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

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NET POINT, DALAPCHAND: Internet usage has expanded to areas beyond where net connectivity has reached. Implausible though this may sound, it is a fact for places like Dalapchand near Rhenock in East Sikkim. Although mobile telephony is "relatively" reliable here, internet connectivity remains patchy. New comers to this area can expect to spend entire afternoons climbing buildings and trying out different locations to put their data packs to use, but the locals have been through the drill and identified spots, literally "spots", where the internet comes alive on their phones. The above photograph is of one such "digi-bench" in Dalapchand which the locals affectionately call "Net Point". This, they inform is the Airtel Net Point. Apparently, there is another Net Point where Vodafone subscribers can get their data buzzing!

CBI searches Prannoy Roy's home, NDTV calls it 'witch-hunt'

NEW DELHI, JUN 5 (PTI): The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday searched the residence of NDTV founder Prannoy Roy and three other locations for allegedly causing losses to a private bank, a move termed by NDTV as a "witch-hunt" based on "same old" false accusations.

The agency has registered a case against Roy, his wife Radhika and RRPR Holdings for allegedly causing losses of Rs 48 crore to ICICI Bank, CBI sources said.

They said the agency was conducting searches at four places in the national capital and Dehradun.

"This morning, the CBI stepped up the concerted harassment of NDTV and its promoters based on the same old endless false accusations," NDTV said in a statement.

It said NDTV and its promoters would fight tirelessly against this witch-hunt by multiple agencies.

"We will not succumb to these attempts to blatantly undermine democracy and free speech in India. We have one message to those who are trying to destroy the institutions of India and everything it stands for: we will fight for our country and overcome these forces," it said.



HRDD Pr Secy leads Sikkim representation at Sulabh Intl Global School Sanitation Conference



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:**

The Sulabh International Global School Sanitation Conference was inaugurated by Founder & Chairman of Sulabh International Social Service Organization, Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, on 03 June at Hotel Franschhoek in Cape Town, South Africa, in the presence of Additional Chief Secretary GP Upadhyaya, Consul General- India, Puneet Kundal, and host of dignitaries and student participants from different countries.

A press release informs that from Sikkim, the Additional Chief Secretary, who also heads the Human Resource Development Department, was accompanied by MT Sherpa [Director-School Education] and Pema Rinchen [student from Gyalshing Senior Secondary School-West Sikkim].

Besides India, other countries represented included Nepal, Bhutan, Ban-

gladesh, Vietnam and South Africa. The occasion was also attended by granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi, peace activist and former Member of Parliament, South Africa, Dr Ila Gandhi.

The first day of the programme was marked inter-alia by presentations and deliberations by Dr Pathak [Indian Counsel General] and Mr Upadhyaya.

In his speech Dr. Pathak highlighted the importance of sanitation and hygiene in the country and also narrated his journey in the field of sanitation and social reform based on Gandhian principles.

Mr Upadhyaya highlighted the various progress made by India as a whole and Sikkim in particular in the area of sanitation and overall development.

He made special mention of Sikkim being in the forefront in regard to achieving 100% open defecation free status, provision for separate toilets

turn to pg04

HC gives Sneha Kinetic one wk to gets its safety act together

**DC confirms that
Dikchu HEP developer
has not complied with
safety guidelines**

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:**

The High Court of Sikkim today pulled up hydel project developer, Sneha Kinetic Power Project Pvt Ltd, for not complying with prescribed guidelines for public safety at Hydro-power Projects laid by the government as standard operating procedure. The company completed the 96 MW Dikchu HEP earlier this year and was recently in the news when it released water from the reservoir not only without warning, but apparently without adequate warning systems in place at all. (read SummitTimes issue date 28 May 2017 for detailed

report on the incident)

The court has directed the power developer to comply with all prescribed requirements within one week and reminded it that all the permissions granted prior to commissioning the hydel power are to be treated as provisional.

District Collector (East), who is also chairperson of the monitoring committee for commissioning and regulating the hydel safety measures, categorically stated in his affidavit submitted to the High Court that the project developer has not complied with prescribed safety measures as detailed in the guidelines published in 2015 in view of safety of people living downstream of the dam site.

The division bench headed by Chief Justice

Satish Kumar Agnihotri and Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan directed the project developer to immediately install hooting devices and keep all the required manpower and other precautionary measures including an ambulance and a medical team before releasing water from the reservoir.

SKPP, it is informed, has not conducted any awareness camp about required safety measures even though it started power generation in March earlier this year.

The High Court bench has also directed the State Relief Commissioner to monitor the safety measures as prescribed in the guidelines so that mishaps and untoward incidents are avoided.

Senior counsel N Rai, Amicus Curie assisting the Court in the case, in-

forms that he had visited the dam site on Saturday and found that there were still no proper systems installed to monitor or convey adequate warning before releasing water when the reservoir rises above the permitted level.

He confirmed that safety measures have not been installed despite clear guidelines for the same.

The counsel for the project developer assured the Court that Sneha Kinetic PP will put adequate safety measures in place within a week.

Meanwhile, the High court has directed the District Collector to visit the project site after a week and file a compliance report and also suggested the Amicus Curie to visit the site and file a separate report.

No decision yet on giving security clearance to GSTN

NEW DELHI, JUN 5 (PTI): The Centre is yet to take a decision on providing security clearance to the GSTN, the information-technology backbone of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), as it is examining various issues concerning it.

"We are still examining the GSTN issue," a Home Ministry official said.

The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN), a not-for-profit private limited company, has 51 per cent equity of five private institutions -- HDFC Bank Ltd (10 per cent), HDFC Ltd (10 per cent), ICICI Bank Ltd (10 per cent), NSE Strategic Investment Corporation Ltd (10 per cent) and LIC Housing Finance Limited (11 per cent).

The central government has 24.5 per cent equity in GSTN, whereas state governments, two Union territories and

empowered committee of state finance ministers together hold another 24.5 per cent stake in it.

An organisation representing indirect tax employees has raised concerns over the management pattern of the GSTN with majority stake in private hands.

It had said since the GSTN is funded by the central and state governments, there is no justification in entrusting its management to private individuals with heavy salary and allowances.

BJP MP Subramanian Swamy has also opposed the majority stake for private entities in the GSTN and has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi over it.

Recently, the Centre had rejected an RTI plea seeking details of security clearance given to the GSTN citing national security.

RBI kicks off Financial Literacy Week in Sikkim

**SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:**

Sikkim has joined the country-wide Financial Literacy Week [FLW] initiative.

General Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Gangtok, and Officer-in-Charge, Manabendra Misra, launched the FLW for Sikkim today from his office here in Amdo Golai.

On the occasion, he released five posters carrying different messages based on the four broad themes to communicate with the people during the week.

The function was attended by officials and representatives from different banks and financial institutions of the state.

Financial Literacy Week 2017 is being observed from 05-09 June across the country to emphasize the importance

of financial literacy. The literacy week mainly has four broad themes - KYC, Exercising Credit Discipline, Grievance Redressal and Going Digital.

Addressing the function, the RBI-Gangtok GM mentioned that FLW was a nation-wide campaign to make maximum impact.

It was also informed that during the week, all banks and financial institutions will display posters in local languages at prominent places in their all branches across the State. He added that banks and financial institutions will also be organising special camps to educate people on different aspects of financial literacy as well.

The GM further added that during the FLW, RBI is also hosting an online quiz for the general public to generate interest and create awareness about financial literacy.

Not communication, here language is the basis of strife

**SUDIPTA CHANDA
SILIGURI, 05 JUN:**

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee may have invited a catch-22 situation.

Her policy to impose Bengali language in the state's school curriculum has prompted political mercury to rise in the Darjeeling hills. Although no one till now is absolutely sure whether the policy is meant for the hills too, or not, even its mention in so far uncertain terms has given the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) a much-needed axe to grind.

Now, if Mamata's government imposes the policy in the rest of the state, but not the Darjeeling hills, it would give the Opposition enough ammo to question whether the Darjeeling hills are part of the state or not in Mamata Banerjee's West Bengal.

Conversely, if the policy is imposed in the hills, the entire hill community would rise as one against such imposition and whatever political gains the Trinamool has made in the hills would simply wilt.

Governments are ingenious establishments and one can be sure that the West

Bengal government too would invent a way to wriggle out of the paradox. But, the message that all is not well in the Darjeeling hills has already gone out in sharp contrast to what Mamata utters by rote, "the Darjeeling hills are smiling."

The chief minister begins her five-day visit of the hills starting Monday against such a backdrop. The visit begins with Mirik, which has returned a Trinamool civic body in the recently concluded municipal poll. Understandably, an overflowing gift hamper is coming Mirik's way.

Good, development for the

people is always welcome, whoever does it. But, if any place in the Darjeeling hills has been caught between a rock and a hard place in context of the ongoing uproar over the Bengali in school curriculum issue, it is Mirik.

The Trinamool leadership of Mirik has already expressed reservation on the issue while also alleging that the GJM is politicizing a non-issue. Having enrolled with the Trinamool and coming up trumps in the civic polls, the Mirik Trinamool leadership has the solemn obligation to stick with the state government.

But, being local, it cannot go against the touchy issue of language and be painted as anti-community.

So, if anyone would urgently want the CM to come clean on the issue and put it to rest, it is the Mirik Trinamool leadership. Otherwise, it runs the risk of political ostracism.

The issue in hand has also provided the GJM with much-needed oxygen. Relentless political activity by the Trinamool in the hills the past several months, successive visits by Mamata to the hills, formation of the community development boards and

promises of tangible development have made the Trinamool an acceptable organization in the hills.

And, it is eating away the GJM support base, of which, Mirik is a burning example. Unable to match the Trinamool's rapid progress in its domain, the GJM was in frantic search of an issue to claw back into public imagination as the deliverer. The language issue, correctly or incorrectly, has provided it with just the break.

How long before it graduates into the hills' all-time favourite slogan - Gorkhaland?

SADA Sunday

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: A 23 year old resident of Sirwani, East Sikkim was arrested and booked under Sikkim Anti Drugs Act by Rangpo police on 04 June.

The accused was reportedly driving a vehicle which was intercepted by the police personnel on duty at Rangpo check post. During the inspection, the police came across a bag with blue and white colored pills inside which the police suspected to be contraband substances.

The vehicle was detained and the accused was made aware of the inspection procedure after which a formal search was conducted in front of a gazzeted officer and two independent witnesses. 144 capsules of Spasmo-proxyvon and 20 files of N-10 tablets were recovered from the vehicle.

The accused was then taken into custody.

On the same day at Majhigaon in South Sikkim, Jorethang police brought in a 23 year old man who was accused of smuggling contraband substances in the area.

The accused was intercepted by police personnel on patrol duty who suspected him to be in possession of contraband substances. The accused was detained and a formal search was conducted in front of independent witnesses.

During the search 144 Spasmo-proxyvon and 18 N-10 tablets were recovered from his pocket. The accused reportedly revealed to the police that he had bought the contraband substances from a seller at Singla in West Bengal. He was then arrested and booked under SADA, 2006.

SKM thumbs down CM's Janta Mela speech

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has alleged that the speech delivered by the Chief Minister at Rhenock on 04 June was packed with "false assurances and announcements". The party further alleged that earlier as well the CM has made many attractive announcements but never fulfilled them.

An SKM press release issued by its publicity secretary, Arun Upreti, stresses that the people came for Janta Mela and went back empty handed, provided only announcements.

The release contends that the CM's statement that "parties from outside have been creating disturbance in the name of community and religion" was a very serious allegation.

On the same, the party questioned that if the CM's statement was true then why no action has been taken from the government's side. The party also demanded that the government make this issue public with all details instead of scaring people of the State.

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Hmm: This is section of Gangtok's Indira Bye-Pass at Sichey has an obvious water-logging problem. And it is not something that just this season has wrought. This corner near Bar Pipal remains so inundated nearly all year long, with even leaking water pipes sending it underwater. Around a week back, during a joint inspection of this and other perennial troublespots in the area, the authorities responsible for the upkeep of the highway inspected this site and assured the people that the potholes will be fixed as soon as possible. They haven't done anything except dump some sacks of dirt on the road creating a bigger problem because traffic ploughs through these sacks and adds muck to this already grimy pool. [PRAGATI THAPA]



Sant Nirankari Mission members mark WED with plantation drives, awareness and motivational talks

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:

Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation observed World Environment Day with much enthusiasm and fervor by organizing a variety of programmes, including a rally, awareness programme, and plantation and cleanliness drives here in the capital today.

A press release informs that Sant Kuldeep Singh from Sant Nirankari Mission, New Delhi Headquarter, planted a sapling at STNM Hospital premises. Devotees and volunteers of Sant Nirankari Mission from Kolkata, Delhi, Siliguri, Darjeeling, Makha, Takchang, Mangan, Jorethang, Ranka, and Gangtok took part in the cleanliness drive and planted saplings at the hospital complex as well.

Earlier, Sant Nirankari Mission organized

a rally from Lall Bazaar followed by a special programme at MG Marg to generate wider awareness on environment and nature with the theme 'Connecting People with Nature', the release adds.

Addressing the gathering at MG Marg, Sant Kuldeep Singh spoke about the various activities undertaken by the Mission in India and across the globe during crisis and calamities. He also assured to extend selfless service to the people here in continuation of the last 88 years under the aegis of Sant Nirankari Mission.

He also delved on the prime objectives of the Mission towards universal brotherhood and humanity.

Gangtok MLA, Pintso Chopel Lepcha, who was present as the chief guest, applauded the philosophy of universal brother-

hood espoused by SNM and thanked Sant Nirankari Mission for taking noble initiatives to save environment and protection of nature.

The programme was also addressed by Mayor and Commissioner of Gangtok Municipal Corporation.

It may be mentioned here that Gangtok was amongst the ten hill stations including Mussoorie, Nainital, Shimla, Dalhousie, Manali, Rishikesh, Mahabaleshwar and Ooty selected by the Mission's Headquarter in New Delhi to organize various WED activities.

General Secretary-Gangtok Branch, LN Adhikari, and Sanchalak [Sewa Dal], Sanjay Keshari, presented an overview on the mission and its purpose. Motivational talks and skits were also presented to generate massive awareness on environment and nature.

Deythang marks WED with deliberations on climate change impact and resilience

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: Villagers of Deythang Gram Panchayat Unit in West Sikkim observed World Environment Day on 04 June in the presence of President-Joint Forest Management Committee, Phurba Tshering Bhutia, attending the programme as chief guest, accompanied by Deythang GPU members, a press release informs.

The event was sponsored by Centre for Environment Education (CEE), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Give2Asia, and Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development [RCE-Srinagar] and hosted by interns from CEE.

Addressing the gathering,



chief guest Mr Bhutia detailed events to be held during the environment week, including plantation of Katus [Chesnut] trees, and ensured the full contribution of Self Help Groups for the same.

He further requested the villagers to commit 10 minutes for environment.

The programme included Focus Group Discussion, slogans, folk-songs and other cultural

activities by the villagers. The FGD brought up concerns regarding reduction of medicinal plants, wildlife, water scarcity and the present concerns of climate change.

It also included suggestions of more fruit bearing trees in the forest and reducing wildlife conflict, adds the release.

The event concluded with a signature drive with an oath towards sustainable lifestyle.

Jorethang plants for Environment



JORETHANG, 05 JUNE (IPR): A mass plantation drive led by Health Minister AK Ghatani was conducted here at Jorethang today as a part of the biggest annual event for positive environmental action on World Environment Day 2017.

870 flowering and non-flowering saplings were planted during the drive.

Sub Divisional Magistrate (Jorethang), Bimal C. Rai, Nayabazar Jorethang Municipal Corporation vice chairperson, Pema Tamang, NJMC members and councilors along with the field engineers of Tata Constructions, officials of Forest Department, Police and Fire Department personnel, civil society

members and senior citizens participated in the plantation drive.

Mr Ghatani and the guests planted trees and flower saplings in the premises of Green Lung Park, Nayabazar and Sisney Jorethang CHC and Jangchub Choling monastery. The Minister also took a brief tour of the hospital where he interacted with the staff and patients of Jorethang CHC. Similarly, plantations were also carried out at the SDM office and all the wards under Jorethang Nayabazar Municipal Council.

Later, the Minister also handed over dustbins to the representatives of Ugen Choling and Jangchub Choling monasteries.

BJP-Sikkim meets MoS for Sports, complains about State Govt

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: A delegation of Bharatiya Janta Party's Sikkim unit met the Union Minister of State for Sports & Youth Affairs [Independent Charge], Vijay Goel, on 04 June. The delegation consisted of treasurer, GD Agarwal, vice-president, JB Darnal, youth president, Tshering Lepcha and youth members of the state-unit.

A press release from BJP state-unit president, DB Chauhan, informs that the party youth president apprised the MoS that despite immense sporting talents, the State has not excelled in the field due to the slack policies of the Sikkim Democratic Front government.

The youth president stated that sportspersons from Sikkim who

have proven their skills in the state and national levels have reached that stage in their personal capacity.

He also alleged that the government has failed to provide proper financial or other support to talented sportspersons. He also urged the Union Minister to prepare the right policies and programmes for such talented sportspersons from the Centre's side.

The delegation also informed the Minister that the construction of Bhaichung Stadium started in 2008-09 is lying incomplete and in a poor condition at present.

The MoS gave a patient hearing to all the issues and assured to work on them, the release adds. He also appealed to the youth to stay away from lotteries and substance abuse.

Env lessons and pointers for Namchi Govt College students on WED



NAMCHI, 05 JUNE (IPR): Department of Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management in collaboration with National Service Scheme unit of Namchi Government College observed World Environment Day at the multipurpose hall of NGC today.

District Collector (South), Raj Yadav attended the function as the chief guest along with Additional District Collector (South), Subash Rai, Head of Departments, Forest officials, Principal (NGC), Dr Bena Pradhan, NGC students and teachers.

As a part of the programme 200 saplings of flowers and plants were planted around the college premises by the guests and the students.

Addressing the gathering Mr Yadav spoke about the importance of conserving the natural habitat and emphasized that it is the responsibility of the public to preserve the rich natural resources of the planet.

Additionally, he advocated the students to adopt institutions at Mamley-Kamrang Gram Panchayat Unit which has been selected under the District Administration Adopted Village (DAAV) and infuse earnest efforts in beautifying and upgrading those

institutions for the development of the GPU.

Further, he announced that a projector from DAC, South will be provided to the college at the earliest.

DFO Palzor Bhutia made a brief presentation on forest conservation in the state. He informed about the varieties of flora, fauna, endangered species which are found in the Khangchendzonga National Park and the various sanctuaries in the state.

The DFO also underlined the number of precautionary measures and the substantial role that the general public can undertake in order to protect the well-being of the environment by generating awareness, reporting illegal activities and by conducting plantation drive.

During the course of the program a speech competition on the theme 'Environment: Connecting People to Nature' was conducted by the Forest Department. Amona Rai from Namchi Girls Senior Secondary School secured the first position followed by Pranisha Rai from Namchi Government College and Sanjay Rai from Namchi Senior Secondary School who stood second and third respectively.



NHR&CCO formalizes Sikkim unit

SANDEEP PRASAD

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: With the objective of forming its state committee, the National Human Rights & Crime Control Organization, a New Delhi-based NGO, convened a meeting here today which had the presence of Chairperson-NHR&CCO, New Delhi, Mohit Navwani, National Coordinator-NHR&CCO, Brajesh Pathak, and State General Secretary-NHR&CCO, West Bengal, Laxuman Sharma.

During the meeting, Prem Kumar Gupta was appointed the State Vice President with Jitendra Nath Prasad as State Youth President, Sobrath Prasad as State Vice President, Sapna Shah Prasad as State Women's Vice President, Krishna Prasad as District Joint Secretary, Krish Prasad

as District Vice President, Tashi Lobzang Bhutia as West District President, and Bikash Gupta as State Social Media Secretary.

NHRCCO, it is informed, works towards promoting respect for human rights and uses education, information and publicity to promote, protect and enforce human rights. It also helps people resolve situations where there might have been infringement by public servants of fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution of India.

If people are unable to resolve complaints themselves, and if the complaints are found to be within the Commission's jurisdiction, the Commission provides investigation and redress into such complaints.

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Gangtok on Tuesday, 06 June

Temp: 26°C /17°C
Forecast: Intervals of clouds and sun-shine with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 04:40 AM
Sunset: 06:28 PM

Refresher on Linux-Ubuntu for judicial officers

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE [IPR]: Sikkim Judicial Academy organized a Refresher Course on Linux-Ubuntu 14.04 Operating System and Case Information System 2.0 for the Judicial Officers of Sikkim on 04 June at Sikkim Judicial Academy, High Court premises.

District & Sessions Judge-Namchi, Suraj Chettri, and Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge, Mangan, Benoy Sharma, were the master trainers and resource persons for the programme.

Minister scales tree to make a call, village gets its nurse

BIKANER, JUN 5 (PTI): Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal wanted to make a call -- but he had to climb a tree to do so.

The remote Rajasthan village of Dholia presented a bleak picture of Digital India as the minister of state for finance discovered he could catch a mobile phone signal only after he had scaled the tree with the help of a ladder.

Meghwal had stopped by at the village near Sri Dungargarh town, 85 kms from Bikaner, yesterday to ask the people about their problems.

When the locals urged the 63-year-old minister to direct the chief medical and health officer (CMHO) to appoint a nurse for the local medical centre, he asked his assistant to connect him to the CMHO.

When he could not get through to the officer, a helpful man brought a ladder and placed it along a Khejdi tree.

Mantri ji, is par chad-iyi, tab lagega (Sir, it will work if you climb this), local BJP leader Surendra Singh, who was present there, quoted the man as saying.

The minister smiled, climbed up the ladder and the call went through, Singh said.

"They made me climb a tree and I can call only from here," Meghwal was hearing telling the CMHO. "Appoint a temporary ANM (Auxiliary nurse midwife) here tomorrow."

The locals clapped appreciatively when the minister hung up.

Meghwal later told PTI he had visited the village from Bikaner -- his constituency -- in the general coach of a train to talk to ordinary people.

"I was in the village to speak to the people and address their issues, the former IAS officer said.



The State-level observation of World Environment Day was hosted at Kaluk Block Addministrative Centre, Sangadorjee, in West Sikkim on 05 June. Forest Minister Tshering Wangdi Lepcha was present as chief guest accompanied by his Cabinet colleagues and MLAs. [Pics courtesy: IPR, GoS]



Coffee & Art rendezvous at Rangpo to raise funds for 3 kidney patients

SUMMIT REPORT

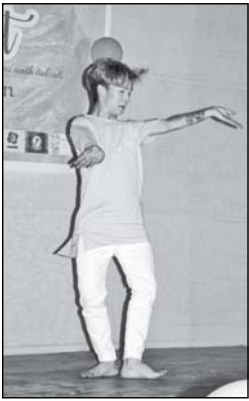
GANGTOK, 05 JUNE:

Coffee & Art, a rendezvous with talent, held its 4th edition on 04 June at Upper Bazaar of Rangpo, in aid of three ailing kidney patients.

The programme was presented by Trinity Arts in coordination with Rangpo Nagar Panchayat as its partner for this particular edition.

The event featured performances including singing, dancing and poetry recitations by various local artists of Rangpo and surroundings like Majhitar and Chanatar. Over 27 artists performed to a packed audience.

The RNP president, Maya Cintury, councillors, Station House Officer-Rangpo PS, Bi-



kash Tiwari, Dancing Star of Sikkim, Mingma D Lepcha, were present for the function along

with other prominent citizens of the town.

The Trinity group consists of Nirmal Mangar, Yougan Tamang and Nitesh R Pradhan who have come together to forward the concerns of those who desperately need help through an effort of volunteerism, informed member, Yougan Tamang.

"We would like to thank the people of Rangpo for an amazing programme and an equally enthusiastic participation for a noble cause," said Nirmal Mangar.

He added that in order to do something noble, it is not necessary to have money. Back to back editions of Coffee & Art have proved that if a society stays united, one can make a positive

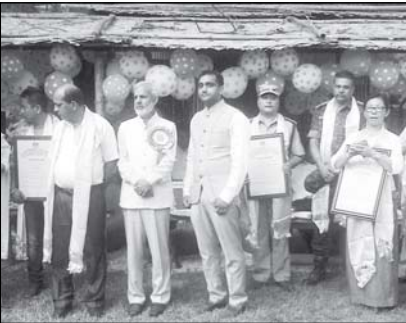
impact.

He has thanked Councilor, Anjila Tamang, and social worker, Rajen Gurung, for organising the programme in Rangpo successfully.

The Coffee & Art editions have raised funds for various individuals and organisations in need. Likewise, the sum donated by the public of Rangpo and surroundings for the three ailing kidney patients will be handed over to their families in a transparent manner, informs Nitesh.

President-RNP, Ms Cintury congratulated and extended gratitude towards the organisers and the people of Rangpo for supporting such initiatives and wished the ailing patients a speedy recovery.

Sirwani-Chisopani marks WED with inauguration of eco-tourism facility



YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 05 JUNE: Sirwani-Chisopani GPU, East Sikkim, observed World Environment Day on the theme 'Connecting People to Nature' with the inauguration of a way side eco-tourism facility at Topakhani today.

The occasion was attended by area MLA, Agriculture Minister Somnath Poudyal as chief guest, accompanied by Panchayat Director, MN Kharel, Chief Medical Officer-East, Dr T Laden Bhutia, Panchayat President, Bimal Lamichaney, Principal-Singtam Senior Secondary School, KB Chettri, Station House Officer-Singtam PS, Ajay Rai, and other dignitaries.

Panchayat President, Mr Lamichaney, while addressing the gather-

ing extended his gratitude towards all associated with the way side eco-tourism project.

"Earlier, this place was usually used for anti-social activities. The locals were highly disturbed by this. The opening of this facility here with the efforts and involvement of the concerned departments will help solve that problem," he said.

During the programme, Dr Laden [CMO-East], Ajay Rai [SHO-Singtam PS], Julian Gurung [Ward Panchayat], Bimal Dawari [Zilla Adhyaksha], Mangil Kharel [Range Officer-Forest Department] and Naik Prakash Gurung [Lance-Singtam PS] were felicitated for their contribution to the society and the state.

Butterfly enthusiasts spend WED at Sakyong-Chisopani JHS



SUMMIT REPORT

SINGTAM, 05 JUNE: A four-member team from Butterflies and Moths of Sikkim Nature Conserving Society visited Sakyong Chisopani Junior High School to celebrate World Environment Day today.

The program was conducted in collabora-

tion with BAMOS NCF with support from Rufford Foundation, a press release informs.

The daylong program had environmental talks from the teachers, headmaster, guests and students of the school.

BAMOS member, Dr Sanjog Rai, interacted with the students and

informed them about the significance of butterflies and other insects in the ecology.

Dr Rai further said the theme of BAMOS for this year World Environment Day was Butterfly Conservation.

Varieties of saplings were planted in the school campus by the

four Houses of the school (Orchid, Jasmine, Lily and Daffodils) along with their respective House Masters.

A workshop was also conducted by Dr Sanjog Rai and Nawang G Bhutia for the students of senior classes with pictorial presentation through laptop.



BERMIOK TOKAL SCHOOL PLANTS

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: Bermiok Tokal Senior Secondary School observed World Environment Day by organizing various activities like a plantation drive and motivational speeches, a press release informs. The programme was co-organized by the school's National Service Scheme unit. Around 100 tree and plant saplings were planted around the premises of the school. Cultural Affairs Minister, GM Gurung also paid a visit to the school and appreciated the efforts of the school members including the students.



SKM PLANTS AT BULBULEY

GANGTOK, 05 JUN: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Sikkim Kran-

tikari Morcha's east district working committee carried out a plantation drive here at Bulbuley today. The plantation drive was participated by SKM MLAs Kunga Nima Lepcha and Sonam Lama and senior leaders and around 100 party workers, informs a press release issued by SKM publicity secretary, Bikash Basnet. The release informed that the drive was also participated by monks from Rumtek and Phodong.

Cleanliness & Plantation drive at DIET

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUNE: On the occasion of World Environment Day, National Service Scheme Unit of District Institute of Education & Training-Gangtok, organised a cleanliness and plantation drive under the guidance of NSS programme officer, Dikila Lepcha, today at the DIET premises in Lower Burtuk, Gangtok.

The programme had the presence of Principal of DIET, T Bhutia, accompanied by Director-State Council of Educational Research and



Training [Gangtok], Dr Robin Chettri, staff of SCERT, faculties of DIET & the administrative staff

along with 41 NSS volunteers from DIET.

The volunteers while preparing the herbal gar-

den at the DIET premises planted saplings of various medicinal & herbal plants and flowers.

8th June,
1997

**Before 18 Sept, 2011, there
was this horror**

In 2011, Sikkim received its new date to remember natural disasters on 18 September when the strongest “homegrown” earthquake tore through the State. Close to six years since, most Sikkimese appear to have forgotten that evening and refuse to live by any of the lessons that the temblor taught, but before the Quake, there was the cloudburst over Gangtok on 08 June, 1997; a freak of nature of such ferocity that it claimed a total of 52 lives in and around Gangtok and parts of North Sikkim. The monsoon had not arrived early in 1997, as this was technically still a pre-monsoon episode. It was unprecedented in its inundation. Met Office records reveal that on the intervening night of 08 and 09 June, Gangtok received a record rainfall of 223.8 mm. The entire month of June, once monsoon hits Gangtok, receives an average of 650.4 mm of rain. 40% of the month’s quota poured out in a span of few hours twenty years ago.

Officially recorded as a cloudburst, this inundation was triggered right above Raj Bhavan and tested the drainage of the capital city and found it wanting right at the beginning itself. Water spilled everywhere and the copious amounts that flowed through Gangtok on the day cleaved away a building from its foundation near Zero Point along NH31A almost directly below where the cloud had supposedly “burst”. A landslide rushed off from just behind Mintokgang and poured slush into a building on the Gangtok-Chandmari axis. Tathangchen suffered a sleepless night as rural houses further down were washed away and families buried alive, not only there, but also up at Chandmari. Baluwakhani suffered too. In fact, all of Gangtok suffered. It is debatable whether better drainage alone could have saved Gangtok that night. A cloudburst, after all is a ferocious event and no drain or jhora is planned with such an inundation in mind.

08 June, 1997, taught Sikkim in general and Gangtok in particular, many lessons. How well either learnt its lessons remains suspect. Take the jhoras for example. Although the deluge was too voluminous that night for Gangtok’s jhoras to manage, they could have performed better. Although many jhora training works have been undertaken since, their serviceability remains woefully limited. Cosmetic touch-ups in Gangtok defeat the purpose if the jhoras remain under-prepared further downhill. In many areas, the drains fall away from the slope of the road which leaves them collecting only dead leaves and filth with water running riot on the road.

Some genuine initiatives were taken since 08 June, 1997. The formation of Civil Defence teams across the State is one example. Its volunteers have served their communities well and brought some coherence to the manner in which the State handles and mitigates disasters. But that group also appears to have withdrawn away from society and since the anniversary of that cataclysmic night is observed as Disaster Awareness Day in Sikkim, it might be a good idea to resuscitate this volunteer organisation. Other efforts have fared even more poorly. A high-level technical committee was constituted in the wake of the landslides twenty years ago. It must have prepared a report too and submitted it, but no one seems to be aware of its contents, in fact, they also appear unsure of its present location. Some rules have been framed to check against future mishaps, but how judiciously they are followed and enforced is there for all to see. But that’s about the administration. The monsoon is almost upon us, already here as per the Met Office. It is already too late to attempt anything grand, but even a quick revision of the do’s and don’ts that 1997 taught the administration and the people might be of some help. At least better than just fretting and praying.

HRDD Pr Secy leads Sikkim representation at Sulabh...

contd from pg01

for girls and boys in schools, plan to provide changing rooms for girls besides being a fully organic state.

He also highlighted the current joint initiative with Sulabh for providing sanitary napkin vending machines and incinerators in 28 schools in Sikkim with more prospects of working together in future too.

There will be series of presentations by different stakeholders including a cultural

performance by the student from Sikkim and a presentation by Director, School Education over the next two days.

It is expected that the conference will provide a unique learning platform for students and all participating delegates for scaling up sanitation programs in their respective regions, an understanding for removing social prudishness around menstruation and improving menstrual hygiene management, adds the release.

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

‘Himalayan Viagra’ is threatened by fervent Chinese demand and climate change

PRAYAN POKHAREL

theconversation.com

At the beginning of the Himalayan summer, when the snows start to melt, all the schools close for the season and Nepali parents and children move to the grasslands with enough food for a month-long journey on a quest for a herb more valuable than gold.

To find yarsagumba, families crawl through muddy fields hoping to spot a yellowish-green mummified caterpillar that resembles a disproportionate unicorn, with a dark-coloured elongated fungus growing out of a larva’s head.

In Chinese, the two-faced creature is called dong chong xia cao, which translates as “winter worm, summer grass”. During the winter, yarsagumba is worm-like, but by the summer, invaded by fungus, it looks more like a plant.

Mature yarsagumba resembles nothing so much as a matchstick, thin and slender, projecting two to three centimetres above the ground across the alpine meadows of the Himalayas.

HIMALAYAN VIAGRA

To locals, the hunt is well worth it. Just one kilogram of yarsagumba can fetch up to US\$100,000. In rural Nepal, where jobs are limited, the majority of families living at high altitudes as well as those in neighbouring regions earn their living by collecting this herb, making it by far the most valuable commodity around.

But why is it so lucrative? The name is a hint: yarsagumba is also known as “Himalayan Viagra” due to the aphrodisiac medley of caterpillar and fungus.

It is believed that cattlemen first discovered the pharmacological benefits of the caterpillar-fungus more than a thousand years ago after noticing their yaks becoming energised from feeding on the herb.

Starting in the 1960s, people have been making tea and soups out of this mythological little plant-animal, and stuffing the belly of a duck with yarsagumba herbs before roasting.

This magic fungus was widely popularised in the 1990s, when a Chinese runner who ate it broke two world records. Since then, research on the caterpillar-fungus has intensified.

The main chemical constituents of natural Cordyceps’s 28 saturated and unsaturated fatty acids are palmitic acid, linoleic acid, oleic acid, stearic acid, and ergo sterol. It also includes vitamins and inorganic elements.

Chinese medicine now asserts that that yarsagumba can cure impotence, increase libido, and resolve joint pains, as well as treat cancer and obesity.

Some of these claims have been substantiated. According to a 2016 paper in the journal Pharmacognosy Review, the authors found evidence “illustrating that *O. sinensis* can enhance libido and sexual performance, and can restore impaired reproductive functions, such as impotency or infertility, in both sexes.”

FUNGUS THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

As Lewis Carroll writes in his book *Through the Looking Glass*, “It takes all the running you can do,



A picker uses a hoe to carefully dig out the soil, and the yarsagumba is pulled out slowly. The soil is put back again so the field is not ruined for next year’s harvest. Another picker cleans the fungus with a toothbrush.

to stay in the same place”. That seems the perfect metaphor for the yarsagumba, a living relationship in which a host and a parasite are involved in a continuous arms race.

Biologically speaking, this complex chimera consists of ghost moth larvae (the *Thitarodes* species in caterpillar stage) infected by the parasitic entomogenous ascomycete, *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*.

Ghost moths are relatively large moths known for their reduced adult mouth parts and distinctive subterranean larvae, which are root-feeders of grassland soil, meaning they can feed on any parts of a plant.

The caterpillars spend several years of their lives remaining dormant in winter, and emerge as adults after pupating in early summer. Then, alas, they die; the average adult lifespan of *Thitarodes* is two to five days.

Thitarodes are the only hosts to the *O. sinensis* parasite, and young caterpillars infected by the fungal spores perish before pupation, a wildly growing mycelium having consumed the body of the larva.

After two to four weeks, a slender, sprouting body emerges from behind the head of the larva. It is an eerie death, to be sure.

Scientists don’t entirely understand this spectacular co-evolutionary process. Because the fungus is highly host-specific and it is very difficult to rear moths in laboratories, its infection pathway is still under investigation.

HUMANS: THE FINAL THREAT

In this biotrophic system in which the parasite must kill its host to survive, humans may be con-

sidered a third trophic level: we parasitise this parasitic complex.

As the medicinal value of yarsagumba is increasingly hyped, China’s massive consumer market is clamouring for the product, causing its price to rise and spurring a veritable gold rush to Nepal’s Himalayan belt.

But collecting these fungi before they mature prevents dispersal of their spores, and the availability of yarsagumba is declining yearly. From a 2009 peak to 2011, the trade fell by half per annum. Due to a lack of proper regulation, over-harvesting is increasingly common.

The fungi are also vulnerable to climate change. As global temperatures rise and snowfall in the Himalayas decreases, their natural habitat suffers, limiting the breeding period.

There is a darker side to the fungus fad, too. Every year, as families race to the hills for their annual yarsagumba quest, some fungus hunters – both adults and school children – lose their lives to turf wars and the precipitous, unforgiving mountains.

In June 2009, seven Nepalese men who had climbed up the mountains to pick yarsagumba were attacked with sticks and knives, and their bodies thrown into the deep ravines.

Local Buddhists, especially those of the older generation, believe that to pick yarsagumba is a sin, in keeping with the Buddha’s teaching that this seemingly natural treasure is actually a curse. China’s consumers don’t seem to mind.

[the writer is Doctoral Student in Institute for Insect Biotechnology, University of Giessen]

It will take critical, thorough scrutiny to truly decolonise knowledge

ALEX BROADBENT

theconversation.com

It has become unfashionable to admit that one doesn’t really understand what phrases like “decolonising knowledge” or “a decolonised curriculum” mean. This is unfortunate. The process of coming to understand what decolonisation of knowledge might be is essential to achieving it – and that process is definitely not yet complete.

Decolonisation is not always a welcome concept in some quarters of academia. If curricula and ideas and knowledge are colonised, that means they have been shaped in part by considerations that are political, economic, social, cultural or otherwise tangential to the ideals of academic inquiry.

Admitting a need to decolonise any part of one’s discipline means admitting that it was formerly colonised to some degree. This in turn means admitting that what one previously touted as objective and untainted by the fleeting considerations of worldly affairs was, in fact, mired in them. Academics are much happier asserting that knowledge is power than they are conceding that power is knowledge.

Seen in this light, the decolonisation of knowledge is primarily an intellectual rather than a political project. It attempts to “disinfect” academic activities: to rid teaching, research, and institutional behaviour of influences that have little to do with the fair-minded pursuit of knowledge and truth.

But this is not the only approach. Decolonisation of knowledge is a contested concept. This “disinfecting”

or critical model of decolonisation stands in contrast to a line of thought that sees knowledge as relative to a perspective, a cultural context, or something else again.

DECOLONISATION AS CULTURAL RELATIVISM

Decolonisation is sometimes presented, not as an attempt to resurrect the dispassionate search for knowledge, but as a rejection of the idea of objectivity, which is seen as a sort of heritage of colonial thinking.

Sometimes the idea is that notions like truth, fact or what “works” are fundamentally western and are imposed on other cultures. At other times, the idea seems to me that facts and truths are local. So what is discovered or expressed in one time or place will necessarily be inapplicable in another.

This line of thinking takes its cue from the fact that if you have sufficient power over someone you can enforce your views on them – or simply kill them if they disagree. Totalitarian states typically adopt policies that involve both silencing and killing dissenters.

Karl Marx famously maintained that “The ideas of the ruling class are in every epoch the ruling ideas.”

Michel Foucault thought that power and truth are closely related, or even the same thing, which he sometimes called “power/knowledge”.

On this line of thought, the attempt to critically evaluate the opinion of another person or group looks like an exercise in power politics. It’s a short step from there to the idea that, in order to rid ourselves of the

effects of a colonial past, we must all desist from asserting our beliefs over others’ beliefs. There is African belief, and European belief, and your belief, and mine – but none of us have the right to assert that something is true, is a fact, or works, contrary to anyone else’s belief.

On this view, to decolonise knowledge is to understand this and so to adopt a certain very broad kind of relativism.

CRITICAL DECOLONISATION

I prefer the first understanding of decolonisation over the second: critical decolonisation over relativistic decolonisation.

One very simple reason is that the kind of relativism I have described is associated with traditions of thought that are European in origin: Marxism and postmodernism. I am sceptical of assertions that these views are of universal application. I worry that some of these assertions may themselves express a colonial heritage.

But I have more substantive concerns, too. One of these is a point made by Ghanaian-British author and philosopher Kwame Anthony Appiah in his book *Cosmopolitanism*. Appiah values conversation very highly and rejects relativism in part because it doesn’t motivate conversation. As he puts it:

“If we cannot learn from one another what is right to think and feel and do, then conversation between us will be pointless. Relativism of that sort isn’t a way to encourage conversation; it’s just a reason to fall silent.”

The great attraction of uncritical decolonisation is that it appears to

prevent us coming into conflict with each other. We simply accept that everyone is entitled to their views. But a moment’s thought shows there’s no protection against possible conflict. I might believe I can do things you don’t want me to do. I might even have views about your views.

The trouble is that ideas can conflict by themselves. They can logically contradict each other. They can mandate actions that are mutually exclusive. We might think very differently – but we share the same world.

THE RISK OF BEING WRONG

Critical decolonisation means accepting risk of error. It means considering whether indigenous knowledge systems might contain truths that western science has not accessed. But it also means accepting that in some cases indigenous knowledge systems might be wrong.

Critical decolonisation also means considering whether what we find in the canon of an academic discipline whose history has been dominated by Europe and America is really up to much. This is a very scary and painful question for academics who have devoted their lives to the study of what they have been told are works of genius.

Critical decolonisation leaves room for local knowledge. A policy to improve infant nutrition may work in Tamil Nadu and fail in Bangladesh. The relativist stance says that whether it works depends on your point of view. But this is a poor analysis of this case: it works in one and not the other, whichever place you are looking from.

turn to pg05



SD Dhakal to return WB honour in protest against its language policy

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUN: Senior literary figure from these parts, Sahitya Akademi awardee Shankar Deo Dhakal, has regretted what he believes to be the decision of the West Bengal government to make Bengali language mandatory in all government schools in WB. In protest against the decision of the West Bengal government, he announced today that he will return the award conferred on him by the West Bengal government.

Addressing a press conference here today, Mr Dhakal, who is also the Secretary to Sports & Youth Affairs Department, informed that he plans to return the shawl and memento given to him during Bhanu Jayanti in Darjeeling last year by the WB Government. The function, it may be recalled, was also attended by the President of India.

Mr Dhakal informed that he will be returning these through speed post on Tuesday.

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Dzongu's Green School hosts district level WED celebration

WANGCHUK BHUTIA MANGAN, 05 JUNE:

District level World Environment Day was celebrated today at Sonam Choda Lepcha Memorial Secondary School in Upper Dzongu, North Sikkim, the recipient of the 'Green School Award'. The programme was organised by the Forest Department, North Sikkim.

The celebration featured a quiz competition along with elocution, dance and painting competitions for the students and was attended by Deputy Speaker Sonam Gyatso Lepcha as chief guest accompanied by District Magistrate-North, Karma R Bonpo, Sub Divisional Magistrate-Dzongu, Tshering Dorjee Bhutia, Joint Director-Human Resource Development Department North, Sonam Lepcha, Divisional



Forest Officer [Territorial], DFO [Wildlife], Assistant Conservator of Forest, Samdup Bhutia, forest officials, Panchayat members.

The guests planted saplings at the school premises followed by an awareness session.

Addressing the function, the chief guest underlined about the im-

Makha Tar connects to Nature

DIKCHU, 05 JUN: Themed, 'Connecting People to Nature', and to provide additional support to the State Green Mission, World Environment Day was observed today at Makha Tar under Tumin Lingee constituency here. Area MLA, Ugen Gyatso Bhutia, accompanied by MLA-Burtuk Constituency, DR Thapa, and other dignitaries planted saplings in the area during the event.



with putting up black flags all over the Hills.

Mamata Banerjee arrived in Mirik today for a Government programme. The GJM supporters waved black flags at her in Soureni en route to Mirik.

Speaking on the language issue, Ms Banerjee said, "I have never said that Bengali is to be made a compulsory subject in the Hills. The law has not been framed till now. What is being alleged by the detractors are blatant lies. Bengali is optional in the Hills. They have lied. Bengali is not compulsory."

She also commented today that there were discrepancies in the utilization of funds allot-

ted to the Gorkhland Territorial Administration.

"We will carry out a special audit of GTA. If any discrepancy is found then law will take its own course," retorted Ms Banerjee.

Without naming Bimal Gurung, the WB Chief Minister stated, "Your threats will not work. Threatening to drive tourists away, threatening to close down hotels, transport and even schools. You have to remember that there are so many cases pending against you, including the Madan Tamang murder case. It is also a crime to instigate unrest on the lines of language and com-

munity. Law will take its own course. However I do not believe in political vendetta".

"I will hold two Cabinet meetings in Darjeeling every year. The first one will be held on 08 June. I will come to Darjeeling every month. It is my motherland," she announced further.

Resolving the land document issue, she instructed the District Magistrate to hand over land right documents to the families by 05 July.

"Our land survey is complete. The DM will hand over land right documents to 2,582 families," stated Ms Banerjee.

She has allotted Rs. 5

crores for the roads, Rs. 10 crores for LED streetlights, Rs. 10 crores for drainage system, Rs. 10 crores for beautification of Mirik lake and Rs. 56 Crores for a drinking water project here.

Meanwhile, the GJM chief, Bimal Gurung, has announced protest programmes, including a rally starting from Gorkha Ranga Mancha, on Tuesday. The police have not given permission for it yet.

"If they stop any of my people from joining the rally, I will call an indefinite strike. Hoteliers, tourists and Businessmen stay prepared," warned Mr Gurung.

JAP wants Mamata to come clean on language confusion

SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, JUNE 5:

Jan Andolan Party president, Dr Harka Badhur Chettri, today said that the West Bengal Chief Minister should withdraw the State Govt's decision of implementing Bengali language in schools in the Hills while she is in Mirik itself. If she fails to do so, JAP will come to the field to protest the three-language policy announced recently by WB Govt.

JAP has also decided to meet the WB CM during her stay in Hills and try to convince her to withdraw her proposal to force-introduce Bengali lan-

guage in Hill schools. They also want a clarification from the West Bengal Government on the issue since only confusion has arrived from the conflicting statements from Ministers like Arup Biswas, Partha Chatterjee and Mamta Banerjee herself.

Address a press conference here at the JAP party office today, Dr Chettri pointed out that while Minister Partha Chatterjee said recently that Bengali language will be an alternative subject and Arup Biswas has also said that it would be optional, the CM has however wondered what harm could learning a new language cause. Moreover, since there is

no official notification on the matter, confusion prevails.

Be that as it may, JAP wants the entire proposal withdrawn forthwith.

Dr Chettri further informed that he spoken to the WB Principal Secretary for Education who too has stated that no official notification on the matter has arrived at the Department.

He also shared his reservations about the jingoistic protest against the purported move of the WB Govt and said that misinterpretation and misrepresentation were politicizing the entire issue and misleading the people.

It will take critical...

contd from pg04

The better approach is to seek an explanation for the difference: in this case, that the role of mothers in buying and distributing food differs between the two places. One can reject universal truths without endorsing relativism.

If done properly and critically a lot of what we count as great will fall in the process of decolonis-

ing knowledge. A lot of formerly unvoiced and unheard ideas will come to light. The process of critical scrutiny is essential to the success of this project - and nobody gets a free pass.

[the writer is Co-Director, African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, and Executive Dean, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg]

KUTSE SHEGU



The Kutse Shegu of the late **Pema Lhamu Bhutia**, who left for her heavenly abode on the 23rd of April 2017 falls on the **10th of June 2017 [Saturday]**. All friends, family and well-wishers are invited to join us on the said date at our residence below the **Forest Check Post, Lower Chandmari, Changthang Basti, Gangtok**, to offer prayers for our beloved mother. We also take this opportunity to thank all for standing by us in our hour of bereavement and regret our inability to do so personally.

Jigme Dorjee Bhutia, son (9609756956) and Deechen Penzom Bhutia, daughter (7093157826)

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India's heavylift rocket successfully launches GSAT-19

VIJAY KARTHIK

SRIHARIKOTA (AP), JUNE 5 (PTI): India today scripted history as it successfully launched its heaviest rocket GSVL MkIII-D1 carrying communication satellite GSAT-19.

The 43.43 metre tall rocket lifted off at 5.28 pm from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here and launched the 3,136 kg GSAT-19, the heaviest satellite to be launched from the country yet, into orbit about 16 minutes later.

A jubilant Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman A S Kiran Kumar said it "is a historic day" and the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark-III (MkIII D-1) has successfully demonstrated its capabilities with the injection of GSAT-19 into the desired orbit.

"It is a great success in the first maiden attempt and GSVL MkIII has successfully put in orbit GSAT-19 which is a next generation satellite," Kumar said.

"I wish to congratulate the entire team which has relentlessly worked each day for today's launch from 2002," he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the successful launch, saying it took India closer to next generation satellite capability.

Kiran Kumar said Modi called him and congratulated each member of the ISRO team for the successful mission. GSAT-19, which will augment India's communication resources, was released into the intended Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

Today's GSVL mission is significant for India as ISRO had been depending on foreign launchers for orbiting communication satellites weighing more than 2,300 kgs. The GSVL MkIII-D1 is capable of lifting payloads or satellites weighing upto 4,000 kgs into the GTO and 10,000kgs into the Low Earth Orbit. It was a textbook launch as every stage of the three-stage GSVL MkIII with indigenous cryogenic engine performed well.



Melli Sports Academy stakeholders meet, take stock

SUMMIT REPORT

MELLI, 05 JUNE: Melli Sports Academy, a fully residential academy established in 2016 under the aegis of Milan Samaj Sewa Samiti, Mellidara held a general meeting with the guardians and stakeholders on 03 June

at Mellidara, a press release informs.

The meeting was held with the objective of assessing the progress of the students of the academy.

A friendly exhibition match was also organized between Melli Sports Academy and

Namchi Sports Hostel.

The programme was attended by Sikkim State Co-operative Union chairperson, Ganesh K. Rai, Zilla Panchayat, Farwanti Tamang, Indian National Football player, Nirmal Chettri, Shillong Lajong Football Club Captian, Nim

Dorjee Tamang, Sports and Youth Affairs Department Assistant Director, Suren Chettri and the coach of Namchi Sports Hostel, Amosh Lepcha along with the panchayat members of Melli Dara Paiyong GPU, department officials and local gentries.

Biswanath district admn evicts encroachers from forest land

TEZPUR(ASSAM), JUN 5 (PTI): The Biswanath district administration evicted encroachers from several hectares of forest land in the district near the inter-state border, official sources said today.

Encroached areas in Behali Reserve Forest in Naharjan and Singlijan Reserve Forest near Dulongmukh were cleared, Divisional Forest Officer East Sonitpur division Rajen Choudhury told PTI today.

Bordering areas of the two reserved forests on both side were occupied by encroachers who had established farms with crop and rubber tree cultivation and had cut down several trees in the reserve forest, Choudhury said.

The eviction drive to clear the area of encroachers was conducted by Biswanath district administration and East Sonitpur Forest Division in the two reserved forests on June three and ended last evening, he said.

Over five hectares of forest land occupied by the encroachers about 3 km inside the border in Assam's Naharjan area and 220 hectare of the 1400 hectare Singlijan Reserve Forest were cleared, he said.

In Singlijan Reserve Forest the encroachers had covered the area with fencing and permanent pillars, Choudhury said adding, more than 500 metre fencing along with posts have been recovered during the eviction drive.

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India hold edge over Nepal in football friendly

MUMBAI, JUN 5 (PTI): Boosted by the availability of star striker Sunil Chhetri after his timely recovery from a hamstring injury, hosts India go into the football friendly against lower-ranked Nepal here Tuesday with their confidence high and as the favourites.

The international friendly is to be played at the Football Arena in Andheri Sports Complex where India's dramatic ascension to no. 100 in the FIFA rankings commenced last September with a 4-0 rout of Puerto Rico.

The Indian squad has been sweating it out at the same venue for three weeks now with only the players from Bengaluru FC and Mohun Bagan missing for the major part due to their club commitments.



With them joining the camp a few days ahead of the friendly against Nepal, which is being used as the tune-up for India's vital AFC Asian Cup Group A qualifier against Kyrgyzstan next week, national head coach Stephen Constantine would be keen to put his best team on the park and make them jell again as a combination.

The players had dis-

persed to fulfil their respective club commitments after notching up a memorable 1-0 win over Myanmar in the AFC Asian Cup group opener in March end and the main aim will be to reunite in a proper way for the June 13 game against Kyrgyzstan at Bengaluru. "The mood in the team is great. We are all excited to be represent-

ing the country again after the long season. The Nepal game is important so that we are set up before the game against Kyrgyzstan," key midfielder Eugeneeson Lyngdoh told reporters on Saturday.

"It's the right preparation (for the game against Kyrgyzstan at Bengaluru) as playing against any team will help us to jell as a team. We are coming back after so many months and it's important to get our system right before playing against Kyrgyzstan," Lyngdoh added.

The team will obviously miss the services of winger Udanta Singh, who has picked up a serious hamstring injury and is out of this game as well as the more important one against the Kyrgyz Republic.

It was Udanta who had laid the perfect pass for Chhetri to bulge the net in the dying moments of the game against Myanmar in Yangon on March 28.

Coming to the India-Nepal football rivalry, the hosts have not lost to their north-eastern neighbours for 18 years, their last defeat - a 0-4 rout - happening in the 1999 SAF Games.

After that reversal, the two South Asian neighbours have met on nine occasions and India has come out trumps on all but two of these encounters which were goalless draws.

Their last contest was in the South Asian Football Federation championship in December 2015 and India had emerged 4-1 victors.

Sergio Lobera appointed head coach of FC Goa

PANAJI, JUN 5 (PTI): FC Goa have signed Sergio Lobera Rodriguez as the head coach on a two-year deal and he will take over the reins from the first week of July.

The Spaniard, who has previously coached UD Las Palmas and Moghreb Tetouan in Morocco amongst others, was also part of the late Tito Vilanova's backroom staff during his tenure as the head coach of FC Barcelona.

Lobera said he was "delighted" to join FC

Goa and would look to achieve best results for the club.

"I see FC Goa as the ideal step in my career and hope to achieve the best results for the club. The passion for football in Goa is well documented and I'm keen to ensure that we play an attacking brand of football that the people of Goa can be proud of," said the new coach.

"I'm convinced that the club is ideally placed to compete in not just the ISL but across the



youth level. Having seen the plans in place for the entire youth set-up and the grassroots program, I'm keen to play my part in helping the club work towards a unified playing philosophy, which will extend beyond the realms of the club to all young footballers in Goa who are

keen to take up the game," he added. PTI CMSergio Lobera appointed head coach of FC Goa.

Panaji, Jun 5 (PTI) FC Goa have signed Sergio Lobera Rodriguez as the head coach on a two-year deal and he will take over the reins from the first week of July.

The Spaniard, who has previously coached UD Las Palmas and Moghreb Tetouan in Morocco amongst others, was also part of the late Tito Vilanova's back-

room staff during his tenure as the head coach of FC Barcelona.

Lobera said he was "delighted" to join FC Goa and would look to achieve best results for the club.

"I see FC Goa as the ideal step in my career and hope to achieve the best results for the club. The passion for football in Goa is well documented and I'm keen to ensure that we play an attacking brand of football that the people of Goa can be proud of," said

the new coach.

"I'm convinced that the club is ideally placed to compete in not just the ISL but across the youth level. Having seen the plans in place for the entire youth set-up and the grassroots program, I'm keen to play my part in helping the club work towards a unified playing philosophy, which will extend beyond the realms of the club to all young footballers in Goa who are keen to take up the game," he added.

England set for a tougher test against New Zealand

CARDIFF, JUN 5 (PTI): After a comfortable outing in the tournament-opener, title favourites England are set to face a much stiffer test against New Zealand in a crucial Champions Trophy Group A fixture here tomorrow.

There is a lot at stake for both the teams. England will put their one foot in the semi-finals with a second successive win while New Zealand will aim for two full points after rain denied them a crack at Australia and the two teams settled for a point each in a game that produced no-result.

England could not have hoped for a better start to the tournament as they thrashed a lacklustre Bangladesh in the first match of the Champions Trophy on Thursday.

How easily they chased down 306 was a timely warning to the other title contenders. Joe Root strolled to a 10th ODI hundred while opener Alex Hales missed out on well-deserved hundred by five runs. Captain Eoin Morgan too began his



campaign on a confident note, smashing an unbeaten 75 off 61 balls.

He, however, would be a tad worried about the lean patch of opener Jason Roy, who has not crossed 20 in his last six ODI innings.

The hosts will also have to deal with the absence of fast bowling all-rounder Chris Woakes, who was ruled out of the tournament with an injury after bowling just two overs against Bangladesh. Steven Finn has been named his replacement.

Morgan might also bring back leggie Adil Rashid to add more variety to the bowling department.

Nonetheless, an exciting contest is in the offing with New Zealand showing a lot of promise against Australia.

Captain Kane Williamson led from the front against the trans-Tasmanian rivals with a ninth ODI hundred. Luke Ronchi looked in ominous touch at the top of the order and alongside Martin Guptill, form a dangerous combination.

The Black Caps lost their way towards the end of the innings and they would be aiming to rectify that in the game tomorrow. Chasing 235 in 33 overs, Australia were put under severe pressure by New Zealand, reducing them to 53 for three in nine overs before rain had the final say.

Their pace battery, comprising Tim Southee, Adam Milne and Trent Boult, looked in good shape and would be raring to go here tomorrow.

"In some respects, this is almost like

a quarterfinal, the Birmingham no-result throwing a spanner in the works a little bit.

"Especially in the last two years, despite England's vastly different approach to white-ball cricket, games between the two teams have been very tight, and I expect another close, well-contested encounter," wrote former New Zealand fast bowler Shane Bond in a column for the ICC.

Teams:

New Zealand: Kane Williamson (captain), Corey Anderson, Trent Boult, Neil Broom, Colin de Grandhomme, Martin Guptill, Tom Latham, Mitchell McClenaghan, Adam Milne, James Neesham, Jeevan Patel, Luke Ronchi, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Ross Taylor.

England: Eoin Morgan (captain), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Jake Ball, Sam Billings, Alex Hales, Jos Buttler, Liam Plunkett, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes, David Willey, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood, Steven Finn.

Match Starts: 3pm IST.

4 nations cut diplomatic ties to Qatar as Gulf rift deepens

DUBAI, JUN 5 (AP): Four Arab nations cut diplomatic ties to Qatar early today morning, further deepening a rift among Gulf Arab nations over that country's support for Islamist groups and its relations with Iran.

Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates all announced they would withdraw their diplomatic staff from Qatar; a gas-rich nation that will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup and is home to a major US military base.

Saudi Arabia also said Qatari troops would be pulled from the ongoing war in Yemen.

The countries also were ejecting Qatar's diplomats from their territories. The Qatari government has not responded to the severing of diplomatic ties, though it has previously denied funding extremist groups.

All the nations also said they planned to cut air and sea traffic. Saudi Arabia said it also would shut its land border with Qatar, effectively cutting off the country from the rest of the Arabian Peninsula.

It wasn't immediately clear how today's announcement would affect Qatar Airways, one of the region's major long-haul carriers that routinely flies through Saudi airspace. The airline did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Even before Monday, Qatar had appeared unperturbed by the growing tensions.

On May 27, Qatar's ruling emir, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, called Iranian President Hasan Rouhani to congratulate him on his re-election.

The call was a clear, public rebuttal of Saudi Arabia's efforts to force Qatar to fall in line

against the Shiite-ruled nation, which the Sunni kingdom sees as its No. 1 enemy and a threat to regional stability. Qatar shares a massive offshore gas field with the Islamic Republic.

Qatar is also home to the sprawling al-Udeid Air Base, which is home to the US military's Central Command and some 10,000 American troops. It wasn't clear if the decision would affect American military operations. Central Command officials and the Pentagon did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Saudi Arabia said it took the decision to cut diplomatic ties due to Qatar's "embrace of various terrorist and sectarian groups aimed at destabilising the region" including the Muslim Brotherhood, al-Qaida, the Islamic State group and groups supported

by Iran in the kingdom's restive eastern province of Qatif.

Egypt's Foreign Ministry accused Qatar of taking an "antagonist approach" toward Egypt and said "all attempts to stop it from supporting terrorist groups failed."

The tiny island nation of Bahrain blamed Qatar's "media incitement, support for armed terrorist activities and funding linked to Iranian groups to carry out sabotage and spreading chaos in Bahrain" for its decision.

The US Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, did not immediately respond to a request for comment about whether the decision would affect its operations.

The decision comes after Qatar alleged in late May that hackers took over the site of its state-run news agency and

published what it called fake comments from its ruling emir about Iran and Israel. Its Gulf Arab neighbors responded with anger, blocking Qatari-based media, including the Doha-based satellite news network Al-Jazeera.

Qatar long has faced criticism from its Arab neighbors over its support of Islamists. The chief worry among them is the Muslim Brotherhood, a Sunni Islamist political group outlawed by both Saudi Arabia and the UAE as it challenges the nations' hereditary rule.

Gulf countries led by Saudi Arabia fell out with Qatar over its backing of then-Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi, a Brotherhood member.

In March 2014, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain recalled their ambassadors

from Qatar over the rift.

Eight months later, they returned their ambassadors as Qatar forced some Brotherhood members to leave the country and quieted others. However, the 2014 crisis did not see a land and sea blockade as threatened now.

In the time since, Qatar repeatedly and strongly denied it funds extremist groups. However, it remains a key financial patron of the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip and has been the home of exiled Hamas official Khaled Mashaal since 2012.

Western officials also have accused Qatar of allowing or even encouraging funding of Sunni extremists like al-Qaida's branch in Syria, once known as the Nusra Front.

Global oil prices rose 1.24 per cent to USD 50.57 a barrel in ear-

ly trading today in Asia amid the Gulf diplomatic crisis.

The crisis comes after US President Donald Trump's recent visit to Saudi Arabia for a summit with Arab leaders. Since the meeting, unrest in the region has grown.

At that Saudi conference, Trump met with Qatar's ruling emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

"We are friends, we've been friends now for a long time, haven't we?" Trump asked at the meeting. "Our relationship is extremely good."

~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS

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TRIBAL PLOT FOR SALE: Land situated at Jorethang Road, Namchi [backside] touches Tincer road measuring 70ftx200 ft approximately is available for immediate sale. For details contact: **85097-06344, 973312662.**

FLAT FOR RENT: 2BHK including toilet-bathroom, located above Accountant General's quarters, Development Area. Contact **9734764711** for details.



Fighting terrorism will be the main focus as full campaigning resumes ahead of Thursday's General Election. In a speech on Sunday evening, Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn blamed Prime Minister Theresa May for denying police and security services the resources they needed to protect Britons. Mr Corbyn has already promised to recruit 10,000 police officers and said that, if he wins the election, he will commission a report from security services on the terror threat. He has accused Mrs May of trying to "protect the public on the cheap", cutting 20,000 police officers, despite warnings from the Police Federation that this would affect public safety.

Sri Lanka to introduce strict laws for buffer zones in disaster prone areas

COLOMBO, JUN 5 (PTI): Sri Lankan will introduce laws to strictly enforce "buffer zones" in disaster-prone areas so that permission cannot be given for construction activities there, a top minister said today, as the death toll in the country's worst flooding in over a decade rose to 224.

Disaster Management Minister Anura Priyadarshana Yapa said 78 people were still missing as of yesterday after the country's worst torrential rains since 2003 displaced nearly half-a-million people.

The Disaster Management

Centre said over 600,000 people have been hit and nearly 25,000 were in temporary shelters after the landslides and floods triggered by monsoon rains. The disaster hit the country's 14 of the 25 districts.

Illegal construction has worsened the flooding by blocking drains and other natural water storage facilities.

Battling with the natural calamity, the government has decided to introduce strict laws to ensure that "buffer zones" are not violated in the future.

Sri Lanka introduced similar buffer zones following the

catastrophic tsunami in 2004 in which over 30,000 people died.

Yapa said the buffer zones introduced then had been breached due to clearance for construction of buildings in those areas.

But, he said, the new laws will ensure permission are not given to construct buildings in the buffer zones now onwards, and added that the vulnerable areas will be evacuated soon.

He also said that disaster evacuation centres will be set up across Sri Lanka to provide relief to people in the event of a natural disaster. During the flooding

and landslide last month, temples and schools were used as temporary shelters.

The minister said a national action plan was needed to ensure that human lives could be saved in such disasters.

According to the minister, Sri Lanka has deployed nearly 10,000 troops and paramilitary forces to aid police personnel in search and rescue operations following the May 26 flooding.

"This is the biggest deployment of troops during peace time in Sri Lanka," Yapa told reporters in Colombo.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email
letters@summittimes.com

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR PARROT MORNING
Draw No:43 DrawDate on:05/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 971 91592 (Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 91592 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
19913 22798 32359 45527 54539
57245 66004 77676 91625 92619
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
06020 35043 40303 40880 55983
67871 77335 90567 95227 99182
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
1181 1983 3336 3786 5131 5613 6519 6956 8767 9072
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0137 0777 1271 1966 2485 3975 5422 7283 7891 9174
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0024 0185 0224 0279 0285 0360 0615 0621 0738 0753
0837 0936 0972 1152 1162 1190 1440 1443 1486 1487
1603 1650 1702 1808 1978 1991 1997 2036 2200 2244
2247 2461 2746 2795 2859 2900 2962 3002 3086 3274
3401 3781 3934 3994 4059 4074 4078 4079 4114 4274
4283 4818 5005 5052 5298 5412 5523 5581 5618 5680
5853 5989 5995 6147 6215 6393 6434 6652 6706 6711
6781 6800 6854 6996 7219 7298 7395 7472 7531 7773
7838 7991 8149 8216 8574 8609 8691 8842 9150 9168
9185 9317 9370 9480 9517 9593 9608 9713 9901 9936
Issued by: The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries, For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
SINGAM GOLD MORNING	DEAR AFFECTIONATE EVENING
Draw time: 11:55 am onwards Draw No:6 DrawDate on:05/06/17	Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:111 DrawDate on:05/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 88A 12379 (Including Super Prize Amt)	1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 95C 67147 (Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 12379 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 67147 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-	2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
25000 26798 46564 48357 48741	03774 04855 24051 26288 29565
66172 70576 87224 87959 91735	30895 41163 80143 85360 90660
3rd Prize Rs.500/-	3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
0542 1739 2188 3028 3031 3694 5151 5610 6220 9312	01595 09196 12490 16374 17084
4th Prize Rs.300/-	24874 42206 81135 85608 93712
0571 1592 3538 3724 4042 5203 5253 7244 7890 9898	4th Prize Rs.1000/-
5th Prize Rs.130/-	1130 2137 3000 3128 4514 4980 5737 7368 8440 8585
0022 0176 0353 0528 0578 0601 0693 0754 0839 1061	5th Prize Rs.600/-
1162 1210 1211 1260 1266 1274 1308 1398 1600 1695	0035 1794 4559 4997 5293 5337 6084 6243 8597 8813
1785 1852 1853 1886 1958 2225 2338 2580 2595 2800	6th Prize Rs.250/-
2860 3027 3158 3166 3178 3247 3277 3283 3330 3785	0206 0207 0279 0318 0331 0539 0613 0654 0686 0782
3821 3923 4032 4050 4147 4372 4570 4684 4736 4777	0785 1017 1114 1121 1545 1787 1953 2249 2277 2312
4858 4961 5152 5219 5434 5447 5463 5498 5590 5916	2319 2349 2389 2417 2532 2555 2576 2620 2633 2708
5992 6132 6199 6235 6332 6340 6577 6653 6672 6881	2851 2909 2932 2979 2990 3021 3026 3028 3273 3440
6904 7038 7115 7200 7376 7454 7543 7625 7655 7677	3550 3566 3572 3614 3701 3733 3770 3796 3966 3993
8014 8029 8141 8382 8444 8625 8841 8903 9017 9023	4187 4484 4522 4600 4686 4795 4821 4866 4957 5035
9126 9132 9191 9231 9338 9533 9564 9667 9706 9848	5052 5150 5205 5233 5390 5405 5413 5525 5528 6540
Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland. For Results, please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com	6985 7103 7109 7161 7181 7412 7450 7571 7736 7754
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.	

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR LUCK	SINGAM DELIGHT EVENING
Draw No:47 DrawDate on:05/06/17	Draw No:18 DrawDate on:05/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 85I 06232 (Including Super Prize Amt)	1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 92A 33875 (Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 06232 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 33875 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
11761 15843 59699 62665 66265	06002 11680 13641 16254 26401
70208 73941 74550 75422 91975	95379 38785 65047 81714 95527
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	3rd Prize Rs.500/-
12945 16402 53183 55523 71874	1362 1854 2182 4145 4606 7847 7941 8596 9020 9477
72759 85241 94362 96201 98025	4th Prize Rs.300/-
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	1072 1526 2592 3140 4905 5179 5229 5313 5421 7531
0647 2678 3226 4407 4998 5777 5808 5983 6762 6839	5th Prize Rs.130/-
5th Prize Rs.600/-	0024 0154 0226 0312 0362 0400 0579 0601 0637 0763
1145 1588 1948 2078 2122 2905 5776 5885 8343 9269	0797 0868 0905 0966 1157 1245 1373 1421 1548 1617
6th Prize Rs.250/-	1756 1898 2134 2234 2335 2371 2424 2491 2607 2769
0077 0131 0289 0293 0458 0686 0706 0843 0845 0883	2789 2922 2943 2953 3001 3049 3122 3188 3190 3462
0946 1179 1366 1715 1771 1900 2056 2077 2187 2225	3817 3823 3835 3989 4152 4315 4587 4629 4668 4673
2266 2390 2622 2837 2860 3079 3182 3209 3222 3225	4709 4959 5003 5029 5120 5129 5144 5374 5443 5606
3247 3288 3589 3654 3733 3746 3801 3870 3976 4600	5749 5801 5802 5994 6144 6207 6412 6413 6581 6631
4654 4812 4874 4904 4972 5067 5083 5121 5206 5270	6632 6675 6711 6880 7101 7116 7225 7394 7532 7691
5292 5296 5314 5385 5528 5630 5823 6015 6149 6177	7725 7883 7907 8066 8100 8123 8154 8161 8192 8258
6180 6257 6311 6392 6827 6985 7022 7324 7438 7476	8296 8511 8543 8673 8746 8762 8852 8931 9714 9813
7512 7645 7654 7810 7841 7862 7893 7946 8053 8132	Issued by: The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102 Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com
8133 8408 8479 8541 8598 8635 8670 8691 8869 8954	KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.
9023 9045 9088 9256 9294 9500 9783 9809 9899 9947	

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES	ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
JAI GANAPATHY	MESHA RASI
Draw No:93 DrawDate on:05/06/17	Draw No:93 DrawDate on:05/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 04753	1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 02534
2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-	2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-
0041 0271 0493 2038 2841 3886 4326 4819 7303 9822	0325 0745 1638 2516 6810 7705 8191 8591 8772 9424
3rd Prize Rs.500/-	3rd Prize Rs.500/-
0593 5092 5917 6290 6351 6717 8004 8553 8902 9141	0629 0852 1531 2859 3386 4500 4975 5316 5956 7152
4th Prize Rs.250/-	4th Prize Rs.250/-
0396 0784 1435 2354 3601 4327 5410 6416 8254 8617	0223 1260 2162 3747 4794 5182 5626 5664 8718 8882
5th Prize Rs.100/-	5th Prize Rs.100/-
1244 1935 2826 3002 3281 3663 3686 6383 6874 8834	0527 1276 1826 1926 3488 5229 5352 7470 8067 8617
6th Prize Rs.50/-	6th Prize Rs.50/-
0059 1780 2191 3676 4877 5388 6288 7265 8354 9402	0072 0766 1752 2735 3640 4632 6175 6873 7889 8811
0490 1813 2415 3747 4899 5628 6347 7267 8494 9404	0178 0779 1759 2808 3820 4806 6209 6938 7932 8988
1196 1830 2457 3842 4933 5662 6356 7389 8521 9408	0198 0836 1920 2994 3847 4915 6216 6951 8192 9094
1341 1854 2540 3968 4948 5723 6462 7637 8563 9472	0294 0899 1982 3173 3987 5103 6571 6971 8374 9203
1352 1889 2691 3992 4990 5807 6721 7670 8641 9510	0358 0906 1989 3185 3988 5329 6377 6982 8378 9261
1410 2065 2934 4131 4998 5816 6761 7790 8676 9601	0421 1019 2172 3186 4125 5364 6474 7064 8482 9400
0490 1813 2415 3747 4899 5628 6347 7267 8494 9404	0431 1108 2369 3296 4187 5653 6550 7151 8529 9413
1196 1830 2457 3842 4933 5662 6356 7389 8521 9408	0466 1143 2383 3388 4202 5686 6588 7307 8554 9420
1341 1854 2540 3968 4948 5723 6462 7637 8563 9472	0526 1257 2610 3500 4581 5178 6602 7753 8626 9474
1352 1889 2691 3992 4990 5807 6721 7670 8641 9510	0656 1265 2667 3560 4617 5824 6800 7871 8741 9868
1410 2065 2934 4131 4998 5816 6761 7790 8676 9601	Issued by: The Commissioner, Arunachal Pradesh State Lotteries, Itanagar.



Miley Cyrus joined Ariana Grande to duet on Crowded House's "Don't Dream It's Over" at the One Love Manchester benefit concert in England on Sunday, June 4. It was one of many touching moments featuring some of music's biggest names at the charity event that the "Dangerous Woman" singer, 23, and her manager, Scooter Braun, put together after 22 people were killed and dozens more injured following her May 22 concert in Manchester.

ARIANA GRANDE CRIES AS SHE SINGS 'SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW' TO CLOSE MANCHESTER BENEFIT CONCERT

Ariana Grande cried as she sang a heartbreaking version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" to close out her One Love Manchester benefit concert in England on Sunday, June 4. The "Dangerous Woman" singer put together the charity event after 22 people were killed and dozens more injured following the terrorist attack at her May 22 concert in Manchester. The 23-year-old took to the stage several times throughout the three-hour show at the Emirates Old Trafford Stadium, joining Miley Cyrus, Victoria Monet, the Black Eyed Peas, the Parrs Wood School Choir, and Coldplay's Chris Martin to perform during the event. It was an emotional time for the singer, who just



days earlier had visited some of the victims of the suicide bomber attack as they recovered in the hospital. She also talked during the show about meeting the mother of one of the victims, Olivia Campbell, 15, who died in the terrorist bombing.

"As soon as I met her I started crying and I gave her a big hug and she said I should stop crying because Olivia would have wanted me to stop crying," Grande

told the audience as she fought back tears. "And she said Olivia would have wanted to hear the hits." The singer revealed that she had rearranged her lineup to honor Olivia.

All proceeds from the concert are going to the Red Cross' Manchester Emergency Fund, to help victims of the attack and their families. An online shop has also been set up with T-shirts, hats and more merchandise.

BOX OFFICE: 'WONDER WOMAN' OPENS TO HISTORIC \$100.5M



The tent pole lands the top domestic debut of all time for a female director, and launches the first major studio film franchise featuring a female superhero; overseas, the movie takes in \$122.5 million for a \$223 million global bow.

In a defining moment for Hollywood's gender problem, Patty Jenkins' Wonder Woman grossed a winning \$100.5 million from 4,165 theaters in its domestic box-office debut over the weekend, the biggest opening ever for a female director. And overseas, Wonder Woman also won the weekend with \$122.5 million from 55 markets for a global bow of \$223 million, including a No. 1 debut in China with \$38 million.

Hollywood studios are notoriously loath to hire female directors, not to mention for a big-budget tent pole featuring a marquee superhero. Wonder Woman's performance could put even more pressure on film companies to make more job offers to women filmmakers.

The \$150 million Warner Bros. movie, which stars Gal Gadot as Diana Prince/Wonder Woman, also launches the first film franchise featuring a female superhero after both Catwoman and Elektra flopped in the mid-2000s. Wonder Woman — which has been in development since 1996 — skewed female (52 percent), almost unheard for a superhero title, which usually draws an audience that is 60 percent male.

Wonder Woman becomes the 16th superhero film to cross \$100 million in its domestic box-office launch, a list that is topped by the

likes of Marvel's The Avengers (\$207 million), Avengers: Age of Ultron (\$191.3 million), Captain America: Civil War (\$179.1 million), Iron Man 3 (\$174 million) and Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice (\$166 million). Wonder Woman beat out the openings of the first two Thor and Captain America movies, as well as the first Iron Man.

Earning rapturous reviews and an A CinemaScore from audiences, Wonder Woman is a much-needed critical win for Warners and DC Entertainment, whose Man of Steel (2013) and Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice (2016) were largely snubbed.

Wonder Woman snagged the fourth-best Warner Bros. opening in both China and Mexico (\$8.4 million). It raked in \$8.5 million in South Korea and \$8.3 million in Brazil. In Europe, the movie debuted to \$7.5 million in the U.K., although it lost out in Russia and Italy to Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales. Wonder Woman has yet to open in several major markets, including France and Germany.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY
Assistant Professor in History,
Namchi Govt. College



06TH JUNE

WORLD HISTORY

1727- The first boxing title fight takes place in London, where James Figg defeated Ned Sutton.
1808- Napoleon's brother, Joseph Bonaparte, was crowned as King of Spain.
1832- The June Rebellion in Paris is put down by the National Guard.
1844- The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is founded in London.
1850- Levi Strauss made their first pair of blue jeans.

INDIAN HISTORY

1596: Sikh Guru Har Govindji, the sixth Sikh guru, was born.
1674: Sivaji crowned himself King of India. Shivaji was entitled Shatakarta (founder of an era) and Kshatriya Kulavantas (head of Kshatriyas), and Chha-

trapati (paramount sovereign). He also took the title of "Haindava Dharmodhaarak".

1903: Hiralal Sen shot the first Indian Advertisement sequences for Jabakusum (hair tonic) and Edward's Tonic.

1947: Gandhiji wrote to Mountbatten, with Pakistan conceded, to persuade Jinnah for an amicable settlement.

1981: The worst-ever railway accident took place in Bihar when a train plunged in Samastipur river. The government placed the official death toll at 268 plus another 300 missing; however, it is generally believed that the death toll was closer to 1,000.

1990: Government of India decides to extend validity of passports to 10 years.

GAME OF THRONES' FINAL SERIES COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL 2019

GoT fans might have to wait an extra year to find out how the series ends. The president of US network HBO — which makes the show — says it's possible that the final season will now air in 2019.

Casey Bloys told Entertainment Weekly: "Yeah. [showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss] have to write the episodes and figure out the production schedule.

"We'll have a better sense of that once they get further into the writing."

The makers of the show are making every effort to ensure it goes out in a blaze of glory, so no time or expense will be spared, writes The Sun.

Bloys said: "One of the hallmarks of the show has been how cinematic it is. The show has proven that TV is every bit as impressive and in many cases more so, than film.

"What they're doing is monumental. When you see these battles in season seven, and what I imagine season eight will be, it's a big, big show.

"We've done a lot of great shows, but this one combines the complex characters we love with a huge cinematic scope. I think this is the first show to prove that can be done."

The seventh season of George R.R. Martin's series will return on July 16



and will feature just seven episodes. Meanwhile, while HBO has confirmed that four Game of Thrones spin-offs are currently in development, Bloys has warned there's no guarantee they'll actually make it to our screens.

"This is a really embryonic process. I haven't even seen outlines. In the press at large, everybody said, 'there are four spin-offs' and they assume that means each one is happening and we're going

to have a new Game of Thrones show per quarter. That's not what's going on," he clarified.

"The idea is not to do four shows. The bar set by [Benioff and Weiss] is so high that my hope is to get one show that lives up to it. Also, this is a long-term plan. Our No. 1 goal is the seventh season this summer and getting the eighth season written and aired ... If any of these scripts come to pass, you're not

going to see anything air anytime close to the season eight finale."

The network is keeping details of the spin-off projects well under wraps but has revealed they will "explore different time periods of George R.R. Martin's vast and rich universe." Game of Thrones season seven will premiere on July 16.

LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"LEROY'S WORD IS HIS JUNK BOND."

ARCTIC CIRCLE - HALLATT



BABY BLUES - KIRKMAN & SCOTT



ARIES: Today you may feel especially passionate, Aries, and desire a romantic encounter. You might even have a hot date scheduled. Don't be surprised if it has to be postponed for reasons beyond anyone's control. You might try to sublimate those feelings through creative activities. Romantic novels and movies could also prove good outlets, though never as good as the real thing!

TAURUS: A visitor with a few problems might come to your door in search of advice and sympathy, Taurus. He or she might also have some other news that could shock you. A professional crisis might make it necessary for you or your partner to spend most of the day away from home and family. This could be frustrating, particularly if you have to cancel plans. Hang in there!

GEMINI: Tasks of any kind are likely to seem like the labors of Hercules today, Gemini. Overwork and strain could have you feeling a little under the weather. It might be a good idea to take some time alone to rest. If you can't, at least try to take things easy. Also, some unexpected changes in your community might have tongues wagging. Be sure to check out the facts before jumping to conclusions.

CANCER: Money matters might be weighing on the mind of a close friend or lover, Cancer, and he or she might seek your advice. A creative project may require a larger expenditure of money, time, or other resources than you originally thought. This could make you wonder if you will be able to continue with it. It might take some tweaking on your part, but you should be able to complete it as planned.

LEO: You might have visitors, Leo, or even a hot date scheduled for tonight. By midafternoon you might feel too tired to go out and wonder if you should cancel. It's best to keep your activities low-key. Have coffee and cake at home instead of going out, and get the cake from a bakery! Your evening should be full of exciting, stimulating conversation. You'll be glad you stuck with your plans.

VIRGO: Deliveries that you expect could be delayed, Virgo. Today you

might learn something shocking about a neighbor or relative. The gossip might spread rapidly through your community. This could have you reeling even though it might be exaggerated. You might visit a few people nearby or spend a lot of time on the phone trying to learn the truth. Don't take anything you hear at face value.

LIBRA: Some good but surprising news could come your way today, Libra. Perhaps a family member or friend will call or drop by with a surprising development that directly affects you. In the evening, go out together and celebrate. Don't forget to include your special someone in your celebration plans.

SCORPIO: Today may start out frustrating, Scorpio. Be prepared! Some equipment might go on the blink and it could take a while to get it fixed. A temporary separation from your partner could also be disappointing. You may have a lot of physical energy for which you have little immediate outlet. Take a long walk. This would not only provide an energy outlet but also clear your head.

SAGITTARIUS: Your level of artistic inspiration is high today, Sagittarius. Dreams or meditation may bring up some spiritual insights and revelations, and you may promptly forget them upon coming out of your dream or meditative state. This could prove frustrating! Try writing them down even if you only remember snatches.

This can help bring them to the surface again. You will want a record of them anyway.

CAPRICORN: Some upsetting news regarding money could throw you into a dither today, Capricorn. Perhaps a check you've been expecting hasn't arrived on time. Maybe the bank has made an error regarding your account. It isn't anything that can't be straightened out, though it's going to be a pain making all the calls. Basically, all should be going very well for you. This is only a temporary setback.

AQUARIUS: A setback in your career might have you feeling disoriented, Aquarius. Equipment might be involved. Don't go crazy. It's only temporary. Your determination, efficiency, and practicality should take care of it in no time. Basically, you're probably feeling optimistic about the future and unlikely to change that energy any time soon. Try not to worry about problems today. Spend time relaxing and enjoying the company of friends and family.

PISCES: A delivery that you were expecting from far away might be delayed, Pisces, causing you to wonder if it might have been lost. It hasn't. Unfortunately, there isn't much you can do but wait. Mechanical equipment could also go out of whack, necessitating a call to a repair service. This could set you back some and make you antsy. Try to find something else to do!