# SummitTIMES

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#### **Bhutanese** Consulate Office in Guwahati

GUWAHATI, FEB 2 (PTI): A Bhutanese consulate office opened here today and was jointly inaugurated by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and the Himalayan country's

Foreign Affairs Minister Lyonpo Damcho Dorji. Sonowal said the opening of the consulate general's office will not only benefit Bhutanese and NE tourists, pilgrims, students and businessmen but also strengthen the friendship between the people of Assam and neighbouring states and

Bhutan.

"I am particularly happy that Bhutan has opened its consulate in Guwahati this year which commemorates the gold-en jubilee of establish-ment of formal diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan. We look forward to jointly celebrating our friendship with a series of activities in India and Bhutan," he

Thanking Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay for accepting the invitation to attend the maiden Global Investors' Summit 'Advantage Assam', Sonowal said Tobgay's visit to the state last year shows the im-portance of bi-lateral relations both Bhutan and Assam attach to their respective neighbours.

Stating that India and Bhutan share exem-plary bilateral relations which are unique and special, he said that the deep-rooted relation is evident from the fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose Bhutan to be his first foreign country visit after assuming of-fice in May 2014.

Modi's announcement of 'Act East Policy' repositioned the north east region at the centre of India's relations with ASEAN and BBIN (Bangladesh-Bhutan-In-dia-Nepal) countries.

FLAT AVAIL-**ABLE FOR** RENT: 5 roomed flat with 2 attached toilets and a kitchen available for rent in Namchi. Well located. Ph. 7908325751

# Pending RC applications must be cleared by 31 Mar, CM directs

GANGTOK, 02 FEB [IPR]: Chief day called a high level meeting Samman Bhawan today. The Chief Minister dis-

cussed the issue of ban on sale of liquor for outlets re-siding along the national and state highways with regard to the Supreme Court directives. Commissioner-cum-Secretary [Excise Department], R Telang informed about how the ban has caused problems to liquor vendors suggesting alternate ways to keep the shops in its original location without obstructing the direction of the Supreme Court.

The Chief Minister instructed that a suitable solution to the issue needs to be found in consultation with Law Depart-



ment at the earliest.

The Chief Minister also discussed the issue of Residential Certificates and di-

rected that all pending Residential Certificate applica-tions must be cleared by 31

He also instructed that District Police and Branch of Sikkim should conduct verification of antecedents and issue verification report expeditiously.

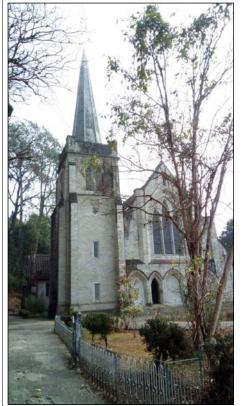
The scrutiny of Residen-tial Certificate applications forwarded by District Collectors was instructed by the Chief Minister to be undertaken by Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department only.

He also asked the Chief Secretary to issue necessary directions in the matter in order to facilitate timely disposal of applications. Mr Chamling also said that wives of Residential Certificate holders should be issued Residen-tial Certificate after thorough verification.

He also instructed Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department to put entitlement and benefits that can be provided to Residential

He said that the old Residential Certificate issued by the District Collectors is 'invalid' and asked the Land Revenue and Disaster Man-agement Department to issue necessary directions regarding the matter.

Matters pertaining to the issue of Trade License were also discussed and deliberat-ed upon in detail and the Chief Minister stated that Trade Licenses will be issued only to Certificate Of Identification/ Sikkim Subject Certificate and Residential Certificate hold-ers. Children of old businessmen issued with Trade Li-



# Katherine Graham Memorial Church to become heritage site soon

SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 02 FEB:

Katherine Graham Memorial
Church located in Delo, Kalimpong was surveyed by West Bengal Heritage Commission to convert it into a heritage site soon. It is learnt that the West Bengal Heritage Com-mission had visited and sat for two rounds of meeting regarding the

"The Heritage Commission has also released a fund of Rs 5,18,37,500 to start the site selection, scaffolding work, layout plan, repair, and renovation. Two to three meetings have been successfully held and the first phase of floating and finalization of the tender will be completed by February. The first phase is expected to be completed within April 2018," said the District Magistrate, Dr. Viswanath.

Sources say that the process had started from 2015, however, another phase of the tender will be started after April, that is when the first phase work is completed. Katherine Graham Memorial

Chapel was built on 24 Sept 1925. It was inaugurated by Lord Lytton, Governor of Bengal. Katherine was Dr. Graham's wife. The Chapel is a place of worship and spiritual oasis where staff, students and visitors can encounter the Almighty and feel

His love and protection over them.

A testimony to the lives of love and compassion that both Katherine and Reverend Graham lived, it is a place where their spirit and love can be experienced.

Their mortal remains are in-terred in the cemetery adjoining the Chapel. But due to the earthquake of 2011 the structure of the chapel has developed multiple cracks, rendering it unsafe for visits and wor-ships. The church had been shut for renovation. It was opened after minor renovation work but was again closed after the 2015 earthquake.

They used to open the church sometimes for schools' carol service but after the 2015 earthquake, the carol service is also not allowed, said a source from Dr. Graham's Homes.

### **Rey-Ranka protestors** call off road blockade

VISHNU NEOPANEY

GANGTOK, 02 FEB:
The residents of
Rey-Ranka and Sajong called off their pro-test late last evening after the Tourism Department gave them a written as-surance that the widening and strengthening of the road in their area will be completed by 18 May this year.

The public of seven villages from Ranka Zero Point to Sajong, it may be recalled, had blocked the Rey-Ranka-Sajong road from 6.30 a.m. on 01 Feb in protest over the inordinate delay stretching years in road repairs (despite the same having been commissioned) in their area.

The residents today

informed media-persons that they want the road to be completed at the earliest and, as assured by the department of Tourism & Civil Aviation, they will wait till May. However, they warned that if the road is not completed by May, they will not hesitate in taking the matter to

It was informed that the Martam-Rumtek MLA, Dr Mechung Bhu-tia, had appraised the Tourism & Civil Aviation department about the delay more than 16 times in the last two years but the department had not shown any interest in ad-

dressing the issue.

The MLA had also appraised the Chief Minister during several legislators' meets but the voice of the MLA went unheard, local public said while quoting the area MLA.

The area MLA is thankful to the local people for voicing their genuine grievances, said one Phurba Lepcha adding that the protest was peaceful and a success.

turn to pg02

# LFW: Northeast designers call for material, livelihood schemes



Sikkimese designer, Karma Sonam, with Bhaichung Bhutia at the Lakme Fashion Week 2018.

Мимва**I**, **FEB 2 (PTI)**: Designers from the Northeast who represented the region as part of the 13th edition of Sustainable . Fashion Day at the Lakme Fashion Week, raised concerns about the dearth of ma-terial, livehood schemes and government support.

Designers Richana Khumanthem (Manipur), Daniel Syiem (Meghalaya), Sonam Dubal (Assam), Arunachal Pradesh's Jenjum Gadi presented his clothing line with Nagaland's Exotic Echo Society, Karma Sonam (Sikkim) and Aratrik Dev Varman (Tripura) took part in the initiative yes-terday, which was presented by IMG Reli-

ance, with the support of UN in India.

Lamenting the roadblocks in the availability of the raw material in her state, Khumanthem said she had to rework on her entire collection after the yarn she ordered from Delhi did not arrive in time.

"Last year, I had to redo my Au-tumn-Winter collection because the yarn that I had ordered from Delhi didn't come to me. It reached me after six months." she said in her address at the 'Dialogue on Northeast India: Catalysing Sustainable Fashion in Collaboration with United Nations in India'.

The designer used cotton and silk handlooms made by Meitei community in her collection, the garments of which have great cultural significance.

Khumanthem said that dearth of material in the state needs to be addressed

"Sericulture (silk farming) is a thriving industry in the state and for some reason cotton farming has been overlooked to a great extent," she added.

Syiem presented his clothing line of handwoven textiles by Ryndia silk artisans from Ri bhoi district of the state.

He said that most of the workers in leghalaya are women, with a 96-year-old artisan being the oldest "who is passing the tradition to the younger generations through her craft".

The fabric, rich in thermal and medicinal properties, is called 'ahimsa silk' as the material is extracted without causing

pain to the worms.

Dubal, who represented Assam through his installation made of Eri silk, cotton weaves made by Sualkuchi com-munity, said the Northeast is the "bridge to the rest of the Asia" and therefore it was time the region was given attention "both as an ecological and a strategic trea-

"The craft runs like a river and the collection is not just about the culture, but

also about the stories of the people. Gadi's collection showcased textiles by

Loinloom artisans from Dimapur He said the craft was practised chiefly by women and it needs government support to thrive which can be possible through schemes for the state.

"This doesn't need much investment as women operate from their homes and it would mean growth in livelihood through tradition for them. They make around three-four thousand rupees per month," Gadi added.

Varman said bringing the work to the designers should be on their terms. He presented his line with Riahs textiles by Reang tribe from the state as the focus.

"It's their terms that we need to pay attention to, not ours. This is central to working in the Northeast region."

The designer, who lives and works from his studio Tilla in Ahmedabad, said less emphasis needs to be given to crafting accessories such as bags, bookmarks, etc as it takes away the essence of the Tri-

puri designs.

Karma urged the government and
UN to help the designers to expand their business through streamlining of policies, material and support.

Her label, Kuzu, specialises in the use

of vak wool cotton.

Yuri Afanasive, head of UN India, said the #NORTHEASTMOJO is a step forward even in terms of providing more livelihood in the country by focusing on the

turn to pg02

### Man killed in accident

**Gangtok, 02 Feb:** A 35-year-old man from Gerethang, West Sikkim died on the spot after the vehicle he was driving fell off the road along Hingdam-Tashiding high-way in West Sikkim on 01 Feb. The deceased was driving a utility truck and had one more person on board who was later identified as the handy boy.

The 19-year-old boy reportedly sustained grievous injuries and was rushed to Namchi District Hospital where he is currently undergoing treatment. The vehi-cle was going to Tashid-ing from Hingdam.

#### Coca-Cola India to launch Thums Up globally

KOLKATA, FEB 2 (PTI): Beverage major Co-ca-Cola today said it is planning to take the home-grown carbonated cola brand Thums Up to South East Asia before launching it globally.

"We are all set to take Thums Up to other parts of South Asia possibly by March 2018," Coca-Co-la India and South West Asia president T Krish-

nakumar said.
Thums Up is also the first Indian brand that will become a USD 1 billion (approx. Rs 64,000 crore) brand much before the targeted time-line of 2020, the company officials said.

### Katherine Graham Memorial...

contd from pg01

Former students of DGH have a lot of emo-tional attachment with the church and they are happy with the news of turning the chapel into a

heritage site.

When asked to comment, DM, Dr Viswanath said, "It is a good thing for Kalimpong as once the church turns into a heritage site, it will attract a lot of tourists. The old building will be preserved. Tourists will also enjoy. We have sent a proposal for Gouripur house as well and the heritage commission has considered this proposal.

### LFW: **Northeast** designers call for...

contd from pg01

"As the UN, this is our first partnership with IMG Reliance and Lakme and we joined hands because textiles and fash-ion is the second largest employer in India, after agriculture. This especially targets at women and entrepreneurs aiming for a better livelihood," he told PTI.

"We are honoured to have UN's support in this cause and going forward we want to not just tell their stories but also get the designers into the main narrative," said Jaspreet Chandok, Vice President and Head

(Fashion), IMG Reliance. The LFW runs through February 4.

# **SYF's month-long Guiding Juniors** initiative concludes

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 FEB:

Morth-long Guiding Juniors

programme organized by
Sikkim Youth Federation [SYF]
concluded at Rongbul GPU in South Sikkim today in the presence of Chairperson, Power and Energy Department Advisory Board, Gagan Rai, as chief guest, an SYF press release informs.

Addressing the gathering, chief guest Mr Rai appreciated and congratulated SYF for initiating the programme for stu-dents in different rural areas of Sikkim. He also extended gratitude to the SYF team for holding the event at Rongbul which is where he hails from.

On the occasion, SYF president, Mr Tamang, highlighted the vision and mission of the



Students from the GPU pre sented various cultural and educational activities. The programme concluded with the dis-

tribution of prizes to students for their participation.

Also present today were SYF president, Arun Tamang, president, Khagendra

Rai, and general secretary, Roshan Gurung, as special guests along with Zilla member, Bar-sha Thapa, and Ward Pancha-



### Brahma Kumaris winter camp students meet Governor

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 FEB: Prajapita Brahma Ku-maris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gangtok organised a three-day Children's Personality Development Winter Camp for students aged 08-15 years from different schools of Sikkim from 31 Ian to 02 Feb.

A press release re-ceived from Raj Bhavan informs that during the closing ceremony today, around 60 children along with their guides and Brahma Kumari Sisters met Governor Shriniwas

Patil to seek his bless-

The camp was designed to encourage children for personality de-velopment through spiritual, education, meditation and through various personalities of different fields to guide, counsel and inspire them.

Governor pleased to know that so many children are benefitted from this camp and wished the Brahma Kumaris Sisters success for organising more such camps in the future. He advised all the children

to imbibe moral values and discipline which will help them in overall per-sonality development.

It may be mentioned here that the winter camp is organised twice in a year at Gangtok Cen-

# Workshop on corporate expectations from students at NIT-Sikkim

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 01 FEB:

The Training & Placement Cell of National Institute of Technology, Sikkim with support from Technical Education Quality Improvement Project [TEQIP] III Cell of the institute organised a daylong workshop

on "Corporate expectations from students during summer interactions, group discussions and personal interviews" at NIT premises in Ravangla today.

The workshop was conducted for free for final year and pre-final year students of BTech, MTech and MSc, an NIT press release

Director of Image Boosterz, Aviral Sinha, attended the event as chief guest accompanied by the Registrar in charge, TEQIP III coordinator, Nodal officers, Training & Placement in charge and other faculty and students of the institute.

Mr Sinha while addressing the students informed about the corporate world and their expectations from the students whom they desire to hire for their organisation.

It may be mentioned here, Image Boosterz was established in the year 2001 realizing the need for grooming personalities

of graduates and post graduates which are acceptable and admired in the corporate world. The workshop received positive feedback from the students and the institute looks forward to organising some other workshops which will be beneficial for the students in the coming days, the release

Students of NIT have previously got accements in corporate houses like Intel, HP, Sapient, Power Grid, BEL, L&T Power, L&T Construction, McAfee, Intellect Design, etc., with some getting the opportunity for internships in Germany and Canada.



### SKM welcomes more new members

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 FEB:
Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party represented by its acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, and other members welcomed new mem-bers to the party today. Ex-Panchayat from Shyari, Ratan Tamang, who is also a founder member of Sikkim Democratic Front party, and prominent social worker from Arithang, Raju Lama [Tamang] are the new members of SKM.

A press release issued by SKM press and publicity secretary, Abhishek Sharma, informs that the party also welcomed 10 youths from Shyari, Gangtok and Arithang constituency today, most of whom have been active with the ruling party until recently, the party

Ex-Panchayat, Mr Ta-

mang, during his address said that SDF has failed the very purpose of its existence. "It has now become an anti-people and power hungry party," said Mr Tamang.

While the youths echoed common voices of being tired of being used like a paid worker by at the expense of development and welfare of the State, Mr Tamang also alleged that the SDF chief came to power with an objective to uplift poorer section but today the fact is that only peo-ple who worship him are receiving benefits from

the government.

"Before coming to power Pawan Chamling used to say that his office would be open all time for the service of people but today, in reality, only handful of people can get pressed Mr Tamang.

# Pilot for Ministers is misuse of public money: SPCC

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 FEB: Cikkim Pradesh Con-

Sikkim riauco...

gress Committee president, Bharat Basnet, has lashed out at the state government for provid-ing police pilots to Cab-inet Ministers of Sikkim. He alleged that the deci-sion of the Sikkim Democratic Front government shows its autocratic rule in the State.

It may be mentioned

here, all Cabinet Minis-ters in Sikkim are being provided with police pi-

lots since 31 Jan.
Addressing a press conference here at the party head-office, Mr Basnet, alleged that provision of police pilot to Ministers is misuse of people's money and an extra burden on the State exchequer. While mentioning that SDF government was part of NDA at the centre, he stated that providing police pilot to Cabinet Ministers by the state government goes against the Modi government which has been try-ing to abolish VIP culture from the country.

"We are hopeful that the Modi government will take some action on pro-viding justice to the peo-ple of Sikkim," he said.

Mr Basnet questioned the need for police pilot to Cabinet Ministers in a peaceful State like Sik-kim. He stated that the state government should think about people's convenience and not only of its Ministers. The government should spend money on education and health than on its Ministers, he has suggested.

### **Bhutanese Consulate Office in Guwahati**

contd from pg01

He also commented that the historical and cultural linkages between Assam and Bhutan have made both the geographical entities geographical entities their respective natural friends and partners. Thanking Tobgay and

Dorji for announcing a direct flight service be-tween India-Bhutan and Singapore, Sonowal said

that the move will propel inter-regional growth and connectivity in the back-drop of Act East Policy.

Dorjee said the inauguration of Bhutanese consulate here marked the collective commitment and unique desire of both Assam and Bhutan to strengthen socio. economic and cultural ties between the two entities.

Bhutan, he said, is

keenly looking forward to deepen the bilateral relations between the two countries and carry forward the mutual interests and people to people ties between India and Bhutan.

Its decision of introducing direct Drukair flight between India, Bhutan and Singapore will take the bilateral re-lations to the next stage, Doriee added.

#### Rey-Ranka protestors call off road... contd from pg01 to arrive at the final plan

The public has also thanked the civil and po-lice administration for their cooperation on the issue, said Sonam Bhutia. In a minutes of the

meeting drawn in the presence of the area MLA, the Tourism & Civil Aviation department Commissioner-cum-Sec-retary Puneet Kansal sought one month's time

for completion of the work adding that the department will follow the matter earnestly.

In the minutes of the meeting, it is also stated that the tenure of the project is coming to a close on 15 March and there are several options before the Department to be explored in consultation with the Law Department and Roads & In 2013, the contract

work was awarded to Thuckchuk Lachungpa for widening and strengthen-ing the Ranka Sajong road along with the construction of wayside ameni-ties. The cost of the project was Rs.14.35 crore of which Rs. 5 crore has al-ready been disbursed to the parties.



### Gangtok on Saturday,

Temp: 18°C /04°C Forecast: Times of clouds and sun with a shower in places in the afternoon. **Sunrise:** 06:21AM Sunset: 5:18 PM

World Wetlands Day observed in Gangtok and Ranipool

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 FEB:
Sikkim Otters Research
Group and Sikkim Ornithological Society observed World Wetlands Day at Police Headquar ter Gangtok and Ranipool Police Station today, in-forms a press release.

Established to raise awareness about the valturn to pg03

### **Pending RC** applications must be...

contd from pg01

cense are also eligible to apply for License. In the case of death of husband, the wife can continue the business with the Trade License issued to her late husband and transfer it in her name.

He also directed the Urban Development & Housing Department to issue and renew Trade Licenses of Class-II bazaars- Rhenock, Rongli, Pakyong, Rabongla and

Gram Panchavats Block Development Officers can issue and renew Trade Licenses only for class III bazaars and subletting of Trade Licenses should be thoroughly checked in all bazaar areas, it was decided.

The meeting today was attended by Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, R.S Basnett. Commissioner-cum-Secretary [Excise Department], R. Telang, Secretary [Urban Development and Housing Department], LB Chettri, District Collector [East] District Collector [East], Prabhakar Verma, Dis-trict Collector [North] Karma Bonpo, Gangtok Municipal Corporation Commissioner, Tshewang Gyaccho, GMC Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary, Special Secretary [Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department], Rinzing Chewang Bhutia, Special Secretary [Information and Public Relations], Sherab Shenga, officers of the con-cerned line departments and representative of the business community

# Marathoner, Abhishek, calls on Governor

GANGTOK, 02 FEB:

Ong distance runner

Chailing from Singtam in East Sikkim, Abhishek Gupta [22], who embarked on a 1545 KM solo marathon from Gangtok to New Delhi, called on Governor Shriniwas Patil at Raj Bhavan today.

A press communiqué

received from Raj Bhavan informs that Abhishek's solo run was flagged off by the Governor from Rai Bhavan on 29 Dec 2017 which flagged in at New



where he was welcomed by Resident Commis-Sikkim House in New Delhi on 24 Jan 2018

sioner, Ashwini K Chand, accompanied by other

officers and staff of New Sikkim House. After re-turning from New Delhi, he was welcomed back to the State at Rangpo Tour-ist Lodge on 30 Jan 2018 organised by Sikkim Bi-

hari Jagran Manch.
It may be mentioned here that Abhishek carried the messages of Organic Sikkim, Swachh Sikkim, Swachh Bharat Fighting against Sexual Abuse throughout his run.

1545 KM solo marathon from Gangtok to New Delhi. He further assured his support for similar runs in the near future and advised him to take up solo marathon run-

ning professionally. The Governor pealed to the youth of Sikkim to take inspiration from Abhishek and take marathon as a ca-reer. He wished him success in his future endeav-

Abhishek also

tended his gratitude for the support provided by the Governor.

Abhishek was companied by members of Sikkim Bihari Jagran Manch and Managing Director of Kanss & Co.

visit us at com

Dated:02.02.2018



#### PRAYER WALK FOR ALL SIKKIM CHRISTIAN SUMMIT

GANGTOK, 02 FEB: Prayer coordinators, Reverend Amos Bhutia and Reverend Amos Cintury accompanied by prayer coordinators and pastors from different churches of Bojoghari, Gangtok, Tadong, Sikip, Aritar and from South Sikkim conducted a prayer walk around Namchi-Namthang for the upcoming All Sikkim Christian Summit. a press release issued by ASCS publicity secretary, East, Bhupal Basnett, informs.

# Manipal nursing students conduct health awareness

GANGTOK, 02 FEB: Batch of 2nd Year BSc Nursing students of Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing, Sikkim Manipal University, organized a mass health awareness pro-gramme at JNNURM Colony in Arithang, Gangtok today, an SMU press re-lease informs.

The nursing students performed a role play followed by awareness session on health on the topic "Causes of environ-mental pollution and its



focused mainly on environmental pollution.

participated event and had personal

# Singtam gets an organic produce outlet

SUMMIT REPORT

SINGTAM, 02 FEB:
Area MLA cum Agriculture Minister,
Somnath Poudyal today inaugurated the newly installed organic outlet at
Mandi Bazaar in Singtam, East Sikkim.

Established under the guidelines of od Security & Agriculture Department in collaboration with Horticulture & Cash Crop Department to promote organic produce of the State, the stall will house organic produce from different villages in Singtam and nearby places

"Sikkim has already been declared and recognized as an organic state and now is the time for every farmer to contribute towards this movement. The department will be focusing on every possible way to develop, support and guide the farmers as per the require-ments and necessities", informed Somnath Poudyal.

The outlet will be supervised and run by the department for some time and after its completion it will be handed to the self help groups or NGOs.

#### Kettlebell Super Session!

This is a 7 hour comprehensive Workshop

What you will learn.

- Primary Kettlebell Exercises
- Variety Kettlebell Exercises How to burn fat, build endurance and cardio
- Break down of each and every exercise for easy
- understanding and learning In-depth knowledge sharing to enhance your skills with Kettlebells
- How you can incorporate Kettlebell training into a fresh programe or existing fitness
- ple fitness program
- A full easy to understand Kettlebell Manual

17th February, 2018 Jump Sweat Shop, Gangtok





#### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT JORETHANG

No: 60/UDHD/JRT

Dated:02.02.2018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Divisional Engineer (S/W), Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, Jorethang invites percentage rate bids from the Appropriate Class of registered Contractors enlisted under SPWD for the work as listed below:

SI. No	Name of works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs. In Lakhs)	Bid value (Rs. In Lakhs)	Cost of tender/ bid form (Rs. In Lakhs)	Com- pletion period.
1.	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Construction of Rural Market- ing centre (Rodhi Bazaar) at Begha, West Sikkim.	1.88	75.24	0.15	12 months.

The Calender of events is as under SCHEDULE OF DATE AND TIME.

Date of receipt of application
Date of issue of Tendered documents

Date of issue of Tender Form

Date of submission of Tender Forms and documents

Date of opening of Tender:

Further details may be sought from office of the undersigned.

2/3/2018 during office hours.

2/3/2018 during office hours. 5/5/2018 during office hours. 5/5/2018 during office hours. 6/6/2018 during office hours.

Sd/- DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (SW)
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

#### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT **JORETHANG** Dated:02.02.2018

INVITATION FOR BIDS

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer (South/West Circle), Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, invites percentage rate bids through e-procurement. The bids should be submitted online through the website <a href="www.sikkimtender.gov.in">www.sikkimtender.gov.in</a> for the work as listed below.

SI. No.	Name or works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs)	Bid value (Rs)	Cost of ten- der/ bid form (Rs in Lakhs)	Com- pletion period.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of New Road from Gumpa Dara via Leksey Colony to Begha Sheep Farm, West Sikkim.	Rs.6,20,466.00	Rs.2,48,18,641.17	Rs.30,000.00	24 months.

	The calcindar of events is as under.					
	i) Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal:		:	3/2/2018		
H	ii) Last date & Time for seeking clarification regarding bids.		:	19/2/2018 up to 1500 Hrs.		
	iii)	Time & Date for issue Challan towards the Cost of Tender Document		26/2/2018 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM		
	iii)	Start Date for online submission of bids	:	20/2/2018		
H	iv)	Last Date for Online submission of bids	:	5/3/2018 up to 1600 hrs.		
	iv)	Submission of hard copy of the documents	:	3/3/2018 up to 1500 hrs.		
H	v)	Date of opening of bids:	:	6/3/2018 at 1100 Hrs.		

The Standard Bidding Document, Bill of Quantities (BoQ) & Tender Notice may be downloaded from www.sik-

Sd/- SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT, JORETHANG.



#### **GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM** URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT **GANGTOK**

NIT No: 25/E-Proc/UD&HD

INVITATION FOR BIDS

On behalf of Governor of Sikkim, Additional Chief Engineer, Ur ernment of Sikkim, invites percentage rate bids through e-procure the website <a href="https://www.sikkimtender.gov.in">www.sikkimtender.gov.in</a> for the work as listed below: ban Development and Housing Department, Gov-ment. The bids should be submitted inline through

SI. No.	Name of Works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs)	Bid Value (Rs)	Cost of tender/ bid form (Rs in Lakhs)	Comple- tion period	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Infrastructure Development Works at Labdang, West Sikkim	24,48,280.00	9,79,31,183.46	50000.00	36 months	
The calendar of event is as under:-						

i)	Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal		3/2/2018
ii)	Last Date & Time for seeking clarification regarding bids		19/2/2018 upto 1500 hrs
iii)	Time & Date for issue of Challan towards to Cost of Tender Document	:	26/2/2018 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM
iii)	Start Date for Online submission of bids	:	20/2/2018
iv)	Last Date for Online submission of bids	:	5/3/2018 upto 1600 hrs
iv)	Submission of hard copy of the documents		3/3/2018 upto 1500 hrs
v)	Date of opening of bids	:	6/3/2018 at 1100 hrs

The Standard Bidding Document, Bill of Quantities (BoQ). Analysis of rates & Tender Notice may be downloade

Sd/- ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT

# **SummitTIMES**

#### Battling the Big-C Build better defenses. Generate wider awareness

S unday, 04 February is World Cancer Day, and of the many Days that are observed in the State, this is one that should receive wider attention. As the world over, Cancer has been palpably on the rise in Sikkim as well and even as better healthcare facilities are extended to patients and their families, it is important that wider awareness is generated on this health issue so that infection rates are brought down and detections made earlier. Year 2018 marks the culmination of a three-year resolve taking place under the tagline 'We can. I can.' which was designed to explore how everyone – as a collective or as individuals – can do their part to reduce the global burden of cancer. The idea was clearly to take Cancer beyond the sole purview of doctors and the healthcare systems since just as cancer affects everyone in different ways, all people have the power to take various actions to reduce the impact that cancer has on individuals, families and communities. This Sunday would be a good time for Sikkim to reflect on what it can do, make a pledge and take action. One knows that preventive action, healthy lifestyles and early detection are integral to ensure surviving cancer. That said, diagnosing cancer is not easy - not all cancers show early signs and symptoms and other warning signs can also appear quite late. Timely treatment is still important nevertheless and it falls on the state, since it provides the widest healthcare network, to provide it. What are also required are more effective public awareness campaigns and workplace health and wellbeing initiatives; time then for Sikkim to evaluate how it has delivered on these counts.

The CATCH programme of the State Government vas a welcome step towards institutionalizing annual health check-ups because it is primarily such healthcare habits which will ensure timely and early detec tion, CATCH, which had unfortunately gone dormant for a while but is thankfully back on track, if it is developed well, could popularize preventive healthcare against the present practice of going to hospitals and doctors only after one takes ill. In cases like Cancer, too often, this stage is too late. And make no mistake, Cancer is a major concern which is only going to loom larger in the years to come. Look around, just about everyone has some experience on the matter, either through a relative who has been diagnosed with "CA" or a friend who has someone in the family with Cancer. Noticeably, one does not meet too many Cancer Survivors. But if it is any consolation, Sikkim is not alone in the nightmare and the increase in Cancer cases here reflects a global trend.

A recent report of the UN shows that cancer is now the world's biggest killer - with the number of cases set to explode in coming years. A global cancer report compiled by UN Agency, The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) shows that as a single entity, Cancer is the biggest cause of mortality worldwide with an estimated 8.2 million deaths from cancer in 2012. Also reflective of the unequal world we live in is a recent study by Lancet which reveals that while Cancer survival is generally increasing, even for some of the more deadly cancers such as liver and lung, survival trends vary widely, and there are wide and persistent disparities between countries. The first world countries post better cancer survival rates than the less "developed" nations. For example, for women diagnosed with breast cancer in the USA and Australia between 2010 and 2014, 5-year survival is 90%, compared to 66% for women diagnosed in India. That said, it is important to realize here that this is not just be-cause the developed countries have better hospitals; wider awareness plays an as important role.

Cancer needs to be addressed also because Cancer

cases worldwide are forecast to rise by 75% and reach close to 25 million over the next two decades. It is projected that by 2030, there will be 12 million cancer deaths per year!

The exclamation point reinforcing the worry, it is clearly time then that Sikkim also begins addressing this health issue on more levels than just referring Cancer patients to treatment outside the State. When one talks of a War on Cancer at the global level, one refers to the effort to find a cure for cancer by increased research and the development of more effective cancer treatments. These obviously do not apply to Sikkim and the State should consider itself lucky if it gets a good Oncology centre here itself. The multispecialty hospital being planned by the State Government is projected to have an Oncology Centre. Hopefully, the policy makers and the babus will ensure that no corners are cut in establishing the best such facility possible. So while the world works on R&D, Sikkim should focus its energies on prevention, earlier detection/ diagnosis and screening. The BJP Government can play the cruel joke of tom-tomming its National Health Protection Scheme for 10 crore families, which was announced without any budgetary provisions since it is currently only an "aspirational" aim. Sikkim could do better by institutionalizing some form of health insurance scheme for a wider net of people because even when cure is available, it flies out of reach because of the costs involved.

# **Breaking down the Budget** in 20 questions

courtesy: INDIAN EXPRESS

Union Budget 2018: The most anticipated event of the Indian financial calendar is over. What political and economic message has the Budget sent out? The Indian Express cuts through the fog.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union Budget 2018 on Thursday in Parliament. The most anticipated event of the Indian financial calendar is over. What political and economic message has the Bud-get sent out? The Indian Express cuts through the fog

through the fog.

1. First of all, why do we need a Budget at all? Was there anything particularly special about this year's Budget?

Like households, governments, too, need Budgets — to assess income or revenues and expenditure, and to see what can be spent on, say, health, education, infrastructure, defence, or maintaining law and order. A Budget helps to prioritise the spending; it sometimes also provides a roadmap for where the country's economy is

While Finance Ministers look at each of their Budgets as special, this vear's Budget was watched with extra keenness because it was the last full Budget of the Narendra Modi government. With several state elections this year, it was also expected that the government would try to woo specific political audiences. But it was also hoped that the government would remain fiscally prudent, i.e., it would not end up borrowing excessively.

2. Last year, the Budget was ad-

vanced to the first day of February from the last day. What did we gain

The aim of advancing the Budget was to ensure that spending on schemes and projects kicked in early in the year, rather than being pushed to the middle of the year — typically after May, when the purse-strings would be eased after Parliament approved the Budget. Evidence so far suggests that spending now is indeed more "front-loaded", and there is less of a scramble to spend funds towards the fag end of the fiscal year.

3. What is the state of the economy today, compared to last year, and to 2014, when Modi government took

Ten years after the global financial crisis, the global economy seems to be in good shape. But the Indian economy will post a growth of only 6.5% in 2017-18 — the lowest growth rate since the government came to power in May 2014. The good news is that global institutions and agencies have projected India's growth to be in the mid-7% range in 2018-19, with global growth, too, picking up. But there has been a slide — that too, when it had the advantage of low oil prices.

4. What were the key expectations from this year's Budget?

It was certainly hoped that the government would meet its target on revenue over expenditure. The budgeted fiscal deficit was 3.2% of GDP, and meeting it would have meant keeping interest rates in check, and a more positive sentiment. It was expected that the government would provide more money for the poor, and unveil schemes for farmers and for infrastructure. And, both the re-introduction of a tax on gains made by investors who had held stocks for over a year, and a cut in the tax rate of companies, were widely anticipated. 5. To what extent have these expectations been met?

Budget The Budget has proposed schemes for the rural sector, and for families living below the poverty line. But individual investors, especially recent entrants to the stock market who have been putting their money in mutual funds that invest in stocks, and companies that had hoped for a lower tax, have been disappointed. So too economists, and the markets, which frown at higher borrowings

6. The government has failed to meet the fiscal deficit target for 2017-18, and has had to revise it upwards for 2018-19? Is that a problem?

It is, Higher borrowings translate into higher yields or rates, which investors who buy such bonds seek. That then reflects in higher interest rates all around — for companies, and for individuals. The other problem with deviating from targets is that it could pose a credibility risk. Investors may not be willing to take the government's word, which can be costly from an investment point of

#### 7. What has the Budget done to raise resources for the government?

The government has set a target to raise Rs 80,000 crore in 2018-19 through the sale of shares in companies that it owns, either partly or through a larger tranche. Its achievement on this front in the fiscal year ending March 2018 has been impreshaving mobilised a record Rs

8. And what has it done to boost vernment spending?

Much of the spending will be on

building infrastructure 9,000 km of national highways, and connecting interior and backward areas by rail, which has a projected capital expenditure plan spending of Rs 148,528 crore in 2018-19. There is also spending on urban infrastruc-ture like smart cities, water supply, and expansion of airport capacities.

9. What steps has the Budget taken to create more jobs?

The government says that lowering the mandatory norm of provident fund contribution of 12% to 8% for the first three years of employment will incentivise employment of more women, as will the system of fixedterm employment in the apparel and footwear sector. The assumption also is that higher infrastructure spending could bring more jobs, with more en10. How will the fixing of MSPs of

crops to guarantee farmers a 50% profit over production costs help? This was a formula originally rec-ommended by the National Commission of Farmers headed by agricul-ture scientist M S Swaminathan, and

which Modi promised to implement during the 2014 campaign. The Finance Minister's speech has basically reiterated the promise, but without spelling out how it is going to be im-

11. And what provisions have been made for funding higher MSPs?

No money has been set aside to

implement the promise, which will require the government to either physically procure the entire crop that farmers bring to the mandis and offer at the MSP or, alternatively, allow them to sell at going market rates and pay the difference. The Madhya Pradesh government has implement-ed such a scheme called Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana, which pays farmers the difference between MSP and the average modal (most-traded) price in mandis. The scheme has faced flak because traders apparently used it to drive down market prices. Since it was operational during this kharif marketing season only during October-December, farmers sold most of their crop to avail of the price difference. The traders are alleged to have made a killing by buying up this entire crop and driving up prices when the scheme ended. Jaitley has said that the NITI Aayog, in consultation with the central and state governments, will put in place a "foolproof" mechanism to address all these issues.

#### 12. What does the Budget have for the elderly and the retired?

For senior citizens, the income-tax limit for deduction on health insur-ance premiums has been enhanced from Rs 30.000 to Rs 50.000. The limit for deduction on medical expenditure for certain critical illnesses has been raised from Rs 60.000 to Rs 80,000 for senior citizens, and from Rs 80,000 to Rs 1 lakh for very senior citizens. Also, the government has raised the exemption on interest earned on deposits with banks and post offices from Rs 10,000 to Rs 50,000 for seniors. What's better, there will not be any tax deducted at source on their fixed deposit and recurring deposits.

13. What's in the Budget for the

poor, both in urban and rural areas?

There are schemes to provide free power and build toilets for the poor, and provide free gas connections to 8 crore poor women. There is also housing for the poor in both rural and

14. What is the proposal to create "the world's largest health programme"? How will it provide health security to vulnerable sections of Indians?

For the poor there is the promise of a health or medical cover of up to Rs 5 lakh, which the government says

will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families. This translates into 50 crore beneficiaries for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation.

15. What practical benefits are to be gained by merging the three big public sector general insurers, United India Insurance, Oriental Insurance, and National Insurance?

It can be argued that consolidating their operations would lead to benefits similar to that of a large company with a balance sheet that can take on the challenges of a growing market. It is also in alignment with the government's plan to consolidate in sectors such as oil and gas, and banking.

16. What does the Budget have for

the middle classes in the towns and cities?

Not much, apart from the re-introduction of the standard deduction of Rs 40,000 in place of the current exemption on transport allowance and reimbursement of miscellaneous medical expenses.

17. After nudging newer sections of people towards equity mutual funds, why has the government now chosen to disincentivise these market-linked investments by imposing a tax on them?

The government perhaps feels that the many investors who have booked gains in stock investments and mutual funds over the last couple of years, can afford to pay a 10% tax even if they have held it for over a year. The calculation could have been that this set of people, who are per-ceived to be better off than the rest, can help partly underwrite the fund-ing of some social sector schemes. The government could be betting that any dampening of the market sentiment as a result of this tax may be only transient.

18. What structural implication does the proposal to make it mandatory for the corporate sector to raise at least a fourth of their funding needs through bonds, have?

This could mean a change in the way big companies raise their funds. They will now have to rely far less on banks than in the past. For banks, it could mean a healthier mix and balance sheet, and perhaps a greater say compared to the past when it comes to the big borrowers. And a better and improved corporate bond market. 19. Overall, how can the Budget be

summed up? Has the Finance Minister been reformist, populist, or

has he just played it safe?

Not reformist. Because of the schemes and programmes aimed at the poor and vulnerable sections, some would say he has been populist. Overall, it does seem that he was risk averse maybe because of the overhang of a larger-than-anticipated deficit.

20. Finally, what is the big political message from the Budget?
Broadly, that targeting the poor,

or those at the bottom of the pyramid, could help bring gains — both politically and maybe economically once they are empowered.

# Why a first strike option on North Korea is a very bad idea

ANDREW O'NEIL

theconversation.com

The prospect of South Korean and North Korean athletes marching together under a "unification" flag at this month's Pyeongchang Winter Olympics signifies a brief respite in tensions rather than being a genuine thawing on the Korean pen-

After an initial surge of optimism in response to Pyongyang's decision to accept Seoul's offer to march as one Korea, reality has started to bite with the mechanics of implementing the deal.

While welcoming the Pyeongchang initiative,

many South Koreans have pushed back against the decision to merge both countries' women's ice hockey teams, calling out the sexist nature of the decision (not a single woman was involved in determining the merger).

Meanwhile, citing "insulting" behaviour on the

part of South Korean media, the North Koreans have cancelled a joint cultural performance with South Korea, scheduled for next week.

Understandably, the Pyeongchang "thaw" has attracted major headlines. But it obscures the sig-nificant possibility that we will witness major conflict on the Korean peninsula in 2018.

The South Korean government has worked hard to engage North Korea in structured dialogue in an effort to defuse the nuclear-armed state's

continued military threats. But there is nonethe less a growing risk that the Trump administration will authorise limited military strikes against the North's weapons of mass destruction, conceivably

Despite extracting a commitment from the US that any military action against North Korea is contingent on first gaining South Korea's endorsement, there is justifiable concern among South Koreans that the Trump administration will act unilaterally if US intelligence assesses Pyongyang is about to

within the next few months.

deploy an operational nuclear-armed interconnental ballistic missile (ICBM) force.

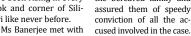
Given the extent to which we have underesti-mated the sheer pace of North Korea's nuclear and missile development over the past decade, this intelligence assessment might happen sooner than we think. Donald Trump would then face a difficult problem: how to avoid being the president who allowed North Korea to achieve the capability to hit the US homeland with nuclear weapons.



### Locket Banerjee assures conviction of accused in Janta Nagar child murder case

SMRITA KHAWAS Siliguri, 02 Feb:

President of the West Bengal Bharatiya Janta Party Mahila Morcha, Locket Banerjee, today visited the house of the deceased girl child who was gruesomely mur-dered recently at Janata Nagar Ward No 44. Protests against the same have been rising in every nook and corner of Siliguri like never before.





"We are demanding CBI investigation into this case. The police are clearly doing nothing regarding this. The Chief Minister, being a lady herself, is reName of work:

# India looks forward to work with Nepal's democratically elected govt: Swaraj

forward to working with Nepal's democraticalelected government to take bilateral ties to newer heights for mutu-al benefit and supports its efforts for economic growth and develop-ment, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swarai assured the country's top leadership.

Swarai, who arrived here yesterday on a two-day goodwill visit, today called on President Bidya Devi Bhandari, Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and held talks with CPN-Maoist Centre chairman 'Prachanda'.

Swaraj during her in-teractions today she discussed ways to advance India's multi-dimension-al and historic ties with Nepal.

Swaraj conveyed to all political leaders of Nepal that the Government of India was look-ing forward to working with the democratically elected government to take forward bilateral ties to newer heights for mutual benefit, and to support the Government of Nepal, as per its priori-ties, in its endeavours for



rapid economic growth and development, India's Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement.
"We will extend full

the bereaved family and

cooperation to Nepal in attaining political sta-bility and development," Swaraj said during her breakfast meeting with

"We discussed about the situation emerging after the conclusion of the elections and the preparation for formation of new government," said Prachanda, whose party formed Left Al-liance with CPN-UML during the recently held

elections in Nepal.

"I told Swaraj that we want political stability and development for which we need cooperation from the neighbours. Swaraj assured that India will extend full cooperation to Nepal in her efforts towards attaining political stability and de velopment," said.

The Maoist chief said waraj was curious to know about the political developments taking place in Nepal.

"The talks we had were very positive and constructive.

She also congratulated the Left Alliance for gaining victory during

gaining victory during the recently concluded elections," he said. "EAM @SushmaS-waraj met with Chair-man CPN (Maoist Cen-tre) Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda of #Nepal and complemented him on his party's performance in the recent elections. The two leaders

discussed steps to fur-ther deepen our unique India- Nepal bilateral relations," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

During her courte-sy call on Nepal Prime Minister Deuba, she congratulated him on the successful conduct of the recent elections.

"Discussions focused on enhancing our bilateral cooperation to take our age-old and historical partnership forward, Kumar said.

During her talks with Bhandari, Swaraj con-gratulated her on the successful conduct of election in Nepal.

"Exchange of views on advancing our multi-dimensional relationship took place." Kumar said.

Swaraj yesterday held one-on-one talks with CPN-UML chairman K P Sharma Oli, who is likely to be the next prime minister, and prominent leaders of Madhesi parties. Swaraj congratulated Oli for the victory of the Left Alliance in the recently concluded elections and expressed willingness to work with the new

# World Wetlands Day observed...

contd from pg03
ue of wetlands for humanity and the planet, World Wetlands Day was celebrated for the first time in 1997 and has grown remarkably since then. Each year, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and groups of citizens at all levels of the community, have taken advantage of the opportunity to undertake actions aimed at

raising public awareness of wetland values and benefits.

"As we all know, our water bodies are getting polluted and encroached by residential and commercial development, conversion to agriculture, invasive species and pollution awareness at all levels is very much crucial to save Sikkim's rich natural wealth," said Sunita Khatiwara, team leader of Sikkim

Otters Group.

Nosang Limboo who is president of Sikkim Ornithological Society said, "Until and unless what we know what we have, it's impossible to put an effort to safeguard them, so awareness is vital."
Police Officials including SHO

Ranipool and PI Crime Branch attended and wholeheartedly supported the awareness programme.

### Why a first strike option on North Korea...

contd from pg04

Since coming to power, the Trump administration has been deliberating over whether to carry out preventive strikes to degrade Pyongyang's ability to sprint to the finish line of acquiring a deployable ICBM that can hit the continental US with a nuclear payload. An increasingly popular as

sumption is that the price of living with a nuclear-armed North Korea that can destroy prime targets on the US mainland is higher than risking a second Korean War. And this is not just the musings of a few hardheads in the Pentagon: a growing number of Americans be-lieve some form of military action against North Korea is justified if sanctions and diplomacy fail to achieve denuclearisation.

Most worrying of all, a belief seems to be gathering pace that the US can somehow launch "surgical" military strikes while containing a larger conflict, because Kim Jong-un will not respond for fear of triggering an overwhelming retaliatory response.

There are two basic flaws

underlying what one expert has

termed "the myth of the limited strike". The first, and most obvious, is that it's highly unlikely Kim Jong-un will believe the Trump administration's assurances that "surgical" strikes are not the opening phase of an all-out US assault aimed at overthrowing the regime.

When the US goes to war, it tends to go full throttle – in recent times, this has translated into regime change (think of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Libya). Why would the leadership in Pyongyang assess that this time around would be any different?

The second major flaw in the argument is that what is portrayed as limited in Washington, and among some armchair strategists supporting this course, will inevitably be seen in Pyongyang as a major as-sault on North Korean territory and its prized strategic assets.

Even in the scenario that Kim Jong-un actually believed the Trump administration did not intend to implement regime change, as Van Jackson notes, his position as North Korean supreme leader uld be untenable domestically if he did not respond with force.

Pyongyang would have a com-

pelling incentive to retaliate early with any nuclear reserve that survived a US first strike. In this scenario, the North Korean leadership would confront a stark choice of either using these weapons of mass destruction to maximum effect or risk losing them in follow-on US precision munition strikes.

As I have argued elsewhere, like all new nuclear powers, North Korea will place a premium on permissive command and control systems that allow authorities to use nuclear weapons whenever they want. This will be reflected in a hair-trigger launch posture if it perceives an imminent threat.

Whichever way you cut it, a US first strike against North Korea would almost certainly trigger major war on the Korean peninsula, with a high risk of escalation to full-scale nuclear conflict. While the appalling humanitarian consequences of this don't need to be spelt out, the strategic illogic of the arguments advocating a first strike must be continually reinforced.

[the writer is Dean and Professor of Political Science, Griffith University)



#### **GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT GANGTOK, SIKKIM NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

"Construction of 2 Lane Bridge over river Kanaka at Kayam Dzongu in North Sikkim".

Offers are hereby invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim from bonafide firms specialized in Conceptualising, preparation of drawing, design and executing the under-mentioned project on turnkey contract basis

NAME OF THE WORK	COST OF TENDER DOCUMENT (NON REFUNDABLE	EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT	COMPLE- TION TIME
Conceptualizing drawing, designing and executing "2 Lane Bridge over riv- er Kanaka at Kayam Dzongu in North Sikkim'.	Rs.2,00,000.00(Rupees Two Lakhs only) (Non Refundable) in favour of Accounts Officer, Roads & Bridges Department, Govt. of Sikkim.	Rs.75,00,000.00(Rupees Seventy Five Lakhs only in favour of Chief Enginer, Roads & Bridges Department, Govt. of Sikkim.	24 (twenty – four) months from the date of issue of the formal work order.

### Eligibility Criteria for Shortlisted of Firms based on Expression of Interest

2.1 The intending firms should have successfully executed at least one Government Project of similar nature works costing not less than Rs.50 Crores in the last 5 (five) financial years ending on the last day of the month previous the one in which the tender is

2.2 The intending firms should have successfully executed at least one Government roject in the last 5 (five) years in seismically active hilly regions of North East India.

2.3 The Credentials of items 2.1 and 2.2 should be supported by appropriate certificates issued by the competent authority for verification.

2.4 The average yearly total income of the firm should not be less that Rs. 15 crores

during the past 3 (three) financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16) and should be duly certified by a Chartered Accountant AND SUPPORTED BY Audited Balance Sheet.

The calendar of tender activities are as follows:

i] Publication of Expression of Interest (EOI) 02/02/2018. ii] Submission of hard copy of tender documents (upto 4:00 PM) 03/03/2018 iii] Opening of Eligibility Criteria (12:00 PM) 05/03/2018. iv] Opening of Technical Bid 07/03/2018. v] Opening of Financial Bid 10/03/2018.

The intending firms, fulfilling above eligibility criteria at clause 2 may purchase the Tender documents from the office of the Chief Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim as per schedule given in Clause 3 during office hours on payment of Rs. 2,00,000.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Only) (Non-Refundable) in the form of Account Payee Demand Draft of any Scheduled Nationalized Bank drawn in favour of Accounts Officer, Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, payable at Gangtok.

**Evaluation Criteria for Selection of Firm** 

4.1 The selection of the firm will be Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method and the evaluation will be made in three stages as under.

4.2 Stage-I (Evaluation of EOI)

The Expression of Interest (EOI) of all the intending firms will be evaluated for shortlisting by the Department, based on above mentioned eligibility criteria and as per the formats duly filled provided in Appendix I.

4.3 State-II (Evaluation of Technical Bid)

Technical bids of shortlisted firms only, who qualify in Stage-I, will be evaluated by the Department, based on criteria as mentioned in the Bid document. Each technical bid will receive a technical score. A proposal shall be rejected, if it does not achieve the minimum technical score of 75 out of the maximum of 100 points. The weightage of the Technical Bid (T) shall be 80 percent.

4.4 Stage-III (Evaluation of Financial Bid)

Financial Bids of those firms who qualify in Technical Evaluation in Stage-II will be evaluated as under:

4.4.1 The proposal with lowest financial bid will be awarded a financial score of 100 points. Financial score of other proposals shall be inversely proportional to their quoted price, as indicated in the tender document. The weightage of the Financial Bid shall

Successful firms who will meet the minimum qualifying marks in the selection process will be intimated and financial bids of only qualified firms will be opened.

The tenderers are requested to go through the offer documents and visit the location and apprise themselves of the site conditions fully before submission of offer.
The Earnest Money amount of Rs. 75 Lakhs (Rupees Seventy five lakhs Only) should

- be submitted along with the offer documents in the form of Demand Draft of any Scheduled Nationalized Bank in favour of Chief Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Govt. of Sikkim, payable at Gangtok.
- Application from Joint Venture/Association of Firm is not accepted.
- For any queries of clarifications, the following officers of the Department may be contacted:

i) The Additional Chief Engineer (N/E), Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, Nirman Bhawan Gangtok.

ii) The Superintending Engineer (P/M), Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, Nirman Bhawan Gangtok.

- 10. The Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- The interested parties may visit the websites:-
- 11.1 www.sikkimtender.gov.in.
- 12. The intending bidders must upload their offers along with scanned copy of tender form cost and EMD in the website www.sikkimtender.gov.in along with submission of hard copies of the complete offer in separate envelopes as mentioned. The hard copies of all the documents must be handed over to the Office of the Chief Engineer in person on the above mentioned scheduled date i/e on 13/02/2018 upto 1600hrs.

CHIEF ENGINEER **ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT** GOVT. OF SIKKIM GANGTOK 737101, SIKKIM.

R.O. no. 536/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 1.2.2018

### French researchers chronicling 3000 years of Indian literature

KOLKATA, FEB 2 (PTI): Seventy French scholars and researchers have taken up a project to chronicle the journey of Indian literature for the last 3,000 years, two Indologists from France said here. The French govern-

ment is funding the project undertaken by two leading French institutes where Indology studies are undertaken, Nicholas Dejenne and Claudine Le Blanc, the academicians from France, said.

Dejenne and Blanc

spoke about the project while delivering the annual Ashok Kumar Sarkar Memorial Lecture at the 42nd International Kolkata Book Fair here yesterday.
"We have undertaken

a big task of preparing a dictionary of represen-tative classics ranging from Kalidas' Shakuntala to the writings of Bibhu Ghosh.

From Rabindranath Tagore to modern Bengali poets which will have the defining works across different genres," Dejenne said.

It will be titles 'Dictionary Encyclopedia Indian Literature (DELI)' and the researchers are aiming to complete the first phase by the end of 2019, Blanc said.

One of the objectives of the project would be to collate and disseminate defining literary works across ages and present them to French readers, she said.

"We will also like to act as a bridge between ancient and recent Indian literature in different languages including Bengali," she said.

Dejenne and Blanc are Indologists at the Sorbonne Nouvelle of



# Nayuma Entertainment Open Badminton Tourney kicks off

JORETHANG, 02 FEB (IPR): Health Minister cum Area MLA, AK Ghatani inaugurated two-day Nayuma tertainment 07th Jorethang Open Badminton Tournament today. Organized by Badminton Association of Jorethang (BAJ) under the aegis of Badminton Association of Sikkim [BAS] the event was attended by Nayabazaar Jorethang Municipal Corporation Chairman, Tika Gurung along with BAJ presi-dent, Jigmee Namgyal, Sub Divisional Magis-(Jorethang), BC



Rai, officials, players and

It may be mentioned here that the prime ob-

iective of the tournament is to promote badminton

amongst the youth of Jorethang and surround-

sists of U-13, U-15, U-17 and open categories for players from Jorethang and all over the State.

Around 140 participants and 11 teams from all over Sikkim including teams from Darjeeling and Mirik are slated to take part in the tournament. The winners and the runners up of the tournament will be tournament will be awarded cash prizes and certificates from the organizing committee

### Kohli's 33rd ton helps India beat SA by 6 wkts in first ODI

**DURBAN, FEB 1 (PTI):** Captain Virat Kohli further enhanced his reputation as a 'chase master' as he smashed his 33rd hundred to lead India to a six-wicket victory over South Africa in the first cricket one-dayer

here today.

Kohli struck 112 off 119 balls with the help of 10 boundaries and put on 189 runs for the third wicket with Ajinkva Rahane (79 runs of 86 balls) as India chased down the target of 270 with 4.3

overs to spare.

It was the highest stand for India in South Africa, while Kohli notched up his 20th hundred in a run-chase, out of which 18 have been successfully converted to victories. After scoring freely all across the world, this was Kohli's first ODI hundred

on South African soil.

Also, this was India's first ODI win against South Africa at Durban, and only their sixth overall in bilateral engagements here since 1992-93.

India got off to a quick start with Rohit Sharma (20) and Shikhar Dha-wan (35) adding 33 for the opening wicket. Rohit was looking to play his strokes but miscued one off Morne Morkel (1/35) in the seventh over and was out caught.

Dhawan and Kohli then added 34 runs for the second wicket and the duo were looking good to take advantage of South Africa's spinners. when the former was

run-out. Kohli took off for a quick single in the 13th over but Dhawan was late in responding having takout by Aiden Markram's direct throw.

Kohli and Rahane came together thereafter and did not give the Pro-teas a sniff. Imran Tahir (0/51) was duly taken for runs, while JP Dumi-ny (0/16) and Markram (0/20) had no impact in

their short spells.

The most vital aspect of this partnership was the running between wickets. The duo looked to cut down on errors, calling loud and clear. They brought their

100-stand off 112 balls. Rahane brought up his half-century off 60 balls as their partnership crossed 150 off only 154 balls. India reached 200 in the 36th over.

Kohli then celebrat

ed his maiden hundred on South African soil in style, reaching there off 105 balls. In doing so, he equalled Sourav Ganguly's record of most ODI hundreds as Indian captain Both now have 11 centuries, with Kohli reaching the milestone in 41 innings as compared to Gan-guly's 142 innings.Hashim Amla (16) and Quinton de Kock (34) got off to a watchful start. The latter, in particular, took his time for he had been enduring a poor run of form. At the other end Amla looked in good nick and was scoring at a strike-rate of 90-plus.

They put on 30 runs for the opening wicket before Jasprit Bumrah (1/56) struck in the 8th over. He trapped Amla plumb lbw, albeit was lucky to have his front-foot only millimetres behind the line.



#### SANGDONG BOYS BAG CHAMPION'S TROPHY AT SUSAKURTOT FOOTBALL TOURNEY

MANGAN, 02 FEB: Sangdong Boys lifted the champion's trophy defeating Zaa Seven at the Susakurtot Football Tournament held during the Susakurtot Organic Festival at Lum in Dzongu on 01 Feb. The winner of the tournament was awarded with cash prize of Rs 50,000 while the runner up team was awarded with cash prize of Rs 30,000. Twenty-three teams participated in the tournament which had commenced on 20 Jan. The programme had the presence of Minister, Road & Bridges, GM Gurung, as chief guest accompanied by Deputy Speaker cum area MLA Dzongu, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, as special guest. [Wangchuk Bhutia]

# Suarez gives Barcelona edge in Copa del Rey semi-finals

Suarez headed in the only goal as defending champions Barcelona edged Valencia 1-0 in their Copa del Rey semi-fi-nal first leg at a half-full Camp

Barcelona, the record 29-time winners of the tournament, are attempting to become the first team to lift the cup four years in a row since Athletic Bilbao in the 1930s.

But yesterday they were forced to labour against a Valencia team missing a trio of key players -- Goncalo Guedes, Geoffrey Kondogbia and Ezequiel Garay -- through injury.

Barcelona dominated pos session but had to wait until the 67th minute for the break-



Not surprisingly, Lionel Messi was the man who un-locked the Valencia defence

before setting up Suarez.

The Argentine danced his way into the penalty area

before a deft left-footed chip left three defenders out of position and allowed Suarez to score from the edge of six-

yard box with a diving header.
Yesterday's tight affair
was dramatically different to the last time these two teams met at the same stage two years ago -- Barcelona won 8-1 on aggregate following a 7-0 win in the first leg.

"We have a small advan-tage but there's still 90 min-utes to play and it'll be a long 90 minutes as Valencia are a very strong when they play at home," said Suarez who has now scored 13 times in the last 11 games.

In Wednesday's first

semi-final, little Leganes, who stunned mighty Real Madrid in the quarter-finals, battled back from a goal down to draw 1-1 with Sevilla in the opening leg.

Colombian international Luis Muriel gave Sevilla the lead after 21 minutes, scoring with the aid of a deflection off

But Leganes levelled on the night when Sevilla goal-keeper Sergio Rico blundered trying to keep out a header from Greek defender Dimitrios Siovas.

Leganes, who were playing in the third division five years ago and are in the Copa del Rey semi-finals for the first time in their 90-year history, remain the outsiders against Sevilla, at least on financial terms.

Their annual budget of 45 million euros is four times less than that of Sevilla.

# History awaits Dravid's boys at U-19 World Cup Final

LAND), FEB 2 (PTI): Unstoppable so far, India would be aiming to rewrite record books with a fourth title when the Rahul Dravid-coached side squares off against an equally formidable Australia in the final of the ICC Under-19 World Cup, here

on Saturday.
India and Australia are the two most successful teams in the history of the tournament having won the coveted trophy thrice each.

But come Saturday, Dravid's sprightly boys will be desperate to outwit their Australian counterparts and become the first team in the history of the event to lift the trophy for a record fourth time.

The promising Prithvi Shaw, already being seen as the next big thing in Indian cricket, will be eager to join the likes of Mohammad Kaif (2002), Virat Kohli (2008) and Unmukt Chand (2012) in leading the side to the U-19 World Cup title



Going by current form, odds are heavily in favour of India. The Indians have put in some impressive performances to win all their five matches including an emphatic 203-run win over arch-rivals Pa-kistan in the semifinal and a 100run victory over Australia in their

tournament-opener. The massive win over Pakistan

in the semifinal will do a world of good to India's confidence. After putting a total of 272 on the board. they dismissed the opposition for a paltry 69.

So far, it has been collective

performance from Dravid's boys as every member of the squad has contributed to the team's success in one or the other way.

India's batting has been at its lethal best. While the openers --Shaw and Manjot Kalra -- have given the team good starts throughout the tournament, Shubman Gill has been in phenomenal form at

the number three position.

In fact, all eyes will be on Gill, who has been the most consistent batsman of the tournament. He scored a scintillating unbeaten century against Pakistan in the semis and would be eager to script one more impactful knock.

In the bowling department, Shivam Mavi and Kamlesh Nagarkoti have been phenomenal, raking up speeds in excess of 140kmph at their will. But they will have their work cut out against a strong Australian batting line-up.

Abhishek Sharma is another

important player in the squad to look up to and he along with fellow spinner Anukul Roy would look to exploit the Australian batsmen's weaknesses against spin.

Besides his spin, Abhishek is also a hard-hitting lower middle-order batsman, who can score some quick runs. India's fielding has also been exemplary in the tournament so far.

India U-19 teams have had a legacy of producing future Indian stars and this group of players has the potential to make it big. Australia, on the other hand,

would be desperate for revenge after their big loss to the Indians in

tournament opener. After that one bad day in office. the Australians have bounced back strongly and won four games in a

row to make it to the final.

The Jason Sangha-led side's last two performances signal that

they have upped their game when

Australia's 31-run win over England in the quarterfinal, while defending 127-run total, and a six-wicket win over Afghanistan who surprised everyone with their semifinal appearance, clearly indicate that they are here to give India a tough fight in the summit clash.

Teams (from):

India U-19: Prithvi Shaw (C), Shubman Gill, Manjot Kalra, Hi-manshu Rana, Abhishek Sharma, Riyan Parag, Harvik Desai, Shivam Mavi, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Ishan Porel, Anukul Roy, Shiva Singh, Aryan Juyal, Arshdeep Singh, Pankaj Yadav. Australia U-19: Jason Sangha

(C). Will Sutherland, Xavier Bartlett, Max Bryant, Jack Edwards, Zak Evans, Jarrod Freeman, Ryan Hadley, Baxter J Holt, Nathan McSwee-ney, Jonathan Merlo, Lloyd Pope, Param Uppal, Austin Waugh.

Match starts: 0630hrs (IST).

### 90 migrants feared drowned off Libyan coast

PARIS, FEB 2 (AP): The UN's migration agency says its partner agencies are reporting that 90 people are feared drowned after a smuggler's boat carrying mostly Pakistani migrants has capsized off Libya's coast.

International Organisation for Migration spokeswoman Olivia Headon says 10 bodies have washed ashore near the Libyan town of Zuwara following the tragedy early today.

Eight were believed

to be Pakistani, and two

Headon, speaking by phone from Tunisia's capital to reporters at the UN in Geneva, said initial indications were that the boat became unbalanced.

She said Pakistani nationals have been taking an increasing share among the number of migrants attempting to cross the Mediterranean to Italy and Europe via

Libya.
Police reinforcements are arriving in the French port city of Calais after clashes among migrants left 22 people injured, as the interior minister warned of a worrying spike in violence.

Interior Minister Ge-rard Collomb told reporters in Calais on Friday that five of the victims were injured by gunfire in Thursday's fighting, blaming "totally organized" gangs. Police are seeking a shooting suspect but have made no arrests.

Collomb said two extra police units were en route and warned of growing tensions in Calais, where migrants con-verge in hopes of crossing to Britain.

Authorities said that Afghan and Eritrean migrants had been fighting with sticks and stones af-ter a meal distribution before the shots were fired. Firearms are rare among migrants. The government closed a vast Calais

# Imperative for Maldivian govt to abide by its SC ruling: India

NEW DELHI, FEB 2 (PTI): India today said it was imperative for "all organs" of the Maldivian government to abide by the country's Supreme Court order to release all political prisoners "in the spirit of democracy".

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said it was "closely monitoring" the evolving situation in the Maldives and also hoped that the safety and se-curity of Indian expatriates in the island nation vould be ensured by the Maldivian authorities under "all circumstances".

The Maldivian Su-preme Court, in a significant development yester-day, ordered the immediate release of the former president Mohamed Nasheed and other opposition leaders

"We have seen last night s order of the Su-



preme Court of Maldives releasing all political prisoners. In the spirit of democracy and rule of law, it is imperative for all organs of the Government of Maldives to respect and abide by the order of the apex court," the MEA said.

It said that as a close and friendly neighbour, India wishes to see a sta-ble, peaceful and prosperous Maldives.

"We are closely monitoring the evolving situa-tion," said the MEA.

The island nation has witnessed political unrest and street protests since Nasheed was convicted in 2015 on terror charges and sentenced to 13 years in jail.

There were reports of clashes between supporters of Nasheed and police in the capital city Male today where hun-

dreds of policemen were to peace

Nasheed was earlier granted asylum by the UK after he was authorised to seek medical treatment there amid mounting foreign pres-

The leader, who is currently in Sri Lanka, welcomed the court order and said President Abdulla Yameen must resign in the wake of the ruling by the apex court.

tonight's

'Welcome

SC ruling calling for the immediate release of political prisoners and the restoration of their civil and political rights. President Yameen must abide by this ruling and resign. Urge all citizens to avoid confrontation and engage in peaceful political activity," Nasheed tweeted.

### Nations can't be US' friend while supporting terror: White House on suspension of aid to Pak

WASHINGTON, FEB 2 (PTI): President Donald Trump suspended security assistance to Pakistan send a long overdue message to aid recipients that they cannot be America's friend while supporting or condoning terror,

the White House has said.

Last month, the
Trump administration had suspended nearly USD 2 billion in security assistance to Pakistan accusing the country of not doing enough in the fight against terrorism.

Citing Trump's recent decision, the White House in a detailed fact sheet on his foreign policy said, "President Trump is making clear to our allies that they cannot be America's friend while supporting or condoning terror.

"The President has suspended security assistance to Pakistan, sending a long overdue nessage to aid recipients that we expect them to fully join us in combating terrorism," the White House said in the fact sheet after Trump's first State of the Union address on Tuesday.

Pakistan has denied the allegations of supporting terrorism.

According to hite House, T Trump will relentlessly pursue threats to America's security, prioritising efforts to confront and defeat radical Islamic terror and the ideology that sustains it.

"President Trump's conditions-based South Asia strategy provides commanders with the authority and resources needed to deny terrorists the safe haven they seek in Afghanistan and Pakistan," it said



# India seeks inclusive, holistic document for negotiations on UNSC reforms

United Nations, Feb 2 (PTI): India today sought an inclusive and holistic document that will enable all parties to base their negotiations transparently on UN Security Council re-

India's Permanent resentative to the UN Syed Akbaruddin said UN member states wanted continuity in terms of building on available documentation and a change in terms of style, so as to focus on negotiating the rolling docdocument is the bane in current process on Security Council reforms.

"We seek a structured format of a single document that can be negotiated, one issue at a time, with the usual understanding that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed to," Akbaruddin said.

He was addressing the first meeting of the intergovernmental negotiations on the 'question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related mat-

Akbaruddin urged its Co-Chairs to facilitate from the next meeting onwards, a normal process based on an inclusive and holistic document that enables the member nations to structure negotiations transparently in a rolling document with the goal of early

"It is not our case that the document that you prepare needs to have only one option. every option that can be distilled," he said.

"Such a document will provide clarity to where we stand. what are the options, who is proposing what and what are the interlinkages. Document-ing positions in a holistic and transparent manner is what we seek from you as the way forward," he noted.

Akbaruddin welcomed the remarks of the UN General Assembly President Miroslav Lajcak who called for out of the box thinking and flexibility among member nations on an early reform of the Security Council.

He said that Co-Chairs have produced documents and pa-pers in each of the last 3 sessions and member states have engaged in discussion on the documentation submitted to

"Going forward, we desire that you build on these documents, rather than begin an entirely new approach," Akbaruddin said.

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# **CHARLIE PUTH JUST HINTED** THAT HE HAD AN INTENSE, SHORT-LIVED ROMANCE WITH SELENA GOMEZ

attends the premiere of The Female Brain in Hollywood.

"IT REALLY MESSED ME UP."

Back in 2016, it looked like Charlie Puth and Selena Gomez could be getting serious romantically after they dropped their "We Don't Talk Anymore" collab together, but things fizzled out pretty quickly between them.

Now Charlie is opening up about what, exactly, the nature of his relationship with Selena was in a new in-

terview with Billboard.

While talking about their collaboration, Charlie revealed what the song was about. "It's about a particular moment in my life, when someone very close to me wanted the attention of somebody else," Charlie explained to Billboard mag-

"When I found that out and we ended it, I might have done some shady things too, and she might have asked me, 'How long has this been going on?"

It's not totally clear, but it doesn't seem like "We Don't Talk Anymore" was actually inspired by Selena. But Char-



Modern Family star Sofia Vergara

lie does seem to suggest that feelings did develop between them while working together on the track

"I don't kiss and tell, but the only way a song like that can come across as real is if there's something else going on behind the scenes," he continued. "And that's what was happening [with Gomez]. Very short-lived, very small, but very impactful."

Woah. So there was some thing going on between Charlie and Selena! And for Charlie, the experience was really

"It really messed me up," he explained. "I'm trying to put this the best way possible: It wasn't like I was the only person on her mind. And I think I knew that going - what I was getting my-

# BTS & JONGHYUN MAKE FOR RARE DOUBLE K-POP APPEARANCE ON BILLBOARD 200

The last time two Korean albums were on America's reigning albums tally was in 2014 with Girls' Gen-

eration and 2NE1.

The Billboard 200 has a double dose of K-pop this week with entries from BTS and Jonghyun marking only the second time America's definitive album ranking has seen two Korean entries.

On the Feb. 3 tally -where Fall Out Boy's new Mania album reigns at No. 1 -- the boy band's Love Your self: Her spends its 16th week on the chart, falling from No. 82 to No. 90. The re cord moved 7,000 equivalent album units earned in the week ending Jan. 26, according to Nielsen Music. Of that total, LY:H earned 5,000 in streaming equivalent album (SEA) units, plus 1,000 in track equivalent album (TEA) units along with an additional 1,000 in traditional album sales. As previously reported, Jonghyun's posthumous Poet/Artist release debuts at No. 177 with 5,000 equivalent album units earned with 4,000 were in traditional album sales along with almost



1.000 SEA units and a minimal number of TEA units

Only 11 K-pop acts have charted on the Billboard 200 so far and the last time two different albums from the scene were on the ranking was in 2014 when a heated rivalry between two of the top girl groups led to an exciting chart battle.

Girls' Generation were

preparing their new Mr. Mr. EP which experienced set-backs in the release after

errors with the music video footage and an early digital leak of the record. Meanwhile, fellow girl-group sensations 2NE1 were gearing up for their long-awaited second full-length album Crush, an LP promised years ago but seemed nowhere in sight as the band continued to release one-off singles through 2012 and 2013. The timing worked out perfectly for the bands' highly anticipated releases to battle one another

on the charts with fans and the media pitting the outfits against one another to see who would reign supreme On the Billboard 200 dated March 15, 2014, Mr. Mr. debuted at No. 110, selling a bit more than 3,000 copies, while Crush sold 5,000 copies and debuted at No. 61. Both sets marked new highs for K-pop acts on the chart at the time with both acts scoring No. 1 singles in their na

### Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Padmaavat ENTERS THE 300 CRORE CLUB



f the trade gurus are to be If the trade gurus are to be believed, Deepika Padukone, Shahid Kapoor and Ranveer Singh starrer Padrasis is beging earth-shatmaavat is having earth-shat-tering box-office perfor-mance. Impressing the audiences globally, the magnum opus has managed to create new records in the worldwide market. After all the bumps that came its way, Bhansali's film hit the theatres on January 25th and least to say, it has pretty much blown away the audiences with power-packed performances and stunning visuals

Despite all the protests. the film managed to attract audiences to the theatres and still seems to be going strong. Bringing it straight to the point, Padmaavat has now entered the 300 crore club in the international markets and has officially become 2018's first film to mint that huge. The period drama has grossed a collection of Rs

201.50 crore in India and Rs 106.50 crore in the overseas market. A popular trade analyst took to his twitter to share the current box-office figures of the film. He wrote, "#Padmaavat 1st Week worldwide box office: #India Nett - Rs 155 crore. Gross - Rs 201.50 crore. Overseas Gross - Rs 106.50 crore [US \$16.75 million]. Total - Rs 308 crore #Excellent @deepikapadukone @RanveerOfficial @shahidkapoor."

In his conversation with a leading news agency, SLB spoke about film's success and all the problems it faced. He said, "It is just an answer to the anguish that we all went through including me, the actors and the technicians. All of us were not being heard even after repeatedly saying that there is nothing wrong in the film. I realized that the best way of going ahead and fight-ing this is to make the film that is in my mind."

1959: Rock 'n' Roll singers Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens Big Bopper ) died in a plane crash today along with the pilot when their chartered plane went down near Mason City, Iowa. The deaths are immortalized in the "The Day the Music Died" by

1986: The Pope meets Mother Teresa, and visited her refuge for the sick and dying. Her Missionaries of Charity order, now has 4.500 sisters in 133 countries pro-viding food and shelter and

hospices for the dying. **1870:** The Fifteenth Amendment (Amendment XV) to the United States Constitution is ratified in 1870 which prohibits each government in the United States from denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's "race, color, or previous condition of servitude" (i.e., slavery).

**1953:** The well oceanographer Jacques Cousteau's last and most famous book The Silent World is published.

1966: The Soviet Union had the first controlled landing on the moon. The unmanned ship Luna 9 landed in the Ocean of Storms area on the

Ocean of Storms area on the moon's surface.

2009: Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling has been made a knight of the Légion d'Honneur, which is France's highest civilian award. The best-selling author's great-grandfather was French, and she was given the French, and she was given the honorary title by President Nicolas Sarkozy at a ceremo-ny in Paris. Speaking in fluent French, she apologized to the crowd for giving Potter's evil nemesis a French name. Nicolas Sarkozy bestowed the title of knight in the Or-dre national de la Légion d'honneur on her, and she used her acceptance speech to apologize for the quality of her French accent.

2010: The box office movie success Avatar becomes the highest grossing film in the U.S. and Canada and surpasses 2 billion dollars mark in worldwide sales.

ARIES: A picture of an art object from a different culture could arouse some strange feelings in you, Aries. You won't know why, but it will spark a new interest in that culture. This probably relates to events deep in your past that you don't remember. Go ahead and explore this new interest. It will

eantime, be patient and a good

listener.

GEMINI: Your current love interest could be experiencing some family problems, Gemini. Therefore, don't expect too much scintillating conversation this evening. Your partner may seem preoccupied and not be in the best of moods. Rest assured that this has nothing to do with you Don't

you'll be sorely tempted to depart from the program. Be as firm as you can, but remember that we all need a little indulgence occasionally. Chocolate cake and ice cream

might not be on your diet, but think of them as emotional health food. Enjoy a little bit!

LEO: Are you into abstract art forms, Leo? Today you could find yourself irresistibly drawn to them,

ally come up with a few solid ideas, although you'll have a difficult time deciding among them. Sometimes making a list can help you work out the details of each and discern which is the most workable at this time. Look at home decorating magazines and furniture, estalons. magazines and furniture catalogs. Write down what appeals to you.

love partner may present you with a gift, Scorpio. You'll be touched but you'll also feel uncomfortable. Maybe the present is costly or not something you really like. You might also feel that your friend is too eager. What you do in this sit-ustion is of course, un to you Tie. uation is, of course, up to you. Tip: don't refuse the gift unless you genuinely feel it's totally inappro-

Family or career problems are getting in the way of your enjoyment of each other. Bite your tongue, be patient, and hang in there.

CAPRICORN: Is your imagination brimming over with ideas for new projects, Capricorn? Are you drawing upon old memories for inspiration? Your past can be a very fruitful resource, however. you don't remember. Go haed and explore this new interest. It will be intriguing and at the same time could help you release old traumas or phobias. Enjoy!

TAURUS: Are you worried about the psychological and enotional state of a friend, Taurus? Don't get yourself too worked up over it. Your friend is probably more troubled about money than anything else. If this is your love partner, you badd be especially careful not to push for confidences, as this could be a turn-off. Your beloved will talk to you when the time is right. In the

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in this way before. However, this person probably does reciprocate the attraction, so don't completely write it off. Consider this: could this person be a strong part of your future? How well do you know each other? Do you respect this person the way you should? If the answers to these questions are the answers to these questions are

the answers to these questions are positive, give it a try! PISCES: Are you in love, Pisces? You might find that thoughts of your beloved haunt you today, even while you're apart. Desire and passion could be practically obsessive, and they'll interfere with your other projects if you aren't careful. Try to stay focused on the tasks at hand and make a date to get together with your partner to get together with your partner later. After all, you want to keep all departments of your life in their

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