented suitable reward by chief guest, Com-mandant 11th Bn Rajesh Kumar Tomar.

ammo in village near Kpg



SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG, 13 OCT:

Kalimpong police has Seized massive stash of arms and ammunition from a house Sakyong, around 20 km away from Kalimpong town.

After the clash be-tween West Bengal Police and GJM supporters in Darjeeling, rumors of a shut down spread in Pedong where shopkeepers downed their shut-ters. While some chose to open their shops later,

others remained shut or were forced to remain shut by some youth.
Soon, a large team of

police personnel led by Kalimpong SP, Ajit Singh Yadav landed in Pedong in the afternoon. They marched along Pedong bazaar and later moved to Sakyong above the Kalimpong-Sikkim border.

The Kalimpong SP said, "We had got source information of arms and ammunition in this area. We have found 4.12 mm guns, one 9.3 mm pistol, massive amount of power gel explosives, pipes, splinters, electronic det-onators, khukuri, bow and arrow and pipes from a house."

He further informed that they have arrested Rekha Chhetri and Bivek Rai who were in the house at the time. Two more persons have been detained. Those arrested will be booked under Un-lawful Activities [Prevention] Act, he informed.

but nothing very import-ant was discussed. There was no official discussion." Tamang told PTI. During the meeting chief minister inquired about the ongoing situation in the Darieeling

Hills, Tamang added. Tamang and anoth-er rebel GJM leader Anit Thapa was present at the meeting with the CM.

It was learnt that Tamang will also hold a "courtesy meeting" with West Bengal Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi on

Sunday.

On Monday, Tamang along with Thapa will hold an "official meeting" with the chief minister at the secretariat on the situation in the hills.

Gangtok on Saturday, 14 Oct

Temp: 25°C /12°C Forecast: Not as warm; a thunderstorm in spots in the morning followed by a heavy t-storm in the afternoon Sunrise: 05:34 AM Sunset: 05:09 PM

Three booked under SADA

GANGTOK, 13 Ост: Five persons from Nayabazaar, West Sikkim were arrested on 12 Oct by the police under Sikkim Anti Drugs Act, 2006.

One of the accused

persons was reported to the police by a 'credi-ble source' who claimed that he was involved in peddling drugs to buy-ers in the area. He was intercepted by the police who interrogated him about the accusa-tions against him. He reportedly admit-

ted to being a 'habitual drug consumer' and led the police to four other alleged drug peddlers from Goskhan Dara. Upon investigation and a complete room search the police recovered 80 Sparmon lice recovered 80 Spasmo proxyvon capsules and 10 N-10 tablets along with an empty bottle of illegal cough syrup from the alleged drug peddler's rent-ed room in Goskhan Dara. Two of the accused

persons were rounded up and brought in police cus-tody while three of them have reportedly fled from the area. Efforts are being made to trace them.

On the same day Melli police booked a 22-yearold man from Sumbuk, South Sikkim for pos-sessing contraband substances under Sikkim Anti Drugs Act, 2006. The accused was intercepted by the police on patrol duty at Melli police check post. The police detained him because of his 'suspicious behavior'.

The police recovered 44 Spasmoproxyvon cap-sules and 03 N-10 tablets hidden inside his underwear. The accused was brought in and arrested

Governor Patil pitches for...

Contd from pg01

opening direct road link from Gangtok to Lhasa to capitalise on the increasing number of tourists looking for Buddhist Pil-

grimage tourism.
"The booming tourism industry of the State will get a great impetus, if Sikkim is allowed to have direct air connectivity with Kathmandu [Nepal] and Thimpu [Bhutan] from soon to be operated Pakyong Airport," the Governor added. While seeking inter-

vention on the improve-ment of Broadband internet connectivity towards realising the goal of Dig-ital India and promotentrepreneurship, the Governor urged the Union Government to help Sikkim consolidate its gain of being a major producer of Organic farm products. He sought for appropriate policy and investment on post-harvest logistics, supply infrastructure processing, export-ori-entation, branding, direct marketing, trade relations, online trading platform, model contract farming, etc. to help the State capitalise the gain on value terms.



CapitalTIMES

Mock earthquake drill marks Int'l Risk Reduction Day in Gangtok

On the occasion of Inter-national Risk Reduction Day, Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA) in collaboration with line departments and other stakeholders orga-nized earthquake mock drill/exercise in Gangtok. While doing mock exercise a scenario was created wherein a magnitude 6.9 Richter scale earth-quake occurred in Gangtok and adjoining areas and caused considerable damage with several injuries and deaths.

The objectives of the drill were to understand the level of preparedness of the stakeholders in effectively and efficiently managing mass casualty situation.

There were nine different locations where the scenario for earthup: building collapse of Kisan bazaar at the junc-tion of Lall bazaar area, fire breakout at MG Marg, Mass evacuation at Deorali Girls Senior Secondary School, West Point Senior Secondary School, Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, land-slide and road blockage and accident at Chand-mari, traffic jam and stampede at Deorali taxi stand, Relief Camp at MLA hostel complex and STNM Hospital where injured

people were treated. Further, in the scenario, Manan Kendra Secretariat was also evacuated with the participation of the Chief Secretary, AK Srivastava, Additional Chief Secretary, State Relief Commissioner, heads of various department, officers and staffs.

put forth their observa-tion to SSDMA. debriefing session on the earthquake mock drill,

While addressing the

participation of Fire and Emergency Service, Sikkim

Police, Health department,

PHE department, Animal Husbandry department,

Power department, For-

est Department, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Civil Defence

along with volunteer or-ganization namely Neh-

ru Yuva Kendra, Helping Hands, Satya Sai Sewa Samiti and Sikkim Associa-

Later in the after-noon, a debriefing ses-

sion on the earthquake

mock drill was also held with the observers who

were stationed in various

locations during the time of drill. The observers

tion of Mountaineers.

Awareness against firecrackers in Singtam



YOGEN THATAL SINGTAM, 13 OCT:

Sikkim State Pollution Board in collaboration with Sikkim Kala Sangh organized an awareness programme on the use of

As a part of the programme, artists from Sikkim Kala Sangh pre-sented a short skit 'Kaalo Chasma Bhitra ko Zinda-gi-Part II' based on how the use of fire crackers and human health.

"The awareness pro-gramme will be continued in other places in the State in days to come," informed

SSB Gangtok participates in mock exercise on disaster relief



GANGTOK, 13 Oct [PIB]: Sashastra Seema Bal-Gangtok Sector participated in a State level mock exercise on disaster relief to mark the International Day for Disaster Reduction in Gangtok today.

The SSB established two relief cen-

ters, one at MLA Hostel and another at STNM Hospital Gangtok with SSB troops working promptly and also assisting the volunteers of NGO Sikkim Helping Hands in providing first aid to

Five-day Yoga training for school teachers begins

GANGTOK, 13 ОСТ:
Afive-day long basic Yoga
Atraining for all categories of teachers of Govern-ment Schools of five Block Administrative Centres being organised by Rash-triya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan [RMSA] in collaboration with Directorate of Primary Education-Human Resource Development Department [HRDD], Gov-ernment of Sikkim, commenced here at the conference hall of Teachers' Guest House in Syari today.

An HRDD press release

informs that the event has the participation of 91 teachers who will be undergoing basic Yoga train-ing and are later expected to deliver the same in their respective schools.

The inaugural cere-

mony was attended by Director-Primary Educa-tion/State Project Direc-

tor, Sarva Shiksha Abhian, Bhim Thatal, as chief yan, Bhim Hatal, as Chief guest along with Deputy Directors of RMSA and Primary Education, As-sistant Directors of BAC Rakdong-Tintek, Martam, Nandok, and the State

Yoga Coordinator. State Yoga Coordinator Laxuman Adhikari detailed on the aims and background of the programme. In his address, he clarified the purpose of organizing such training programmes on Yoga.
"The aim of the De-

partment is to make available at least one Yoga Trainer in all Government Schools of Sikkim," he informed.

He briefed about the

arrangement of training given to 525 teachers at Patanjali Yogpeeth in Haridwar who are instrumental in teaching Yoga and are doing the work of Master

such training programmes.
Chief guest Mr Thatal
extended best wishes to the trainees for the suc-

cess of the programme.
In his address, he outlined the importance of Yoga and its inclusion in the school curriculum.

"Sikkim is a state where Yoga was taught prior to the announcement made by the centre for its inclusion in the curriculum." he added.

He emphasized on or-ganising such trainings in days to come in order to cope up with the undesirable behaviours of students and for their all round personality development.

It is mentioned in the

release that this training programme will con-clude on 17 Oct with eight resource persons engaged to train the 91 participating teachers.

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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM RAJYA SAINIK BOARD

ADVFRTISFMENT JOIN INDIAN NAVY

T Tashi said that these drill efforts were made to en-

sure effective participation

of local bodies to deal with any eventuality and to take

preventive measures in

"This exercise would go a long way in awaken-ing the people as to how to respond during the time of

natural calamities and also

the administration for ini-

tiating measures for mitiga-

tion of the disaster," said the

State Relief Commissioner.

case of an earthquake.

: PALJOR STADIUM GROUND, GANGTOK. 24[™] OCT 2017.

: 6 AM.

CATEGORY	AGE	EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION		
SENIOR SECOND- ARY RECRUIT (SSR)	17-21 Yrs. (Born in between 01.02.1997 to 31.01.2001, both dates inclusive)	10+2 passed with maths and physics and at least one of these subjects : Chemistry / Biology/ Computer.		
ARTIFICIER AP- PRENTICE (AA)	-do-	10+2 Passed with 60% or mare marks in aggregate with maths and physics and at least one of these subjects: Chemistry/ Biology/Computer.		
STEWARDS	17-21 Yrs. (Born in between 01.04.1997 to 31.03.2001, both dates inclusive)	MATRIC (10 th pass) (MR).		
CHEFS	-do-	MATRIC (10 th pass) (MR).		
HYGIENISTS	-do-	MATRIC (10 th pass) (MR).		

PHYSICAL PROFICIENCY TESTS (PFT):

QUALIFYING IN PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST IS MANDATORY FOR SELECTION.

- 1.6 KM RUN : WITHIN 07 MINUTES. 20 SQUAT UPS (UTHAK BAITHAK)
- 10 PUSH UPS

- 10 PUSH UPS

 MEDICAL STANDARDS

 MINIMUM HEIGHT 157 CMS (Height may be relaxed for Tribal Candidates).

 Weight & Chest should be proportionate. Minimum chest expansion of 5 cms.
 Good mental, medical and physical health free from any disease/disability.

 No Cardio-vascular disease. Surgical deformities like knock knees, flat feet etc., infection of ears, no history of fits or psychiatric ailment, varicose veins etc.

<u>WRITTEN TEST</u>						
	SENIOR SECONDARY RECRUIT (SSR) & ARTIFICIER APPRENTICE (AA) (10+2 PASS)	STEWARDS & COOKS (10PASS)				
		4 7				

- English) and objective type.
- 2. The guestion paper will comprise of four sections, i.e. English, Science, Mathematics and General Knowledge.
- 3. The standard of the question paper will be that of 10+2 and the syllabus for the examination is also available at website www.joinindiannavy.gov.in
- 4. Duration of examination will be one hour
- 5. The candidates are required to pass in all sections and in aggregate.
- The guestion paper will be bilingual (Hindi & English) and objective type 2. The guestion paper will comprise of four
- sections, i.e. English, Science, Mathematics and General Knowledge. 3. The syllabus for the examination is also available
- at website www.joinindiannavy.gov.in 4. Duration of examination will be one hour.
- 5. The candidates are required to pass in all sections and in aggregate.

- 1. ATTESTED COPY OF CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION (COI) ATTESTED BY DC/SDM BEING MANDATORY.
 2. ATTESTED COPY OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE, RESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATE / DENOTING POST OFFICE AND POLICE STATION (ATTESTED BY GAZETTED OFFICER BEING MANDATORY).
- ATTESTED COPY OF CLX PASS / MATRICULATION CERTIFICATE OF VERIFICATION OF DATE OF BIRTH.

 ATTESTED COPY OF 10+2 EXAMINATION MARKSHEET AND CERTIFICATE.
- 5. 2(TWO) SELF ADDRESSED BROWN ENVELOPE SIZE 22 CM X 10 CM WITH RS.10 STAMP AFFIXED ON 01 ENVELOPE.
- SONS OF SERVING/ EX-NAVAL PERSONNEL/ WIDOW OF NAVY PERSONNEL ARE TO BE ATTACH RELEVANT DOCU-MENTS FROM ZILLA SAINIK BOAR.
- 2 (TWO) COPIES PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPH, CLEAR & GOOD QUALITY, IT IS MANDATORY FOR CANDIDATES TO NG ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS & ON THE DAY OF THE RECRUITMENT FOR RECONCILATION BY RECRUITING OFFICER AT THE VENUE OF THE RECRUITMENT RALLY.

CANDIDATES CAN ALSO VISIT INTEREST WEBSITE www.joinindiannavy.gov.in & AND FILL UP ONLINE APPLICATIONS

Col. D.N. Bhutia (Retd.) Secretary, Rajya Sainik Board

SummitTIMES

Debating Issues Panchayat poll primer for the 2019 event

he Assembly elections might be over a year away, The Assembly elections might be over a year and, but the panchayat polls are only a little over a fortnight hence. Although no political party has announced plans for public meetings yet, the people can be assured of some on-the-street campaigning which will be a welcome break from politics limited to press releases and social media exchanges. There is a chance that people, at least the majority in rural Sikkim, will finally get some face-time with leaders and issues instead of just status-updates and the faux conversations on Facebook. The following couple of weeks, as this section commented in the past, will also offer a teaser of what Sikkim can expect in 2019. The drive with which parties engage this time around will, in all probability, be the seriousness with which the electorate takes them when they participate in Assembly and General elections of 2019. Panchayat elections, despite the scale of the exercise with candidates numbering over a thousand, is affected by very local to the village issues. In that sense, not too many surprises are expected because even what may appear to be major up sets are invariably caused by village-level politics and not representative of the mood of the State at large. However, since politics at the state level is erected on building blocks of grassroots contact, the panchayat election becomes an interesting exercise to observe because from how the candidates are received and elected by the people offers valuable clues into how much ear the political parties have on ground realities. In that sense, even though the party in office is clearly going to make a sweep of the panchayat polls, it is also the one under more pressure because the scale and spontaneity of support will be an indicator of how strong or weak it has become. And this is why one had hoped that the Opposition participated on a bigger scale because that would have ensured more humility and commitment for accountability in the ruling Front. What else, but these two qualities keep a democracy robust and sharp?

That said, one can now expect some interesting electioneering to play out. There will soon also be confusion galore in the public domain and the electorate is going to get pulled across caste and community divides, which are the easiest fault lines to tease when politicians find themselves short on time and issues. Sikkim is yet to witness coherent arguments being debated in the public domain even as emotive issues have gained in decibels, and perhaps it is time that a new beginning was made. It is time that the representatives and aspiring-to-be-leaders were made to come clean on where exactly they stand and why.
While the "where" is easy to figure out since it is decided by camps and not ideology, more demands should be made by the people on the whys. For far too long, people have allowed themselves to be pulled by their emotions and herded around only to be led into a blind alley. It is expected for fissures to develop in the tense run-up to the polls (yes, even panchayat polls) hence it should be the people who force a quicker resolution of differences before the situation gets out of hand and even they are forced to take sides for the wrong reasons. Representatives should be guided by public consensus and not the other way round where they start moulding public opinion. This latter condition is very dangerous in the present times where social media can end up projecting and reinforcing false narratives and conveying misleading public opinion. The pancha-yat election campaign, because it operates in much more intimate settings than the scale which will visit in 2019 offers a good opportunity to prioritise issues and debate intelligently. Hopefully, the people will demand as much and their parties will deliver.

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



How Serena Williams will continue to serve up top level tennis as a mother

IO WARD

Serena Williams revealed her latest and greatest trophy to the world in September 2017 – her daughter Alexis Olympia. But the holder of 23 grand slams swiftly declared her clear intention to return to the tennis court as a mother. She would, she said ook forward to seeing her daughter watching from

the players' box soon.

The organisers of the Australian Open have now indicated that Williams hopes to be back in Mel-bourne in January 2018 to defend the title she won when she was eight weeks pregnant. No one who has witnessed Williams' panoply of

accomplishments will doubt her ability to return to tennis. But you don't collect all those trophies by being satisfied with merely participating. The 36-year-old has said herself: "Either I win, or I don't play." So what are the historical, psychological and physical hurdles she will have to conquer as she eyes more silverware? She would not be the first athlete – nor even the

first tennis player - to return to elite competition as a mother. Evonne Goolagong dominated the wom-en's game in 1980, and became the first mother to be crowned Wimbledon champion since Dorothea Lambert Chambers in 1914.

Kim Clijsters won two US Opens and an Australian
Open after the birth of her first daughter, making her the only WTA player to win more majors after motherhood than before. More recently, former world num ber one Viktoria Azarenka returned to Wimbledon six months after giving birth to son Leo, joining a handful of mothers currently on the women's tour.

Away from tennis, Paula Radcliffe reaffirmed her superhuman status by re-lacing her running shoes just 12 days after the birth of daughter, Isla, in 2007. She went on to win the New York City Marathon later that year. As Williams has commented:
"Ride or die. Women are tough that
A MOTHER'S WORK....

But parenthood does change you. After his daughter was born, Andy Murray said: "Becoming a parent is "EVERYTHING TO PLAY FOR This "new power" might be a common psychological

life-changing. My priority is to be a good father first." His long time rival Novak Djokovic commented: "Knowing that you're giving your love and your time to your

baby, your child, that gives you a freshness in the mind."
He even joked that players who wanted to keep
up their tennis performances should start a family.

While these sentiments are touching and telling in equal measure, one needs to factor in the bond of station, the trauma of delivery, and the attachment of breastfeeding to get a sense of how might affect a female player.

Williams herself has become a doting new mum, recently tweeting how difficult it was to post about anything other than her daughter. No one is suggesting that fathers are any less close to their children than mothers, but the fact is that men are privileged with an uninterrupted career path throughout childbirth that women cannot replicate.

This biological imperative carries psychological and physiological question marks for female athletes. Mentally, there is the necessary break from the sport which was previously all consuming. Then there is the introduction of a life entirely dependent on you for survival. It must be transformative to say the least. Not much research has been done around the

cognitive factors of returning to competition post-partum. But one study found that motivation and self belief were the most frequent mediators for success in female athletes.

Athletes with higher motivation reported greater training effort and fewer weeks needed to achieve their training goals. As tennis's greatest player of the open era, Williams need only look at her reflection in her trophy cabinet for instant self belief. As for mo-tivation, she's only one away from Margaret Court's record of 24 grand slam singles titles. She has said previously: "Obviously, if I have a

chance to go out there and catch up with Margaret, I am not going to pass that up. If anything, this pregnancy has given n

given me a new power."

EVERYTHING TO PLAY FOR

benefit. Physiotherapist Mark Buckingham, who has helped several athletes return to competition after childbirth, comments: "People become better athletes when they have babies because they become able to put things into context." Physically speaking, the comparative healing pe-

riods when recovering from serious injury and recuperation after childbirth are similar. However, unlike rith injuries, motherhood can actually bring physi-

During pregnancy, a woman's heart changes form. While the heart walls retain their thickness, the chamber capacity increases to enable the retention of a much larger volume of blood, up to 50%

more, in order to support the uterus.

The result is not dissimilar to blood doping, which augments the efficiency and rate at which oxygen is supplied to the muscles. This will indeed provide women with a "new power" at least until such time as the heart returns to prepartum levels. Also, higher levels of oestrogen are released

during pregnancy, a hormone which can stimulate ase of serotonin - to minimise fatigue. (Although it is not yet clear how long these increased levels of oestrogen remain.)

The only unanswered question for Williams is how pregnancy, motherhood and returning to top lev-el competition in her mid-thirties will take its toll. But having followed her evolution all these years

from the days when she and I were competing in the same tournaments (unfortunately not achieving the same results), and she was most famous for the noise of her hair beads, I get the impression that this is just another challenge she will relish. And with her eyes firmly fixed on Court's record, I believe she can over-come any physiological impediment.

When the greatest female tennis player in history says "My story isn't over", it takes a brave pundit to state otherwise. I, for one, can't see any historical, psychological, or physiological reason to doubt her. [the writer is PhD candidate in psychology and former professional tennis player, University of East London]

Design global, manufacture local: a new industrial revolution?

VASILIS KOSTAKIS & JOSE RAMOS

What if globally designed products could radically change how we work, produce and consume? Several examples across continents show the way we are producing and consuming goods could be improved by relying on globally shared digital resources, such as design, knowledge and software.

Imagine a prosthetic hand designed by geographically dispersed communities of scientists, designers and enthusiasts in a collaborative manner via the web. All knowledge and software related to the hand is shared globally as a digital commons.

People from all over the world who

are connected online and have access to local manufacturing machines (from 3D printing and CNC machines to low-tech crafts and tools) can, ideally with the help of an expert, manufacture a customised hand. This the case of the OpenBionics project, which produces designs for robotic and bionic devices.

There are no patent costs to pay for. Less transportation of materials is needed, since a considerable part of the manufacturing takes place locally; maintenance is easier, products are designed to last as long as possible, and

costs are thus much lower.

Take another example. Small-scale farmers in France need agricultural machines to support their work. Big companies rarely produce machines specifi-cally for small-scale farmers. And if they do, the maintenance costs are high and the farmers have to adjust their farming techniques to the logic of the machines.
Technology, after all, is not neutral.
So the farmers decide to design the

agricultural machines themselves. They roduce machines to accommodate their

needs and not to sell them for a price on the market. They share their designs with the world – as a global digital com-mons. Small scale farmers from the US share similar needs with their French counterparts. They do the same. After a while, the two communities start to talk

to each other and create synergies.

That's the story of the non-profit
network FarmHack (US) and the co-operative L'Atelier Paysan (France) which both produce open-source designs for agricultural machines.

With our colleagues, we have been

exploring the contours of an emerging mode of production that builds on the confluence of the digital commons of knowledge, software, and design with local manufacturing technologies

We call this model "design global, manufacture local" and argue that it could lead to sustainable and inclusive forms of production and consumption It follows the logic that what is light (knowledge, design) becomes global while what is heavy (manufacturing) is local, and ideally shared. When knowledge is shared, materials tend to travel less and people collaborate driven by diverse motives. The profit motive is not totally absent, but it is peripheral.

Decentralised open resources for designs can be used for a wide variety of things, medicines, furniture, prosthetic devices, farm tools, machinery and so on. For example, the Wikihouse project produces designs for houses; the RepRap community creates designs for 3D printers. Such projects do not necessarily need a physical basis as their members

ispersed all over the world.

FINDING SUSTAINABILITY But how are these projects funded?

From receiving state funding (a research

grant) and individual donations (crowdfunding) to alliances with established firms and institutions, com ns-oriented projects are experimenting with vari-ous business models to stay sustainable. These globally connected local, open

design communities do not tend to practice planned obsolescence. They can adapt such artefacts to local contexts and can benefit from mutual learning.

In such a scenario. Ecuadorian mountain people can for example connect with Nepalese mountain farmers to learn from each other and stop any collaboration that would make them exclusively dependent on proprietary knowledge controlled by multinational

TOWARDS 'COSMOLOCALISM'

This idea comes partly from discourse on cosmopolitanism which asserts that each of us has equal moral standing, even as nations treat people differently The dominant econ The dominant economic system treats physical resources as if they were infinite and then locks up intellectual resources as if they were finite. But the reality is quite the contrary. We live in a world where physical resources are limited, while non-material resources are digitally reproducible and these are digitally reproducible and there-

fore can be shared at a very low cost.

Moving electrons around the world has a smaller ecological footprint than moving coal, iron, plastic and other materials. At a local level, the challenge is to develop economic systems that can draw from local supply chains.

Imagine a water crisis in a city so severe that within a year the whole city may be out of water. A cosmolocal strat-egy would mean that globally distributed networks would be active in solving the issue. In one part of the world, a water fil-

ation system is prototyped - the system itself is based on a freely available digital

design that can be 3D printed.

This is not fiction. There is actually a network based in Cape Town, called STOP RESET GO, which wants to run a cosmolocalisation design event where

people would intensively collaborate on solving such a problem.

The Cape Town STOP RESET GO teams draw upon this and begin to experiment with it with their lived challenges.
To make the system work they need to
make modifications, and they document this and make the next version of the design open. Now other locales around the world take this new design and apply it

to their own challenges.
LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH A limitation of this new model is that the problems of its two main pillars, such as information and communication as well as local manufacturing technologies. These issues may pertain to resource extraction, exploitative la-bour, energy use or material flows.

A thorough evaluation of such products and practices would need to take place from a political ecology perspec-tive. For example, what is the ecological footprint of a product that has been globally designed and locally manufac-tured? Or,to what degree do the users of such a product feel in control of the technology and knowledge necessary

for its use and manipulation?

Now our goal is to provide some answers to the questions above and, thus, better understand the transition dynamics Vasilis Kostakis is Senior Research Fellow at Tallinn University of Technology; Jose Ramos is Lecturer, Globalisation Studies, Victoria University]

Finals of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao basketball tourney held in North

MANGAN, 13 OCT (IPR): The final match of the Basketball tournament for both boys and girls category was played here in the basketball ground of Mangan, Senior Secondary School today. The tournament which had started on 11 Oct was organized by Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Mangan in collaboration with District Administration North under the banner of Reti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.

Altogether sixteen teams had participated in both categories in the tourney. Final match for girls category was played between Chungthang, Sub-Division and Integrated Child Development

Weapons

recovered from

Mizoram jungle
AIZAWL, OCT 13 (PTI):
A huge cache of arms
and ammunition was re-

covered from a jungle by

security forces from a hut

near Sabualtlang village in Lawngtlai district of

Mizoram, a police report

and weapons were two AK-47 assault rifles, one

1.9 mm carbine, one 1.22

rifle, 14 magazines of dif-ferent kinds of guns, 674

rounds of live ammuni-

They also recovered two sets of wireless equipment and a com-

exchange of fire...

Contd from pg01 ing to turn into Kashmir.

the Trinamool Congress

government of conspiring

to eliminate Bimal Gurung.

incident of violence after the 104-day long indefi-

nite shutdown in the hills

was called off on 26 Sept

by Gurung.

This is the first such

Cop killed in

tion and 36 detonators.

The recovered arms

said today.



Scheme (ICDS) center, Dzongu wherein, Dzongu ICDS won the match.
Similarly, the final

match in boys category was played between Health Department and Mangan, School wherein Mangan



Chungthang that Beti

Bachao Beti Padhao week

and the International Girl

Child day was observed

School lifted the trophy.

as organized as part of BBBP week on the theme 'Daughters of New India'. It was also informed

here at Chungthang. The programme was inau-gurated by the District Magistrate, North, Karma by the Child Development Protection Officer,

R Bonpo at Zilla Panchayat Bhawan on 09 Oct. The theme of the week is 'Daughters of New India' and the programme was organized by BTF Chungthang.

Total of 15 moth-

ers of girl children were felicitated during the programme held at Chungthang on 11 Oct. A mother with 10 daughters was also felicitated on the day. More than 100 participants were present on the occasion.

The programme also had the presence of gov-ernment officials and staffs. Child Develop-ment Protection Officer (CDPO), Chungthang, talked about the pro-Chungthang, grammes and policies of the government related to women and girl children. A similar programme was also held at Mangan where street play and drama presented by the students of North Sikkim Academy.

'Peepli Live' redux: Waiting for Talwars outside Dasna Jail

BUNTY TYAGI DASNA (UP), OCT 13 (PTI):

Alarge crowd of mediapersons Camped outside Dasna Jail from early morning today, keeping a close watch on every movement in and out of the high-security prison that had housed Rajesh and Nupur Talwar for four years.

The crowds, including curious onlookers, grew as the day progressed, everybody waiting for the Talwars to walk out of jail and back into the unrelenting media spotlight.

The Allahabad High Court

yesterday acquitted them in the 2008 murders of their daughter Aarushi and their domestic help Hemraj, leaving the question,

case, which continues to remain a mystery, dominated television news and newspaper headlines once again, the media descended outside the jail hoping to capture every moment of their release --and any bits of information about their life inside jail.

Several broadcast journalists. both from national and local me-dia houses, were seen sending live feed for transmission, hanging on to every small detail and tracking every movement. Their counterparts in the print media, mean while, took notes and relayed

Iournalists could be seen running after those who had come to meet their relatives inside the jail, seeking to get details about

what was going on inside.

"We have not received the court order as yet. We will release them once we get it," Dasna Jail Superintendent Dadhiram Maurya told reporters. A senior jail official added that

Nupur Talwar performed dental check-up of fellow inmates.

In a scene reminiscent of the

film "Peepli Live", local onlookers added to the crowds swarming outside the jail complex.

Extra security personnel was deployed around the jail, about the Indian capital.

The sensational 2008 double murder case had captured the imagination of the country and, after the dentist couple's acquittal yesterday, the media glare is back

Talwars have been lodged in Dasna jail since Novem ber 2013 in connection with the double murder. The Allahabad High Court in its verdict said that neither the circumstances nor the evidence was enough to hold them guilty.

Aarushi Talwar was found

dead in her bedroom in the Talwars' Noida home on May 16, 2008. Hemraj's body was found the next day from his room in

Dept of Biotechnology setting up labs in North East

CHENNAI, OCT 13 (PTI): The Ministry of Science and Technology today said it is setting up a chain of laboratories in the North East to enable thorough parity in terms of service and facilities to the people.

Stating this while delivering the inaugural address at the third edi-tion of the India International Science Festival here, Union Minister of Science and Technology Harsh Vardhan said that the Centre was spending a "significant" portion of the budget to develop the

"Our Department of Bio-Technology is working to establish a series of laboratories in North East and there are a num-ber of programmes. We spend a very significant portion of our budget only in the North East", he said.

"We want to ensure that each and every part of the country and of course, the North East all develop to a level where we can say that there is thorough parity in terms

of the services and facilities available to people", he said.

Referring to the fourday Science festival, he said it has a unique Sci-ence Village wherein the last two editions have inviting children from the most remote villages of India, to participate along with their teachers.

"Over 2,000 young children are participat-ing in the science village and they will have access to the best of things happening in science. For the first time they will have real exposure to science",

Vardhan said that Prime Minister (Nar-endra Modi's) passion is to develop the North East and to see whether the region develops in totality and there is a thoroughly inclusive approach there, he said.

Several science teachers have come from North East and during the con-ference here would learn the new dimensions of science teaching, the

NE region calls for power link through Bangladesh

(PTI): Power ministers of the North East will urge the Centre to work an alternative link through neighbouring Bangladesh for an uninterrupted power supply to their region, a Tripura minister said today.

A decision on this was taken at a meeting of the North East Power Committee (NEPC), attended by the power ministers of the region, in Shillong. The meeting ended yesterday.
"The alternative line

will run through the plains of Bangladesh and there will be fewer chances of interruptions," Tripura Power minister Manik Dey told PTI.

He said a resolution on this will shortly be sent to the Centre and then be examined by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. If found feasible, the Centre may take the matter up with the Bangladesh Government.

The present line runs

and faces the impact of adverse weather, as a result of which power supply is sometimes disturbed," he said.

If the line within the

country failed for some reason, the alternative line could work and a steady power su maintained, he said. supply

Dey said at present there is a 400KV line from the Palatana power proj-ect in Tripura's Gomati district to Bongaigaon in West Bengal and another link from here to South Comilla in Bangladesh.

If a link could con-nect the existing lines between Bongaigaon and South Comilla, there could be an alternative supply, he said.

Dey, who is also the transport minister, said he had been informed by Railway officials that the infrastructure for launching a Rajdhani Express from Agartala was ready in Tripura.

'newsy' details over the pho 12 km from Ghaziabad town near Odisha Forest Deptt drive to protect Olive Ridley sea turtles

The people of the hills are peace-loving, they are not with Gurung and BERHAMPUR (ODISHA), OCT 13 (PTI): With Olive his politics of violence Ridley sea turtles expectand bloodshed. There should be a proper inquied to arrive for mass nest ing in the Ganjam coast ry into the violence and of Odisha soon, forest the culprits should be booked," he said. officials have launched a drive to sensitise fisher-On the other hand, BJP's West Bengal chief, Dilip Ghosh has accused men to adopt measures to ensure the safety of the

endangered species. The drive is necessary as most of the deaths of the Olive Ridley turtles are caused by fishing trawlers, experts said.
While 153 Olive Ridley

turtles were found dead in the Ganjam coast in 2016-17, around 175 dead turkm long coast in 2015-16, a senior forest official said.

Every year the state overnment imposes a ban on fishing activities with the use of mech-anised trawlers along the 170-km coast in the state during mass nesting of the Olive Ridley turtles.

The Olive Ridley sea turtles start arriving for mass nesting near Rushikulva river mouth in Ganjam district from the third week of October to the first week of November.

ers used for fishing are banned in the 'No-Fish-ing Zone' stretching up to 20-km from the coast.
"We will take strin-

gent action against trawlers found violating the prohibition when it comes into force." Divisional Forest Officer, Ber-hampur, A K Behera said.

The fisheries department and forest officials will jointly conduct patrolling to crackdown on illegal fishing activities in the area, he said.

While the department has two speed boats, at least two trawlers would be hired for patrolling purpose, the DFO said.

traditional Odisha fish workers union, however, urged the authorities not to impose restriction on fishing with mo-torised boats, as it does not harm the turtles.

"We also urged the authorities to compensate the loss of livelihood due to the ban on fishing activities, said its union secretary, K Alleya. The DFO said the for-

est department has also sought cooperation of wildlife activists, local NGOs, local industries and Gopalpur Port authorities. Lakhs of the endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles visit Gokharkuda-Pu-runabandh area near Rushikulya river mouth in Ganjam district every year for mass nesting.

Over 3.70 lakh Olive Ridley turtles laid eggs near the Rushikulya river mouth during mass nesting from February 14 to 22 this year.

In India, the Gahirmatha beach and the Ru-shikulya and Devi river mouths of Odisha are famous as the world's larg-est Olive Ridley rookery.

GST impact: Gold jewellery biz may lose shine this Dhanteras

Mumbai. Oct 13 (PTI): Jewellery may lose a bit of its lustre this Dhanteras compared to last year due to confusion over GST-compliance but iewellers have lined up discounts and freebies to lure buyers and get the sparkle back, according to market experts.

India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA) Director Saurabh Gadgil told PTI that the market sentiment is improving but it has not yet become

"If the overall business remains same as the last year or goes marginally up by 5 per cent, we will be very happy," added Gadgil, who is also PNG Jewellers Chairman and Managing Director.

Postponement of salary, less than expected bonus, lack of clarity in removing jewellers from



Laundering Act (PMLA) are some of the major issues that have dented the market sentiment this Dhanteras and Diwali, the festivals which generally see a lot of buying of precious metals, he added.

"Also, the slowdown in economy has contribut-ed to the sluggish market sentiment," Gadgil said.

The footfalls will in-

crease at stores during the festivals next week, he said, but the sale ticket size will be lower.

ew, All India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation (GIF) Chairman Nitin Khandelwal said there has been some relief for the maker players due to the government decision on the PMLA.

However, due to less currency in the market the overall sentiment is dull, he said. "The mo-mentum has started, but it is yet to pick up.

There is less currency circulating in the market as an aftereffect of demon-

etisation announced last year. Because of this, there have been less buyers this ear during Dhanteras nd Diwali," he added.

The business this year is expected to be at par with last year or could even be lower, Khandelwal said. "To encourage people to buy jewellery during the festivals, the market is full of free offers and discounts.

try Jewellers are their best to increase footfalls and create positive sentiment in the market," he added. Mostly people will go for light weight or essential jewellery, he said. World Gold Council

Managing Director, India, Somasundaram PR said the industry is bracing for the festive season and the trend is looking bet-ter than the first half.

"However, the senti-

ment is not at its full potential. After GST was implemented (in July) it brought in its own share of chalenges, which will be there for some time," he added.

GST was not adopted properly and putting gold and silver imports from South Korea in re-stricted list also caused disruptions in the market Somasundaram said

"However, I would say demand will still go up and touch the level achieved last year," he added. In a relief to the industry, the government has removed gems and jewellery dealers from the purview of the reporting requirement under the PMLA.

Early this month, the government rolled back August 23 notification that notified dealers in precious metals, precious stones and other high value goods.



ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM GANGTOK

Memo No: 214/ND/R&B/2002-03/699

Date: 10 10 2017

Corrigendum to Notice Inviting Tender No: 214/ND/2002-03/ 668, dated 14.09.2017, R.O. No. 308/IPR/PUB/Classi./17-18, dated: 15.09.2017.

Due to the ensuing General Panchayat Election 2017 and Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct. The time schedule for submission and opening of tender has been rescheduled as follows:-

1	Date and Time for submission of Tender:				
(a)	For Sl.No. 01, 02, 03, 04 & 05	13 th Nov 2017 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)			
(b)	For Sl.No. 06, 07, 08, 13, 14 & 15	15 th Nov 2017 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)			
2	Date and Time for Opening of Tender:				
(a)	For Sl.No. 01, 02, 03, 04 & 05	14 th Nov 2017 (11.00 am)			
(b)	For Sl.No. 06, 07, 08, 13, 14 & 15	16 th Nov 2017 (11.00 am)			

DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (EAST -I) ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM NIRMAN BHAWAN, GANGTOK.

R O No 365/ipr/pub/classi /17-18 dt 11 10 2017

ICC to start nine-team Test and 13-team ODI league

AUCKLAND, OCT 13 (PTI): The ICC is set to start a nine- team Test league and a 13-team ODI league in 2019 and 2020 respectively, aiming to bring "context and meaning to bilateral cricket".

The Test series league will see nine teams play six series over two years -- three home and three away -- with each having a minimum of two Tests and a maximum of five. All matches will be played over five days culminating in a World Test League Championship Final.

The ODI league will be a direct qualification pathway towards the World Cup and will be contested by the 12 full members plus the winners of the current ICC World Cricket League Championship.

In the first edition of the league, each side will play four home and four away series each comprising of three ODIs moving to all teams playing each other from the second cycle onwards.

"I would like to congratulate our Members on reaching this agreement and putting the interests of the develop-ment of the game first. Bringing context to bi-lateral cricket is not a new challenge, but this is the first time a genuine solution has been agreed on," ICC Chairman Shashank Manohar said in a statement after the governing body's meeting here.

"This means fans around the world can enjoy international crick-et knowing every game counts and in the case of the ODI league, it counts towards qualification to the ICC Cricket World Cup."

ICC Chief Executive David Richardson added: "The ICC Board decision today means we can now go and finalise a playing schedule for the first edition as well as the points system, hosting arrangements and competition terms."

The ICC Board also

approved a trial of fourday Tests to run through until the World Cup 2019. Members will be able to schedule four-day games by bilateral agreement and a set of standardised playing conditions will now be finalised.

Richardson said: "Our priority was to develop an international cricket structure that gave con-text and meaning across international cricket and particularly in the Test arena. This has been delivered and every Test in the new League will be a five-day Test format.

"The trial is exactly that, a trial, just in the same way day-night Tests and technology

Tests and technology have been trialled by Members. Four-day Tests will also provide the new Test playing countries with more opportunities to play the longer version of the game against more experienced opponents."

Among other decisions taken by ICC during its Board meeting, Na-mibia have been confirmed as the host of the World Cricket League Di vision 2 in February 2018 whilst the Netherlands have been approved as the host of the ICC Wom-en's World Twenty20 Qualifier 2018.

Barca travel to Madrid amid Catalan crisis

MADRID, OCT 13 (AFP): The biggest game of the La Liga season so far is shrouded in political tension as Barcelona visit Atletico Madrid tomor row in their first trip to the Spanish capital since a Catalan independence referendum marred by violence.

Barca played their last match behind closed doors as the October 1 referendum, deemed illegal by the Spanish government, took place amid chaotic scenes as police seized ballot papers and clashed with voters leaving 92 injured, among nearly

900 who sought medical attention.
"It was one of the worst moments we've experienced." Barca captain Andres Iniesta told Catalunya radio this week. "It was a bit surreal."

Iniesta, 33, signed a first ever "contract for life" at Barca last week, a day after calling on both sides of

the political spectrum to negotiate.

However, deep divisions remain despite Catalonia president Carles Puigdemont's decision to suspend the effects of a unilateral declaration of independence on Tuesday.

"It has reached a point which isn't good for anyone," added Iniesta. 'Those in charge have to resolve it."

Only 250 tickets have been made available to away fans at Atletico's new 68,000 capacity Wanda Metro-

However, many Atletico fans have taken to social media to encourage supporters not to politicise the match by waving Spanish flags by using the hashtag "our flag is red and white" on Twitter.

Barcelona defender Gerard Pique has been outspoken in his call for Catalonia's right to self-determina-tion, although he has never publicly backed independence for the region.

Pique was jeered when playing for Spain in Alicante last week, but he received support for his willingness to speak out from Atletico defender Filipe Luis.

"I am a fan of Pique even if at

I am a fan of Pique even if at times I don't agree with what he says," the Brazilian told El Mundo. "He puts himself out there, he doesn't hide behind his fame to not say what he thinks.

"It is admirable and I wish more footballers were like him."

Despite a series of distractions,

including the loss of Neymar to Par-is Saint-Germain and calls for Barca president Josep Maria Bartomeu to resign on top of the Catalonia crisis, Barca have started La Liga with a perfect record after seven games.

That spectacular form has been thanks to Lionel Messi's 14 goals in 11 appearances for Barca this season, and the five-time World Player of the Year also rescued Argentina's floundering World Cup qualifying campaign with a stunning hat-trick against Ecuador on Tuesday to ensure their place in Russia next year.

"Messi is so good he can win La



Liga himself with a mediocre team, which isn't the case," added Luis.

"Barca have remained at the top for so many years thanks to him."

Atletico have yet to beat Barca in 11 La Liga meetings since Diego Simeone took charge in 2011.

However, Barca are often vulnerable immediately after an international break with the likes of Messi

training in Barcelona on Friday.

"We are coming from the national team and they are an opponent that demands 200 percent from you," added Iniesta.

"If we are not at the level re quired, we don't stand a chance."

Iniesta is, though, expected to be fit after missing Spain's final World

Cup qualifiers with a hamstring

Real Madrid are seven points adrift of Barca, but can close th at the top earlier on Saturday when they travel to Getafe.

However, Real coach Zinedine Zidane will have to cope without the injured Gareth Bale, Keylor Navas,

Iraq look to seal last-16 berth against England

Ко**lката, Ост 13 (РТІ):** Iraq will look a maiden pre-quarterfinal berth when they lock horns with heavyweights En-gland in a Group F match of the FIFA

Under-17 World Cup here tomorrow.

Making their second U-17 World
Cup appearance, Iraq have been the
surprise package of the proverbial
'group of death' as they are well placed
to advance to the knockout stage following a spirited 1-1 draw against twotime champions Mexico, and a 3-0 rout of Latin American giants Chile.

England have already sealed a last-16 berth, while a draw will be enough for Iraq to earn a historic place in the knockout stage

However, Iraq would be aiming for an outright win which will make them group toppers and see them play their knockout match here.

For Iraq, Mohammed Dawood has been in the centre of their attack scoring three of the four goals. He is continuing from where he had left in their historic AFC U-16 Championship triumph around the same time in Goa last year. The Iraqi No 7 looked a complete

striker with his pace and control and his freekick from just outside the box that curled around the wall into the net in their win over Chile summed up the Baghdad youngster's brilliance.

It will be interesting to see how he goes past the English defence led by captain Joel Taibeaudiere along with Timothy Eyoma, Marc Guehi and Jonathan Panzo.

The English defence seemed to

crumble against a Diego Lainez's seven-minute brace late in the second half last Wednesday as they survived a scare to outlast Mexico 3-2 and ensure a pre-quarterfinal berth.

Iraq coach Oahtan Chitheer will look to exploit the defensive fragility of the En-glish team as the contest will ultimately boil down to the two teams' defence.

However, the coach does not want to add pressure on his ace forward

"There are other players in the team who are equally good and talented as well. Each player has his own skill. We play as a team and we have been able to achieve success through tough training conditions," Chitheer said on the eve of the crucial match.

With seven goals from two matches, the Young Lions could not have asked for a better start. Precocious Dortmund attacking midfielder Jadon Sancho has showed why he's much sought-after with three goals from two matches.

Manchester United's Alex Gomes, City's Phil Foden and Rhian Brewster of Liverpool -- all have looked in prime form with goals to their name and the English attack will not look any further.

Sancho is likely to leave for his club after the group stage as Manchester United starlet Alex Gomes who had started from the bench in both their matches may be given more responsi-

England coach Steve Cooper said they are not taking Iraq lightly even though they have already reached the

Changing formation helped us to defeat USA: Colombia coach

NAVI MUMBAI, OCT 13 (PTI): Colombia coach Orlando Restrepo said changing his side's for-mation helped them defeat a hapless United States of America 3-1 in their final Group A game of the FIFA U-17 World Cup here.
With the thumping

win, Colombia sealed the second spot on goal dif-ference and entered the Round of 16 from Group A. Ghana topped the group, with USA being pushed to the third position.

"I knew the goal dif-ference, so the main indication to the players was to keep on doing what they were and keeping the spaces tight. I knew the outcome of the goal count," Restrepo told reporters at the post match media briefing.

"During the half time, I changed the formation to 4-3-2-1 and that helped the team. I did that constantly during the second half, rotating and changing positions and that is why we came on the top," the Colombia coach explained.

The senior Colombia team has qualified for the



FIFA World 2018 to be held in Russia and the U-17 coach said that his boys did take inspiration from that.

"We woke up early and watched the game, and that was the great motivation for the kids and they had to under-stand that we were also in a World Cup representing the country and be victorious," he added.

According to the coach, he has been working with the players to put up a show, like they did last night.

"I have been working

on the players (for) the way they came out and played today (last night). That is what I was expecting in the first matches and finally (the boys) showed, due to the hard work and the dedication I have been putting in," an elated Restrepo said.

He also said he always asks his boys to "keep focus" irrespective of the match situation.

Meanwhile, USA coach John Hackworth blamed the passive play by his team in the first 10 minutes of the second half for the loss

"I don't know right now why we came in the second half and played passively in the first ten minutes and I think that really allowed Colombia to get into the game. It was exact opposite from the message given to them in the locker room," Hackworth rued.

"I will give tremen-dous amount of credit to Colombia because they came out in the second half and played very well and pressed hard. We did not handle that particu-larly well," he said.

Indian engg firm cleaning Ganga wins environmental award in Singapore

GURDIP SINGH

SINGAPORE, OCT 13 (PTI):

An Indian engineering consultancy firm has won a prestigious environmental award in Singapore for treating sewage and improving

the ecology of the Ganga river in Varanasi.

Pune-based NJS Engineers Private Limited, which is working on the Japan International Co-operation Agency-assisted Ganga Action Plan-II at Varanasi, received the "Be Inspired" BIM Advancement in Environmental Award yesterday.

The Ganga cleaning project, worth Rs 496.90 crore, is to improve water quality and river ecology as well as to stop pollution from the Ganga river and its tributary the Varuna river.

The date of its completion is July 31, 2018. "The scope of work is to intercept, divert and treat the increased domestic sewage generated," head of Information Technology Enabled Services at NJS Rohit Dembi said at the Bentley's Year in Infrastructure 2017 conference.

The existing sewerage facilities, oldest of which was installed in 1917, was designed to handle 102 million litres per day (MLD) sewage while present generation in Varanasi is

about 300 MLD.

Therefore, 67 per cent untreated sewage was being discharged into the Ganga river, either directly or via the Varuna river before the commission of this project, Dembi said.

NJS, the only finalist from India at the awards, is a joint venture of NJS Consultants of Japan, and India's ICRA Management Consulting Services as well as Tata Consulting Engineers.

The company was decided the winner out of over 400 nominations submitted by groups from more than 50 countries, said Bentley Systems Inc, the organisers of the awards and conference.

In Maharastra 4,548 doctors lose registration for not serving in rural areas

MUMBAI, OCT 13 (PTI): The Maharashtra government has cancelled the registration of over 4,500 doctors for failing to serve in rural areas for a year, which is mandatory, a Directorate of Medical Education and Research (DMER) official said.

The decision to cancel their registration was taken by DMER after it found that these doctors have refused to work in rural areas for a year - a mandatory provision made by the state government.

According to DMER, these doctors have even failed to pay the penalty incurred for not serving in rural areas.
In all, 4,548 doctors have

faced action. They graduated from government-run medical colleges in the state between 2005 and 2012 and have neither served in rural areas nor paid the fine, it said.

A DMER official said, "If the doctors do not serve the bond, they must pay a penalty, which is Rs 10 lakh

for an MBBS. Rs 50 lakh for for super-speciality doctors."

Head of DMER Dr Pravin ingare said all the doctors who have faced action, had been given sufficient time to honour their commitment to serve in rural areas or pay the penalty.

"We took this firm step as these doctors violated both the clauses," he said.

A senior official of the state edical education department, said every medical practitioner

needs to renew his or her registration with the Maharashtra Medical Council. Without the registration, these doctors will be called bogus and may invite legal action, he said.

"The objective of the bond is to give doctors exposure to complicated cases. It is a highly educative and learning experi-ence for newly-graduated doctors. Hence, we want them to go to rural areas and work for at least a year," the official said.

The government also pro-

doctors serving in tribal areas. The wages are also high, he said.

vides reasonable allowances for

Dr Sagar Mundada, the chairman of the youth wing of Indian Medical Association (IMA), said, "Nobody is complaining about remuneration, but the real issue is poor infrastructure at primary health centres, where these doctors serve as a part of their bond."

"Except for a handful of medicines, no other drugs are supplied. Other essential

quality and in poor quantity. The quarters provided to these doctors are poorly maintained and still they are expected to stay there for a year," he said.

materials provided are of low

"The government forgets its responsibility of maintaining infrastructure and keeping a smooth supply of medi-cines and other necessary materials. Minor surgery has to carried out at PHCs and not a single equipment is available at the centres.

HC chastises trial court judge in Aarushi murder case

ALLAHABAD, OCT 13 (PTI):

he Allahabad High Court The Allahabad High Court has chastised the trial court judge for telling a "different story" propelled by "vitriolic" reasoning convicting dentist cou-ple Nupur and Rajesh Talwar in the murders of their daughter Aarushi and domestic help

Hemraj in May 2008.

Additional Sessions Judge
Shyam Lal in Ghaziabad (UP) had sentenced the Talwars to life imprisonment on November 28, 2013, holding them guilty in the twin murder case.

Allowing the appeals of the Talwars against the CBI court order, Justices B K Narayana and A K Mishra of the Allahabad High Court yesterday acquitted the couple, saying that neither the circumstances nor the evidence was enough to hold them guilty.

In "absolute agreement" with Justice Narayana in giving the Talwars the benefit of doubt Justice Mishra said, "The learned

in his own fashion, drawn conclusion by embarking on erroneous analogy conjecturing to the brim on apparent facts tell ing a different story propelled

by vitriolic reasoning.
"Thus, basing the finding of conviction without caring to see that it being a case based on circumstantial evidence things can-not be presumed and stuffed in a manner like the present one by adhering to self-created postu-lates then to roam inside the circle with all fanciful whim," he said.

Writing his own 10-page judgement in the 273-page ver-dict, Justice Mishra said, "The learned trial Judge took evidence and the circumstances of the case for granted and tried to solve it like a mathematical puzzle when one solves a given question and then takes some thing for granted in order to solve that puzzle and question."

A copy of the verdict, pronounced yesterday in open

In strong remarks, he said that the trial court could not act like a maths teacher who was solving a mathematical question by analogy after taking certain figure for granted.

"In all criminal trials, anal-

ogies must be drawn and confined within the domain and realm of the evidence, facts and circumstances on record and any analogy which brings facts, circumstances and evidence so placed in certain domain out-side the periphery of that domain then that would be a case of certain aberration deviating from the main path," the high court judge said.

Justice Mishra held, "That way, the learned trial Judge has aberrat ed and by dint of fallacious analo gy and reasoning has surprisingly assumed fictional animation of the incident as to what actually took place inside and outside the Flat L 32 Jalvayu Vihar and in what manner he has tried to give live and co-

lourful description of the incident in question.

..and the whole genesis of the offence was grounded on fact that both the deceased Hemraj and Aarushi were seen by Dr. Rajesh Talwar in fla-grante and thereafter like a film Director, the trial Judge has tried to thrust coherence amongst facts inalienably scattered here and there but not giving any coherence to the idea as to what in fact happened."

Justice Mishra said the additional sessions judge "forgot as to what is issue in hand. He forgot to travel in and around theme of the charge framed by him against the appellants. It is admitted position to both the sides that no one in fact knew as

to what happened."

He said it might be a guess work as to how and in what manner things happened, but to base the entire reasoning solely on "guess work" and give concrete shape to such assumption and then to construe facts and

in line with the evidence on record appears to be a "futile attempt which attem acts like a paradox which attempt altogether

"Certainly such recalcitrant mindset in interpreting facts vis-a-vis circumstances of the case and evaluation of evidence ought to have been shunned Consideration of merit should be based only on evidence and circumstances apparent on record, crystallising the truth in substance and alluding to cer-tainty of decision, backed up by reasonable analogy and scru-tiny by the trial Judge as that alone would always be the best approach while deciding a criminal trial," he said.

Justice Mishra said it was apparent that the trial judge was "unmindful" of the basic tenets of law and its applicability to the given facts and circum-stances of the case and "failed" to properly appraise facts and evaluate evide



Baghdad launches Kirkuk operation as Kurd fighters mobilise

KIRKUK (IRAQ), OCT 13 (AFP): The Iraqi army launched an operation to retake Kurdish-held positions around the disputed oil city of Kirkuk today amid a bitter row with the Kurds over a vote for independence last month.

A senior Kurdish official said thousands of heavily armed fighters had been deployed to resist the offensive "at any cost" and called for inter-national intervention with the federal government in Baghdad to prevent the confrontation worsening.

The Iraqi army and the Kurdish peshmerga have been key allies of the US-led coalition in its fight against the Islamic State group and the threat of armed clashes between them poses a ma-jor challenge for Western governments.

Ethnically divided but historically Kurdish-ma-jority Kirkuk is one of several regions that peshmerga fighters took over from the Iraqi army in 2014 when the jihadists swept through much of northern and western Iraq.
But Baghdad is bit-

terly opposed to Kurdish ambitions to incorporate the oil-rich province in its autonomous region in the north and has voiced determination to take it back.

"Iraqi armed force are

advancing to retake their military positions that were taken over during the events of June 2014," the general told AFP by telephone, asking not to be identified.

He said that federal troops had already taken one base west of Kirkuk this morning after peshmerga fighters withdrew during the night without a fight. But a top aide to Irani Kurdish leader Mas sud Barzani vowed that peshmerga forces would defend their positions.

"Thousands of heavily armed peshmerga units are now completely in their positions around Kirkuk," Hemin Hawrami said. "Their order is to defend at any cost."

The orders came after the Kurdish authorities accused the Iraqi government of massing forces in readiness for an offen sive to seize Kurdish-held oil fields in the province. They accused the Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) -- paramilitary (PMF) -- paramilitary units dominated by Irantrained Shiite militia -- of massing fighters in two mainly Shiite Turkmen areas south of Kirkuk

Hawrami urged the in-ternational community to intervene and call on Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi to "order PMF to pull back".

Lanka's Tamils demand release of political prisoners



COLOMBO, OCT 13 (РТІ): Tamils in Sri Lanka's northern city of Jaffna today held nstrations demanding the release of political prisoners held under the prevention of terrorism law since the end to the armed conflict with the LTTE in May 2009.

The protesters gathered opposite to the Gov-ernor's Secretariat holding placards which read, 'Re move the draconian Prevention of Terrorism Act', 'Release all political prisoners without any condition'.

A strike was observed in several parts in the North to back the demand for the release of political

ers. Sampanthan, who is the leader of the Tamil National Alliance (TNA). in a letter to President Maithripala Sirisena also demanded the release of Tamil political prisoners

"These persons are held in custody under the Prevention of Terrorism (PTA) law irrespective of whether they have been convicted, have been charged, or have not yet

been charged," he wrot in the letter.

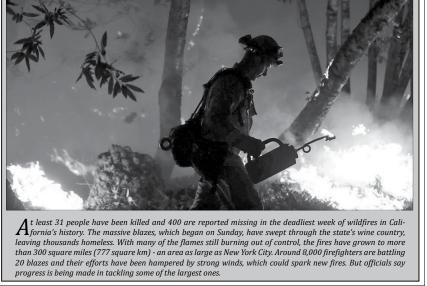
"The only evidence available against most of these persons are confes-sions extracted from them against their will under the Prevention of Terrorism Law which would be inadmissible against them in normal Court of Law Many of the cases have been postponed because the Prosecution is not ready to proceed with the

Cases," the letter said. Sri Lanka has come under increasing international pressure to repeal the PTA enacted in 1979 after Tamils started a bloody campaign for a separate homeland. The three- decades-old campaign ended with the military victory over the LTTE in 2009.

The PTA has been crit-icised by Tamil and rights activists as it allows indefinite detention of people

without charges.

During the armed campaign by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), many activists of the rebel outfit were held under the PTA.



11 Indian crew missing after vessel sinks off Philippines: Japan

Tokyo, Oct 13 (AFP): Eleven Indian crew mem bers were missing today their cargo ship sank in the Pacific off the Philippines as a typhoon churned in the region, Japan's coastguard said.

The 33.205-tonne Emerald Star with 26 Indian nationals on board sent a

Pak anti-graft court defers

Sharif's indictment till Oct 19

ISLAMABAD, Oct 13 (PTI): An anti-corruption court today adjourned the indictment of Pakistan's ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif, his daughter and son-in-

law in the Panama Papers case till October 19 after law-

yers created chaos in the court.

The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) had reg-

istered three cases of corruption and money laundering

against 67-year-old Sharif, his family members and Finance

Minister Ishaq Dar in the Islamabad Accountability Court.
The cases were registered weeks after the Supreme

Court disqualified Sharif as prime minister on July 28 in

As the court was about to begin the proceedings

vyers started protesting in the courtroom of Judge

Muhammad Bashir against security arrangements which

distress signal early today as the Hong Kong- regis-tered vessel was sailing some 280 kilometres east of the northern tip of the Philippines, said a state-ment from the Japanese coastguard, which received the distress signal.

cued 15 crew members but 11 others were still ing, a Japanese coast guard spokesman said, adding that the cargo ship

Three other vessels sailing near the area res-

Anthyesthi Kriya

The Anthyesthi Kriya of Late Smt Hari Maya Pradhan, permanent resident of Rhenock Bazar, presently residing at Arithang, Gangtok, who left for her heaven-ly abode on October 7, 2017 falls on **October 18, 2017**. All family, friends and well-wishers

"We have dispatched

two patrol boats and three planes to the site but a ty-

difficult," the spokesman

are requested to kindly join us for offering of departed soul at **Chokasum Hall, Nam Nang, Gangtok**. We also take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to-wards those who has extended their support during the time of the bereavement.

Mingma Bhutia, Nima Bhutia, Dawa Bhutia (Sons), Phuplha-mu Shrestha, Neelam Bhutia, Neelu, Bhutia, Ningmu Bhutia (Daughters), Krishna Chettri, Yankee Bhutia (Daughters-inlaw), Bhusan Pradhan, Suraj Kr. Chettri (Sons-in-law), Chung Chung Bhutia (Granddaughter), Daniel Bhutia (Grandson) Cont: 9933706483, 7063535102, 7098861554 7602982847, 9932764642

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had "restricted their movement in the court premises". The lawyers threatened to hold up the hearing until action was taken against the police officers that had allegedly manhandled them outside the court.

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