

SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 240 | Gangtok | Tuesday | 12 September 2017

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

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5



FOOTBALL BY NIGHT: Floodlights at Paljor Stadium have made a different kind of football experience possible for fans in Gangtok. As this year's Sikkim Premier Division League opened with a night match on Monday, an excited crowd gathered at the stadium to get a taste of the game under lights.

All eyes on Tuesday's all-party meet with WB Govt

DARJEELING (WB), SEP 11 (PTI): All eyes are on Tuesday's all-party meeting convened by the West Bengal government in Siliguri to discuss the Darjeeling crisis, even as the indefinite shutdown in the hills entered its 89th day today.

This is the second all-party meet convened by the state government after the August 29 talks.

The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), which is spearheading the agitation in the hills and had earlier said it would not attend the meeting if the issue of a separate state of Gorkhaland was not discussed, today said a seven-member delegation of the party, including three MLAs, would take part in the meeting.

"We will attend the meeting tomorrow. We will stress on the issue of Gorkhaland. We also want peace to return to the hills," GJM MLA Amar Singh Rai said.

GJM general secretary Roshan Giri said although the party had decided to participate in the meeting, it had also urged the Centre to hold a tripartite talk to solve the crisis.

The Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) and other hill parties will also participate in tomorrow's meeting.

Binay Tamang and Anit Thapa, who were expelled from the GJM by party supremo Bimal Gurung, will also attend the meeting in their personal capacities as they have been invited by the state government.

Thapa today urged the GJM leadership to shun the "path of violence" and help restore peace in the hills.

"Some of the GJM leaders are encouraging violence. We feel that peace should return to the hills and for that, we need to shun the path of violence," Thapa said.

A large number of shops were open in parts of the Darjeeling hills today braving threats and intimidation by the GJM.

After the first all-party meeting, the differences within the GJM started coming out in the open, leading to the expulsion of Tamang and Thapa from the party.

For the third consecutive day, the police and administration, through a public address system, appealed to the locals to open shops and restore normalcy in the hills.

Peace rallies were taken out by the residents in Kurseong, Darjeeling and Mirik.

GJM supporters took out rallies in support of the Gorkhaland demand and the ongoing shutdown in certain parts of Darjeeling, Sonada and Kalimpong.

Picketing was strengthened in some areas and posters and leaflets, in support of the strike, were distributed.

Internet services have remained suspended in the hills since June 18.

Cabinet Committee on Security to decide whether to allow Karmapa to visit Sikkim

NEW DELHI, SEPT 11 (PTI): The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will take a call on whether to allow Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje to visit Sikkim as demanded by the State Government and the people of the state, a home ministry official said.

The Home Ministry has prepared a note on the Karmapa's visit to Sikkim and sent it for approval to the CCS, the highest decision making body of the country's security matters, the official said on condition of anonymity.

However, the Karmapa will not be allowed to enter the Rumtek monastery located in East Sikkim, even though he may be allowed to visit the state, the official said referring to the note prepared by the Ministry.

The central government



however, not given any decision on it yet.

Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje, head of the Karma Kagyu (Black Hat) sect of Tibetan Buddhism, was born in Tibet and had escaped to India through Nepal at the age of 14. He reached the Tibetan exile quarters at McLeod Ganj on January 5, 2000.

He presently lives in Dharamsala and is also recognised by the Dalai Lama.

A delegation of monks of various monasteries of Sikkim had also met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in May and urged him to grant early permission for Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje's visit to the state. A majority of the Sikkimese recognise the 31-year-old Ogyen Trinley Dorje as the real heir and successor of the 16th Karmapa who passed away in 1981.

ment had banned entry of all both claimants to the title of Karmapa to the Rumtek monastery in East Sikkim in 1994.

The Sikkim government has written several times and passed resolutions requesting the Centre to allow Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje to visit Sikkim where his previous reincarnation lived ever since he left Tibet following the Chinese takeover and where he had many followers and also his seat in exile. The Centre has,



RUSFC wins Premier Division League's inaugural match

SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Royal United Sikkim Football Club [RUSFC] has started its Play247 Sikkim Premier League 2017 campaign with a victory. In the inaugural match of the premier division league here at Paljor Stadium this evening RUSFC edged past Boys Club, Gangtok, 2-1. This was the first time for a match of the premier division league matches to be held in the evening under flood lights.

The inaugural match had Sports & Youth Affairs Minister, RB Subba as the

chief guest who was accompanied by Rajya Sabha MP, Hishey Lachungpa and GMC Chairperson, Ashish Rai as guests of honour.

With an early goal from Rinchen Lepcha in the 2nd minute, Boys Club finished the first half with 1-0 lead. However, RUSFC captain, Mayal Dok Lepcha scored the equaliser for RUSFC in the 47th minute of the second half. Soon, Karan Rai extended the lead of RUSFC to 2-1 in the 79th minute.

Boys' Club players tried to bounce back but failed to add to their score leading to RUSFC

registering this 2-1 victory and scoring 3 points.

On Tuesday, Pakyong United Football Club will take on State Sports Academy in the second match of the league at 12 noon, which will be followed by another match between the defending champion, Sikkim Aakraman Football Club and last year's runners-up Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club at 2 p.m.

Eight premier division clubs of the State are participating in the premier division league, which is being organised by Sikkim Football Association.

Police nab duo who escaped from Namchi Prison

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Two under trial inmates of Namchi District Prison, South Sikkim who had escaped from the prison on 02 Sept have been caught by the police. The duo had staged a daring escape from the district prison through a tunnel dug under the jail's walls.

A team comprising of Police personnel of Kaluk Police Station and Hee Gaon Outpost arrested

Kishan Gurung from Gaubring Near Martam, West Sikkim today. The other inmate, Yogesh Bardewa, had been nabbed on 07 Sept at Jarong by a team comprising of Police Personnel from Ravangla Police Station, Special Branch (Ravangla) and Sikkim State Jail, Namchi.

The duo were found missing from the District Prison at 6:40 a.m. on 02 Sept morning when the jail authorities carried out their usual counting

of inmates. On enquiry it was learnt that the two had been sent to dispose of garbage and had not returned thereafter.

Yogesh Bardewa (21) of Jarong, South Sikkim, was under judicial custody at Namchi prison from 11 Feb 2017 and Kishan Gurung (26) of Jaldhaka, Darjeeling district was in the prison from 29 Nov 2016. Both were booked under POSCO Act and the case is under trial at the District Session Court Namchi.



Banks reopen sans banking in Kalimpong

SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG, 11 SEPT:

Following yesterday's meeting convened by the District Magistrate with representatives of local businesses, offices and schools to explore the possibility of returning normalcy to Kalimpong, today, three banks - Indian Overseas Bank,

State Bank of India and Canara Bank - opened their branches in town amidst tight security.

This however remained a token gesture since no banking was possible in the absence of internet connection, a service which has remained suspended in these parts since 18 June.

So, banks opened after 90 days here today, but banking has still not returned.

Meanwhile, schools and businesses remained shut, preferring to wait and watch. All eyes are now on the Tuesday meeting in Siliguri between the West Bengal Government and repre-

sentatives of hill groups striving for statehood.

Stakeholders point to the pointlessness of open banks but no banking, to stress that normalcy cannot return piecemeal. If schools reopen, the students and teachers will need vehicles which will need fuel and the schools will need operational

kitchens and canteens which need supplies.

Meanwhile, in another development, today, after nearly two months, a North Bengal State Transport Corporation bus came into town from Siliguri and one left here for Siliguri. These buses had very few passengers on board.

Rape accused from Bihar nabbed in Namchi

**SUMMIT REPORT
NAMCHI, 11 SEPT:**

A Bihar resident wanted in a rape case was nabbed by police at Namchi, South Sikkim today. A team of Bihar Police with assistance from Namchi Police arrested Jagdish Singh after he was traced at Namchi. Sikkim Police provided assistance on written requisition. The accused will be produced before the Court on Tuesday for transit remand.

Tourism Department to observe World Tourism Day on 27 Sept

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

The Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation will be observing World Tourism Day 2017 on 27 Sept in accordance with the underlying message of the United Nations General Assembly. The World Tourism Day 2017 will be celebrated on the theme 'Sustainable Tourism - A Tool for Development.'

Sustainable Tourism will encompass the three dimensions of sustainable development-economic, social and environment to bolster environment protection, champion diverse cultural heritage and strengthen peace in the world, a press release informs.

In line with the vision of Chief Minister Pawan Chamling of making the people of Sikkim self sufficient and self reliant, the Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation will be conducting two days sensitization programme for tourist guides/tour operators and taxi drivers on 15-16 Sept, respectively, at Paryatan Bhawan in Tadong as part of the World Tourism Day Celebration 2017. The event will have key speakers from various departments and certificates of participation will be distributed by the department to the participants, the release adds.

turn to pg5

Demonstration on Urad Dal cultivation at Menrongong

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 11 SEPT:

Agriculture Technology Management Agency [ATMA]-North Sikkim conducted a Front Line Demonstration [FLD] on organic cultivation and Package of Practices [POP] of Urad Dal [black gram] at Menrongong in Kabi-Tingda, North Sikkim today.

A dedicated farmer of Menrongong Village, Tshering Lepcha, was given a brief demonstration on field preparation, nutrient management, line sowing and spacing of the crop by Block Technology Manager [Kabi], Norbu D Bhutia, under the guidance of Joint Director-Food Security & Agriculture Development Department [North], Churamani Upreti.

It may be mentioned here, Urad Dal is a short duration crop that offers opportunity for mixed cropping and is a rich source of protein [24-26%]. The optimum



temperature for its cultivation ranges from 25-35 degrees with tolerance for frost and can be grown in the lower and mid hills up to elevation

of 1500m.

The FLD is conducted for the whole crop season, starting from field preparation and sowing to its harvest, during

which the entire POP of the crop will be demonstrated. A well managed organically cultivated Urad Dal yields up to 8-10 Q/ha, which is expect-

ed from the FLD, which in turn will encourage more farmers to adopt the technology, thereby fulfilling the purpose of the demonstration.

ASKCBKS meeting discusses Durga Puja celebration

ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Akhil Sikkim Khas Chettri Bahun Kalyan Sangh [ASKCBKS] called a meeting on 10 Sept at Shakthipith Mandir, Majhgaon, in Jorethang, South Sikkim, with regard to the celebration of the upcoming Durga Puja and organizing a Phulpati Shova Yatra.

The meeting was organized jointly by the Milan Samaj and ASKCBKS-Jorethang branch and was chaired by Chairperson-Naya Bazaar Jorethang Municipal Corporation, Tika Gurung.

During the meeting various issues related to the celebration of Durga Puja and Shova Yatra were discussed. The meet also dissolved the old committee and constituted a new committee with the Chairperson-NJMC as the Chief Patron.

The new committee has DK Gurung as president, Pusp Sharma as vice president, Roshan Thapa as general secretary, Milan Chettri as joint secretary and Kumara Mazhi as treasurer.

DS Bista, DB Rawath, MN Gautam and CS Sharma have



been appointed as advisors of the newly constituted committee.

The meeting stressed on active participation in maintaining unity for preserving the tradition and culture of the Sikkimese society.

The meeting also decided to invite all the Samajs and NGOs of Jorethang for making Phulpati

Shova Yatra and the Durga Puja celebration a grand success.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 16 Sept which will have the presence of members of other Samajs and NGOs.

It was decided during the meeting that the Puja will be conducted from 21-29 Sept with the Phulpati Shova Yatra to be held on 27 Sept and the bisarjan

[immersion of Durga idol] ceremony on 30 Sept.

A mass cleanliness drive at Shakthipith Mandir was also conducted during the daylong programme by ASKCBKS, under the guidance of its president, DS Bista, and had the presence of all members of the Sangh as well as local residents.



Tingting school organizes Teachers' Day and felicitation programme

SUMMIT REPORT

YUKSAM, 11 SEPT: Teachers' Day-cum-felicitations programme was organized here at Tingting Primary School in Yuksam today.

The daylong programme was attended by area MLA, Sonam Dadul Bhutia, as chief guest accompanied by Sub Divisional Magistrate-Yuksam, Dr Sonam Rinchen Lepcha, Block Development Officer-Yuksam, Nickje Lamu Bhutia, Panchayat president-Yuksam, Budha Hang Subba, Panchayat Secretary, Dichen Wangchuk Bhutia, along with Human Resource Development Department officials, students and the general public.

The School Administration and School Management Committee felicitated Marathon Man, Amar Subba and butterfly enthusiast Nawang Gyatsho Bhutia along with two retired teachers

with citation letters.

While addressing the programme, area MLA Sonam Dadul Bhutia congratulated the school and expressed his appreciation to the organizers for arranging the programme. He stressed that the society needs determined and dedicated teachers to guide the children who are the future of the State. He expressed happiness and satisfaction over Tingting Primary School's all round development.

In response to the demand placed by School Headmaster, Lendup Lepcha, the area MLA reiterated his commitment to extend support and assistance to the school for maintenance of the school play ground and provision of protective wall at school premises.

He further appealed to local residents to come forward and make contributions to the school.

New building of Sadam school inaugurated

SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 11 SEPT:

The alumni association of Sadam Senior Secondary School in collaboration with the School Managing Committee today organized the inaugural function of the newly constructed school building. The inaugural function was attended by Area MLA cum Minister, Tulshi Devi Rai, as chief guest along with Director-Higher Education [Human Resource Development Department], MT Sherpa.

It may be mentioned here, the ground floor of the three-storied school building has been constructed under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyaan [RMSA] at an amount of Rs 19.83 lakh while the top two floors have been constructed at a cost of Rs 7.16 lakh by the alumni association of Sadam SSS.

President of the alumni association, DB Basnett, in his address, said that Sadam SSS is one of the oldest schools

turn to pg05

ADMISSION OPEN

ZUMBA

Studio & Music in Motion Dance Academy

BELOW STNM HOSPITAL, GANATOK, EAST SIKKIM

REGD. NO. IV/VOL.12/SL NO.336

Contact 9933546862

Zumba Class
Time : Morning 6:30 am
3:15 pm Evening / 4:30 pm Evening
5:30 pm Evening and also for the Housewife timing 9:00am

Contact 8906319715

Dance Class for Adults & Children
Timing 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Every Saturday & Sunday

musicinmotion77@gmail.com
musicinmotiondanceacademy

SummitTIMES

informed, inquisitive, relevant

ST TOP OF THE SECT

SummitTIMES

SummitTIMES

SummitTIMES

SummitTIMES

Gangtok on Tuesday, 12 Sept

Temp: 25°C / 16°C

Forecast: Mostly cloudy and not as war; a little morning followed by a thundershower in the afternoon.

Sunrise: 05:19 AM
Sunset: 05:44 PM

Facebook helps police trace Nepal runaway's family

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

In an instance of the positive use of the internet and social media, Sikkim Police has managed to trace and contact the parents of a teenaged boy, reported missing from Nepal.

On 09 Sept, plain cloth police personnel found the teen roaming around at Jorethang Bazaar in South Sikkim and on enquiry found out that the boy had fled from home after a minor dispute with his parents.

The minor did not possess any documents of his identity or contact number of his parents. Thereafter, the police 'googled' the contact number of the concerned police station in Nepal and also sent a message to the boy's father on Facebook asking him to contact Jorethang Police Station as soon as possible.

The boy's family then contacted Jorethang PS on the number provided in the message and thanked Jorethang police for finding their child.

The boy has been handed over to a team member of the District Child Protection Unit of Namchi until the arrival of his parents.

Chief Justice SK Agnihotri chairs NGT Eastern Zone regional conference

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) Eastern Zone regional conference was held on 09-10 Sept at Guwahati in Assam on the theme of 'Waste Disposal and Management'.

A press release informs that eminent academicians and experts in the field, judges, Chief Secretary of Assam, Chairperson of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and those involved in the management of waste converged at the venue to deliberate on the given theme.

Chief Justice of Sikkim High Court, Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri, chaired the plenary session held on 10 Sept.

Addressing the session, Justice Agnihotri spoke on waste management in Indus Valley Civilization, which dates back to 2500 BC. It has been discovered that Mohen-Jo-Daro and Harappa towns, presently situated in Pakistan and Lothal in Gujarat, had developed very good drainage and sanitary systems, he mentioned.

He highlighted the common forms of managing wastes in present period which includes destruction through burning or incineration, dumping, burying, transportation from one place to another place, recycling, reusing and composting. He informed about the pros and cons

of each form of waste management. He also mentioned about the recent tragedy at East Delhi's Ghazipur landfill site where a deadly 'avalanche' swept away public properties, killed people and injured many.

Coming to e-waste management, he told the gathering that the E-Waste [Management and Handling] Rules, 2011 apply to every producer, consumer or bulk consumer involved in the manufacture, sale & purchase and processing of electrical and electronic equipment or components as specified in the list of schedule. The Pollution Control Boards are to implement the rules with positive spirit and

authorize or grant the permission, handling, dismantling etc of the e-waste, he added.

Regarding Sikkim, the Chief Justice highlighted about the cleanliness of the urban centres and rural areas of the State. Waste management is being implemented in a proper manner by all the stakeholders, he said.

He also praised the initiatives taken by the state government in garbage collection and management despite scarcity of land, executing the ban on use of plastic bags and prohibition on agricultural waste burning.

The co-chairperson of the session was Justice Dr P Jyothimani [Judicial member-NGT].

SUSA's new executive committee takes oath



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Vice Chancellor of Sikkim University, TB Subba, who is also the patron of Sikkim University Students' Association [SUSA], administered oath today to the newly elected Executive Committee members of SUSA, an SU press release informs.

The elected members include Lalit Pokhrel Sharma as president, Nisha Rai as vice president and Sonam Wangdi Dorjee Bhutia as general secretary.

It may be mentioned here, the election to various posts of the Executive Committee of SUSA was held on 08 Sept with polling conducted at Cauveri Hall

in 5th Mile, Gangtok. The counting of votes was carried out on the same day at 6 p.m. in the evening.

Professor Nawal K Paswan [Chief Election Officer] had made arrangements for smooth conduct of polling and counting of votes while Joint Director, Chief Electoral Officer [Government of Sikkim] was the External Observer with Associate Professor, Dr Sandhya Thapa, as the Internal Observer for the election, the release adds.

Vice Chancellor, Mr Subba, congratulated all the newly elected Executive Committee members of the SUSA after administering the oath today.



Workshop on youth leadership held at PNGSSS

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

The Interact Club Council of Gangtok organized a youth leadership workshop in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Gangtok South and Sikkim State AIDS Control Society at Paljor Namgyal Girls Senior Secondary School on 10 Sept, a press release informs.

Hosted by Interact Club of PNGSSS, the objective of the workshop was to impart skills and values in leadership development to the youth.

The programme had resource persons namely Bishal Darnal [Post Graduate Teacher-Modern SSS], Ms Achui [Life skill mentor-Promise Institute], Subash Koirala [Sikkim State AIDS Control Society] and Prakash Sundas [Advisor-Interact Club Council, Gangtok].

The release further adds that the workshop reflected diverse strategies exhibited by the resource persons in motivating and rejuvenating

the youth who in turn reciprocated with high spirit of interest and inquisitiveness.

Mr Koirala enlightened the youth on HIV AIDS and urged the youth to be conscious and responsible.

Ms Achui extensively spoke on inferiority complex as an obstacle in the development of youths' personality while Mr Darnal emphasized on the necessity of understanding that attitude is the best predictor of suc-

cess rather than IQ.

The programme was also addressed by Chairperson-Interact Club Council, Gangtok, Anmol Dewapati.

NOTICE

This is to inform everyone that in view of the repair works at **Chintan Bhawan**, the venue shall be closed for hosting any programmes from **3rd October till 5th November 2017**.

Many thanks,

DIO/E



SEMINAR ON GST AT ICAFI

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: ICAFI University-Sikkim organized an interactive seminar today on the topic 'GST: Economic, Legal and Technological dimensions'. A large number of students and faculties of different departments participated in the seminar organized in the college auditorium in Gangtok, a press release informs.

~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS

SummitTimes Classified section at Rs. 10 per word.


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

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

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



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




**HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**


**Last Chance for Untrained Teacher for obtaining
Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed.)**

- Government of India has given an opportunity to lakhs of untrained school teachers teaching in Govt./Govt. aided and Private Schools from 1 st to 8 th class to get D.El.Ed. upto 2019
- Course duration is only two years, no further extension therefore rush to get yourself enrolled. Last date of enrolment is 15 th September, 2017.
- For registration visit NIOS website www.nios.ac.in or dled.nios.ac.in and NIOS D.El.Ed. Mob. App. (Mobile App can be downloaded from Google Play Store)
- First year fee Rs. 4500/- through Online.
- Complete Self-Training Material available on SWAYAM portal online and SWAYAM PRABHA educational DTH channel.
- If any teacher has not secured 50% aggregate in 12 th class, such teachers can also apply simultaneously to NIOS for improvement of their 12 th percentage through On Demand Examination (ODEs).
- This is last opportunity for such untrained teachers to complete the course. No further extension. Those teachers who do not acquire the required minimum qualification would not be allowed to continue in service after 31 st March, 2019.
- For complete information about course visit NIOS website www.nios.ac.in.

Hurry ! get yourself enrolled



शिक्षा का अधिकार
सब शिक्षा अभियान
सब पढ़ें सब बढ़ें



सत्यमेव जयते

Student tollfree Helpline no: 1800 180 9393,
website: www.nios.ac.in
E-mail: dled_enquiries@nios.ac.in
NIOS Headoffice
A-24/25, Sector-62, NOIDA, U.P.-201309

Issued by: SPD/SSA, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

To Protect and to Promote

To secure the future, think beyond protection and quotas

Local protection is an important issue. It could also be argued that it is of more emotional significance than constructive intervention, but because people and their leaders feel so strongly about the issue, it becomes very important. Even the West, with its enviable unemployment rate despite the economic downturn, is passionately debating the pros and cons of outsourcing which, in its mind is taking jobs away to cheaper human resource destinations even though benefits of such cost cuts benefit cash-strapped consumers at home the most.

So yes, local protection evokes a passionate and emotional response from the people, and governments have to continuously appear to be prioritising it. There are, however, practical and logistic implications that should never be lost sight of and quality never allowed to be compromised. Opportunities that progressive and positive attitudes create should not be allowed to get drowned by the din of rhetoric. In a world growing increasingly 'flat' [to borrow the now dated term from Thomas L. Friedman], digging trenches only manages to keep opportunities out, shrinks the horizon and constricts development. The present times demand competitive edge, and prioritizing protectionism dulls this pre-requisite of making it in the world. Protect, yes, but also trust the inherent skills and potential of the young. The young have proven that they have what it takes to succeed and survive. Take for example the many young entrepreneurs that Sikkim can boast of now. They happened when the easier option of landing employment with the government became scarce and also less appealing. They applied themselves to enterprises, something that the 'local' talent pool was not considered very adept at till even a decade back. But look around now, the youth, who while in school, were being groomed for cushy bureaucracy or technical professions, have grown up quite well as hoteliers, restaurateurs, travel operators, small scale industrialists, respected professionals with national media, sportspersons... achievers.

Such successes probably happened because they grew up before obsessive protectionism invaded the public domain and made the young lazy. This of course does not go to say that job opportunities should not be protected for the people of the land, they should; but the policy makers have to strike the right balance where it is done in a way that does not lull future generations into a false sense of security and stops them from developing skills which make them world beaters. It is not easy, but a good beginning can be made with devising ways which reward healthy business practices. Investors who set up shop in Sikkim should conduct themselves better, encourage and invite more local employment on their own instead of being made to do so by way of legislations. They enjoy tax breaks and many other sops when they opt for Sikkim, not because Sikkim needs more factories, but because it rewards job creation. They have to understand and appreciate this fact. The young on the other hand should be groomed as competitors, not as beneficiaries-in-waiting. In times to come, it should be their skills that attract and retain investments and not lavish industrial policies alone. Various arms of the government will have to collaborate to make this possible. It is possible and the generation controlling the present owes it to the future.

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

Beyond cats and Kardashians: can journalism satisfy audiences without dumbing down?

Australia is debating the problem of media companies getting increasingly enamoured by the sugar hit of audience reach. This debate of sensationalism over sensible and noise over content is as valid in India

PETER FRAY
theconversation.com

As the Federal government attempts to reform Australia's media ownership laws, evidence is emerging that journalists are moving away from the traditional watchdog role of the press towards satisfying the demands of audiences.

Decades of debate about whether journalists ought to give audiences what they like rather than what journalists think they need is being resolved in favour of what US journalism thinker Jeff Jarvis dismisses as the "cats and Kardashians" model of digital journalism.

But is giving audiences what they want the same as dumbing down?

Results from a recently published study of Australian journalists indicate that journalists are shifting their thinking away from the "citizen orientation" typically associated with the watchdog role of the press to a more consumer focus.

Senior editors say that understanding what audiences want — as recorded by clicks and other forms of web-based feedback — is an essential part of contemporary journalism.

Growing advertising revenues on the basis of audience reach and volume remains the dominant journalism business model.

As Kate de Brito, the editor-in-chief of the country's most visited news website, news.com.au, puts it, if no one clicks, "you may as well have just emailed it to your mum".

But Jarvis, the director of the Tow-Knight Center for Entrepreneurial Journalism at City University New York, argues news organisations need to understand that getting more clicks isn't the same as listening to your audience.

"The price of advertising is going down, desperation up. Journalism gets cheapened in the process."

Efforts to reshape how journalism survives and makes money — and serves its multiple roles in society — has emerged as a key sticking point in Federal government moves to change Australia's media ownership laws.

Reform of the media ownership laws that restrict any one person controlling radio, TV and a newspaper in the same market hinges on the government's willingness to back measures promoted by Senator Nick Xenophon to support public inter-

est journalism.

Xenophon, a key member of a current senate journalism inquiry, has supported tax breaks to small media companies and other ways to develop new business models for journalism.

The government has been reluctant to support tax relief but reportedly has a more positive attitude to other measures to boost journalism jobs and explore new business models.

Without support from Labor or the Greens, Team Xenophon's votes will be crucial to the passage of any deal that would also end restrictions on any one person controlling TV licenses that reach more than 75% of the population.

Indications from Canberra are that a compromise deal could be close.

Alternatives to one-size-fits-all mass audience model are under trial or development across the journalism sector, from experiments in surfacing quality journalism using artificial intelligence to moves to personalise news and information feeds.

The New York Times, for instance, has stated it wants to deliver individualised news based on what individuals read, where they live and how often they come to the site.

Given the NYT has 2.3 million digital-only subscribers, this is perhaps the most ambitious attempt yet at active audience listening.

Jarvis calls on media companies of all sizes to recreate journalism as a service based on "relevance and value"; cast aside the idea of mass, rethink audiences as communities and individuals.

But, as he concedes, media companies are understandably finding it hard to build a new house (based on his notion of service) when the old one (based on volume) is burning down.

Audience reach and volume — and the constant flow of metrics that reveal them — drive the news agenda for most media companies. Ratings always have in commercial radio and TV.

But now few media outlets can afford to ignore what audiences are doing (or not) with their content. Advertisers won't let them.

In the recently published study of Australian journalists, Folker Hanusch, from the University of Vienna, and Edson Tandoc, from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, explored the impact of audience feedback via readers' comments, Twitter and web analytics on journalists' thinking.

In a survey of 358 journalists, they found a marked shift towards providing "the kind of news that attracts the largest audience" as opposed to the more traditional role of holding the politicians and business to account.

This especially held true for journalists working in competitive markets; those freed from market pressures were "able to prioritize their normative functions of being watchdogs and shaping public opinion".

Even so, most Australian media companies, including the national broadcaster, are enamoured by the sugar hit of audience reach.

In the most recent Nielsen digital ratings, the closest competitor to news.com.au, with its 5,905,000 unique visitors a month, is the ABC. Its combined news sites reach 4,651,000 Australians a month.

Little wonder then that Fairfax chief Greg Hywood gets so upset about the ABC using taxpayers' money to buy Google ads: smh.com.au is about half a million behind the ABC and no other Fairfax site is in the current top 10.

Hanusch and Tandoc's work indicates that a radical reshaping of how journalists see their roles is underway.

"Seeing the number of unique visitors to the site, the number of page views a page gets, and the amount of time readers spend on a story, among others, easily and regularly, could be socializing journalists into prioritizing these metrics."

But what do clicks actually mean?

Results of a recently published Dutch study of news consumers indicate that the act of clicking — or not — is more complex than like or not and driven by a host of considerations. The study also makes the obvious but useful observation: clicks do not account for the preference of consumers who browse without clicking.

The study by Tim Groot Kormelink and Irene Costera Meijer, both from Vrije University in Amsterdam, described 30 considerations for clicking or not clicking among a group of 56 news consumers.

Reasons for not clicking included supersaturation ("not another story about Syria", said one participant) to "bullshit": the users instantly dismissed the "pettiness of the headline".

The study's participants often engaged in "on-line browsing patterns that did express interest in news, yet did not necessitate a click". The authors conclude that "even if one seeks a rough estimate of people's news interests, clicks are a flawed instrument".

Therein lies a pressing conundrum for the on-line news industry: if not clicks, what? If audiences — and advertisers — are going to be fully served, there needs to be better way.

[the writer is Professor of Journalism Practice, University of Technology Sydney]

Why al-Qaida is still strong 16 years after 9/11

TRICIA BACON
theconversation.com

Sixteen years ago, on September 11, 2001, al-Qaida conducted the most destructive terrorist attack in history.

An unprecedented onslaught from the U.S. followed. One-third of al-Qaida's leadership was killed or captured in the following year. The group lost its safe haven in Afghanistan, including its extensive training infrastructure there. Its surviving members were on the run or in hiding. Though it took nearly 10 years, the U.S. succeeded in killing al-Qaida's founding leader, Osama bin Laden. Since 2014, al-Qaida has been overshadowed by its former ally al-Qaida in Iraq, now calling itself the Islamic State.

In other words, al-Qaida should not have survived the 16 years since 9/11.

So why has it?

THE TIES THAT BIND

Much of the credit goes to al-Qaida's extraordinary ability to both form alliances and sustain them over time and under pressure.

In my forthcoming book "Alliances for Terror," I examine why a small number of groups, such as al-Qaida and IS, emerge as desirable partners and succeed at developing alliance networks.

Understanding terrorist alliances is critical because terrorist organizations with allies are more lethal, survive longer and are more apt to seek weapons of mass destruction. Though terrorist partnerships face numerous hurdles and severing al-Qaida's alliances has been a U.S. objective for over a decade, the fact is that these counterterrorism efforts have failed.

It was allies that enabled al-Qaida to survive the immediate aftermath of 9/11. The Afghan Taliban stood by al-Qaida after the attack, refusing to surrender bin Laden and thereby precipitating the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. Fleeing, al-Qaida was able to turn to allies in Pakistan to hide its operatives and punish the Pakistani government for capitulating to U.S. pressure to crackdown on the group.

It was alliances that helped al-Qaida continue to terrorize. In October 2002, for example, al-Qaida's ally in Southeast Asia, Jemaah Islamiyah, struck a bar and a nightclub in Bali, killing more than 200 and injuring more than 200 more, to brutally commemorate the first anniversary of 9/11.

And it was alliances that allowed al-Qaida to project viability. With the "prestige" that came with conducting 9/11, al-Qaida was able to forge more of them and indeed create affiliate alliances in which partners adopted its name and pledged allegiance to bin Laden.

Al-Qaida's first and most notorious affiliate alliance, al-Qaida in Iraq, was formed in 2004 with Jordanian jihadist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. Using the standing he accrued through his role in the insurgency in Iraq, Zarqawi then helped al-Qaida acquire its second affiliate in 2006, al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb. Then, in 2009, al-Qaida designated its branch in Yemen and Saudi Arabia as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. Its alliances spanned the Middle East and helped it to project power, despite the U.S. war on terrorism.

A LOWER PROFILE

While al-Qaida still sought affiliates, by 2010, it modified how its alliances

work.

Al-Qaida forged an alliance with al-Shabaab in Somalia, but did not publicly announce it or ask al-Shabaab to change its name. Bin Laden justified to al-Shabaab's leader the shift to a less visible form of alliance as a way to prevent an increase in counterterrorism pressure or a loss of funds from the Arabian Peninsula. He privately expressed concerns that al-Qaida's name "reduces the feeling of Muslims that we belong to them, and allows the enemies to claim deceptively that they are not at war with Islam." Bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, saw the move as bin Laden capitulating to members of al-Qaida who worried about "inflating the size and the growth of al-Qaida." After bin Laden's death, Zawahiri publicly announced al-Qaida's alliance with al-Shabaab, though al-Shabaab still did not adopt al-Qaida's name.

Though al-Qaida's alliance arrangements have varied, these relationships have helped it to survive the loss of its founding leader in 2011 and the ascent of a far less capable leader. Zawahiri's rise to the helm of the group was the consequence of an alliance, specifically between his original Egyptian group, al-Jihad, and al-Qaida. The alliance culminated in a merger in 2001, with Zawahiri becoming bin Laden's deputy and successor.

However, Zawahiri lacks bin Laden's cachet or diplomatic savvy. He is a better deputy than a leader. His poor handling of the strife between jihadist group al-Nusra in Syria and its parent organization, the Islamic State in Iraq (previously al-Qaida in Iraq and now IS), led to the alliance rupture between al-Qaida and its affiliate in Iraq.

Though al-Qaida had an acrimonious

break with IS, it gained al-Nusra as an affiliate in the central conflict in the Sunni jihadist movement: Syria. As was the case with al-Shabaab, this alliance with al-Nusra did not include a rebranding and was initially kept secret. In addition, al-Nusra subsequently changed its name, an effort to gain more legitimacy within the conflict in Syria by publicly distancing itself from al-Qaida, though seemingly with al-Qaida's consent.

Al-Qaida has not acquired another affiliate since the alliance rupture and rise of IS as a rival in 2014. It organized existing members into a new branch, al-Qaida in the Indian subcontinent, that year. The branch in South Asia reflected al-Qaida's success at expanding beyond its predominantly Arab base, particularly in Pakistan.

Critically, with the exception of IS, al-Qaida's alliances have been resilient over time. This is true despite ample reasons for its partners to abandon ties, such as the heightened counterterrorism pressure that comes with affiliation to al-Qaida; the death of its charismatic leader; and the Islamic State's efforts to court al-Qaida allies. Even the Afghan Taliban remains unwilling to sever ties, even though doing so would eliminate one of the major reasons that the United States will not withdraw from the "forever war" in Afghanistan.

There is a window now for the U.S. to damage al-Qaida's alliances: It has a weak leader and major rival. But that window may be closing as the Islamic State's so-called caliphate crumbles and al-Qaida grows bin Laden's son as its future leader.

[the writer is Assistant Professor of Justice, Law & Criminology, American University]



Maharashtra bikers team calls on Governor

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Governor Shrinivas Patil today granted audience to a team of 38 bikers of Tyremark Explore Life from Pune, Maharashtra. The team was led by Nitin Joshi and arrived in Gangtok on 10 Sept.

A press release from Raj Bhavan informs that the Governor welcomed the team to Sikkim. The members will be touring interior parts of North and East Sikkim in the next five days, the release mentions.

ABTYP's National Adhiveshan to be held in Kolkata

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

The 51st National Adhiveshan of Akhil Bharatiya Terapanth Yuvak Parishad [ABTYP] is scheduled to be held at Kolkata in West Bengal on 16 Sept. The meet will have the presence of Yuvamanishi Acharya Mahashraman Ji, a press release informs. A special train named Acharya Mahashraman Express carrying 1200 youths from South India is expected to arrive in Kolkata. The future activities of the organization will be discussed during the 51st National Adhiveshan, the release informs.

Tourism Department to observe...

contd from pg02

The Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation, in the release, has requested all the concerned to be part of the sensitization programme.

For further details, one can contact Joint Director [I&P] at 9832065617, Deputy Secretary [Adm] at 7076733489, Under Secretary [I&P] at 7407903538 and Tourist Officer [I&P] at 9733171499.



AP junior engineer gets top award

ITANAGAR, SEP 11 (PTI): A junior engineer of the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) of Arunachal Pradesh won the top prize in the Swachhathon-Swachh Bharat Hackathon contest organised by the Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

The toilet innovation idea of Ram Prakash Tiwari, junior engineer of the Yupia division

of PHED was selected among 3,053 entries from across the country and professionals abroad in the category of 'Toilet Technology in Difficult Terrain', an official statement said here today.

Entries for Swachhathon, under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), include a one-minute video presentation on an idea.

The state government had nominated Tiwari's

innovation based on locally available materials, particularly mature bamboos wrapped in plastic for use in twin pit latrines as a suitable alternative to bricks.

The grand jury comprising Naina Lal Kidwai, Bindeshwar Pathak and Secretary of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation Parameswaran Iyer gave top billing for Tiwari's concept.

The first prize comprising a plaque, certificate and Rs 3-lakh was awarded by Union Minister SS Ahluwalia and Union Minister of State for Drinking Water and Sanitation Ramesh Jigajinagi on Friday in New Delhi.

The cost-effective and sustainable solution was built on pilot basis by a beneficiary Tana Techi from Midpu in Lekha

panchayat under the direct supervision and technical guidance of Tiwari and the team of Yupia PHE and WS Division.

The technology is to be adopted in the state for achieving Open Defecation Free by December.

Tiwari, meanwhile, donated the cash award for the cause of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) in the state, the statement added.

New building of Sadam school inaugurated

contd from pg02

of Sikkim which was established in 1886 and has educated many generations of students of Sikkim. The school after being upgraded from secondary to senior secondary needed a better school building, he added.

While expressing gratitude to HRDD and area MLA for sanctioning an eight-storied school building for the school, he raised concerns over the construction work's progress and urged the area MLA and HRDD to intervene in the matter.

Director-Higher Education, MT Sherpa, in his address, said that the state government with its various schemes and projects has developed all the basic infrastructures in the State for delivering quality education. However, it is important that every school shows academic excellence.

He informed that Sikkim is the only State in the country where there is high teacher-student ratio while other State government schools are running with a single teacher. He further urged the teachers to be research-oriented and undergo all the training of the department for delivering quality educa-



tion in the State.

The Area MLA, in her address, thanked all the members of the alumni association of the school for their contribution towards the school and added that the government along with all concerned citizens and associations can only show the direction and facilitate infrastructural development but it is the responsibility of the students of the school to be responsible and work for a brighter future.

Speaking on the delay in the construction of the new school building, she informed that the contractor of the project has been given an ultimatum from the department to complete the project in time so that the school does not face problems. She informed that all the demands placed by the members of the school alumni will be addressed accordingly and will be fulfilled.

She further informed that for Sadam-Suntaley Ward, many projects have been sanctioned by the State government. Projects like Shakti Stal and development of adventure sports site in Sadam will promote tourism in the area, she added.

She informed that Melli constituency is ahead in poultry farming and animal husbandry sector and with the schemes of the State government people under the constituency have had the best opportunity to be self reliant. She also urged all the unemployed youth of the area to carry out the works of the government but they should complete the work within time and maintain quality in construction works. On the day, students, teachers and alumni of the school presented a musical presentation along with recitation of poems.

SIT probing Gauri Lankesh murder strengthened

BENGALURU, SEP 11 (PTI): The SIT probing the murder of Gauri Lankesh has been strengthened with 40 additional support staff as investigators continue to grope for clues, six days after the senior journalist was shot dead, sparking a national outrage.

The additional staff include four inspectors and seven sub-inspectors, police sources said.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT), headed by Inspector General of Police (Intelligence) B K Singh, comprises 21 officers.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Bengaluru West) M N Anucheth said, "Additional staff has been provided to the SIT.

At this juncture, we do not want to reveal their names and identity".

Police sources said the team was scrambling through the footage of CCTV installed by individuals in Rajarajeshwarinagar, where on the night of September 5 unknown assailants shot dead 55-year-old Lankesh at her home.



They said police have also taken the digital video recorders at the toll gates on five entry points to the city.

One of the aspects of the investigation was to check the involvement of sharp shooters from outside the city.

The killing of Lankesh, Left-leaning journalist-activist, has come in for widespread condemnation.

Meanwhile, at a press conference, former naxalites Noor Sridhar alias Noor Zulfikar and Sirimane Nagaraj ruled out the possibility of naxalites' involvement in the killing of Lankesh.

"I can tell you certainly that naxalites are not involved in the murder as has been reported in a section of the media.

This is only an attention diversion technique," Sridhar said.



Assam flood: One more person dies, 7 districts affected

GUWAHATI, SEP 11 (PTI): The floods in Assam claimed one more life as the deluge inundated two new districts today, taking the total number of affected districts to seven.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), the two new districts to be affected by deluge are Udalguri and Jorhat, while Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Morigaon, Nagaon and Sonitpur were already flood-hit.

It said although two more districts were in-

undated by the flood, the total number of affected people decreased from yesterday's 71,819 to 49,335 today.

Morigaon is the worst-affected where 24,985 people have been hit, followed by 21,679 in Sonitpur district, the ASDMA said.

The body of a 22-year old man, reported to be missing in the flood yesterday at Chariduar in Sonitpur district, was recovered today, the report said, adding the latest wave of deluge has so far claimed 76 lives.

With this, the toll in this year's flood in the state touched 160, it said.

Rains in Assam and in the upper reaches of neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh have caused the Brahmaputra and its tributaries to overflow inundating human habitations and agricultural fields, official sources said.

Flood water entered Jarasar river in Sonitpur district through Kameng river affecting several villages including Rangapara, Balipara and Chariduar, disrupting road connectivity from Balipara to

Bhalukpong in Arunachal Pradesh, they said.

The Brahmaputra at Nimatighat in Jorhat and rivers Dhansiri at Numaligarh in Golaghat, Jia Bharali at N T Road Crossing in Sonitpur are flowing above danger levels, the ASDMA said.

In all, 12,266 hectare of crop land are under water. The floods also affected infrastructure with embankments breached in Sonitpur district and the water flowing over National Highway 37 in Jorhat district's Teok revenue circle, it said.

It's business not as usual for Kolkata's dying 'band parties'



KOLKATA, SEP 11 (PTI): With Durga Puja round the corner, a member of an over 60-year-old band party (street band) rues how business is suffering as puja organisers are increasingly shunning the traditional immersion processions, forcing them to make do with wedding parties for survival.

The scene is not too different in Maharaja Band, Indian National Band and Calcutta Band which are part of the 50-odd band parties dotting the stretch between M G Road-College

Street crossing and M G Road-Central Avenue crossing for years.

"Business is suffering with the invasion of DJs (Disc Jockeys), which became an integral part of small and medium budget pujas. Many organisers are also giving more stress on theme pujas and are doing away with colourful immersion processions with illuminated gates and English Brass Band.

"But still, we are sustaining as many old barowari (community) puja organisers still follow the old traditions as well as

wedding processions increasingly taking a major part of our bookings. However, many members of the troupe has shifted to other professions," a 55-year-old member of the Mehboob Band said at a felicitation ceremony organised here.

The band, known as 'band party' in common parlance, offered English Brass Band, Classical Shehnai Party, Gas Light, and Orchestra and roped in by big budget puja organisers as well as others for processions.

"At one time, our band parties were an in-

tegral part of each and every puja immersion procession and we were fully booked throughout the festive season," the member said.

Celebrated music composer Debojyoti Mishra said, "To judge if a song became a hit or not, you need to see if the same number has been played by a band. When they perform a number, that means it has become a hit.

"So, the felicitation is a tribute to such musicians who have been entertaining us over so many decades, Mishra said af-

ter honouring ageing and younger members of the troupe which had started its journey during pre-independence at M G Road in the city, previously known as Harrison Road.

Mishra said he would involve street musicians to release his album abroad. "This unique street art of India, where performers have been practising it for generations, should be given due respect, Mishra said at the felicitation programme organised at a book store at a shopping mall here.

N Korea warns US of 'greatest pain' over fresh sanctions

TOKYO, SEP 11 (AP): North Korea says it will make the United States pay a heavy price if a proposal Washington is backing to impose the toughest sanctions ever on Pyongyang is approved by the UN Security Council this week.

The North's Foreign Ministry issued a statement early today saying it is watching the United States' moves closely and threatened it is "ready and willing" to respond with measures of its own.

Last Tuesday, the US circulated a draft resolution proposing the toughest-ever UN sanctions on North Korea, including a ban on all oil and natural gas exports to the country and a freeze on all foreign financial assets of the government and its leader, Kim Jong Un.

At AITA's coaching course: a dentist, engineer & banker

AMANPREET SINGH
NEW DELHI, SEP 11 (PTI): It's difficult to find something common between a dental surgeon, an IT professional, a mechanical engineer and a banker, but then sports is known to unite in more ways than one.

This year, out of 35 candidates who have applied for an AITA course to become tennis coach, 16 are from diverse backgrounds ranging from engineering to journalism.

Some of them have already left plum jobs to pursue the sporting career.

Chennai-based Ganesh Srinivasan, who has been in the IT industry for close to three decades, has already given up a decent annual package of Rs 24 lakh to become a tennis coach - a job which might not give him more than 20,000 per month initially.

"I have seen a lot of professionals, who are struggling with physical fitness. I want to help them. Playing sport creates happy hormones. I think tennis coaching is a fantastic alternate profession," the



52-year-old, who till recently worked with Ernst and Young, told PTI.

Then there's Ravi Shankar, a dental surgeon based in Tutikori, Tamil Nadu, who wants his twins to become tennis players.

"I played tennis at district level but could not become a professional. I have a boy and a girl, they are twins. My wife Parvada Varthini is also a dental surgeon, MDS. She is now pushing me to become a tennis coach," Shankar said after

a training session.

"I had forgotten myself but again after picking up racquet, I am getting myself back. Tennis is like meditation for me."

However, it is not a surprise to see that well-educated people are now aspiring to join the tennis coaching profession since the country has seen boom in tennis long before badminton took over as most sought after sport after cricket.

A trend has been witnessed in modern cities such as Chandigarh where hun-

dred of tennis academies have mushroomed and Markers have gradually taken over as coaches, earning close to 50,000 a month.

So, people who hardly earned Rs 300 to 400 as daily wages found that tennis coaching is a profitable. Without doubt, the tennis coaching has become lucrative.

Bikram Barua left his job at the Royal Bank of Scotland and now wants to establish his academy in Guwahati. He already has some experience

of coaching and had no hesitation in quitting his job.

Then there is Vignesh Bajaj, a computer scientist, who wants to coach kids in the rural areas of Tutikori.

Kanwaljit Singh, who conducted the seven-day (Level III) Foundation Coaches Course at Delhi Lawn Tennis Association, said they used to get one or two odd cases of non-sport candidates but this year the number is phenomenal.

"It's really motivating. It shows that tennis coaching is now very respectable, said Kanwaljit, who is one of only seven ITF Level III coaches in India.

"People are quitting good jobs to be tennis coaches. I have never seen so many people from different backgrounds in a single group," said Kanwaljit, who conducts the course along with Nar Singh, a DLTA coach.

Tennis has always been an expensive sport and also seen as a preserve of the elites. But the sport also opened the doors of prestigious clubs for the players, making it an aspi-

ration game.

Renuka Singh, who successfully pursued a Company Secretary (CS) course and worked with Mazaars, is also headed for a coaching career after getting married in a family of tennis professionals -- she is the wife of former national champion Ashutosh Singh.

Shainky Pathak became a gold medal-winning mechanical engineer in Bhopal. But he now wants to help tennis enthusiasts in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh, a dream which brought him to DLTA for this course.

Nar Singh, the DLTA coach, was delighted to note that more and more people are willing to join the profession.

"It shows that people are now more aware about tennis becoming a career option. More people want to play the sport so it's good that we have people from good educational background to join the profession," Singh said.

All it costs to be a tennis coach after clearing the exam is Rs 22,000, which includes Rs 15000 as course fee.

China plans to ban petrol, diesel cars

BEIJING, SEP 11 (PTI): China, the world's top automobile market, is planning to ban petrol and diesel cars and boost electric vehicles in a bid to contain air pollution and restrict traffic congestion.

Attending an automobile forum over the weekend, Xin Guobin, China's vice minister of industry and information

technology said that Beijing has started research on a timetable to phase out production and sales of fossil fuel cars.

Though Xin gave no details on the timeframe, he said, "The measures would surely bring profound changes to the sector's development."

The plan would follow decisions by France and Britain which have announced plans to ban the manufacturing and sales of cars running on traditional fuels.

Several Chinese cities, including Beijing and Shanghai, have already imposed severe restrictions on sale of new cars to contain air pollution and to

restrict traffic congestion.

The minister's statement followed similar moves of several countries to end the era of gas-powered vehicles to cut emissions and reduce pollution, state-run Xinhua news agency reported today.

In July, French Ecology Minister Nicolas Hulot had announced that France would end sales of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2040 as part of the country's plan to meet its targets under the Paris climate accord.

The same month, the British government followed suit with a similar plan eyeing 2040 as a deadline to stop sales of new fossil fuel cars.

Analysts say that while there is little doubt that new energy vehicles (NEVs) will eventually prevail, how long the switch takes remains to be seen and depends a lot on infrastructure and technology improvements as well as how fast automakers can adapt.

China manufactured and sold over 28 million vehicles in 2016, according to the International Organisation of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers.

China has been implementing a slew of measures, including tax exemptions, discounts for car purchases and an order for government organisations to buy more new energy vehicles (NEVs).

Nadal hails 'best season' and 'incredible era'

NEW YORK, SEP 11 (AFP): Rafael Nadal described the year 2017 as "one of the best of his career" on Sunday after winning a third US Open and 16th Grand Slam.

World number one Nadal defeated South Africa's world number 32 Kevin Anderson 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 in a brutally one-sided final during which he did not face a break point.

Nadal also claimed an unprecedented 10th French Open in June after finishing runner-up to Roger Federer at the Australian Open.

"In terms of results, this has been one of the best seasons of my career, of course," Nadal admitted of a year in which he won at least two Slams for the fourth time in his career.

Had he gotten the better of Gilles Muller at Wimbledon, where he lost the final set of his fourth-round clash 15-13, the year might have been even more memorable.

"I have been winning titles, playing three finals of Grand Slams, so that's a lot. That's so difficult. The other slam that I was not in the final, I lost the match 15-13 in the fifth to be in the quarterfinals.

"So was very competitive year for me. And on clay, I won almost every match. Of course is an emotional season because I have been through tough moments



in terms of injuries."

Nadal's win on Sunday was the latest chapter in an epic story of domination by the sport's superstars.

From Wimbledon in 2003, an incredible 53 of 58 Slams have now been claimed by just five men -- Federer (19), Nadal (16), Novak Djokovic (12) and Andy Murray and Stan Wawrinka with three apiece.

Only Andy Roddick, Gaston Gaudio, Marat Safin, Juan Martin del Potro and Marin Cilic have broken the spell.

"We are in an era that is not nice to say, because I'm part of it, but we are in an era that some players make incredible things in this sport," said Nadal.

"It's difficult to win a lot of titles. We should be very happy. Probably even Roger and me and Novak, much more than we ever dreamed."

To hammer home their enduring appeal and dominance, Federer and Nadal shared the four Slams in 2017 -- Federer winning the Australian Open before capturing a record eighth Wimbledon.

IIT-Roorkee to deploy earthquake warning system across N India

DEHRADUN, SEP 11 (PTI): Enthused by the success of its pilot project on operationalising an early earthquake warning system in Uttarakhand, IIT Roorkee is planning to deploy the first-of-its-kind system across all seismic-prone major cities of the north India.

This project in India is part of the overall research being conducted by the institute in the field of earthquake engineering and is an extension of the pilot project undertaken in the Himalayan region.

As a pilot, which started in 2015, IIT Roorkee was the first institute to deploy 84 sensors in seismic gap region of the Garhwal Himalayas in Uttarakhand with the help of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

These on-site sensors stream data in real-time to a computer server at the institute using network of the Uttarakhand government which is being processed for issuing warning for magnitude 6 and above earthquakes.

"Looking at the seismic map



of India, we know that most of the northern region cities are under a constant threat of a severe or moderate earthquake. The aim of our study in the Himalayan region was to ensure a working mechanism which will be able to save lives," said M L Sharma from IIT Roorkee's Department of Earthquake Engineering and the Principal Investigator of the project.

"Predicting earthquakes is impossible, but it is possible to save people living in dis-

tant cities through a simple warning system, which will give them enough lead time to reach a safe open place in case of an impending earthquake," Sharma said.

Sirens, connected to the server, have been fitted within the campus of IIT Roorkee to warn of an impending high magnitude earthquake in the region.

The project was successfully completed in March this year.

"The pilot was successfully completed and we have a working system within IIT Roorkee campus with sirens. Now we are deploying the same for the first time for public use in Dehradun and Haldwani. Within the next couple of years, I hope to scale this project up with the support of the Government and set up the Early Earthquake Warning systems across all major cities in North India, which are prone to earthquakes," Sharma said.

After the successful completion of the pilot project, the Uttarakhand government sanctioned a project to IIT Roorkee earlier this year for maintenance of present earthquake early warning system and installation of 100 additional sensors covering Kumaun region.

Installation of sirens in State Emergency Operation Centres (SEOC) at Dehradun and all district headquarters of Uttarakhand and installation of 100 sirens in Dehradun and Haldwani were also sanctioned.

The early earthquake warning system works on the principle of propagation of various waves with different velocities starting together from the same point and reaching the target at different times.

The Electromagnetic (EM) waves travel much faster and will reach the target much ahead of the damaging seismic waves giving what we call a lead time, Sharma said.

An on-site seismic monitor near the earthquake source can quickly detect seismic waves and transmit information to processing centres, which in turn can issue an earthquake warning in real-time, he added.

Recent data sets compiled over the last 2 centuries reveal that large magnitude earthquakes have occurred around various regions of the Himalayas, but one segment of the central Himalaya, known as the central seismic gap, has potential to generate a major earthquake and researchers tend to believe that such an earthquake is overdue.

UN warns of 'ethnic cleansing' of Myanmar's Muslims

COX'S BAZAR (BANGLADESH), SEP 11 (AFP): The situation in Myanmar is a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing", the United Nations said today, as the number of Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar for Bangladesh topped 300,000.

The Rohingya, a stateless Muslim minority, have faced decades of persecution in Myanmar where they are regarded as illegal immigrants.

But since the latest upsurge in violence on August 25, hundreds of thousands have flooded across the border into Bangladesh bringing stories of entire villages burned to the ground by Buddhist mobs and Myanmar troops.

Today the UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein accused Myanmar of waging a "systematic attack" on the Rohingya and warned that "ethnic cleansing" seemed to be under way.



"Because Myanmar has refused access to human rights investigators the current situation cannot yet be fully assessed, but the situation seems a textbook example of ethnic cleansing," he told the UN

Human Rights Council.

Suu Kyi, a Nobel peace laureate, has come in for strong international criticism over the military crackdown on the Rohingya, which began when militants ambushed

security forces on August 25.

The UN special rapporteur on human rights in Myanmar has said the latest violence may have left more than 1,000 dead, most of them Rohingya.

A further 27,000 ethnic Rakhine Buddhists as well as Hindus have also fled violence that has gripped northern Rakhine, where international aid programmes in Rakhine have been severely curtailed.

Fellow Nobel peace laureates Malala Yousafzai and Archbishop Desmond Tutu have urged Suu Kyi to intervene.

The UN refugee agency says at least 313,000 Rohingya have now arrived in Bangladesh from Myanmar's Rakhine state since August 25, around a third of the total population of 1.1 million.

The true figure could be even higher - the UN said many new arrivals are still on the move and are therefore left out of the calculations.

Dhaka initially stepped up border controls after the violence, stranding thousands of refugees at the Bangla-

deshi frontier, but in the last week has been allowing them to enter.

Refugee camps and makeshift settlements near the border with Myanmar, which already hosted hundreds of thousands of Rohingya before the latest upsurge in violence, are now completely overwhelmed.

That has left tens of thousands of new arrivals with nowhere to shelter from the monsoon rains.

Most have walked for days and the United Nations says many are sick, exhausted and in desperate need of shelter, food and water.

The UN's Zeid said he was "appalled" by reports that Myanmar security forces were laying mines near the border to stop the Rohingya returning.

Three Rohingya are reported to have been killed by a mine, and at least two more have lost limbs. One of the victims was a young boy.

Satyarthi launches countrywide march against child abuse



KANYAKUMARI (TN), SEP 11 (PTI): Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi today set on a march across the country to mobilise action against sexual abuse and trafficking of children. Starting from the southernmost tip of peninsular India, Kanyakumari, and passing through Kashmir, the Bharat Yatra will culminate in New Delhi on October 16. "Child rape and sexual abuse has become a moral epidemic that haunts our nation and we can no longer remain silent spectators. Our silence is breeding more violence. That is why the Bharat Yatra is the

beginning of an all-out war on rape, abuse and trafficking," he said. Satyarthi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014 for his struggle for the rights of children, launched the yatra from the Vivekananda Rock Memorial here. He urged the youth to join the campaign to ensure the safety and security of children. The rally's flagging off commemorated the anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's address at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893. Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his support to

the yatra and his message was read out at the launch. The campaign comes days after the killing of a seven-year-old Gurgaon schoolboy who had allegedly resisted sexual abuse and the alleged rape of a 5-year-old girl in a Delhi school -- incidents which evoked major outrage in the country. Satyarthi, who has been campaigning for the freedom, safety and security for children across the globe for the past 36 years, said each time if a single child was in danger, the country was in danger. "Bharat Yatra is to make India safe again for our children...

Make no mistake; this will be a decisive war; a war to reclaim the morality of the Indian soul," he said. "My war to end all forms of abuse against children starts today. Are you with me?" he asked the thousands gathered at the venue. Union minister Pon Radhakrishnan and noted music director Ilaiyaraaja were present on the occasion. Satyarthi was joined by government officials, school children and teachers, abuse survivors and mediapersons as he marched for the children of the country.

2 militants killed, 1 arrested during encounter in Kulgam

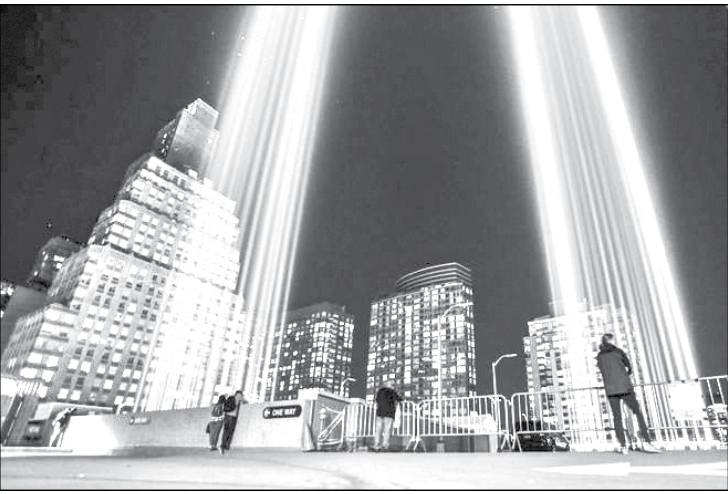
SRINAGAR, SEP 11 (PTI): Security forces today killed two unidentified militants in an overnight encounter in Kulgam district of Kashmir while the third was caught alive, police said. Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Khudwani area of Kulgam district following specific information about the presence of some militants there, a police spokesperson said. During searches, the militants opened fire at the security forces who retaliated, leading to a gunfight. Two militants were killed in the encounter, while the third one was captured alive, he said adding their identity and group affiliation was being ascertained.

In a similar case yesterday, two local Hizbul Mujahideen militants were killed while the third surrendered during an encounter with security forces in Shopian district.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE? email news@summittimes.com

US commemorates 9/11; thousands expected at ground zero

NEW YORK, SEP 11 (AP): While the US contends with the destruction caused by two ferocious hurricanes in three weeks, Americans also are marking the anniversary of one of the nation's most scarring days. Thousands of 9/11 victims' relatives, survivors, rescuers and others are expected to gather Monday at the World Trade Center to remember the deadliest terror attack on American soil. Sixteen years later, the quiet rhythms of commemoration have become customs: a recitation of all the names of the dead, moments of silence and tolling bells, and two powerful light beams that shine through the night. Yet each ceremony also takes on personal touches. Over the years, some name-readers have added



messages ranging from the universal ("the things we think separate us really don't we're all part of this one Earth") to the personal ("I love you and miss you. Go Packers!"). "Thank you, New York, for continuing to honor the victims of 9/11 and the privilege of reading their names," Judy Bram Murphy added last year. She lost her husband, Brian

Joseph Murphy. Nearly 3,000 people died when hijacked planes slammed into the trade center, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, on September 11, 2001, hurling America into a new consciousness of the threat of global terrorism. President Donald Trump, a native New Yorker observing the anniversary for the first time as the nation's leader, is scheduled to observe a moment of silence at about the time the first airplane hit. The White House said he is to be joined by first lady Melania Trump. He also planned to participate in a 9/11 observance at the Pentagon. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are hosting a private observance

for victims' relatives there at 9:11 a.m. today. After the names are read at that ceremony, there's a public observance, with a wreath-laying and remarks. Vice President Mike Pence and US Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke are scheduled to deliver remarks at the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville. It's on the rural field where one of the airliners crashed after passengers and crew fought to wrest control away from the terrorists who'd hijacked it and were heading for Washington. Construction continues at the Shanksville memorial, where ground was broken Sunday for a 93-foot (28 meters) tall Tower of Voices to honor the 33 passengers and seven crew members who died.

India agrees to provide further defence assistance to Afghanistan

NEW DELHI, SEP 11 (PTI): India today agreed to provide further assistance to Afghan defence forces during a meeting between External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and her Afghan counterpart Salahuddin Rabbani that also reviewed the security situation in the war-torn country. Asserting that its relationship with Afghanistan is an "article of faith" for India, Swaraj said the two countries remain united in overcoming the challenges posed by cross border terrorism and safe havens and sanctuaries. Addressing a joint press meet after co-chairing the Indo-Afghan strategic partnership council with Swaraj,



Rabbani said India and Afghanistan have agreed to strengthen security cooperation. "India has further agreed to provide assistance to Afghan national defence forces," he said. Afghanistan has long been pressing for greater Indian assistance in defence supplies and capacity building. He also asserted that his country's friendship with India does not mean hostility to any other country and added that it is not a zero-sum game. The Afghan leader noted that India and Afghanistan were victims of terrorism and violent extremism. He also talked about terror acts by Pakistan-based

Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed which were threatening the region's stability. The two sides inked four pacts after the meeting, including a motor vehicles agreement and a fresh document on India's development assistance. "We jointly agreed to embark on a New Development Partnership in keeping with the priorities of Afghanistan..116 new High Impact Development Projects would be jointly implemented that would bring socio-economic and infrastructure development," Swaraj said. The two countries also discussed measures for enhancing trade and investment cooperation, she said.



Indian-Americans provide relief materials post-Harvey

HOUSTON, SEP 11 (PTI): As residents of Texas began the process of restoring their homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey, Indian-Americans and their community organisations are also doing their bit by providing relief materials and working tirelessly to clean up the mess caused by the storm. Nearly two weeks after Harvey made landfall in Texas, mounds of garbage, sheet-rock clusters, computer monitors and furniture still cover the sidewalks. The efforts of government agencies including the federal, state, county and city, police, coast guard, armed forces,

Red Cross and others have been phenomenal in saving lives and providing for the needs of those who got trapped in the hurricane. However, the amount of destruction and devastation caused by Harvey needs a herculean effort to speed up the reconstruction work in the flooded neighbourhoods. "Over the past two weeks, volunteers have already put in 23,100 hours of work towards various relief and rehabilitation projects and we have raised over USD 300,000 and the target is 1 million," Gitesh Desai, president of Sewa in Houston, said.

GENERAL LAND FOR SALE: Roadside plots (general land) available for sale at Adampool, east Sikkim. Contact 9434117687 for further details and to arrange site visits.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES DEAR FLAMINGO EVENING Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward Draw No:7 DrawDate on:11/09/17 1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 948 95958 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 95958 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9500/- 12698 30405 38247 49156 53315 54688 65383 68732 69150 83561 3rd Prize Rs.9000/- 27470 37979 48287 50044 59163 69508 73353 79019 87682 87699 4th Prize Rs.1000/- 0079 0542 1701 2465 2844 5065 5993 6283 6758 8657 5th Prize Rs.500/- 0324 1066 1223 1541 3492 4453 4758 8840 9213 9669 6th Prize Rs.250/- 0108 0170 0244 0354 0518 0533 0779 0829 0851 0936 1059 1177 1345 1641 1805 1965 2040 2058 2146 2294 2341 2517 2640 2814 3145 3226 3422 3611 3737 3787 4057 4077 4166 4191 4238 4344 4387 4410 4503 4617 4644 4656 4676 4702 4703 4778 4784 4900 5116 5193 5218 5434 5469 5522 5538 5708 6002 6020 6202 6301 6310 6371 6432 6435 6465 6602 6618 6653 6704 6757 6802 6842 6882 7152 7221 7332 7726 7859 8052 8057 8186 8251 8330 8400 8633 8697 8914 8996 9044 9104 9217 9429 9591 9775 9780 9812 9863 9917 9940 9960 Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES DEAR PRECIOUS MORNING Draw No:2 DrawDate on:11/09/17 1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 95A 97759 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 97759 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9500/- 17749 18237 29070 32889 43175 49101 58957 74846 81486 82822 3rd Prize Rs.9000/- 01513 02602 06325 09255 47156 49293 57177 77977 84303 91375 4th Prize Rs.1000/- 0542 1087 3647 3677 4195 5099 6035 8386 9239 9778 5th Prize Rs.500/- 0198 0550 1104 1554 3555 7218 7497 8180 8970 9791 6th Prize Rs.250/- 0483 0497 0793 0857 1100 1133 1201 1306 1379 1413 1454 1475 1545 1588 1719 1771 1780 2018 2047 2091 2256 2348 2494 2549 2698 2760 2982 3130 3148 3190 3208 3262 3433 3523 3586 3603 3767 3782 3799 4432 4549 4574 4632 4660 4746 4758 4964 5003 5060 5071 5190 5237 5302 5320 5360 5413 5615 5816 5827 5932 5945 5965 6043 6122 6145 6348 6420 6438 6441 6473 6537 6590 6762 6917 7037 7090 7255 7317 7396 7403 7423 7572 8139 8395 8452 8641 8728 8742 8753 9013 9052 9054 9061 9064 9164 9301 9458 9740 9949 9966 Issued by: The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok Please Visit : www.sikkimlotteries.com DEAR LOVING Draw No:7 DrawDate on:11/09/17 1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 89C 64062 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 64062 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9500/- 10621 45790 55042 65751 82417 84934 88296 91572 94237 98555 3rd Prize Rs.9000/- 09427 11211 24017 25770 27502 45924 51637 71135 71946 72328 4th Prize Rs.1000/- 1499 2456 3283 3870 4006 5819 5913 6556 7609 9080 5th Prize Rs.500/- 0099 0219 0808 0953 5683 5709 6095 6212 7192 8982 6th Prize Rs.250/- 0065 0103 0346 0374 0440 0469 0601 0836 0878 1215 1378 1474 1478 2054 2166 2228 2531 2585 2662 2771 2788 2791 2936 3105 3176 3208 3376 3382 3731 3940 4007 4052 4330 4347 4395 4452 4513 4650 4655 4660 4747 4793 4841 4985 5067 5093 5223 5229 5285 5337 5339 5406 5420 5613 5716 5737 5742 5873 5974 6033 6126 6162 6182 6242 6613 6621 6665 6796 6807 6833 6909 7011 7034 7218 7318 7629 7887 7937 8127 8455 8479 8523 8621 8633 8804 8910 8999 9007 9095 9177 9250 9356 9511 9529 9718 9729 9805 9856 9880 9941

AAMIR KHAN'S BIG NEW MOVE!

Aamir Khan's latest venture is surely going to leave Salman Khan, Shah Rukh Khan and Akshay Kumar stunned...

We all know Aamir Khan is one great actor. Not only has he given us some fantastic performances, but also broken almost all the records at the domestic as well as International box office. His last few films have all been blockbuster hits. With that, the actor has not only made a lot of money, but also established himself as one of the most bankable actors. However, not this, but his latest venture will leave his



contemporaries – Salman Khan, Shah Rukh Khan and Akshay Kumar stunned and worried...

According to a report in Mid-day, Aamir Khan is planning to turn distributor. He is apparently keen to be a part of all the aspects of filmmaking and hence, he is setting up a distribution

wing under his banner, Aamir Khan Productions. This will not only reduce the cost of distribution for his films, but also increase his profit and return on investment. All this will give him a fatter pay cheque at the end of the year. Ain't that cool? While we don't know as to with which film will he venture into distribution, we guess it might be the Rakesh Sharma biopic.

His next – Secret Superstar is being distributed by Zee Studios, while Thugs of Hindostan will be distributed by Yash Raj Films. So, it should be the Rakesh Sharma biopic. But with whichever film he decides to venture into distribu-

tion, we have to say that this move is truly a masterstroke by Aamir Khan. We now wonder as to what would Salman, Shah Rukh and Akshay have to say about this?

Aamir Khan has already ventured into acting, production, direction, TV and much more before this. Seeing his success in each field, we are sure he will excel in distribution too.

JHANVI KAPOOR TO BEGIN WORK ON THE SAIRAT REMAKE THIS NOVEMBER...

Two star kids – Sara Ali Khan and Jhanvi Kapoor



are all set to make their big Bollywood debut next year. Both these hotties have a huge fan following on social media already and fan clubs have started pitting them against one other even before their debut films were announced. However, while Sara Ali Khan has already started

shooting for Kedarnath, there was no clarity on when Jhanvi Kapoor's debut film will hit the floors till now. However, according to a report in DNA After Hrs, it can be confirmed that Jhanvi is all set to start working on the Sairat remake this November.

Produced by Karan Johar and directed by Shashank Khaitan, the Sairat remake is being planned on a large scale. When a diva like Jhanvi is about to make her debut, it has to be something big right? Well, according to multiple reports, the story will be set in an urban setting with Jhanvi playing an upper middle class or rich diva while Ishaan will play a macho guy from the poor section of

the society. Both, Jhanvi and Ishaan are grooming themselves for the role and have been taking dance and acting classes. They have also been spotted going out for dinner and movie dates, so that they can bond with each other and break the ice.

There were reports in between that the director of the original Sairat, Nagraj Manjule, was also approached to help give some proper guidance for the remake, however, he wasn't too happy with the changes in the script and hence, decided to snub Karan Johar. But, he soon quashed these rumours and told a leading entertainment portal that any sensible person would help if he has been asked to.



RIDE ON RIRII Rihanna rides a dirtbike on the runway at the FENTY PUMA by Rihanna Spring/Summer 2018 Collection at Park Avenue Armory in New York City.

James Blunt: I'm using Ed Sheeran as practice

The 43-year-old musician is embarking on a three and a half month tour around North America with the 'Castle on the Hill' hitmaker, and has joked that he'll be using the performances as a warm up to prepare him for his own tour of Europe in October.

Speaking to BANG Showbiz at BBC Radio 2 Hyde Park, James said: 'I'm on tour in America as Ed Sheeran's b***h. Opening up for him psychically and musically each night. We are on a three and a half month North American tour and basically I'm using him and the Americans as practice for Europe in October.'

The 'You're Beautiful' hitmaker's comments come after he recently revealed he was excited to be a part of the "amazing experience", and will be doing his best to win over a few new fans with his set.

He said: 'It's going to be an amazing experience coming to America to go on tour for three months with the biggest male solo artist in the world today. It will be a great thrill. It's his audience, and I'll try to win them over with some songs.'

However, James also warned fans that his shows are very different to Ed's because he is "more inefficient" than the flame-haired musician.

He explained: 'Firstly, I'm more inefficient than him and more foolish than him. He does it only with a pedal station, and I'll have a five-piece band, me



and four others. Mine costs more to set up, but we have great fun. It's the same band I've had for many, many years. So you'll be able to spot that we're having lots of fun on stage.'

Ed and James will begin their tour of the US on September 12 in Omaha, Nebraska.

Spicey skits bring an Emmy for Melissa McCarthy

LOS ANGELES: Melissa McCarthy won an Emmy on Sunday for her spoofs of former White House spokesman Sean Spicer on "Saturday Night Live" in television sketches that went viral

With slicked back hair and wearing ill-fitting suits, McCarthy played Spicer, whom she dubbed Spic-

ey, as an enraged man who attacks the media, craves the praise of his boss, and rides a motorized speaker's podium.

McCarthy on Sunday was named best guest actress in a comedy series for her impressions. The star of "Bridesmaids" and "Mike & Molly" was not at the ceremony in Los Angeles to accept the award.

Spicer quit his post as White House communications director in July after six months of stormy encounters with the media that, along with McCarthy's sketches, turned him into a figure of ridicule.

NBC's "Saturday Night Live" went into television's Emmy awards this year with 22 nominations, reflecting the renewed popularity of the satirical sketch show and its most-watched season in 23 years.

Alec Baldwin also is in the running next week for an Emmy for his impressions of US President Donald Trump on "Saturday Night Live," while the show's Kate McKinnon has been nominated for her roles as losing Democratic presidential contender Hillary Clinton and Trump White House aide Kellyanne Conway.

On Sunday, "Saturday Night Live" also picked up an Emmy for comedian Dave Chapelle's stint as guest actor and host. "Saturday Night Live" is broadcast on NBC, a unit of Comcast Corp [CMCSA.O].

Awards for the major Emmy categories, including best TV comedy and drama series, will be handed out on Sept.17 in a televised ceremony hosted by comedian Stephen Colbert.

ARIES: You might feel a bit rough around the edges today, Aries. There's a bite to the day that could leave you feeling upset and unnerved. It may seem as if no one understands you. By opening up to others, you'll allow them to open up to you. People will be anxious to learn the inner workings of your mind. You have a great deal of personal wisdom to share.

TAURUS: Your thoughts are emotionally charged, Taurus, but you'll find that this can be used to your advantage. You have a great deal of knowledge at your disposal, and you aren't afraid to throw in a little drama just for the fun of it. Your dramatic flair will take you

far on a day like today. Don't hesitate to get exactly what you want.

GEMINI: The fast-paced frenzy of the day is just what you need to jump-start your brain and get it moving in the right direction, Gemini. Take control of the fire within and keep it strong all day. You'll find that there's a more personal aspect to your thoughts, and you can think more rationally about your emotions. Your heart and your head are working well together.

CANCER: While you're on a crusade for peace and diplomacy, Cancer, you may find that other people seem to be on a crusade for war. Do your best under the prevailing trends. You may find that

other people's words are charged with a great deal of passion that will be hard to ignore. You have your work cut out for you today if you plan on maintaining a serene and calm disposition.

LEO: There's action to be taken, Leo, so make sure you get up early to make a fresh start. You may be on stage today in more ways than one. Your powerful words won't go unnoticed by others. You're dynamic and effective in the pursuit of your goals. Your mental acuity is in top working condition, and your words are emotionally charged.

VIRGO: Be yourself and you can do no wrong, Virgo. This is one of those days when you barely need

to make any effort to go a long distance. You'll find power at your disposal and confidence in yourself. Feel free to grab the microphone and express your opinions. Your words and thoughts are highly charged.

LIBRA: There may be a bit of restlessness due to strong forces urging you to take action, Libra. A dynamic feeling is in the air and calling on you to get up and get moving. Take this opportunity to push through some of your new ideas. Make strides toward the completion of your goals. Don't let your emotions get in the way of your mental processes.

SCORPIO: Charge ahead and

use your emotions to fuel your fire, Scorpio. You have plenty of mental acumen today that can help break through any puzzle. New beginnings are underway in many areas of your life. There's no reason to delay any longer than you already have. Take this opportunity to live up to your full potential and make things happen for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS: Be a bit selfish today, Sagittarius. You have every right to look out for number one. Sensitivity to other people's emotions and issues is noble, but it may leave you emotionally drained. Think rationally about your emotions and have the courage to say no to people once in a

while. You're a giver and a saint. This is the perfect day to do some giving back - to yourself.

CAPRICORN: Your mind is going to be sharp today, and you should be certain of all your words, Capricorn. Take pride in who you are and what you believe. This self-confidence will radiate from you. Use your keen mental powers to move things along in your favor. This is too good of an opportunity to waste passively. Take control of the situation and lead the charge. Full steam ahead!

AQUARIUS: Much of your focus is internal, but today it would behoove you to turn some of that energy outward, Aquarius. Take this

opportunity to make a leap of faith in the right direction. You have a great deal of bite behind your words. Don't underestimate your power and bravery. Just be careful that you don't start arguments over petty issues that aren't worth losing friends over.

PISCES: There's no need to walk around with a frown on a day like this, Pisces. You have a special spark in your eye and spring in your step that you should make great use of today. Jump into action with vigor and communicate your thoughts to other people. Change is important and necessary now. It might be smart to wipe the slate clean and start anew.

NICOLE SCHERZINGER INSISTED ON A SOLO DEAL WHEN SHE JOINED PUSSYCAT DOLLS!

The brunette beauty was happy to join the all-girl band, having previously rejected will.i.am's offer for her to be a part of Black Eyed Peas, but her ultimate dream was to be a singer in her own right and she saw the group as a stepping stone to achieve that - so was surprised at how much success the

CONFESSIONS!!!

'Don't Cha' hitmakers achieved.

She explained to Cosmopolitan magazine: "When I got offered The Pussycat Dolls, I said, 'I will be in the group but I want a solo deal as well.' I knew that was my dream.

"I didn't realise how big Pussycat Dolls was going to be. Anybody who has made sacrifices knows that you have to do it on your own. Ambition is incredible, you need it to get anywhere in life."

However, the 39-year-old singer was devoted to the group and she finds it frustrating that people don't give her the "respect" she feels she deserves as an artist and performer, insisting she is more than just a "senseless pop star".



12TH SEPTEMBER WORLD HISTORY

1624: The first submarine was tested in London.

1683: A combined Austrian and Polish army defeated the Ottoman Turks at Kahlenberg and lifted the siege on Vienna, Austria. The severed head of Kara Mustapha, Turkish grand vizier, was preserved by Austria as a souvenir of the siege of Vienna.

1914: During World War I, the First Battle of the Marne ended in an Allied victory against Germany.

1919: Adolf Hitler joined the German Worker's Party. **1944:** During World War II, U.S. Army troops entered Germany for the first time, near Trier.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

1970: The Soviet Union launched its unmanned Soviet Luna 16.

INDIAN HISTORY

1786: Despite his failed efforts to suppress the American Revolution, Lord Cornwallis was appointed governor general of India.

1894: Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay, leading figure of Bengali Literature was born. He is best known for his most famous work titled Pather Panchali, which was later, adapted into the Apu Trilogy films by celebrated film maker Satyajit Ray.

LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REINER



"THEY SHOULDN'T PUT THE GAS PEDAL SO CLOSE TO THE BRAKE."

ARCTIC CIRCLE



CLIMATE CHANGE WILL LEAD TO HABITAT LOSS AND THE EXTINCTION OF MANY SPECIES.

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

© 2017 Alex Heltzer and30secondcartoons.com, distributed by King Features

BABY BLUES

WHAT DOES THIS SIGNAL MEAN?



BLEAH! ICK! PATOOIE!

