

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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CS speaks to WB counterpart about attack on Sikkim vehicles

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Since Tuesday there have been reports of Sikkim vehicles getting attacked and vandalized in Siliguri. The attacks are being seen as backlash against Sikkim's support for the Gorkhaland demand.

Early this morning, an SNT bus was attacked at New Jalpaiguri after it had dropped students from the state travelling to various cities across the country for college admissions. Two SNT buses carrying students had gone to NJP railway station and one of them was vandalized while re-

turning from the station, it is informed.

A taxi and some trucks were also reportedly vandalised in Siliguri on Wednesday.

Following reports of such incidents, the Chief Secretary of Sikkim, Alok Kumar Srivastava, has called on the West Bengal Chief Secretary to provide safe passage to Sikkim vehicles.

Mr Srivastava told his West Bengal counterpart that such incidents have been taking place since 23 Jun and need to be looked into seriously.

Speaking to Summit-Times, State Transport Secretary, SBS Bhadau-

ria, informed that both the CS, Mr Srivastava, and the DGP Avinash Mohanany have spoken to their counterparts in West Bengal and asked for provision of extra security to Sikkim vehicles in Siliguri.

"I have also spoken to the Siliguri Police Commissioner and authorities at NJP regarding the provision of safe passage to Sikkim vehicles," said Mr Bhadauria.

The Chief Secretary along with Transport Secretary and ADGP, Law and Order are scheduled to visit Kolkata next week to discuss Sikkim's concerns with the West

Bengal administration.

Meanwhile, an SNT bus conductor, when contacted, told Summit-Times that while the situation till Salugara and even upto the SNT depot in Siliguri was under control, vehicles plying between Salugara and Siliguri, and NJP and Bagdogra are at risk.

He also informed that a Siliguri-based organisation is organising a rally in front of SNT complex on Friday and the situation has become very tense in the area.

Meanwhile, following reports of a Sikkim truck getting attacked near NJP on Wednesday, All

Sikkim Truck Drivers Association has decided to go off the roads until the West Bengal Government assures that no Sikkim vehicles will be targeted in the Siliguri and New Jalpaiguri area.

In a press release, the Association's president, Mingma Sherpa informs that trucks ferrying goods to Sikkim from Siliguri are being vandalized and in the light of such incidents the association has announced to go on an indefinite strike starting today.

Mr Sherpa has also appealed to the WB authorities to make proper arrangements for safe

passage of Sikkim trucks that are in Siliguri at the moment. He has also demanded the arrest of those behind the NJP attack.

The association has also decided to submit a memorandum to the Chief Secretary, Home Secretary, Transport Secretary, DGP, District Collector and SP, East requesting the authorities to take appropriate steps and speak to their counterparts.

It has further requested the Centre to intervene in order to keep the highway open since Sikkim is bound by international borders and NH10 is its lifeline.

Army Chief Gen Rawat takes stock of op preparedness in Sikkim

GANGTOK/NEW DELHI,

JUN 29 (PTI):

Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat today visited formation headquarters of the force in North Sikkim and was briefed by top commanders about the entire security situation in the wake of the face-off between Indian troops and Chinese military over a disputed area.

Rawat, on a two-day visit, was apprised about the tense situation on the border at the Army's 17 Mountain Division even as China, hardening its position on the stand-off, warned that the Indian Army should learn "historical lessons", in an oblique reference to the 1962 war.

The Army Chief also visited areas under the 17 Mountain Division, tasked to guard the Sino-India border in the Sikkim sector, and took stock of various operational aspects.

"Gen Rawat was briefed about the operational matters," an offi-

cial source said.

The genesis of the flashpoint was China's attempts to build a road at strategically key area of Donglong, the linking of which to the Sikkim-Bhutan-Tibet tri-junction could give China a major military advantage over India.

The Indian Army had blocked construction of the road by China in Donglong, a disputed territory between China and Bhutan.

Of the 3,488-km-long India-China border from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh, a 220-km section falls in Sikkim.

Official sources said China had removed an old bunker of the Indian Army in Donglong by using a bulldozer after the Indian side refused to accede to its request, which triggered the face-off.

Referring to Gen. Rawat's comments earlier this month that India is ready for a "two-and-a-half front war", the

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Starry midnight in Central Hall to welcome GST

NEW DELHI, JUN 29

(PTI): It will be a starry midnight in the historic Central Hall on June 30 that will have from megastar Amitabh Bachchan to industry doyen Ratan Tata in attendance at the launch of India's most sweeping tax reform, GST.

Unlike the last midnight event held in 1997 on the occasion of golden jubilee of the Independence at a special session of Parliament, it will be a gala event at its circular-shaped hall that has been loaned for the launch of the historic reform.

Reminiscent of India's tryst with destiny on the midnight of August 15, 1947, the event will be graced by President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Former prime ministers Manmohan Singh and H D Deva Gowda too have been invited to launch a new taxation system that is set to dramatically reshape the over USD 2 trillion economy.

Congress party has however decided to boycott the event apparently to protest against hardship being caused to small and medium enterprises and traders. Left and TMC too are boycotting the event. The launch event will start at 11 pm on June 30 and extend into the midnight, coinciding with the rollout of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, official sources said.

Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan and Vice President Hamid Ansari will also be on the dias along with the President, Modi and former prime ministers.

Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar will be among the attend-

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Mock disaster preparedness drill at Chungthang

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 29 JUN:

A mock drill on disaster preparedness was conducted at Chungthang today, organised by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in collaboration with Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA).

The drill, carried out by the Chungthang Sub-Divisional Administration, was participated in by all the concerned departments which were divided into different categories like local Panchayats and public, school students and teachers, Sikkim Police led by Assistant Superintendent of Police-North and Fire personnel, Forest personnel, Power and Roads & Bridges personnel, National Disaster Response Force, Indo Tibetan Border Police Force, Teesta-Urja Ltd, Chungthang Primary Health Centre and others.

District Collector-North, Karma R Bonpo, and Sub Divisional Magistrate-Dzongu attended the event as observers while SDM-Chungthang, ST Topgay, coordinated the programme.

The occasion saw enthusiastic and wholehearted participation of all the said agencies.

The selected sites to carry out the mock exercise were the Teesta Urja dam site, Tasa Tengay Senior Secondary School, Panchayat Bhawan and food godown with staging area set up at Tasa Tengay School Ground.

Roles and responsibilities designated to all the concerned departments under the IAP Plan were discussed at length in the house after the mock drills which were highlighted by SDM Chungthang and DC North.



No silver lining yet for hill movement

SUDIPTA CHANDA

SILIGURI, 29 JUN:

The West Bengal government on Thursday accepted Gorkha Janmukti Morcha chief Bimal Gurung's resignation from the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA). Gurung was the GTA chief executive.

Since the rest of the GTA councilors had resigned from the body earlier, the GTA now practically becomes unrepresented. The state government can now run the GTA through an administrator or organize polls after the GTA's tenure runs out in July end.

Given the current situation in the hills, election to the GTA right now would be an unwise exercise. Moreover, the state government has six months time in hand to run the body with the help of an administrator and extend the arrangement for a further six months if necessary before elections become mandatory.

Time is, however, a luxury the GJM chief does not have. Having galvanized the hills in a blow hot, blow cold stir for a fortnight, Gurung now has the unenviable task of delivering, if not a separate state, an upshot to the movement at least, some hope

for the people to cling to.

Still solidly behind the movement, the people, who are the lifeblood to the cause, have, however started feeling the pinch of self-denial. Goods and essentials are running out, there is resistance in the plains against attempts to replenish essentials in the hills and worse still, the hills continue to reel under the impact of the GJM sponsored bandh.

Sustaining a movement on an empty stomach is probably not what the agitators had bargained for, but the situation is slipping in that direction. The question is how long can

a society deny itself of basic needs like ration, medical facilities and the likes?

Very importantly, the month is drawing towards an end, which means it is time for salaries and wages. With no work possible in the hills since June 8 and unable to sell second flush teas, the hill tea estates, which command a mammoth workforce, may find it difficult to clear workers' wages and statutory dues.

Moreover, a stern state government is indicating of paying salaries to its employees on the basis of their presence percentage in office.

The West Bengal government has so far stood its ground on the hill situation and the Centre has not expressed any interest in holding tripartite talks to provide the GJM a breather. The BJP, which probably was Gurung's biggest bet to get out of the situation he and his party are in, has not displayed any interest to intervene.

With so much on his plate already, Gurung urgently needs to deliver some silver lining to the people. Failure to do so will thrust him and his party to a cul-de-sac coming out from which may be tight

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July to begin with heavy rainfall says Met Department

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

The Met department has predicted the possibility of heavy rainfall in the first week of July. Monsoons in the State started on 12 June with North Sikkim recording the maximum amount of rain till date, as per the department. Sikkim also received 30% excess rainfall in the pre-monsoon season this year.

Speeding vehicle hits woman at Singtam

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

One 60-year-old lady hailing from Pital Dara in Singtam was hit by one Alto vehicle speeding towards Singtam on 28 Jun. The victim was immediately rushed to Singtam District Hospital. The driver has been identified as one 23-year-old male of Sirwani, East Sikkim, and has been released on a surety bail bond.

Two injured in road mishap

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

One vehicle fell down approximately 300 ft below Jhusing road in Mangshila, North Sikkim, on 28 Jun. The two occupants of the vehicle, including the driver and the other occupant both hailing from Jhusing, sustained injuries and have been admitted in STNM Hospital for medical treatment and evaluation.

Create environment for talks on Gorkhaland suggests BJP Sikkim

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Bharatiya Janta Party Sikkim has stressed on the need for creating an environment for talks between the Central government, West Bengal government and leaders of Darjeeling regarding the demand for Gorkhaland.

The party has demanded that the Centre and West Bengal government find a solution within the ambit of the constitution at the earliest.

People of hills have sacrificed everything to observe the bandh for the past 20 days and the leaders should value that, the release states.

The BJP state-unit has further said that there have been no attempts from the West Bengal government or BJP MP of Darjeeling to resolve the matter due to which the situation in the hills is getting worse.

SDF condemns attack on four SK trucks in NJP

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Sikkim Democratic Front party has strongly criticized and condemned the attack on four trucks of Sikkim by anti-social elements

in New Jalpaiguri area on 28 Jun. The SDF party has demanded security agencies in NJP area to provide complete security to trucks and drivers of Sikkim, informs an SDF press release issued by

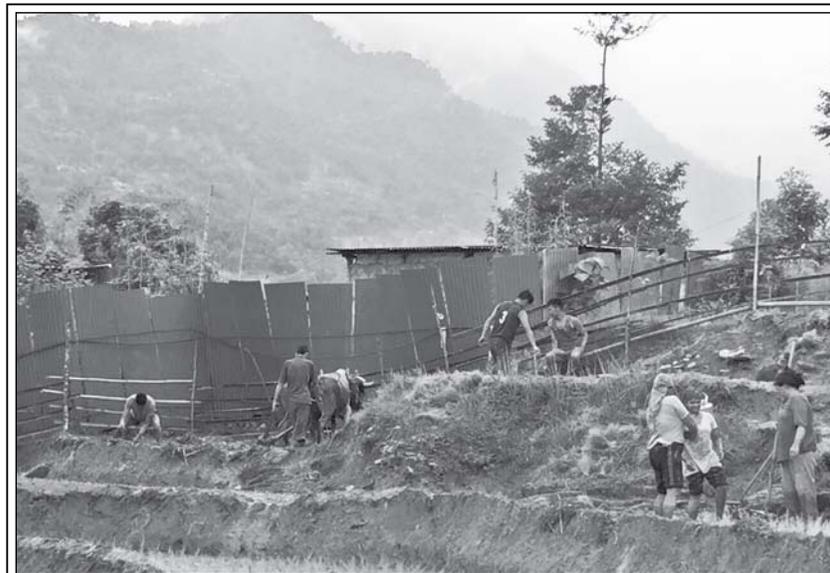
its spokesperson, Bhim Dahal.

The party has said that such incidents should not affect transportation of essential commodities meant for the people of Sikkim.

The release states that the SDF party has received reports of the attack where four trucks of Sikkim were vandalized on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the drivers associations have

also issued a press statement where they have said that trucks will not ply to Siliguri until action is taken against the culprits and full protection of Sikkim trucks is assured by the authorities.



ASAAR 15 CELEBRATIONS IN ASSAM LINGZEY

GANGTOK, 29 JUN: Asaar 15 was celebrated on Thursday at Attey, Assam Lingzey, East Sikkim. Traditionally, entire villages would come together on this day to plant paddy. The day holds special meaning for farmers who also celebrate the day by eating 'dahi chewra'. [Rebryna Rana]

Statistics ministry to monitor India's progress in meeting SDG goals

KOLKATA, JUNE 29 (PTI):

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation was in the process of finalizing a draft programme to monitor India's progress in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the UN.

"We are in the process

of finalizing the Draft India Programme to monitor India's progress in meeting the SDG goals of the UN", Union Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation D V Sadananda Gowda said at the ISI here today.

Saying that the minis-

try had drawn up various schemes for policy planning using statistics as a tool, Gowda said an annual labour survey for the urban and rural sectors had started since April this year.

Annual survey of industries and agricultural households would also

be conducted, he said.

Chief statistician and secretary of the ministry TCA Anant said that the government is trying to adopt the "administrative statistics" which would capture all government data and then convert it into electronic files.

Starry midnight in Central Hall to welcome GST

Contd from pg01

ees, which also includes BJP president Amit Shah and former finance minister Yashwant Sinha.

As if giving representation to regional political parties, former Punjab chief minister Prakash Singh Badal and National Conference leader Abdul Rahim Rather too have been invited.

Former GST Council chairman Sushil Kumar Modi, former finance ministers of West Bengal and Kerala Asim Dasgupta and K K Mani too have been invited.

RBI Governor Urjit Patel and his predecessors Bimal Jalan, Y V Reddy and D Subbarao too figure in the list.

However, former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan is not on the list.

CAG Shashi Kant Sharma and his predecessors Vinod Rai and TN Chaturvedi, CVC K V Chowdary, three Election Commissioners including CEC Nasim Zaidi, Niti Aayog vice chairman Arvind Panagariya, Metro man E Sreedharan, editor S Gurumurthy, agriculture scientist M S Swaminathan, UPSC Chairman David R Syiemlieh, CBEC chairman

Vanaja N Sarna and CBDT chairman Sushil Chandra have also been invited.

Senior lawyers Soli Sorabjee, KK Venugopal and Harish Salve as also heads of industry chambers - Pankaj Patel of Ficci, Shobana Kamineni of CII and Sunil Kanoria of Assocham too are on the list of invitees.

Sources said Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ananth Kumar has written a letter to all Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha MPs requesting for their presence.

Members of GST Council too have been invited.

A gong will be sounded at midnight to signify that GST has arrived.

The GST Bill was originally piloted by Mukherjee when he was the Finance Minister in the previous UPA regime.

The GST Council, that brings together the central and state governments, has met 17 times to thrash out how the tax will work.

Originally, the launch of GST which had been in the works for over a decade, was to be done from Vigyan Bhawan -- the largest convention centre in the national capital that has hosted majority of the meetings of the GST Council.

But the historic Central Hall was thought to be a better choice considering the importance of the new indirect tax code that unifies more than a dozen separate levies to create a single market with a population greater than the US, Europe, Brazil, Mexico and Japan put together.

GST will simplify a web of taxes, regulations and border levies by subsuming an array of central and state levies including excise duty, service tax and VAT.

It is expected to gradually re-shape India's business landscape, making the world's fastest-growing major economy an easier place to do business.

GST has been dubbed as the most significant economic reform since BJP government came to power in 2014 and is expected to add as much as 2 percentage points to the GDP growth rate besides raising government revenues by widening the tax net.

A four-rate structure that exempts or imposes a low rate of tax of 5 per cent on essential items and top rate of 28 per cent on cars and consumer durables has been finalised. The other slabs of tax are 12 and 18 per cent.

Golay to remain party president says SKM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

An emergency meeting of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party's central working committee was held at the residence of PR Subba at Singtam in East Sikkim today. The meeting, which was chaired by its vice-president, Bishnu Khatiwada, was attended by advisor, TM Rai, spokesperson and MLA, Kunga Nima Lepcha, vice-president and MLA, Sonam Lama.

An SKM press release issued by its publicity secretary, Bikash Basnet, informs that the meeting has passed important decisions and proposals. The meeting unanimously decided that PS

Tamang [Golay] will continue to lead the party as president.

The meeting decided to support the NDA candidate, Ram Nath Kovind, in the Presidential election and further decided that SKM MLAs will cast their votes in favour of Mr Kovind. The meeting also unanimously appointed retired HRDD Director, MP Subba, and retired Agriculture Department Joint Director, Navin Karki, as working presidents of the party, posts that had been lying vacant for some time.

The meeting also challenged the SDF government to allow CBI to investigate corruption in the State.

Communication satellite GSAT-17 launched from French Guiana

BENGALURU, JUN 29

(PTI): India's latest communication satellite GSAT-17 was today successfully launched by a heavy duty rocket of Arianespace from the spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana.

Configured around I-3K extended bus, GSAT-17 with a lift-off mass of about 3,477 kg carries payloads in Normal C-band, Extended C-band and S-band to provide various communication services.

It also carries equipment for meteorological data relay and satellite based search and rescue services being provided by earlier INSAT satellites.

The European launcher Arianespace Flight VA238 blasted off from Ariane Launch Complex No 3 (ELA 3) at Kourou, a French territory located in northeastern coast of South America at 2:45 am IST, couple of minutes delayed than the scheduled time of 2:29 am.

GSAT-17 was injected shortly after orbiting co-passenger Hellas Sat 3-Inmarsat S EAN in a flawless flight lasting **turn to pg03**



Illegal shop at Rangpo shut down

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

A team of Councillors from Rangpo Nagar Panchayat, headed by president, Maya Cintury, along with vice president, Lal Kumar Rai, Councillors, Sabitri Pradhan & Anjina Lhamu, inspected the Manipal Complex in Rangpo today.

During the course of inspection, it was found that one sweet shop has been illegally running its business at the complex for the past two months without paying any taxes to the State or garbage fees to the RNP. Rangpo Police has shut down the shop till further notice, a press release informs.

All-party Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee formed

Contd from pg01

Today's meeting was attended by 13 political and social organizations and lasted for around five and half hours at a local hotel here. While the leaders were in discussion inside, people gathered outside raising pro-Gorkhaland slogans.

"The discussion was on the one-point agenda of Gorkhaland," said Neeraj Zimba of the GNLF.

The GMCC will be representing the cause in Delhi, and should the response from the Centre

not be satisfactory, heads of all parties will sit on an indefinite hunger strike, it was informed.

The political parties also registered their condemnation of and protest against the internet ban in the region since 18 June, and which has reportedly now been extended up to 04 July.

"We still condemn the police atrocities and demand that the paramilitary forces are withdrawn," said Munish Tamang, working president of Bharatiya Gorkha Parishangh.

Army Chief Gen Rawat takes stock of op preparedness...

Contd from pg01

Chinese military today rejected the remarks as "extremely irresponsible" asking him to "stop clamouring for war".

The Army Chief had said that India is prepared for security threats posed by China, Pakistan as well as by internal threats.

Amid the tense situation, China today asked India to withdraw its troops from the Donglong area in Sikkim sector as a precondition for a "meaningful dialogue" to settle the boundary issue, warning that the Indian Army should learn "historical lessons".

In an unprecedented action, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu

Kang, in Beijing, displayed a photograph of Indian "incursion" into Donglong area and said the dispute which is becoming a confrontation of sorts between the troops can only be settled by the withdrawal of Indian soldiers from the area.

The People's Liberation Army spokesman also accused Indian troops of entering the Chinese side in Donglong area in Sikkim sector.

The Indian Army is yet to comment on the issue.

Bhutan yesterday said it had issued a demarche to China over the construction of the road and asked Beijing to restore status quo by stopping the work immediately.

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to book advertisements in SummitTimes, call 03592-208698 9734152541

Gangtok on Friday, 30 June

Temp: 25°C / 19°C
Forecast: Dull and dreary with chances of a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 04:44 AM
Sunset: 06:34 PM



Sikkim boy wins Magnetic Personality title in Mega Mister NE

ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 29 JUN: Chumal Lepcha [19], from Bikmat in South Sikkim has won the title of 'Magnetic Personality' in the recently held grand finale of Fair and Lovely Mega Mister North East 2017 held in Guwahati. Chumal is pursuing his studies from Open School. He is presently undergoing fitness training under Kewal Limboo of Iron Body Pump Gym in Namchi. He has expressed his happiness over winning the title and thanked his family, well wishers and his trainer.

Henuka Rai calls on Governor

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Henuka Rai, who recently cleared the UPSC Examination securing 931st All India rank, called on Governor, Shrinivas Patil, today at Raj Bhavan. She was accompanied by her family on the occasion.

A press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs that the Governor expressed delight and congratulated her on her achievement. Enquiring about her subject of studies, he urged her to continue preparing for successive UPSC Exams until she secures the service of her choice.

The Governor also



said that hailing from a very humble background, her achievement will certainly inspire and motivate the youth of the State to dream big and emulate her success in the elite All India Services in the days to come.

Singtam builds up towards hosting a grand Bhanu Jayanti

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 29 JUN:

The second phase of the coordination meeting for the upcoming 203rd Bhanu Jayanti coming up on 13 July was conducted here at the community hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat today.

It may be recalled that during the first meeting held on 27 Jun, the difficulties in inviting artists from Darjeeling and Kalimpong to perform at the event like the organizing committee usually does was highlighted owing to the current situation of unrest there.

"The present scenario in the neighboring state might not allow the artists to be a part of the celebration this year. The committee is still looking for an alternative," informed general secretary, Mohan Pradhan, while speaking to SummitTimes.

At present, workers have been deployed on repainting and cleanliness tasks around the Bhanu Park.

Bhutia, Nepali, Gurung, Bihari, Singhi and other cultural dances will be a part of the event for which the auditions and selection process will be conducted on 10 July at the community hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat followed



by the selection of Ramayana recitation and poetry on 11 July, it is informed.

"The participants will be focusing on Shoba Yatra wherein the winner will be presented with a trophy, certificate and a cash price," informed the committee members.

The event will also feature a fashion show with representatives from various communities showcasing their traditional attires and culture.

During the meeting, the work-

ing committee and the organizer addressed and discussed issues related to hospitality and other responsibilities delegated to all the individuals, social organizations, and NGOs listed in the schedule for 13 July.

The working committee includes President, Vice President, General Secretary, Joint Secretary, Advisor and Treasurer who have been appointed to keep an account of the process and progress report which is scheduled to be ready by 02 July.



Paryavaran Mahotsav celebrated by various departments

GANGTOK, 29 JUN [IPR]:

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Livestock, Fisheries & Veterinary Services [AHLF&VS] observed the State Government's flagship programme on Paryavaran Mahotsav Day today at Sokeythang in Gangtok.

Minister of AHLF&VS, Somnath Poudyal, attended the occasion and planted saplings. The AHLF&VS department planted fodder plants in their premises with around 150 saplings being planted by the department officials.

Secretary-AHLF&VS, LB Chettri, Principal Director, Dr HK Chettri, Director, Dr NK Rai, and other officials of the Department also participated in the programme.

A similar programme was also carried out by the Information Technology

Department and the Mines, Minerals & Geology Department. Minister for Forest, Environment & Wildlife, TW Lepcha, attended the occasion and planted saplings at Bulbulay.

The programme also had the presence of Secretary-Mines & Geology Department, Ambika Pradhan, Director-Mines and Geology Department, AK Sharma, Joint Director-IT Department, T Samdup, and other officials of both the departments.

It may be mentioned here, since 2013, this programme is being celebrated from 15-30 Jun and it has acted as a holistic platform that duly integrates the State Green Mission and the Ten Minutes to Earth programme, which have now become the core of the Paryavaran Mahotsav.

Communication satellite GSAT-17 launched from French Guiana

Contd from pg02

"GSAT-17 successfully launched by Ariane-5 VA-238 from Kourou, French Guiana," the city headquartered ISRO announced after the mission.

ISRO's Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan in Karnataka took over the command and control of GSAT-17 immediately after its separation from the launch vehicle, and the preliminary

health checks of the satellite revealed its normal functioning.

GSAT-17 that will strengthen ISRO's current fleet of 17 telecommunications satellites was launched into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

This was the third satellite launch mission by ISRO this month, the other two being first developmental flight of GSLV MkIII and PSLV

C-38 missions -both from Sriharikota spaceport.

GSLV MkIII successfully launched GSAT-19 satellite on June 5 while PSLV-C38 orbited Cartosat-2 Series satellite along with 30 co-passenger satellites on June 23 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

GSAT-17 is also ISRO's third communication satellite to successfully reach orbit in the past two months.

Sixth batch of trainees pass out from NSD Sikkim



NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 29 JUN: The convocation of the sixth batch of trainees of Sikkim Theater Training Centre, under National School of Drama, Gangtok was held in the capital today.

Twenty students have successfully completed their year-long acting training certificate course in the National School of Drama, out of which 16 students were present to receive their certificates.

Secretary-Rural Management & Development Department, DR Nepal, while addressing the gathering praised the director of the institute, Bipin Kumar, for his tireless efforts in the state in the field of theatre and

congratulated him for his recent Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.

He also added that due to the institute, the state has been receiving appreciation in the field of theatre.

Secretary-Cultural Affairs & Heritage Department, Anil Kumar Generiwalla, in his address also praised the director of the institute and said that he was impressed with its activities. He also appreciated the recent play of the institute, Sahasi Amala, and said that the productions of Sikkim NSD deserve to be projected nationally.

He further urged the students to focus on social issues highlighting them through the medium of theatre.

Director of the institute, Bipin Kumar, thanked everyone for their wishes on his recent Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and gave the credit for his win to the State of Sikkim.

"If not for Sikkim, I would not be receiving this award," he said.

Recalling his past struggles, he said that he sacrificed his career in Delhi for the State and to give theatre a space is one of his chief objectives.

"We have talented artists in Sikkim. They need to be polished and seen," he said.

He also asked for more help and cooperation from the Culture department and also reiterated the demand for space to be given to Sikkim NSD.

Speaking to reporters, the Culture Secretary, Mr Generiwalla, held that the department will cooperate fully with NSD. He also added that land or space will be provided to the NSD in due time and the matter is being looked into.

One of the students, Ashwin Kanan, while representing the students in a speech hailed the institute and its teachers as the "best". He also added that meeting students from diverse cultures in the institution has helped them experience not just studies but life to "its fullest".

He also thanked the capital, Gangtok, for giving students a space where they "learned and grew as human beings".



ARITHANG CHURCH MARKS EID WITH PLANTATION PROGRAMME

GANGTOK, 29 JUN: Christian Revival Church, Arithang, under the guidance of Bishop GB Rai, conducted a sapling plantation programme on the occasion of Eid at the Muslim crematorium premises in Arithang, Gangtok, on 26 Jun.

GRAND OFFER

RAMOLA CELLULAR
LALL MARKET ROAD GANGTOK

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IPHONE 5S 16GB	25000	19000	(free cover & temper glass)
IPHONE SE 16GB	39000	28000	(free cover & temper glass)
IPHONE 6S 32GB	62000	41000	(free headset move with the beats . Rs.3499)
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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Condemning Criminal Acts Should Not be Difficult

So why is it that the arson, vandalism and targeted attacks are not being universally and unanimously condemned

One of the major failures of the movement for statehood in the neighbouring hills was its failure to get Siliguri on board. This need not have been a hills versus plains or Gorkha/ Nepali versus Bengali confrontation. Unfortunately, that is increasingly how the arguments for and against the statehood demand have been framed, especially of late, and everyone is the poorer for it. And now, the entire issue has deteriorated into a confrontation which is taking increasingly communal overtones.

Every leader responsible for any faction needs to be made to step up and ensure that invocations of ethnic superiority and belonging are toned down, because it is in the madness of such chauvinism that the criminally inclined run free. The looting of a Sikkim truck at New Jalpaiguri, the stoning of SNT buses in NJP and Siliguri and the nightly torching of government offices in Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts are all acts of criminal elements. These are all acts of arson, not expressions of an aandalan not only because they are wrong, but also because each one of these acts has been disowned, with not a single group, not even fringe groups, taking credit for them. This hesitation to take credit is the only silver lining in the seemingly anarchic situation that the West Bengal Government has allowed to prevail in the region, because it is in this space that on-record condemnations and overt confidence-building measures can be initiated. The police, the social organizations and associations of drivers and transporters from Sikkim and Siliguri need to be urged to meet and issue joint statements condemning the incidents of violence and resolving to ensure safety for each other. The people currently resorting to violence are those who are always on the lookout for criminal escapades, so shutting them down now, and hard, will serve everyone's interest in the long run because after the current excuse has run out, they will turn their attention on those around them as they have always done, this time, perhaps even more emboldened. Unfortunately, such unanimous condemnation has not been forthcoming for any quarter. And that is another worry of reducing the aspirations of a people down to suspicions against the other and embracing exaggerated ideas of community-specific grandiosity. When this is how issues are framed, even honest criticism gets self-censored away in fears that it might compromise the "larger good" of the community. What also happens is that in the absence of a release for the people in the face of such obvious hooliganism and in the continuing leave of propriety among the leaders, doubts and resentment ferments, and when the moment arrives, it explodes on whoever is the unfortunate party placing the proverbial final straw on the camel's back. That ugliness can be avoided if the prevailing ill-will is addressed by representative groups from across the region and condemned from a united platform. This will also pressurize those instigating different groups to adopt more civilized tactics to counter ideologies, claims, demands and protests.

Concluding with the loss of Siliguri for the Hills, if the proponents of statehood had approached the plains with reasoned arguments in support of statehood and invited Siliguri to come on board as the biggest commercial hub of the proposed new state, dialed down the community stereotyping which both sides are guilty of and made convincing commitments to make the new state genuinely about the people already residing in the hills and the plains, there is really no reason why Siliguri would have protested the demand. It might have still taken its time to come on board and support the movement or join it, but they would not have resented it the way they currently do.

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15th-century Chinese sailors have a lesson for Trump about climate policy

DAVE FRAME
theconversation.com

In the early 15th century the Ming Dynasty in China undertook a series of expensive oceangoing expeditions called the Treasure Voyages. Despite the voyages' success, elements of the elite opposed them. "These voyages are bad, very bad," we can imagine them tweeting. "They are a bad deal for China." Eventually these inward-looking, isolationist leaders gained enough power to prevent future voyages.

But this was an own goal. The parochial elites who killed off the Treasure Voyages could stop Chinese maritime innovation, but they could do nothing to prevent it elsewhere. Decades later, European sailors mastered the art of sailing vast distances across the ocean, and created fortunes and empires on the back of that technology (for better or worse). It is hard to see how China's strategic interests were served by abandoning a field in which they led.

There are some striking parallels in the Trump administration's decision to renege on the Paris climate agreement. It has been cast as a move to protect America, but in the long run it won't derail the world's transition to a low-carbon economy, and instead the US will find itself lagging, not leading.

Trump's repudiation of the Paris deal is regrettable for at least three reasons. First, because the US is a technological leader whose entrepreneurs are extremely well placed to lead the global low-carbon transition; second, because America's abdication of climate leadership weakens the global order and sends a wink and a nod to other fossil-fuelled recalcitrants like Saudi Arabia and Russia; and finally because having the world's second-highest emitter outside the agreement is a clear negative.

That said, US flip-flopping on climate is nothing new. The nation played a strong role in shaping the Kyoto Protocol, only to fail to ratify it. And while that did not help matters, it did not derail international efforts to combat climate change. In fact, the momentum behind climate-friendly initiatives has grown several-fold since the early 2000s.

Viewed in the long run, the latest US defection changes little. Any con-



ceivable future Democrat administration will rejoin the Paris Agreement. But more importantly, the transition to a low-carbon future is not dependent on the actions of a single player.

The criteria for successful climate change policy are hard to achieve but easy to describe: success will come when non-emitting technologies economically outcompete fossil fuels, pretty much everywhere in the world, in the main half-dozen or so sectors that matter.

BEATING THE 'FREE-RIDER' ISSUE
A stable climate is what we call a "public good", similar to fresh air or clean water. The US political scientist Scott Barrett has pointed out that climate change is an "aggregate efforts public good", in the sense that everybody has

to chip in to solve the problem of safeguarding the climate for everyone.

"Aggregate efforts" public goods are especially hard to preserve, because there is a strong incentive to free-ride on the efforts of others, as the US now seeks to do.

But technology can transform this situation, turning an aggregate efforts public good into a "best-shot public good". This is a situation in which one player playing well can determine the whole outcome, and as such is a much easier problem to solve.

We have seen technology play this role before, in other global environmental issues. The ozone hole looked like a hard problem, but became an easy one once an inexpensive, effective technological fix became available in the form of other gases to use in place of ozone-harming CFCs (ironically, however, the solution exacerbated global warming).

Something similar happened with acid rain, caused by a handful of industrial pollutants. Dealing with carbon dioxide emissions is harder in view of the number of sources, but breakthroughs in five or six sectors could make a massive dent in emissions.

TECHNOLOGY TRUMPS POLITICS
This suggests that solving climate change relies far more heavily on technological innovation and successful entrepreneurship than it does on any single government. Policies in specific jurisdictions can speed climate policy up or slow it down, but as long as no single government can

kill the spirit of entrepreneurship, then no country's actions can alter the long-run outcome.

This is why German climatologist John Schellnhuber is right to say that "if the US really chooses to leave the Paris agreement, the world will move on with building a clean and secure future".

The low-carbon race is still on, and the main effect of Trump's decision is to put US innovators at a disadvantage relative to their international competitors.

We have seen these technological races before, and we have seen what recalcitrance and isolationism can do. Just ask the Ming Dynasty, who ceded their maritime leadership and in doing so let Europe reap the spoils of colonialism for half a millennium.

Similarly, the Trump administration can ignore basic physics if it likes, although this is electorally unsustainable - young Americans can see that it is in their own interest to support climate policy. Democracies are imperfect, but over time they have the ability to self-correct.

Developing policies that regulate the release of environmentally damaging gases is important. Pricing carbon is important. But government policy is not everything. Ultimately, this problem will be solved mainly by technology, because the way out of the jam is by finding new, inexpensive ways for humans to flourish without harming the planet.

[The writer is Professor of Climate Change, Victoria University of Wellington]

How Brands Turn Customers into Devoted Followers

MICHAEL J. ARMSTRONG, MAXIM VORONOV & WESLEY S. HELMS
theconversation.com

Many consumers like the products they buy, but some people go beyond liking. They actively advocate for the companies and concepts behind those products.

Think of Apple Inc. and its trendsetting iPhones which celebrated its tenth anniversary earlier this week. The phones are certainly high-quality. But many consumers, bloggers and media critics have also long raved about the firm itself and its overall design approach. Those "evangelists" don't work for Apple, but voluntarily endorse it and its entire product line.

By comparison, other cell phone companies rarely inspire such devotion. People might like individual phone models, but don't connect much to the manufacturer behind them.

Many firms would love to see such enthusiasm among their customers, reviewers and retailers. But how can they create these external evangelists?

A study at our business school explored this question by examining Ontario wineries. Most of these wineries are small and have limited marketing budgets. Nonetheless, they have instilled devotion among commentators and consumers for their cool-climate wines.

AKIN TO RELIGIOUS CONVERSION
This success is partly due to grape and wine quality improvements over recent decades. But high quality alone is not enough to inspire evangelism.

The researchers started by observing customer-related activities at the wineries. They also interviewed people who were external to the wineries but involved with their products. Examples include reviewers, retailers, and restaurateurs. The study examined how their views and relationships with wineries evolved over a five-year period.

The research revealed that evangelism develops much like religious conversion (perhaps fittingly, given wine's historical association with religion).

The process begins when wineries host events involving customers and other participants. Examples include vineyard tours and wine tastings.

These events proceed like religious rituals. They involve participants in ceremonial procedures, like the sequence of steps involved in wine



tasting. They feature symbolic objects, like the special glasses and descriptive labels used with different wine types.

EMOTIONAL RESPONSES

These rituals also include evocative storytelling and social interaction. One set of rituals emphasizes the guilty pleasures of enjoying wine. A second set emphasizes the wines' history and production methods. They describe the traditions of their family and region. Often, they trace their history back to the "old country" in Europe. A third set of rituals emphasizes the prestige the wineries have garnered as they increasingly produce world-class wines.

During these rituals, some participants experience emotional responses. They feel joy at being part of pleasurable events with other happy people. They are impressed by the complexity of wine. They find it eye-opening to learn how to taste the differences among various wine types. They also admire the effort that winemakers put into their craft in pursuit of perfection.

Those responses connect participants emotionally to each other, to winemakers and to the wine itself. These people become evangelists. They subsequently promote wines and the wine-making region. For them, wine has become more than what's in the bottle.

Interestingly, certain participants are more prone to such conversion. For example, some people see themselves as "foodies" or "wine aficionados." Others strongly identify with Ontario or its wine-making regions. Both groups are more likely to react emotionally and become evangelists.

NOT EVERYONE BUYS IN

Conversely, evangelism is less likely among those who see themselves as simple consumers. They

just want a tasty wine at a reasonable price. It also occurs less among people with strong professional identities, like quality control inspectors. They see the rituals as mere marketing exercises.

You can see similar elements in play with Apple. Its consumers and promoters are often described as cult-like. Its ethereal stores are like shrines, and Steve Jobs was its charismatic but demanding high priest (a segment in The Simpsons television show highlighted this quasi-religious view). Some Apple ads don't even mention its products. Instead, they emphasize its role in customer lifestyles.

The research also suggests that evangelism is more likely when firms provide authentic experiences for participants. This authenticity helps create the emotional responses and mutually supportive relationships. The desired responses won't occur if consumers view the rituals as artificial add-ons.

To support this process, some tech companies now have "Chief Evangelists" alongside their marketing departments. They serve as ministers to promote their companies' practices to external audiences.

SIZE IS NO GUARANTEE

Businesses don't need to be large or wealthy to inspire evangelism. The key is the ability to create authentic relationships. For example, Canadian whisky distilleries are generally much larger and wealthier than Ontario wineries. But those distillers have not been nearly as successful at inspiring evangelism.

However, even successful evangelism does not guarantee enduring success. Look at Blackberry, previously called Research In Motion. Its email-oriented devices with their physical keypads once inspired such devotion among business professionals that they were dubbed "crack-berry" addicts.

But Apple's touchscreen iPhones expanded smartphones' appeal beyond business email. They attracted more customers and enabled more uses. The new religion consequently overtook the old one. And now, it's Apple that faces threats from the ongoing evolution of technology.

[Michael J. Armstrong is Associate professor of operations research, Brock University; Maxim Voronov is Professor; Wesley S. Helms is Associate Professor of Strategic Management]

Uncertainty looms large over the future of students of Darjeeling schools



**KESANG DOMA BHUTIA
GANGTOK, 29 JUN:**

The return of the Gorkhaland agitation has meant that education in the Hills will again be facing a major setback with classes suspended for an indefinite period in the schools. Darjeeling and Kalimpong have some legendary schools like Dr. Graham's Homes, St. Joseph's School, North Point, St. Paul's School and many others.

The Hills have earned notoriety for its bandhs, which not only brings the local economy to a standstill but also adversely affects the education of thousands of children from all parts of the country and the world studying in its reputed schools. The hills witnessed the similar situation back in 2013 when several students from other parts of the country enrolled in the residential schools in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong had to be evacuated immediately when the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) announced an indefinite strike.

The Gorkhaland agitation has come back to life and on 15 Jun this year the GJM again

announced an indefinite strike until their demand for a separate state of Gorkhaland is met. Amid tensions and violence, parents and guardians feared for the safety of their children who were caught in the midst of it while school authorities tried their best to ease their worries.

With the summer vacation slated to begin on 23 Jun for most schools in the Hills, the main concern was the evacuation of students. Fortunately, the GJM allowed a 12-hour

window period from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on 23 Jun for the evacuation of students to Siliguri and Rangpo.

The possibility of the indefinite strike being called off anytime soon looks bleak and the uncertainty does not augur well for the academic future of the students. There are many students from Sikkim studying in the Hills and all of them are now back home. It is also learnt that in some schools, exams also had to be suspended midway because

of the unrest.

Tshering Choki Bhutia, a resident of Sikkim whose daughter, a VII standard student of St. Joseph's Convent, voiced her concerns over the current volatile situation in the hills. Her daughter was home for the summer vacations when unrest spread in the Hills, however, the holidays ended on 18 Jun and she is now stuck at home waiting for word on when the school will reopen.

Her parents have kept her

engaged in extra-curricular activities by enrolling her for badminton classes and other activities. Ms Bhutia also stated that she is in constant touch with other parents whose children are also studying in Darjeeling. They are thinking about enrolling their children in the local schools till the tension in the Hills subsides and if not, they are ready to transfer their children to another school altogether.

One of the locals from Gangtok whose brother, Phuntsok Namgyal, studies in Mount Hermon School, Darjeeling, in standard XII, stated that his brother was one among the many students who were evacuated on 23 Jun and is now in Nepal for the summer vacation which now looks likely to last as long as the indefinite strike continues. His parents are eagerly waiting for the strike to be called off.

He further stated that his friend Sourabh Mohan, an alumnus of North Point, Darjeeling, went through the same ordeal back in 2013 due to the indefinite strike called by the GJM. Mohan was left

with no option but to continue his studies in a local school at Gangtok for a month or so until the strike was called off.

Principal of the Himali Boarding School, Kurseong informed that the school is closed for summer vacations and is scheduled to reopen on 10 July. However, he is not sure what will happen if the bandh is not called off by then. The school authority has been receiving frantic calls from parents but all it can do now is hope that the strike is called off.

Similarly, there were a few others who wished to remain anonymous and voiced their grievances stating that they fear that if the agitation continues and the situation deteriorates they will not be able to attend classes and will lag behind in their studies. Many schools have not conducted examinations due to the unrest and the students will have to approach their school authorities to make arrangements with regard to their examinations and if the situation worsens then they will be left with no option but to transfer to schools here in Sikkim or outside.

Khandu for concrete vision and roadmap for APEDA

ITANAGAR, JUNE 29 (PTI):

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu today called for a concrete vision and roadmap for Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA) in channelising non-conventional energy for public consumption.

Chairing the general body meeting of APEDA, the chief minister said the agency has a big role in implementation of UJALA - Unnatyoti by Affordable LEDs for All scheme in the state, which will be launched soon, an official release said.

APEDA was instituted in 1996 through a Memorandum of Association.

Expressing concern over the failure percentage of small and mini hydro projects implemented by APEDA, Khandu stressed for a comprehensive policy to run the projects successfully after commissioning, the release said.

It was informed during the meeting that only 30 such hydro projects are functioning today out of the 100-odd projects implemented.

The main causes for defunct projects were cited as lack of skilled manpower, high maintenance cost, lack of revenue generation and scarcity of spare parts, the release said.

Khandu also advised APEDA to focus on tapping wind and solar energy.

State power minister Tamiyo Taga also attended the meeting.



Assam flood situation remains grim

GUWAHATI, JUNE 29 (PTI):

The overall flood situation in Assam continued to be grim today with major rivers in both the Brahmaputra and the Barak Valley maintaining a rising trend and affecting a population of more than 1.38 lakh in nine districts of the state.

The Brahmaputra was maintaining a rising trend in Sonitpur, Guwahati and Goalpara while its tributaries Dhansiri and Jibbarali were flowing above the danger mark, according to a bulletin issued by the Central Water Commission.

The tributaries Ranganadi, Subansiri, Dikhow, Kopili, Manas, Beki

and Sankosh were also maintaining a rising trend.

In the Barak Valley, rivers Barak, Katakhal and Kushiyara were flowing above the danger mark in Cachar and Karimganj district.

Karimganj district was the worst affected district in the current wave of flood with more than 1.30 lakh people affected with both river Kushiyara and Katakhal flowing above the danger mark at several places, according to a report of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA).

The districts affected by the current wave of

flood are Lakhimpur, Sivasagar, Golaghat, Karbi Anglong, Jorhat, Sonitpur, Hojai, Karimganj and Cachar, according to the official flood bulletin.

Altogether 16 relief camps have been opened where 4,239 people have taken shelter while 75 relief distribution points have been set up to distribute materials to the flood affected population.

The overflowing rivers and their tributaries have breached embankments in Cachar, Barpeta Jorhat and Sonitpur districts, submerged roads in Karimganj and Sivasagar districts and severe erosion was reported from Udalguri district.

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Don't skip GST launch, FM appeals to opposition

NEW DELHI, JUN 29 (PTI): Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Thursday appealed to Congress and Left parties to reconsider their decision to boycott the gala GST launch event, saying the landmark indirect tax reform was a result of joint decisions and they cannot run away from it now.

Urging the opposition parties to "display broad shoulders", he said they should not "disassociate" from the decision they were a party to.

The Goods and Services Tax, which will unify a dozen state and central levies to weave India into one market, is the biggest tax reform since the Independence, he told reporters here.

First Trinamool Congress and on Thursday Congress and Left parties decided to boycott the midnight function in protest against the way GST is being implemented,

adversely impacting small and medium enterprises.

Hundreds of decisions on GST including rules as also the tax rates were taken by consensus in the GST Council which comprises of not just the Centre but also representatives of all states run by different political parties, he said.

"I can say this without fear of contradiction that there has never been this (kind of) exercise, of this kind of political consultation and political consensus in bringing the GST," he said.

Jaitley said a party to such consultation and decision making process must also accept that GST is not just a decision of the central government but an equal decision of 31 states and UTs.

"They must now display broad shoulders and own up this decisions. Symbolic boycotts are not an evidence of any kind of disassocia-

tion from these decisions," he said.

The government, he said, remains committed to GST as to any other reform process because it believes that this is probably the single most important taxation reform in 70 years.

"And I am sure it will prove beneficial for both the economy and the country itself," he said. "I hope every political party will reconsider and revisit its decision and be a party to the launch of a massive reform to which they have been themselves privy to."

Every government has been equal participant in the decision and no one can through "a symbolic political gesture can disassociate with it".

GST, he said, is in the national interest. "Every political party should have the courage to own up a reform for which they had voted for."

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Man who duped people on e-commerce portal arrested

NEW DELHI, JUN 29 (PTI): Delhi police has arrested a man, who, inspired by infamous con-man Natwarlal, duped people through an e-commerce portal on the pretext of renting their cars for embassies and then 'selling' those by preparing forged documents.

According to a senior police official, the accused, Ajay Dabas (26), was inspired by fraudster Natwarlal and had a penchant for stealing high-end cars.

On June 9, Vijender Kumar Tyagi approached police with a complaint that a man stole his car after coming in touch with him through an online marketplace.

Tyagi had posted an advertisement on the e-commerce portal to sell his car, Toyota Fortuner, and was contacted by Dabas, who proposed to him that he can rent out his car to an embassy which would give him good returns, police said.

He convinced Tyagi against selling his car by telling them that it could be rented out at rates as high as a lakh.

After Tyagi changed his mind, Dabas asked him to leave his car with him so that he could get it serviced. After this, Dabas went incommunicado, they said.

Dabas later sold Tyagi's car to one Taiyab by posing as the owner of the vehicle and took Rs two lakh from him, but did not hand over the vehicle.

The accused used to change his mobile phone and SIM cards frequently to evade arrest. However, on the basis of a tip-off, he was arrested from a hotel in south Delhi's Vasant Kunj on June 26, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police-II (East) Nand Kishore Meena said.

Tyagi's car has also been recovered, the officer said.

Dabas is quite tech-savvy and had dreams of earning huge amount of money in a short span of time and surpassing Natwarlal as a conman.

He was wanted in cheating cases in Mumbai, Haryana and Delhi, and had non-bailable warrants issued against him in connection with a cheating case registered in Gurgaon in 2012.

During interrogation, he told police that he along with his friend Akshay used to dupe people through the e-commerce portal by alluring them under the pretext of renting their expensive cars in embassies, the officer said.

Football, showbiz stars set for Messi's wedding

ROSARIO, JUN 29 (AFP): Football and showbiz stars gather in northern Argentina tomorrow for Latin America's celebrity wedding bash of the decade when Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi marries his childhood sweetheart Antonella Rocuzzo.

Pop star Shakira and her husband, Messi's teammate Gerard Pique, are expected among the 260 guests, according to media and locals close to the event.

They will join old friends of the couple and footballers such as his Barcelona strike partners Luis Suarez and Neymar.

The party at a casino in his hometown Rosario will be a respite for the player from his legal woes. A Spanish court last month rejected his appeal against a conviction for tax fraud.

Brunette bride Rocuzzo,



will wear a dress by Spanish designer Rosa Clara, which has been flown over from Barcelona.

The designer has dressed stars such as actresses Eva Longoria and Sofia Vergara as well as Spain's Queen Letizia.

From 2200 GMT the guests will pack into the Hotel City-Center Casino, which stands right next to a crime-ridden

slum run by drug gangs.

"Messi's wedding accentuates the sense of inequality that is symbolized by the casino in that neighborhood," said Carlos del Frade, author of several books on the drug trade in Rosario.

This city of 1.2 million people is also a cradle of footballing talent, however.

"Rosario lives and

breathes football. That is another reason Lionel feels so comfortable here," the city's mayor, Monica Fein, told AFP.

"I think he is excited that through his wedding his friends (from abroad) will be able to get to know the city he loves so much."

The civil wedding ceremony and party will all take place inside the venue, and the guests will be lodged there too.

Messi, 30 -- considered a man of few words -- has reportedly asked chefs to cook local delicacies such as "locro" stew and "empanada" pasties for the feast.

The star dish is a typical Argentine beef roast including chitterlings, gizzards and kidneys.

Uruguayan pop bands Rombai and Marama plus singer Karina, wife of Argen-

tina footballer Sergio Aguero, will perform at the dance.

It is not known whether the guests will also get a song from Shakira, the Colombian diva famous for "Whenever, Wherever."

Some 155 journalists have been accredited to cover the bash, but have been warned they will have no access to the guests.

Security will be handled by a private team of Israeli specialists used by Messi for all his excursions.

"In Lionel Messi's case, he's widely accepted by the people at all levels," said Diego Manso, a local private security consultant.

"All the same, the security systems will never overlook the probability of a lot of people wanting to approach him, wanting to touch him, take photos with him, from their

risk analysis."

Messi and Rocuzzo live in Barcelona where he plays, but still return regularly to Rosario on holiday.

The couple had their two children baptized there last year: Thiago, 4 and one-year-old Mateo, both born in Barcelona.

"It's no surprise that he is coming back here to get married," one of the wedding guests, the player's old school friend Diego Vallejos, told AFP.

"He is an ordinary person who just wants to be near his family and friends. He is a humble person. Money has not changed his personality."

Messi and Rocuzzo met as children. He moved to Spain when he was 13 to join FC Barcelona. But they kept in touch.

"They are the love of each other's lives," says Vallejos.

Olympic Day Run-2017 organised in Gangtok

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Sikkim Olympic Association (SOA) organised the Olympic Day Run-2017 today to commemorate the Olympic Day as per the Olympic Charter to promote its universal character and encourage worldwide participation here this morning. The event was organised in collaboration with Sports & Youth Affairs Department.

The run started from MG Marg covering GICI-White Hall-Dukit Pan Dokan-Namngang and finally ended at Titanic Park in MG Marg, informs an SOA press release issued by its joint secretary, Sukanta Das.

The event had the Chairperson of State Youth Development Board, Khem Prasad Dahal as the chief guest who was accompanied by Sec-



retary Sports & Youth Affairs Department, SD Dhakal as the guest of honour.

The event was also attended by president, BK Roka, general secretary,

Jasal Pradhan, and other executive members of SOA along with officials of Sports & Youth Affairs Department and representatives of various sports associations.

The release informs that around 300 runners including school students, sportspersons and representatives of different clubs and associations affiliated to SOA

from all four districts.

The SOA president thanked SP [East], Traffic Police and Sadar Thana, East District administration, Medical Superintendent and staff of STNM

Hospital, Department of Sports & Youth Affairs and all sports associations affiliated to SOA for the success of the event.

In boys category, Suman Sharma stood on the first position, while Ram Bahadur Neopany and Aman Rasaily stood on the second and third positions, respectively. Likewise, consolation prizes were presented to Robin Sharma, Hem Bahadur Neopany and Sanjay Rai in boy's category.

In girls category, Chandra Kala Sharma finished first followed by Seema Sanayashi in second position and Peggyla Bhutia in third position. Consolation prizes were awarded to Divya Gurung, Himala Adhikari and Ambika Kumari Darnal.

All winners were awarded with cash prizes, the release mentions.

ISL gets recognition from AFC, two national leagues now

NEW DELHI, JUN 28 (PTI): The cash-rich Indian Super League has been officially granted official recognition by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), meaning there will be two national leagues in the country from 2017-18.

The franchise-based league didn't have AFC recognition in its first three editions, and has been trying for it for a while now.

The AFC gave its consent to the All India Football Federation's proposal through a letter signed by general secretary Datto Windsor John, a top AIFF official told PTI today.

So, as of now, the winner of the I-league will participate in the AFC Champions League qualifiers, while the next ISL champion will be eligible for an AFC Cup qualifying slot.

If the 2017-18



I-League winners fail to qualify -- no Indian club has so far -- they will get an automatic berth in the AFC Cup, the continent's

second-tier tournament.

The AFC however specified that the arrangement was a temporary one and required the stakeholders to come up with a long-term plan.

The development comes as a good news for Bengaluru FC, who has so far been the only Indian club serious about the AFC Cup competition.

Having emerged runners-up last year, Benga-

luru FC have made the zonal semi-finals this time and will play North Korea's 4.25 SC in home and away league in August and September respectively.

The champions of the 10-team ISL that will run for five months beginning November will get an AFC Cup qualifying slot.

Till 2016-17, it was given to the winners of the Federation Cup.

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Helipad and North Hill play contesting draw at C-Division league

SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 29 JUN:

Helipad Football Club and North Hill United Football Club played a contesting draw today at the on-going Sikkim Football Association C-Division Sikkim-League here at Paljor Stadium. A nail-biting match finally ended 2-2 draw.

Ezru Tamang [54th] and Zangpo Lama [62nd] scored a goal each for Helipad FC while Sonam D Tamang [57th] and Susan Subba [60th] contributed one goal each for North Hill United FC.

In the second match, Korinthain Football Club outplayed United Nandok Football Club 2-1.

Moses Namchoy [43rd] and Sonam Sherpa [47th] scored a goal each for Korinthain FC while the only goal of United Nandok FC was scored by Lakchung Lepcha in 6th minute.

On 30 Jun, in the first match Almost-30 will take on Khatarnak Football Club at 12:30 AM while the second match will be played between United Spt Culture Association and EPL.

Maneka has not heard of men committing suicide

NEW DELHI, JUN 29 (PTI): Union minister Maneka Gandhi believes men do not commit suicide and even says she hasn't heard of a single such case.

Her answer to a query, during a Facebook Live session, about the government's initiative to reduce suicide rates among men has left several people fuming.

The Union women and child development minister said, "Which men have committed suicide? Why not try and resolve the situation rather than commit suicide - I have not heard/read of a single case."

However, the data, in fact, leaves her in a pickle.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in 2015, as many as 1,33,623 suicides were reported in the country, of which 91,528 (68 per cent) were by men and 42,088 were by women.

Of the 86,808 married persons who committed suicide in 2015,



64,534 (74 per cent) were men, the NCRB data states.

The minister, through the three-hour long chat on the social media site, was pilloried by people for being "anti-men" and spent most part of the chat trying to answer questions over the issue.

"What is @wcd doing to make

sure parental alienation (father's from his kids) is not in practise. Isn't alienating a child from his/her biological father a crime?," posted a social media user.

Reacting sharply to the post, Maneka said that men have to accept responsibility before demanding rights.

"This ministry gets a large number of complaints that after a marriage has been dissolved, the father does not pay any maintenance despite court orders and the laws of the land. To push for rights needs an adherence to responsibilities as well," she said.

This was again met with severe criticism from users who said that the minister was equating a child to a museum for which fathers have to pay a display fees.

"Being able to see one's parent is RIGHT OF CHILD. Only an uncivilised human being will say that unless father pays he cannot see the child," posted another user.

Another user posted a query regarding his matrimonial dispute, where his wife left their three-month-old daughter saying she cannot look after her.

The user alleged that his wife has filed a case of dowry and domestic violence against him, his parents and his sister.

"Whose doors should I knock to seek justice for my daughter?" he asked.

The minister's reply seemed to indicate that she did not believe the user and suspected that there was something else going on.

"Unfortunately the remedy for this lies in the courts.

But simply as a personal observation... I have not met a woman who is happily married, has a baby and then runs off leaving a three-month-old baby on the grounds that she cannot look after her.

"According to you, there was the support system of parents in the house as well. So the responsibility of looking after the child would not have been her's alone. Why not introspect and sort out the actual issue," she wrote.

At the very end of the session though, replying to a user who suggested that there be a ministry only for men, Maneka said that she would welcome it.

Chinese army denies violating Bhutan's territory

KJM VARMA BEIJING, JUN 29 (PTI): China's military today rejected Bhutan's allegation that PLA soldiers violated its territory, saying its troops operated on "Chinese territory" and also asked India to "correct" its "wrong doing".

"I have to correct when you say Chinese personnel entered Bhutan's territory. Chinese troops operated on Chinese territory," a Chinese defence ministry spokesman told the media here.

The People's Liberation Army spokesman also accused Indian troops of entering the Chinese side in Donglong area in Sikkim sector.

"They tried to stop the normal activities. The Chinese carried out appropriate responses to these activities to safeguard sovereignty and territorial integrity," the spokesman said.

"We have made it clear to the Indian side to correct their wrong doing and withdraw all personnel from Chinese territory," he said.

Bhutan yesterday said it had issued a demarche to China over the construction of a road towards its Army camp in Zomphri area of Doklam and asked Beijing to restore status quo by stopping the work immediately.

"We have issued a demarche to China through its diplomatic mission here. Recently, the Chinese army (People's Liberation Army) started construction of a road towards Bhutanese Army camp at Zomphri in Doklam area which is in violation of an agreement between the two countries," Ambassador of Bhutan to India Vetsop Namgyal had said in New Delhi.

The Donglong (Doklam) is a tri-junction area near the Chumbi Valley. It is under China's control. However, Bhutan claims sovereignty over the area.

India voices concern at UN over terrorists' access to weapons of mass destruction

YOSHITA SINGH UNITED NATIONS, JUN 29 (PTI): India voiced deep concern over the possibility of collusion that leads to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to terrorist networks and non-state actors, calling for an early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to deal with the menace.

"Preventing access to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) and their means of delivery to non-state actors is a continuing concern, especially as terrorist groups and non-state actors strike ever deeper roots and exploit different avenues to strike terror," India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Tanmay Lal said here.

Speaking at a Security Council debate on efforts to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by non-state actors, Lal said terror networks and non-state actors, by themselves, do not have any capacity or access to advanced and sensitive technologies and materials.

"Instances of proliferation of WMDs, however, are not unknown to all of us. The possibility of such collusion remains a real cause for concern. This grave threat can only be contained through effective and sustained international cooperation and coordination and monitoring," he said.

In addition to capacity building and training, the international community must endeavour to close gaps in the global legal architecture to combat terrorism and non-state actors' access to WMDs and related material, Lal said. "An early conclusion of negotiations on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism will be helpful," he said.

Further, efforts to eliminate all weapons of mass destruction through global, non-discriminatory and verifiable disarmament treaties such as the Chemical Weapons Convention must also be taken to their logical conclusion.

Underscoring that "synergy" will be key to the success of global efforts, Lal said clandestine proliferation networks, which have been unmasked, have shown that non-state actors can exploit weak links in global supply chains and export controls and undermine international security.

MEA downplays use of 'Indian administered' J&K by the US

NEW DELHI, JUN 29 (PTI): India today played down the usage of "Indian administered Jammu and Kashmir" by the United States in a statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying similar terms have been used in the past also.

On Monday, while designating Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin as a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist", the US State Department had said the militant group had claimed responsibility for several attacks, including the April 2014 explosives attack in "Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir", which

injured 17 persons. Responding to a media query, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Gopal Baglay said the use of the term "Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir" merely affirmed Indian position that Syed Salahuddin had been involved in cross-border terrorism against India.

"Similar term has been used in the State Department's country reports on terrorism brought out every year, including in the period 2010-2013, in the context of cross-border terrorism perpetrated on India. India's consistent position that the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir is

Tibetan Refugee Assistance Act reintroduced in US Congress

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, JUN 29 (PTI): A bipartisan legislation to provide visas to Tibetans was reintroduced in US Congress by two lawmakers, saying it will help the overburdened Tibetan settlements in India and Nepal.

The Tibetan Refugee Assistance Act addresses provides 3,000 immigrant visas to qualified displaced Tibetans over a three-year period.

"The United States has a long record of giving humanitarian assistance to other countries in need, including providing refuge to those persecuted abroad," said Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner, who reintroduced the Act in the House of Representatives on Tuesday along with Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren.

"The United States has a long record of giving humanitarian assistance to other countries in need, including providing refuge to those persecuted abroad," he said.

The bill supports the well-being of the Tibetan exile community as they strive to find a peaceful solution for Tibet; helps the overburdened settlements in India and Nepal; and gives displaced Tibetans the opportunity to flourish as Tibetan-Americans.

Lofgren said the Tibetan people have suffered decades of persecution at the hands of the Chinese government.

"After the devastation of the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, it is even more necessary for displaced Tibetans to be recognised by the United States for

refugee assistance and afforded protection under US law," she said.

Noting that thousands of Tibetans have gone into exile due to continuing repression in their homeland, the two lawmakers said these refugees have worked to preserve their religious and cultural identity in exile communities in India and Nepal, but the influx of Tibetans creates many challenges and places an economic burden on these countries.

"Because they fled Tibet, current US law may consider the Tibetans 'firmly resettled' in a third country and might render them inadmissible to the US," they said.

Meanwhile, Congresswoman Betty McCollum urged her congressional colleagues

and the US President to stand with the people of Tibet to promote human rights, religious freedom, and a meaningful political dialogue.

"China is a powerful country. But, the United States is a free and powerful country. The United States must never abandon our commitment to freedom, justice, and human rights around the world. And, we must never abandon the people of Tibet," she said in her remarks to welcome the Dalai Lama to Minnesota on Saturday (June 24).

"Let me also urge President Trump to meet directly with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and listen to his wise and compassionate insights. Mr Trump needs to hear why ongoing US support for Tibet is vital," she had said.

AI warns former employees from speaking against airline on social media

NEW DELHI, JUN 29 (PTI): National carrier Air India has warned its former employees with severe consequences such as withdrawal of post-retirement benefits if they speak out against the airline on social media.

The Cabinet has given an in-principle approval for the disinvestment of debt-laden Air India (AI). Its employees, including those retired, are staring at an uncertain future.

As many as seven unions have written to the government threatening mass protests if the airline is privatised.

"It is unacceptable that a person who is availing post-retirement facilities like passage, medical etc from Air India talks against the company. Retired personnel who make such negative comments with the intention of tarnishing the image of the company will themselves be responsible for cessation of their post-retirement facilities," according to an internal order by AI issued on June 21 with the approval of Chairman and Managing Director, Air India, Ashwani Lohani.

The circular notes that the warning follows instances of its former workers seeking to "taint" the company on public fora.

"It has been noticed in the recent past that a few retired personnel of



Air India are tarnishing the image of the company by posting negative remarks of the company on social networking sites like Twitter, Facebook and Whatsapp and also electronic and print media," the order read.

Former employees are entitled to free flights and contributory medical allowances. An employee who retires after 30 years with the company can avail 24 free flight tickets, of which 25 per cent can be used for international travel as well.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DERBY STURDY	
Draw No:37 DrawDate on:29/06/17	
1st Prize Rs.25,00,000/- E 77923	
2nd Prize Rs.10,00,000/-	0373 0473 1004 2929 8853
3rd Prize Rs.5,00,000/-	1536 1592 5601 9241 9355
4th Prize Rs.2,00,000/-	1599 4098 4438 5145 8374
5th Prize Rs.1,00,000/-	2589 6770 7329 7679 7704
6th Prize Rs.50,000/-	0097 0107 0271 0427 0690 0908 1161 1368 1443 1841 1936 1950 2015 2065 2149 2307 2569 2742 2825 2885 2936 3014 3195 3254 3282 3297 3307 3375 3584 3664 3716 3729 3917 3981 4033 4072 4084 4127 4293 4741 5099 5511 5984 6135 6306 6391 6658 6806 7015 7081 7346 7447 7473 7486 7530 7540 7549 7787 7831 8082 8113 8153 8571 8752 8875 8894 8916 9133 9301 9332 9529 9582 9691 9703 9835
7th Prize Rs.100/-	0012 0028 0101 0117 0163 0353 0369 0386 0410 0414 0430 0437 0466 0472 0500 0517 0529 0539 0613 0691 0702 0705 0715 0720 0747 0762 0785 0811 0847 0856 0860 0871 0880 0897 0903 0969 0973 0985 1007 1036 1044 1064 1076 1142 1144 1218 1225 1264 1267 1279 1298 1303 1328 1374 1381 1395 1441 1526 1574 1601 1693 1725 1729 1753 1755 1773 1783 1806 1814 1828 1867 1879 1945 1946 2014 2038 2099 2105 2172 2220 2233 2241 2246 2247 2268 2368 2425 2525 2574 2606 2608 2613 2669 2672 2681 2688 2697 2721 2724 2783 2796 2813 2833 2857 2893 2915 2920 2942 2943 2960 2967 3010 3018 3021 3034 3036 3043 3076 3080 3122 3139 3157 3181 3211 3219 3250 3252 3335 3360 3394 3421 3475 3488 3582 3612 3615 3633 3661 3696 3720 3727 3805 3858 3880 3898 3901 3922 3924 3929 3943 3974 4001 4017 4089 4112 4125 4145 4151 4164 4180 4188 4200 4238 4240 4251 4322 4367 4401 4411 4428 4413 4503 4509 4512 4523 4536 4548 4554 4583 4597 4627 4637 4642 4656 4660 4665 4702 5174 5270 4756 4777 4797 4811 4812 4824 4862 4882 4924 4925 4969 4982 4986 4987 5088 5128 5157 5162 5177 5178 5196 5202 5219 5294 5298 5306 5372 5378 5420 5425 5426 5436 5499 5516 5543 5544 5545 5554 5575 5607 5610 5620 5629 5651 5695 5719 5780 5821 5839 5859 5876 5879 5933 5981 6042 6047 6085 6134 6151 6155 6163 6175 6191 6225 6250 6255 6287 6356 6359 6360 6385 6389 6393 6398 6409 6438 6480 6502 6514 6531 6562 6607 6626 6638 6659 6671 6685 6686 6731 6761 6776 6810 6845 6864 6918 6944 6958 6970 6976 7038 7048 7088 7145 7172 7180 7210 7228 7234 7254 7304 7315 7326 7338 7361 7467 7486 7496 7497 7524 7526 7571 7626 7700 7727 7762 7768 7793 7806 7824 7849 7853 7902 8004 8060 8061 8162 8168 8187 8196 8212 8261 8295 8324 8336 8430 8471 8474 8475 8516 8525 8537 8547 8560 8603 8669 8680 8692 8751 8768 8784 8797 8837 8841 8896 8915 8944 8949 8998 9032 9056 9085 9098 9117 9134 9159 9165 9272 9327 9351 9376 9378 9383 9396 9399 9416 9418 9435 9471 9499 9520 9572 9581 9601 9603 9608 9640 9681 9743 9746 9755 9820 9833 9863 9866 9893 9912 9922 9940 9942 9944 9955

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES		NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
SINGAM TOPAZ MORNING		DEAR FAITHFUL EVENING	
Draw time: 11:55 am onwards		Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:29/06/17		Draw No:114 DrawDate on:29/06/17	
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 92D 68137		1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 95A 03064	
(Including Super Prize Amt)		(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 68137 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)		Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 03064 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-		2nd Prize Rs.950,000/-	
06746 08453 31346 42305 49466		29162 32055 33600 37405 46131	
66000 74446 86441 90383 98634		56835 65688 71857 91668 94442	
3rd Prize Rs.5,000/-		3rd Prize Rs.900,000/-	
3653 3687 4350 5300 5476 6035 6157 7043 7394 7632		03117 05435 16697 18910 36104	
4th Prize Rs.3,000/-		66844 72366 76288 78288 84611	
1538 3296 3637 4233 6262 6507 7357 8972 9740 9891		4th Prize Rs.1,00,000/-	
5th Prize Rs.1,300/-		1785 3704 3920 4925 4981 5286 6349 6924 7366 9706	
0337 0467 0508 0730 0801 0863 0990 0994 1214 1298		5th Prize Rs.60,000/-	
1300 1349 1387 1431 1464 1484 1490 1495 1501 1513		2270 3158 3500 3802 5166 6311 6366 6299 8120 9859	
1567 1691 1751 1852 1856 1914 2215 2308 2360 2485		6th Prize Rs.25,000/-	
2668 2737 2834 3251 3253 3297 3333 3394 3503 3626		0050 0075 0138 0401 0407 0487 0565 0681 0691 0719	
3961 4021 4059 4094 4354 4505 4537 4714 4715 4743		0872 1027 1028 1162 1233 1239 1277 1466 1626 1720	
4800 4803 4960 4990 5020 5165 5230 5311 5524 5552		1801 1815 1826 1982 2306 2309 2488 2663 2675 2734	
5651 5743 5759 5875 5970 6036 6127 6165 6154 6521		2856 2875 2888 2888 3007 3094 3340 3511 3590	
6850 5173 7391 7527 7546 7615 7619 7730 7965 8028		3897 4000 4145 4171 4397 4432 4460 4615 4650 4653	
8125 8283 8462 8618 8770 8811 8814 8908 8987 9110		4834 4991 5004 5069 5109 5352 5415 5440 5450 5562	
9157 9401 9461 9488 9511 9516 9638 9648 9847 9854		5606 5623 5714 6086 6278 6361 6755 7103 7267 7324	
Issued by:		7349 7410 7841 7817 7913 7921 7926 7940 8024 8067	
The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland.		8085 8184 8189 8420 8582 8627 8896 9017 9200 9355	
For Results, please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com		9437 9530 9572 9580 9689 9725 9800 9803 9807 9970	

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR SUCCESS	
Draw No:50 Draw Date on:29/06/17	
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 84E 45440	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 45440 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.950,000/-	
04902 14898 22676 24651 26515	
43475 48831 67043 93919 98551	
3rd Prize Rs.500,000/-	
01221 03792 09495 20451 37244	
42636 50806 59613 87919 93869	
4th Prize Rs.1,00,000/-	
0566 1092 1509 2005 2036 3149 3649 4587 4717 5954	
5th Prize Rs.60,000/-	
0895 1710 1850 1980 2111 2367 2390 4769 7687 9961	
6th Prize Rs.25,000/-	
0129 0196 0230 0290 0476 0540 0565 0758 0943 1377	
1442 1454 1848 2042 2069 2137 2141 2183 2330 2361	
2619 2677 2704 2793 2799 2836 3071 3110 3345 3439	
3539 3542 3615 3698 3841 4097 4144 4455 4504 4851	
4879 4926 5075 5246 5283 5313 5372 5486 5602 5690	
5933 6007 6220 6265 6309 6333 6446 6490 6556 6713	
6800 6896 6990 7122 7392 7417 7418 7420 7510 7584	
7664 7825 7949 7965 7976 8033 8131 8220 8256 8306	
8467 8469 8476 8534 8539 8745 8934 8942 8992 9022	
9029 9032 9290 9293 9376 9643 9661 9692 9761 9794	

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
SINGAM ENERGY EVENING	
Draw No:21 Draw Date on:29/06/17	
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 99A 00391	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 00391 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
12454 29210 35505 44333 48370	
53935 59037 73347 90052 96341	
3rd Prize Rs.500,000/-	
1104 1576 1579 1835 2043 2967 3915 6185 9542 9674	
4th Prize Rs.300,000/-	
0199 1385 1399 2259 4063 4512 5907 6106 6928 7169	
5th Prize Rs.130,000/-	
0157 0239 0285 0328 0390 0618 0742 0840 0841 1002	
1041 1125 1230 1235 1340 1471 1521 1703 1891 2177	
2224 2264 2428 2730 2813 2842 2850 2865 2999 3011	
3014 3044 3069 3082 3153 3230 3280 3335 3421 3593	
3906 4007 4007 4057 4240 4457 4552 4545 4592 4719	
4849 4910 4965 5101 5248 5265 5291 5394 5407 5566	
5582 5961 6256 6312 6374 6594 6808 6868 6977 7087	
7098 7230 7276 7446 7694 7772 7847 7865 7914 8049	
8056 8334 8376 8527 8528 8552 8629 8632 8713 8971	
9110 9155 9322 9510 9709 9857 9874 9892 9916 9944	

Issued by: The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102 Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES			
BALA GANAPATHY		DHANU RASI	
Draw No:96 DrawDate on:29/06/17		Draw No:96 DrawDate on:29/06/17	
1st Prize Rs.10,00,000/- A 06019		1st Prize Rs.10,00,000/- A 04880	
2nd Prize Rs.5,00,000/-		2nd Prize Rs.5,00,000/-	
1769 3037 3773 4427 6215 6244 6835 8150 8624 9838		0794 1505 1524 3094 3141 4112 6236 7209 7305 9326	
3rd Prize Rs.500,000/-		3rd Prize Rs.500,000/-	
0136 1376 1647 1948 3454 7551 7618 8260 9495 9645		2153 2369 3245 3331 4548 7386 7872 8756 8832 9380	
4th Prize Rs.250,000/-		4th Prize Rs.250,000/-	
2897 3389 3584 3746 5742 6948 7049 8920 9202 9253		0028 0225 0698 1447 4595 5000 5155 6326 8291 8451	
5th Prize Rs.100,000/-		5th Prize Rs.100,0	



SPIDER-MAN HOMECOMING GLOBAL PREMIERE: Actor Jon Voight at the Dell VR Experience at the 'Spider-Man: Homecoming' World Premiere at TCL Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, California.

BIGBANG'S T.O.P ACKNOWLEDGES ALL CHARGES AT FIRST TRIAL FOR MARIJUANA CASE

South Korean rapper, singer-songwriter, actor, record producer and a member of South Korean boyband Big Bang, Choi Seung-hyun, better known by his stage name T.O.P, arrives at the Seoul Central District Court for hearing on his marijuana usage case on 29 Jun in Seoul.

During the trial, T.O.P acknowledged all of the charges made against him. He has been accused of illegally smoking marijuana four times with a female trainee at his home in Seoul



last October. During the police investigation earlier on, T.O.P initially stated that he was not aware that what he was smoking was marijuana; however, later, he admitted to two out of the four instances

of smoking marijuana. The prosecution has demanded that T.O.P receive two years of probation with the possibility of a 10 month prison sentence if he violates the terms of his probation.

Previously, the female trainee that was with T.O.P at the time has received four years of probation with the possibility of a three-year prison sentence if she commits a repeat offense during her probation period; however, reports later revealed that the prosecution had appealed for a second trial.

KPOP

Halle Berry: Was her Oscar win worthless?

Halle Berry was the first black woman to win the best actress Oscar when she won for Monster's Ball in 2002.

Fifteen years on, she still is the only black woman to have won the award - and she's not happy about it.

Speaking in Cannes last week, the actress said she had been "profoundly hurt" when no black stars were nominated for major acting awards at the 2015 Oscars.

Her comments have been followed by the Academy announcing it is inviting 774 new members from 57 countries in an effort to boost diversity.

Actors Naomie Harris, Riz Ahmed and Warwick Davis are among those invited to join, with the Oscars organisers saying 39% of the new class are women, boosting the overall female membership to 28%, up three points from 2015.

It added that the new membership is also nearly a third non-white, with the number of non-white voters now at 13%, up from 8% two years ago.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

30TH JUNE

WORLD HISTORY

1860: Oxford university museum of Natural History was established.

1864: US President Abraham Lincoln granted Yosemite Valley to California for "Public use, resort and recreation".

1882: Charles J. Guiteau was hanged in Washington DC for the assassination of the 20th President of the US, James Garfield.

1886: The first transcontinental train trip across Canada departed from Montreal. It arrived in Port Moody, British Columbia on 4th of July.

1934: The Night of the Long Knives also called Operation Hummingbird, a purge started in Nazi Germany with a series of political extrajudicial executions intended to consolidate Hitler's absolute hold on power.

1937: The world's first emergen-

cy telephone number, 999, was introduced in London.

1990: East and West Germany's decided to merge their economies.

INDIAN HISTORY

1799: After defeating Tipu Sultan, East India Company installed Krishnaraj Wodiyar as the King of Mysore for the second time.

1917: Dr Dadabhai Naoroji, also known as Grand Old Man of India, one of the founding members of the Indian National Congress and the author of 'Poverty and Un-British rule in India died at the age of 92. He was a Liberal Party Member of Parliament (MP) in the United Kingdom House of Commons between 1892 and 1895, and the first Asian to be a British MP.

REEMA KAGTI STARTS SHOOTING FOR GOLD IN UK; AKSHAY KUMAR TO JOIN THE TEAM SOON

Akshay Kumar is on a roll, that too by flaunting his nationalism on his sleeve. From being called a wooden actor in the '90s and someone who couldn't give a hit out of the Khiladi series, Akshay Kumar is now one of the most consistent actors in Bollywood as well as a National award winner [though that's another matter of contention]. He is now very socially conscious and his movies nowadays have the same flavour too. His only release in 2017 till now Jolly LLB 2, discussed the loopholes in the legal systems, while his upcoming movies Toilet Ek Prem Katha and Pad Man also work in the same vein. Expect Reema Kagti's Gold to adhere to that trend.

Gold is about the first gold medal India won in Olympic in hockey as a free country, and is set in 1948. The movie is a fictional retelling of that match, on the lines of Dangal. Akshay Kumar will play a hockey player in the movie, along with Kunal Kapoor, Amit Sath and Sunny Kaushal.

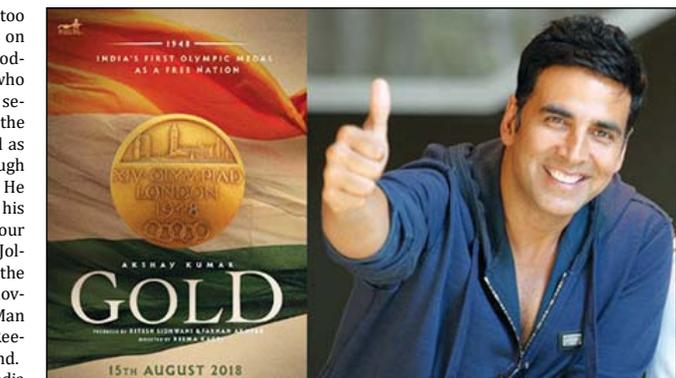
As per a report in Mumbai Mirror, Reema Kagti, who previously made Honeymoon Travels Pvt Ltd and Talaash, had begun the shooting for the film in Bradford, UK, with Kapoor, Sath and Kaushal, with Akshay Kumar joining them in the first week of July. To improve their hockey skills, the actors have been training with different coaches, particularly with former Indian captain, Sandeep Singh.

Gold, which is produced by Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani, is scheduled to release on 15 Aug, 2018.

YOU WON'T BELIEVE HOW AJAY DEVGN IS THE REASON BEHIND TABU'S SINGLE STATUS!

ARIES: You're in line with your warrior instincts today, Aries, which reminds you to align with your dreams. The tricky part is how you're going to plan your attack so that there's an equal balance of give and take. Today's prevailing energies may catch you in a difficult situation. Sometimes an outwardly directed, argumentative approach is the only way to push through the roadblock.

TAURUS: You're feeling frisky today, Taurus, and you're happy to take the lead. It seems like the starting gate has just opened and you're leading the charge. The one thing that could put a damper on the race is your rational mind reminding you that it's also important to stop.



Let's begin with this...Tabu has the best Instagram username ever -Tabutiful. A pun on her name and how beautiful she is. The 45 year old actress is gorgeous, and has ruled the 90's with her beauty combined with her powerful acting abilities.

Hard to believe that she is still single. But we might be a step closer to know why no man has been able to win her over. Turns out, Ajay Devgn has a huge part to play. Tabu was talking to Mumbai Mirror and said that there is no romance brewing in her life. Later, in the interview she accused,

jokingly, her Golmaal Again co-star Ajay for this state of hers.

Tabu and Ajay go long back. They have known each other for over 25 years, since they were teenagers. They have worked in many hit films together, and are again coming together on screen soon.

Talking about how Ajay was partly the reason why no boy would ever approach her, she said "He was my cousin Sameer Arya's neighbour and close buddy, a part of my growing up years and that has laid the foundation of our relationship. When I was young, Sameer and Ajay would spy on me, follow me around and threaten to beat up any boys who are caught talking to me. They were the big bullies and if I am single today, it is because of Ajay." Tabu is hopeful that Ajay "repents and regrets" his actions. Yep, Tabu was the victim of typical behaviour by brother and their friends. Relatable!

But now things have changed with time. Tabu has assigned Ajay as her matchmaker, and said "I told him the

BOLLYDUZZ!!

Look around and reflect on what's going on around you. Incorporate both energies into your day.

GEMINI: You're feeling rather sensitive today, Gemini. You may want to rescue every injured animal from the side of the road. Combine this nurturing, loving instinct with a warrior drive that will take charge and lead the fight. This powerful energy duo is very action oriented. Send your loving, internal instincts out into the world to do good.

CANCER: Other people may be stroking your fur in the wrong direction, Cancer. There's a great deal of fiery energy in the air today that's promoting a "me first" attitude. It

may come in direct conflict with your peaceful, diplomatic nature. Also, people may be a bit more sensitive than usual. It will be harder to stomach the slights or insults that result. You have your work cut out for you.

LEO: Latch on to what your mind has to say today, Leo. More than likely, your rational brain knows the right way to go. Your mood may dictate the action, but let your brain handle the steering. Don't get overly worked up over nothing. Tempers may rise in heated debates over what is and isn't fair. Be part of the solution, not the problem.

VIRGO: There's a greater burst of energy coming your way today than

there has been in a while, Virgo. It's as if you're making a new start and now is your chance to begin with a fresh new attitude. Realize that a sensitive nature is what will help you be victorious on this day. Keep your mind focused inward while you pursue outwardly directed activities.

LIBRA: People and situations egg you on today, Libra. It may seem like there's contention around every corner. Remember that your path is the one that you chose. You may or may not have anticipated the barriers, but they're unavoidable. The key to success is to strike the right balance between inner and outer activities. Don't direct all your frustration at others. Don't hold it all in, either.

SCORPIO: Be a pioneer in your world today, Scorpio. Go on an adventure with a courageous spirit. Your emotions are fired up and ready to go. Your instincts are ready for a new challenge. If anything slows you down today, it will be your rational thinking. Your self-protection mechanism may kick in just when things start to get exciting. Strike the right balance.

SAGITTARIUS: Your mind is surprisingly clear today, Sagittarius, and your thinking fits in line with what your ego has set out to accomplish. The key for you is to let your emotions speak. Take charge and let yourself go after what you want. While you've spent the last couple

days in contemplation, the next few days should be more action oriented.

CAPRICORN: Your mood is likely quite good, Capricorn, and you have an added boost of self-confidence that will help you along in just about any project you undertake. While the last couple days may have felt slow and a bit stagnant, today you're ready to take action. Someone has just lit the pilot light and now you're ready to fire up again.

AQUARIUS: Your brain may be on one side of the fence today while your emotions are on the other, Aquarius. The challenge will be to find a working resolution between them. Your mind is moving

toward a more sensitive and receptive approach, while your heart is in more of an attack mode. Unfortunately, these two energies don't normally work well together. Your job is to find a healthy balance.

PISCES: One of the themes today is giving versus receiving. You may be asked to handle many tasks at once, something you're naturally quite good at, Pisces. There's a strong need to take action and get things done, while you may also feel a strong inward pull asking you to settle down and reflect. Both are valid emotions, and both should be honored as you go through your day.

other day to please find me a boy to marry. But jokes aside, our relationship has grown because we have worked so much with each other," She goes on to say that among all the actors she has worked with, she finds Ajay the most reliable and can count on him. Tabu further says she and Ajay share a "unique relationship and an unconditional affection".

As for the fans who still can play Ruk Ruk Ruk Arey Baba Ruk on loop, you will soon see Ajay and Tabu romance on screen again. No, not Rohit Shetty's Golmaal Again. In that ensemble comedy they only share screen space and are not paired opposite each other. But they're slated to romance each other again in a film directed by Luv Ranjan [Pyaar Ka PUNCHAMA].

