



SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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THENG BHIR TUNNEL SOON TO OPEN FOR COMMUTE

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 04 APR: The 500m long tunnel at Theng Bhir on Chungthang-Mangan road is almost complete and will be inaugurated soon by Border Roads Organisation [BRO]. The newly constructed tunnel will bypass the notorious Theng Bhir which has claimed the lives of many commuters. Shooting boulders at this spot has caused many road accidents. The public of North Sikkim have expressed their happiness over the tunnel's construction and requested for its early inauguration.

Final rites of Khenpo Karma Topden of Phodong Monastery on 06 Apr

SUMMIT REPORT
PHODONG, 05 APR:

Phodong Monastery has announced that the final rites of Late 'Lobela' Khenpo Karma Topden will be conducted on 06 Apr at the monastery.

The Khenpo had passed away on 12 Mar at the age of 93 at his residence in Phodong Monastery, North Sikkim. After keeping the body at his home for three days, the lamas of Phodong Monastery had moved the body to Phodong Monastery for devotees to visit and offer their last respects.

It was informed by the monastery officials that the final rites of the Tibetan Dharma Guru is scheduled to be held on 06 Apr at the monastery with devotees, lamas, nuns and well-wishers from all over the country slated to visit the funeral.

Khenpo Karma Topden was born in 1925 at Kham Nangchen in Tibet. When he was 16 years old he traveled to various holy places in India during which he met the monks of Phodong Mon-



astery at Bodh Gaya and decided to visit Sikkim.

Khenpo Karma Topden was the first Tibetan teacher of Phodong School and the first Dharma Guru of Phodong Monastery.

It was under his supervision

that the present Phodong Monastery was consecrated in 1975.

He had studied under Dodrupchen Rinpoche, Dudjom Rinpoche and Chatral Sangye Dorjee Rinpoche. He was a Guru with profound knowledge of Buddhism.

Traders to wait till Friday for supply of organic vegetables

ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Traders of the State continued to raise concerns over the shortage of locally grown organic vegetables on the fifth day since the ban on import of non-organic vegetables came into force. Despite assurances from the Horticulture department, traders stated that no arrangements have been made so far.

As per the All Sikkim Traders Association, there is zero supply of organic vegetables and fruits in the markets, and it is now affecting their earnings. The Association has further said that it will wait till Friday morning for arrangements to be made, failing which they will seek other

LAL BAZAAR UPDATE

- Traders at Lal Bazaar in Gangtok informed that they have ordered 6 trucks of Onions and Potatoes which are in the list of items permitted for import. The consignments are expected to arrive in Gangtok by Thursday night.
- Beans and peas supplied in the market today.
- Acute shortage of vegetables except in the organic stall.
- Tomatoes not available even in the organic stall either.

er recourse.

Meanwhile, the department held a meeting today to discuss the matter and has assured the traders of making arrangements for enough supply of organic vegetables from Friday.

Speaking to SummitTimes, one of the officials from SIMFED said that they are working day and night to make all possible arrangements.

"We have identified all our sources and vehicles have been sent to

collect all organic vegetables from different places and we are sure that we will be able to supply organic vegetables from Friday, that are available in the State," said one SIMFED officer.

As per SIMFED, whatever is grown in the state and available will be arranged for the traders and public for consumption while vegetables which are seasonal and cannot be grown in the state cannot be arranged for supply.

On the other hand,

the Chairperson Gangtok Municipal Corporation, Asish Rai, visited Lal Bazaar today and interacted with the traders assuring them that the Horticulture Department and SIMFED will make arrangements from Saturday and Sunday.

He urged everyone to have patience till Sunday as the Department is trying to make all possible arrangements for the traders and general public.

Mr Rai also said that the decision of the state government is in the interest of all the people of Sikkim, which in the long run will benefit everyone. The government has no intention to harm the business of the traders and to cause any problem to the public, he added.

Will not allow others to buy veggies from Singtam say local vendors

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 05 APR:

Following the ban on import of vegetables from outside the State, vegetable vendors of Singtam Bazaar conducted an emergency meeting here at Mandi Bazaar in Singtam, East Sikkim today.

During the meet, it was decided that a co-operative society, All Singtam Vegetable Vendors Cooperative Society, will be formed in order to safeguard the interests and rights of the Nepali business community in Singtam.

"If vegetable vendors from Gangtok or outside Singtam purchase vegetables from villagers, how will we sell our produce to maintain our

livelihood. On top of that, we have loans to pay," said a representative of the cooperative society, Lata Pradhan.

However, in this re-

gard, president of Singtam Nagar Panchayat, SK Pradhan, has ensured that no outsider vendor will be allowed to purchase vegetable produce

from Singtam.

"All the concerned councilors will be keeping an eye on the vendors from outside to avoid purchase of vegetables

turn to pg03

IN SUMMIT TIMES THIS SATURDAY

spotlight
STORIES THAT MATTER
Features on Hydropower and Climate Change issues



Teestamukh at Chilmari in Bangladesh where the Teesta joins the Brahmaputra

Tryst with the Teesta

In the second article of the SPOTLIGHT series, Gauri Noolkar-Dak writes about her incredible back-packing journey with the Teesta from Teestamukh, where it drains into the Brahmaputra, to its source in North Sikkim at Tso Lhamo. Her '30-day pilgrimage' is also a journey into the cultural, economic and political aspects of the river, culminating in the realization that the Teesta is so much more. Gauri is a transboundary water conflicts researcher who has researched water problems in the Middle East, South-East Asia and South Asia. She has studied Economics at Fergusson College, Pune and the University of Hong Kong.

"In that moment, from Teestamukh to Tso Lhamo, I sense an intricate web of space and time; the hanging geography of the Teesta enmeshed with the journey of her life. Her course in Sikkim is her childhood, her youth lies in northern West Bengal, and she is at a ripe, old age in northern Bangladesh."

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SNPP demands thorough enquiry into Organic Mission

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Sikkim National People's Party (SNPP) has demanded that the state government immediately roll back the ban on vegetables from outside the State till the local production of vegetables is sufficient for the local people and visiting tourists in the State. SNPP president, Biraj Adhikari, has appealed to the people of Sikkim to not cooperate with such an order which infringes upon the constitutional right of the people.

Addressing a press conference here today, he also demanded a thorough enquiry by an impartial and independent agency into the 'Organic Mission' since its inception based on the findings of the CAG as documented in their annual reports.

Mr Adhikari said that the SNPP has ideologically supported the Organic

Mission of the state government but has opposed the populist approach the government has taken in the mission. He alleged that it seems that the Organic Mission was more of propaganda aimed at getting awards and to inflate the ego of one individual than a reality.

He added that the recent ban on non-organic vegetables from outside the State has caused immense hardship to countless people throughout the State especially to traders who have been earning their livelihood through vegetables.

"The ban has also revealed that the government was totally unprepared and that the departments did not even have an assessment of the amount of vegetables grown in the State," he added.

This move has distressed the common man and tourism stakeholders, and can disrupt peace in the State.

SKM criticizes State Govt's 'inadequacy' in implementing non-organic ban

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha today slammed the State Government for what it has pulled up as 'lackadaisical approach' in the govt's failure to provide adequate vegetables to consumers after banning the entry of non-organic products from outside the State.

SKM party working president, Navin Karki, today demanded that the State Government provide adequate vegetable supplies in the market.

Mr Karki has also asked the Horticulture Department to come up with a plan to bring down the 'extremely high' prices of the organic vegetables to avoid inconveniencing people and facing public backlash.

"The prices of vegetables which are available in the market are dangerously high and beyond the capacity of the middle and lower class people to afford," he said.

Organic cauliflower is being sold at Rs 120 a kilo against Rs 20-25 for the non-organic variant, he pointed out.

Similarly, the price of beans which was sold at Rs 30 per kg previously

has now rocketed to Rs 80 per kg.

The party has written a letter to the Horticulture Secretary demanding a mechanism to test organic products before making them available for sale in markets.

"We are not against the Organic Mission. We are not satisfied with the way it is being implemented and forced on the people," Mr Karki told reporters here today.

Mr Karki further said that the agriculture sector in the State is not ready to meet the 'ever growing' demands of vegetables in the State.

The opposition leader further criticized the State Government's 'inadequacy' in implementing the ban saying that it should have arranged proper alternative source to supply vegetables in the market.

"The ban is a torture for the people who cannot afford expensive organic vegetables and for traders whose livelihood depends on selling vegetables. Forcing people to eat what the Government thinks is good is against the fundamental rights of people and also illegal," he added.

Sikkim Rajya Manch launches its website



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Sikkim Rajya Manch (SRM) party president, RN Chamling, has officially launched the party's website here in Gangtok this afternoon. The party president has dedicated the website www.srmp.co.in to the people of Sikkim.

SRM was formed by independent MLA, RN Chamling, on 07 Dec last year at Sreebadam in West Sikkim. It is informed that the main objective for launching the website is to take the message, programmes and activities of the party to every person of Sikkim. It is further informed that the party will now increase the pace of its activities and programmes in the

State.

In his address, the party president mentioned that the party has been working at the grassroot level and that people have been joining the party.

"We have been working to bring the people of Sikkim together. We all have to work in the interest of Sikkim as Sikkimese by rising above religion and community," he said.

Mr Chamling stated that SRM has been protesting against the injustice done to the people of Sikkim.

"I have been raising issues of the people of Sikkim in every session of the State Assembly but have not been getting satisfactory response," he said.

He alleged that the huge debt on the State is a hindrance to proper development of Sikkim.

The party will not spare any person who has been working against the interest of Sikkim and its people, he warned.

Responding to media queries, Mr Chamling stated that the ban on import of vegetables from outside the State was implemented without proper planning which has led to the shortage of vegetables in the market. The State does not have sufficient production of vegetables, he said and demanded that the government immediately supply organic vegetables to the markets for the convenience of the people.

Rhenock College hosts mental awareness session to address problem of suicides

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Considering the appalling number of suicides in Sikkim, and particularly in Rhenock, the Government College Rhenock organised a day-long programme on Mental Health Awareness today in collaboration with doctors from the Health Department, a press communiqué from Lobsang Chopel Lepcha, Asst Professor at the college.

The programme was coordinated by the NSS Unit of the college and was addressed by a team of Health experts headed by Dr Satish Rasaily, District Nodal Officer, Mental Health Programme, East Sikkim, with Psychologists Sonam Tongden, Pinkney Bhutia and Devendra Singh, all from Department of Addiction Medicine and Psychiatry, Singtam District Hospital.

To boost enthusiasm among students and to ensure their total partici-



ipation, the programme started with a brief inter-semester quiz competition based on Mental Health.

Later, emphasizing mental health, the team of experts spoke on various issues from drug addiction and it being one of the root causes of damaging mental health to mental disorder and depression, its various

early signs and its treatment, to suicide and its prevention.

These deliberations were also followed with interactive sessions during which students openly placed various issues before the experts.

On the sidelines, one-on-one counseling was also arranged for students with the Psychiatrist to address their

issues and saw students coming forward with their problems.

In conclusion, the Principal expressed gratitude towards the team and Health Department for making the event possible and shared that it would go a long way towards mitigating social ills like depression and suicides.

SKM's Jan Chetna Yatra completes West Sikkim tour

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

The ongoing 'Jan Chetna Yatra' of the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha's press & publicity and social media cell completed its West Sikkim tour today starting from Daramdin constituency and ending at Jorethang under Zoom-Salghari constituency, informs an SKM press release.

The team interacted with farmers at Anden, Okhrey, Nagi, Gumpa Dara and heard out their woes of crop damage by wildlife. On the same, the party has demanded that the State government compensate the farmers at the earliest.



Further, the team appointed 13 members as secretaries of the

party's press & publicity and social media cell at Daramdin constituency

and 10 such secretaries for Zoom Salghari constituency.



ITBP cleans up highest post

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

The 11th Battalion of Indo-Tibetan Border Police stationed at Pegong, North Sikkim, conducted a cleanliness drive at its post in Kerang under the guidance of Commandant Rajesh Kumar Tomar. A press release informs that Kerang is ITBP's highest post at 18,000 ft where the temperature falls upto -30°C.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

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1274 3167 3365 4924 6579 7788 7824 8070 9092 9928

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

2892 3238 3709 5647 6315 7563 7668 8140 8806 9646

5th Prize Rs.500/-

0502 1163 2185 2520 5903 6184 6554 7948 8319 8831

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0043 0046 0047 0052 0054 0075 0088 0148 0157 0164

0176 0197 0198 0208 0311 0316 0329 0334 0357 0393

0408 0441 0496 0511 0532 0535 0596 0607 0616 0620

0643 0662 0664 0668 0690 0738 0742 0751 0783 0847

0865 0900 0907 0912 0946 0989 1006 1010 1035 1048

1070 1094 1114 1115 1118 1142 1148 1175 1186 1215

1244 1268 1279 1285 1289 1304 1309 1329 1337 1361

1390 1394 1410 1422 1427 1436 1466 1469 1478 1515

1526 1541 1552 1555 1581 1596 1602 1623 1624 1637

1663 1667 1681 1691 1701 1729 1738 1743 1756 1764

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1960 1988 1990 1995 2000 2004 2020 2027 2074 2078

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6752 6763 6804 6810 6828 6832 6844 6882 6899 6908

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7702 7717 7720 7736 7790 7809 7820 7834 7860 7933

7951 7959 7968 7969 7983 7988 7991 7998 8010 8017

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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

The Pressure to Titillate

Television news is getting worryingly dangerous

When the internet exploded on to personal computers and commentators around the world started sounding the death knell for the printed word and television [we are talking news here], there were a few sane minds which pointed out that this would not happen since the worldwide web did not have a business model to translate eyeballs into revenue.

No media can survive, leave alone wipe out another, without a revenue model. The internet has been flattening the world for a while now and has now even infiltrated our phones (making them smart although the verdict on whether we have become any smarter as a result is still up in the air), but newspapers and television channels continue to thrive. The reason why advertisements, which sustain newspapers and television nowadays, did not migrate to the internet is because even though the net offers free information, it demands constant engagement – you cannot be brewing yourself tea while also browsing [at least not properly], but you could be reading, cooking and washing even as you catch the news on television playing in the background. Because the television does not demand unbroken attention, it attracts advertisements which play on a spool and a few decibels louder than regular programming, until, in their covert assault they command the top of the mind recall that advertisers so desire. But then, there are so many channels to choose from, so many claiming breaking news all the time, that to retain advertiser portfolios, it becomes necessary to acquire viewership. Because television is chosen as a medium of information sometimes to catch news [a lathicharge or budget announcements] as it breaks, and most of the times because this form of imbibing information makes no demands on attention spans, given the competition in this segment, the need to entertain takes priority over the responsibility to inform. The need for authenticity is sidestepped because television viewers do not get a chance to rationalise - the rapid barrage of soundbytes and visuals, presented by excitable presenters, jumping from one story to another, leaves viewers no time to mull over the information provided or get any perspective or nuance.

It's different with newspapers where the reader is engaged in the process, questioning, doubting and analysing the information provided as she reads. Admittedly, not everything that we print demands such attention, but once a habit has been formed, such engagements become instinctive. At least we would wish so.

Meanwhile, to remain in business, an audience is required. At the harmless levels, this pressure to entertain ends up serving viewers half an hour specials on a "saree walle Baba" or a cow that walks in circles or two-hour long debate hours which racket nationalistic jingoism to eardrum-shattering levels. At the more unethical level, the pressure to titillate makes airtime for obviously doctored videos and flagrantly communal posturing which tease out people's insecurities and paint enemies and threats even as facts and sanity are airbrushed away. Television does not allow viewers time to think, and visual images have a way to 'leading' viewers, something not as easily achieved in the print medium. Work the remote on your telles and decide for yourself how many examples of journalistically responsibility towards authenticity are you being provided when it comes to stories that matter. How many instances have you noticed where this responsibility has been dangerously deprioritised in the race to garner viewership? Not just individual reputations, what is also at stake in this pressure to entertain [and nothing entertains like gossip] is the audience's need to be informed, and informed correctly.

As the bar for journalistic ethics to verify gets lowered, the medium of information with the largest footprint and accessibility becomes that much more susceptible to plants and directed misinformation which provide only momentary euphoria in some camps, anger in others, but serve no purpose save to titillate...

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

Why you stink at fact-checking

LISA FAZIO

theconversation.com

HERE'S A QUICK QUIZ FOR YOU:

- In the biblical story, what was Jonah swallowed by?

- How many animals of each kind did Moses take on the Ark?

Did you answer "whale" to the first question and "two" to the second? Most people do ... even though they're well aware that it was Noah, not Moses who built the ark in the biblical story.

Psychologists like me call this phenomenon the Moses Illusion. It's just one example of how people are very bad at picking up on factual errors in the world around them. Even when people know the correct information, they often fail to notice errors and will even go on to use that incorrect information in other situations.

Research from cognitive psychology shows that people are naturally poor fact-checkers and it is very difficult for us to compare things we read or hear to what we already know about a topic. In what's been called an era of "fake news," this reality has important implications for how people consume journalism, social media and other public information.

FAILING TO NOTICE WHAT

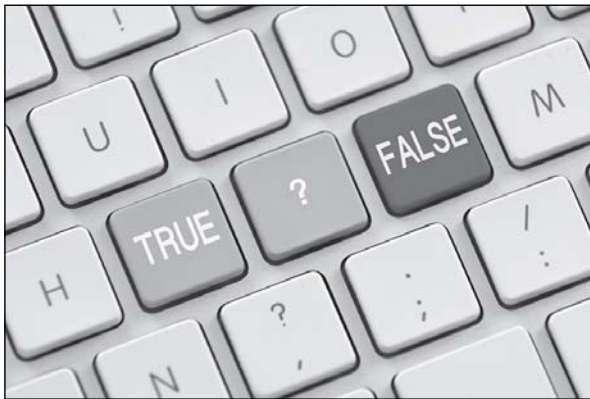
YOU KNOW IS WRONG

The Moses Illusion has been studied repeatedly since the 1980s. It occurs with a variety of questions and the key finding is that – even though people know the correct information – they don't notice the error and proceed to answer the question.

In the original study, 80 percent of the participants failed to notice the error in the question despite later correctly answering the question "Who was it that took the animals on the Ark?" This failure occurred even though participants were warned that some of the questions would have something wrong with them and were given an example of an incorrect question.

The Moses Illusion demonstrates what psychologists call knowledge neglect – people have relevant knowledge, but they fail to use it.

One way my colleagues and I have studied this knowledge neglect is by having people read fictional stories that contain true and false information about the world. For example, one story is about a character's summer job at a planetarium. Some information in the story is correct: "Lucky me, I had to wear some huge old space suit. I don't know if I was supposed to



be anyone in particular – maybe I was supposed to be Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon." Other information is incorrect: "First I had to go through all the regular astronomical facts, starting with how our solar system works, that Saturn is the largest planet, etc."

Later, we give participants a trivia test with some new questions (Which precious gem is red?) and some questions that relate to the information from the story (What is the largest planet in the solar system?). We reliably find positive effects of reading the correct information within the story – participants are more likely to answer "Who was the first person to step foot on the moon?" correctly. We also see negative effects of reading the misinformation – participants are both less likely to recall that Jupiter is the largest planet and they are more likely to answer with Saturn.

These negative effects of reading false information occur even when the incorrect information directly contradicts people's prior knowledge. In one study, my colleagues and I had people take a trivia test two weeks before reading the stories. Thus, we knew what information each person did and did not know. Participants still learned false information from the stories they later read. In fact, they were equally likely to pick up false information from the stories when it did and did not contradict their prior knowledge.

CAN YOU IMPROVE AT NOTICING INCORRECT INFO?

So people often fail to notice errors in what they read and will use those errors in later situations. But what can we do to prevent this influence of misinformation?

Expertise or greater knowledge seems to help, but it doesn't solve the problem. Even biology graduate students will attempt to answer distorted questions such as "Water contains two atoms of helium and how many atoms of oxygen?" – though they are less likely to answer them than history graduate students. (The pattern reverses for history-related questions.)

Many of the interventions my colleagues and I have implemented to try to reduce people's reliance on the misinformation have failed or even backfired. One initial thought was that participants would be more likely to notice the errors if they had more time to process the information. So, we presented the stories in a book-on-tape format and slowed down the presentation rate. But instead of using the extra time to detect and avoid the errors, participants were even more likely to produce the misinformation from the stories on a later trivia test.

Next, we tried highlighting the critical information in a red font. We told readers to pay particular attention to the information presented in red with the hope that paying special attention to the incorrect information would help them notice and avoid the errors. Instead, they paid additional attention to the errors and were thus more likely to repeat them on the later test.

The one thing that does seem to help is to act like a professional fact-checker. When participants are instructed to edit the story and highlight any inaccurate statements, they are less likely to learn misinformation from the story. Similar results occur when participants read the stories sentence by sentence and decide whether each sentence contains an error.

It's important to note that even these "fact-checking" readers miss many of the errors and still learn false information from the stories. For example, in the sentence-by-sentence detection task participants caught about 30 percent of the errors. But given their prior knowledge they should have been able to detect at least 70 percent. So this type of careful reading does help, but readers still miss many errors and will use them on a later test.

QUIRKS OF PSYCHOLOGY
MAKE US MISS MISTAKES

Why are human beings so bad at noticing errors and misinformation? Psychologists believe that there are at least two forces at work.

First, people have a general bias to believe that things are true. (After all, most things that we read or hear are true.) In fact, there's some evidence that we initially process all statements as true and that it then takes cognitive effort to mentally mark them as false.

Second, people tend to accept information as long as it's close enough to the correct information. Natural speech often includes errors, pauses and repeats. ("She was wearing a blue – um, I mean, a black, a black dress.") One idea is that to maintain conversations we need to go with the flow – accept information that is "good enough" and just move on.

And people don't fall for these illusions when the incorrect information is obviously wrong. For example, people don't try and answer the question "How many animals of each kind did Nixon take on the Ark?" and people don't believe that Pluto is the largest planet after reading it in a fictional story.

Detecting and correcting false information is difficult work and requires fighting against the ways our brains like to process information. Critical thinking alone won't save us. Our psychological quirks put us at risk of falling for misinformation, disinformation and propaganda. Professional fact-checkers provide an essential service in hunting out incorrect information in the public view. As such, they are one of our best hopes for zeroing in on errors and correcting them, before the rest of us read or hear the false information and incorporate it into what we know of the world.

[the writer is Assistant Professor of Psychology, Vanderbilt University]

Why it's so hard to #DeleteFacebook: Constant psychological boosts keep you hooked

S. SHYAM SUNDAR, BINGJIE LIU, CARLINA DIRUSSO & MICHAEL KRIEGER
theconversation.com

Here we go again: another Facebook controversy, yet again violating our sense of privacy by letting others harvest our personal information. This flareup is a big one to be sure, leading some people to consider leaving Facebook altogether, but the company and most of its over 2 billion users will reconcile. The vast majority will return to Facebook, just like they did the last time and the many times before that. As in all abusive relationships, users have a psychological dependence that keeps them hooked despite knowing that, at some level, it's not good for them.

Decades of research has shown that our relationship with all media, whether movies, television or radio, is symbiotic: People like them because of the gratifications they get from consuming them – benefits like escapism, relaxation and companionship. The more people use them, the more gratifications they seek and obtain.

With online media, however, a consumer's use provides data to media companies so they can serve up exactly what would gratify her most, as they mine her behavior patterns to tailor her online experiences and appeal to her individual psychological needs.

Aside from providing content for our consumption, Facebook, Twitter, Google – indeed all interactive media – provide us with new possibilities for interaction on the platform that can satisfy some of our innate human cravings.

Interactive tools in Facebook provide simplified ways to engage your curiosity, broadcast your thoughts, promote your image, maintain relationships and fulfill the yearning for external validation. Social media take advantage of common psychological traits and tendencies to keep you clicking – and revealing more of yourself. Here's why it's so hard, as a social network user, to pull the plug once and for all.

BUOYING YOUR 'FRIENDSHIPS'



The more you click, the stronger your online relationships. Hitting the 'Like' button, commenting on photos of friends, sending birthday wishes and tagging others are just some of the ways in which Facebook allows you to engage in "social grooming." All these tiny, fleeting contacts help users maintain relationships with large numbers of people with relative ease.

MOLDING THE IMAGE YOU WANT TO PROJECT
The more you reveal, the greater your chances of successful self-presentation. Studies have shown that strategic self-presentation is a key feature of Facebook use. Users shape their online identity by revealing which concert they went to and with whom, which causes they support, which rallies they attend and so on. In this way, you can curate your online self and manage others' impressions of you, something that would be impossible to do in real life with such regularity and precision. Online, you get to project the ideal version of yourself all the time.

SNOOPING THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW

The more you click, the more you can keep an eye on others. This kind of social searching and surveillance are among the most important gratifications obtained from Facebook. Most people take pleasure in looking up others on social media, often surreptitiously. The psychological need to monitor your environment is deep-rooted and drives you to keep up with news of the day – and fall victim to

FOMO, the fear of missing out. Even privacy-minded senior citizens, loathe to reveal too much about themselves, are known to use Facebook to snoop on others.

ENHANCING YOUR SOCIAL RESOURCES

The more you reveal, the greater your social network. Being more forthcoming can get you a job via LinkedIn. It can also help an old classmate find you and reconnect. Studies have shown that active use of Facebook can enhance your social capital, whether you're a college student or a senior citizen wanting to bond with family members or rekindle ties with long-lost friends. Being active on social media is associated with increases in self-esteem and subjective well-being.

ENLARGING YOUR TRIBE

The more you click, the bigger and better the bandwagon. When you click to share a news story on social media or express approval of a product or service, you're contributing to the creation of a bandwagon of support. Metrics conveying strong bandwagon support, just like five stars for a product on Amazon, are quite persuasive, in part because they represent a consensus among many opinions. In this way, you get to be a part of online communities that form around ideas, events, movements, stories and products – which can ultimately enhance your sense of belonging.

EXPRESSING YOURSELF AND BEING VALIDATED
The more you reveal, the greater your agency. Whether it's a tweet, a status update or a detailed blog post, you get to express yourself and help shape the discourse on social media. This self-expression by itself can be quite empowering. And metrics indicating bandwagon support for your posts – all those "likes" and smiley faces – can profoundly enhance your sense of self worth by appealing to your ingrained psychological need for external validation.

In all these ways, social media's features provide us too many important gratifications to forego easily. If you think most users will give all this

turn to 05



Bengal bleeds, alleges former Railway Minister Mukul Roy

**SMRITA KHAWAS
SILIGURI, 05 APR:**

Ex-Trinamool Congress leader and former Railway Minister of India, Mukul Roy, landed at Bagdogra Airport here this afternoon.

The now BJP affiliated leader, while addressing the press at the airport complex, said 'Bengal bleeds'.

"The system is crippled. It has collapsed. We are seeing that ruling party forcefully stopping others from contesting in the upcoming Panchayat polls. Concerned officials should resign if they fail to resolve this disorder," Mr Roy added.

He informed that BJP

will approach the Central Governor for intervention if the situation in ground remains unchanged in the State.

Commenting on the TMC-Kamtapur Progressive Party [KPP] coalition for the upcoming Panchayat polls, Mr Roy mentioned that there is nothing new in the development. A similar coalition was struck in the Lok Sabha polls earlier, he pointed out.

"As for the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha [GJM], they were our allies in the Lok Sabha polls. Let them decide if they want to walk with us or not," he added.

Why it's so hard to #DeleteFacebook: Constant...

contd from pg4

up in the off chance that illegally obtained data from their Facebook profiles and activities may be used to influence their votes, think again.

ALGORITHMS THAT NEVER LET YOU GO

While most people may be squeamish about algorithms mining their personal information, there's an implicit understanding that sharing personal data is a necessary evil that helps enhance their experience. The algorithms that collect your information are also the algorithms that nudge you to be social, based on your interests, behaviors and networks of friends. Without Facebook egging you on, you probably wouldn't be quite as social. Facebook is a major social lubricant of our time, often recommending friends to add to your circle and notifying you when a friend has said or done something potentially of interest.

Consider how many notifications Facebook sends about events alone. When presented with a nudge about an event, you may at least consider going, probably even visit the event page, maybe indicate that you're "Interested" and even decide to attend the event. None of these decisions would be possible without first receiving the nudge.

What if Facebook never nudged you? What if algorithms never gave you recommendations or suggestions? Would you still perform those actions? According to

nudge theory, you'd be far less likely to take action if you're not encouraged to do so. If Facebook never nudged you to attend events, add friends, view others' posts or wish friends Happy Birthday, it's unlikely you would do it, thereby diminishing your social life and social circles.

Facebook knows this very well. Just try deleting your Facebook account and you will be made to realize what a massive repository it is of your private and public memory. When one of us tried deactivating her account, she was told how huge the loss would be - profile disabled, all the memories evaporating, losing touch with over 500 friends. On the top of the page were profile photos of five friends, including the lead author of this article, with the line "S. Shyam will miss you."

This is like asking if you would like to purposely and permanently cut off ties with all your friends. Now, who would want to do that?

[S. Shyam Sundar is Distinguished Professor of Communication & Co-Director of the Media Effects Research Laboratory, Pennsylvania State University; Bingjie Liu is Ph.D. Student in Mass Communications, Pennsylvania State University; Carlina DiRusso is Ph.D. Student in Mass Communications, Pennsylvania State University; Michael Krieger is Ph.D. Student in Mass Communications, Pennsylvania State University]

Rs 20 lakh calamity fund for all Meghalaya districts

SHILLONG, APR 5 (PTI): The severe hailstorm that lashed Meghalaya last week and affecting over 2,500 households, has forced the government to keep Rs 20 lakh each with the district chiefs for immediate relief in case of calamity, the Assembly was informed today.

On March 30, a severe hailstorm lashed several districts of the state. The most severely affected districts were West Jaintia Hills, West Khasi Hills and East Garo Hills.

As per initial reports, a total of 237 villages have been affected in these districts. Around 2,500 households have been affected, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Kyrmen Shylla said while replying to a call attention motion moved by Congress MLA P T Sawkmie.

While informing that there was no loss of life, the minister said, areas under Mawshynrut, Mairang, Laskein, Songsak, Rongjeng and Samanta CdRD blocks were the worst-hit.

Since assessment is still going on, the figures may change,



he said.

He also said the Revenue & Disaster Management Department is in touch with the Guwahati-based Regional Meteorological Centre and the North East Space Application Centre (NESAC) at Umiam for advanced weather forecasts.

The state government has also released an amount of Rs 20 lakh to every deputy commissioner in all the districts

so they can meet immediate needs for relief in case of such a calamity, he said.

Chief Minister Conrad Sangma also convened an emergency meeting the next day which was attended by Shylla and his cabinet colleagues Sniawbhalang Dhar and Coming Ymbon, besides the chief secretary and other senior officers.

The meeting took stock of

the situation and decided to take immediate action to extend relief and other necessary assistance to the victims of the natural calamity in the form of Gratuitous Relief, tarpaulins and CGI sheets, Shylla said.

The department also issued instructions to all Deputy Commissioners to make detailed assessment of damage to dwelling houses, crops, horticulture crops, livestock and

poultry and to submit reports as early as possible.

Earlier, saying that climate change impacts will only get worse going forward, the chief minister said there should be a mitigation policy in place.

He said the frequency of flash floods had gone up in the state in the last few years and as per the expectations of scientists, the situation will get worse.

It (climate change impact) will get worse and there should be an adaptation and mitigation policy. We are working on a war footing in this regard, Sangma said during question hour.

Sangma said that he, along with Water Resources Minister Metbah Lyngdoh, had met Union Water Resources Minister Nitin Gadkari last week on the issue.

Lyngdoh said that various flood protection schemes to control flood water of Jinjiram River in the plain belts of Garo Hills had been prepared and were awaiting sanction from the Centre.



3rd State Steering Committee meet for immunization held in the capital

contd from pg3

that the HPV vaccination is being introduced in the State to prevent incidence of cervical cancer in young adolescent girls.

She added in detail the various stages of preparedness for the campaign, the process of immunization and the strategy adopted by the Health Department in convergence with other departments.

It was reiterated in

the meeting that private schools should be sensitized to participate in the HPV Campaign. The involvement and role of various departments was discussed in detail.

After a brief open house discussion by partner agencies, the meeting discussed about the feedback on IMI by the Government of India.

Chief Secretary, Mr Shrivastava, in his address, called for active

participation of all the departments to make the campaign successful and to ensure 100% coverage. He assured full support at every stage and encouraged the District Collectors and other functionaries to take the lead in coordination with the Health officials.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks proposed by Mission Director, NHM, Dr Bimal Rai.

Rorathang SS captains & vice captains take oath



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 APR:

Rorathang Secondary School in East Sikkim conducted the oath taking ceremony for its newly nominated captains and vice captains under various disciplines at the school premises on 04 Apr. The programme was chaired by Assistant Director, Pakyong BAC, NK Subba, as chief guest in the presence of Ward Panchayat, Anju Gajmer, Head Master, HN Shenga, SMC members, teachers and students, a press release informs.



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7th - 8th April

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Chairman,
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of 99.9% efficiency,
Six Sigma



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SR VP, RedBus, Golbibo,
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SARVESH AGRAWAL
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Expelled diplomats leave US embassy in Moscow

MOSCOW, APR 5 (AFP):

The first of a group of 60 US diplomats who have been expelled from Russia in the wake of the poisoned spy row departed from Washington's embassy in Moscow today, an AFP reporter on the scene said.

Dozens of US diplomats and their families left the embassy compound on three buses and a minibus at 6.30am (0330 GMT) and headed towards the airport, after Moscow set a Thursday deadline for the envoys to leave the country.

There has been a flurry of tit-for-tat diplomatic expulsions since the March 4 poisoning on UK soil of Sergei Skripal, which Britain says was carried out with a military-grade nerve agent developed by the Soviet Union.

The former double agent, who defected to Britain, was found slumped on a park bench in the English town of Salisbury alongside his daughter Yulia who was also critically injured.

London has said it is "highly likely" Moscow was behind the botched assassination, a charge the Kremlin has angrily denied. Relations between Moscow and the West have since plummeted to a new lows.

More than 150 Russian diplomats were ordered out of the US, EU members, NATO countries and other nations as punishment, a move that was met in kind by Russia.

At the end of March Moscow ordered 60 US diplomats to leave, as well as the closure of the St Petersburg consulate. There was a stream of vehicles driving in and out of the embassy ahead of the departure, many carrying luggage and the pets of the expelled diplomats.

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Record-breaking Mirabai Chanu claims India's first gold of 21st CWG

POONAM MEHRA

GOLD COAST, APR 5 (PTI): World champion weightlifter Saikhom Mirabai Chanu (48kg) went on a record-smashing spree, claiming three of them in a power-packed performance, to secure India's first gold medal at the 21st Commonwealth Games here today.

In a remarkable performance, Chanu smashed the Commonwealth and the Games record in snatch, pulling off clean lifts in all her three attempts (80kg, 84kg and 86kg).

She then lifted more than double her body weight (103kg, 107kg and 110kg) in three successful attempts to claim the clean and jerk as well as the overall Games re-



cord. The showing helped her better the silver she had won in the 2014 Glasgow CWG.

"I was not expecting to break records but I certainly

wanted to break them when I came here. I can't put in words, how it feels right now," an exhausted but jubilant Chanu told PTI.

"I can only say that I have worked really hard to achieve this. I am very happy. This is my second CWG medal, it is such a good feeling," she added.

CWG India blank Sri Lanka in badminton team opener

GOLD COAST, APR 5 (PTI): Indian shuttlers were off to an expectedly good start as they defeated Sri Lanka in a largely lop-sided preliminary clash of the Commonwealth Games mixed team event here today.

The Indians, spearheaded by Saina Nehwal and K Srikanth in singles today, were billed to dominate the tie and this is precisely what they did with a 5-0 win. The only match where they were pushed to a degree was the mixed doubles.

Pranaav Chopra and Ruthvika Gadde opened the proceedings against Sachin Dias and Thilini Pramodika and the Indian pair had to toil a little more than anticipated to prevail 21-15 19-21 22-20 in a match which lasted nearly an hour.

However, Srikanth brought the momentum back by dispatching Niluka Karunaratane in straight games. The men's singles top seed won 21-16 21-10.

The men's doubles pair of Satwik Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made a successful CWG debut, taking down Dinuka Karunaratna and Buwaneka Goonethillakea 21-17 21-14.

Next player in was Saina and she didn't give much time or effort in annihilating Madushika Beru-elage 21-8 21-4 in a 22-minute appearance.

The star shuttler was caught in a controversy recently when she threatened to pull out of the Games if her father Harvir Singh wasn't accommodated at the CWG athletes village.

Singh was there in the stands to watch her today although he



wasn't seated with the Indian team due to his status of being an extra official.

"It is nice to get used to the court conditions. The Commonwealth Games is very prestigious for all of the countries, and for India, we are trying our level best and I just want to be focused and concentrate on all of my matches," Saina said after her match.

"I expected that she would give me a tough fight. When you play

someone who is lower-ranked, it is tough, because there is great expectation from you," she added.

Asked about India's prospects in the event, Saina said, "I hope that the whole team can play well. We are not thinking too much about the semis and finals."

In the last match of the tie, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy defeated Thilini Pramodika and Kavidi Siriannage 21-12 21-14.



No physios, no problems for Indian weightlifters at CWG

GOLD COAST, APR 5 (PTI): Indian weightlifters delivered the medals today but the system seems to have let them down at the ongoing Commonwealth Games.

Mirabai Chanu (48kg) smashed snatch, clean and jerk and the overall Games records today to claim India's first gold of the ongoing edition, while P Gururaja (56kg) overcame a few nervy minutes to clinch a silver in the men's competition.

The colour of their medals might have been different but one thing common to their performances was that neither of them had a physio by their side to take care of their aches and niggles during a demanding day.

"I don't have a physio with me here in the competition. He was not allowed here. I did not get enough treatment coming into the competition. There is nobody, we did tell officials but nothing

happened," Chanu said after her record-breaking gold-winning performance that earned her a massive ovation from the fans here.

"I had requested that my physio be allowed but he has not been allowed. But we are helping each other and managing so far," she added with a smile.

Gururaja, the soft-spoken wannabe-wrestler-turned-weightlifter from Karnataka, also spoke about the problems he faced.

"I've sustained multiple injuries. My physio is not here, so I haven't been able to get the treatment that I need for my knee and sciatic nerve," he said.

Sciatic nerve begins in the lower back and runs through to the lower limb, making it the longest and widest single nerve in the human body.

Despite repeated attempts, the Indian Chef-

wounds of my Olympic heart-break. I had such bad luck there," said the Manipuri, referring to her failure to manage even a single clean lift at the Rio Games in 2016.

Her nearest but still a very distant rival going into today's competition, Amanda Brad-dock of Canada, failed to complete a single lift in the clean and jerk after managing a best of 76kg in snatch.

The silver in the event went to Mauritian Marie Ranaivosova (76kg+94kg), while the bronze was taken by Sri Lanka's Dinusha Gomes (70kg+85kg).

Earlier, P Gururaja claimed a silver medal in the men's 56kg event to open India's medal account in the quadrennial extravaganza.

World record beacons Paes in Davis Cup tie against China

TIANJIN (CHINA), APR 5 (PTI): Veteran Leander Paes will make yet another attempt to create the Davis Cup record for the most doubles win as India clash with China in their den in "brutal" cold conditions for a place in the World Group Play-offs, starting here tomorrow.

The 44-year-old Paes is tied on 42 wins with Italian great Nicola Pietrangeli and one more win will make him the most successful doubles player in the history of Davis Cup.

Paes had a chance to the make the record when India hosted New Zealand in Pune in February 2017 but doubles was the only match India lost in that tie.

What followed in Bengaluru against Uzbekistan was an avoidable controversy as captain Mahesh Bhupathi chose to put Paes on bench, fielding Sriram Balaji with Bopanna.

Those were two chances when Paes could have got that coveted record in front of his home fans but now after reclaiming his place in the team on the back of some stellar show in the last few months, he has to do it thousands of miles away from home in alien conditions.

"Playing China in China will be tough. They have got a junior who won the (junior) US Open, plus they have a tough doubles team, which beat a good New Zealand side. It's going to be tough. The Chinese



play well together as a team. It's wonderful after 29 years to go for a world record for India. I am happy to be back in the Indian team. But for me it's important for the team to win the tie," Paes told PTI in an interaction.

The build up to the second round tie in the Asia/Oceania Group I tie had its share of controversy with Rohan Bopanna expressing reluctance to be on the same team which had Paes before agreeing to travel to China.

Paes strongly believes that Bopanna's initial reluctance to pair with him will not be a hindrance.

"I have always believed Rohan and me make a very good team. His power, my control. His big serve, my net game. The match against Serbia (in 2014), we were down by two sets against multiple Grand Slam winners but we still managed to come back and win in five sets. That was one of the great doubles wins of my career. I was happy to do that alongside Rohan."

India's top singles player Yuki Bhambri pulled out of the tie due to a minor abdominal injury, handing a gritty Ramkumar Ramanathan a responsibility to spearhead the Indian challenge along with young and talented Sumit Nagal.

The tie will be fought in a new two-day format where best of three set matches will be played instead of best of five.

"Our team will certainly miss Yuki a lot. For me his achievement in last one month, qualifying for Miami masters and beating Lucas Pouille was fantastic. Yuki is probably playing the best tennis of his career," Paes said.

On paper, India definitely are a strong side with both Ramkumar (132) and Nagal (213) better-ranked than China's top two singles players -- Ze Zhang (247) and Di Wu (248) -- but the hosts have a very strong weapon in Yibing Wu, who is being hailed as China's superstar in making.

The 18-year-old has a humble rank of 332 to show but he is the current junior world number one who made the world take note of him by winning the junior US Open last year.

He already has Challenger singles title under his belt with a win over seasoned Yen-Hsun Lu (then world number 62, in September last).

It's not a surprise that Chinese captain Wei Jiang has decided to unleash the

young gun in the opening match of the tie against Ramkumar.

However, both Ramkumar and Nagal have matured as players who can soak in pressure and deliver the goods.

Ramkumar will open India's campaign against Yibing and Nagal will take on Zhang tomorrow. On Saturday, Paes and Bopanna will clash with Di Wu and Mao-Xin Gong and the doubles will be followed by reverse singles the same day.

"It's good to have Ram starting the tie. He has a lot more experience than the kid does. So he has to execute," Captain Bhupathi said.

Asked about the conditions as it was snowing yesterday, resulting in drop in temperatures, Bhupathi said, "Conditions are brutal for all players so whoever stay mentally stronger will benefit. It's cold and slow."

India coach Zeeshan Ali also expressed concerns about the conditions.

"Conditions are very tough as it's extremely cold for playing outdoors. But we have to brave it since there is no Davis Cup rule for minimum temperature. Hopefully Ram can give us a good start for Sumit to play with less pressure. It will be tough since conditions are harsh," Zeeshan said.

"Yuki pulling out has come as a shock but injuries are part of a player's career. We have to work hard to get those three points," the coach added.

Pak approaches World Bank over Kishanganga project: Report

ISLAMABAD, APR 5 (PTI): Pakistan has informed the World Bank about India’s completing of the Kishanganga hydropower project during the bank’s “pause” period and has urged it to “recognise its responsibility” under the Indus Waters Treaty, a media report said today.

Pakistan has approached the World Bank, the mediator between the two countries of the water distribution treaty, in the past and raised issues over Kishanganga and Ratle projects in Jammu and Kashmir.

It has been flagging concern over designs of India’s five hydro-electricity projects - Pakal Dul (1000 MW), Ratle (850 MW), Kishanganga (330 MW), Miyar (120 MW) and Lower Kalnai (48 MW) - being built/planned in the Indus river basin, contending these violate the treaty.

The power division of the energy ministry sent a fresh communique early this week to the bank’s vice president urging the international organisation to ensure that India abided by the provisions of the 1960 treaty while building the projects, a government official told Dawn newspaper.

The official said the letter had reached the bank’s head office in Washington and had been delivered to its vice president concerned as confirmed by Pakistan’s director to the bank, the report said.

Lanka Prez under attack from Oppn over no trust motion defeat

COLOMBO, APR 5 (PTI): Sri Lanka’s Joint Opposition has accused President Maithripala Sirisena of “betraying” not only them but also his own party and allies, after Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe comfortably won a no-trust motion.

Wickremesinghe, 68, who leads a national unity government in alliance with Sirisena’s Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), received 122 votes against the motion while 76 favoured the motion to oust him.

Banking on votes of legislators of Sirisena’s Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), former President Mahinda Rajapaksa-led Joint Opposition moved the motion, accusing



Wickremesinghe of financial mismanagement and his failure to tackle anti-Muslim riots last month in the central Kandy district.

Only 19 out of Sirisena’s 40 plus MPs voted while 22 of them remain absent in the House, helping the Sri Lankan Prime Minister to sail through.

“President Sirisena’s habit of betrayal proven again at the no confidence motion. First he encouraged SLFP members to support it and then backs off. He has betrayed both the SLFP and the UNP,” Rajapaksa’s legislator son Namal Rajapaksa tweeted last night.

Wickremesinghe also got help of Tamil and Muslim minority parties.

“Sirisena must take the responsibility for preventing the end of the Prime Minister’s political

journey,” a senior opposition leader Prasanna Ranatunga said.

According to the final vote tally, even if legislators of Sirisena and Rajapaksa-led parties had voted for the motion, Wickremesinghe would still have sailed through as no member from his UNP broke ranks.

The 19 ministers, who had voted against Wickremesinghe, have asked that they be allowed to continue in the cabinet despite their lack of confidence in the unity government.

The UNP backbenchers, however, signed a petition addressed to Sirisena to sack the SLFP dissenters in the cabinet.

Wickremesinghe has no power to remove ministers. It can only be done either by Sirisena or through a no-confidence motion in Parliament.

“The conspirators who undermined the government during the last 3 years must be sacked,” a UNP legislator Hesha Withanage said.

After winning the trust vote last night, Wickremesinghe said the government would venture in a new journey with all those who supported.

“We have lost some but we can move forward with the rest.” He was hoping to meet Sirisena soon to discuss the future of the government and to preserve the mandate received by Sirisena in January 2015 for implementing reform.

Bangladesh court extends bail for Zia until April 22

DHAKA, APR 5 (PTI): A court in Bangladesh today extended the bail of imprisoned ex-prime minister and main opposition BNP chief Khaleda Zia until April 22 in a graft case, media reports said.

The 72-year-old three-time former prime minister was jailed for five years on February 8 in connection with the embezzlement of 21 million taka (about USD 250,000) in foreign donations meant for the Zia Orphanage Trust, named after her late husband Ziaur Rahman, a military ruler-turned-politician.

Judge Mohamad Akhtaruzzaman of the Special Judge Court-5 passed the order today after Zia’s lawyers submitted a petition seeking the extension of the bail in connection with the Zia Charitable Trust corruption case, The Daily Star reported.

Zia, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) chief, was not produced before the court as she was “physically sick”, according to jail authorities.

The court also ordered authorities to produce her before it on April 22, the report said.

On March 28, the special court had fixed the date of April 5 for hearing arguments in the case.

The Zia Charitable Trust graft case, filed in 2011, accuses four persons including Zia of abusing power to raise funds for the trust from unknown sources.

The three others are: Harris Chowdhury, political secretary of then prime minister Zia between 2001 and 2006; Ziaul Islam Munna, Assistant Private Secretary (APS) to Harris; and Monirul Islam Khan, APS of former Dhaka city mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

The corruption case is one of dozens pending against Zia, who has been a rival to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for decades.



North Korea is “almost certain” to have ballistic missiles within six to 18 months that can reach the UK, MPs have warned. The weapons could potentially carry nuclear warheads and Britain has only a limited missile defence system if an attack was launched, according to a report by the Commons Defence Select Committee. “It is a reasonable assumption that North Korea can already reach the UK with ballistic missiles which could potentially carry nuclear warheads,” the report says. “In any case, it is almost certain to be able to do so within the next six to 18 months if it continues its programme at the current rate of development.” “The UK has only a limited ballistic missile defence (BMD) capability, however, if North Korea decided to launch a missile at the UK.”

Terrorism one of foremost threats to global peace: Swaraj

BAKU, APR 5 (PTI): Terrorism is one of the foremost threats to international peace and security as it maims and kills “our citizens”, and undermines the ability to attain development goals, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said today.

Addressing the 18th mid-term ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) here, Swaraj also pushed for reforms of the United Nations Security Council.

She said that no effort to reform the UN will be complete without reforms of the United Nations Security Council.

India had been strongly pushing for completing the long-pending reforms of the powerful Security Council.

Swaraj said that terrorism is one of the foremost threats to international peace and security.

“It maims and kills our citi-



zens and undermines our ability to attain our development goals.

“Unfortunately, the talks about combating terrorism have not been matched by our actions. The strengthening and implementation, without double standards of existing international laws and mechanisms to fight the menace of terrorism is an imperative,” the minister said.

The meeting was chaired by Jorge Arreaza, Foreign Minister of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

In 1996, India proposed a Comprehensive Convention on

International Terrorism (CCIT) as a way to strengthen the existing legal framework. Yet after more than two decades, discussions have made little progress even while terrorists continue to operate with greater impunity and inhumanity, the minister said.

“As a first step, let us renew our commitment to finalise the CCIT. NAM countries must galvanise the international community towards this goal,” Swaraj said.

At the last UN General Assembly High Level segment, a strong desire was voiced by the international community

for change and reforms at the United Nations, she said.

“To date, the Inter-Governmental Negotiation process, has been carefully nurtured into a credible collective process for negotiation on this important subject.

“The time has come to move to the next phase and commence text based negotiations a demand made by an overwhelming majority of UN members including most NAM members,” she said.

“India’s support to the Palestinian cause has been a reference point of our foreign policy. At this juncture, this would be a good way for NAM to manifest its solidarity with the Palestinian people,” Swaraj said.

At the recent meeting in Rome to deal with the financial crisis faced by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), India decided to increase its contribution to the UNRWA budget from USD 1 million to USD 5 million, on a multiple year basis, in view of the dire financial crisis that this body now faces.

“The challenges we face today such as nuclear escalation, armed conflict, refugee flows, terrorism, poverty and worsening environmental degradation all require more effective multilateralism. The fundamental values and principles on which the Non Aligned Movement is based are, therefore, even more relevant today.

“In 2015, we adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to find solutions of the developmental challenges we face. We also promised that no one will be left behind. Genuine global partnerships have to be forged if the SDGs are to be achieved. Financing for Development is, therefore, of utmost importance to NAM countries,” Swaraj said.

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

LABHLAXMI GEMINI

Draw No:9 DrawDate on:04/04/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5854

2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 3172 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1210

4th Prize Rs.300/- 4799 5th Prize Rs. 202/- 4063

6th Prize Rs.100/-

1010 1015 1092 1108 1120 1174 1201 1216 1218 1240

1285 1325 1340 1353 1402 1430 1488 1495 1508 1510

1516 1578 1581 1594 1606 1607 1611 1677 1688 1702

1706 1716 1717 1726 1758 1854 1868 1923 1962 1970

1972 1990 2018 2077 2078 2083 2092 2151 2181 2183

2187 2219 2223 2227 2238 2287 2310 2319 2329 2336

2393 2466 2584 2606 2611 2612 2625 2764 2768 2776

2792 2830 2852 2871 2879 2904 2921 2940 2946 2947

3001 3027 3038 3052 3066 3115 3123 3128 3196 3233

3266 3281 3299 3337 3372 3410 3429 3441 3444 3440

3493 3495 3545 3570 3578 3584 3601 3602 3622 3677

3725 3741 3755 3805 3819 3870 3872 3878 3886 3922

3938 3944 3950 3979 4003 4011 4023 4032 4078 4099

4100 4103 4118 4135 4139 4146 4190 4205 4225 4272

4286 4328 4342 4376 4448 4457 4480 4487 4498 4541

4597 4631 4658 4664 4678 4701 4768 4844 4883 4890

4898 4935 4972 4984 4999 5003 5057 5061 5131 5141

5146 5165 5189 5218 5233 5271 5293 5329 5369 5379

5407 5426 5429 5468 5482 5494 5525 5556 5607 5643

5721 5790 5816 5830 5837 5913 5924 5931 5937 5981

6026 6029 6043 6161 6163 6187 6188 6203 6206 6221

6241 6372 6397 6415 6431 6439 6446 6454 6478 6508

6515 6517 6534 6567 6633 6637 6647 6678 6703 6724

6750 6823 6842 6844 6848 6863 6877 6923 6940 6992

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The Director ,Mizoram State Lotteries,

For result please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES

MUMBAILAXMI CHAND

Draw No:9 DrawDate on:05/04/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 2574 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 2919

3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 4879 4th Prize Rs. 503/- 1452

5th Prize Rs.200/-

1009 1030 1043 1044 1051 1119 1177 1249 1269 1280

1305 1334 1346 1356 1368 1439 1537 1573 1588 1616

1637 1674 1692 1815 1823 1842 1846 1883 2043 2059

2066 2093 2125 2162 2183 2210 2334 2340 2433 2435

2460 2492 2602 2661 2833 2920 2932 2937 2975 3035

3070 3247 3318 3324 3337 3396 3418 3455 3556 3573

3664 3779 3863 3927 3967 4023 4026 4106 4175 4218

4256 4346 4349 4631 4672 4706 4747 4813 4887 5086

5109 5134 5181 5217 5274 5403 5454 5456 5457 5466

5493 5499 5509 5701 5702 5756 5809 5831 5848 5970

6th Prize Rs.100/-

1004 1049 1082 1113 1159 1176 1193 1214 1219 1290

1293 1396 1400 1426 1453 1534 1538 1603 1605 1626

1638 1656 1676 1694 1699 1729 1755 1764 1779 1855

1880 1890 1894 1911 1920 1965 2033 2039 2046 2055

2078 2094 2108 2131 2158 2176 2217 2221 2222 2258

2272 2279 2281 2335 2336 2363 2370 2378 2410 2413

2414 2439 2473 2489 2509 2522 2561 2589 2629 2636

2721 2725 2727 2816 2818 2832 2853 2879 2882 2895

2896 2914 2930 2959 2959 3068 3083 3123 3159 3186 3201

3236 3249 3276 3277 3293 3315 3359 3474 3479 3489 3498

3558 3580 3594 3611 3632 3670 3679 3695 3700 3707

3714 3715 3732 3825 3841 3884 3907 3951 3968 3998

4081 4111 4114 4140 4153 4202 4204 4231 4236 4254

4288 4344 4428 4430 4475 4495 4497 4500 4508 4610

4621 4640 4647 4683 4703 4744 4748 4749 4752 4758

4760 4841 4856 4906 4907 4926 4935 4962 5026 5076

5078 5087 5094 5154 5158 5171 5200 5254 5256 5258

5270 5304 5387 5390 5432 5435 5515 5516 5530 5552

5677 5700 5707 5730 5782 5786 5835 5843 5922 5925

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR TIME MORNING

Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards

Draw No:18 DrawDate on:05/04/18

1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 806 06250

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 06250 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

11734 20259 21496 41624 44176

40541 51948 62099 73199 74772

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0786 2367 3117 3875 5626 6071 6217 6867 7864 8155

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0051 3791 4224 5135 5385 5787 5832 6185 8911 9331

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0061 0254 0445 0453 0492 0690 0693 0743 0813 0912

0948 1112 1303 1378 1432 1438 1480 1532 1534 1703

2115 2345 2469 2475 2507 2560 2589 2608 2682 2718

2798 2926 3021 3034 3086 3259 3415 3489 3511 3558

3560 4117 4186 4467 4552 4690 4710 4849 5033 5120

5170 5427 5797 5807 5916 5955 6020 6078 6082 6117

6130 6177 6184 6241 6352 6379 6516 6680 6701 6863

6882 6941 7015 7120 7134 7279 7345 7358 7383 7427

7736 7875 8027 8087 8320 8436 8550 8552 8602 8667

8755 8838 8849 9231 9272 9328 9547 9740 9799 9940

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR WORTHY

Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards

Draw No:18 DrawDate on:05/04/18

1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 808 98882

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 98882 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

11734 20259 21496 41624 44176

40541 51948 62099 73199 74772

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0328 1785 2215 3782 4042 5156 6374 7103 8458 8604

4th Prize Rs.250/- 5150 6116 6916 7094 7118 7283 7648 7729 8043 9064

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0083 0165 0173 0218 0527 0682 0868 1153 1443 1470

1483 1529 1558 1594 1599 1639 1640 1652 1858 1882

1905 1958 1971 2358 2362 2438 2504 2544 3018 3266

3329 3441 3566 3573 3929 3960 4023 4043 4154 4183

4436 4487 4586 4619 4846 4978 5107 5180 5186 5444

5506 5589 5626 5682 5777 5882 5888 5983 6006 6070

6258 6287 6291 6504 6524 6529 6616 6624 6655 6665

6707 6886 7013 7167 7295 7354 7567 7609 7707 7728

7772 7781 7852 7966 8030 8243 8297 8312 8549 8679

8691 8935 9008 9264 9345 9484 9720 9795 9796 9876

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FALCON EVENING

Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards

Draw No:36 DrawDate on:05/04/18

1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 64K 83925

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 83925 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

12072 18930 22628 37956 39141

63588 66169 76195 84183 90743

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0345 1716 1781 1956 2145 6724 7401 7603 9719 9771

4th Prize Rs.250/- 1900 2879 3459 4028 5949 6974 7396 7778 8002 9637

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0158 0173 0186 0189 0233 0250 0294 0370 0744 0773

0831 0890 1146 1239 1713 1732 1798 1996 2061 2063

2128 2196 2273 2408 2421 2465 2527 2551 2594 2670

3098 3235 3312 3356 3363 3393 3465 3489 3578 3629

3690 3739 3773 3814 4221 4285 4335 4343 4401 4626

4729 4839 5102 5265 5515 5684 5803 5940 6004 6288

6370 6371 6378 6399 6467 6494 6502 6503 6565 6652

6840 7033 7163 7387 7406 7431 7457 7518 7635 7738

7749 7976 8008 8017 8232 8329 8410 8495 8708 8845

8928 9024 9277 9345 9443 9546 9675 9770 9779 9951

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The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland

For Results, Please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE



SWEATER WEATHER! The model looks to be in good spirits as she is seen walking in Soho, New York.

'HINDI MEDIUM' BREAKS OPENING DAY RECORDS OF DANGAL AND BAJRANGI BHAIIJAAN IN CHINA



Hindi Medium is definitely one of the most successful films of last year and it is still continuing to make a splash. Irrfan Khan's superlative comedic act of a father who is torn in the pursuit to give his daughter a good education and thus showing a pivotal message of the Hindi-English language war in India, was tremendously loved by audiences in 2017.

The film garnered over 100 crores at the box-office. The Chinese market has recently been in news for becoming one of the biggest markets for select Indian films outside of India with several titles performing exceptionally well. Dangal and Bajrangi Bhaijaan have earlier been two of the highest

ARIES: It isn't always pleasant to have to question oneself, Aries, but this is the main objective of today's planetary energies - to launch you into new adventures. So take advantage of the configuration to look inside and find the source of some of your setbacks. This isn't an easy exercise, to be sure, but it will do you an enormous amount of good. Just be honest with yourself.

TAURUS: Today isn't a day for meditation, Taurus. The planetary energies are asking you to step outside of yourself and get back into the world again! You've been doing an awful lot of thinking about your image recently, and now you're going to have to test out how the "new and improved" you operates in your daily life.

You can expect some pleasant feedback and truly lasting changes!

GEMINI: If you have grievances about your love life, Gemini, today is the day to speak up. Indeed, today requires only total honesty and forthrightness in all areas. You can expect to confront "the other," whether it's your mate or co-worker, on the basis of truth and righteousness. Rest assured you'll command his or her attention! Be careful that the weight of your words doesn't surpass that of your thoughts.

CANCER: Are you thinking of switching careers or traveling to the other side of the world, Cancer? Or perhaps you just want to pull a "Greta Garbo" and stay at home alone with the

ANUPAM KHER BAGS BAFTA NOMINATION FOR THE BOY WITH THE TOPKNOT



Anupam Kher is crossing milestones each year, this time he's bagged a British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA) nomination.

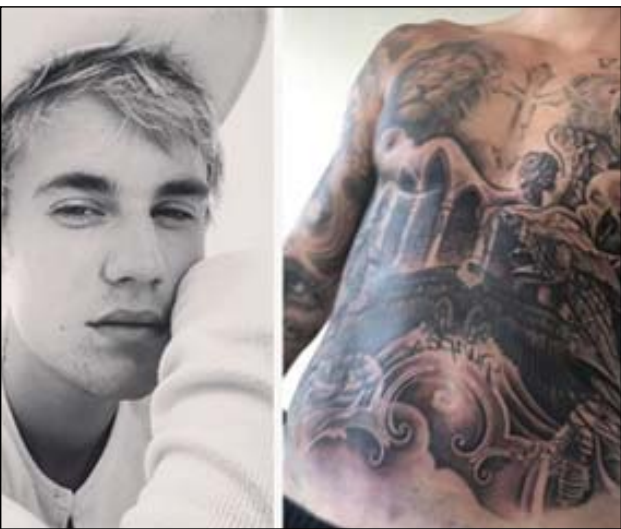
The 63-year-old has been nominated for the Best Supporting Actor category for his role in BBC film *The Boy with the Topknot* based on the memoir of the same name by Indian journalist Sathnam Sanghera.

The actor, who has featured in about 500 films, is up against Adrian Dunbar (*Line of Duty*), Brian F. O'Byrne (*Little Boy Blue*) and Jimmi Simpson - *USS Calister* (*Black Mirror*) for the Best Supporting Actor trophy.

The film is about a second generation Indian growing up in Britain and how he tries to juggle family, love life and career.

Anupam took to Twitter to thank BAFTA for the recognition, saying that he's 'honoured and humbled'.

The BAFTAs are set to take place on May 13 at Royal Festival Hall, London.



JUSTIN BIEBER REVEALS '100 HOURS OF TATTOO ART'

Justin Bieber has given fans an intimate insight into his body art, claiming to have had over 100 hours of tattoo work completed - and he's not done yet.

The 24-year-old 'Baby' singer, who has over 60 tattoos on his body, says in the revealing Instagram post he "wouldn't take back a single one".

"I absolutely love art and I've made my body a canvas and it's SO MUCH FUN," he captioned the snap of his tattooed torso.

Bieber's photo shows off some new additions to his ink work, as well as his older chest decoration roaring of a grizzly bear and lion, along with the sentence 'Son of God' emblazoned above his abdomen.

One tattoo noticeably out of frame is the small portrait of ex-girlfriend, Selena Gomez, on his left wrist.

According to reports many of Bieber's tattoos were done by New York tattooist to the stars; Keith 'Bang Bang' McCurdy.

McCurdy posted a photo of the pop star on Instagram in November, saying one work took 26 hours to complete, spread out over three days.

"[Justin] thank you for the trust," he wrote. "26 hours over 3 consecutive days is the most I've ever tattooed anyone in my 13 year career. You're tough as nails man!"

SALMAN KHAN JAILED FOR FIVE YEARS FOR KILLING RARE ANTELOPE

The film star is led into custody for killing the rare antelope in a 20-year-old case that could derail his illustrious career.

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has been jailed for five years for killing an endangered species of antelope in a wildlife preserve two decades ago.

The 52-year-old actor, who was at the court hearing in Rajasthan was also handed a 10,000 rupee (£109) fine as he was led into custody.

Media reports suggest it could take days for his legal team to appeal the conviction and apply for bail.

In the meantime, Khan is expected to start serving his sentence at a local prison over the 20-year-old case which could derail his illustrious career.

Four other stars - Saif Ali Khan, Sonali Bendre, Tabu and Neelam - were also accused in the case related to the illegal hunting of blackbucks in 1998, but were acquitted due to a lack of evidence.

The incident happened in the village of Kankani, near



Jodhpur, in western India, when the cast had gathered to shoot Indian family drama "Hum Saath Saath Hain".

They were in the jeep that Salman Khan was believed to be driving during the hunt.

Khan has denied the allegations throughout, with his lawyers arguing the blackbucks died of natural causes such as overeating, and that there was no evidence to suggest they had been shot.

He had been sentenced to prison terms of between one and five years for convictions in related cases which he was

later acquitted of following successful appeals.

Hundreds of police officers were deployed outside the courtroom on Thursday to keep back fans who had turned up to catch a glimpse of the much-revered celebrity.

He arrived for the proceedings wearing a black shirt and dark sunglasses in a white SUV, flanked by security.

Prosecutor Mahipal Bishnoi had earlier told reporters that Khan's legal team had argued for a lean sentence for the offence which carries

a maximum prison term of six years.

"They are praying for probation, they are emphasising on the minimum sentence," he said.

It is not the first time Khan - who has cultivated an image as a Bollywood "bad boy" - has been in trouble with the law.

In 2015, Bombay High Court overturned his conviction in a 2002 hit-and-run case in which he was accused of running over a group of people sleeping on a pavement, killing one.

Aquarius. You might even be a little clearer about your feelings concerning what your destiny might be. The planetary energy makes this a good time to stop thinking about such questions and let your life take over. You are well prepared for this kind of thing!

PISCES: These past three weeks were rather good for your equilibrium, Pisces. It was just a matter of getting a bit more involved in life than is usual for you, and showing what you're capable of. It's likely you had a mixture of successes and setbacks, but on the whole, improvements have been steady. You might have noticed that something about you needed improvement, but isn't that true for everyone?

THE DAY AHEAD