

SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 256 | Gangtok | Friday | 06 October 2017

O N T O P O F T H E N E W S

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

12 nominations filed in West Sikkim

GYALSHING, 05 OCT (IPR): District Election Officer [West] conducted a meeting with all the Sector Magistrates appointed in the West Sikkim for smooth conduction of the upcoming Panchayat Elections.

The DEO briefed all the Sector Magistrates on the Model Code of Conduct, provisions and the need for maintenance of law and order in their respective sectors. Copies of important instructions were handed over to the Sector Magistrates and they were directed to submit the daily law and order report to the office of the DEO.

During the third day of the ongoing nomination filing process, eight nominations were filed by the candidates for Bongten Sapong Gram Panchayat Unit, Srinagi Panchayat Ward (Independent Candidate); Chumbong GPU, Budang Ward (SDF Candidate); Gyalshing Omchung GPU, Middle Gyalshing Ward (SDF Candidate); Gyalshing-Omchung, Malbasay Ward (SDF Candidate); Darap-Nambu GPU, Sidhibung Ward (Independent Candidate) and Lingchom-Tikiya GPU, Upper Tikiya Ward (Independent Candidate). Additionally, four more nominations were filed for the Chota Samdong, Aru Botey and Gyalshing-Omchung Territorial Constituencies for Zilla Panchayat to the Returning Officer (RO).

28 nominations filed in South

NAMCHI, 05 OCT (IPR): Twenty-eight nominations were filed today by the candidates in South District for the upcoming Panchayat Elections. Two nominations were filed for Zilla Panchayat level and 26 for Ward level.



Big Brother Chhetri to U-17s: Forgive us for being jealous!

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): In one of the most endearing messages for the India U-17 squad, senior team skipper Sunil Chhetri today sought "forgiveness for being jealous" of the likes of Amarjit Singh and Co, who are set to

turn to pg06

28 dengue cases reported in Jorethang

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:** More than 28 positive dengue cases have been reported from Jorethang and its surrounding areas including the neighboring Singla Bazaar of West Bengal, a press release issued by the Sub Divisional Magistrate (Jorethang) informs.

The release further informs that with the active involvement of the doctors, nurses and Medical Officer (in-charge) at Jorethang Community Health Center, the patients are being treated with utmost care and patience and the situation is presently 'under control'.

However, patients with high fever are reportedly being rushed to the hospital out of fear of dengue, informs the release.



The SDM, through the release, has assured that the concerned stakeholders are taking immediate action to eradicate the vector borne disease

by organizing awareness camps and fogging of mosquito dwelling places with mosquito repellent gases.

"The officials are

monitoring the current situation by keeping the sanitation and cleanliness of the area in check. Routine inspection of the area is also being

conducted regularly," informs the release.

Critical patients are reportedly being referred to Namchi District Hospital.

GOVERNOR'S GOLD CUP KICKS OFF UNDER FLOODLIGHTS WILL CONTINUE UNDER DAYLIGHT

Sikkim Himalayan starts strong, thrashes ARC 6-1

**SAGAR CHHETRI
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:** Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club thrashed Assam Rifles Regimental Centre, Shillong in the opening match of the 37th All India Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament 2017 here at Paljor Stadium this evening. The home team won an easy 6-1 victory in its first match. Ghanaian players, Brighty and Eugene contributed a brace each in the home team victory.

The tournament was inaugurated by the Governor, Shrinivas Patil, who was present as the chief guest. He was



accompanied by Minister, GM Gurung and

Additional Secretary to Government of India,

Madhukar Gupta were present as the guests of honour.

The home team came out on the field with huge crowd support and kept constant pressure on the opponents with an attacking game. Brighty scored the lead for Sikkim Himalayan SC in the 23rd minute and soon his teammate Eugene extended the lead to 2-0 in the 27th minute. Brighty completed his brace in the 38th minute and the home team finished the first half with 3-0 lead.

The home team dominated the second half as

turn to pg02

WB BJP chief heckled in Darj, cancels meeting of BJP workers

DARJEELING (WB), OCT 5 (PTI): West Bengal BJP chief Dilip Ghosh was heckled today by a group of people which asked saffron leaders visiting Darjeeling to leave immediately, leading to chaos at the venue of a party meeting and its cancellation.

A scuffle erupted between BJP supporters and the agitators when Ghosh, heading a party delegation, arrived at the venue where the meeting with the party workers was scheduled.

As soon as he arrived, the agitators shouted slogans demanding that the BJP delegates leave the hills and showed them black flags. The BJP supporters were far outnumbered by the agitators, who beat them up.

The BJP state chief tried to pacify the agitators but failed. He was then heckled following which he cancelled the

meeting and lodged a complaint at a nearby police station.

"There was scuffle between two groups and a few people were injured. A case has been registered and we have started the investigation. The culprits will be arrested soon," Darjeeling superintendent of police Akhilesh Chaturvedi said.

An angry Ghosh alleged that the attack on him and the BJP delegates was "pre-planned" and that he was not provided any security despite being an MLA.

"It was pre-planned attack. And I think this planning has its roots in Kolkata. The administration and police were just mute spectators as our supporters were beaten up and I was heckled. I was not given any security cover. I have lodged a police complaint about the incident,"

turn to pg05

16 nominations filed in East

GANGTOK, 05 OCT (IPR): Three nominations were received from 06-Aritar Territorial Constituency and total 13 nominations were received for various GPUs of East District till 3 p.m. today.

The Election Observer for East District, Rinzing Chewang Bhutia, Special Secretary, Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department was present at the District Administrative Centre, Sichey to observe the nomination process.

A meeting with all the Sector Magistrates of the District was also chaired by the District Collector cum Returning Officer, East.

The DC gave a detailed address to all the Sector Magistrates regarding the roles and responsibilities during the election. He emphasized that the Sector Magistrates should work in close coordination with the Sector Police Officer to ensure a free and fair election.

Discovering Pushen with Dawa

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:**

Introducing his latest effort, a 45-minute documentary titled, "Finding Pushen", film-maker Dawa Lepcha of "Dhokbu" fame, issued a challenge to the audience. He bet that nobody in the audience would have ever eaten a Pushen "bread", and, in all probability, never even heard of it. At one level, it was a brave challenge to make, given that the audience comprised primarily of Lepcha folk, but at another level, it was safe bet since even the Lepcha reserve of Dzongu now has no more than 15 people left who can prepare this treat any more.

Dawa was speaking at the premiere of the documentary film hosted by the Anthropology Department of Sikkim University here at Barad Sadan today. The Department organized the screening as part of its Ethnographic Film Series initiative and the hall was packed despite the still prevailing holiday mood at most establishments.

"Finding Pushen", is a departure from Dawa's previous efforts which, save the feature film Dhokbu, have been more "academic" in their treatment whereas this one, even as it is detailed and packed with information and insights, plays out almost like a travelogue.



The format sits well with the plot which is a journey of discovery and documentation. Pushen is a giant fern which grows in the wilds of Sikkim in the 4,000-5,000 feet above sea level band in extremely wet and humid slopes.

Dawa shared that he had heard stories of how the Lepchas used to seek out this fern and prepare dough from the

pulp of its trunk to prepare Pushen Khu (bread). He had himself, however, never seen this dish being prepared or eaten it himself.

His interest in all things Lepcha is well established from his impressive body of work and finding the Pushen was a project that had been working on

for a while but had not followed through. This June, things fell into place and he found himself trekking to Mangzing village in Dzongu with his crew to find Karzang, the septuagenarian there who he had learned knew where to find Pushen and how to prepare Pushen Khu.



June, one learns through the film, is also the best time of the year to "harvest" this bread. Karzang and his merry group of friends who help us discover Pushen through the film radiate an infectious charm which has you wishing that Dawa has enough out-takes to put together another documentary of them sharing stories by the campfire.

The documentary film takes audiences through an engaging journey of marching through swarms of leeches and chance encounters as the crew find the fern, collect it, bring it back, ferment it and then celebrate with a treat of Pushen Khu of various shapes, sizes and combinations.

As much as the film succeeds in documenting the process is lucid detail, it also benefits from Dawa's ability to capture poignant and endearing moments which only a film-maker of his confidence and access can capture. So viewers are regaled by the elders who lay down the rules of conversation, yes, language through the process of finding

turn to pg03

Sikkim United Front to support Independents in Panchayat polls

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:**

Sikkim United Front (SUF) party has announced its participation in the upcoming Panchayat Election 2017 in the State by way of support to independent candidates. The party will not field candidates in the election but will extend full legal and other required support to interested independent candidates in the election.

Addressing a press conference here today, SUF member, Tirtha Sharma, encouraged young educated youths of the State to contest for the upcoming Panchayat election to strengthen the Panchayati Raj in the State. On the same, he announced that SUF will extend full support to the interested candidates for the election.

He also alleged that the seat delimitation for this Panchayat election was done without conducting a proper survey and is totally undemocratic.

Another SUF member, Ramesh Khana, spoke about various issues and accused the present government of failing to establish proper democracy and to maintain communal harmony in the State.

Dr Bhandari transferred as Secretary IT Department

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:**

As per a transfer order issued by the state government today, Director General-cum-Secretary of Health Care, Human Services & Family Welfare Department, Dr Kumar Bhandari, has been transferred and posted as Secretary of Information Technology Department.

Dr Bhandari will, however, continue to look after the Cardiology section of STNM Hospital, Gangtok.

SSB Gangtok conducts workshop on road safety

GANGTOK, 05 OCT [PIB]: Three-day workshop on road safety conducted by Sashastra Seema Bal-Gangtok in collaboration with Sikkim Traffic Police commenced today at SSB Headquarters in Gangtok. Five officers and 35 personnel of the force participated in the workshop.

Staff Officer [Administration]-SSB, Sushanta Mallik, in his address welcomed the representative of Sikkim Police and said that the workshop will help the personnel of SSB to drive safely.

Assistant Publicity Officer-SSB, GD Saklani, explained the aims and objectives of the workshop and spoke in detail about the subjects to be discussed during the workshop.

Traffic Inspector-Sikkim Traffic Police, Bimal Gurung, apprised the attendees about Traffic rules and the dos & don'ts of driving. While conducting



the workshop, he specifically addressed the drivers and said that they should have self respect which will make them more responsible while driving.

He further informed about various Motor Vehicle Acts & rules during the workshop.

The workshop will continue for three days and cover sub-

jects like traffic signs, rules & regulations, hasty driving, self awareness, safety equipments during driving, responsible road behavior and case studies.

SEC publishes Supplementary Electoral Rolls

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:**

State Election Commission has published a Supplementary list with regard to the upcoming Panchayat Election. A press release issued today by Secretary of SEC-Sikkim informs that after due segregation, the final publication of Panchayat Electoral Rolls in respect to the Gram Panchayat Units was completed on 12 Aug and the Electoral Rolls had been printed

GPU wise and were made available for sale to the contesting candidates and interested parties.

However, in the interim period between the final publication of the Electoral Roll and the issue of notification of General Election to Gram Panchayats and Zilla Panchayats, several requests with respect to additions, deletions and transfer of electors from one Gram Panchayat Ward to another were

received from different wards of 14 Premlakha Subaneydara GPU, 28 Rongli Chengeylakha GPU, 19 Latuk Barapathing GPU, 32 Rongay Tathangchen GPU, 31 Nandok Saramsa GPU, 45 Dung Dung Thasa GPU, 12 Dalapchen GPU, 10 Aritar GPU of East District and 06 Navey Shotak of North District, 11 Darap Nambu GPU, 15 Yangthang GPU, 41 Chakung GPU, 61 Ribdi Bareng under West

District and 03 Pathing ward under 06 Yangang Rangang, 04 Yangang [Yangang Gumpa], 04 Maniram wad under 28 Maniram Phalidara GPU under South District.

Accordingly, all such cases were considered and the cases of genuine electors whose names have been inadvertently omitted or erroneously included in different Gram Panchayat Wards have been considered and Supplementary lists

have been published.

Since the entries made in the Supplementary Lists may be different from the final Electoral Roll of the aforementioned GPUs which were made available to the contesting candidates and interested parties, the Supplementary lists can be obtained from the Returning Officer's office free of cost to avoid any confusion during the Election, the release informs.

Public servant's freedom of speech issue sent to constitution bench

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): The Supreme Court today referred to a five-judge constitution bench several issues such as whether a public functionary or a minister can claim freedom of speech while expressing views in sensitive matters which are under investigation.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra considered the questions framed on the issue by senior advocates Fali S Nariman and Harish Salve and said, "we are sending it to a constitution bench".

The top court had taken note of a controversial statement of ex-Uttar Pradesh Minister Azam Khan that the Bulandshahr gangrape was part of a "political conspiracy". Khan had tendered an unconditional apology which was accepted.

The bench, which also comprised Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud, also said that besides the issues framed by the two law-

yers, the constitution bench would also frame questions to be dealt by it.

The court was hearing a plea filed by a man, whose wife and daughter were allegedly gangraped in July last year on a highway near Bulandshahr, seeking transfer of the case to Delhi and lodging of an FIR against former Uttar Pradesh Minister Azam Khan for his controversial statement that the gangrape case was a "political conspiracy".

Later, the bench and the bar discussed for some time the issue of the social media being used to make uncharitable or aggressive comments or to troll someone on any issue, including judges and judicial proceedings.

During the course of this discussion, the bench also disapproved and expressed anguish over a statement made by a senior advocate and former Supreme Court Bar Association President to pg3

DEO North conducts meeting with political parties and Sector Magistrates

MANGAN, 05 OCT (IPR): District Election Officer (DEO), North conducted a meeting with all the political parties and Sector Magistrates appointed in North Sikkim for smooth conduct of the upcoming Panchayat Elections. The meeting was attended by APRO, all Sector Magistrates and Sector Police Officers of the District and representative of the Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) and Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM).

The DEO briefed all the Sector Magistrates on the Model Code of Conduct, provisions and the need for maintenance of law and order in their respective sectors. Copies of important instructions were handed over to the Sector Magistrates and they were directed to submit the daily law and order report to the office of the DEO.

The District Collector briefed on the various documents required while filing the nomination and informed that the scrutiny of the nomination forms will be done on 11 Oct in his office. He

also informed that candidates could file up to four nominations forms.

As the Model Code of conduct is in force from 03 Oct, the District Collector appealed to the parties to follow the code and directed the sector magistrate and police officer to strictly enforce it. The permissions and place for posters/banner and hoarding will be given by the Sector Magistrate who will identify a suitable place. In case of public meetings, the venues would be decided by the Sector Magistrates.

The District Collector informed that clarifications and complaints could directly be made to him or to the sector magistrates whose numbers will be made available to all the candidates contesting the election.

In the end, the District Collector informed that the conduct of free and fair elections devoid of any violence was the utmost priority of the Administration and requested everyone to co-operate with the administration in this regard.

Sikkim Himalayan starts...

Contd from pg01

well. Eugene completed his brace in the early 47th minute of the second half to take the lead of the home team to 4-0.

Soon, Sudesh Subba extended the lead of Sikkim Himalayan SC to 5-0 in the 55th minute.

In return, ARC Shillong players tried hard to come back in the match but could not cross the strong defence line of the home team. Maitshaphrang Nengnong scored the face-saver for ARC Shillong only in the 83rd minute.

Another goal by the substitute Sangay Bhutia in the dying minutes of the match sealed the 6-1 victory for Sikkim Himalayan SC. Sikkim Himalayan SC will now take on ONGC, Mumbai in the first quarter-final match on 09 Oct.

Twelve teams are participating in this ten-day long tournament which is being organised by Sikkim Football Association.

The opening match got disrupted on two occasions due to power

supply failure. The kick-off was delayed due to a power cut and the lights went out again in the 23rd minute.

The SFA president, Menla Ethenpa apologized to all supporters and football lovers who were present in the stadium to witness the match for the disruption in the match due to technical failures.

"We wanted to give more entertainment and different experience to football lovers and people of Sikkim with night matches. But, after such disruptions due to technical failures in a few matches in the recent Sikkim Premier Division League and in the opening match of the prestigious Governor's Gold Cup we have decided to organise all matches in day light," he said.

Sikkim Premier Division League 2017 champion, Royal United Sikkim Football Club will take on Calcutta Customs in the second pre quarter final match on Friday.



SINGTAM RESIDENTS CONTRIBUTE BULB FOR STREET LIGHT

SINGTAM, 05 OCT: Bihari Jagran Manch Singtam branch, Marwari community and all business community and locals today provided bulb for a street light at Singtam bazaar which was installed by the Power department personnel. -Yogen Thatal

**HAVE A
STORY TO
SHARE?**

email
news@
summittimes.com

~ **SummitTIMES** ~
CLASSIFIEDS

SummitTimes Classified section at Rs. 10 per word.

Kutse Shegu/ Antesthyi Kriya for Rs. 300 per insertion in the classified section.

First 100 bookings will be extended discounts up to 50%.

Whatsapp your advertisement: 9647102692 or mail us at advertise@summittimes.com. Payment can also be made through PayTM in the name of Puran Tamang Mob no. 9832556698 or at the below code or through online transfer at: Summittimes, current ac no. 36718863547, drawn at SBI, Gangtok, IFSC code: SBIN 0000232.



Property/ Space for Rent, To-Let either for commercial or residential purposes, Job Vacancy/ Requirements, Property/ Land Sales or Lease, Lost & Found, Notice etc announcements can be booked in the

ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM CORRIGENDUM

Ref NIT No:- 70/GOS/R&B(MGM)/17-18/17

Dated: 15.09.2017

Due to ensuing Panchayat Election, the tender for the work "Construction of two-lane bridge over river Kanaka on Mangan to Sakyong GPU, North Sikkim" has been cancelled. The fresh NIT shall be floated after Panchayat Elections.

Sd/-
**CHIEF ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
GANGTOK.**

R.O. No. 356/ipl/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 5.10.17

DASSAI OFFER RAMOLA CELLULAR LALL MARKET ROAD GANGTOK			
Apple IPHONE	MRP	Offer Price	Extra Offer
IPHONE 5C 8GB	31500	14990	(free temper glass)
IPHONE SE 32 GB	39000	26000	(free cover & temper glass).
IPHONE 6 32 GB	29000	28000	(free cover & temper glass).
IPHONE 6S 32 GB	62000	40500	(free cover & temper glass).
IPHONE 6S Plus 16 GB 72000	49990		(Free Bluetooth BOSE SPEAKER)
IPHONE 7 32 GB	60000	51500	(free cover & temper glass)
IPHONE 7 Plus 32 GB 67300	61500		(free cover & temper glass).

IPHONE 7 & 7plus (Available on Discount Price)

OTHER BRANDs AVAILABLE -

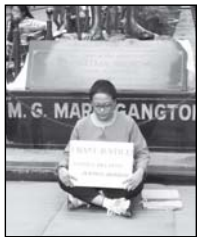
NOKIA / OPPO / VIVO / GIONEE

BAJAJ FINSERV AVAIL FOR LAPTOP & MOBILE PHONE
(GET DISCOUNTED PRICE OFFER ON ALL GADGETS & TRENDY ACCESSORIES)

FEEL FREE TO VISIT US FOR FREE DEMO
CONTACT - 9832062684 / 9733115163 (limited period offer till stock last)

Gangtok on Friday, 06 Oct

Temp: 28°C / 14°C
Forecast: Partly sunny and not as warm with shower in spots.
Sunrise: 05:30 AM
Sunset: 05:17 PM



Primula Bhandari protests against encroachment of her landed property

VISHNU NEOPANEY
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:

Primula Bhandari, daughter of Late Nar Bahadur Bhandari, sat on a dharna today at MG Marg to protest against encroachment and illegal construction of road on her property located at 6th Mile Tadong. According to Ms Bhandari, the District Collectorate had already passed an order regarding the matter last year but it is yet to be implemented. A few hours into her dharna, the SDM Gangtok, Hemant Rai met her at MG Marg wherein he assured to take appropriate action and requested her to call off the dharna. Ms Bhandari complied stating that she will wait for another month for necessary action, failing which, she will again launch a protest.

Discovering Pushen...

Contd from pg01

ing, harvesting and preparing Pushen Khu, has to be in the legendary (and mostly lost) Lepcha style of speaking only through indirect references – code, if you will.

The entourage is told that if they want salt, they cannot ask for “salt” by its name or it will make the Pushen Khu too salty. And the same applies for everything else from matchsticks to machetes to even excreta. This must have led to many confusions and laughs and one gets some delightful peeks into rustic humour through the duration of the film.

The film is a light watch, but that does not take away anything from its significance or content, both of which benefit from professional handling. It is an important work and it is evident that even people in the villages through which the team trekked to find the giant fern realized it. As a result, what starts off as an “expedition” of six, by the time it reaches the grove of Pushen above Breng-Katam becomes a gaggle of around 20 people, all keen to learn and experience what Dawa and his team have set out to document. Those present for the premiere screening benefitted from having Dawa among them to share more stories from the film. The rest will have to wait till Dawa uploads the film on YouTube, something he announced to do within a day or two.

High Court rejects bail application of rape accused

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:

The High Court of Sikkim has rejected the bail application of 48-year-old Panna Lal Agarwal of Jorethang accused of threatening and raping a 16-year-old girl on three different occasions earlier this year.

While rejecting the bail application, the single bench of Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan observed that granting bail to the accused at this stage would not serve fair trial.

Jorethang Police had lodged an FIR against

the accused Panna Lal Agarwal of Jorethang on 29 July earlier this year under Section 363/354/506/34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 [IPC] read with Section 8, 12 and 14 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 [POCSO Act].

It was alleged that the accused had raped the victim three different times within 15 days and had threatened her with dire consequences if she told anybody about it.

While hearing the bail application, counsel for the accused argued that

the accused is a businessman of repute and the only earning member of the family and is suffering from accelerated hypertension. However, the argument was vehemently opposed by the State on the ground that the allegation in the FIR makes it evident that the accused, if released on bail, may continue to threaten the victim and tamper with vital evidence.

The single bench rejecting the bail observed that while considering bail applications it is incumbent upon the Court to balance this liberty

of the accused with interest of the society to have a fair trial adding that although there is no cogent evidence brought forth by the prosecution to establish witness intimidation, post arrest of the accused, the very fact that the FIR alleges three incidents of intimidation by the accused on the victim is perhaps enough to have a “reasonable apprehension” that the accused may again seek to do so to get away from the clutches of the serious and heinous case where the punishment prescribed is both strin-

gent and deterrent.

The Court further said that “reasonable apprehension, as rightly pointed out by the Learned Public Prosecutor, can be gauged in the present case from the allegation made in the FIR itself.”

Special Judge, POC-SO Act, 2012 at Namchi had rejected the bail applications on three occasions of which the last rejection was on 15 Sept last month. However, the Special Judge had granted bail to the co-accused, Anjana Sharma, on 08 Sept.

Post-Doklam, first China travel warning for tourists to India

BEIJING, OCT 5 (PTI): China has issued a travel advisory to its nationals visiting India, the first such warning after the Doklam standoff, warning them about denial of visas to visit “restricted areas” like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The Chinese Embassy in India issued the advisory, the third in four months, for Chinese tourists in India.

The warning was posted on the embassy’s website on Tuesday, and detailed several situations the embassy handled recently in which Chinese tourists were denied entry or investigated while travelling in India, state-run Global Times reported today.

“Some Chinese citizens visited Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which are restricted areas for foreigners, without gaining permits from India. Some tourists were asked to return upon arrival. Some were even arrested or investigated,” the statement read.

“(Visitors should) not photograph India’s border and military facilities and vehicles. While travelling on India’s border neighbouring Nepal, avoid visiting border markets, and do not enter the territory of other countries by mistake,” it added.

On July 7, weeks after the Doklam crisis be-

gan, the Chinese mission in India issued its first warning, asking Chinese nationals to reduce unnecessary travel to India, maintain a low profile when there, and respect local laws and law enforcement personnel.

It reissued the warning on August 24.

The 73-day Doklam standoff started on June 16 when Chinese troops attempted to build a road in territory claimed by Bhutan close to the Indian border. Indian troops objected to it and stopped the Chinese from building the road.

The standoff was finally resolved on August 28. Chinese tourists make up three per cent of foreign tourists visiting India each year, the Global Times quoted Indian media reports as saying. From January to May, 2017, about 119,000 visitors from China visited India, an increase of 9.2 per cent year-on-year.

India has granted e-visa facility for Chinese travellers.

A report by state-run Xinhua news agency two days ago said China is becoming one of the most popular destinations for Indian tourists.

It is estimated that the number of outbound tourists from India will reach 50 million overall by 2020, up from 21.87 million in 2016, the report said.



Sangchen Pemayangtse Monastery bags Swachh Bharat award

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:

Sangchen Pemayangtse Monastery, West Sikkim has been awarded for its extraordinary initiatives on achieving a zero-waste complex in the category of ‘Zero-waste Religious Institutions’ during the commemoration programme of the 3rd anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on 02 Oct, a press release informs.

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs [MoHUA] had organized the event to observe the

‘Swachhata Hi Sewa’ activities that lasted a fortnight with effect from 15 Sept to 02 Oct, it is informed.

For the competition in the category of ‘Zero-waste Religious Institutions’, the Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim had nominated the Sangchen Pemayangtse Monastery, West Sikkim. With the intervention of the State Sanitation Mission on Swachh Bharat, the monastery took up Zero Waste initiatives including cleanliness drives, source

segregation of waste, ban on disposables, ban on packaged offerings, ban on packaged drinking water, and use of eco-friendly alternatives.

It may be mentioned here, Sangchen Pemayangtse Monastery is the only religious institution of the country to be awarded in this category.

Representing the monastery, Khempo Wangyal Dorji and Pema Rinzing received the award from Union Minister of State [I/C], Housing & Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri, the release adds.

Public servant’s freedom of speech...

Contd from pg02

dent Dushyant Dave that several judges were pro-government.

The bench reacted by saying “they should sit in the Supreme Court to see how the government is hauled up.”

Earlier, the bench had framed certain issues including whether an individual, holding public office, be allowed “to comment on the crime stating that ‘it is an outcome of political controversy’, more so, when as an individual, he has nothing to do with the offences in question.”

“Should the ‘State’, the protector of citizens and responsible for law and order situation, allow these comments, as they have the effect potentially to create a distrust in the mind of the victim as regards fair investigation,” said the second question framed by the bench earlier.

The bench had said it would examine whether such statements fell within “the ambit and sweep of freedom of speech and expression or exceed the boundary that is not permissible.”

To contact SummitTIMES

GANGTOK:
For circulation details Contact: (Sandeep) 9734152451 & for Advertisement booking at 9933427505 or at office no 03592 208698. Mail us at advertise@summittimes.com

SILIGURI:
Mr. Mani Rai, M/s. Space Ads, B.R. Ambedkar Building, Room No.7, 1st floor. Opp. Ganga Hotel, Hill Carl Road, Siliguri – 03. Ph. 9832318644/ 9800682989/ 9153035100 or mail at mani_siliguri@yahoo.co.in.

KOLKATA OFFICE:
Irshad Ali/ Imteeyaz. Synapse, 6, Madan Street, Mezzine – 2, 2nd floor. Kolkata – 700072. Ph. 033-22124348/ fax 033-22124337/ mob. 9830547774/ 983108397. E-mail: contact.synapse@gmail.com/ irshad_ali123@rediffmail.com

As we evolve,
our homes should,
too!

Soft Furnishings @
inhabit
jazzing up homes

Near KanchanDryClean, NamNang, Gangtok
For Details +919733365169

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Wildlife Weak

The young will protect what they see, so show them Sikkim's wildlife

Any reference to Sikkim and the qualifying sentence invariably makes mention of the fact that it is a biodiversity hot-spot. We have all read reams after reams on the various geographical zones that Sikkim packs into its 7,096 square kilometres. Experts tell us that Sikkim has 4,000 varieties of flowering plants and herbs, 450 species of orchids, 300 species of ferns, nine species of conifers, 550 species of birds, 600 types of butterflies and a list of fauna that outstrips most other areas the state's tiny size. This is what one has read. Few here would, however, have seen even a sliver of it.

The past few years have seen a rise in wildlife-human conflict [with the wildlife invariably at the suffering end], but these have been limited to bear attacks, disease among the deer population and sightings and the rare clouded leopard incident, beyond that, even the bastis have not been spying on too much biodiversity. Deer populations are on the rise one is told, but in the absence of any scientific study, this could be credited as much to the wiping out of the predator population as to the "ban" on hunting. Maybe the rarer fauna has retreated deeper into the forests; but even that is unlikely because Sikkim's small size ensures that even the thickest of forests has but a constricted sweep with either a habitation or a road encroaching the slopes. Then there is the constricted buffer zone but-tressing protected forests and sanctuaries. Admittedly, in the absence of any statistics [current or otherwise], the suggestion that wildlife or flora is not very abundant is as unlettered as the frequent claims of Sikkim being a biodiversity paradise. This is not to challenge claims or Sikkim's position in biodiversity rankings, but to underline the need for more detailed, from the field current studies on Sikkim's flora and fauna. Any such effort will obviously begin with a genuine stirring for something on these lines by the Forest Department and then a parallel effort to excite interest on such matters among the young, for it will be they who inherit whatever is left and will hopefully study better the state of Sikkim's wilds.

This section has often aired problems with the tokenism of special days and weeks that planners organise to escape any real commitment to resolving real issues for the rest of the year, but even in their tokenism, such days have a role to play – in exciting the interest of the young since it is invariably they who get pulled out of classrooms to join rallies and raise placards. In the context of wildlife, one such occasion arrives every October with the first week observed across the country as the Wildlife Week. The first week of October is on its final leg now, but wildlife has not made any news, even by way of events, hence this effort.

Events for the Wildlife Week should be organised in way and on the belief that what the younger generation sees it will protect. A trip to the Himalayan Zoological Park at Bulbuley above Gangtok will bring them a chance to see only a handful of animals. Sikkim's flora and fauna spans a much wider expanse and there is a real need now to educate students on how abundant Sikkim's biodiversity is. The observance of World Wildlife Week should thus provide the impetus to take the introduction of the Sikkimese young to their environment to the next level. The universal greed for "progress" is apparent, if not even more amplified in Sikkim, and has pushed the wildlife [hopefully] deeper into the forest reserves and not on the brink of extinction from these parts. Sikkim, to its credit, can stake claim to having segregated areas as wildlife reserves much ahead of even India, but now the time has come to reaffirm this commitment. The State has already lost animals like the Takin, the Pygmy Hog and the Sikkim Stag to the bracket which records "extinct animals" and has placed some more in the "endangered list." Someone, and only the Forest Department comes to mind, has to now take the responsibility of educating the younger generation on the inventory of animals that the State still has with it. This will have to be with efforts more immediate than posters and slide shows. Sponsored visits to wildlife sanctuaries and tours conducted by experts are the need of the hour. Then, the young will see what Sikkim has and will become more committed to protecting it. Ignorance can prove fatal, because if the present trend of tokenism continues and more animals are lost, no one will even notice the loss until it is too late. There might actually come a time when the young grow up believing that the Red Panda is a stuffed toy and not a real animal. Conservation will not be possible once that stage is reached...

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

Scientists behind the discovery of gravitational waves win the 2017 Nobel Prize for Physics

ED DAW
theconversation.com

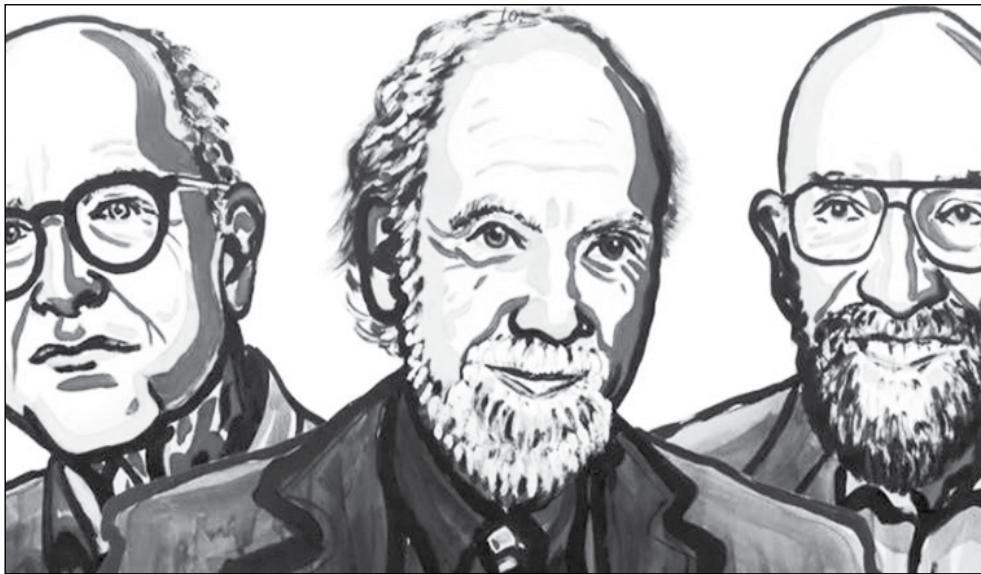
The Swedish Academy of Sciences has announced that the 2017 Nobel prize in Physics goes to three scientists for their foundational work leading to the discovery of ripples in the fabric of space and time known as gravitational waves.

Half of the £825,000 prize sum will go to Rainer Weiss of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the other half will be shared by Kip Thorne of Caltech and Barry C Barish, also at Caltech. The scientists, all from the LIGO/VIRGO collaboration, conceived and played major roles in realising the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory, which first detected the waves in September 2015. I'm pleased to see this achievement recognised on behalf of the thousands of scientists who work on LIGO, including the University of Sheffield group. I also know the recipients personally, in particular Weiss, who is a friend as well as a colleague.

Gravitational waves, predicted by Einstein in 1916, travel across our universe at the speed of light – stretching space in one direction and shrinking it in the direction that is at right angles. LIGO measures these fluctuations by monitoring two light beams travelling between pairs of mirrors down pipes running in different directions.

The source of the first detected signals was a pair of black holes, each being about 30 times the mass of the sun. These bodies once collided and converted in to one large spinning black hole – emitting three sun masses worth of pure energy in about a tenth of a second. For that short time, the source outshines the rest of the energy sources in the observable universe – combined! It's quite something to try and imagine. Despite being such a violent event, it is so far away that the effects on our local fabric of space and time here on Earth are very subtle – which is why a sophisticated detector like LIGO was needed to make the first detection.

Several more binary black hole signals have been detected by the LIGO detectors since, and one an-



nounced just days ago was detected by the Virgo detector in Italy as well. Now that we know these signals exist and can be detected, a new field of gravitational wave astronomy will grow up, enabling us to probe the dark and puzzling universe – phenomena in the cosmos that don't emit much light but have a lot of mass. It's an exciting time.

UNCONVENTIONAL, SHARP AND FUN

Those of us at LIGO who know Weiss will agree he is an unconventional fellow in the best sense of that description who has inspired a generation of experimental physicists, myself included.

The first time I met Weiss properly was when he interviewed me for my first postdoc, at MIT. I was in my only smart suit, he walked in wearing a woolly hat, baggy sweater and jeans. I had to reassure him that this was the last time he'd see me dressed up that way. He looked relieved.

Weiss has a refreshingly informal approach to physics, which is particularly helpful in encouraging others in their work, especially the young. But this informality and enthusiasm only just conceals his razor-sharp instinct for physics, particularly for sources of background noise and for electronics.

And, because he is what I would call "scientifically sociable", Weiss naturally tends to learn things quickly by talking to people. When I was

working at the LIGO lab at Livingston, I did an early systematic comparison of seismic noise between the two LIGO sites in a key frequency range. The tough thing back then was just gathering enough data from the seismometers to be able to make a meaningful comparison between the noise levels.

I'd just made a graph of the results, and I was in the control room staring at it when Weiss walked in. He walked out a few minutes later with a copy of that plot, and the next thing I knew, he was using it in talks to the National Science Foundation when arguing for an upgrade to LIGO Livingston's seismic isolation system. That's Weiss in a nutshell. He's quick on the uptake, good at spotting the key points and problems, and authoritative enough to get others – physicists, engineers and funders on his side.

We also share a love of music. Once when I was invited to dinner at his house, I was asked to bring my cello and had to sight-read several cello sonata movements (rather shakily) with Weiss at the piano. He also showed up to a particularly memorable "hoodoo party night" at a club called Tabby's blues box in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where I was playing in a band. He brought along Gaby Gonzalez, who until recently was chairperson of the LIGO scientific collaboration and Peter Saulson, a professor of physics and thermal

noise pioneer from Syracuse. A more unlikely crowd on the dance floor at Tabby's has probably not been seen before or since. They had a great time.

The future of gravitational wave physics is now intimately tied up with the future of astronomy. The field is set to expand rapidly, with more sensitive instruments needed to sense smaller signals and larger scale instruments needed to probe lower frequencies where many of the astronomical signals lie. We also need observers of the heavens, both to interpret the signals we measure, and to make the link between gravitational waves and other sources of information, such as gamma ray and neutrino bursts, and visible transients. We are hoping to continue to play an important role in the research here at Sheffield.

But, for now, it's time to enjoy the moment of a very well deserved Nobel prize for a great group of physicists. They have played a long game; the project started in 1972, and I didn't even join until 1997. It's a lesson to us all to keep both eyes on the science, to be prepared for a protracted struggle with Mother Nature, but ready in the end to step back and admire the edifice we have constructed, and go on to apply the tools we have created to achieving an ever expanding knowledge of our universe.

[the writer is Reader in Physics, University of Sheffield]

FC Barcelona and the Catalan struggle for independence

SIMON CHADWICK
theconversation.com

FC Barcelona's motto "mes que un club" or "more than a club" is emblazoned across the team's website, splashed across the seats of its Nou Camp stadium and embroidered on the collars of first-team shirts.

The slogan dates back to the Catalan club's formation in 1899, when a Swiss émigré founded what is now commonly referred to as "Barça". Hans Max Gamper-Haessig, who was enthralled by Catalonia and would later change his name to Joan Gamper, established Barça as a membership club. Even today, these members pay an annual fee to become part of what many see as one of world football's best governed clubs.

From the outset, Barcelona has been a focal point for Catalan identity, as well as a symbol of democracy. So much so that in 1925 then Spanish prime minister, Primo de Rivera, accused Gamper and Barça of promoting Catalan nationalism. Later, during the Spanish Civil War, Nou Camp would become one of few places in the city where people could openly speak in Catalan.

It is therefore unsurprising that in recent weeks FC Barcelona has become central to the region's independence vote. On Sunday, the day of the vote – which was declared illegal by Spain's central government – Barça called for its league match against Las Palmas to be postponed, as violence spread across the city. When its request was denied, the club issued a last minute statement that condemned the attempts to stop citizens voting and said that the game would go ahead, but behind closed doors.

This match was, though, laden with meaning. Some criticised the club for selling out to television companies, putting money from broadcasting contracts ahead of political principles. Others observed

that pressure has been placed on Barça by La Liga president Javier Tebas, a lifelong Real Madrid fan. He also gave permission for the Las Palmas team to play with a special Spanish flag (intended to symbolise Spanish unity) woven into their shirts.

One of the players on the field during the game was Barça's talismanic defender, Gerard Piqué, who has publicly professed his support for the Catalonia independence vote. Piqué, recently booed by other Spanish fans, has even offered to quit playing for the country's national team.

COMMERCIAL CONCERNS

FC Barcelona is clearly, then, much more than a club. It is a complicated and highly politicised entity in a way the likes of Manchester United or Arsenal have never been. But herein lies an important challenge, which probably serves as a metaphor too for the many other challenges facing Catalonia – how to successfully navigate the future post-independence.

Top-level professional football is no longer just a local game for local people. It is a mass-market product traded by businesses for a commercial return. And Barça is no exception. A shirt sponsorship deal with Qatar Airways drew condemnation from fans for moving the club in a more commercial direction. Some cynics have even referred to Barça's "Madridification".

In this context, recent events pose significant challenges for Barça's business dealings. For example, in the middle of Sunday's events, the club issued a public statement asserting that it supported the right to Catalanian self-determination and condemned any act by the Spanish state that might impede its people's democratic right to vote in the referendum.

As a philosophy – and as a brand proposition – this is both noble and distinctive. But for a club that has been casting covetous eyes at Asian markets, it

could prove troublesome. The last thing the Qataris or Chinese will want is for fans and businesses in their countries to be building a relationship with a club that advocates separatism and a disregard for central government authority.

It will therefore be worthwhile keeping a close eye on messages coming out of Doha, Beijing and elsewhere in Asia. That said, given Catalan diasporas in Latin America – those that fled the region during the Spanish civil war – at least part of the club's overseas commercial strategy targeting fans looks set to remain in tact.

Speculation abounds as to what secession would mean for Barça, whether it could stay in Spain's top flight (Tebas has said the club will not be allowed to remain in the league in the event of secession), and whether it would lose its UEFA membership and right to play Champions League football.

Some have even suggested that Barça could join England's Premier League. Commercially, this might seem like a marriage made in heaven. But it is extremely unlikely to happen, not least because of the potential complexities of such a move. The other alternative – a small Catalonia league with the likes of local rivals Espanyol, Girona and Tarragona – is hard to imagine and would struggle to generate sizeable revenues.

Such a debate may sound premature. But it's indicative of how the club has to consider its commercial, as well as political priorities. Gamper was right, FC Barcelona is more than a club. But football in 1899 was a rather different proposition to football in the 21st century. The power of Catalan politics might be compelling, but in football the lure of global revenue streams may yet trump regional idealism.

[the writer is Professor of Sports Enterprise, University of Salford]

Police fire in air to disperse mob in Tripura

AGARTALA, OCT 5 (PTI): A mob gheraoed a police station and tried to set free a man arrested on abduction charges in West district of Tripura following which police fired in the air and used batons to quell them, the police said today.

The mob demanded release of a 26-year-old tribal man Balendra Debbarma soon after he was arrested yesterday in connection with an alleged abduction of a car driver on September 20. Police used lathis and burst tear gas shells before opening fire in the air to disperse the crowd, Superintendent of Police Avijit Saptarshi told PTI. The administration suspended Internet services in the state for 24 hours from 6.30 pm last evening to prevent spread of rumours, he said.

Tripartite meet to review creation of 7 districts in Manipur

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): The decision to create seven new districts in Manipur, which led to massive protests and 139-day blockade on national highways connecting the state, will be reviewed at a tripartite meeting called by the Union Home Ministry here tomorrow, an official said.

The representatives of the United Naga Council (UNC), central and state governments will take part in the home ministry meeting. The UNC, the apex political organisation of Nagas residing in the hill districts on Manipur, had staged massive protests following the creation of the new districts alleging that such a move would bifurcate the ancestral land of the Nagas. The organisation had also imposed an economic blockade on NH-2 (Imphal-Dimapur) and NH-37 (Imphal-Jiribam) that serve as lifelines for the landlocked Manipur for 139 days in 2016. The blockade was withdrawn in March this year after the BJP-led government came to power in Manipur and assured that their demand would be considered, the official said.

Sikkim sees fresh inflow of tourists as Darjeeling suspends bandh

NITESH R PRADHAN GANGTOK, 05 OCT: The suspension of the bandh in neighbouring Darjeeling hills has resulted in the tourist season finally picking up in Sikkim. Tourist inflow to the State had gone down due to the unrest in Darjeeling and stakeholders were worried about a dry spell this season. However the fresh inflow of tourists has meant

brisk business for many including drivers. "Post Dasain there is a sudden rush. We are now getting regular trips to tourist points like Ganesh Tok and Hanuman Tok," said a driver, Pritam Singh. With the upward trend in tourist inflow, the hotels and lodges have also witnessed some occupancy if not full. Raj Pradhan, an owner of a lodge in the capital said

that while some "season time" is already lost but slowly the tourists have started to return. He further hopes that there will be no further turmoil in the neighbouring Hills. "There was a time when there was zero occupancy in peak season. Now at least there is some business," he remarked. Ranjit Banerjee, a middle aged tourist from Kolkata wanted to visit Sikkim even

during the time when Darjeeling crisis was at its peak. "I had to cancel my plans due to my family's advice but now after the bandh lifted we came here and at much cheaper rates too," he adds. Since there are less tourists this season many hotels and lodges have rooms available at much cheaper rates than in peak season time. "We had to do this as we

have to have some running money to lead our daily lives," remarks Raj Pradhan. The stakeholders in tourism industry hope for peace in the region so that the industry that gives bread and butter to many does not have to suffer. "This is our livelihood and we can only hope that peace returns fully to Darjeeling and we can make up for our losses," said Suresh

Sharma, a travel operator in the capital. Major tourists' circuits in the capital along with popular spots around the capital like Rumtek and Tsongmo lake have also witnessed a growth in tourist inflow. "We will return tomorrow. It was a memorable trip and we hope to return again," said Rakesh Mandal, a tourist from Gujarat who is here with his family of six.

Will settle Rohingya issue with Myanmar peacefully: Bangladesh

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): Bangladesh today said that Myanmar has pushed one million Rohingyas onto its soil and it will make efforts to resolve the issue peacefully despite "provocations". "Recently Myanmar has pushed one million Rohingyas, their own nationals, onto our soil. We are still struggling. We haven't got into a fight with them despite provocations. "We are trying to resolve it peacefully... The Prime Minister (Sheikh Hasina) thinks that it is something we will solve in a peaceful manner," Bangladesh foreign secretary Shahidul Haque said while participating in the India Economic Summit (IES). Bangladesh is facing a big influx of Rohingyas from Myanmar following ethnic violence in the Buddhist-majority nation. India had last month rushed relief material to Bangladesh and pledged all help to Dhaka in tackling the humanitarian crisis. At the IES, Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, who discussed the geopolitical dynamics and



the economic initiatives in Asia, raised the issue of 'One Belt-One Road', saying China will have to do more if it wants India to join the proposed project. "If the Chinese really feel that for the overall credibility and viability of the Belt and Road Initiative they want India to play an active part, they have to do more of a selling job. They have to come and market to us

here on why this is actually in our interest," the former Union minister said. India skipped the Belt and Road Forum (BRF) in May this year due to its sovereignty concerns over the CPEC, a flagship project of China's prestigious Silk Road initiative, officially called One Belt One Road (OBOR). Differences emerged be-

tween the two countries over the USD 50-billion China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) passing through Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) which is part of the China's mega Belt and Road initiative. The India Economic Summit of the World Economic Forum (WEF) is being attended by over 500 business and political leaders.

WB BJP chief heckled in Darj, cancels meeting of BJP workers

contd from pg01 he told reporters. Ghosh claimed that the agitators were supporters of expelled Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) leader Binay Tamang. Tamang denied the allegation. Asked whether Ghosh was provided security for the meeting, Chauturvedi said, "The police was outside the venue. We had provided security for those programmes about which we had information. He (Ghosh) will be provided complete security." Reacting to the incident, state Parliamentary Affairs Minister Partha Chatterjee said, "The BJP had gone there to foment trouble when peace was returning to the hills. Instead of taking police personnel along with him, he (Ghosh) had taken hired goons. If he doesn't ask for security then how can the police provide security cover?" Senior north Bengal Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader and minister Gautam Deb said, "It (the scuffle) was an outburst of anger of the hill people against the sinister designs of the BJP". Ghosh said, "These protests are fuelled and funded by the TMC. Except the GJM and Bimal Gurung, all other hill parties are mere extra players who are working on behalf of the TMC. The people of the hills are with the BJP and the GJM and that is why we have received so much support wherever we are going." He said hundreds of people in the hills greeted the BJP leaders and shared their problems. The response was tremendous, he told PTI. Earlier in the day while entering Darjeeling from Kalimpong, Ghosh and his team faced pro-

tests by supporters of the Gorkha National Liberation Front, who like some other hill parties demanded that its delegates leave Darjeeling immediately. Ghosh and his team were also shown black flags and asked to refrain from disturbing the "peace and stability" in the region. They had faced protests yesterday too by supporters of the Jan Andolan Party and Binay Tamang during their visit to Kalimpong. Posters with the messages such as 'BJP go back' and asking the hill people to boycott the party's delegation were put up. The state BJP chief had, however, refuted the GNLf allegation that he was in the hills to foment trouble and claimed that the protests against the BJP delegation were fuelled by the ruling TMC. Ghosh claimed it was due to his initiative that peace has returned to Darjeeling. "I talked to the Union home minister, after which peace returned to the Darjeeling hills," he said. The BJP team is scheduled to visit various places in the hills and neighbouring Sikkim and hold meetings with its workers and the GJM leadership. Expelled GJM leader and vice-chairman of the Board of Administrators (BoA), Anit Thapa also accused the BJP of trying to foment trouble in the hills. "What was it (BJP) doing for the three-and-a-half months when the hills were burning? Now that peace has returned, it wants to create trouble," he alleged. The rebel GJM group led by Tamang, who is the BOA chairman, and Thapa are slated to hold rallies to protest the visit of the saffron party delegation.

Study provides photo evidence of snow leopards in Arunachal

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): A study about snow leopards in Arunachal Pradesh has yielded photographic evidence of the presence of the elusive species in the Thembang area of the north-eastern state. The state-wide survey carried out by World Wildlife Fund (WWF) India in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh Forest department was started in March 2017, focusing on unexplored areas. It has yielded photo evidence of the snow leopard through a camera trap set up at Thembang, one of the community conserved areas in the state, a WWF statement said. Only a fraction of snow leopard habitats in the state falls into two protected areas-Dibang Biosphere Reserve and Namdapha National Park. "The presence of the big cat beyond these protected areas highlights the importance of community support for conservation as well as landscape-scale conservation planning," it said.

"This is perhaps the first time that the presence of snow leopard has been reported through a camera trap photograph from the state of Arunachal Pradesh," said Omkar Singh, principal secretary, Environment and Forest, Arunachal Pradesh government. The survey relied on the knowledge of the community members to understand the current distribution of snow leopards and other large mammals in the region. "Scientific information on the distribution of snow leopards generated through this state-wide survey is an encouraging sign for WWF-India and the Arunachal Pradesh Forest department," said Ravi Singh, secretary general and CEO of WWF-India. Snow leopard, native of central and south Asia, is listed as a 'vulnerable' category animal in the Red List of threatened species compiled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature(IUCN).

Air quality 'poor' on eve of mega FIFA event

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): A day before the U-17 FIFA world cup kicks off in Delhi, environment NGO Greenpeace said today the level of coarse air pollutants PM10 "far exceeded" the safe levels in the host cities of the tournament last October. The Greenpeace report came on a day the national capital recorded 'poor' air quality for the second consecutive day. The NGO claimed high level of PM10 may "reduce" the quality of football played during the tournament. According to the report, in October 2016, the average levels of PM10 - coarse particulates measuring less than 10 microns in diameter - were 304 and 100 microgrammes per cubic

metre (ug/m3) in Delhi and Mumbai. The 24-hour average prescribed standard of PM10 is 100 and the annual prescribed average is 60. Delhi will co-host the tournament with Mumbai, Kochi, Margao (Goa), Guwahati and Kolkata. "PM10 level on October 6 last year in Delhi was 234 g/m3, and 320 g/m3 on October 16 (when Delhi hosts the last tournament match this year). "These values are over 4 times and 6 times above the World Health Organisation's limits of 50 g/m3 over a 24-hour period, and over 2 and 3 times above India's PM10 standards of 100 g/m3 (over a 24 hour period)," a Greenpeace India statement said.

India's ambitious new plan to conquer TB needs cash and commitment

MADHUKAR PAI theconversation.com Tuberculosis (TB) kills more people today than HIV and malaria combined. In 2015, there were an estimated 10.4 million new TB cases worldwide and 1.8 million TB deaths, according to the World Health Organization. And India is at the epicentre of this global epidemic, with half a million TB deaths annually. India also accounts for 16 per cent of the estimated 480,000 new cases of multi-drug-resistant TB. Can India turn things around and control this epidemic? The answer is a conditional yes. The Indian government has already taken several steps over the past few years to address it. This includes making TB a notifiable disease, developing the Standards for TB Care in India, introducing daily drug regimens and rolling out molecular and drug-susceptibility testing. But there's an opportunity to do more and better, and for India to assume a global leadership role. **INDIA MUST BACK AMBITIONS**

WITH RUPEES Earlier this year, India's Revised National TB Control Program published a draft of a new National Strategic Plan (NSP) for TB Elimination 2017-2025. The NSP, if fully funded and well implemented, could be a game changer in the fight against TB in India. The plan aims to improve services and outcomes for the 1.5 million patients in the public system and to scale up access to new diagnostics and drugs. It also sets out a bold road map to reach private providers and support the millions of patients treated in the private sector. Building on promising pilot results, the NSP proposes to do so by providing incentives to providers — for following standard protocols for diagnosis and treatment as well as for notifying the government of cases. Patients referred to the government will in turn receive a cash transfer, to compensate them for direct and indirect costs of undergoing treatment and as an incentive to complete treatment. The cost of implementing the new NSP is estimated at US\$2.5 billion over the first

three years, a big increase over the current budget. Historically, despite being a highly cost-effective program and despite having a high absorptive capacity, RNTCP has struggled to receive funding that is commensurate with the scale of India's epidemic. This simply cannot continue. India must start backing its ambitions with rupees. Therefore, the real test of whether the bold plan by the Health Ministry can be implemented will be whether enough resources can be mobilized — to find, treat and offer quality care to all TB patients, regardless of where they live. **HEALTH SPENDING AN URGENT PRIORITY** TB is one of many diseases that affect Indians, and India is clearly under-performing on several key health indicators, as shown by a recent report on attainment on health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 188 countries. This is an analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016, which measured 37 health-related indicators from 1990 to

2016. India did very poorly in this analysis, ranking 127 among 188 countries. In fact, every single other BRICS country (Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa) ranked ahead of India. This analysis clearly shows that India's economic progress is not reflected in the health of its people. India's National Health Policy, approved this year, proposes to increase health expenditure by the government from the existing 1.15 per cent to 2.5 per cent of the GDP, by 2025. Ensuring this increase should be an urgent priority for India, and an absolute requirement if India is to make progress towards universal health coverage. **A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE** Are there areas of strength that India can leverage to fight TB? India has made some impressive contributions in global health. India has been polio-free for more than five years and this success has propelled global efforts to eradicate polio. Indian biotech and drug manufacturers dominate the production

of TB and HIV medications, accounting for more than 80 per cent of the global market. The recent launch of a rotavirus vaccine produced in India has underscored the country's leadership role in childhood immunization. India also has huge strengths in IT and software that can be leveraged. And India has a long tradition of excellence in TB research, highlighted by the creation of an India TB Research Consortium. So, with its strong research expertise in TB, and technological and pharmaceutical capacity, India has the potential to make great progress against this disease. What is essential is a strong financial and political commitment from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to end the TB epidemic, and an overall greater investment in health. When health becomes a priority for India, TB will naturally decline, as will many other conditions that currently make India rank so poorly in health-related SDGs. **[the writer is Director of Global Health & Professor, McGill University]**

India set to make FIFA World Cup debut against USA on Friday

PHILEM DIPAK SINGH
NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): Football minnows India stand on the cusp of history as the hosts are set to make their debut in a FIFA event against a formidable USA in a group match of the U-17 World Cup, which begins here on Friday.

India qualified automatically for the event as hosts.

They have prepared well with All India Football Federation sending the players for training tours in Europe and a tournament in Mexico but the home side are clear underdogs.

Man to man, USA are clearly the better team in the Group A match at the refurbished Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Most of the American players ply their trade in Major League Soccer youth teams and a couple of them are set to play in top European clubs as well.

India would enjoy the home advantage and captain Amarjit Singh and his teammates have promised to be competitive at the showpiece event. The feat of playing in India's first-ever FIFA tournament should spur them to bring out their best and deliver something worthy of a

host country. They will also be the first Indian players to feature in any World Cup.

More than that, odds are heavily against India on Friday as the players lacked competitive matches. Besides, they didn't attend any professional academies unlike their American counterparts. The Indian team was assembled in just seven months by head coach Luis Norton de Matos who took over in March after the sacking of German Nicolai Adam.

Adam, who was made India U-17 coach in February 2015, built a team by scouting talent from across the country through trials and tournaments but got the boot early this year after a reign of two years for allegedly abusing players.

Portuguese de Matos made several changes in the team, bringing in at least half a dozen players in key positions.

The two teams are more or less unknown quantities to each other. A pragmatic de Matos has, however, warned against any miracles from his boys, conceding that there is a big gap between his boys and the other teams.

He has no illusions in the difference in quality be-



tween European and American players who have spent at least six-seven years in a professional academy.

De Matos has indicated India cannot play an open game and his focus would be on strong defence and not to concede goals.

His strategy would be to rely on smooth and swift transitions from defence to offence and hit on the counter-attacks.

He is expected to start Moirangthem Dheeraj Singh

at the goal while two regular center backs Anwar Ali and Jitendra Singh are certainties.

Sanjeev Stalin should start as left full back while Hendry Antony is expected to man the right back's position in place of Boris Singh, who cannot play on Friday after picking a red card against Iran in AFC U-16 Championship last year.

The six-feet-two inch defensive midfielder Jeakson Singh could be the key man who will strengthen the de-

fence as well besides helping captain Amarjit and Suresh Singh in midfield.

Komal Thatal, who scored a brilliant goal in India's campaign against Brazil in the BRICS Cup last year, has been doing well at the left flank while Aniket Jadhav is expected to start as the lone striker.

De Matos has conceded that USA are strong in offense and the Indian defence and the goalkeeper will have to be strong and patient enough to thwart attacks from the

opposition.

"They (USA) will be strong in attack and we have to prepare to counter their attack. We have to be strong in defence," de Matos said.

USA captain and striker Josh Sargent will sign with Bundesliga club Werder Bremen next February when he turns 18.

He also played at the U-20 World Cup in Korea earlier this year, making him the first US player since Freddy Adu in 2003 to play in the U-20 and U-17 World Cups in the same year.

Tim Weah, son of former FIFA World Player of the Year and Liberia great George Weah, is another striker and a big talent. He signed with Paris Saint Germain earlier this year.

US head coach John Hackworth has, however, refused to take India likely in their opening match.

"We've played India once before, we were successful against them. But it wasn't in the opening game of World Cup, it wasn't them hosting a World Cup. My feeling is that, and from information I've heard, there's going to be a loud crowd.

"They (India) are incredibly athletic and hard-working

team. We are going to have to beat them in the opening game and that is a difficult challenge," Hackworth said.

The US team has 17 players who were part of the team that played in the qualifying tournament -- 2017 CONCACAF U-17 Championship in April -- in which it had finished second, losing to Mexico in the final on penalties.

The Teams (From):

India: Dheeraj Singh, Prabhsukhan Gill, Sunny Dhalliwal, Jitendra Singh, Anwar Ali, Sanjeev Stalin, Hendry Antony, Namit Deshpande, Suresh Singh, Ninothoingamba Meetei, Amarjit Singh Kiyam, Abhijit Sarkar, Komal Thatal, Lalengmawia, Jeakson Singh, Nongdamba Naorem, Rahul Kannoly Praveen, Md. Shahjahan, Rahim Ali, Aniket Jadhav.

USA: Alex Budnik, Carlos Joaquin Dos Santos, Justin Garces, Sergino Dest, Christopher Gloster, Jaylin Lindsey, James Sands, Tyler Shaver, Akil Watts, George Acosta, Taylor Booth, Christopher Durkin, Blaine Ferri, Chris Goslin, Indiana Vassilev, Ayo Akinola, Andrew Carleton, Jacobo Reyes, Bryan Reynolds, Joshua Sargent, Tim Weah. **Match starts at 8pm.**

to book
advertisements
in
SummitTimes
call
03592-208698
9734152541
9647102692
advertise@
summittimes.
com

Football tourney by ITBP concludes at Pegong

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 OCT:

The closing ceremony of the football tournament organized by the 11th Battalion of Indo Tibetan Border Police at Fu-Fu ground in Pegong, North Sikkim was held today, a press release informs.

The tournament, which had commenced on 02 Oct with the participation of local teams of North Sikkim, concluded in the presence of Commandant-ITBP 11th Bn, Rajesh Kumar Tomar, who attended the



event as chief guest.

The final match of the tournament was played between Chungthang and

Pegong team wherein Chungthang team emerged victorious by 3-2 goals.

Commandant Tomar pre-

sented cash prize of Rs 8000 and trophy to the winning team and Rs 2000 along with trophy to the runners-up.

Big Brother Chhetri to U-17s: Forgive us for being jealous!

contd from pg01

be part of India's first ever World Cup squad. India's highest goal scorer in internationals, Chhetri, in an emotionally charged message, told the boys to "take the stage" as the seniors "take the stands", bringing out the fan in them.

"It's a chance that most of us will almost certainly never get and you have to forgive us for being jealous of you.

But pride is the bigger feeling here. We are not going to give you wisdom about dealing with pressure or taking none of it.

You have trained hard and this is your time. Take the stage, we will take the stands. Come On, India!", the India captain's message was posted on Bengaluru FC's official twitter handle as he wished on behalf of the club.

Chhetri, who has played Nehru Cups in front of packed galleries, is ready to cheer the younger ones.

"For sometime now, we have had the privilege of having fans, and its something we are always grateful for. Fans who sing for us, who back us through wins, draws and defeats, trophies and disappointment.

"Over the next one month, we are giving up that privilege as we turn fans of the first ever Indian team to play a football World Cup."

The striker poured his heart out without trying to be preachy, and the message was certainly a bit different from the rest.

"It's less than a day before your big moment and I am not sure if this letter will make it past the wall, to the zone you have stepped into. But if it does manage to sneak in somehow, all of us at Bengaluru FC would like you boys, who will pull on that blue shirt tomorrow, to know something," Chhetri wrote.

India's richest get richer, Mukesh Ambani retains top slot: Forbes

NEW DELHI, OCT 5 (PTI): Reliance Industries chief Mukesh Ambani today emerged as India's wealthiest for the 10th straight year as his net worth swelled to USD 38 billion (nearly Rs 2.5 lakh crore) while the wealth of 100 richest rose by 26 per cent despite economic hiccups.

Wipro's Azim Premji was the distant second with a net worth of USD 19 billion, moving up two places from last year, while Sun Pharma's Dilip Shanghvi slipped from his earlier second place to the ninth now (USD 12.1 billion) on Forbes magazine's annual 'India Rich List 2017'.

Forbes said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "economic experiments" barely affected India's billionaires while none gained more than oil-and-gas tycoon Mukesh Ambani, who cemented his decade-long hold on the top slot by adding a staggering USD 15.3 billion (67 per cent) to his last year's wealth to become one of Asia's top five richest.

Anil Ambani, Mukesh's younger brother, was ranked much lower at 45th place with USD 3.15 billion. He was ranked 32nd in 2016 (USD 3.4 billion) and 29th a year before that.

Another Gujarati businessman Gautam

Adani has moved up to 10th position (USD 11 billion), from 13th rank last year, as his networth rose from USD 6.3 billion.

Forbes described Adani as a college dropout, who spurned his father's textile shop to set up a commodities export firm in 1988. It also said Adani survived the terrorist attack in Mumbai's Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in 2008.

Patanjali Ayurved's Acharya Balkrishna, known as a close associate of yoga guru Ramdev, made a big jump from 48th place last year to 19th now with a net worth of USD 6.55 billion (about Rs 43,000 crore).

"Despite India's economic hiccups, tycoons on the 2017 Forbes India Rich List saw their wealth soar as their combined fortunes rose 26 per cent to USD 479 billion (over Rs 31 lakh crore)," the magazine said.

"India's turbo-charged economy sputtered in the quarter ended in June as it grew at a three-year low of 5.7 per cent, due to the aftershocks of last November's demonetisation and uncertainties over the rollout of a nation-wide Goods and



Services Tax. Despite this, the stock market scaled new heights and boosted the fortunes of the nation's 100 richest," it added.

In the case of Ambani, improved refining margins and his telecom unit Reliance Jio's thundering success in notching up 130 million subscribers since its 2016 launch pushed up shares of Reliance Industries.

The Hinduja brothers are at the third position with USD 18.4 billion while Lakshmi Mittal is now ranked fourth (USD 16.5 billion) and Pallonji Mistry fifth (USD 16 billion).

Forbes said the list was compiled using shareholding and financial information secured from the families and individuals,

stock exchanges, analysts and regulatory agencies.

The ranking lists family fortunes, including those shared among extended families such as the Godrej and Bajaj families.

Public fortunes were calculated based on stock prices and exchange rates as of September 15. Private companies were valued based on similar companies that are publicly traded.

More than four-fifths of those who kept their spot on the list from last year saw their wealth rise, with 27 listees adding USD 1 billion or more to their net worth.

The richest newcomer is cookies-and-airline tycoon Nusli Wadia at the 25th place with a net worth of USD 5.6 billion.

Among the five other new entrants to the list are Dinesh Nandwana (88, USD 1.72 billion) of e-governance services firm Vakrangee; Vijay Shekhar Sharma (99, USD 1.47 billion) of fast-rising mobile wallet Paytm and Rana Kapoor (100, USD 1.46 billion) of Yes Bank.

Veteran investor Radhakishan Damani, boosted by the listing of his supermarket

chain D-Mart in March, returned to the list at 12th place with a net worth of USD 9.3 billion.

Other returnees are Future Group's Kishore Biyani (55th, USD 2.75 billion) and siblings Murli Dhar and Bimal Gyanchandani (75, USD 1.96 billion).

However, a dozen have turned poorer than a year ago, with half of them from the pharmaceutical sector, which has been plagued by challenges.

Pharmaceutical magnate Dilip Shanghvi is the biggest dollar loser on the list as his net worth fell by USD 4.8 billion, ending his three-year run as India's second-richest.

The Gupta family (40, USD 3.45 billion), heirs of patriarch Desh Bandhu Gupta, who died in June, saw their fortune shrink as shares of their generics maker Lupin declined.

Brothers Shashi and Ravi Ruia suffered a drop as their Essar Steel faced bankruptcy proceedings under India's stricter new law, Forbes said.

The 100 wealthiest on this year's list are all billionaires. The minimum amount required to make the list was USD 1.46 billion, up from USD 1.25 billion last year.

WWE to hold two live shows in New Delhi in December

MUMBAI, OCT 5 (PTI): 'Modern Day Maharaja' Jinder Mahal and other WWE superstars are set to showcase their high-flying moves in India as the WWE returns to the country with live shows on December 8 and 9 in New Delhi.

"Following overwhelming demand from our massive and passionate fan base in India, we are excited to bring WWE LIVE back to New Delhi for two shows of spectacular, non-stop, family-friendly entertainment," Sheetesh Srivastava, Vice President and General Manager of WWE India, said in a release.

"I know our fans cannot wait to fill the Indira Gandhi Stadium and welcome back their favorite WWE Superstars," he added.

The shows will feature current WWE champion Jinder Mahal, who will be accompanied

by The Singh Brothers. Mahal and Singh brothers are currently part of SmackDown Live.

The show will also feature 'The Big Dog', Roman Reigns, Braun Strowman (also known as Monster Among Men) and current Raw Tag team Champions Seth Rollins and Dean Ambrose.

Women superstars, Alexa Bliss and Shasha Banks, among others are scheduled to be part of the show.

"It is an honour to represent the people of India every time I step into the ring, and it will be a true privilege to perform for them live," Mahal was quoted as saying in the release.

The last time WWE was in India was in January 2016 with shows in Delhi.

Ticket information for the shows will be announced in the coming weeks.

No Indian troops in Afghanistan because of Pak factor: US

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, Oct 5 (PTI): US Defence Secretary James Mattis has said that India's decision not to send troops to war-torn Afghanistan was perhaps guided by the Pakistan factor.

Mattis praised India's contributions to Afghanistan's development before lawmakers at House Armed Services Committee, saying New Delhi has adopted a holistic approach in its assistance towards the country.

"It is really a very holistic approach that India is taking. You'll notice I left off (Indian) boots (soldiers) on the ground because of the complexity that would bring to Pakistan," Mattis said yesterday in response to a question from Congressman Doug Lamborn during the Congressional hearing on

South Asia.

"We're trying to make this an inclusive strategy and we don't want them to get a sense that they're vulnerable to any Indian Army people from their western flank, that's not necessary," Mattis said.

Mattis was in New Delhi last month and held talks with Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Sitharaman had ruled out any troop contribution in Afghanistan and said it will continue to provide development assistance to the country.

Islamabad is opposed to any major role for India in neighbouring Afghanistan, saying a Kabul-New Delhi axis would be detrimental to Pakistan's strategic interests. During the hearing, Mattis insisted that an open border

trade between India and Pakistan would help in bringing regional stability.

"If there's any way for Pakistan and India to open their border to trade at great economic advantage to both of the countries, it would be a big help across the region," he said.

Stability can follow economics as much as stability enables economics, he added. He hoped that they will eventually see that happen.

"I believe India wants that to happen, but it's very hard to do that if your concern is that you open the border to one thing, and you get something else," Mattis said in an oblique reference to cross-border infiltration.

Responding to a series of questions on the Indian role in Afghanistan, Mattis said, "New

Delhi has been generous over many years with Afghanistan. Because of its very generous funding over the years, India has achieved a degree of affection from the Afghan people as a result. They intend to continue this effort and broaden it. Furthermore, they are providing training for Afghan military officers and NCOs at their schools."

India, he said, is willing to do rehabilitation of Soviet-era equipment until they are replaced with American. That will take years, he noted.

Furthermore, India has been providing and will continue to provide training for Afghan Army doctors and medics in the field so that the Afghan Army is able to take casualties and better sustain themselves

thigh, he said.

Mattis said there are many areas where India and the US are natural partners for each other. The two countries, he said, are deepening and broadening the military-to-military relationship.

"But it is not an exclusive strategy, exclusive of anyone. Any nation that wants to be part of the counter-terror effort and this stability effort in South Asia, can sign up," he said seeking to allay Pakistan's concern of being excluded.

It is open to any nation that wants to move against terrorism and remove this threat to all civilised nations. Referring to his talks with the Indian leadership, Mattis said the US does not need to convince Indians that it doesn't have nefarious designs on the Indo-Pacific area.



British author Kazuo Ishiguro wins Nobel Literature Prize

STOCKHOLM, Oct 5 (AFP): British author Kazuo Ishiguro, best known for his novel "The Remains of the Day", won the Nobel Literature Prize today, the Swedish Academy said.

The 62-year-old, "in novels of great emotional force, has uncovered the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world," the Academy wrote in its citation.

Born in Nagasaki, he moved to Britain with his family when he was five years old, only returning to visit Japan as an adult. Both his first novel "A Pale View of Hills" from 1982 and the subsequent one, "An Artist of the Floating World" from 1986, take place in Na-

gasaki a few years after World War II.

"The themes Ishiguro is most associated with are already present here: memory, time, and self-delusion," the Academy said.

"This is particularly notable in his most renowned novel, 'The Remains of the Day,'" which was turned into a film with Anthony Hopkins acting as the duty-obsessed butler Stevens.

"Ishiguro's writings are marked by a carefully restrained mode of expression, independent of whatever events are taking place," it said.

Apart from his eight books, Ishiguro has also written scripts for film and television.

Political polarisation in Nepal ahead of major elections

KATHMANDU, Oct 5 (PTI): Ahead of the provincial and the federal elections in Nepal, the ruling Nepali Congress is likely to announce a coalition of right-wing forces with some smaller parties to counter the grand leftist alliance.

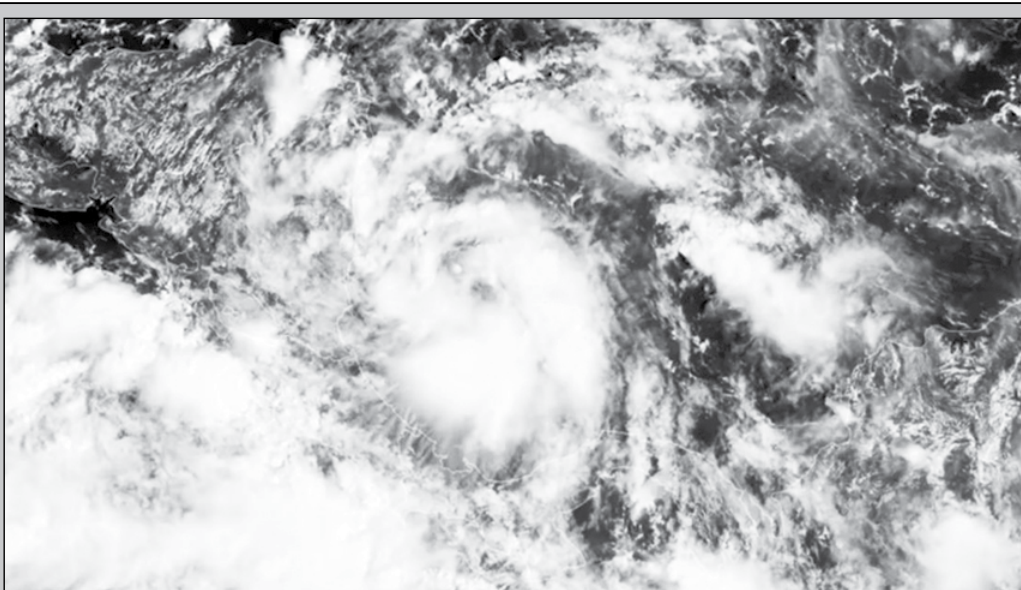
The Nepali Congress, which has expressed readiness to be part of the proposed "democratic alliance", will hold a meeting tomorrow, as political parties continue to align according to their ideologies ahead of the crucial polls in the next two months.

At least five political parties, including the Rastriya Janata Party Nepal (RJPN), the Federal Socialist Forum Nepal, the Rastriya Prajatantra Party Nepal and the Nepal Loktantrik Forum (NFL), have decided to forge an alliance with Nepali Congress to counter the grand leftist alliance.

Their decision comes a day after the CPN-UML led by K P Oli, CPN (Maoist Centre) led by Prachanda and Naya Shakti Nepal led by Baburam Bhattarai announced a grand leftist alliance for provincial and parliamentary elections. The Rastriya Prajatantra Party Democratic is also likely to join the alliance.

Fringe parties on both sides of the political spectrum such as the Rastriya Janamorchha and the Nepal Workers and the Peasant Party are under pressure to choose between the NC and the UML-led alliances due to sharp political polarisation.

The grand leftist and rightist alliance is likely to make a big differences in the outcome in the upcoming elections, point out political observers. Nepali Congress has called an emergency meeting of the party's central working committee tomorrow to discuss the matter, said Dhyani Govinda Ranjit, CWC member and Parliament Member from Nepali Congress. Meanwhile, Nepali Congress general secretary Sashanka Koirala has said that it is natural to forge a working alliance among the parties with common ideology prior to the elections.



A newly formed tropical depression in the Caribbean Sea could strengthen into a hurricane and move north into the Gulf of Mexico by the weekend, the National Hurricane Centre has said. Tropical Depression 16 is currently around 200 miles southeast of the Nicaragua and Honduras border. It is forecast to strengthen as it moves over warmer waters and could bring tropical storm conditions and heavy rainfall to both countries into Thursday. Experts have said the system could affect parts of the northern Gulf Coast, including Georgia and possibly Florida, as a hurricane by the weekend - bringing storm surges and heavy rainfall to the area. The National Hurricane Centre (NHC) said residents along the Gulf Coast from Louisiana to Florida should monitor the progress of the storm over the next few days.

Trump in Las Vegas: America truly a nation in mourning

WASHINGTON, Oct 5 (PTI): With his countrymen still coming to grips with the deadliest mass shooting in Las Vegas early this week, US President Donald Trump has said America is truly a nation in mourning as he thanked the first responders who rushed to save lives.

Trump travelled to Las Vegas yesterday to meet with first responders and victims of the mass shooting in the casino city. In the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history, at least 59 people were killed and over 500 injured after a gunman on the 32nd floor of a hotel and casino opened fire on people at an outdoor country music festival below.

Surrounded by first responders, a somber looking Trump accompanied with the First Lady consoled the nation.

"The mass murder that took place on Sunday night fills America's heart with grief. America is truly a nation in mourning," Trump said in his remarks.

The President returned to White House



late evening. He also visited injured in hospital. He spoke of Charleston Hartfield, an off-duty police officer who died in the massacre.

"We cannot be defined by the evil that threatens us....

We are defined by our love, our caring and our courage....," he said.

"Words cannot describe the bravery that the whole world witnessed on Sunday

night," he said during a brief speech at the Las Vegas Police Department Command Centre. Trump said the Americans defied death and hatred with love and courage and thanked the first responders on the behalf of the "grateful nation".

"In the months ahead, we will all have to wrestle with the horror of what has unfolded this week, but we will struggle through it together, we will endure the pain together, and we will overcome together as Americans," Trump said.

The US president however refrained from talking about gun control laws, the debate over which has rekindled in the aftermath of the shooting.

to book
advertisements
in **SummitTIMES**
call
03592-208698
9734152541,
9647102692
advertise@
summittimes.
com

Anthesthyi Kriya

The Anthesthyi Kriya of **Late Dilip Kumar Rai** who left for his heavenly abode on 1st October 2017 falls on **8th October 2017 (Sunday)**. All friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayer at our residence at **Kazitar, Namchi, Below DIET College, South Sikkim**. We also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during out time of bereavement.
Mrs Bina Rai (wife), Anju Rai(daughter) Navin Rai, Naresh Rai & Roshan Rai (sons) & all family members. Contact no 8389013622, 9738074877, 7679432754.

<div>GENERAL LAND FOR SALE: Roadside plots (general land) available for sale at Adampool, east Sikkim. Contact 9434117687 for further details and to arrange site visits.</div>	<div>NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES</div> <div><div>DEAR FALCON EVENING Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:10 DrawDate on:05/10/17</div><div>1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 79J 27523 (Including Super Prize Amt) 2nd Prize Rs.9497/- 27523 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 3rd Prize Rs.9,000/- 01781 18989 23595 28231 34422 61883 80540 84621 90955 93563 4th Prize Rs.500/- 0018 0891 5813 6867 7703 7911 9666 9730 9817 9850 5th Prize Rs.250/- 0636 1346 2348 3413 4119 4693 4780 4947 8033 9170 6th Prize Rs.120/- 0198 0202 0252 0360 0379 0509 0541 0851 0866 1085 1170 1297 1334 1388 1473 1526 1582 1593 1665 1936 1972 2417 2510 2669 2786 3079 3097 3174 3643 3644 3854 3951 3965 4101 4182 4187 4242 4337 4389 4390 4416 4432 4488 4628 4790 4850 4990 5058 5122 5161 5210 5235 5416 5431 5444 5506 5524 5582 5589 5630 5751 5827 5861 5881 6056 6146 6169 6294 6328 6359 6600 6774 6948 7172 7301 7361 7555 7608 7794 7834 7922 7992 8042 8170 8232 8436 8451 8455 8456 8546 8584 8684 8824 9178 9278 9365 9443 9505 9682 9956</div><div>Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Results, Please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com</div><div>KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE</div></div>	<div>SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES</div> <div><div>DEAR WORTHY MORNING Draw No:5 DrawDate on:05/10/17</div><div>1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 93L 11000 (Including Super Prize Amt) 2nd Prize Rs.9497/- 11000 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 3rd Prize Rs.9,000/- 05479 29693 39363 40976 45228 65755 68529 79106 85233 93811 4th Prize Rs.500/- 0332 0378 0449 0754 4368 4704 4711 5073 7942 8921 5th Prize Rs.250/- 1280 1904 3556 3663 4230 5343 5351 8606 9780 9793 6th Prize Rs.120/- 0042 0063 0070 0143 0546 0669 0783 0833 0951 0981 1020 1124 1130 1189 1294 1677 1730 1779 1902 1916 2052 2113 2285 2454 2519 2554 2682 2723 3089 3328 3410 3460 3468 3790 4030 4195 4504 4660 4723 4841 4904 5172 5185 5246 5336 5389 5441 5543 5599 5805 5930 5935 6065 6121 6197 6208 6599 6652 6678 6763 6779 6922 7001 7076 7325 7431 7547 7630 7699 7723 7822 8271 8362 8400 8403 8510 8539 8643 8663 8716 8876 8936 9016 9059 9119 9177 9224 9273 9321 9350 9398 9399 9423 9439 9456 9477 9668 9772 9788 9910</div><div>Issued by: The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102, Gangtok, Sikkim. Please Visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com</div><div>KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE</div></div>
---	---	---



READY? ACTION! Josh Brolin wore his Cable costume while filming scenes for *Deadpool 2* in Vancouver. He is also playing Thanos in the upcoming installment of *Avengers*.

FAST AND FURIOUS 9'S NEW RELEASE DATE REVEALED

Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines.

Fast and Furious 9 finally has a new release date. The movie is now set to hit theaters April 10, 2020—about a year after its initial release date. The official Fast and Furious Twitter and Instagram accounts announced the news on Wednesday.

The ninth film was originally scheduled to debut April 19, 2019. Vin Diesel, one of the stars of the movie franchise, announced the making of the eighth, ninth and tenth movies along with their corresponding release dates back in February 2016. No word yet as to whether the tenth film will remain on schedule.

The delayed release date wasn't the only drama surrounding Fast and Furious 9. There seemed to be some tension between Tyrese Gibson and Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson back in September. Gibson left a comment on one of Johnson's Instagram photos and suggested that Johnson was in talks to do a film centered on his character Luke Hobbs.

"If you move forward with that #HobbsMovie you will have purposely ignored the heart to heart moment we had in my sprinter," Gibson wrote at the time in a since-deleted comment on the picture. "I don't wanna hear from you until you remember what we talked about. I'm on your timeline cause you're not responding to my text messages - #FastFamily is just that a family..... We don't fly solo."



Gibson clearly had a lot to say because he added another lengthy comment—one that mentioned the film's release date.

"I have never and will never have a problem with this major movie star he's my brother," Gibson continued. "I'm simply trying to reach him cause he won't call me back about this solo #HobbsMovie. I want you to shoot it just not right now cause the #Fast9 release date has already been announced and we can't let our loyal fans #FastFamily or our loyal fast and furious FANS down on any level from pushing the date..... Didn't you see how HUGE #Fast8 was? It's because we announced and KEPT our release date bro."

"We do this on behalf of the families, the cast, the crew member who have been down and loyal to us for 15 years..... Everyone matters," he added. "When we shoot we all eat, we we show up as a FAMILY display our love, our funny stuff, our story lines and HEARTS in every frame..... Me and the cast laugh because it seems like

#Fast is like a HOLIDAY at this point..... You [can't] push the release date of a holiday bro... it's tradition it's fans that are LOYAL."

This also isn't the first time the movie franchise has pushed back a release date.

Fast and Furious 7 was delayed following the death of Paul Walker. In addition to scheduling the release of the ninth movie, Diesel recently announced a Fast and Furious Live Tour, which is set to debut in 2018.

what's TRENDING



06TH OCTOBER

1949- The Soviet Union creates the Democratic Republic of Germany (East Germany) within the Soviet occupation zone.

1955- A United Airlines DC-4 crashed into a Wyoming mountain peak, killing all 66 people on board.

1961- President John F. Kennedy advises American families to build bomb shelters to protect them from atomic fallout in the event of a nuclear war. Many Americans did prepare for nuclear war by buying up canned goods and building backyard bomb shelters. Also at the time many home builders offered a bomb shelter as part of new home packages.

1976- The Thailand defense minister seized power today

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY

Assistant Professor in History, Namchi Govt. College

after fighting between leftist and rightist forces following the return of Thailand former military dictator caused mass rioting on the streets with a number of public hangings by rioters, in a press statement he said he took power to stop communist agitators from continuing the unrest, and marshal law will now be instituted to bring back law and order to the streets signalling the return to military rule.

2013- Four people accused of plotting to sabotage a nuclear site were arrested in Iran. The arrests came just after moves by Iran and the United States to come to terms with the country's nuclear program.

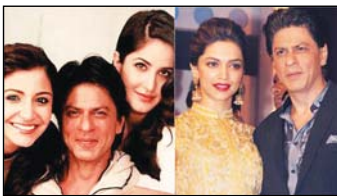
DEEPIKA PADUKONE JOINS SHAH RUKH KHAN, KATRINA KAIF AND ANUSHKA SHARMA FOR AANAND L RAI'S DWARF FILM?

Deepika Padukone, who made her debut alongside Shah Rukh Khan in *Om Shanti Om*, is the latest name to crop up in relation to Aanand L Rai's untitled dwarf film. Looks like this project is turning out to be a complete star-studded affair with the likes of Salman Khan, Alia Bhatt and now Deepika doing cameos and actors like Shah Rukh, Anushka Sharma and Katrina Kaif already in the official cast.

As reported by DNA, sources close to the production unit told them, "While Katrina and Anushka

have been shooting for the film, Deepika shot for the guest appearance recently." And the list doesn't end there. A long line of celebrities have apparently shot for the film.

Alia Bhatt, Rani Mukerji, Karisma Kapoor, Sridevi and Kajol are just few of the names that have been revealed till now. Even



Salman Khan was reported to return the Tubelight favor and do a cameo for SRK in this very film. Shah Rukh also shared a picture with his leading ladies on

Instagram a few days ago. Talking of Deepika and Shah Rukh Khan, their first film together, *Om Shanti Om* also saw a star-studded dance sequence featuring the who's who of Bolly-

wood. From Salman Khan to Dharmendra, everyone made an appearance to do the hook step with SRK. And it looks like, history will repeat itself this time too. After *Om Shanti Om*, Shah Rukh and Deepika also share screen space in *Billu*, *Chennai Express* and *Happy New Year*. After being touted as Bollywood's first dwarf project, this Aanand L Rai film is grabbing more eyeballs with its stellar cast.

ITTEFAQ TRAILER: SIDHARTH, SONAKSHI AND AKSHAYE KHANNA ON A THRILLING CHASE TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH

The trailer of *Ittefaq* wastes no time trying to set up or build up its plot. As soon as you hit play, you're sucked into a dark, sinister world and Sidharth Malhotra's voice takes you further in.

"Uss raat accident mein mujhe kaafi chot lagi thi" — coupled with a Hitchcock-esque background score, makes for an interesting introduction to *Ittefaq*. We then see a wounded Sidharth approach Sonakshi Sinha (who plays Maya) in a dimly lit building, explaining that his car has broken down and he needs help. She is hesitant at first, but allows him one phone call. But, as most thriller films go, what happens next will shock you.

We find out that Sidharth, who plays Vikram Sethi, is framed for a double-mur-



der — first of his wife Katherine Sethi and second, of a lawyer called Shikhar Sinha.

Here enters Akshaye Khanna, in somewhat a reprise of his role in *Mom*. With his typical, cop-like heavy moustache and a grim expression, he questions a confused Vikram about the murders, while the latter claims innocence on both counts.

However, when Maya is questioned by the police, she has a different (more complex) version of events that happened the night Vikram knocked on her door. She is also a suspect in the case. This murder case now has two different versions of events,

and two suspects, but one truth.

What happened that night? What happened to Vikram and Maya? And will the police be able to uncover the infamous truth? These are the questions that make up the plot of Dharma Productions' *Ittefaq*, directed by Abhay Chopra.

Ittefaq is the directorial debut of Abhay and a remake of his father late filmmaker BR Chopra's 1969 film of the same name. The original film starred Rajesh Khanna, Nanda and Iftekhar whose shoes will now be filled by Sidharth, Sonakshi and Akshaye respectively.

Ittefaq is co-produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions and Shah Rukh Khan's Red Chillies Entertainment. It is slated to release on 3 November, along with Rakhee Sandilya's romantic comedy *Ribbon*.

VIRGO: This is a great day for you. You may feel like you can exercise more of your freedom. Break any shackles that seem to be holding you back. There's no reason to feel hindered. Your adventuresome attitude is brave, and there's a great deal of territory to conquer. Get focused and go. You have the green light.

LIBRA: You're in a sticky emotional battle in which someone is trying to twist your words to make you look like the bad guy. As soon as you try to get a project started, someone moves counter to your aims. Perhaps this is all due to a misunderstanding. Take the time

ARCTIC CIRCLE



BABY BLUES



to clear the air in all your relationships.

SCORPIO: Friendships go surprisingly well for you now, so look to them for the support you seek. Future plans may be uncertain, so don't worry about them now. It's important to bask in each moment and give thanks for every breath. You should feel good, so take aggressive action.

SAGITTARIUS: Lessons may come in odd shapes and sizes today, so don't feel like you need to make immediate sense of every little thing. Instead of overanalyzing everything and becoming paralyzed by the emotions you feel, take de-

cisive action and make mistakes. This is where the lessons come in. Let them teach you what you need to know.

CAPRICORN: You're in for some unexpected surprises, but don't worry, because most of them will be exciting and welcome. Prepare yourself by being open and accepting of other people and the new situations they bring. The path of least resistance will take you exactly where you need to go. Move toward people who radiate loving, positive energy.

AQUARIUS: You may feel like you're driving on a highway and suddenly all the lanes merge. This

bottleneck should cause you tension and difficulty. Your first reaction may be to let all the other people go by. Keep in mind that on a day like this, you'll never get where you need to be unless you're more aggressive.

PISCES: You'll be at an advantage if you can learn to distance yourself from the emotional crux of the matter. Maintain a neutral viewpoint. It will be important in order for you to conduct yourself in the way you need to in order to be successful. Great flashes of inspiration result as long as you can keep your mental processes running smoothly.