



**PRIYA CHETTRI WINS
INTERSCHOOL RAPID
CHESS TOURNEY**
pg03

**SIKKIM OBSERVES
EASWARAMMA DAY**
pg03



**SKM HOLDS
MONTHLY MEET
AT RHENOCK**
pg02

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Pages 8 | ₹ 5

CM'S JAN SAMPARKH ABHIYAN REACHES GYALSHING

Tadong College is now Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College

REBYNA RANA
GYALSHING, 06 MAY:

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling's ongoing 32-day State-wide public outreach tour, 'Jan Samparkh Abhiyan,' reached Gyalshing today.

The CM, while addressing the public at Kyongsa Ground announced that the Sikkim Government College, Tadong, will be renamed Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College in the memory of former Chief Minister, the Late Nar Bahadur Bhandari.

"Tadong College was built under his leadership and it is only fitting that the college represents his contributions to Sikkim," he said.

Addressing the criticisms from opposition parties regarding poor facilities in West Sikkim colleges, the Chief Minister assured to address all the problems and asked the opposition to not 'politicize' the situation.

"It takes years and years to build a fully functional educational institute. We are sincere



in our efforts and the State Government is doing everything possible to address various problems faced by the stu-

dents and the college administrative section," he added.

The CM also urged the public to keep away from religion,

caste and class-based discord and conflict and make Sikkim a peaceful and progressive State. He stated that the 32-day Jan Samparkh Abhiyan was for the public to bring forth their grievances and get in touch with the Chief Minister regarding policy formulation.

Expressing his continuing deep desire to work for the benefit of the people, the Chief Minister reiterated the message, 'Afno Gaon, Afai Banau,' and invited the people to work in their respective areas with a sense of ownership.

He further said that the projects sanctioned under State Government were all public-centric and for the benefit of Sikkimese people.

He stated that Sikkim has become polio, goiter and iron-deficiency free State and also shared his vision of making Sikkim tuberculosis free by 2022 and announced to give Rs 3,000 to people suffering from tuberculosis as financial assistance from the Government to support their treatment.

He also asked the public to not hide their illnesses and undergo proper treatment to help the State become healthy and disease-free.

Expressing his concern regarding women's health and hygiene he said that in order to prevent cervical cancer in women, the State Government is providing vaccinations to girls from 09 to 14 years of age free of cost.

The Chief Minister further said that the Government will provide land to the homeless people to build houses from the Government's unused lands.

"If the government land is not enough, we will buy private land and distribute housing plots to the landless people," he said.

"We will construct houses for everyone and make Sikkim a kutcha house free State as well," he added.

Speaking on politics, the Chief Minister stressed that protection of the rights and

turn to pg02

BJP alleges tapping of SEC's mobile, poll panel says no knowledge of it

Kolkata, May 6 (PTI):

The BJP today alleged that West Bengal State Election Commissioner A K Singh has been receiving threats from the ruling Trinamool Congress over conduct of panchayat polls, and his mobile phone was being tapped and land line calls were recorded.

State Election Commission Additional Secretary Shantanu Mukherjee, however, said the Commission has no knowledge of the alleged tapping of mobile phones and recording of landline calls, and it is not acting under any threat.

"The announcement of a one-phase panchayat polls on May 14 has been made under threat and intimidation by the ruling Trinamool Congress leaders and ministers. The SEC should apprise the court of the situation in a private statement to clear the air," BJP national secretary Rahul Sinha told a press conference.

"SEC A K Singh had even told a BJP delegation that his mobile phone is being tapped and the land line calls are recorded," Sinha claimed. When contacted, Mukherjee told PTI that the SEC did not have any idea of what Sinha had said.

"We have no idea of what he was talking about. We have no knowledge about any mobile phone of SEC officials being tapped or landline calls recorded," he said adding that the SEC was also not acting under any threat.

SEC AK Singh was not available for com-

ments despite repeated attempts.

Demanding the May 14 panchayat poll date be scrapped, Sinha said the panchayat polls should be conducted by the SEC under the supervision of the Calcutta High Court which is hearing several petitions on the panchayat polls.

"The entire state is waiting for the High Court verdict on the polls. Panchayat Minister Subrata Mukherjee had said it was the duty of the SEC to ensure security during the panchayat elections. But who will ensure the security of the SEC who is under serious threat," Sinha said.

He alleged that the TMC had prevented the opposition from filing nominations in over 20,000 seats or 34 per cent of the total seats in the three-tier panchayat polls.

Till May 4, seven BJP functionaries had been killed in panchayat-related clashes in the state, 412 party workers hospitalised and 38 functionaries went missing, Sinha alleged.

On deployment of central forces for the polls, Sinha said even if the forces were requisitioned, they would be confined to camps. For this reason "we call for holding of panchayat poll under the supervision of the judiciary."

Reacting to the allegations of the BJP leader, the ruling TMC claimed that the saffron party was trying to exert pressure on the State Election Commissioner and he

turn to pg02

AFSPA may be withdrawn from JK, Assam, Nagaland when situation improves: Rijiju

NEW DELHI, MAY 6

(PTI): The AFSPA, which gives special powers to security forces operating in conflict zones, may be withdrawn from areas where security situation improves, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju said today.

Rijiju also said the ongoing Naga peace talks between the NSCN-IM and the government's interlocutor were being followed up with utmost sincerity and the outcome of the dialogue would be positive, but he refused to give any time-frame for signing the peace pact.

"Since the security scenario in the North-east has improved in the last four years, AFSPA has been removed from many areas. We are hopeful that with further improvement, it may be lifted from the remaining few areas in the near future, he told PTI.

The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act has been completely withdrawn from Meghalaya and partly from Arunachal Pradesh but it is in force in Nagaland, Assam and three districts in Arunachal Pradesh.

The controversial law, AFSPA, which empowers security forces to conduct operations, arrest anyone anywhere without prior notice, is

turn to pg03

KASS continues its painting drive, beautifies Chuja Primary School

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 06 MAY:

After conducting painting drives at Lower Tanak Primary School, South Sikkim and Bardang Secondary School, East Sikkim, Krypton Arts Society Sikkim of Singtam (KASS) conducted painting drive at Chuja Primary School in Martam, East Sikkim today.

Headmaster BM Sharmaon, on behalf of the school faculty and students, thanked the KASS volunteers for helping beautify the school campus.

The painting drive was led by KASS working president, Kripesh Singh.

Till now, more than seven government schools have invited KASS to beautify their school premises with their artwork.



Thupden Kunga Bhutia Memorial TT tourney wraps up

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:

Closing ceremony of the 05th Thupden Kunga Bhutia Memorial East District Inter School and Open Table Tennis Tournament 2018 was held at White Hall complex today. More than 80 paddlers from East District had participated in 16 different categories of the tournament. The three-day long tournament was organised by Sikkim Table Tennis Academy [STTA], Tadong.

The closing ceremony of the tournament had Sadar Thana Station Head Officer, Bikash Tiwari as the chief guest accompanied by STTA directors, BB Subba and CL Sharma as guests of honour.

Richard Lepcha defeated B Kausik in the finals of cadet boys', while in cadet girls' final Sneha Pradhan beat Tanuja Dong.

In sub-junior boys', Aswin Gurung emerged as winner by defeating Dewakar Rai, while Tanija Dong defeated Lakit Lepcha in sub-junior girls' final.



Passang Tamang defeated Abel Lepcha in junior boys' final and Tenzing Dolma Sherpa beat Tanija Dong

in junior girls' final.

In junior boys' doubles, Passang Tamang and Abel Lepcha defeated the

team of Diwakar Rai and Aswin Gurung, while Tenzing Doma and Diya Trikhatri beat Lakit Lepcha and Tanija

Dong in junior girls' doubles final.

In open men's final, Silvanus Sherpa beats Citti Rai and Mandira Gurung defeated Neha Lama in open women's final.

Silvanus Sherpa and Ayush Agarwal beat Sailesh Sundas and BB Subba in open men's doubles, while in open women's doubles, Neha Lama and Sashi Dong defeated Diya Trikhatri and Tenzing Dolma.

Silvanus Sherpa beat Dhurba Rai in employee men's single and in employee women's single, Mandira Gurung defeated Neha Lama.

In employee men's doubles, Anup Gurung and Silvanus Sherpa defeated Gyamtso Bhutia and BB Subba, while Neha Lama and Mandira Gurung defeated PJ Lama and Sashi Dong in employee women's doubles.

The tournament is the annual event of Sikkim Table Tennis Academy [STTA], Tadong to provide platform mainly to young upcoming paddlers. The academy has also been providing regular coaching to young players under expert coaches.

No precedent of govt returning collegium's recommendation: SC judge

KOCHI, MAY 6 (PTI): The government's decision to send back the Supreme Court collegium's recommendation for elevation of Uttarakhand Chief Justice K M Joseph as a judge of the top court was unprecedented and needed more detailed discussions, Justice Kuri-an Joseph, a member of the collegium, said today.

He was replying to a question on the Centre returning the recommendation of the collegium and asking it to reconsider Justice K M Joseph's elevation to the apex court.

"There is no precedent of the names recommended by the collegium being returned (by the Centre). So, more detailed discussions should take place (on the matter)," the Supreme Court judge said, without elaborating further. The collegium had, on May 2, deferred a decision on the issue of reconsidering its recommendation to elevate Justice K M Joseph, after it was sent back by the government last month.

The five-member collegium, comprising Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra and justices J Chelameswar, Ranjan Gogoi, Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph, met after the apex court's working hours, but no decision was taken as certain differences between the members could not be resolved. The Centre, while returning the file of Justice Joseph to the collegium, had also mentioned that judges from various high courts had not found a place in the apex court.

Justice KM Joseph's name was recommended, along with that of then senior advocate, Indu Malhotra, on January 10 for their elevation as apex court judges.

NSUO to celebrate Samjhauta Diwas

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:**

Nationalist Sikkim United Organisation [NSUO] has announced plans to organize its second observance of Samjhauta Diwas to commemorate the signing of the 8th May 1973 Tripartite Agreement in Sikkim on 08 May here at Bhanu Park. NSUO has appealed to political and non-political organisations and people of Sikkim to be part of the event.

Addressing a press conference here today, NSUO coordinator, Tshering Wangchuk Lepcha, mentioned that the Tripartite Agreement was a historic moment as the people of Sikkim were then allowed to participate for the first time in deciding the political future of Sikkim.

He added that the Agreement holds paramount importance for every Sikkimese.

"The Government of India refers to the terms and conditions of the 08th May Agreement while formulating policies and programmes for Sikkim even today," he said.

He informed that the first edi-



tion of Samjhauta Diwas at Dhanukay in East Sikkim received encouraging response and was successful. He further informed that the first edition of the event passed four resolutions which were presented to the Governor, Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and Home Secretary.

NSUO member, Passang Sherpa, added that the event was above any political ideolo-

gy or agenda. He added that the proper knowledge about Article 371F of the Constitution of India and the 08th May Agreement will bring all political parties and people together on a common platform.

He added that the event has been targeted to educate the people about the 08th May Agreement and other issues properly.

It is informed that the event

will have representatives from political and non-political organisations as key speakers.

They informed that the organisation has invited leaders of ruling and opposition parties to the event.

"If any political party or leader fails to participate, it will be deemed that they are against Sikkim and Sikkimese people," they said.



Aajeevika and Kaushal Vikas Mela held at Duga BAC

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:**

Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) under the Rural Management and Development Department organised a daylong Aajeevika and Kaushal Vikas Mela at Duga Block Administrative Center under West Pandam constituency, a

press release informs.

Area MLA, Gopal Barailey attended the mela as the chief guest along with Block Development Officer [Duga], P.C Kharel, Ward Panchayat members, Block Project Manager, delegates from various banks, Self Help Group members and the public.



Aajevika Evam Kaushal Vikas Diwas observed at Dzongu

**SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 06 MAY:**

Sikkim Rural Livelihood Mission [SRLM] under Rural Management and Development Department observed Aajevika Evam Kaushal Vikas Diwas on the theme 'Promotion of livelihood

among women SHGs' on 05 May at Dzongu.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Tshering D. Bhutia attended the event as the chief guest with ex Zilla Adhakshya, Angulu Lepcha as the guest of honor.

The event was also

attended by Zilla Panchayats, Gram Panchayats, various department officials, and women Self Help Group members under Dzongu.

SHG members exhibited organic vegetables and handmade products.



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha conducted its monthly meeting at Reshi under Rhenock constituency in East Sikkim today, a press release from the party informs.

Chaired by LN Poudyal and PS Karki, the meeting was attended by party officials, supporters, student front members, Constituency Level Committee members and the public.

The youth body of the party for Rhenock constituency was also formed during the meeting.

Suk Bir Bhujel was appointed as the CLC youth convener while

Madhav Gautam was appointed the new CLC coordinator, the release informs, adding that the youth body comprises of 65 active members.

Various issues including corruption, communalism, favoritism and nepotism were discussed in detail by the speakers.

SKM youth wing general secretary, Shadav Sharma talked about youth empowerment in Sikkim and criticized the Sikkim Democratic Front for 'playing with the future and sentiments of youths'.

SKM party member Karma Tashi Bhutia strongly criticized

the State Government's education policy and slammed the SDF party for not 'pushing hard' to speed up construction of the Sikkim University campus.

Jacob Khaling highlighted the principles and ideologies of SKM party. He briefed the party workers about the future plans of SKM party and urged them to work honestly for the benefit of Sikkimese people.

Talking about Nepali seat reservation issue, he slammed Chief Minister Pawan Chamling for 'his failure to restore Nepali seat reservation during his many tenures as the Chief Minister of the State'.

BJP alleges tapping of SEC's mobile, poll panel says no knowledge of it

contd from pg01

should protest against such attempts.

"The BJP leaders were trying to exert all sorts of pressure on SEC AK Singh so that he acts in favour of them on various issues and Singh should protest against such machina-

tions to monopolise him," TMC Secretary General Partha Chatterjee told reporters here.

On Sinha's charge of the SEC's phone being tapped, Chatterjee said there was "not a grain of truth" in it.

About the BJP's de-

mand for a three-phase poll, he said the saffron party does not want the Muslims to exercise their franchise since the dates will then clash with the month of Ramzan.

The entire election process should end before May 16-17 as during

the month of Ramzan, after an entire day fasting, Muslims could find it difficult to take part in the voting process and that too in such hot and humid conditions, All Bengal Minorities Youth Federation had earlier appealed to the SEC.

Tadong College is now Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College

contd from pg01

assembly seats of the Bhutia and Lepcha communities was the number one priority of the Sikkim Democratic Front led State Government.

"If there is any community in Sikkim which feels most insecure, it is the non-tribal Nepali community of Sikkim who are 60% of the population in Sikkim," he said.

"Sikkim will not be fully protected until and unless the non-tribal Nepali community is protected," he said.

The Chief Minister also sanctioned of the demand for 13 link-roads in Yangthang constituency submitted by Area MLA, Chandra Maya Subba.

The Yangthang MLA had submitted the demand for link roads to

connect villages in the constituency in her welcome address.

Speaking to the farming community, he stated that farmers were the backbone of Sikkim.

He further informed the meeting about the pension scheme for farmers above 50 years of age where the State Government will provide Rs 1,000 per month as a form of gratitude for their service to the State.

He informed the farmers that their produces will not go to waste with various facilities like transportation stipend, marketing sheds and other schemes implemented by the State Government to encourage organic farming.

He advised the youth to pursue agriculture and

horticulture based studies to ensure the success of the organic mission.

He further assured that animals, livestock and fisheries will also be distributed for the benefit of the farming community.

On a similar note, easy application of trade licenses for rural residents was also ensured by the Chief Minister. He also said that in the coming days, private business sector of Sikkim will be directed to employ 90% Sikkimese in tourism, hospitality industry and other similar trades to ensure employment.

The Chief Minister also laid the foundation stones of Lepcha Primitive Tribe Girls Hostel at Kyongsa and Old Age Home for West District.

The Chief Minis-

ter was felicitated by Yangthang Constituency and West Sikkim Lepcha Welfare Association for being the longest serving Chief Minister of India.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Ministers, MLAs, Zilla Members, Chairmen, Department officials and the public.

The Chief Minister reached Kyongsa Ground after laying the foundation stones of Leebumba Pungwa Nee Ing Yuk, an upcoming meditation center at Darap and Iman Singh Chemjong Memorial Yukten at Tikjek.

The Chief Minister is scheduled to meet the public of Yuksam-Tashiding constituency at Yuksam Helipad tomorrow.

[with additional inputs from IPR Deptt, GoS]



INTERSCHOOL VOLLEYBALL IN KPG

KALIMPONG, 06 MAY: Rockvale School beat Turnbull High School in Boys Category to lift the 21st edition of the Dr Parasmani Pradhan Memorial Volleyball Trophy while Himali Boarding School (Kurseong) beat Green Lawn School (Soureni) in the finals of Inter School girls volleyball competition organised by Dangsberg Club, 12th Mile, today. Kalimpong MLA, Sarita Rai, was present as the chief guest of the program.

Gangtok on Monday, 07 May

Temp: 25°C /13°C
Forecast: Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm, mainly later.
Sunrise: 04:53 AM
Sunset: 6:12 PM

Sikkim-BJP opens party office in Rongli

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:

A constituency-level Office of Bharatiya Janata Party for Chujachen constituency was opened today at Rongli Bazaar in East Sikkim on Sunday.

On the occasion, senior vice-president of the Sikkim-BJP, former MLA Mohan Gurung, explained the various pro-people programmes of the Central government, informs a BJP press release.

The release adds that he alleged that the State Government has kept the people of Sikkim away from these pro-people programmes and schemes out a fear of losing their support. The release further alleges that by seeing the increasing popularity of BJP in the State, the CM has been giving irrelevant statements against the party.

AFSPA may be withdrawn from JK, Assam, Nagaland when situation improves: Rijiju

Contd from pg01

also in force in Jammu and Kashmir.

There have been demands in the Northeast as well as in Jammu and Kashmir that the AFSPA be withdrawn completely as the security forces often allegedly use it whenever there is complaints of human rights violation and use of extreme force.

Referring to the ongoing dialogue between the Issak-Muiwah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) and the government interlocutor, the minister said the Narendra Modi government was the most sensitive toward the issues of the Nagas and the Northeast.

The process of Naga talks are being followed up with utmost sincerity. So the outcome will be positive, he said.

Rijiju refused to say anything when asked about the possible dates for signing the final peace accord to bring lasting peace in the insurgency-hit Nagaland.

A framework agreement was signed on August 3, 2015 by NSCN-IM general secretary Thuingaleng Muivah and the government's interlocutor R N Ravi in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The framework agreement had come after over 80 rounds of negotiations spanning 18 years, with the first breakthrough made in 1997 when the ceasefire agreement was sealed after decades of insurgency in Nagaland which started soon after India's Independence in 1947.

Sikkim observes Easwaramma Day

NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 06 MAY:

Devotees of Sathya Sai Baba in the State today marked the Easwaramma Day to commemorate the passing away of Meesaraganda Eashwaramma, mother of Late Satya Sai Baba, by conducting various programs in Sathya Sai Baba temples and Bal Vikash centers run by the organisation across the State.

Easwaramma Day was also observed here in the capital with a day-long program organised at the Sri Sathya Sai Dharma Nilayam in Balwakhani which includ-



ed bhajan sessions and discourses on the significance of the day in the calendar of Sai devotees

who observe the day not only as a tribute to motherhood but also as children's day.

"A mother is the first guru of a child and this day is to remember and honor our mothers,"

explains a Sai devotee, Renu Chettri.

Children of Bal Vikash centers recited mantras and sung bhajans along with colorful cultural and spiritual presentations on oneness of mankind.

Apart from Gangtok, the day was also observed across the State including Ranipool, Singtam, Rangpo, Namchi, Jorethang and Geyzing.

The organisers, Sri Sathya Sai Sewa Organisation informed that this day is celebrated across the world by Sai devotees in 130-plus countries where the spiritual organisation operates.

Priya Chettri wins interschool rapid chess tourney

Summit Report

GANGTOK, 06 MAY:

Priya Chettri was declared the champion of the Inter-School Rapid Chess Tournament-2018 held here at SDF Bhawan on Sunday. Bhoj Bahadur Chettri finished the tournament second while Saurab Subba came in third.

The daylong tournament was organised by Sikkim Chess Association [SCA]. Around 300 students from over 35 schools from different parts of the State participated in the tournament.

The top fifteen players of the tournament were awarded with trophies, medals, cash prizes and certificates. Likewise, winners in U-07 [boys & girls], U-09 [boys & girls], U-11 [boys & girls], U-13 [boys & girls] and U-15 [boys & girls] also received medals and certificates.



The tournament was inaugurated by Gangtok Municipal Corporation Chairman, Ashish Rai. The association had organised

the rapid chess tournament for the first time in the State.

SCA general secretary, Mahendra Dhakal thanked BSNL

for sponsoring trophies. He also thanked different schools, students and their parents for their participation in the tournament.

700 borewells sealed in Delhi; residents complain about scarcity of water

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI): More than 700 illegal borewells have been sealed in Delhi following a National Green Tribunal order in January this year, leading to water scarcity in various parts of the national capital and complaints from area residents.

According to SDM officials, a total of 718 borewells have been sealed so far. There are nearly 5,000 illegal borewells, according to the Delhi Jal Board (DJB).

Dwarka, Vikaspuri and Janakpuri are among the areas where borewells have been sealed. The move has led to water scarcity, despite the DJB sending filled water tankers there.

The Delhi government's current water policy commits 20,000 litres of free water per month to each household.

On January 30, the NGT directed the government to seal all unauthorised borewells in the national capital within three months.

Explaining the NGT order, Manisha Saxena, divisional commissioner, said the sealing of borewells began from north-west district, where chloride concentration in water was too high.

"So they asked DJB to mark them red, indicating that the chloride content is very high," she said, adding, the authorities will seal all illegal borewells among those marked red.

Saxena, however, said the sealing process was "difficult" because when the officials started sealing the borewells,

the summer season had started and the DJB was facing reduced water supply.

"DJB isn't able to fulfil the basic need in Dwarka sub-city...due to which people had to use unregularised measures," Kartik Mohana, a Dwarka resident, said.

Priyansh Goyal, a resident of Vikaspuri, said colonies were warned by Residents Welfare Associations to stop using borewells. "But we are facing water shortage for so long."

Navratan Bhakta, from Dwarka, said a few officials visited her society and sealed borewells "right away without saying anything". "They also asked about legal papers. Few societies showed them some contracts and were saved from sealing."

Sudha Sinha, general secretary of Federation of Cooperative Group Housing Societies, said: "We are not against sealing. If they want to seal borewells then they should provide us water. Water is our basic right and no one can take our right from us."

Dinesh Mohania, DJB vice chairman, said: "We are deploying tankers as well as supplying water through pipelines wherever the sealing has occurred, but we don't have exact numbers since there are cases where borewell is used by one household only. People have used groundwater for irrigation purposes also. We haven't received any complaints regarding water crisis, if we receive, we'll take necessary actions."

'No information Mukul Roy's brother-in-law had ties with BJP'

KOLKATA, MAY 6 (PTI):

The BJP today said there is no information that its leader Mukul Roy's brother-in-law, arrested on May 4 for allegedly duping railway job seekers, was associated with the saffron party.

BJP National Secretary Rahul Sinha, addressing a press conference here, said that the party is also not ruling out political vendetta behind the arrest.

"I have no information that Mukul Roy's brother-in-law is associated with BJP. And we need to check if the politics of revenge and vendetta are involved in it.

"While BJP will not take responsibility if the charges are proved, we are also of the view that this state government is pursuing the policy of re-

venge," he said.

Roy's brother-in-law, Srijan Roy, was held from New Delhi airport on the basis of complaints, which were filed around six years ago.

Describing the arrest as "political conspiracy", Mukul Roy, who was the Union railway minister in 2012 when the cases were lodged against his brother-in-law, has said that he himself was the actual target of the move.

"This is a conspiracy hatched by Trinamool Congress supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee against me and my family members. She is resorting to such things because she is afraid of the Bharatiya Janata Party. I am the real target of this conspiracy," he had said.

SIA aircraft develops technical snag at Kolkata airport

KOLKATA, MAY 6 (PTI):

A Singapore Airlines aircraft has developed a technical snag while landing at Kolkata airport and got stuck on the main runway, forcing the authorities of the airport to shut down the runway for sometime, officials said today.

The incident happened yesterday night after the Singapore Airlines plane landed at the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport here.

An Airports Authority of India (AAI) official said the technical snag was developed due to hydraulic failure and the main runway was closed because of spillage of hydraulic oil there.

The main runway had to be shut down for 1 hour 15 minutes but there was no flight disruption since the secondary runway was available, NSCBIA Director Atul Dixit said.

The aircraft was towed away to a park-

ing bay from the main runway, the spillage was cleared and the runway was reopened for operations, an official said.

"SIA aircraft SQ 516 landed at 10.28 pm on May 5 at the NSCBI Airport and could not vacate runway 19L (main runway) due to hydraulic problem. Immediately alternate runway 19R-01L (secondary runway) was handed over for operation. No impact was there on any other flight as alternate runway was put to use," the airport director said in a statement.

"The runway was handed over back for operation after being vacated and proper cleaning of the hydraulic leakage and inspection of runway 19L-01R," the statement said, adding that the main runway was put into operation again at 11.42 pm.

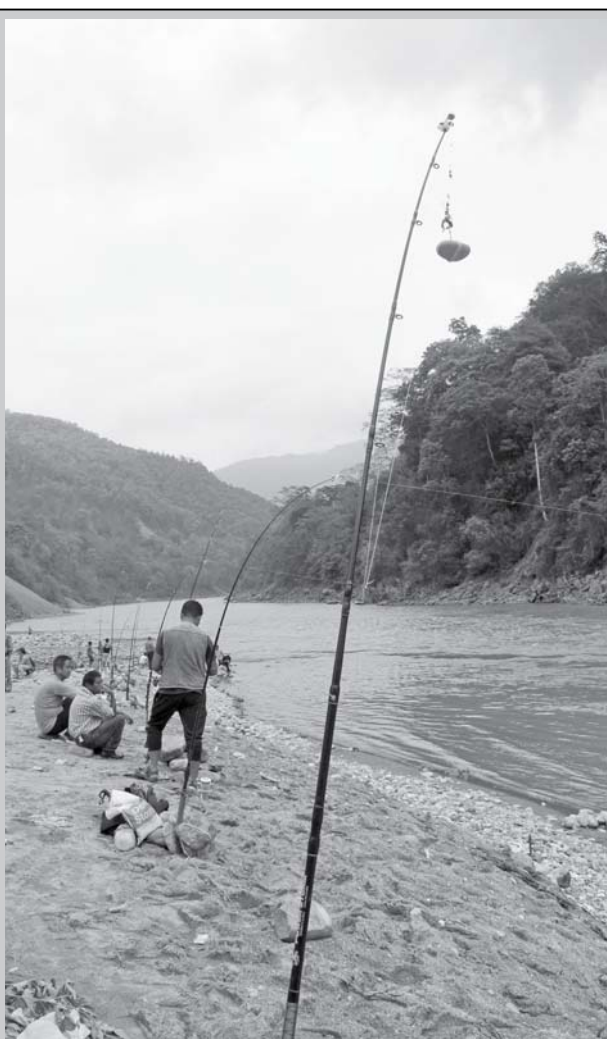
In a statement, the airline said all passengers of the SQ 516 flight were safe and apologised for the inconveniences.

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KUTSE SHEGU

The 49th Kutse SHEGU of former Mangan **SHO late. Karma Denzongpa** who left for heavenly abode on 21st March 2018 falls on **8th May 2018**. All relatives, friends, and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul at our residence **Kesang Residency, Ranipool, Gangtok**. We also would like to take the opportunity to express our sincere gratitude towards all those who extended their support their support during the time of bereavement.

Tshering Doma Bhutia(wife), Kesang Choden Bhutia (daughter), Kunzang Tshering Bhutia (son) and all family members.



TWO-DAY ANGLING COMPETITION AT TEESTA TRIVENI WRAPS UP

KALIMPONG, 06 MAY: Himalayan Angling and Conservation Organisation (HACO) concluded its two-day angling competition with support from Gorkha Territorial Administration at Teesta-Triveni about 18 KMs from Kalimpong today. With the aim to preserve the endangered species of Golden Mahseer fish which is found only in the Teesta, HACO had started the angling competition at Triveni in 2016.

The competition was held for the third time this year, informs HACO general secretary, Jigme Wangchuk Nadik. The competition this year was conducted on the theme, 'Catch and Release,' and had 60 anglers from Darjeeling, Sikkim, Jalpaiguri and Bhutan participating. Amar Deep Lama who caught a fish weighing 1.100 KG was adjudged the winner. Rakesh Chamling was declared first in spawning category. The winners were given fishing rods and rod drills along with cash prizes. **[Mukesh Sharma]**

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Resource-Rich, People-Poor

The rent-seeking mentality needs to end

An economist, while commenting on the reasons which hold back entrepreneurial success in these parts, blamed it on the rent-seeking mentality of the people. “Locals” of the region, he pointed out, might have inherited substantial largesse, earn well, even invest intelligently, but leverage very poorly, he explained. They will build a top-class hotel, but are more likely to give it out on lease rather operate it themselves and grow in the industry. This also explains why the “security” of government service is more aspired for than the independence, possibly better money and more job satisfaction, that private enterprise or the private sector might have to offer. This attitude continues even into government service where they prefer to remain anonymous pens pushing files when they could leverage their education and understanding of the land to set higher standards of governance.

In a sense then, they reflect the irony of their geography. The Himalaya is a belt that is rich in resources, but peopled by a population that is poor, a literal reality for a majority. As a mountain range, it is the Himalayas that shelter the subcontinent, bring it rain and mark its frontiers. As for resources, the mountains abound in glaciers which feed not only the rivers which have sustained successive civilizations through the ages, and are now the only alternative energy source available for mainstream India to power its development. The nation desperately requires more power and the only viable option as of now, definitely less ruinous than the fossil fuel option, is the hydel potential of the Himalayas. But look at the ground realities - the entire Himalayan belt from Kashmir to the northeast is debilitated either by strife or poverty or both. Sikkim remains an oasis of peace, but is also untouched by an economic boom in the real sense. Delhi controls the purse-strings and thus by extension, also, unfortunately, the aspirations of the people. The promoters of hydel power offered it up as the great deliverer of all economic woes. They promised infrastructure, employment and earnings from sale of surplus power as the channels which will usher economic boom. This might be true on paper, but the real picture often differs. Infrastructural development in these parts is almost always limited to certain pockets, and are themselves mired in corruption. Rarely do the roads outlast the commissioning of the projects for which they were primarily expanded. Jobs, real jobs, not the low-paying ones, remain scarce for locals and the hydro-earnings are yet to be quantified. Because most of the areas that possess the rivers with hydel potential don't possess a strong enough voice in New Delhi, they cannot strike a good enough bargain for themselves and the street-smart organizations that 'develop' the projects magnify the fine print the moment they have inked the deal. The attrition between affected people and already commissioned hydel projects is just one such example.

The resources could have been better harnessed than the leasing out approach that is common to the region. Commissioned projects could have been studied in closer detail and better benefits and deals struck. Human resource could have been, still can be, groomed to meet the future requirements. CSR regulations could have been studied better to ensure more than hand-washing awareness camps or another free health camp. And it is not just about hydel resources; Sikkim could pause, take stock and then marshal its other resources - from tourism to agriculture, the organic variant of it, better on its own, and by “own” one means the people and not government agencies alone.

NOELLE ECKLEY SELIN & SAE YUN KWON

theconversation.com

Mercury pollution is a problem usually associated with fish consumption. Pregnant women and children in many parts of the world are advised to eat fish low in mercury to protect against the adverse health impacts, including neurological damages, posed by a particularly toxic form of mercury, methylmercury.

But some people in China, the world's largest mercury emitter, are exposed to more methylmercury from rice than they are from fish. In a recent study, we explored the extent of this problem and which direction it could go in the future.

We found that China's future emissions trajectory can have a measurable influence on the country's rice methylmercury. This has important implications not only in China but across Asia, where coal use is increasing and rice is a staple food. It is also relevant as countries across the world implement the Minamata Convention, a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from mercury.

WHY IS MERCURY A PROBLEM IN RICE?

Measurements of methylmercury in rice in China from the early 2000s were in areas where mercury mining and other industrial activities led to high mercury levels in soil that was then taken up by rice plants. More recent research, however, has shown that methylmercury in rice is also elevated in other areas of China. This suggests that airborne mercury - emitted by sources such as coal-fired power plants and subsequently settling onto the land - might also be a factor.

To better understand the process of methylmercury accumulation in rice through deposition - that is, mercury originating from the air that rains out or settles to the land - we constructed a computer model to analyze the relative importance of soil and atmospheric sources of rice methylmercury. Then we projected how future methylmercury concentrations could change under different emissions scenarios.

Concentrations of methylmercury in rice are lower than those in fish, but, in central China, people eat much more rice than fish. Studies have calculated that residents in areas with mercury-contaminated soil consume more methylmercury than the U.S. EPA's reference dose of 0.1 microgram methylmercury per kilogram of body weight per day, a level set to protect against adverse health outcomes such as decreased IQ. Recent data suggest that other neurodevelopmental impacts from methylmercury might occur at levels below the reference dose. Few health studies, however, have examined impacts of methylmercury exposure to rice consumers specifically.

To identify the potential scope of the problem, we compared the areas in China where mercury deposition is expected to be high based on mercury models, with maps of rice production. We found that provinces with high mercury deposition also produce substantial amounts of rice. Seven provinces in central China (Henan, Anhui, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guizhou, Chongqing and Hubei) account for 48 percent of Chinese rice production and receive nearly double the atmospheric mercury deposition as the rest of China.

We calculated that mercury deposition could increase nearly 90 percent or decrease by 60 percent by 2050, depending on future policies and technologies.

Another problem with China's coal: Mercury in rice



OUR MODELING APPROACH

To understand how mercury from the atmosphere might be incorporated into rice as methylmercury, we built a model to simulate mercury in rice paddies. Methylmercury is produced in the environment by biological activity - specifically, by bacteria. Often, this occurs in flooded environments such as wetlands and sediments. Similarly, rice paddies are kept flooded during the growing season, and the nutrient-rich environment created by rice roots support both the bacterial growth and methylmercury production.

Our rice paddy model simulates how mercury changes form, accumulates and converts to methylmercury in different parts of the ecosystem, including in the water, the soil and the rice plants.

In our model, mercury enters the standing flooded water via deposition and irrigation processes, and then moves among water, soil and plants. After initializing and calibrating the model, we ran it for the typical five-month duration from planting seedlings to rice harvest and compared our results to measurements of mercury in rice from China. We also conducted different simulations with varying atmospheric deposition and soil mercury concentrations.

Despite its simplicity, our model was able to reproduce how rice methylmercury concentrations vary across different Chinese provinces. Our model was able to accurately reflect how higher soil mercury concentrations led to higher concentrations in rice.

But the soil wasn't the whole story. Mercury from water - which can come from the flooded water in rice paddies or the water held in the soil - can also influence concentrations in rice. How much depends on the relative rates of different processes within soil and water. Under some conditions, a portion of the mercury in rice can come from the mercury in the atmosphere, once that mercury is deposited to the rice paddy. This suggested that changing emissions of mercury could potentially affect concentrations in rice.

FUTURE EMISSIONS CAN INFLUENCE RICE

How will the rates of mercury in rice change in the future?

We examined a high emission scenario, which assumes no new policies to control mercury emissions by 2050, and a low emission scenario, where China uses less coal and coal-fired power plants have advanced mercury emission controls. Median Chinese rice methylmercury concentrations increased by 13 percent in the high scenario and decreased by 18 percent under the low scenario. Regions where rice methylmercury declined the most under strict policy controls were in central China, where rice production is high and rice is an important source of methylmercury exposure.

Managing mercury concentrations in rice thus requires an integrated approach, addressing both deposition and soil and water contamination. Understanding local conditions is also important: Other environmental factors not captured by our model, such as soil acidity, can also influence methylmercury production and accumulation to rice.

Different rice production strategies can also help - for example, alternating wetting and drying cycles in rice cultivation can reduce water consumption and methane emissions as well as rice methylmercury concentrations.

Our scenarios likely underestimate the potential health benefits of Minamata Convention controls in China, which is a party to the Convention. We include in our scenarios only changes in air emissions from power generation, while the Convention controls emissions from other sectors, bans mercury mining and addresses contaminated sites and land and water releases.

Reducing mercury could also be beneficial for other rice-producing countries, but at present, there are few data available outside China. However, our research suggests that the problem of mercury is not just a fish story - and that policy efforts can indeed make a difference.

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Are Israel and Iran about to clash head-on over Syria?

SCOTT LUCAS & UMER KARIM
theconversation.com

Just two weeks after missile attacks by the US, UK and France, a series of explosions rocked three Syrian government military positions in northwest Syria on April 29. At one of the sites, the 47th Brigade base south of Hama, at least 18 Iranian Revolutionary Guards were killed, with more personnel wounded. Few onlookers thought there was any mystery about which country carried out these attacks.

As is standard practice, Israel has not claimed responsibility for the airstrikes, but the attacks appear to be the latest in a series of operations which have targeted Iranian personnel as well as the transfer of missiles and weapons to Lebanon's Hezbollah.

In December 2017, Israel destroyed a base near Damascus that was reportedly being developed by the Iranians. Then on February 10, 2018, Israeli warplanes struck a number of sites inside Syria. Among them was the T-4 base near Palmyra, from which an Iranian command centre was said to have

operated a drone over Israeli airspace; in early April, Israel targeted the base yet again.

Israeli ministers, including prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his defence minister Avigdor Liberman, have accompanied the attacks with warnings that a long-term Iranian military presence in Syria will not be tolerated. Hours before the latest explosions, Liberman reiterated that: "We will maintain freedom of operation in all of Syria ... We will prevent Iran from establishing a forward base in Syria at any cost."

Iran has been instrumental in the survival of the Assad regime since the Syrian uprising began in March 2011. Since then, Israel has used its air power to disrupt weapons supplies to Hezbollah and maintain a buffer zone in the southwest, near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. But now it seems things are heating up. Is this now a far bigger, more direct confrontation in the Syrian arena?

THE SOUTHERN FLASHPOINT

The Syrian conflict is now in its eighth year, and changing fast. Since

December 2016, the Assad regime has pulled back from what looked like near collapse. Thanks to Russian airstrikes and Iranian ground forces, it has overcome the rebel presence in Syria's largest city, Aleppo, eroded opposition territory in northwest Syria, and now wrested full control over the opposition enclave of East Ghouta near Damascus. With sieges, scorched earth operations, and chemical and incendiary attacks as well as conventional ones, the regime has finally removed the threat to its seat of power.

So far, Israel has tolerated the territorial shift in Assad's favour, all too aware that Assad's fall could leave a power vacuum. It can even accept that the regime is set to retain control not just of Damascus, but of much of the rest of Syria, too. That toleration has been helped by a working agreement with Russia that the conflict will not move towards the Golan Heights, a move that might well involve Iranian-led militia and Hezbollah personnel.

But now an emboldened Assad regime is looking for its next target, and it might well see one in

southern Syria, where the opposition holds a belt of territory along the Jordanian border - including Daraa, the city where protests sparked the uprising in March 2011. A deescalation zone has been set up in the area, and a fragile truce is in place, but a government offensive could upend it. And even more importantly, no such offensive could be successfully pursued without the involvement of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, leading foreign militias and Hezbollah.

The recent Israeli airstrikes already show a concern that Iran could position its proxy militias right next to the strategic Golan Heights and pose a significant challenge to Israeli national security. The southern offensive would add proximity to that worry. This is the geography behind an ominous warning Netanyahu issued in February: "Israel will not allow Iran's regime to put a noose of terror around our neck. We will act without hesitation to defend ourselves. And we will act if necessary not just against Iran's proxies that are attacking us, but against Iran itself."

The only actor that has open lines of communication with both sides is Russia. All Israeli activity in Syrian skies has been coordinated with Moscow, and Russia's S-400 missile systems, deployed to protect its own installations, have not offered the same protection for Syrian or Iranian establishments. But Russia's mediating position may be eroding.

Israel did not give the Russians notice of its airstrikes in early April. While Moscow grumbled, it stopped short of retaliating. But after those strikes, as well as the American-British-French ones on April 14, Russia indicated that it may finally equip Assad's military with S-300 anti-aircraft missile systems. If Israel comes into contact with those systems, whether by seeking to destroy them or simply by carrying out air strikes in their vicinity, it could push its "deconfliction" relationship with Russia to breaking point.

Other scenarios could yet play out on the southern front. Iran could respond to Israeli airstrikes by hitting targets within Israel; Russia

could withdraw its guarantees that neither Iran nor its proxies will have a lasting presence in a post-rebel south. And even if Russia tries to hold that line, its leverage with Iran may have already weakened to the point where Tehran acts without seeking Moscow's acceptance. The choices on all sides are limited, and unless one party backs down in this standoff, a mutually destructive engagement between Iran and Israel is looming on the horizon.

On April 30, Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, told Iranian workers in Tehran: "Some countries in the region should know that if they face the Islamic Republic of Iran, they will definitely be hit and defeated." The ayatollah is well-known for his bluster. So is Benjamin Netanyahu. But in Syria's kaleidoscopic conflict, their once-empty threats may be aligning to create a war within a war.

[Scott Lucas is Professor of International Politics, University of Birmingham; Umer Karim is PhD Candidate, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Birmingham]

Bar Nepalis from joining foreign armies: Left alliance recommends

KATHMANDU, MAY 6 (PTI): A special Left alliance task force formed by the ruling CPN-UML and CPN-Maoist Centre parties has recommended barring Nepal's youths from joining foreign armies, a media report said today.

The task force also suggested that the previous treaties and agreements governing Nepali nationals' service in foreign armies should be scrapped through diplomatic channel, the Himalayan Times reported.

Around 44,000 Nepali nationals are currently serving in the Indian and British armies as well as Singapore Police.

The work plan for achieving economic development and prosperity states that Nepali citizens "will be barred from joining any foreign army," the paper said.

UML vice-chair and coordinator of the task force Bamdev Gautam has submitted the report to Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and CPN-MC Chair Prachanda.

"The (Left) alliance proposed banning Nepalis from joining foreign armies mainly because Nepal as a member of the non-alignment movement should not send its youths to join foreign armies," the paper quoted a left alliance leader as saying.

In the past too, parliamentary panels had urged the government to bar Nepalis from joining foreign armies.

Nepal's Supreme Court had passed an order eight years ago, saying recruitment of Nepalese in Singapore Police

Force was illegal, but that order was not implemented, the paper said.

There are seven Gurkha regiments, 40 battalions in the Indian Army with around 40,000 Gurkha soldiers, including in the Assam rifles, the paper said.

Citing Indian security experts, it said that 70 per cent of Indian Gurkhas are Nepali citizens.

In 1947, when India gained Independence, a tripartite agreement among Nepal, India

and Britain transferred four Gurkha regiments from the British Army to the Indian Army.

There are 80,000 ex-Gurkhas, 17,000 Nepalis in Assam rifles and 11,000 widows receiving welfare fund. They receive Rs 12 billion from the Indian government annually.

There are around 3,600 Nepalis in British Army and around 400 Nepalis serve in Singapore Police Force. Eligible Nepalis for Singapore Police Force are selected by ex-British Gurkhas.



SEC under threat by TMC: Sinha

KOLKATA, MAY 6 (PTI): BJP national secretary Rahul Sinha today alleged that the State Election Commissioner (SEC) has been subjected to threats by the ruling party on panchayat polls and said he should inform the court about it in a private statement.

The SEC A K Singh had even told a BJP delegation that his mobile phone "is tapped and the land line calls are recorded," Sinha told a press conference here.

"The announcement of a one-phase panchayat poll on May 14 has been made under threat and intimidation by the ruling Trinamool Congress leaders and ministers. The SEC should apprise the court of the situation in a private statement to clear the air," Sinha said.

Demanding the May-14 panchayat poll date be scrapped, Sinha said the panchayat polls should be conducted by the SEC under the supervision of the High Court.

"The entire state is looking at the High Court. The Panchayat Minister Subrata Mukherjee had said it was the duty of the SEC to ensure security during the panchayat elections.

But who will ensure the security of the SEC

who is under serious threat", the former party president of West Bengal unit said.

He alleged that democracy was being throttled in West Bengal by the TMC which had prevented the opposition to file nomination papers in over 20,000 seats or 34 per cent of total seats in panchayats.

He said till May 4, seven BJP functionaries had been killed in panchayat-related clashes, 412 party workers hospitalised and 38 functionaries missing.

On deployment of central forces in the state, Sinha said even if the forces were requisitioned they would be confined to camps and not be deployed. For this reason "we call for holding of panchayat poll under the supervision of the judiciary."

To a question on demand for imposition of Central rule in state, Sinha said "we don't want imposition of President's Rule which will give ammunition to a discredited Trinamool Congress which is already on its way out."

He said "BJP will be a gainer in a one-day poll as TMC won't be able to carry musclemen from one part to another on a single date, but the need of the hour is to uphold the spirit of democracy."

Naxals armoury reloaded with Rambo arrows, rocket bombs: Report

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI):

The Naxals have developed some latest "very lethal" and crude ammunition like 'rambo arrows' and 'rocket bombs' as part of their new IED armoury to launch attacks and inflict casualty on security forces, a latest report on the emerging trends in the LWE theatre has revealed.

According to a report prepared by a joint security command on IED threats said the Maoists have devised a smart way of concealing crude bombs "in animal excreta to deceive sniffer dogs" of the security teams from detecting and alerting their masters.

"There were occasions in the first quarter of 2017, when sniffer dogs of security forces were killed or injured as pressure improvised explosive devices (IEDs) exploded while the canines were getting agitated because of the obnoxious smell (of the excreta) while trying to detect the hidden IEDs," the report accessed by PTI said.

Two ferocious canines of the CRPF, famed as the 'Osama hunters', were killed last year due to Naxal planted IEDs in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, prompting the force to order an inquiry into these 'highly unusual' incidents.

The technique of concealing the IED under animal excreta is suspected to be the fatal explosions that claimed the lives of the canines, considered a vital tool to detect IEDs and save troops lives.

The forces have now been alerted against these new threats to their patrol dogs.

Potato prices rise sharply as cold storage supply hits market

KOLKATA, MAY 6 (PTI): Potato prices have climbed up sharply by about 25 per cent last week but officials see nothing unusual about it.

Retail potato prices in most city markets ranged between Rs 18 and Rs 20 a kg, up from Rs 14-15 since the beginning of the week.

"Till now, the potato arriving in markets were from farmers' storages which have exhausted. The crop is now beginning to arrive from the cold storages which have caused the price rise," West Bengal Cold Storage Association (WBCSA) president Patit Paban Dey told PTI.

Potato prices have also shot up sharply in neighboring Odisha as well as a few other states.

For each kilogram of potato coming out of the cold storages, there will an additional price load of Rs 4-5 a kg due to the cost involved in storage and that got added to the prevailing price, he said.

The panchayat poll, set to be



held in May 14, has created a crisis in availability of labourers of cold storages which accounted for the price rise caused due to a sudden supply shortage in few

markets. Former president of WBCSA Ramapada Paul said cold storages are able to supply only a fraction of the demand due to

unavailability of labourers who are unwilling to come owing to pending panchayat election.

An agri consultant in posta wholesale market, Sibul Malakar said retail price of potato should prevail at around Rs 20 a kg for the Jyoti variety unless supply hampers in the short run and demand from other states jumps sharply.

The price movement is not due to lesser production of potato in Bengal which was at about 100 lakh tonne, 10 per cent lower than previous year's crop -- but production in other potato producing states suffered more.

State agri marketing minister Tapan Dasgupta said his department was keeping a watch on the situation for any possible hoarding and will take all necessary action if the price volatility rises.

He also said they want to strike a balance to keep the interest of the potato farmers also as in last year they posted huge loss as price realisation was not numerative.

Naga talks followed up with utmost sincerity: Rijiju

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI): The ongoing Naga peace talks were being followed up with utmost sincerity and the outcome of the dialogue would be positive, Union minister Kiren Rijiju said today, but refused to give any time-frame for the signing of the final peace accord.

Rijiju, the minister of state for home affairs, also said the controversial Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act would be withdrawn from Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and other areas where it is in force once the security situation improves there.

Referring to the ongoing dialogue between the Issak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) and the government interlocutor, the

minister said the Narendra Modi government was the most sensitive toward the issues of the Nagas and the Northeast.

"The process of Naga talks are being followed up with utmost sincerity. So the outcome will be positive," he told PTI here.

Rijiju refused to say anything when asked about the possible dates for signing the final peace accord to bring lasting peace in insurgency-hit Nagaland.

A framework agreement was signed on August 3, 2015 by NSCN-IM general secretary Thuingaleng Muivah and the government's interlocutor R N Ravi in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The framework agreement had come after over 80 rounds of negotiations spanning

18 years, with the first breakthrough made in 1997 when the ceasefire agreement was sealed after decades of insurgency in Nagaland which started soon after India's independence in 1947.

The minister said AFSPA, which empowers security forces to conduct operations, arrest anyone anywhere without prior notice, could be removed from all the places where it is in force when the security situation improves there.

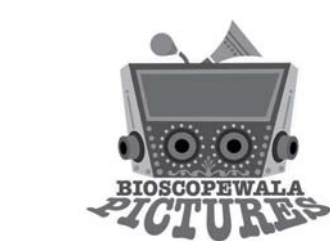
"Since the security scenario in the Northeast has improved in the last four years, AFSPA has been removed from many areas. We are hopeful that with further improvement, it may be lifted from the remaining few areas in the near future," he said.

'Bioscopewala' release to coincide with Tagore's birth anniversary

MUMBAI, MAY 6 (PTI): The makers of "Bioscopewala", an extrapolation of Rabindranath Tagore's "Kabuliwala", said they decided to release the film this month to pay tributes to the Nobel laureate on his 157th birth anniversary.

Tagore's birth anniversary falls on May 7, while the film will release on May 25.

"This film is our humble tribute and respect to the Nobel Prize-winning author. We wanted to commemorate his 157th



Birthday by coinciding the release of our film 'Bioscopewala', an adaptation of ageless Bengali classic story, 'Kabuliwala', producer Sunil Doshi said in a statement.

"Waiting for a few more months to release the film based on his story, was a decision I took as a mark of respect to him and the enormous literature and stories he

created," he added.

The film extends the story from where Tagore's Kabuliwala ends. In this extrapolation, bioscopewala shows films to children in Kolkata on his bioscope.

Being with the children, specially young Mini, reminds him of his daughter who is in Kabul, ravaged by civil war.

Directed by Deb Medhekar, "Bioscopewala" stars Danny Denzongpa in the title role, with Geetanjali Thapa, Tisca Chopra and Adil Hussain.

Iran warns US it would regret quitting nuclear deal

TEHRAN, MAY 6 (AFP): Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said today that if the United States quits the nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers then Washington would regret it "like never before".

US President Donald Trump has threatened to abandon the agreement when it comes up for renewal on May 12, demanding his country's European allies "fix the terrible flaws" or he will re-impose sanctions.

"If the United States leaves the nuclear agreement, you will soon see that they will regret it like never before in history," Rouhani said in a televised speech in northwestern Iran.

"Trump must know that our people are united, the Zionist regime (Israel) must know that our people are united," Rouhani added.

The nuclear deal was struck in 2015 between Iran and Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States, then led by Barack Obama.

Under the pact, sanctions were lifted in return for a commitment not to pursue a nuclear bomb, but Iran says it is not reaping the rewards despite complying with the deal.

The Islamic republic has always denied it sought a nuclear weapon, insisting its atomic programme was for civilian purposes.

Rouhani did not specify how Iran would react if the US pulls out of the deal.

But he said he had given "the necessary orders", notably to Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation, in anticipation of Trump's decision.

On Thursday Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign policy adviser to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, warned Tehran would quit the nuclear deal if the United States withdraws.

Guardiola backs Delph for World Cup berth

MANCHESTER, MAY 6 (AFP): Pep Guardiola believes Gareth Southgate would be taking a risk if he did not name Fabian Delph in England's World Cup squad after an impressive season from the Manchester City utility man.

Delph, 28, overcame three injury-ravaged seasons to become Guardiola's first-choice left-back following the knee problem suffered by Benjamin Mendy in September.

His form, and ability to play numerous positions, has seen the former Aston Villa midfielder emerge as a strong contender for Southgate's squad.

Southgate visited Guardiola and his English contingent for talks at their training ground on Friday.

Delph won his ninth, and most recent, cap in November 2015, but Guardiola clearly believes his player should be on the plane to Russia when Southgate finalises his squad.

"Maybe it will be a risk if he doesn't take him to the World Cup," Guardiola said when asked if Southgate would be taking a gamble if he names Delph.



"Today Gareth Southgate was here, we speak together about the English players in the team, he is delighted with all of them; John Stones, Kyle (Walker), all of them. Delph as well.

"I would like to see Fabian Delph at the World Cup, of course it depends on Gareth, because I think he deserves it.

"He is a player who can play in different positions, he helps us to

play good football, to be better, to give an extra pass." Question marks persist about Delph's durability, however, with the City man scheduled to make what would be just his 30th Premier League start in three seasons when the champions faces Huddersfield on Sunday.

It is a point not lost on his club manager and an area Guardiola is looking to improve.

Dhoni is fastest stumper against spinners: Hussey

PUNE, MAY 6 (PTI): Heaping praise on skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) batting coach Mike Hussey has termed the former India Test wicket-keeper as the man having the fastest draw of as far as stumping off spinners is concerned.

"My observations are he's (Dhoni) got to be the fastest in the world against the spinners in taking the bails off. He's unbelievably quick," said the former Australia player after CSK had routed Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) by six wickets in an IPL match yesterday.

Dhoni had effected quick-silver stumping, taking the bails off in a flash, to send back top South Africa batsman A B de Villiers and Murali Ashwin of the RCB, both off Harbhajan Singh, to help CSK stop the strong visitors at 127 for 9 that was overhauled by the hosts by 12 balls to spare.

The former India skipper was at his brutal best, smashing three sixes off leggie Yuzvendra Chahal



in the 18th over to finish off the game in style.

Dhoni made 31 not out off 23 balls and in the company of seasoned West Indian all rounder Dwayne Bravo pulled CSK across the finish line from a tricky 80 for four in the 13th over and has been in superb form with the bat too in this Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

Hussey was effusive in his praise for the former India skipper with the bat too.

"He's such an import-

ant player for the team. He's a fantastic keeper, has been in unbelievably good form with the bat, probably the best I've seen him play for quite a few years," he said.

Hussey also praised veteran off spinner Harbhajan and left arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja who bundled out the strong CSK for a low total.

"Harbhajan has been bowling nicely the last few games.

And he's been doing a fantastic job for us though those middle

overs," he said.

"He (Jadeja) bowled beautifully today. The skipper has been showing nice faith in him and that's been important, giving him the confidence. It's nice for him to get the rewards today," Hussey added.

"He's been bowling well but the rewards have just not been coming his way. So, it's nice for him to get the reward (man of the match) today with an excellent performance," the CSK batting coach noted.



Jaipur siblings win Roland Garros' AITA event in Bengaluru

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI): Fardeen Qamar and Farhat Aleen Qamar, the brother and sister from Jaipur, won the Under-18 Roland Garros series event in Bengaluru, earning the chance to not only watch the business end of French Open but also hit with international players during the clay court Grand Slam.

It is perhaps first time that siblings have won both boys and singles events at the same AITA national series event.

Fardeen, a class XII student, won the boys event with a commanding 6-1 6-0 win over Delhi's Ayush Deshwal while Xith standard student Farhat came

from behind to beat Sharanya Gaware and claim the girls singles trophy.

Both the players are coached by their father Qamaruddin Khan, who runs Rajasthan Tennis Club in Jaipur.

"You will be surprised to know that these kids earn by themselves by coaching kids at our academy. They help in coaching in the morning session and in the evening they train with each other," an elated Qamaruddin told PTI from Jaipur.

It is first time that Roland Garros has organised an AITA National Series event in India.



Kadhe ends runner-up in Abuja ITF Futures

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI): India's Arjun Kadhe ended a runner-up at the ITF Futures event at Abu-

ja, Nigeria after losing the final in straight sets to Brazil's Joao Menezes.

Playing in his fourth final on the ITF circuit this season, the 397th-ranked Kadhe lost 3-6 1-6 to his opponent, placed three places above him in the ranking chart.

"First set was pretty close and he played really well. It was tough for me to break him. In second set, I lost the first few games which I

should have won on deuce," Kadhe told PTI from Abuja.

It was third runner-up finish for the 24-year old from Pune after similar results in Kolkata and Trivandrum early this year.

"It's a learning process and being consistent with performance is key too, specially when you are playing doubles and singles both," he said.

Kadhe had won title in Bhubneswar in February.

PCI rejects World Press Freedom Index

NEW DELHI, MAY 6 (PTI): The Press Council of India has rubbished the recently released Press Freedom Index, in which India slipped two places to rank 138th among 180 countries, saying there was a "lack of clarity" on the inputs that weighed in the rankings which were based on "opinion or perception".

Published annually by Reporters Without Borders (RWB), the World Press Freedom Index measures the level of media freedom in 180 countries.

The parameters that are evaluated include the level of pluralism, media independence, environment and self-censorship, legal framework, transparency, and the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information.

According to the RWB's annual report released on April 25, India

dropped down two places -- from 136 last year to 138.

"We reject the rankings by the RWB. I am of the opinion that undue importance is given to the rankings. There is no clarity on the inputs that weighed in the ranking of a country," PCI Chairman Justice (retd) C K Prasad told PTI.

The RWB report blamed physical violence against journalists like Gauri Lankesh, who was shot dead outside her house in Bengaluru in September 2017, as the key reason behind India's low ranking.

The report warned that hate crime was another issue plaguing India.

Prasad said the PCI had written to the RWB a number of times since 2015 to understand how the index was prepared, but hadn't received any reply.

He said the rankings were "reportedly" based partly on a questionnaire sent to the partner organisation of the RWB, its correspondents around the world, and journalists, researchers, jurists and human right activists.

Prasad said the PCI had earlier communicated to the RWB that the rankings were not based on statistical data, but "based on opinion or perception of an individual or group of individuals".

In a letter, dated September 22, 2015, to the RWB, the PCI had said that after going through the Word Press Index 2014, it was noticed that the rankings were prepared on the basis of various parameters, including media pluralism and independence, safety and freedom of journalists, legislative institutional and infrastructural environment in

which media operates.

India ranked 140 in 2014.

"In order to understand the gravity of the matter, the chairman of the Council desires to know the inputs which weighed in ranking of the country in the index so that remedial steps, if needed, can be taken to smoothen the functioning of the media," the letter said.

"The chairman is further of the opinion that a structured discussion on the issue with your (RWB) representative and the members of the Council would be helpful in achieving the objective," it read.

Letters were also sent to the RWB in October and December in 2015, seeking their response to the PCI's queries.

The PCI again wrote a letter to the RWB in early 2016, saying the council was of the opinion that the

World Freedom Index rankings "could either be on the basis of statistical data or perception of an individual or group of individuals".

"If the ranking is on the basis of statistical data, the council requests you to share it with us, so as to enable us to take remedial measures as it deems proper.

"The council is constrained to communicate that if no data is shared, it shall have to come to the conclusion that India's ranking in World Freedom Index is based on perception and is not supported by any verifiable data," the letter read.

In March 2016, the PCI also gave a detailed response to the articles published by the RWB in 2014 and 2015 regarding incidents which could reflect the status of freedom of press in India and could have bearing on the Index.

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N Korea says peace talks not the result of US pressure

SEOUL, MAY 6 (AFP): North Korea today warned Washington that claiming Pyongyang was forced into talks by US pressure risked returning the peninsula “back to square one”, as the world awaits a landmark summit between Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump.

The pair are set for the first ever face-to-face meeting between a sitting American president and North Korean leader, with a date and venue to be announced soon, Trump said Friday.

Their meeting comes after a historic summit between Kim and South Korean Presi-



dent Moon Jae-in in the demilitarised zone that divides their countries, during which Kim gave a tentative commitment to ridding the North of its nuclear weapons and facilities. Trump has credited his “maximum pressure” campaign of tough rhetoric and tightened sanctions for a breakthrough with

Pyongyang, saying last week that Washington’s “strength is going to keep us out of nuclear war”.

But a spokesman for the North’s foreign ministry accused the US of “deliberately provoking” Pyongyang in an effort to undermine the current “atmosphere of dialogue”.

Describing Pyongyang’s recent move as a “sign of weakness” would “not be conducive” to talks, and may “bring the situation back to square one”, he added.

The spokesman did not explicitly mention the Kim-Trump summit, and Pyong-

yang has yet to make any formal announcement of their planned meeting.

Tensions have run high between the two men over the last year, with both leaders trading threats of war and colourful personal insults that sparked global concern.

But in a dramatic diplomatic turnaround, Kim vowed with Moon to seek denuclearisation and pursue a formal end to the 1950-53 Korean War through a peace treaty with Seoul.

Kim also pledged to close its nuclear test site this month and invited US experts and journalists to verify the move.

Some calming of Hawaii volcano, but scientists remain wary

PAHOA (HAWAII), MAY 6 (AP): The number of homes destroyed by lava shooting out of openings in the ground created by Hawaii’s Kilauea volcano climbed to five as some of the more than 1,700 people who evacuated prepared for the possibility they may not return for quite some time.

“I have no idea how soon we can get back,” said Todd Corrigan, who left his home in Leilani Estates with his wife on Friday as lava burst through the ground three or four blocks from their home. They spent the night on the beach in their car and began looking for a vacation rental.

The Hawaiian Volcanoes Observatory said eight vents, each several hundred yards long, opened in the neighbourhood since Thursday. By late yesterday the fissures had quieted down and were only releasing steam and gas.

Scientists said Kilauea was likely to release more lava through additional vents, but they were unable to predict exactly where. Leilani Estates, a subdivision in the mostly rural district of Puna, is at greatest risk. Authorities ordered more than 1,700 residents to evacuate from there and nearby Lanipuna Gardens.

Hundreds of small earthquakes continued to rumble through the area yesterday, one day after a magnitude-6.9 temblor hit the largest earthquake to hit Hawaii in more than 40 years. Magma moving through Kilauea set off the earthquakes, said geologists, who warned of aftershocks.

Nearly 30 years ago, lava slowly covered an entire town, Kalapana, over the period of about a year.

Tagore’s painting exhibited in Egypt

CAIRO, MAY 6 (PTI): Paintings of Rabindranath Tagore were displayed in an exhibition here to commemorate the 157th birth anniversary of the Nobel laureate.

The exhibition titled ‘Rabindranath Tagore: Rhythm in Colours’ was inaugurated by India’s Ambassador to Egypt Sanjay Bhattacharyya yesterday at Ahmed Shawki museum in Giza - originally the house of famous poet Ahmed Shawki.

Inaugurating the festival, Bhattacharyya spoke about the friendship between Tagore and Egyptian poet Shawki.

“Tagore’s best friend was the Prince of Arab Poets Ahmed Shawki. Today, Tagore is coming back to his friend’s house once again. Thanks for the ministry of culture for making this visit happen, the ambassador said.

The painting exhibition is part of the Tagore Festival which runs from May 3 to 7 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Tagore, who penned India’s national anthem.



Protests against Vladimir Putin have taken place across Russia ahead of his inauguration for a fourth presidential term, with more than 1,200 people arrested. Police removed Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny from a rally in Moscow’s Pushkin Square, carrying him off by his arms and legs. Officers used batons against protesters, with many in the crowd chanting “Putin is a thief!” and “Russia will be free!” Part of St Petersburg’s famous avenue Nevsky Prospekt was blocked off by police as a crowd of roughly 1,000 demonstrators marched through the city.

23 killed as coal mines collapse in Pak

AMRIT SEN, professor and head of the department of English at Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan, West Bengal, held a presentation about Tagore’s “rhythm of colours”.

Tagore, who began painting much later in his life when he was into his 60s, had made more than 3,000 paintings and drawings in the last 17 years of his life.

He did not have a formal training in art but created a variety of images.

Sen said that initially, Tagore started to paint as painting is a universal language and can reach everyone without the need to be translated.

After he developed his love for painting, Tagore described the visible world around him as a vast procession of forms.

Most of the landscapes he painted showed nature bathed in the evening light, skies and forms coagulating into ominous silhouettes.

His landscapes invoke mystery and a sense of disquiet and silence.

Tagore did not name his paintings, but by leaving them untitled he freed them from the limits of literary imagination, Sen said.

“He wished his viewers to read the paintings in their own light and admire them in individual ways. His painted faces speak of vast human experience and intrinsic human emotion,” Sen said.

ISLAMABAD, MAY 6 (PTI): Two neighbouring coal mines collapsed after gas explosions in Pakistan’s southwestern Balochistan province, killing 23 people, officials said today.

The first accident occurred in Marwaarh, 45 kilometres east of provincial capital Quetta, due to a gas explosion yesterday.

The roof caved in following the blast triggered by the accumulation of methane gas, killing 16 miners, Deputy Commissioner Farrukh Atique told PTI.

“We have recovered all the 16 bodies from the rubble caused by the collapse in the coal mine,” Atique said.

There were 30 labourers inside the mine when the explosion occurred. All the injured miners were rescued and taken to the hospital.

Rescue officials said a dozen of the dead miners belonged to Shangla district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

“The collapse apparently took place because of a gas explosion and the miners working



at that time were trapped inside. Some died on the spot, while others who were badly injured breathed their last under the rubble,” Atique said.

Chief of Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Muhammad Tariq also confirmed that 16 miners had been killed.

Hours later, another coal mine collapsed in Sooranj area, in which seven miners were killed, Geo TV reported.

Two workers were rescued in an unconscious state, while bodies of two miners were recovered last night, an official said.

The rescue operation resumed this morning and bodies of remaining five labourers were recovered.

Mining is considered highly dangerous in Pakistan where dozens of miners are killed each year due to lack of modern mining facilities, training and equipment.

According to the Pakistan Central Mines Labour Federation (PCMLF), about 100 to 200 labourers die on average in coal mine accidents every year.

Last month, at least 11 miners were killed in two separate mining incidents in Darra Adam Khel area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Jhelum district of Punjab.

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

LABHLAXMI LIBRA

Draw No:13 DrawDate on:06/05/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 3522

2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 1428 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 2656

4th Prize Rs.300/- 3276 5th Prize Rs. 206/- 1078

6th Prize Rs.100/-

1008 1023 1061 1085 1088 1135 1150 1153 1170 1206

1236 1262 1284 1285 1288 1302 1303 1403 1404 1451

1468 1524 1561 1578 1579 1594 1615 1625 1626 1659

1671 1679 1683 1726 1749 1776 1799 1802 1810 1834

1861 1867 1873 1882 1889 1894 1900 1921 1932 1973

2007 2013 2082 2174 2188 2259 2279 2346 2357 2457

2484 2494 2557 2593 2594 2598 2602 2617 2619 2646

2703 2714 2725 2736 2738 2800 2836 2891 2895 2933

2946 2978 2990 3013 3071 3133 3140 3141 3235 3268

3269 3339 3344 3402 3408 3455 3458 3488 3494 3529

3573 3584 3630 3682 3687 3692 3709 3725 3750 3753

3763 3807 3814 3818 3826 3854 3890 3918 3923 3948

3965 3990 4023 4083 4100 4130 4149 4176 4211 4212

4278 4302 4315 4338 4422 4446 4491 4496 4521 4558

4573 4581 4606 4609 4643 4703 4706 4717 4724 4822

4841 4893 4951 4968 4990 5029 5060 5120 5133 5140

5165 5172 5206 5229 5254 5261 5266 5312 5352 5377

5391 5397 5404 5406 5441 5442 5470 5488 5510 5531

5539 5541 5580 5595 5611 5631 5646 5678 5693 5712

5716 5725 5747 5763 5775 5784 5797 5875 5937 5939

5949 5962 6006 6029 6059 6087 6132 6148 6151 6171

6175 6202 6219 6242 6286 6294 6306 6317 6319 6350

6405 6416 6441 6468 6471 6484 6552 6562 6570 6584

6639 6643 6692 6730 6737 6757 6815 6831 6910 6982

Issued by:

The Director ,Mizoram State Lotteries,

For result please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES

MUMBAILAXMI RANI

Draw No:13 DrawDate on:06/05/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 1897 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 2629

3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 5838 4th Prize Rs. 506/- 3293

5th Prize Rs.200/-

1017 1044 1154 1156 1200 1267 1303 1406 1411 1452

1473 1502 1538 1560 1562 1577 1595 1667 1736 1785

1827 1838 1889 2072 2130 2179 2227 2310 2341 2357

2399 2475 2483 2631 2679 2719 2720 2731 2832 2864

2925 2953 2962 2980 3042 3104 3105 3127 3139 3192

3193 3257 3284 3374 3377 3429 3440 3465 3496 3621

3666 3672 3680 3712 3755 3837 3909 3939 4089 4178

4220 4350 4409 4423 4527 4568 4583 4742 4786 4796

4798 4801 4961 5024 5231 5325 5387 5392 5520 5538

5578 5583 5647 5660 5701 5702 5889 5907 5969 5999

6th Prize Rs.100/-

1004 1039 1061 1084 1142 1181 1183 1207 1283 1337

1354 1362 1396 1400 1412 1442 1446 1463 1512 1548

1568 1574 1610 1611 1632 1637 1658 1692 1724 1741

1763 1801 1805 1815 1836 1847 1853 1890 1922 1944

1976 1984 2018 2043 2108 2133 2174 2259 2286 2297

2343 2359 2408 2427 2440 2445 2490 2512 2535 2537

2543 2552 2610 2624 2659 2702 2723 2730 2739 2743

2746 2759 2838 2886 2930 2932 2951 2993 3017 3085

3103 3146 3181 3182 3224 3228 3247 3346 3360 3439

3444 3452 3474 3479 3490 3494 3552 3571 3636 3642

3644 3654 3703 3723 3797 3822 3853 3888 3891 3934

3966 3972 3977 3993 3998 4009 4026 4030 4051 4108

4152 4233 4248 4252 4284 4303 4369 4405 4406 4424

4441 4445 4462 4487 4488 4503 4515 4531 4541 4560

4563 4576 4610 4647 4661 4682 4689 4717 4797 4856

4861 4870 4889 4918 4933 4962 4971 4983 5044 5096

5102 5120 5126 5135 5146 5176 5201 5293 5309 5357

5382 5400 5401 5455 5467 5489 5492 5512 5519 5547

5561 5564 5565 5572 5586 5594 5636 5680 5712 5723

5742 5758 5831 5850 5925 5929 5939 5941 5960 5990

Issued by:

The Commissioner,

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES,ITANAGAR.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR AFFECTIONATE MORNING

Draw Time : 11:55 am onwards

Draw No:22 DrawDate on:06/05/18

1st Prize Rs.26.06 Lakhs/- 80H 46639

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 46639 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

09808 32345 34765 41339 56366

66181 88401 93362 93647 98721

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0662 0735 2479 4583 5632 5773 7495 7866 9159 9557

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0389 1625 2356 2408 3489 3631 5504 5690 7411 8968

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0014 0032 0113 0253 0404 0485 0602 0827 0920 0930

1061 1071 1358 1380 1355 2027 2098 2185 2192 2234

2397 2440 2448 2506 2865 2935 3086 3106 3114 3357

3469 3769 3779 3871 3926 3961 3995 4339 4428 4464

4585 4588 4721 4766 4781 4841 4922 4990 5080 5117

5163 5591 5962 5967 6002 6070 6101 6132 6185 6227

6317 6439 6655 6663 6699 6838 6908 7062 7106 7451

7588 7666 7735 7748 7753 7957 8213 8302 8455 8528

8598 8630 8742 8768 8918 9011 9044 9183 9403 9455

9464 9498 9569 9573 9723 9767 9828 9841 9873 9819

DEAR RESPECT

Draw Time : 04:00 pm onwards

Draw No:22 DrawDate on:06/05/18

1st Prize Rs.26.06 Lakhs/- 79I 41727

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 41727 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

04191 05366 07728 10402 19572

42736 69820 94260 97747 99988

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0134 1971 3142 3302 4828 5529 6028 6131 6843 9751

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0513 1034 4181 5927 7687 7843 7996 8373 8825 9329

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0031 0086 0101 0174 0271 0394 0416 0442 0517 0602

0609 0643 0951 1038 1100 1195 1196 1280 1343 1366

1389 1397 1485 1501 1697 1743 1744 1891 2147 2342

2540 2585 2773 2817 3126 3149 3195 3422 3667 3720

3806 3913 4078 4084 4427 4554 4639 4651 4791 4993

5028 5047 5147 5167 5208 5425 5480 5638 5993 6076

6141 6234 6299 6413 6498 6701 6721 6728 6789 6852

6856 7059 7067 7099 7362 7381 7431 7456 7489 7627

7921 7927 7938 7988 7992 7993 8192 8276 8622 8701

8815 9086 9399 9482 9510 9520 9772 9787 9791 9903

DEAR HAWK EVENING

Draw Time : 08:00 pm onwards

Draw No:40 DrawDate on:06/05/18

1st Prize Rs.26.06 Lakhs/- 82C 18811

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 18811 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

06670 13593 17465 23977 25700

26486 36310 43210 51946 77090

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0100 0237 0448 0603 2153 3009 5040 7052 9713 9881

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0873 1485 1910 4258 5306 5590 7137 7245 8754 9696

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0037 0142 0202 0363 0413 0506 0582 0646 0669 0731

0789 0984 1064 1078 1251 1356 1387 1741 1816 1870

1882 1966 2418 2562 2816 2988 3019 3196 3208 3395

3403 3423 3555 3571 3615 3626 3744 3791 4083 4224

4367 4596 4635 4651 4735 4963 5224 5249 5283 5330

5419 5455 5555 5773 5854 5916 5955 5995 6098 6118

6133 6158 6296 6407 6457 6489 6576 6652 6694 6791

6794 6919 7376 7395 7428 7502 7591 7864 7872 7940

8103 8133 8192 8195 8225 8303 8331 8524 8735 8913

9046 9274 9379 9446 9502 9556 9722 9771 9778 9916

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The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland

For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com



SINGER RIHANNA LOOKS CHIC IN A BEIGE JUMPSUIT IN NEW YORK CITY.

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR HITS \$1BN AT THE BOX OFFICE IN RECORD TIME



Marvel's Avengers: Infinity War has broken another record: it's become the fastest movie to cross the \$1 billion mark at the global box office, overtaking the prior record-holder, Star Wars: The Force Awakens.

The film reached the milestone in just 11 days: it took The Force Awakens 12 days in 2015. The film's success thus far has allowed Disney to cross the \$3 billion mark for its overall box office thus far in 2018. What's notable here is that Avengers reached this milestone before it opens

in China on May 11th — once it does, that number will likely jump considerably.

The film also overtook The Force Awakens' US opening weekend box office record last week when it grossed \$250 million when it opened last week. Marvel's Black Panther crossed the \$1 billion mark four weeks after it hit theaters in February.

Star Wars went on to become the third highest grossing film ever with \$2.07bn in takings, still well behind Titanic and Avatar, which tops the chart with \$2.79bn.

It remains to be seen whether Infinity War can reach such heights, but it looks certain to at least gate-crash the top five, with the huge Chinese market being made to wait until 11 May until they can see it.

Infinity War - which sees an all-star cast of heroes from Iron Man to Doctor Strange bid to take down the villainous Thanos - has already sailed past the total box office earnings of a number of comic book favorites, including Wonder Woman and Guardians of the Galaxy.

RAMBO 5: SYLVESTER STALLONE TO STAR & POSSIBLY DIRECT

Sylvester Stallone will reportedly star in the long in-development Rambo 5 with an eye on directing the film as well. Already a superstar thanks to the success of Rocky and the film's many sequels, Stallone created yet another big screen icon 1982 with First Blood, the story of a Vietnam War veteran named John Rambo, who kicked into survival mode when he became the target of a tyrannical law enforcement official when he turned up in a small town.

With a modest budget of \$15 million, First Blood became a solid box office hit, grossing \$47.2 million domestically. It was a big enough return to give Stallone the opportunity to make Rambo: First Blood Part II in 1985, which scored a blockbuster \$150 million stateside. Not surprisingly, Rambo III followed suit in 1988, but since it earned a disappointing \$53.7 domestically, Stallone all but retired the character the actor-filmmaker brought the action character back one more time for Rambo in 2008. Like the previous installment, however, Rambo earned an underwhelming tally of just \$42.7 million at the domestic box office, and the character went dormant once again. Even though he's been working on a script for years (and has even considered making a Rambo TV series), it still comes as a somewhat unexpected development that Stallone is finally bringing Rambo out of retirement one more time.

According to several online news web-



sites, Stallone is slated to star and possibly direct Rambo 5, even though the film has not been confirmed by the actor-filmmaker's representatives. The sources say Stallone is working on the script, which surrounding the kidnapping of the daughter of one of Rambo's friends.

The source adds, "Rambo, who has been working on a ranch, crosses the U.S.-Mexican border and quickly finds himself up against the full might of one of Mexico's most violent cartels."

While the return of Rambo will come as great news to Stallone fans, it will be interesting to see whether the Rambo character will have enough appeal to draw in audiences over 35 years after the debut of the original film. Obviously, Stallone struggled to recapture the popularity of Rambo — after his peak in First

Blood Part II — with the third and fourth Rambo films, so Rambo 5 is no doubt a huge risk.

Stallone has defied the odds before, however, as he brought Rocky Balboa back to the big screen in a respectful way with the character's supporting role as the aging trainer to Apollo Creed's son, Adonis Johnson (Michael B. Jordan), in Creed in 2015, which paved the way for Creed 2 to release this coming November. With any luck, Stallone will be taking the same tact with John Rambo in Rambo 5 by portraying the character in the proper stage of his life rather than making his actions and abilities seem unrealistic. Or, it could be that he's doing the film to effectively pass the torch on to somebody else, which is obviously the purpose of the Creed films.

Don't want to restrict myself to one kind of cinema: Radhika

MUMBAI, MAY 6 (PTI): After featuring in multiple language films from Hindi, Marathi, Bengali and to projects in South India, Radhika Apte is all set to make her foray in Hollywood and the actor says she always had the desire to do international cinema.

Apte will be seen in Michael Winterbottom's "The Wedding Guest", alongside Dev Patel and will also feature in producer-turned-director Lydia Dean's untitled World War II spy drama, with Stana Katic and Sarah Megan Thomas.

"My desire was not just to do a Hollywood film but to do an international film. My desire was to do world cinema. I want to be able to do cinema in any language and do something I am capable or suitable to do. I don't want to restrict myself to just one kind of cinema," the 32-year-old actor told PTI.

In the World War II film, the actor will be playing the role of spy of Indian descent, Noor Inayat Khan.



The movie traces the story of British intelligence officer Vera Atkins (Katic) and the two women she sends into France as spies, one of whom is Khan.

"It is about women spies. A lot of people did not know about it and we have not had a film on them. I felt it is a very interesting and important subject.

"Noor Inayat Khan is an inspiring character that I have come across. It has been interesting to get the opportunity to play her," she says.

What appealed the most about Khan to Apte was that she had a certain international-

ality to her character.

"She was born in Russia, her mother was an American, her father was an Indian Muslim. She was a British national who grew up in France. She used to write, she was a musician. She was ahead of her times. She was brave. I don't think there was any other character who is so unique and extraordinary," the actor says.

She was not much aware about Khan but research helped her know more about her.

Apte, however, remains tight-lipped about revealing more details regarding both of her international projects.

She may be cracking international projects now, but the "Padman" actor says she has been giving auditions for films abroad for quite some time.

"I have auditioned for a few films but I did not get the part. I audition for films more abroad than I do in India as in here people have seen my work more. Nobody knows about it there. I audition in India too but not as much," she says.

"There were some international collaborations with my films like 'Parched', 'The Ashram'," she adds.

Apte believes there are some differences in the working style between Hindi film industry and Hollywood.

"There are few main differences like they work project to project. They are punctual - everything starts on time, ends on time. I feel, in India, we are capable of far more hectic work in a way. We are capable of any kind of disaster management with far more efficiency," she says.

Uma Thurman willing to work with Tarantino again

LOS ANGELES, MAY 6 (PTI): Uma Thurman has said she always shared a "good relationship" with filmmaker Quentin Tarantino and is open to working with him once again if he wrote "a good part" for her.

In an interview with Entertainment Weekly, the 48-year-old actor was asked whether she is open to working with the director

despite the recent revelation about the car crash that happened on the sets of "Kill Bill".



"If he wrote a great part! I understand him and if he wrote a great part and we were both in the right place about it, that would be something else," Thurman said.

Earlier this year, Thurman had said in an article that she suffered severe inju-

ries after she was pressured into driving a stunt car she did not feel comfortable operating on the sets of Tarantino's film.

The director, on his part, had admitted that he still blames himself for convincing Thurman to sit in the car and called the incident "one of the biggest regrets of my life".

Thurman and Tarantino, 55, first collaborated on the cult favourite "Pulp Fiction" and they followed it up the "Kill Bill" movies. Thurman told the magazine that she always "had a good relationship" with Tarantino even after the incident.

ARIES: Your physical strength is topnotch, Aries. Now is a terrific time to join a sports team or start a company soccer program. Others will respect your leadership abilities. Your glow as a self-confident, constructive being is radiating positive energy. This combination of forces is extremely powerful. You have the opportunity to be wonderfully productive at this time. Work and play are likely to present you with exciting opportunities for advancement.

TAURUS: You may feel indecisive, insecure, and stuck in the middle of a difficult situation, Taurus. Your energy could be drawn in one direction while your self-confidence is pulled in another. This dilemma has to do with your inability to integrate different aspects of

your life that you try to keep separate. Try to look at things in terms of the whole. Notice how your actions in one part of your life have a ripple effect everywhere else.

GEMINI: Communication with others should be very effective, Gemini, and your social calendar will be full. You're feeling good about yourself, thanks to a boost in confidence that reminds you that you can do anything. You have the ability to juggle many things at once and the physical endurance to keep up a quick pace. Even though you may tend to be rather lazy, you might get a sudden inspiration to join a gym or sports team.

CANCER: Relating to people may be difficult for you, since you get the feeling that others don't see things as deeply or emotionally

as you, Cancer. Perhaps you feel everyone is shallow, making them luckier in one sense yet deprived in another. Try not to focus on others so much. Just concentrate on you. Don't take yourself so seriously. Adopt a more lighthearted approach to life.

LEO: You have a great deal of physical energy, Leo. At times, you may feel as if you have an endless wellspring of power. You're at a climactic point in your yearly cycle, when things are coming to a dramatic apex. Difficulties that pertain to this climax are likely to make you act out in an aggressive manner if things don't go your way. Find a constructive outlet for all this physical energy.

VIRGO: Finding the comfort point may be difficult for you,

Virgo. You might feel as if you aren't connecting with your ideals or goals. Even though you try to put things into motion, they don't really pan out the way you'd like. There's a difficult energy making you feel like you need to join one camp or the other to feel accepted. The problem is that neither side looks appealing. Feel free to start your own camp.

LIBRA: Your upbeat, lively nature is fueled by the fast-paced energy at hand. You have a great deal of physical strength available to you, Libra, and you can make tremendous strides in your yearly goals with very minimal effort. Take advantage of this time by focusing on your own needs. There is a great deal of support in place that will help you accomplish whatever

your goals may be. Go for it.

SCORPIO: Your indecisiveness may plague you, Scorpio. This is one of those times when you feel as if one second of hesitation will cost you dearly. Yet you take a while to process and internalize things before you're ready to act on them. Others may act and speak before they think. Don't get upset at yourself for handling things the way you do. More than anything, it's your lack of self-confidence that's holding you back.

SAGITTARIUS: You're now in a terrific position to make a significant move in your life, Sagittarius. With a great deal of physical energy coupled with incredibly high self-esteem, you have what it takes to make a major push toward larger goals. There's opportunity com-

ing at you from all angles, and the energy at hand is fast and furious. Your strong, courageous nature is ripe for hopping aboard when that train comes zooming by.

CAPRICORN: You might feel as if you can't access your physical energy now, Capricorn. You may experience frustration when you try to engage in a sport. You don't feel as if things are clicking into place as easily as they should. This feeling is taking a toll on your sense of self. Don't get down on yourself for feeling this way. Accept the fact that there are good times and not so good times for doing certain things.

AQUARIUS: Your physical vitality should be quite strong, Aquarius, and you're encouraged by greater self-confidence. At the same time,

however, someone seems to be trying to ruffle your feathers by being selfish and disrespectful of your space. This is likely to lead to conflict that you don't need. The good news is that it's likely to open you up to a different perspective, one that can ultimately be useful in understanding the situation.

PISCES: Things could be moving more quickly than makes you comfortable right now, Pisces. You may feel as if your own needs and agenda are getting lost in the fury bubbling around you. The secret key to add to your toolbox is the ability to go with the flow. It's crucial to be adaptable and roll with the punches rather than be victimized by them. Use the lightning-quick energy at hand to mobilize your efforts.