

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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DC NORTH VISITS NOOM PANANG

## High transportation costs eating into profits say Noom Panang farmers

**MANGAN, 15 FEB [IPR]:** A field visit to Noom Panang village was conducted by District Collector, North, Karma R Bonpo, accompanied by Additional Director [AHLF&VS], Managing Director [North Sikkim Milk Union], Block Development Officer [Dzongu], Deputy Director [Horticulture], District Information Officer [North], Assistant Engineer [Roads & Bridges], AE [Irrigation], AE [Agriculture] and various field staff.

It may be mentioned here, Noom Panang is a remote village located in Passingdang Saffo GPU and the team had to trek for an hour to reach the village from Lingthem. The village of Noom Panang is currently one of the few vegetable clusters in the district and is



currently producing vegetables which are sent to Gangtok.

A Gram Sabha was organized by the villagers and during the Sabha an interaction with the district officials was held.

The villagers evinced

keen interest to produce vegetables on a large scale as per the organic mission of the Government of Sikkim. However, due to the shortage of water in the district, the vegetable production is being hampered, they informed.

Further, the village does not have any road connectivity and villagers stated that it leads to huge transportation costs which eat into their profits. The villagers therefore demanded that road connectivity and water sup-

ply works be taken up on priority to give further fillip to the organic production. The villagers stated that in order to take up dairy farming, a stockman centre at Passingdang was required.

Mr Bonpo stated that water supply for irrigation will be taken up under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana [PMKSY] and the work will be taken up shortly by the Agriculture Department. He directed the AE, Roads & Bridges to take up the preparation for DPR for road connectivity.

Further, the DC appealed to the villagers to revive the co-operative societies and set up milk collection centres. He said that the villages should also focus on dairy farming for livelihood

generation and to aid the organic mission in the villages. He assured that all help will be extended by the district administration for getting loans for dairy farming under Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme of NABARD.

The District Collector also visited the ICDS Centers and the Primary School of the villages. He said that necessary repairs of these centers will be undertaken.

Earlier, the local public welcomed the team and expressed happiness to have the team in the villages. They further stated that they will readily work with the district administration in making the organic mission of the state government a big success.

## Losar greetings from Governor and CM

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 15 FEB:**

**O**n the joyous occasion of Losar, Governor Shrinivas Patil and the First Lady, Rajanidevi Patil, have extended warm greetings and good wishes to the people of Sikkim.

In a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan, the Governor said, "Losar, the Tibetan New Year, brings with it the hope and aspiration for a new beginning. The sun gets warmer symbolising the arrival of spring season, the season of natural affluence, brings with it vigour and freshness in our life. We offer prayers to the deities and seek prosperity, health and well being for all as blessings for the New Year.

May this New Year festival bring peace, prosperity to my Sikkimese brethren."

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and Tika Maya

Chamling have also extended their warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim on the occasion of Losar, in a press release.

With the celebration of this significant festival that embodies the spirit of generosity, warm heartedness and brotherhood, the Chief Minister has conveyed that the same energy and disposition may be showered on the State of Sikkim and the Sikkimese people.

The Chief Minister, in his greetings, states that Losar marks the victory of good over evil and has wished for Sikkim and the Sikkimese to triumph over all trials and tribulations and move forward with peace, happiness and robust health.

"May the 'Year of Earth-Dog' bring joy and blessings to all the people of Sikkim," the Chief Minister has said.

## 16 footballers shortlisted for State Sports Academy

**SAGAR CHETTRI  
GANGTOK, 15 FEB:**

**T**he two-day selection trials for the State Sports Academy [SSA] ended here at Paljor Stadium today. The selection committee has prepared a list of 16 footballers selected on merit basis after testing them on various aspects during the two days.

The selection trial was attended by 273 aspirants, 250 on the first day and 23 on the second day, from different parts of the State. The trial had a four-member selection committee headed by Sports Department Deputy Director [coaching], Thupten Rapgyal along with former SAI coach, Pempa Tshering, and former national player, Nima Thendup, who is also the secretary of Sikkim Football Association [SFA], as observers.

"Now the committee will closely screen the original documents of the candidates who will also be sent for medical tests and on that basis the committee will submit the final list of the selected players to the department for approval," Mr Rapgyal said.

He added that the vacant seats of the academy will be filled up on the basis of the final approved list of the selected footballers.



## Darjeeling iced all white with hailstones

**REBYNA RANA**

**DARJEELING, 15 FEB:**

**D**arjeeling town missed snowfall on 14 Feb but the

higher areas of the town woke up to a white blanket of hailstones, looking very much like snow. Hailstones showered over

the town from Wednesday evening continuing all night long. Lalkothi was covered with a carpet of hailstones along with

other places like Dali. Sandakphu also experienced snowfall briefly last evening.

## 347 kgs of poppy straw seized in Siliguri



**SMRITA KHAWAS  
SILIGURI, 15 FEB:**

**N**arcotics Control Bureau Unit along with 41 Battalion of Sashastra Seema Bal, in a joint operation, intercepted a tractor loaded with gunny bags of poppy straw near Shiv Mandir at Ghoshpukur toll plaza of NH-34, Panitanki on 14 Feb.

The team seized 347 kgs of poppy straw and the tractor and arrested one 26-year-old male hailing

from Kishanganj in Bihar.

It is informed that the seized bags were sourced from Malda and had to be duly dropped in Nepal. The bags contained poppy straws worth Rs 20 lakh in the illegal market.

Opium poppy, or Papaver somniferum, is a major source of alkaloids such as morphine and codeine. In the grey market, opium is used to make heroin or smack, a highly addictive drug.

## Gas disaster survivors to campaign against BJP in MP bypolls

**BHOPAL, FEB 15 (PTI):** The organisations working for the cause of the Bhopal gas tragedy victims today said they will campaign against the BJP in the upcoming bypolls to two Assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh.

They alleged that the ruling party has failed to resolve the issue of compensation to those who suffered in the world's worst industrial disaster.

The five organisations fighting for the rights of the gas victims told reporters that they will raise their issues during the campaign for the Mungaoli and Kolaras Assembly seats bypolls slated this



month, and also during the state elections due later this year.

Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila

Stationery Karmchhari Sangh president Rashida Bee said they would highlight the alleged false promises made

by BJP leaders regarding compensation to the industrial disaster victims in their voter education programme ahead of the bypolls.

"We plan to share copies of official documents with the electorate in the two areas to substantiate our allegations of betrayal by the BJP leaders," she said.

"The by-elections will be our first step in making the long pending issues of the gas disaster a part of the state polls later this year and the general elections next year," she further said.

"We hope to provide a critical edge to ensure the defeat of BJP in Mungaoli and Kolaras," Rashida Bee added.

Bhopal Gas Peedit Nirashrit Pensionbhogee Sangharsh Morcha's Balkrishna Namdeo said the BJP's campaign in the by-election mostly rests on the promises made by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

"Our strategy is to present facts on the government's betrayal of the promises on compensation to the six lakh victims of the disaster," he said.

Bhopal Group for Information and Action's Satinath Sarangi said they will not align with any political party and

seek public support for their campaign resources.

The bypolls in Mungaoli and Kolaras Assembly seats will be held on February 24, and the counting of votes would take place on February 28.

The byelections were necessitated following the death of the sitting Congress MLAs Mahendra Singh Kalukheda (from Mungaoli) and Ram Singh Yadav (Kolaras).

Thirty-three years after the Bhopal gas tragedy, the survivors are still fighting for adequate compensation and proper medical treatment for ailments caused by the toxic leak.

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# BJP Sikkim president continues West Sikkim tour



## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 15 FEB:**

On the second day of its West Sikkim tour, Bharatiya Janta Party Sikkim Pradesh president, DB Chauhan, interacted with intellectuals, business community, employees, political thinkers and civil society members of different constituencies of West Sikkim on the present

political scenario of the State today.

A BJP press release informs that people suggested to the party that it should increase the pace of its programmes at the grassroot level since it is emerging as an alternative party in the State.

Since the ruling party has failed to address the sensitive issues of the State and other regional

parties are not qualified to address these problems, only BJP and the centre can fulfill the aspirations of the people of Sikkim, the release mentions.

The party president assured to take all problems and grievances placed by the people of West Sikkim seriously and forward it to the concerned Ministries at the Centre, the release adds.



## SDF publicity and social media wings prepare for Foundation Day

**NITESH R PRADHAN**

**GANGTOK, 15 FEB:**

A coordination meeting of press, publicity & social media wings of Sikkim Democratic Front was held today in the mini conference hall of SDF Bhawan in Gangtok regarding preparations for the upcoming SDF Foundation Day on 04 Mar.

The meeting was chaired by vice president Publicity Affairs SDF, Dawcho Lepcha. Spokesperson of the party, KT Gyaltsen and IPR Minister, Arjun Kumar Ghatani, were the special guests of the meeting.

The meet discussed the coverage and promo-

tion of the celebration and coordination between publicity and social media wing members.

Minister AK Ghatani who is in charge of sound and lights for the 04 Mar event, urged all party workers to gear up for this historic event.

Members expressed their opinion on various aspects of coordination between members of various media outlets and party's own social media wing during the event.

The meeting was called by publicity secretary of the party, Krishna Lepcha.

## Road safety awareness rally in Singtam



**YOGEN THATAL**

**SINGTAM, 15 FEB:**

Motor Vehicle Division of Transport Department organised a road safety awareness programme

in Singtam today wherein students of Singtam Senior Secondary School and East Point SSS along with officers from Motor Vehicle Division, Singtam Police, Singtam

Nagar Panchayat and members of Singtam Drivers' Association, Marwari Yuva Manch and Bihari Jagaran Manch carried out a rally from Bhanu Park to Goskhan Dara.

## Debt waiver: Pb farmers stop loan repayment; NPAs swell by over Rs 800 cr, says report

**CHANDIGARH, FEB 15**

**(PTI):** Farmers have halted

repayment of their crop loans in view of the Punjab government's much publicised debt waiver scheme, even as the NPA in agriculture advances swelled by over Rs 800 crore to a "worrisome" figure of Rs 6,611 crore in six months, as per a report of the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC).

"The government of Punjab issued notification after an announcement was made in the Vidhan Sabha (last year) regarding debt waiver for small and marginal farmers up to Rs 2 lakh.

"As a result, farmers in the state of Punjab have stopped making repayment of their crop loans and the recovery scenario is being adversely affected. Even farmers other than small and marginal

farmers are not making repayments in the hope of debt waiver," as per the SLBC report which was released today at its 143rd meeting here.

The non-performing assets (NPA) level in agriculture advances as on June 30, 2017 was Rs 5,731 crore, which went up to Rs 6,611 crore as on December 31, 2017, rising by Rs 880 crore in a period of six months.

The Punjab government had announced the debt waiver scheme in June 2017.

Crop loan waiver for up to Rs 2 lakh for small and marginal farmers (up to 5 acres) and a flat Rs 2 lakh relief for all other marginal farmers would be given, thus benefiting over 10 lakh farmers.

In the first phase, the state government has

waived cooperative loans of 47,000 small and marginal growers belonging to five districts worth Rs 167.39 crore out of the approved 1.60 lakh cases with loans worth Rs 748 crore.

The government has already identified 5.63 lakh farmers, who took loan of nearly Rs 2,700 crore from the cooperative institutions as on March 31, 2017.

The agricultural advances in Punjab witnessed an increase of Rs 4,873 crore -- from Rs 68,199 crore in December 2016 to Rs 73,072 crore in December 2017, showing a growth of 7.14 per cent, as per the SLBC report.

Meanwhile, the Punjab government today asked commercial banks to provide Aadhaar seeded data of farmers in order to waive debt.

## Two bodies recovered at Matigara

**SILIGURI, 15 FEB:** An unidentified dead body has been recovered from Khaprail in Matigara today. The head of the deceased had been reportedly crushed with the help of a stone. The body has been forwarded for postmortem. Case is under investigation.

In another case, police have recovered one dead body at Goal Jote under Matigara Police Station today. The deceased has been identified as one Shakti Adhikari [55], a resident of Pachkelguri in Fulbari. The deceased was reportedly returning home after attending a spiritual gathering organised at his in-law's house in Goal Jote. As per observations, Police suspect he was murdered. The body has been sent for autopsy at North Bengal Medical College & Hospital.

## SKM block level meet held at Radu Maney Dara



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 15 FEB:**

A block-level meeting of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha was held at Radu Maney Dara under Maneybong-Dentam constituency in West Sikkim today. The meeting was chaired by the working president, MP Subba, and attended by other senior leaders and workers of the party.

An SKM press release informs that the speakers in the meeting spoke

on various issues of the State. Mr Subba stated that SKM is the only alternative to the SDF government for establishing good governance in the State. He lashed out against the state government for its alleged failure in various sectors.

The release informs that four families, previously SDF supporters, from Sepi ward under Maneybong-Dentam constituency officially joined SKM during the meeting.

# Modi visits Arunachal, says people greet each other with 'Jai Hind' in the state

**ITANAGAR, FEB 15 (PTI):** Visiting Arunachal Pradesh under the shadow of protests by China, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today hailed the patriotic nature of the people of the border state, saying they greet each other with 'Jai Hind' and announced naming the New Delhi-Naharlagun Express as "Arunachal Express".

Modi's second visit to Arunachal Pradesh was vehemently opposed by China which urged India to refrain from taking any action that may "complicate" the boundary question. It is his first visit to the frontier state after the Army's standoff with Chinese soldiers in Doklam plateau last year.

Modi, who earlier visited Arunachal Pradesh in February 2015, told a public rally here that he "cannot stay without meeting you all". China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of South Tibet.

Clad in traditional tribal headgear, Modi dedicated the



state civil secretariat building to the people, laid the foundation stone for the Academic Block of the Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Science and inaugurated the Dorjee Khandu state convention centre.

"My visit to Arunachal Pradesh is related to three key projects in the state. The

secretariat is already functional and this was a good step taken by the state government," he said at the rally at the Indira Gandhi Park here before leaving for Tripura to address election rallies.

The prime minister hailed the patriotic nature of the people of Arunachal, saying they greet each other with

'Jai Hind'.

Modi also announced that the New Delhi-Naharlagun Express would now be called "Arunachal Express". The train, he said, will connect the "people of the state with mainland India".

The frequency of the train, connecting the national capital to the state, would

also be increased from one to two days a week.

Modi complimented Chief Minister Pema Khandu for the "wonderful work he is doing".

"He has prepared a top quality roadmap on how Arunachal Pradesh should be in 2027. And, he did not only ask officials for inputs but also people from all walks of life," he added.

On other issues, Modi accused the previous UPA regime of neglecting the North East and said his government has given priority to the region with ministers and senior officials regularly visiting it.

Seeking to highlight the significance of the region, he said important meetings should not only be held in the national capital but "we must go to all states. And that is why I came to Shillong for a Northeastern Council meeting. An important meeting related to agriculture was held in Sikkim."

Without naming Manmo-

han Singh, Modi said, the former prime minister could not visit the state on the pretext of workload, "But I am such a PM who cannot stay without meeting you all".

The prime minister said he would personally tell people to go to Arunachal Pradesh to hold important meetings at the convention centre.

"This is more than a building, it is a vibrant centre that will further the aspirations of Arunachal Pradesh. There will be conferences and cultural activities that will draw government officials and private companies," he said.

Modi said he has directed the state government not to wait for inauguration of any project but start utilising it after its completion.

Modi said the Centre is taking up the Ayushman Bharat Yojana on mission mode to provide quality and affordable health care to nearly 50 crore people across the country.

He said the scheme, billed as the world's largest government-funded health care programme, is a path-breaking initiative and would bring a "paradigm shift" in the health sector.

"The scale of this scheme is un-paralleled and it will bring a paradigm shift in our health sector. It is time to give India a health care system that makes quality treatment affordable within a limit of Rs 5 lakh per family," he said.

Modi asked the state government to frame a new health policy and work to attract private investments in the sector.

Referring to the BJP-led NDA government's crusade against corruption, Modi said the government has been able to curb corruption through the direct bank transfer (DBT) scheme.

"The Centre has saved Rs 54,000 crore through Aadhaar-enabled direct benefit transfer of about 400 government schemes," he added.







# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Good Rules Don't Safe Roads Make

**Regulations are required, but try building consistency first**

Two fatal accidents were reported on Sikkim roads within hours of each other on Tuesday. Expect some noise and efforts to make the roads safer in the coming days and then prepare for the push lose momentum and for things to return to their dangerous self. That said, if the roads are policed for safety even for a brief while, it would be helpful. It would however not be worthwhile because people know that initiatives lose steam and instead of making safe driving a habit, they will just wait out the drive and return recklessness to the roads eventually. After all, did the authorities not announce speed-limits for Sikkim roads at around this time last year? Does anyone, including the traffic cops, know what's happening with that rule? But such amnesia was expected. Setting speed limits is a welcome move, but one needs to realize that good rules need even better implementation to be of any consequence.

Knowing Sikkim, the speed-limit regulation was always destined to have been only superficially thought out, and even if implemented, done so only for nuisance value for some time and then forgotten. To begin with, how were speed-limits be checked everywhere, and how were the breaking of speed limits penalized? What were the always-on-prowl traffic cops to check more diligently against - unauthorized/ irresponsible parking, dangerous driving or over-speeding? Was the speed regulation to applied to all vehicles? Couldn't be, because parking rules don't appear to be universally applicable and VIPs treated to empty slots kept empty in anticipation of their arrival even in areas like MG Marg where private citizens are allowed only 10-minute pauses. One wonders why the speed limit rule was even formalized. Again, most people would think that it was to make the roads safer. But, if it is only the private citizens who need to observe the speed limits while the VIPs and their officers can ignore it, then one would be forced to surmise that private vehicles are being intentionally slowed down so that those who consider themselves "very important" can move very fast.

If that was not the case, then ensure that the speed regulation is extended to every vehicle on the roads. And this brings one back to the need for improved implementation to ensure that well intentioned moves deliver on their promise. Some years ago, the Motor Vehicle Rules were marked for an amendment to deliver a stronger commitment to making vehicular traffic safer in Sikkim. The proposed amendment required a driver to produce a driving license issued from hill regions or procure such a special permit from Sikkim before being allowed to ferry passengers as a taxi driver in the State. The idea was sound. At one level it ensured that those hired as taxi drivers in Sikkim were tried hands on hill roads and not landing jobs despite suspect driving skills only because they have managed to buy a driving license elsewhere. The requirement to get these permits renewed and the powers given to the licensing authorities here to verify the antecedents of the applicants ensured that drivers took their jobs more seriously and the authorities have a paper trail to follow in case someone absconds after a mishap (a common response). One wonders where this rule sits nowadays because it sure does not appear to be in practical practice. Agreed, this one was complicated and presented many genuine complications, but in the many years that have passed, these could have been ironed out to guarantee that drivers of passenger vehicles in Sikkim had tested driving skills. That is a substantial assurance to receive for passengers nowadays.

The point being reiterated is that 'good rules' need good implementation to deliver 'good results'. After all, there is no dearth of either good rules or good intentions in the country, but it is in the delivery that everything goes wrong. More awareness and more stringent stipulations to keep the roads safe are welcome, but almost immediately raise the fear of more complicated red tape, more powerful officials, more dugdi. These don't make travel safe. A more genuine and sustained engagement, however, could.

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

Mail us at: [letters@summittimes.com](mailto:letters@summittimes.com)

**BRYAN WARNICK**  
*theconversation.com*

When deadly school shootings like the one that took place on Valentine's Day in Broward County, Florida occur, often they are followed by calls for more stringent security measures.

For instance, after the Jan. 23 case in which a 15-year-old student allegedly shot and killed two students and wounded 16 others at a small-town high school in Kentucky, some Kentucky lawmakers called for armed teachers and staff.

If anything, the response of the Kentucky lawmakers represents what has been called the "target-hardening" approach to school shootings. This approach attempts to fortify schools against gun violence through increased security measures. These measures may include metal detectors, lock-down policies, "run, hide, fight" training and surveillance cameras.

While some of these measures seem sensible, overall there is little empirical evidence that such security measures decrease the likelihood of school shootings. Surveillance cameras were powerless to stop the carnage in Columbine and school lock-down policies did not save the children at Sandy Hook.

As researchers who have collaboratively written about school shootings, we believe what is missing from the discussion is the idea of an educational response. Current policy responses do not address the fundamental question of why so many mass shootings take place in schools. To answer this question, we need to get to the heart of how students experience school and the meaning that schools have in American life.

An educational response is important because the "target hardening" approach might actually make things worse by changing students' experience of schools in ways that suggest violence rather than prevent it.

**HOW SECURITY MEASURES CAN BACKFIRE**  
Filling schools with metal detectors, surveillance cameras, police officers and gun-wielding teachers tells students that schools are scary, dangerous and violent places - places where violence is expected to occur.

The "target hardening" approach also has the potential to change how teachers, students and administrators see one another. How teachers understand the children and youth they teach has important educational consequences. Are students budding citizens or future workers? Are they plants to nourish or clay to mold?

One of the most common recommendations for schools, for example, is that they should be en-

gaged in threat assessment. Checklists are sometimes suggested to school personnel to determine when students should be considered as having the potential for harm. While such practices have their place, as a society we should be aware that these practices change how teachers think of students: not as budding learners, but potential shooters; not with the potential to grow and flourish, but with the potential to enact lethal harm.

Of course, society can think of students in different ways at different times. But the more teachers think of students as threats to be assessed, the less educators will think of students as individuals to nourish and cultivate.



Parents wait for news after a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018.

As researchers, we have read the accounts of dozens of different school shootings, and we think educators, parents and others should begin to raise the following questions about schools.

### QUESTIONS OF STATUS

To what extent does the school - through things like athletics, homecoming royalties, or dances and so forth - encourage what some political scientists have called the "status tournament of adolescence" that lurks behind the stories of many school shootings?

As one reads about such shootings, one often senses a feeling of social anxiety and betrayal on the part of perpetrator. Americans hold high expectations for schools as places of friendship and romance, yet too often students find alienation, humiliation and isolation. The frustration at these thwarted expectations at least sometimes seems to turn toward the school itself.

### FORCE AND CONTROL ISSUES

To what extent does the force and coercion employed by many schools contribute to a "might makes right" mentality and associated violence?

It is true that bullying is part of some of the sto-

ries of school shooters. Students who are bullied or who are bullies themselves will quite naturally think of schools as places appropriate for violence. There is also sometimes a rage, however, against the day-to-day imposition of school discipline and punishment. Since schools are experienced as places of force and control, for some students, they also come to be seen as appropriate places for violence.

### IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION

In research on American high schools, one finds the idea that American schools are intertwined with notions of "expressive individualism" - the idea that human beings should find out and be true to who they really are on the inside. Might this also contribute to school shootings?

Suburban high schools, in particular, are seen by the middle class as places to accomplish expressive projects. Sociologist Robert Bulman points out, for example, how Hollywood films set in suburban settings focus on student journeys of self-discovery, while urban school films focus on heroic teachers and academic achievement. In the same vein, many suburban school shooters see what they are doing as acts of self-expression.

Reading stories of school shootings, one often finds moments in which the shooters claim that something inside, whether hatred or frustration, needed to find expression. An example of this is the manifesto left by Luke Woodham, who shot two students in 1997. "I am not spoiled or lazy," he wrote, "for murder is not weak or slow-witted, murder is gutsy and daring." The school became the place where Woodham thought he could express the gutsy and daring person he found on the inside.

### WHAT TO DO

Of course, it will be difficult to definitively answer the questions we have posed above. And, even if we are able to find answers, it is not clear what the proper educational response should be.

For example, self-expression might be a valuable task for schools, even if it is found to contribute in some way to school shootings. Our suggestion is simply that, instead of trying to find solutions to school shootings in the dubious arms of security technologies, or even solely through more promising public policy, society should ask deeper questions about the nature of education and schooling in American society.

It is time to think about school shootings not as a problem of security, but also as a problem of education.

[the writer is Professor of Education, The Ohio State University]

## Senegal's rappers continue to 'cry from the heart' for a more just society

**ZACHARIAH MAMPILLY**  
*theconversation.com*

American musicians were once integral to political activism. The 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom is recognised as a seminal moment in American history and a triumph for nonviolent resistance.

Harry Belafonte, then a 36-year-old superstar of music, television and film, was at the forefront, serving as a confidant to Martin Luther King and helping to bankroll the Black Freedom Movement. Today few American artists seem willing to take such an active role in political struggles.

But across the Atlantic musicians in many African countries are in the vanguard of popular struggles, not only providing a symbolic soundtrack but marching on the frontlines and leading social movements.

Take Nigeria, where Seun Kuti carries on the legacy of his father Fela by confronting the country's venal political elite. In Burkina Faso rappers helped overthrow Blaise Compaore.

In Africa's newest country, South Sudan, a new collective of musicians and artists, Ana Taban, has emerged as some of the few critics of the country's kleptocratic rulers. And in Tanzania, the legendary father of Swahili hip hop and opposition member of parliament sits in jail, Sugu, accused of insulting the country's increasingly autocratic president, John Magufuli.

One of the most notable examples of artists in the Belafonte mould is the musical collective Keur Gui in Dakar, Senegal. Already among the most popular within Senegal's lively hip hop scene, their profile grew exponentially in 2011

during the massive protests against President Abdoulaye Wade's attempt to steal a third presidential term.

### ACTIVISM ON A TRUCK

In 2011 Keur Gui's lead rappers Thiat and Kilifeu joined other musicians and journalists to form the Y'en a Marre (Fed Up) movement to mobilise youth against Wade. During their campaign, Keur Gi recorded songs that became the cri de coeur (cry from the heart) of the broader movement.

Along with other musician-activists, the group toured the country in a flat-bed truck with a built-in soundsystem playing in small towns and rural villages bringing their message to distant communities. This was essential in a country where the average age is just over 18 and 70% live in rural areas.

Thiat was arrested and detained following a rally in Dakar's Obélisque Square for allegedly calling the President a "liar" and saying that the then 85-year-old was too old to govern. Y'en a Marre's actions were crucial in ensuring Wade's defeat and his replacement by Macky Sall.

Rather than rest on their laurels, Keur Gui, especially the charismatic Thiat, have continued their activism. In Senegal where politicians have historically sought to legitimise their governments by co-opting popular musicians, Keur Gui was offered a share of the spoils of the new regime. They refused, insisting that their vision was never simply to change elected leaders.

Rather, their movement Y'en a Marre pushes for a vision of democratic transformation beyond the ballot box.

Inspired by legendary pan-Africanists like Amilcar Cabral, Thiat, who

wears a simple woollen hat reminiscent of the one made famous by Cabral, has worked to organise and support other artist-led social movements in Africa including Balai Citoyen in Burkina Faso.

In 2014, the group released a follow up album featuring the single Diogouffi ("Nothing has changed").

Shot with the aesthetic sensibility of a film by the Senegalese director Ousmane Sembene, the video begins with Thiat sitting outside a store as ordinary Senegalese try and fail to purchase basic goods. Over a mournful piano loop, Thiat offers a frustrated commentary (translations of the original Wolof and French lyrics were provided to me by Thiat) on the failure of the new political leadership to bring about change:

*Same electoral promises  
Same selling of our lands  
The country's in total chaos  
Its only two years and we're already fed up.*

Through the 1980s Senegal once boasted a robust and diverse economy that posted impressive growth. But decades of austerity programmes have left the government indebted to foreign donors and largely incapable of providing much in the way of social services.

While cognisant of the role the international community has played in Senegal's impoverishment, Thiat's lens always remains sharply focused on the failings of the country's political elite:

*A government pushed into power by accident  
They fail in their duty  
Lazy regime  
No vision  
Permanent mess*

*No solutions  
Get out of here!*

Kilifeu, whose gritty melodic cadence balances Thiat's straight delivery, echoes his calls for a new vision and new political leaders in his lacerating solo verses:

*The leaders hang on to the power  
In spite of the opposition of the population.*

*Politicians are all the same, no difference.*

*Only broken promises and lies.  
We are fed up of your nonsense,  
We really need change.*

### CYNICAL MANOEUVRES

The international community remains committed to a vision of democratic reform for Africa that centres on electoral competition over empowering ordinary people. Political elites circulate between political parties while engaging in cynical institutional manoeuvres that further entrench their power.

Even where regimes blatantly violate any notion of democratic process as in Rwanda, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo currently, diplomats insist that elections equate democracy going as far as telling protesters to "stand down" as a leading Congolese activist recently told me.

"There are no other options but elections," they suggest. The truth is that we've failed to recognise the new political visions being articulated by young musicians and activists across the continent. Instead of lecturing them on how things should be, perhaps it is time for us to just listen.

[the writer is Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies, Vassar College]



KP Sharma Oli becomes Nepal PM for second time

**SHIRISH B PRADHAN**  
**KATHMANDU, FEB 15 (PTI):** K P Sharma Oli today became Nepal's Prime Minister for the second time, over two months after his Left alliance with former Maoist rebels swept the country's historic parliamentary polls, kindling hopes for the political stability in the Himalayn nation.

President Bidhya Devi Bhandari appointed 65-year-old Oli as the country's 41st prime minister.

Oli, who is known for his pro-China stance, had served as the country's prime minister from October 11, 2015 to August 3, 2016.

The appointment was made under the article 76 of Nepal's Constitution which states that in case of no clear majority of any party in the House of Representatives, the President shall appoint as Prime Minister the member of the House of Representatives who can have the majority with the support



of two or more political parties.

Oli's PM candidacy was supported by the UCPN-Maoists, Rastriya Prajatantra Party Nepal, and Madhesi Rights Forum-Democratic along with 13 other small parties.

Earlier, former prime minister and Nepali Congress president Sher Bahadur Deuba had addressed the nation and submitted his resignation to the president. Deuba was elected as

the 40th Prime Minister on June 6 with the support from CPN (Maoist Centre) which is now a part of Left alliance and opting for merger with CPN-UML.

"The elections of three tiers of government have been successfully held under my leadership setting the foundation to long transition," Deuba said in the television address.

The Left alliance of the CPN-UML, led by Oli and CPN-Mao-

ist Centre, led by Prachanda, secured almost two third majority in the Parliament during the parliamentary elections.

Oli's party CPN-UML secured 121 seats in the 275-member Parliament and became the largest party in the Parliament.

The Nepali Congress has 63 seats while the CPN-Maoist Centre has 53 seats.

The combine strength of the CPN-UML and CPN-Maoist Centre was 174, sufficient to form a majority government at the Centre.

The Madhesi parties, Rastriya Janta Party Nepal has got 17 and Federal Socialist Party Nepal has got 16 seats in the Parliamentary elections.

The elections were seen as the final step in Nepal's transition to a federal democracy following a decade-long civil war till 2006 that claimed more than 16,000 lives.

In 2015, when Nepal adopted a new Constitution that

split it into seven states, dozens of people were killed in ethnic clashes over territory and rights.

Following the adoption of the new Constitution, the ethnic Madhesi group, mostly of Indian-origin, protested for months, saying they were not getting enough territory in one of the provinces and were also facing discrimination.

The polls were seen as a major step towards implementing the new Constitution.

Oli had served as deputy prime minister during the then interim government led by Girija Prasad Koirala in 2006 after the successful conclusion of the second Peoples Movement. He was elected as a member of Parliament in the House of Representatives for the first time from Jhapa district in 1991.

He had also served as Minister of Home Affairs in 1994-1995. He was re-elected to the House of Representatives from Jhapa electorate in 1999.

China protests Modi's visit to Arunachal

**KJM VARMA**  
**BEIJING, FEB 15 (PTI):** China today voiced its "firm opposition" to the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Arunachal Pradesh which it claims as part of South Tibet and said it would lodge a diplomatic protest with India.

"China's position on the China-India boundary question is consistent and clear-cut," said Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang in response to reports that Modi visited Arunachal Pradesh today.

"The Chinese government has never recognised the so-called Arunachal Pradesh and is firmly opposed to the Indian leader's visit to the disputed area," Geng was quoted as saying by state-run Xinhua news agency.

"We will lodge stern representations with the Indian side," he said.

Geng said that China and India had reached important consensus on properly managing disputes, and the two sides were working to resolve the territorial disputes through negotiation and consultation.

"The Chinese side

urges the Indian side to honour its commitment and abide by the relevant consensus, and refrain from taking any action that may complicate the boundary question," Geng said.

"(These three areas) located between the illegal 'McMahon Line' and the traditional customary boundary between China and India, have always been Chinese territory," he said in the Xinhua report, adding that the 'McMahon Line' drawn by Britain in 1914 was an attempt to incorporate the areas into Indian territory.

He urged India to cherish the hard-won momentum of improvements in bilateral relations and create enabling conditions for the boundary talks and the development of bilateral relations.

China routinely protests visits by Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh and reiterates its claims over the state.

The India-China border dispute stretches across 3,488 kms. Both sides have held 20 rounds of talks so far through their Special Representatives to resolve the issue.

Two IAF pilots killed in crash in Assam

**NEW DELHI, FEB 15 (PTI):** Two Indian Air Force pilots were killed in a plane crash near Jorhat in Assam today, official sources said.

The micro-light aircraft crashed soon after it took off from the Jorhat air base on a routine sortie around noon, they said.

The wreckage of the plane has been sighted and a court of inquiry ordered, the officials said.

**Eastern Army Commander visits Nagaland**  
**KOLKATA, FEB 15 (PTI):** Eastern Army Commander Lt Gen Abhay Krishna has assured the Nagaland administration of the force's preparedness to safeguard the security environment there, a Defence spokesperson said here today.

In a two-day visit ending today, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, Lt Gen Krishna met senior civil administration officials of Nagaland at Kohima.

"The GOC-in-C assured the state functionaries of full preparedness of Spear Corps and to robustly handle any contingency, and that a befitting response will be given to anyone vitiating the security environment in Nagaland," the spokesperson said.

Assembly election in the north-eastern state will be held on February 27 and results are scheduled to be declared on March 3.

Krishna visited the Army's Spear Corps Zone in the North-East and was accompanied by Lt Gen Gopal R, General Officer Commanding Spear Corps.

At the headquarter of the Inspector General, Assam Rifles (North) at Kohima, the GOC-in-C was briefed on security arrangements in the state, the spokesperson said in a statement.

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Withdraw FRDI Bill, Mamata writes again to Centre

**BELPAHARI (WB), FEB 15 (PTI):** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today said she shot off another letter to the BJP-led central government asking it to withdraw the controversial Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance (FRDI) Bill.

Addressing a rally here in West Midnapore district, she described the Bill as 'anti-people' and accused the central government of not thinking about the poor.

"They always talk big. They are coming up with a Bill which is anti-people. Before coming here today, I have again written a strong letter to them (the Centre) asking for withdrawal of the

Bill," Banerjee said.

This is her second letter to the Centre demanding withdrawal of the FRDI Bill.

Opposition parties has been criticising the bill for some of its controversial provisions, including a bail-in clause. This clause has been commented upon by experts as of bringing potential harm to deposits, in the form of savings accounts. The government, however, said it will fully protect public deposits in financial institutions.

"You cannot simply digest common people's money.

People are scared today. You cannot take away the money of the poor. You will have to

withdraw the Bill," she said at the state government programme before inaugurating a cluster of projects this afternoon.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had acknowledged her first letter in this connection, said Banerjee, also the Trinamool Congress supremo.

"I had written to the BJP-led central government to withdraw it. The Finance Minister had acknowledged my letter.

But he made a minister of state write a reply stating that nothing will happen to the poor," she stated.

The chief minister had on Tuesday announced that Trinamool Congress will start a nationwide protest unless the Bill is withdrawn.

Nepal to choose new Prez on March 5

**KATHMANDU, FEB 15 (PTI):** Nepal will have a new president on March 5 in place of the Himalayan nation's first woman president Bidhya Devi Bhandari, according to sources at the country's election commission.

While the election for Nepal's new president would be held on March 5, the vice president would be elected on March 16, they said.

The Election Commission of Nepal has proposed the dates for the elections after consulting the leaders of major political parties.

However, the final date and schedule of the election will be announced after the new Cabinet makes formal decision in this regard, the sources said.

Bhandari was elected as the first woman president of Nepal in October,

2015.

With the formation of the new Parliament, the tenure of the president expires. The process of electing a new president starts once the new prime minister is appointed.

CPN-UML chairperson K P Sharma Oli today became Nepal's Prime Minister for the second time, over two months after his Left alliance routed the ruling Nepali Congress in the country's historic parliamentary polls.

Oli had earlier served as the country's prime minister from October 11, 2015 to August 3, 2016.

Earlier, former prime minister Sher Bahadur Deuba had addressed the nation and submitted his resignation to the president.

When Raj Kapoor refused to visit China because of his 'size'

**MUMBAI, FEB 15 (PTI):** Raj Kapoor's films might have travelled to China, but his son Randhir Kapoor revealed that the actor-filmmaker never visited the country as he did not want fans to see him after his weight gain.

Randhir said his father's films were so popular in China that the late actor once received an invitation to visit the country.

"One day, he called me and said he got an invite to visit China because his films are very popular there and we all are going to China! He was very excited and so were we.

"While we were mak-

ing arrangements, two days later he called me and said, 'I am thinking, let's not go to China'. He said, 'They are in love with the Raj Kapoor of 'Awaara', 'Shree 420' and look at my size now! I don't look like that anymore!'" he said.

Randhir said despite being the pioneer of Hindi films in China, the actor never visited the country as he did not want to disappoint his fans.

"He said, 'Russia has been seeing me over the years in various sizes so they accept me even now, but I don't want to disappoint all my fans and break the image (in China). I am not the Raj

Kapoor they think I am,'" recalling the conversation with his father, he said.

"That was the actor in him speaking. He didn't go. All his life he never went to China! He is still very popular, his films are very popular. Now all our films are going there (China) but he was the pioneer who took our films there. But the actor in him didn't want to break the image," he added.

Randhir, along with brothers Rishi Kapoor and Rajiv Kapoor, was speaking at a panel discussion last night during 'Raj Kapoor Awards for Excellence in Entertainment'.

Landmines defused in Mizoram-Mynanmar border area

**AIZAWL, FEB 15 (PTI):** The Assam Rifles have defused landmines allegedly planted by Arakan militants in Mizoram-Mynanmar border, an official said today.

Personnel of the specialised explosive detection unit and the bomb disposal squad of the force defused the landmines in Lawngtlai district of Mizoram, Deputy Commissioner Arun T told PTI over phone.

Assam Rifles personnel were conducting patrol along the border; the deputy

commissioner said.

One woman was killed by a concealed landmine and a man was maimed by another landmine blast in mid-January near the border with Myanmar, following which the Assam Rifles started searching for landmines in the area.

The force on January 23 also issued an advisory asking the local people not to venture in the border areas as there was strong possibility of the presence of more hidden landmines.



**HUMAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**

**REFERENCE NO: 2044/GOS/HRDD(N)/150**

**DATED: 13-2-18**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER NO:**

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, the Superintending Engineer (North), Human Resource & Development Department, Government of Sikkim, invited e-tendering Bids from the eligible registered contractors of appropriate class for the work listed below:-

**Name of Work: Construction & Establishment of Government Degree College at Mangshilla, North Sikkim**

Bid Value	Rs. 2,52,11,814.00
Date of Publishing in E-Tendering Portal of Sikkim Government (www.sikkim-tender.gov.in)	20.2.2018 (11.00 AM onwards)

The intending contractors/ tenderers may visit the e-procurement portal of Government of Sikkim **www.sikkimtender.gov.in**

**Sd/- SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (NORTH)**  
**HUMAN RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.**



**HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**  
**GANGTOK, EAST SIKKIM**

**Reference No: 2044/GOS/HRDD(N)/149**

**Date: 13-2-18**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim, invites online tender on percentage rate bids under two cover systems through e-procurement from the eligible class of contractors for the work "Construction & Establishment of Government Degree College at Mangshilla, North Sikkim". The bids should be submitted online through the website **www.sikkimtender.gov.in**

**The details of the works and time schedule are as under:**

SL NO	NAME OF WORK	BID VALUE (RS)	COST OF TENDER DOCUMENTS (RS)	EARNEST MONEY 2.5% OF TENDER VALUE (RS)
1	Construction & Establishment of Government Degree College at Mangshilla, North Sikkim	2,52,11,814.00	30,000	6,30,295.00

The date and time of submission of completed bid document are as under:

i) Publish of online tender in e-procurement portal: **20.02.2018**

ii) Start date of uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal: **20.02.2018**

iii) Last date of submission of bids online by the Bidders: **20.03.2018 (1600 hours)**

iv) Date of opening of tender documents: **23.03.2018 (1100 hours)**

1. Bidding documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal **www.sikkimtender.gov.in**

2. All the documents listed at Sl. No. 3 of General Condition must be submitted in hard copies in the office of the Superintending Engineer (North), HRDD on 21.03.2018 (within 1600 Hours).

If the hard copies of above documents are not received on 21.03.2018 (within 1600 Hours) the tender documents so submitted by the bidder through e-procurement portal shall be considered non-responsive and shall not be opened.

3. The department reserves the right to deny tender to any applicants without assigning any reason thereof.

4. Uploading of tender document in e-procurement portal is mandatory. Submission of hard copy will not be considered a valid bid and shall summarily be rejected.

The intending bidders shall submit the technical bids & financial bids in two separate envelopes duly sealed & clearly indicating the Technical bid & Financial bid on the cover. For technical bid the intending tenderer shall submit their credentials in form A, B, C, D, E & F of the Sikkim Public Works Manual 2009.

**Sd/- SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (NORTH)**  
**HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**

Release Order No: 565/IPR/PUB/classi/17-18 Dt: 14-2-18





RURAL MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
Gangtok – 737101

No: 53/RM&DD/MGNERGA

Dated: 5/02/2018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed quotation of rates are invited from interested firms having valid MGNREGA empanelment with RM&DD, Government of Sikkim for supply of the following Block Administrative Centres:  
1) Jorethang 2) Sumbuk 3) Namchi 4) Namthang 5) Ravangla 6) Temi Tarku 7) Sikkip 8) Yangang 9) Gangtok 10) Ranka 11) Regu 12) Rhenock 13) Parakha 14) Pakyong 15) Martam 16) Duga 17) Khamdong 18) Rakdong-Tintek 19) Passingdong 20) Kabi Tingda 21) Mangan 22) Chungthang 23) Chongrang 24) Chumbong 25) Daramdin 26) Gyalshing 27) Hee-Martam 28) Kaluk 29) Mangalbarey 30) Soreng 31) Dentam 21) Yuksom.

LIST OF ITEMS

Sl. No.	ITEMS	SPECIFICATION	UNIT
1	Cement	50 kg Birla Gold, Ambuja, Birla Samrat, Ultratech, Star, Lafarge, ACC, Pendent.	Per bag.
2.	TMT Rod (6mm to 18 mm)	Durgapur or equivalent	Per kg.
3.	Angle Iron (various sizes)	Durgapur or equivalent	Per kg.
4.	Plywood Waterproof (sizes 6mm to 32 mm) & non- waterproof	Waterproof / Local	Per sq.ft.
5.	Nail (various sizes)	ISO certified	Per kg.
6.	Chinese Nail	-	Per kg.
7.	Sand	-	Per cft.
8.	Stones	-	Per cft.
9.	Signboard (3x4)	Angle iron	Per piece.
10.	First Aid Box	Box consisting of Dettol, Gauge, Bandage, Cotton, files of Paracetamol, Mafal Spas, Enteroquintal tablets etc.	Per piece.
11.	Hammer (Big & Small)	ISO certified	Per piece.
12.	Kata	ISO certified	Per piece.
13.	Ramba – Big & Small	ISO certified	Per piece.
14.	Doko per piece	Local made	Per piece.
15.	Namlo per piece	Local made	Per piece.
16.	Farua	ISO certified	Per piece.
17.	Karai	ISO certified	Per piece.
18.	Karni	ISO certified	Per piece.
19.	Belcha	ISO certified	Per piece.
20.	Sickle	ISO certified	Per piece.
21.	Chino	ISO certified	Per piece.
22.	Chisel	ISO certified	Per piece.
23.	Raite (File)	ISO certified	Per piece.
24.	Saw medium size	ISO certified	Per piece.
25.	Bucket	Unbreakable plastic 10 ltrs ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
26.	Jug	Unbreakable plastic	Per piece.
27.	Mug	Unbreakable plastic	Per piece.
28.	Line Suta	-	Per roll.
29.	Measuring Tape 50 feet	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
30.	Belcha Dori	-	Per kg.
31.	Jute rope	-	Per kg.
32.	Bending Wire	ISO certified	Per kg.
33.	GI Wire	ISO certified	Per kg.
34.	GI Wire Mesh	ISO certified	Per ft.
35.	Barbed Wire	ISO certified	Per kg.
36.	Wire cutter	ISO certified	Per piece.
37.	Giti Martol	ISO certified	Per piece.
38.	Raj Martol	ISO certified	Per piece.
39.	Jamara Martol	ISO certified	Per piece.
40.	Pliers	ISO certified	Per piece.
41.	Polypipe ½ inch	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per kg.
42.	Polypipe ½ flexable	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per kg.
43.	GI Pipe (20 ft various sizes)	Tata Brand or equivalent	Per piece.
44.	GI fitting (sizes 15 mm to 32 mm dia.)	Union, Socket, Tee, Elbow, Short piece, Plug, ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
45.	PVC Pipe (20 ft various sizes)	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
46.	PVC fittings (sizes 15 mm to 32 mm dia.)	Union, Socket, Tee, Elbow, Short piece, Plug, ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
47.	Hacksaw Blade (single & double)	ISO certified	Per piece.
48.	Hacksaw Frame	ISO certified	Per piece.
49.	Plain sheet (various sizes)	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per sqft.
50.	Sand Net	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per metre.
51.	PVC tank/drum	Capacity of 100 Ltrs.	Per piece.
52.	Plastic Tarpaulin 24' x18'	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
53.	Hume Pipe (various sizes)	ISO certified (brand to be specified by the bidder)	Per piece.
54.	GCI Sheet (0.35, 0.4-0.5 mm)	ISO certified (various sizes)	Per foot.
55.	Bricks	First class	Per piece.
56.	MS Pipe (various sizes)	-	Per piece.
57.	Dhibri Nail	-	Per kg.
58.	GI Washer	-	Per packet.
59.	Bitumen Washer	-	Per packet.
60.	Enamel Paint (yellow, white & black) for signboard.	Asian Paints	Per litre.
61.	Paint Brush (various sizes)	-	Per piece.
62.	Rate of transportation for cement, Rod, Bricks, Sand & Stone.	Cement- per bag Sand/Stone – per cft. Road – per Qtl. Bricks – per piece.	Per km.
63.	Stone Chips	Machine crushed	Cft.
64.	Local Wood	Local	Cft.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Materials to be supplied should be as per the standard size and norms/specifications of Govt. of Sikkim issued from time to time.
2. The supply is subject to various laboratories test in the State.
3. Firms shall ensure that ordered materials will be supplied within the stipulated time. Failing which they will be liable to pay the liquidity damage of an equal amount of the damaged caused to the Department. The intending supplier should be prepared to supply all the items in the worksite and the transportation cost shall be paid as per the prevailing notification of the SNT Division of Transport Department.
4. Firms should have dealership certificate of all or any of the above specified brands of cement.
5. The empanelled firm or cooperative should preferably register with STCS/SIMFED.
6. The quotation received without empanelment document will not be accepted.
7. All firms previously empanelled under MGNREGA before 29-3-2016 may kindly contact the Sr. AO-MGNREGA before submission of tender forms since the guidelines for empanelment under MGNREGA has been revised as per notification no. 0115/Adm./MGNREGA/RM&DD, dated 29-3-2016.
8. The rate being quoted shall be EXCLUSIVE of any TAXES and should be duly signed by the proprietor of the firms.
9. The quotation must be quoted by the empanelled supplier and Cooperative Society preferably based within the administrative jurisdiction of concerned BAC only. The intending suppliers should enclose copies of valid trade license and other tax clearance along with quotations. At the time of approval of rates the DPC shall compare the quoted rates with the rates obtained from STCS with due regards to the prevailing market rates.
10. The quotation should accompany with Xerox attested copies of valid empanelment certificate issued by Rural Management and Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim for the Supplier and firms and a copy of certified registration of cooperative society from concerned department for the cooperative societies and Trade license and clearance certificate of GST and Professional Tax by the both the supplier/firms and cooperative societies.
11. The Cooperative Society registered in the concerned block who is experienced in supply works only are eligible for quoting the rate. However the society should submit bank statements for last 3 years (25-30 lakhs transaction). Only on vetting of financial capability of cooperative Society, rates quoted would be accepted.
12. In case of failure in regular supply or not matching up of the quality standard as laid down by the Department, the supply order would be cancelled immediately.
13. The empanelled supplier or MPCs quoting the quotation must also have the store facility and transportation facility within the concerned block.
14. In failure of compliance of the above mentioned terms & conditions for the supply of materials under MGNREGA, the tender committee can summarily reject the quotations at the time of scrutiny.
15. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject the quotations without assigning any reason thereof.
16. The Authorities shall draw an agreement with the selected supplier.
17. The quotation should be addressed to the BDO/ Programme Officer of the respective BAC and should reach them by 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and will be opened on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 2 pm in the presence of the committee formed for the purpose of the chamber of concerned BDO cum PO.

NOTE: FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND CLARIFICATION, IF ANY, CONCERNED BDO MAY BE CONTACTED.

Sd/-  
DY. SECRETARY – III (MGNREGA)  
RM&DD, GANGTOK.

# India women look to continue dominance over SA in 2nd T20

EAST LONDON (SOUTH AFRICA), FEB 15 (PTI): A perfect start achieved, the Indian women's cricket team would look to continue its supremacy over South Africa when the two sides clash in the second Twenty20 International, here Friday.

After a 2-1 win in the ODI series, the Indian women started the T20 series on a confident note, drubbing the hosts by seven wickets here in the first game on Monday.

And the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side would look to carry on the momentum in the remainder of the five-match series.

The way the Indians came out all guns blazing in the first T20, it seemed the loss in the inconsequential third ODI prior to the series was just a rare bad day in office and their confidence hardly took a beating.

Opting to bowl, the Indian women first restricted South Africa to 164 for four and then overhauled the target with consummate ease in 18.5 overs.

While chasing, opener Mithali Raj (54 not out) held the Indian innings together and shared two crucial stands -- a 69-run partnership for the third wicket with debutant Jemimah Rodrigues (37) and a 52-run fourth-wicket stand with Veda Krishnamurthy (37 not out) -- to steer her side home.

Mithali's knock, her 11th T20 International half century, came off 48 deliveries with the help of



half a dozen fours and one six and the Indian team management would hope for an encore from the experienced batswoman.

The 17-year-old Mumbai player, Rodrigues, also batted impressively on her debut, hitting four boundaries and a six during her breezy 27-ball knock, while Krishnamurthy was at her attacking best.

Opener Smriti Mandhana made 28 but she would be hoping for a big knock tomorrow.

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur too would be hoping to score big after a first-ball duck in the last match, owing to a run out.

The Indian batting looks in good form but the visitors' bowling is a cause of concern in the absence of veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami, who has been ruled out of the series because of a heel injury.

Young fast bowler Pooja Vastrakar (1/34) certainly looked nervous on her debut and her pace colleague Shikha Pandey's (1/41) performance was a big let-down.

In the absence of Jhulan, Pandey would need to shoulder more responsibility upfront in the bowling department.

T20 specialist off-spinner Anuja Patil was the star for India in the last match, claiming 2 for 23 in her four overs to pin down South Africa's batting line-up.

But she would definitely need support from the likes of Poonam Yadav, Radha Yadav and Harmanpreet.

"It's good to have the youngsters in the squad. Usually when you have a few new members, they get a lot of positive energy into the team and they are quite active on the ground

too," Mithali had said after the first match.

For South Africa, the key would be not to get bogged down by the setback and build on the positives.

Chloe Tryon's ballistic 32 not out from seven balls, including two fours and four sixes, was a big takeaway from the last match and skipper Dane van Niekerk is hoping that the team builds on it.

"We need to regroup, we need to speak open and honestly with each other and see where we can change stuff. Our fielding wasn't at its best and we pride ourselves on our fielding," Niekerk has said.

"T20 is so short and the margins are so much smaller, so hopefully we can bounce back in the next few. I'd like to win the next four and go away from this tour smiling."

## Relentless India eye 5-1, South Africa aim consolation

CHETAN NARULA  
CENTURION, FEB 15 (PTI):

A historic series triumph sealed, India are expected to put their bench strength to test while a vanquished South Africa would aim for a consolatory win when the two sides square off in the sixth and final ODI, here Friday.

The Men in Blue have already won the six-match series with a 4-1 margin, after victories in Durban, Centurion, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Their only loss came at the rain-affected fourth ODI in Johannesburg.

With victory in the last game, India also confirmed their No.1 spot in the ICC ODI Rankings, taking over from South Africa who were sitting atop at the start of this series.

Having won the series, India would like to carry on momentum, especially with the three-match T20I series to follow soon after. Yet, the visitors would also like to find a balance between going all out in a dead rubber and resting a few players keeping in mind a long overseas schedule later this year.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar has nearly played non-stop since the limited-overs leg of the tour of Sri Lanka, featuring in 19 ODIs and six T20Is as well as two Tests on this tour.

Jasprit Bumrah too has played 20 ODIs since that Lanka tour, along with eight T20Is and his workload has only increased given that he played through the Test series here as well. Some rest will do both of them some good especially ahead of the next contest.

Alternately, India's second line of pace attack needs some attention. Since that Sri Lanka tour, the Men in Blue have played 20 ODIs and the Kumar-Bumrah duo has not featured together in only one of them -- at Bengaluru against Australia.

One way to look at this is the splendid job they have done as the foremost new-ball pairing in limited-overs' cricket.

The other way, of course, is that Team India is too dependent on them and should look to build back-up options, given the preparatory mode for the 2019 World Cup.

Mohammed Shami has only played three ODIs since the 2015 World Cup. Ever since he returned from injury, he has featured twice against West Indies (2017) and then once against Australia.

Shardul Thakur, the fourth pacer in this current squad, has only ever played in two ODIs. It suffices to say that India



currently do not have a reliable second-choice pace attack and despite the success of Kumar-Bumrah combination, this aspect needs urgent attention.

The middle-order continues to be another area of focus. There has only been one half-century contributed from Nos. 4-7 in this series. After Ajinkya Rahane's effort in Durban, only MS Dhoni came close at the Wanderers when he played the situation with 42 not out off 43 balls.

Shreyas Iyer has got starts in both the matches he has played but failed to capitalise. Rahane too has fizzled out since his comeback at No.4. Hardik Pandya has scored 26 runs in four innings in this ODI series. The slow nature of pitches is one of the reasons being attributed to this downturn.

With the top-order doing well and essentially eating out 30-35 overs in every game, the middle-order has been forced to bat in high gear most of the time.

It also needs to be mentioned that South Africa's death bowling is seen to be their only high point of the series so far.

Either way, the Indian think-tank needs to pay more attention to their middle-order woes. Manish Pandey and Dinesh Karthik are in the squad yet it is tough to see both of them get a game here.

The Indian team opted not to train today, taking this pre-match day off, on what has been a long and hectic tour.

South Africa, on the other hand, would want to finish this ODI series on a high and take fresh guard for the Twenty20 International series, which gets underway on February 18.

A clutch of their first-choice bowlers have been rested ahead of Australia's tour here, and it is the last bow for the likes of Kagiso Rabada, Morne Morkel, Imran Tahir and Lungi Ngidi against India on this trip. They will be keen to make an impression.

It remains to be seen if the Super-sport Park pitch plays any different from how it did in the previous game here, which India won by nine wickets in rampant fashion.



# 17 killed as expelled ex-student goes on shooting spree in US school

**LALIT K JHA**  
**WASHINGTON, FEB 15 (PTI):** An expelled former student armed with a powerful assault rifle unleashed a hail of gunfire in a Florida high school, killing at least 17 people and injuring over a dozen others, including an Indian-American student, in one of the deadliest mass shootings in the US.

The 19-year-old suspect identified as Nikolas Cruz, a former student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland who was expelled for disciplinary reasons, was arrested shortly after the deadly rampage yesterday.

The school has a large number of Indian-American students and at least one student from the community sustained minor injuries after he was hit by splinters.

The ninth grader is being treated at a hospital.

Cruz was a troubled teenager who posted disturbing material on social



media before the shooting spree, officials said.

"This is a terrible day for Parkland," Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said, speaking of the city of about 30,000 people, located 80 kilometers north of Miami.

"Nicolas Cruz was the killer. He is in custody. We already began to dissect his websites and social media that he was on ... some of the things that come to mind are very, very disturbing," he told reporters at a news conference in Florida.

"He had countless magazines, multiple magazines, and at this point,

we believe he had one AR-15 rifle," he said. Reports said he was also equipped with a gas mask and smoke grenades.

According to investigators, Cruz pulled the fire alarm to draw people out of classrooms and increase the number of casualties, the CNN reported. But the school already had a fire drill earlier in the day, leading some to think it was a false alarm.

Israel said Cruz was expelled from the school for disciplinary reasons.

"I don't know the specifics," the sheriff said. However, according to media reports, Cruz was

expelled last year after a fight with his ex-girlfriend's new boyfriend.

The gunfire began outside the school and continued inside, where 12 of the victims were killed, Israel said. All of those victims have been identified, he said, but no identities will be made public until the families of all of those affected have been notified.

Israel, however, could not confirm the number of victim students.

Authorities said several victims were being treated in the hospital. Three of them are in critical condition.

"This is a sad day for the country and the community. We all Indian-Americans are praying for the victims," Shekar Reddy, whose friend's son was among those injured in the mass shooting, told PTI.

Parkland, with a population of 31,000 in 2016, was named Florida's safest city last year, according to one analysis.

It is the deadliest school shooting since 26 people were killed at Connecticut school Sandy Hook in 2012.

The FBI is assisting local officials in the probe. Federal and local authorities told NBC News that there was no indication that the gunman had an accomplice or accomplices.

President Donald Trump offered his "prayers and condolences to the families of the victims.

"My prayers and condolences to the families of the victims of the terrible Florida shooting. No child, teacher or anyone else should ever feel unsafe in an American school," Trump tweeted.

The mass shooting incident revived debate over gun control in the US.

Florida Senator Chris Murphy termed it as "a horrific scene" playing out at a high school in South Florida.

"Turn on your television right now, you're

going to see scenes of children running for their lives. It's what looks to be the [18]th school shooting in this country, and we have not even hit March," he said on the Senate floor.

The mass shooting, said to be 18th school shooting of the year, have rekindled the debate on the controversial gun control legislation in the US.

Murphy rued at the incident, claiming it was a fallout of "our inaction".

Every day in this country, 46 children are shot, said Congressman Donald M Payne. "Every day in this country, seven children die from gun violence. Those statistics do not occur in any other high-income country on this planet," he said, urging the members of the US Congress to use their "power to make the world safer for all children."

Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said another American community is reeling from the horror of

gun violence, perpetrated against innocent school children.

"Too many families have lost someone to the senseless epidemic of gun violence. Congress

has a moral responsibility to take common-sense action to prevent the daily tragedy of gun violence in communities across America. Enough is enough," Pelosi said.

### SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

#### DERBY MEET THURSDAY

**Draw No:4 DrawDate on:15/02/18**  
1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 81A 7179  
(Including Super Prize Amt)  
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-  
0472 1907 3780 6242 7916  
3rd Prize Rs.3,000/-  
0630 0931 2084 4239 5775 6968 7347 7555 9257 9602  
4th Prize Rs.1000/-  
1068 1550 2540 2682 3707 5269 5671 6860 7773 8419  
5th Prize Rs.500/-  
2379 2617 5458 6521 7609 7856 8007 8038 8184 8205  
6th Prize Rs.100/-  
0001 0030 0035 0064 0083 0090 0152 0154 0181 0200  
0205 0216 0218 0275 0308 0316 0337 0362 0386 0388  
0422 0470 0500 0501 0520 0522 0542 0547 0561 0563  
0589 0591 0594 0661 0671 0705 0716 0722 0735 0771  
0784 0787 0889 0905 0968 0969 0977 1014 1016 1030  
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1659 1704 1741 1753 1754 1767 1830 1837 1865 1897  
1919 1931 1942 1952 1987 2001 2026 2034 2064 2086  
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2370 2384 2394 2411 2427 2434 2439 2555 2641 2715  
2724 2729 2782 2799 2801 2807 2836 2864 2879 2898  
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4519 4533 4535 4611 4644 4678 4682 4683 4690 4694  
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4864 4880 4905 4928 4952 4955 4991 5022 5047 5052  
5066 5071 5090 5093 5094 5129 5133 5174 5223 5224  
5243 5244 5256 5397 5407 5416 5463 5478 5479 5487  
5501 5535 5542 5588 5610 5625 5628 5647 5658 5720  
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5917 5971 5984 5986 5995 6020 6034 6067 6105 6147  
6180 6181 6185 6197 6214 6217 6247 6284 6318 6329  
6332 6357 6360 6367 6395 6396 6422 6428 6433 6479  
6495 6506 6532 6548 6591 6652 6663 6691 6695 6718  
6720 6747 6772 6777 6796 6809 6819 6833 6837 6865  
6875 6900 6910 6915 6978 7001 7036 7072 7091 7100  
7123 7124 7132 7133 7134 7142 7157 7160 7168 7181  
7195 7227 7231 7234 7236 7288 7290 7307 7325 7328  
7332 7346 7368 7372 7425 7482 7487 7490 7492 7493  
7520 7531 7545 7573 7590 7621 7654 7658 7661 7672  
7680 7692 7709 7731 7759 7768 7796 7801 7802 7806  
7866 7883 7892 7900 7903 7920 7928 7946 7983 8009  
8016 8066 8093 8157 8186 8195 8222 8225 8232 8296  
8301 8348 8353 8358 8375 8443 8474 8491 8517 8520  
8546 8549 8563 8568 8600 8604 8631 8659 8675 8682  
8690 8703 8716 8820 8848 8881 8884 8899 8920 8928  
8930 8942 8968 8995 8997 9021 9045 9055 9069 9080  
9086 9144 9164 9173 9218 9230 9234 9238 9273 9274  
9301 9325 9330 9347 9373 9433 9461 9478 9489 9496  
9582 9605 9641 9667 9685 9700 9705 9711 9715 9765  
9795 9803 9831 9840 9869 9912 9927 9937 9953 9989

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# S Africa's Zuma resigns as President after pressure from party

**FAKIR HASSEN**  
**JOHANNESBURG, FEB 15 (PTI):** South Africa's scandal-hit President Jacob Zuma has resigned, ending an impasse with his ruling African National Congress (ANC) party, which was planning to side with opposition parties in Parliament to oust the embattled leader through a motion of no confidence.

Zuma, 75, announced he had stepped down in a late-night nationally-televised address, three days after the ANC's national leadership decided at a marathon meeting to ask him to resign, which he had defiantly refused.

"I resign as President of the Republic (of South Africa) with immediate effect," Zuma said, ending a nine-year tenure before his second and final term of office which was scheduled to end with national elections in 2019.

But he remained adamant that the decision of the ANC to replace him with Cyril Ramaphosa, who was elected in his place as the new



President of the ANC two months ago, was "wrong".

"I disagree with the decision of the leadership of my organisation, (but) I have always been a disciplined member of the organisation," Zuma said in a 30-minute speech, pledging to continue to serve the political organisation he had joined as a teenager to fight from exile against the minority white apartheid government.

Commenting on the unprecedented possibility of him being removed through action by his own party in Parliament if he did not resign, Zuma said: "I fear no motion of no confidence or impeach-

ment. They are the lawful mechanisms for the people of this beautiful country to remove their president."

Yesterday, in an unannounced TV interview, he had refused refused to quit, saying he had been given no reason by the party why he should resign.

Zuma has previously survived several motions of no confidence by opposition parties in the past.

Deputy President Ramaphosa, a wealthy former businessman, is now expected to take over as the interim President until the process of appointing a new President is concluded through the parliamentary process.

Political analysts pointed out that Zuma now had the dubious distinction of being the only politician in democratic South Africa to have been ousted from the position of both deputy president and president of the country.

In 2005, then President Thabo Mbeki, dismissed Zuma as his deputy in the light of rape

charges that Zuma was facing. Zuma was later acquitted of the charges.

Although Zuma claimed earlier in the day that he had tried to stop others orchestrating Mbeki's surprise recall in 2008, his once strongest supporter and now arch foe and leader of the opposition Economic Freedom Fighters party Julius Malema said Zuma was behind Mbeki's removal so that he could take over as the President.

Zuma's resignation has been met with jubilation across South Africa by business, civil society organisations and the citizenry, all of whom had united in their efforts to remove him from office.

Zuma had ingratiated himself by arbitrarily dismissing effective ministers and bringing about a huge economic crisis as a result.

He also stands accused of having been influenced by various people to appoint people to ministerial positions and as heads of parastatal bodies who would support state cap-

ture plans and corrupt activities to syphon of billions of rand of public money.

South Africa's elite police unit had yesterday arrested three people as they raided the Johannesburg home of India-born Gupatas, a controversial business family linked to Zuma.

The raids were carried out at the home of the Gupta family in the plush suburb of Saxonwold here in connection with the Vrede farm investigation.

The embattled Gupta family own a range of business interests in South Africa, including

computing, mining, air travel, energy, technology and media.

The Gupta brothers have been accused of wielding enormous political influence in South Africa, with critics alleging that they have tried to "capture the state" to advance their own business interests.

Zuma's links to the Gupatas was one of the reasons he was being forced to resign before the 2019 general election.

The Gupatas and Zuma have denied all allegations of wrongdoing.

### MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

#### LABHLAXMI CANCE

**Draw No:2 DrawDate on:15/02/18**  
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 6099  
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 6191 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 6671  
4th Prize Rs.300/- 4261 5th Prize Rs. 203/- 3243  
6th Prize Rs.100/-  
1014 1029 1043 1060 1070 1074 1089 1117 1130 1145  
1213 1259 1275 1299 1328 1339 1427 1428 1429 1439  
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2063 2109 2151 2153 2175 2191 2193 2202 2213 2236  
2258 2293 2321 2349 2361 2387 2394 2430 2472 2485  
2499 2509 2517 2527 2538 2630 2632 2667 2701 2737  
2814 2828 2830 2834 2866 2871 2896 2918 2952 2976  
3029 3042 3080 3091 3094 3116 3126 3128 3140 3286  
3290 3303 3333 3401 3409 3442 3452 3459 3463 3490  
3536 3588 3662 3671 3676 3748 3811 3813 3834 3841  
3856 3879 3937 3938 3944 3952 3961 3988 3994 3999  
4022 4032 4040 4045 4059 4079 4081 4087 4103 4135  
4137 4143 4155 4160 4190 4202 4295 4298 4303 4316  
4325 4339 4390 4391 4422 4487 4544 4581 4612 4657  
4674 4682 4697 4699 4734 4749 4792 4803 4809 4834  
4859 4860 4886 4907 4911 4939 4946 4982 5062 5073  
5115 5172 5246 5269 5301 5347 5432 5433 5440 5449  
5516 5538 5541 5542 5578 5608 5648 5653 5680 5708  
5788 5865 5871 5877 5935 5967 5978 5984 6006 6020  
6055 6063 6071 6083 6145 6165 6171 6229 6290 6295  
6342 6360 6365 6383 6386 6389 6396 6470 6490 6492  
6542 6573 6578 6588 6611 6618 6665 6672 6727 6750  
6761 6774 6826 6832 6845 6851 6902 6956 6957 6969

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# India wasted opportunity for normalisation of ties with Pak: Pak Def Min

**ISLAMABAD, FEB 15 (PTI):** Pakistan's Defence Minister Khurram Dastgir Khan has said that India has not only wasted the opportunity for normalisation of ties with Islamabad but also restricted the space for peace through its "hostile" stance, according to a media report.

The defence minister made the comments yesterday while announcing a policy statement in the Senate, Dawn News reported.

"The unremittingly hostile, anti-Pakistan stance by the current Indian government has drastically reduced the space for any advocacy of peace," he said.

Khan noted that the Indian government also "wasted the opportunity for making peace at a time when a political consensus existed within Pakistan for improving relations with India".

"Pakistan's perception

of threat from India is not reflex; it is based upon a thorough assessment of Indian capacity to threaten Pakistan's military from an unprecedented forward position", he said and reminded that "the threat is calculated on capacity, not intent".

The statement was made after Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman warned Pakistan after Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad militants at-

tacked a military camp in Sunjuwan in Kashmir that left six soldiers and a civilian dead.

The paper also reported an escalation in ceasefire violations along the Line of Control and the Working Boundary.

Violations of a 2003 ceasefire pact a key confidence building measure between India and Pakistan have seen a spike in 2017 compared 2015 and 2016, it said.

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#### DEAR KIND MORNING

Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards  
Draw No:11 DrawDate on:15/02/18  
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 81G 05285  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- 05285 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-  
16408 19794 30259 45648 65024  
65377 66190 69533 75998 87221

Cons. Prize Rs.250/- 0809 1823 2889 2952 4577 5874 6137 8215 8973 9400  
5th Prize Rs.120/-  
0010 0194 0212 0506 0791 0835 0891 0904 0988 1037  
1010 1167 1216 1317 1613 1631 1652 1919 2588 2692  
2693 2783 2791 2884 2992 3028 3134 3231 3239 3242  
3279 3295 3309 3437 3440 3536 3602 3629 3671 3730  
3811 4040 4084 4091 4123 4244 4413 4702 5326 5348  
5564 5606 5627 5769 5870 5915 6028 6066 6145 6198  
6273 6280 6519 6600 6708 6971 7059 7253 7341 7507  
7542 7738 7816 7963 8073 8207 8262 8292 8445 8627  
8747 8830 8951 9184 9187 9251 9361 9439 9445 9477  
9481 9558 9612 9624 9781 9786 9800 9943 9949 9956

### NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

#### DEAR WORTHY

Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards  
Draw No:11 DrawDate on:15/02/18  
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 75I 26788  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- 26788 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-  
00440 00599 09633 10348 21253  
31046 62871 86051 98848 99652

Cons. Prize Rs.500/- 0272 0323 0527 0747 2587 3722 3851 8309 9094 9561  
4th Prize Rs.250/- 2247 2829 2952 3828 4889 5667 5805 7513 7948 8093  
5th Prize Rs.120/-  
0012 0335 0406 0537 0600 0985 1129 1167 1260 1621  
1748 1901 2000 2098 2124 2167 2429 2430 2509 2565  
2566 2728 2756 2789 2999 3026 3128 3173 3183 3320  
3627 3674 3726 3742 3814 3896 3911 3933 3947 4087  
4149 4337 4677 4681 4779 4890 4948 4980 5018 5081  
5115 5133 5176 5181 5556 5597 5653 5679 5869 5928  
6093 6127 6315 6362 6580 6599 6624 6629 6654 7045  
7065 7141 7216 7552 7639 7674 7689 7759 7891 8095  
8165 8184 8321 8331 8429 8586 8605 8808 8832 8879  
9044 9209 9232 9294 9429 9657 9748 9751 9783 9853

### NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

#### DEAR FALCON EVENING

Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards  
Draw No:29 DrawDate on:15/02/18  
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 71E 71192  
(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9497/- 71192 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-  
00556 35040 39583 46713 52211  
58834 79181 79734 97518 99628

Cons. Prize Rs.500/- 1024 1626 3170 3264 3845 4302 5091 6855 7794 9469  
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0014 0659 1896 2219 4225 4446 6658 6854 8921 9838  
5th Prize Rs.120/-  
0153 0239 0345 0473 0505 0661 0669 0904 1284 1357  
1480 1498 1582 1554 1583 1607 1662 1756 2054 2360  
2435 2510 2638 2756 2829 2859 2895 2927 3108 3125  
3127 3219 3257 3314 3347 3383 3668 3707 3913 3934  
4014 4027 4033 4119 4122 4276 4367 4453 4553 4629  
4716 4837 4869 4978 5159 5299 5365 5475 5573 5640  
5667 5773 5835 6040 6229 6380 6425 6426 6439 6450  
6601 6782 7167 7180 7191 7212 7217 7239 7499 7543  
7562 7583 7585 7897 7923 7993 8053 8087 8145 8233  
8587 8816 8926 8985 9074 9354 9379 9558 9576 9987

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### ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES

#### MUMBAILAXMI CHAND

**Draw No:2 DrawDate on:15/02/18**  
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 3968 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 2143  
3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 3552 4th Prize Rs. 503/- 3411  
5th Prize Rs.200/-  
1093 1167 1283 1313 1338 1350 1367 1425 1492 1515  
1559 1640 1752 1783 1787 1917 1987 1992 2051 2078  
2083 2134 2259 2266 2279 2437 2438 2499 2521 2528  
2628 2674 2691 2704 2705 2811 2860 2896 2947 3096  
3130 3139 3155 3173 3232 3304 3336 3377 3381 3474  
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3936 3965 4006 4093 4100 4133 4241 4284 4302 4548  
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5028 5076 5112 5229 5290 5328 5387 5408 5453 5458  
5560 5578 5593 5637 5680 5812 5833 5847 5875 5940  
6th Prize Rs.100/-  
1001 1003 1022 1025 1058 1067 1121 1123 1131 1181  
1182 1195 1197 1217 1233 1284 1312 1314 1355 1364  
1396 1413 1421 1431 1438 1498 1538 1563 1565 1573  
1584 1592 1595 1620 1689 1715 1737 1762 1792 1799  
1891 1912 1927 2002 2030 2031 2048 2105 2106 2123  
2146 2231 2255 2282 2293 2299 2327 2545 2551 2555  
2569 2571 2592 2606 2613 2617 2621 2635 2651 2662  
2695 2697 2749 2778 2794 2810 2816 2833 2858 2903  
2905 2926 2927 2956 2982 2983 2988 2989 2992 3034  
3040 3050 3052 3058 3072 3084 3097 3105 3162 3199  
3257 3269 3270 3337 3346 3373 3384 3421 3458 3461  
3522 3551 3560 3579 3624 3644 3654 3660 3703 3712  
3732 3756 3789 3804 3822 3860 3861 3873 3876 3895  
3907 3938 3951 3956 3969 3999 4002 4038 4064 4075  
4119 4140 4191 4301 4305 4344 4345 4348 4363 4371  
4462 4497 4540 4597 4599 4627 4646 4655 4685 4706  
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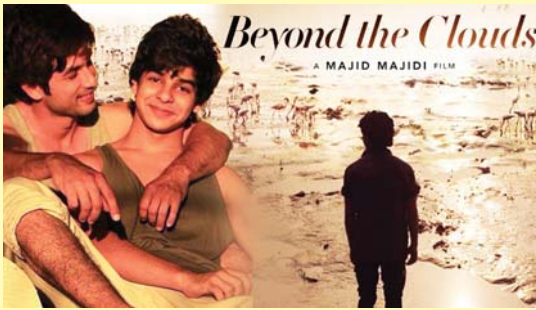


## 'Beyond the Clouds' to release on April 20

**Mumbai, Feb 15 (PTI):** Critically-acclaimed Iranian director Majid Majidi's first India-set film "Beyond the Clouds" is set to hit the theatres on April 20 worldwide.

The movie, which marks the debut of Shahid Kapoor's half-brother Ishaan Khatter and Malayalam actor Malavika Mohanan, was earlier scheduled to release on March 23.

Speaking about the development, producer Shareen Mantri Kedia of Namah Pictures said, "He is a visionary whose emotional connectivity and narrative transcends the boundaries and limitations of language. We are glad that audiences and fans across the globe will now be able to



simultaneously share the experience of Majid Majidi's magic as it comes alive on April 20th."

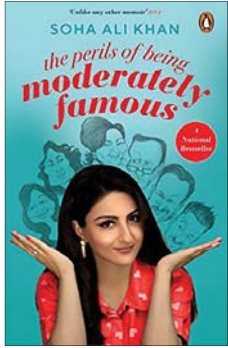
Sujay Kuttu, Business Head Zee Studios, said the change in the release plans as they wanted to have a date which works across the globe.

"The film has many firsts for us to be proud of - an all India team under Mr Majidi's leadership, a platform for two brilliant debutants and an India story showcased by such a legendary artiste. We decided to make this change in the release date as not everyday do you get such an opportunity with such promise and such brilliant talent," he said.

Majidi, is best known for world cinema classics like "The Song of Sparrows", "Baran", "The Color of Paradise" and "Children of Heaven".

"Beyond the Clouds" was filmed at numerous locations in the country.

Music maestro AR Rahman has composed the music for the movie, which also happens to be his second project with Majid.



## Bachchan praises Soha's 'spine and spunk' after reading her book



**MUMBAI, FEB 15 (PTI):** Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has sent a handwritten note to Soha Ali Khan praising the actor for her "spine and spunk" after he read her book "The Perils Of Being Moderately Famous".

The debutante author took to Twitter to share the letter, thanking the veteran actor for his words of encouragement.

"So honoured to get this in the mail! Thank you so much @SrBachchan for taking the time to write this to me - it is such an encouragement!! #theperilsofbeingmoderatelyfamous #thursdaythrills," Soha captioned the picture.

In the letter, dated January 9, Bachchan lauded the actor for her writing skills and sense of humour.

"The term 'spine and spunk' comes to mind on picking up your book... It doesn't matter how much polite and self-deprecating fluff you have on the outside.

"Even though on the surface you are sort of reticent and shying away from the spotlight, your genuine and funny sense of humour has been skilfully portrayed confirming that you possess a steely something in the middle that says 'You know what, I'm actually really really good at this, and this is what I can do, and now I have done it,'" he wrote.

Published by Penguin India, the book hit the bookshelves in December last year.



**CHIC DONE RIGHT!** Reese Witherspoon was back to her busy schedule as she was seen out and about in Brentwood, California.

## 'Prayers won't do this. Congress, please do your job': Kim Kardashian

Kim Kardashian was just one of the celebrities NOT sending thoughts and prayers to Florida on Wednesday. The 37-year-old took to Twitter to instead demand action from the government, after yet another American gun massacre left at least 17 dead Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland.

"We owe it to our children and our teachers to keep them safe while at school," she tweeted. "Prayers won't do this: action will. Congress, please do your job and protect Americans from senseless gun violence."

The reality star retweeted a number of stats that continuously show up in the wake of these tragedies, such as how many were carried out with the infamous AR-15 assault rifle; or how every air passenger must take off the shoes because if one shoe-bombing attempt, yet after 1606 mass shootings gun law remains the same.

She also retweeted a



screenshot of an NRA tweet encouraging people to buy guns for their loved ones on Valentine's Day, which was deleted shortly after the murder spree.

Chelsea Handler called on Americans to elect candidates who are not funded by the NRA in the November elections.

"We have an opportunity to elect candidates who won't

allow kids to go to school and get shot. It is disgusting how many times this has happened and Republicans do nothing," she tweeted. "You all have blood on your hands."

Mia Farrow replied to President Trump's tweet, which offered the usual 'prayers and condolences'.

"Sir, we need more than prayers and condolences," she wrote. "We need rational gun legislation."

DailyMail's Editor-At-Large Piers Morgan instead posed him a question: "Three of the 10 worst mass shootings in American history have happened in your 1st year, Mr President @realDonaldTrump. What are you going to do about it?"

Stephen King predicted 'Blabbermouth Don' would send prayers, but there would be 'no call of any sort' for sane gun regulations. Patricia Arquette insisted if drug dealers can be blamed for the drug problem, then the NRA is culpable for mass shootings.

## Spice Girls sign-up for Reunion Tour



The Spice Girls finally 'sign contracts for UK and US reunion shows'... days after Victoria Beckham declared 'the girls AREN'T going on tour'.

At first she was promised she wouldn't have to sing, and then she seemed adamant that The Spice Girls would categorically not be touring. Yet Victoria Beckham has now reportedly 'signed on the dotted line' for a limited number of reunion shows in the UK and the US with the Nineties pop group.

According to TMZ, all five of the original members - Victoria, Mel B, Mel C, Emma Bunton and Geri Horner - have completed contracts. As far as a tour is concerned, the five-piece are not believed to be taking the concerts outside of the two countries, but their main source of profit will come the Spice Girls merchandise.

Just five days ago, Victoria shot down all hopes of a 'tour' telling Vogue defiantly: "I'm not going on tour. The girls aren't going on tour."

Victoria was in the middle of her Autumn/Winter 2018 presentation at New York Fashion Week and insisted that things were still in the ideas stage, 10 days after the five originals got together in the same room for the first time in six years.

With the high-profile meeting, which took place at Geri Horner's Hertfordshire home, confirmed their plans.

## 'Your fans aren't rich like you!' Kylie Minogue sparks outrage as she charges £965 for a meet and greet!

She's earned herself a loyal legion of fans, dubbed the 'lovers'. Yet Kylie Minogue's dedicated followers were left bereft as it emerged tickets for a meet and greet at her London show next month would cost a staggering £950, plus a £15 Ticketmaster booking fee.

The 49-year-old songstress, who is the highest-selling Australian artist of all time, is currently launching her upcoming 14th studio album Golden with intimate shows across the UK and Europe.

Her London performance, next month at nightclub Cafe De Paris will set fans back £110 for standard tickets.

However, a Meet & Greet ticket to the show, which includes a photo opportunity with Kylie, costs just shy of £1000.

Taking to Twitter after

spotting the prices, fans expressed their shock and dismay, as they hit out at Kylie for the steep price.

Irate followers wrote: '@kylie-minogue please tell me your not charging £965 for meet and greet tickets!! #lovers have dreamed of meeting you for years and we can't afford that!!'; 'Damn that's pricey..'; 'God that expensive'.

'@kylie-minogue #golden rip off! £1000 for meet and greet? Especially in this day and age... tempting people to get into debt. Disgusting!'; '@kylie-minogue I'm really

going to try for 2 tickets but disappointed at the pricing for meet and greet. I've saved

#lovers all over'

'Early entry £265? I have queued for hours for her shows to be front row, I am dedicated but I'm not rich. £110 is more than half a weeks wages for me. I'm gutted. I booked a day off work to see this but I'm not even going to be able to afford to go.

'How much is a standard ticket? £965 for a meet and greet??? what the actual f\*\*k'; '£110???? You what?? Oh my god!! I swear you can pay £265 for a full three day festival?? I'm shocked

@kylie-minogue very dis-



for 2 years in the hope it was around £500... Can't afford nearly £1000 #disappointed

**ARIES:** Your home might need some work today, Aries. You and other members of your household could decide to join forces and get everything done. This might simply involve a thorough cleaning, or it could mean major repairs of some sort, perhaps plumbing or electrical. If the latter, it isn't a good idea to try to do this yourself. There could be factors involved that are more complicated than they seem. Don't be afraid to call in a professional.

**TAURUS:** Expect a lot of letters and phone calls from lovers, close friends, or children today, Taurus. You might also want to make a few yourself. Some positive and interesting information may have come your way that you'll want to share with those close to you. You

could also want to try your hand at writing. You'll want to make sure that you remember whatever it is you learn today, Taurus, as it could prove valuable in the future.

**GEMINI:** Studying some paperwork involving your finances could bring a pleasant surprise. You're better off than you thought, Gemini! Dividends or benefits of some kind might be forthcoming. You could decide to treat yourself, buy some gifts for your family, or perhaps do some work on your home. Do take care to avoid impulse buying, and don't go crazy spending. You don't want your funds to disappear as quickly as they came!

**CANCER:** Today some information might come your way that inspires you to come up with some valuable new ideas. Cancer. Your own intuitive faculties are

operating at a very high level, and therefore your insights could prove valuable. Make sure you cover every possible contingency. This knowledge could be used to advance your own career and financial interests, so you may want to spend an hour or two writing down your thoughts.

**LEO:** Your intuition, physical and intellectual energy, and insight are at an all-time high today, Leo. You'll probably want to spend much of the day alone, reflecting on your ideas and deciding how you want to put them to work for you. At some point, you may want to put your thoughts in writing. You could also tune in more strongly than usual to the thoughts and feelings of others.

**VIRGO:** You could well be bubbling over with physical energy

today, Virgo. You might want to spend your day visiting with friends. You could pick up some interesting information from them, which you might be able to put to work for you. You could lay plans for finally attaining a long-term goal; perhaps a lucky break made this possible. Expect to spend most of your day talking and planning!

**LIBRA:** Visitors in your home, perhaps invited by others in your household, could put a crimp in your desire to be alone and hash out your thoughts today, Libra. Your mind is sharp and ideas should come thick and fast. Don't get so irritated with the situation at home that you sabotage your plans. You might want to go off somewhere by yourself, possibly to simply sequester yourself in

your own room.

**SCORPIO:** You're very intuitive by nature, Scorpio, and today you should be feeling especially so. Don't be surprised if you spontaneously tune in to the ideas and emotions of those around you, or even if you and someone else come up with the same words at the same time. Use your insights to increase your understanding of others. You might also find that they bring artistic inspiration and even advance your worldly ambitions.

**SAGITTARIUS:** This should be one of those days when you feel as if you could conquer the world. You feel strong and determined, Sagittarius, and willing to do whatever it takes to get wherever you want to be. A goal could be attained at this time, ambitions realized, or perhaps a

lucky break could come your way. This is an excellent day to seek a new job, ask for a raise, or make a favorite project a success.

**CAPRICORN:** A business or love partner could bring opportunities for advancement your way today, Capricorn. You may decide to draft or execute legal papers that could be very important to your future. Travel might somehow be involved. Romance looks promising today. Your confidence and enthusiasm are showing in your face and could make you seem more attractive than usual, both to your partner and strangers. In the evening, plan an intimate celebration!

**AQUARIUS:** The hard work and good business sense that you've put into your job may finally be paying off, Aquarius. Expect some positive

changes to take place at the workplace this week. Today you're likely to be feeling especially energetic and decide to give your house a thorough cleaning. Don't try to do this on your own, however. You need to conserve your energy. Get other members of your household to help!

**PISCES:** Insights that may come welling up from the past could be put to work for you in a positive way, Pisces. You could use them as inspiration for a creative project of some kind, or you could just make them work for you in your day-to-day dealings with others. You should be feeling especially romantic and sexy today, and you might want to go shopping for clothes made of soft, touchable fabrics. Relations with lovers should be close and passionate.