



SummitTIMES

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

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ICSE lowers pass percentage for board exams

NEW DELHI, NOV 28 (PTI): The ICSE board has reduced the pass percentage for class 10 and 12 examinations from 2018-19 academic session in order to bring parity with the marking scheme of other boards.

The pass percentage for class 10 has been lowered from 35 to 33 per cent and for class 12 from 40 to 35 per cent, a senior board official said.

The HRD Ministry had in May constituted an Inter-Board Working Group (IBWG) to deliberate upon multiple examination related issues including scrapping of moderation policy.

Among several recommendations made by IBWG was having same pass percentage by different boards.

"In view of the panel's recommendations, the Council for Indian School Certificate Examination (CICSE) has decided to lower its pass percentage for class 10 from 35 to 33 per cent and for class 12 from 40 to 35 per cent," the official said.

"The objective of the change is to bring a close uniformity with other boards in the country. The change will be implemented from next academic session," he added.



Work on Dikchu-Lingdok road to Gangtok finally begins

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 28 Nov:

After a long wait of nearly four decades, work on the Dikchu-Lingdok road to Gangtok has finally begun. This road, when completed, will cut short the travel time

from Mangan to Gangtok from 3 hours to one hour.

A long pending demand of the public of North Sikkim, work on this road has started from Lower Rakdong, Dikchu with an excavator carving out the new cutting.

The old route, which was a mule track originally, was severely damaged by the 1968 floods and landslides especially between Dikchu and Lingdok 9th Mile. Around 60% of the old road formation however

still exists so it would not take much to restore the entire stretch.

Many villagers from the periphery of Dikchu trek to Gangtok along this route which normally takes two hours to reach Fatak, Bojoghari.

Restoring this old route will make travel and access more convenient for the people of North Sikkim especially Mangan, Dzongu, Lachen and Lachung and also for the people of South and some parts of West district.

Ward Level Youth Convention held at Dwarey



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 28 NOV:

Ward Level Youth Convention organized by Kanchanjyoti Youth Club was held at Dwarey Ward, Sumbuk today, a press release informs.

The convention was chaired by Ward Panchayat, Suchitra Pardhan and Roshan Pradhan (Advisor) and it was attended by the youth, students, National Youth Volunteers and members of Kanchanjyoti Youth Club.

In the programme, participants discussed various topics like the need for music and dance classes, Hospital in Sumbuk, plastic free village, alcohol free village, public ground, children park, community hall, etc.

President Kanchanjyoti Youth Club cum National Youth Volunteer, Suyog Pradhan assured to work on the issues discussed. He said that music classes will be started by 01 Dec, skill up graduation to pg03

Vetting files to challenge Bimal Gurung's discharge in Madan Tamang murder case: CBI to SC

NEW DELHI, NOV 28 (PTI): The CBI today told the Supreme Court that they were vetting the files in order to challenge the lower court's order discharging Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) leader Bimal Gurung in the Madan Tamang murder case.

Madan Tamang, who was the All India Gorkha League (AIGL) president, was hacked to death in Darjeeling in broad daylight on May 21, 2010 when he was overseeing preparations for a public meeting.

A trial court in Kolkata had in August this year discharged Gurung in the case while rejecting the CBI's claim that he was involved in the conspiracy to murder Tamang, who was one of his political opponents in the Darjeeling hills.

The issue cropped up before the apex court today when it was hearing an application filed by Bharati Tamang, wife of Madan Tamang, seeking setting up of a special investigation team (SIT) to conduct a court-monitored probe into certain aspects of the case.

Her counsel alleged that Gurung was the one of the prime conspirators, but the CBI has not yet challenged the trial court's order discharging him in the matter.

"Files are being vetted by CBI. Appropriate steps will be taken on order of discharge. It will take reasonable time to challenge the discharge order," the counsel for CBI told a bench of Justices Kurian Joseph and Amitava Roy.

To this, the petition-

er's counsel said they have already challenged the trial court's order in the Calcutta High Court which has admitted their plea that would come up for hearing in the second week of December.

CBI's counsel said their probe into the case was complete and 54 accused have been chargesheeted, of which two were absconding, three had expired and the rest were on bail.

The bench also issued notices to CBI seeking its response within 10 days on separate applications filed by Bharati seeking a stay on the trial proceedings in the case before the lower court and grant of anticipatory bail to other accused in the case.

Referring to telephonic interceptions, her lawyer alleged in the court that Gurung was in touch with the other accused who had attacked Tamang.

Seeking a stay on proceedings before the trial court, her counsel said the other accused, including several GJM leaders, would also seek discharge in the case since Gurung has already been discharged by the court.

The CBI's counsel opposed the contention seeking a stay on the trial proceedings.

The bench, however, said the CBI would have to file a response on the applications and posted the matter for hearing on December 12.

The apex court had in October 2013 directed transfer of hearing in the case from a Darjeeling court to the Kolkata sessions court on a petition by Tamang's widow.

Fix responsibility for loss of life, assets during protests: SC

NEW DELHI, NOV 28 (PTI): Expressing concern over the loss of lives and damage to public property during agitations, the Supreme Court today asked Centre to create courts in every state and union territory to fix accountability for vandalism and compensate the victims of such violent protests.

The top court suggested to the Centre that one or more district judges should be given responsibilities in consultation with respective High Courts to prosecute and fix civil liabilities on those responsible for such mayhem.

It favoured criminal action against leaders of such organisations or political parties, whose members would indulge in destruction of public or private properties.

A bench of Justices Adarsh Kumar Goel and U U Lalit said although guidelines have been framed by the apex court in 2007, which include videography of such agitations, but there exists no mechanism to deal with the damages to be paid to the victim.

"These agitations, which result in damage to life and properties, are now happening very often. If it is to be dealt by High Court or Supreme Court, then it will



become very difficult. There should be some forum where people can go and seek remedy as per law," the bench said.

The bench's order came on a plea filed by advocate Koshy Jacob, who sought implementation of 2007 guidelines of the apex court with regard to the procedure to be adopted by administration during such agitations and submitting of report to the High Courts and Supreme Court.

The top court said that although the Constitution has given the right to people

to assemble freely and peaceful protest, but no one has been given the right to damage public property and indulge in violence which result in loss of lives.

"Those who fail to maintain peace shall be held accountable and those who suffer must be compensated. At prevention level, police can do it through videography as stipulated in the guidelines issued by the apex court in earlier judgement," the bench said.

Attorney General K K Venugopal, appearing for Centre, agreed with the suggestion and said the government has taken steps to amend the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice.

He said a draft of the Bill has been prepared and published on the website of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) seeking

comments of public and other stakeholders.

The AG said several comments have been received, which were being analysed by the MHA and further steps will be taken accordingly.

"We hope the suggestions of the court will be considered by government and incorporated in the law that is being proposed," the bench said.

Venugopal said there can be civil liability on those who indulge in violence, besides criminal action.

Referring to the recent agitation in Darjeeling in West Bengal, the AG said things became difficult for the local people as supplies of food and petrol were cut and the Centre had to rush ten companies of para-military force to allow the trucks to enter Kalimpong.

"People were forced to suffer for no fault due to the Gorkhaland agitation. This should not be done. Those responsible for the chaos need to be held accountable," the bench said.

Advocate Wills Mathew said the court should direct payment of some compensation to petitioner Koshy Jacob for his hardship.

Jacob, a lawyer himself had filed the

petition alleging that in 2012 due to a strike called by LDF-PDP party in Kerala, he was forced to spend 12 hours on the road to reach home after being discharged from hospital following an eye surgery.

The bench posed how far it could go regarding what will happen to those whose properties have been damaged or who have faced hardships.

The AG replied that the law of tort can be applied and those responsible for the chaos asked to compensate.

In his petition, Jacob has sought implementation of guidelines with a specific time-frame issued by the apex court in its earlier verdict of 2007.

In 2007, the apex court in its verdict had said the police and state government shall ensure videography of such protests to the maximum extent possible and a Superintendent of Police rank officer should supervise demonstrations.

It had also said that wherever mass destruction of property takes place due to protests, the high court may issue suo motu action and set up a machinery to investigate the damages and award compensation. In cases where more than one state is involved, the Supreme Court may take action.



International Ambedkar Conclave concludes

GANGTOK, 28 Nov (IPR): Minister for Health, IPR and Printings Departments, Arjun Kumar Ghatani attended the two-day International Ambedkar Conclave that concluded today at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The second day's technical session focused on Education and Skill Development, Economy and Entrepreneurship.

Union Minister Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Thawar Chand Gehlot was present as the chief guest along with Minister of State (Agriculture and Farmer Welfare), Krishna Raj.

Forum of SC/ST Legislators and Parliamentarians passed a resolution to ensure protection of Human Rights to the communities, to incorporate provision of facilities for the private sector in the constitution, to approve contract value to strengthen entrepreneurship amongst SC/ST community and enforcement of the Atrocity Act in all states in the country.

The august house welcomed a suggestion placed by Mr Ghatani to institutionalize the event and celebrate Constitution Day every year under the banner of the Forum.

The two-day conclave came to an end with the concluding remarks of Former Chief Justice of Supreme Court Justice, KG Balakrishnan.

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Governor Patil inspects trout farm, PHC on his West tour

GYALSHING, 28 Nov [IPR]: Governor Shrinivas Patil and First Lady Rajanidevi Shrinivas Patil who are currently on a two-day official tour to West Sikkim visited Uttarey Kagyu Monastery to offer prayers.

The Governor then paid a visit to Rainbow Trout Breeding Cum Demonstration Farm at Maneybong where he was briefed about the trout farm by Director of Fisheries, Sunil Pradhan. The Governor while

addressing the officials at the farm said that since trouts are a very rare species of fish, its farming should help the State in generating revenue. He encouraged the locals to indulge in similar farming and help Sikkim become a

self sufficient State.

The Governor then made a brief stop at Singnore Bridge after which he met the Self Help Group Federation of Dentam. In his interaction with the team he applauded their efforts

and advised women to participate more actively whilst attempting to generate more revenue from their efforts.

He also visited Dentam PHC and interacted with the Medical Officer along with the staff members.

Thingchim-Mangshila MPCS holds annual meet

WANGCHUK BHUTIA MANGAN, 28 NOV:

The annual general meeting of Thingchim-Mangshila Multi Purpose Cooperative Society was held today at Gram Prasasan Kendra in Mangshila, North Sikkim.

The meeting was chaired by former Panchayat president, Padam Singh Limboo and was attended by Zilla member Zomin Limboo, Panchayat president, Meena Maya Limboo, officials from Cooperation Department, Panchayat members and the general public.

MPCS president, Phipraj Limboo briefed the meeting about the activities helmed by Thingchim Mangshila Cooperative society during the year 2017-18 and also briefed about Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loan for the farmers.

Senior Audit Officer, KP Sharma mentioned about the audit report and read out the balance sheet of the MPCS for the financial year 2017-18.

New MPCS committee members were also nominated during the meeting today.

Deputy Registrar Cooperation



Department, Sonam Bhutia highlighted about the KCC loan and urged the beneficiaries to repay the loan at the earliest and other members to apply for the scheme.

Mr Bhutia also encouraged the members to opt for marketing of local produce and informed about the sanctioning of MPCS building.

Zilla member, Zomin Limboo urged the members to work in coordination with each other for

smooth functioning of the MPCS.

Regarding the Chief Minister's announcement to ban import of vegetables from 2018 Mr Limboo said that the farmers should have asked for the ban earlier.

"It is a revolutionary decision," Mr Limboo added.

MPCS advisor, Dilli Ram Limboo informed the meeting about the startup programme launched recently by the Chief Minister for the unemployed ed-

ucated youth of Sikkim.

Former president Padam Singh Limboo motivated the newly elected executive members to work together and cohesively for better functioning of the society.

National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers from Mangshila Senior Secondary School sensitized the gathering about consumer's rights later in the meeting.

Fishery training for West youth concludes

GANGTOK, 28 Nov [IPR]:

Two-day Fishery training for 25 youths from Ribdi, Uttarey, Nambo and Intake villages under Community Welfare Programme concluded today at Titanic Hall, Uttarey. The chief guest of the closing ceremony programme was Joint Director, Fisheries Department, CS Rai and guest of honour was Range Officer, Lobzang Tamang.

Commandant 36thBn, SSB, RN Mishra welcomed the chief guest and other guests by offering khadas. Then guest of honour, Mr Tamang addressed the programme and highlighted the training offered by Fisheries department and urged all the beneficiaries to take maximum benefits from the training lesson.

He also thanked SSB for organizing such types of beneficial training for border youth. After that, certificates were distributed to all the participants by the chief guest.



One of the participants delivered the valedictory speech and said that they were very much obliged towards SSB for imparting such kind of training which will help them to become self reliant in future. On behalf of all the trainees he said that they will utilize the lessons learnt in the training. Following this, mementoes were presented to the chief guest and other guests and honorarium was also presented to guest faculty of the Fisheries Department.

Joint Director, Fisheries Department, Mr Rai addressed the pro-

gramme and thanked SSB for holding such community welfare programmes for rural youth. He assured all possible support through the Fisheries department.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Second-in-Command 36th Bn SSB, Lalit Kumar.

Also present were Surendra Bhandari [Block Officer Hqr], Narsh Sunar [Block Officer Uttarey, Fisheries Department], Joy Gopal Namasudra [Dy. Commandant 36thBn], other Sub Ordinate Officers, Jawans and beneficiaries.

Inter-BAC T-20 Cricket enters second day



GYALSHING, 28 Nov [IPR]:

The second day of the Inter-BAC T-20 Cricket Tournament organised by Sports and Youth Affairs Department in-collaboration with White Conch Cricket Club (WCCC) was held at Kyongsa ground, West Sikkim today. In today's first match between DAC Rabdentse and BAC Yulsom, the former won the match by 6 wickets. Whereas in the second match between BAC Chumbong and BAC Martam, the latter won by 5 wickets.

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SKM visits Rimbi Power House, criticizes SDF for negligence



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 28 Nov:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha, as part of its statewide tour 'Jatiya Ekta & Sadhbhawna Yatra', today visited Rimbi Power House located in Rimbi, West Sikkim, a press release from the party informs.

Rimbi Power House, which was established by Chogyal Palden Namgyal, is the first electrification and power generation source of Sikkim.

Criticizing the Sikkim Democratic Front led state government, the party has said that the government's negligence and failure to upgrade the power house has led

to the destruction of a perfectly fine power generation source.

"SDF government's negligence in terms of maintenance and up gradation of technology has led the historic power house to be non-functional since 2013," reads the release.

SKM team led by chief coordinator and MLA, Sonam Lama and working president, MP Subba visited the power house and expressed utter dissatisfaction over the government's negligence to preserve the heritage site.

MLA Sonam Lama has said that he will raise the issue in the upcoming assembly session.

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Memo No. /SP/Lines Date: / / 2017

CORRIGENDUM

Due to certain circumstances the dates published in Sikkim Herald and other local daily newspapers, dated 20/11/2017 for Supply of Police Uniform are hereby rescheduled as under.

1. Date of issue of tender documents:- 4th December 2017.
2. Date and time of Pre-Bid conference :- 11th December 2017 at 11 a.m.
3. Last date and time of submission of tender documents:- 15th December 2017 till 11 a.m.
4. Date and time of opening of tender:- 15th December 2017 at 1 p.m.

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SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE/LINES.

R.O. No. 438/ipl/pub/classi/17-18 dt. 28.11.2017

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EMI FINANCE

Gangtok on Wednesday, 29 Nov
Temp: 17°C /06°C
Forecast: Mostly cloudy with showers.
Sunrise: 06:06 AM
Sunset: 4:41 PM

German detained in Gyalshing for using satellite telephone

SUMMIT REPORT
Gangtok, 28 Nov:
A 55-year old German man was detained by Gyalshing police on 27 Nov for using a satellite telephone at the Indo-China border area in Dzongri, West Sikkim. It is illegal in India to use a satellite phone without prior permission from the government. The man was reportedly leading a trekking team consisting of 12 Germans starting from 22 Nov.

Ward Level Youth Convention held at..

contd from pg01
tion training on basket weaving and calligraphy will start from 2nd week of Dec, Mega Camp on Mahatma Gandhi Yuva Swachhata Abhiyan will be held at Sumbuk in Dec this year and Dwareygoan Talent Show will be held on 31 Dec, the release informs.
He requested all the youth and members of Kanchanjyoti Youth Club to actively participate in all the programmes.

to book advertisements in SummitTimes, call 03592-208698 9734152541

Third prep meet for Red Panda Winter Carnival held

GANGTOK, 28 Nov [IPR]: The third preparatory meeting for the celebration of Red Panda Winter Carnival 2017 was held at the chamber of Minister of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department today.

The meeting was chaired by Secretary [Tourism Department], C Zangpo and attended by Gangtok Municipal Corporation Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary, GMC chairperson, Ashish Rai, Special Secretary [Tourism Department] and Red Panda Winter Carnival 2017 chairperson, CP Dhakal, tourism officials and representatives of all the line departments.

The meeting discussed at length about the activities planned for the carnival and the logistical and other arrangements to be made for the same.

Secretary [Tourism Department], C Zangpo gave a brief outline of the activities envisaged and invited active involvement of all the line departments and tourism stakeholders to make the carnival a success. He reiterated that the carnival is scheduled from 08 to 18 Jan, 2018 and will primarily be spread across multiple venues in the town- Paljor Stadium, M.G. Marg, Ridge Park, Kanchenjunga Shopping Complex, Directorate of Handloom and Handicrafts, and also some



locations under Forest Department for eco-tourism related activities.

He informed that the ten-day festival would showcase the culture and cuisine of Sikkim and also have a host of activities for all age groups. He urged the line departments and all stakeholders to contribute in their specific areas of expertise. The Secretary also

urged the tourism stakeholders to help publicize the Carnival through their websites and linkage with national and international tourists and travelers.

Chairperson, Red Panda Winter Carnival organizing committee, CP Dhakal spelt out the list of departments and stakeholders involved and also constituted

committees for activities like venue allotment and preparation, advertisement and publicity, accommodation, liaison, cultural activities and adventure tourism.

Mr Dhakal informed that each committee will be headed by a Nodal Officer from Tourism Department and officers from line departments and representatives

from various stakeholder organizations will be the members of the committee.

He added that the committees will have to prepare comprehensive plan of action of their respective activities and place it before the Tourism Department for approval. He also announced that the cultural performances by local

troupes should be ready and presented to the department for screening on or before 29 Dec. He categorically stated that entries after the stipulated date would not be entertained.

GMC Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary appealed to the tourism stakeholders to come out generously and collaborate to make the carnival a success. He stated that Gangtok Municipal Corporation would let out the space on the roof-top of Kanchenjunga Shopping Complex and Ridge Park and a transparent process would be followed. He called on the stakeholders to extend support in cash or kind, particularly because of the stringency of funds with the Tourism Department for the Carnival.

During the meeting, a tentative road-map of the activities envisaged was presented by a representative of Fusion World, an event management company based in Gangtok.

SIKKIM IN NEED OF ENTRANCE CENTRES FOR PREMIER INSTITUTES/ UNIVERSITIES OF INDIA

Opportunities are the crucial stepping stones to the next levels in our careers and business. And we should always focus on keeping an eye out for opportunities and making the most of them when they arrive. But often opportunities slip by without us even noticing them, and we are not paying attention to what is causing us to miss them. Periodically during the course of our lives, we are granted the "opportunity of a lifetime." It's a chance that doesn't come our way very often, and usually, one that would result in tremendous benefits for us, if we can manage to grasp it before it slips away. Some of us are able to grab a hold, while others may lose their grip for whatever reason and miss the chance. The same thing is happening in terms of grasping opportunities in our state. This is

a hardcore reality in Sikkim that our state lagged behind to show its representation in almost all the Central Universities or Institutes of national importance in India. Hardly have we found any Sikkimese students in these reputed institutes. The main reason of the same which I analyzed from my own experience is that we do

VIEWPOINT

not have entrance centres of these reputed institutes. For the higher education, none of the central universities or the institutions of national importance apart from Jawaharlal Nehru University and Sikkim University has its entrance centre in Sikkim. For the entrance, students have to go either to Guwahati or Kolkata. It is very much difficult for a student especially of

lower or middle class those who do not have enough money and where there is no surety of cent percent successful result to go 600 Km and write entrance examination of one university. And moreover, we don't have that resources or channel to proceed for the same. It is my humble request to the concerned authorities of Sikkim those who are dealing with the matter of higher education to write or request a written memorandum to all the important Central Universities or institutions of national importance to provide at least one entrance centre in Sikkim or at Siliguri for the benefit of our Sikkimese students as well as other neighbouring states.

Binod Bhattarai [Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, Sikkim University]

Free health camp conducted for traffic personnel

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 28 Nov:

Central Referral Hospital in collaboration with Sikkim Traffic Police conducted a free health camp for traffic police personnel on 27 Nov, a press release informs.

During the camp ophthalmology consultation [eye specialists], blood pressure, GRBS [General Random Blood Sugar] tests were done along with Body Mass Index [BMI] calculation.

Medical Superintendent [CRH], Dr Gautam



Dey said that traffic police personnel are most likely to get eye and heart diseases due to constant exposure to the increasing pollution levels and higher degree of stress.

Dr Dey urged the traffic personnel to

undergo regular medical examination.

Dr Dey thanked Assistant Superintendent of Police [Traffic], Ongmu Bhutia for the initiative.

Over 100 police personnel were examined by the medical team, reads the release.

Winter trends: It is time to show off your best pair of boots ladies

REBYNA RANA
GANGTOK, 28 Nov:

Winter is here! Every year when summer melts into fall, we admittedly get pretty excited to revamp our wardrobe. When fall turns into winter and multiple layers become mandatory as opposed to an option, we start to run out of cute cold weather outfits real quick.

Just because it's freezing out, doesn't mean we have to collectively resign ourselves to giving up on style—it



just means we all have to think a bit more creatively when getting dressed in the morning.

Shops in Gangtok are flooded with stylish winter wears from coats to boots to sweaters and

scarves.

In order to survive the cold air you have to first become a layering pro. Don't be afraid to pile on the layers. A turtleneck, under a sweater, under a jacket, under a coat, for instance, will definitely keep you warm.

You can throw a pair of tights or stockings under a pair of jeans or layer a form-fitting sweater over a long-sleeve T-shirt.

For women there are shops like Girlfriends, Zipper, Oceanic, Blush

and even some of the shops in Lal Bazaar offer a variety of trendy winter wears to keep you warm and stylist at the same time.

Great winter style really boils down to a great pair of boots. Show off your knee length boots and pair them with cuffed jeans or a dress.

Winter is the only time when you can wear fur (or faux fur if you are vegan). You can wear fur with just about anything to give your outfit an instant upgrade.

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Ref no: 190/CRTI/DIT/2017 Date: 17/11/17

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Centre For Research & Training In Informatics (CRTI), an autonomous body under the Department of Information Technology, Government of Sikkim is conducting a Walk in Interview on 5th December 2017 to fill up the under mentioned positions for the operation of State Data Centre.

SL.NO.	JOB DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENT	SALARY/MONTH
1.	Data Engineer	1 no	Rs.20,000/-
2	BMS, NOC, Helpdesk Engineer	5 nos	Rs. 15,000/-

For further details applicants may kindly visit www.sikkim.gov.in

R.O. No. 421/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 21.11.17

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KRISHI BHAWAN, TADONG.

No. 175/Ag/Engg. Date: 27.11.2017

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Due to ensuring General Panchayat Election 2017 and enforcement of model code of conduct, the re-tender date for supply of different Agricultural Machineries vide no-136/FS&AD/Engg. Dated 18.09.2017 has been postponed as under:-

SL.NO.	PARTICULARS	DATE
1.	Issue of Notice Inviting Quotation	27.11.2017
2.	Document Sale End Date	26.12.2017
3.	Pre Bid Conference:	14.12.2017
4.	Last Date and Time for Submission of Bid:	27.12.2017 12pm.
5.	Opening of Bid:	27.12.2017 1.00pm.

The document for Notice Inviting Quotation can be downloaded from the website and www.sikkimagrisnet.org.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
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R.O. No. 434/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 27.11.2017

SIR THUTOB NAMGYAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
GANGTOK, SIKKIM

Ref No. 35/GH/17-18 Dated 24.11.17

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The sealed quotation are invited from the interested and registered dealer at Gangtok for the supply and refilling of fire fighting equipments of STNM Hospital, Gangtok.

Important Dates.

Date of issue of quotation form	: 5 th December and 6 th December 2017.
Date of submission of quotation form	: 14 th December 2017 before 12 Noon.
Date & time for opening of quotation form	: 14 th December 2017 at 2.00 PM.

For further details, Terms & Conditions, visit or contact office of the Director cum Medical Superintendent, STNM Hospital, Gangtok.

Sd/-
Director cum Medical Superintendent
STNM Hospital, Gangtok

R.O. No. 429/ipr/pub/classi/17-18 dt. 25.11.2017

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The Constitution's Yours

We might as well get to know it better

The nation celebrated Constitution Day on Sunday, recalling the 26th of November 1949 when the Constitution of India was adopted by the Constituent Assembly. The Constituency itself came into force exactly two months later on 26 January 1950, the Constitution's day we are all more familiar with as Republic Day. The 26th of January invariably becomes too much about announcements and political positions and colour and displays for any real deliberations on the Constitution itself to be undertaken. In that sense, it is welcome that the Constitution is now enjoying a Day exclusively dedicated to it but what is not as encouraging is that not enough is being done to inform and involve the young in its understanding or virtues. Sure, the officials observed it at their respective offices with the same lack of fervour and matching tokenism as they observe the string of other sarkari events, and given that it fell on a Sunday, some even advanced the observance. Be that as it may, it is not enough for the day's significance to remain limited to the executive or the judiciary and it is important that it is extended to the lay citizens as well. Unfortunately, one does not see much of that happening. Instead, what we got was a weekend of noise over myths like the Padmavati or the popularity ratings of the Central Government and its still unexplained bloodletting of the economy. But let's leave those worries for another day and stay with the Constitution of India for now.

It was the adoption of the Constitution that made the nation a Republic of Free People.

This is what the Constitution delivered to the people. The Father of the Nation had also visualized the Constitution of India in terms of universal values applied to the specific and special conditions of India. Agreed, in hind-sight, there were problematic inferences even in what Mahatma Gandhi wished for the country, but the root idea of delivering a free people underlines the document. The Mahatma did not live to see the Constitution drafted and adopted, but as early as in 1931 he had written, "I shall strive for a Constitution which will release India from all thralldom and patronage. I shall work for an India in which the poorest shall feel that it is their country in whose making they have an effective voice: an India in which there is no high class or low class of people, an India in which all communities shall live in perfect harmony. There can be no room in such an India for the curse of untouchability. We shall be at peace with the rest of the world, neither exploiting nor exploited. All interests not in conflict with the interests of the dumb millions will be scrupulously respected whether foreign or indigenous. Personally, I hate the distinction between foreign and indigenous. This is the India of my dreams for which I shall struggle."

This idea has been incorporated into the Constitution and if divisions still exist in our midst, it is not because the Document has let us down, but because the people and the leaders have failed the Constitution. And the architect of the Constitution, Dr BR Ambedkar, whose conflict with the Mahatma and the Congress were always obvious and are now being better understood, said as much. Speaking on the draft of the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar had said, "It is workable, it is flexible and it is strong enough to hold the country together both in peace time and in war time. Indeed, if I may say so, if things go wrong under the new Constitution, the reason will not be that we had a bad Constitution. What we will have to say is that Man is vile."

With our continuing refusal to get to know the Constitution better are we destined to go down in history as vile men? What every Indian needs to remind himself or herself of is that the word "Republic" is no ordinary word. It is a commitment to the effect that, in our country, supreme power is exercised not by some remote monarch but by the people. The Constitution empowers us with this strength, but increasingly, because we blunder around oblivious to the specifics and history and the ideas behind the Constitution, we allow this power to be usurped by the loud and the entitled.

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

How Filipino artists are responding to President Duterte and the 'War on Drugs'

ANNA CRISTINA PERTIERRA
theconversation.com

Along one long wall on the side of Manila's Baclaran church, visual artist Emil Yap has been working for two years on a mural that depicts the cosmology and history of the Philippines.

Yap collaborates with others on the mural, which uses different sculpture and mosaic techniques. Recently, he trained volunteers who were victims of President Rodrigo Duterte's declared "War on Drugs" - which is estimated to have led to more than 13,000 killings - to work on the mosaics for several months while seeking refuge in the church.

Yap is among a small but growing number of cultural producers whose work addresses the effects of Duterte's presidency. Several of these artists seek to involve members of communities most affected by the upsurge in killings - which are mostly in low-income urban neighbourhoods.

Not far from Baclaran Church, at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, performance-maker JK Anicoche collaborated with young widows of the drug war to perform Zumba as part of a performance entitled 15 Minutes of Your Time. A response to self-declared drug addicts across Manila being made to participate in mass Zumba sessions as part of their rehabilitation process, the dance-based exercise form now has a somewhat macabre presence in contemporary Philippine life.

Anicoche and Yap are part of an loose extended network of artists who have been working under the banner of the RESBAK collective (Respond and Break the Silence Against the Killings). RESBAK members make zines, hold film screenings, and produce videos for circulation on social media as part of their diverse efforts to protest.

Their launch video in December 2016 played a famous Filipino Christmas song as a backdrop to protesters



silently holding cardboard placards that call to mind the homemade signs often left beside slain bodies.

Cultural projects such as these can offer tools for violence-affected communities to work through their trauma. Among the victims most deeply impacted are children. The Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism has published a children's book, Si Kian, narrating the story of teenager Kian de los Santos, whose fatal shooting by police in August 2017 led to protests.

Journalist Kimberley de la Cruz, who had been covering the nightly killings for some months before meeting Kian's family at his wake, collaborated with author Weng Cahiles and illustrator Aldy Aguirre to produce Si Kian within a matter of weeks. The illustrated book aims to provide a resource to teachers seeking resources for young students experiencing deaths like that of Kian's within their neighbourhoods.

SHIFTING ALLIANCES

Like other Filipinos, artists are coming to terms with the tensions emerging between Duterte's supporters and detractors. Some artists had been among those optimistic for change when President Duterte formed alliances with some leftist groups and promised to shake up elitist politics.

But as curator and academic Lisa Ito-Tapang has noted, over the past

year Duterte's alliances have steadily shifted, including a more prominent alliance with the family of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos, and "a lot of the positionings of artists also reflected those kinds of shifts".

For example, a 2016 recent exhibition at the University of the Philippines, Dissident Vicinities, featured works by the militant leftist group BAYAN among other activists and artists. The group is known for making effigies of politicians to be burned at rallies.

However, during Duterte's first State of the Nation address in 2016, BAYAN instead produced six "Portraits of Peace" murals, inviting Duterte to address pressing challenges across the Philippines. But a year later, BAYAN returned to making effigies in protest at the political repression.

THE VIEW FROM THE DISAPORA

Beyond the Philippines, political tensions are also reflected in the work of artists in the diaspora. At Western Sydney's Blacktown Arts Centre - Filipinos are the largest migrant community in Blacktown - glimpses of Duterte could be seen across many works in Balik Bayan, a recent exhibition of Filipino-Australian artists.

Underneath a house built by artist Alwin Reamillo, a toy Japanese cat waved welcome. With Duterte's face plastered over the cat's head, the

wave looks increasingly like the president's signature fist-pump. Alwin has been adding Duterte's head to different items (matchboxes and wooden pieces) for several months, and plans to keep reworking Duterte's image in upcoming exhibitions. Alwin is openly critical of the consequences of Duterte's Presidency upon Philippine society.

In the same exhibition, Marikit Santiago presents an image of Duterte at once religious and profane. Although Santiago says she does "not have a strong political voice", her work was prompted by conflicting opinions on Duterte within her own extended family, where political discussions had not previously been common.

In Sydney this October, the LaBAnino collective of Filipino and Australian artists performed a new work, This Here. Land. It reflected political differences held within the collective, where members were variously supportive and critical of Duterte.

In the piece's culmination, outgoing audience members participated in a recreation of the most famous photographic image (see below) to emerge from coverage of Manila's late-night killings. Incoming audience members, meanwhile, used their phones to illuminate and document the recreation of the image. All are complicit in the witnessing, debating and disputing of new political realities.

Across the political and geographic differences that mark Filipino communities at home and abroad, artistic initiatives may be creating small spaces in which people can attempt to bridge increasingly tense divides.

These may offer hope not only to those caught up in its violence, but also to other Filipinos seeking ways beyond the political realm to make sense of their circumstances.

[the writer is Senior Lecturer, Cultural and Social Analysis, Western Sydney University]

The economics of ridiculously expensive art

BRONWYN COATE
theconversation.com

What would possess someone to buy Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi* for US\$450 million? You might think it's an investment - after all it was previously sold for just US\$10,000 in 2005.

From an economic point of view, art can be an investment. Although the research shows art investing has mixed results. Art also has what economists refer to as "psychic benefits". It is something to be enjoyed, experienced or flaunted, and this may be the key to the high price paid for *Salvator Mundi*.

ART AS AN INVESTMENT

As an investment, art's performance varies wildly, depending on a number of factors. For instance, artworks associated with movements that are currently fashionable will outperform other types of art.

Contemporary art is currently outperforming impressionist art, for example. The strong demand for contemporary art coupled with limited supply has resulted in some previously overlooked artists, such as Keith Haring, being embraced by collectors.

But it is typically the works of leading artists that are in hot demand.

Recent analysis found that just 25 artists (including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Andy Warhol and Gerhard Richter) account for US\$1.2 billion of the US\$2.7 billion in worldwide art auction sales for contemporary art sold at auction this year.

Only two women, Agnes Martin and Yayoi Kusama, made it onto the top 25 contemporary artists list. This is indicative of issues around gender representation in the arts and the processes by which artists careers and reputations are established.

Academic studies of art as an investment have mixed results. For instance, research of the Canadian art market found that the returns are lower than investing in the stock market. However, the study identifies other benefits to having art in your portfolio, such as it being more diversified.

But research based on around 35,000 paintings by leading Australian artists show the financial returns average between 4% and 15%. Returns for paintings by leading Australian artists including Brett Whiteley and Jeffrey Smart exceed stock market returns. The study also found that oil and watercolour paintings, as well as those sold by certain auction houses, had higher prices.

So-called "masterpieces", such as those by Leonardo da Vinci, actually perform worse financially than the art market as a whole.

However, because art also provides benefits



Leonardo da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi* recently sold for US\$450 million

through consumption (prestige, decoration etc.), it is different to shares and bonds. The returns may be lower, but art is still attractive to invest in.

The Australian art market reflects what has happened in the global market for contemporary art. For instance the five highest priced Australian works sold in 2017 account for almost 10% of the total value of all works sold.

And while the recent sale of *Earth Creation 1* by the late Indigenous artist Emily Kame Kngwarraye has not attracted the attention of the *Leonardo* sale, its price of \$A2.1 million is nearly double what it sold for at auction a decade earlier.

ART FOR CONSUMPTION

The aesthetic pleasure of art, a feeling of being challenged or inspired, is subjective and difficult to measure. But that doesn't mean the consumption of art doesn't add to its value.

Economists use the terms "psychic returns" or "psychic benefits" to describe the benefits of consuming art. This is broken down into three main areas.

One area is the satisfaction of supporting the arts and artists. This motivation is especially important for those who donate their collections to museums or otherwise support the arts. While this motivation is important it is not directly related to auction prices.

Then there's the psychic benefit comes from the "functional" (or decorative) benefits of art that is used to adorn spaces. This is generally the closest to the artists intention when they create the work in the first place.

There's also the prestige that comes from possessing art - especially as it is used to display good taste, wealth and power. For instance, entrances and foyers of offices often display large striking works of modern or contemporary art.

This is what economists call "conspicuous consumption". As people become wealthier, their demand for high-end art increases. Indeed, art has a long tradition of being used as a statement of power, including by the church.

What drives the art market, especially at the upper echelons, is a curious mix of investment and consumption, fuelled by a limited supply.

The work of famous artists provides a signal of quality and assurance to the market and so their work is coveted by the rich and powerful. The uniqueness and rareness of these pieces not only spurs demand, but restricts supply, creating a perfect storm to drive prices up.

Although, even this doesn't entirely explain the high price paid for *Leonardo's Salvator Mundi*. Analysis of the sale suggests the market campaign by the auction house was significant in achieving such a high price.

But aside from its trade value, art can have cultural value and social significance that do not neatly translate to market prices. So while *Leonardo's Salvator Mundi* sold for US\$450 million, non-tradable masterpieces such as Michaelangelo's ceiling of the Sistine Chapel aren't worthless. They're "beyond price".

[the writer is Lecturer in Economics, RMIT University]



President to arrive in Mizoram on Wednesday

AIZAWL, Nov 28 (PTI): President Ram Nath Kovind will arrive here tomorrow on a two-day visit to Mizoram.

The president would address the Mizoram Legislative Assembly on Thursday, officials said today.

State Protocol department officials said that Kovind would arrive at the Lengpui Airport near here tomorrow. He would fly to the Thum-pui helipad in Aizawl by helicopter and would stay at the Raj Bhavan.

He would inaugurate the Housing for the Poor Project at a function in the Raj Bhavan, the officials said.

Additional secretary of the state Assembly S R Zokhuma said the president would address the session of the state legislature at 11 am on Thursday.

"Though Speaker Hipei adjourned the winter session of the legislature on November 16 sine die, the state Governor Lt General (Retd) Nirbhay Sharma was yet to prorogue the session," he said, adding that the speaker's notification issued yesterday for continuation of the session was enough.

Indo-Nepal border sealed ahead of civic polls

MAHARAJGANJ (UP), NOV 28 (PTI): The 84 km-long Indo-Nepal border has been sealed ahead of the third phase of civic polls tomorrow.

The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) is enforcing the sealing of the border, District Magistrate and Electoral Officer Virendra Kumar Singh told reporters.

"Only emergency vehicles will be allowed across the border during this period," he said.

The threat of Maoists and the porous Indo-Nepal border are the two biggest challenges during the third phase of municipal polls in Maharajganj and the International Border has been sealed to tackle this, the official said.

Cameras have been installed on trade and transit points along India's border with Nepal to prevent illegal movement of people.

Security along the borders has been stepped up in the wake of reports that anti-social elements could infiltrate into the country and disrupt the polling, according to a top official here.

The third phase of polling will be held in 26 districts across the state.

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Suu Kyi stripped of Freedom of Oxford award

ADITI KHANNA

LONDON, Nov 28 (PTI): Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi has been stripped of the Freedom of Oxford award over her "inaction" in handling the raging Rohingya refugee crisis and turning a "blind eye to violence" in the country that forced over 600,000 people to flee to Bangladesh.

Oxford City Council voted unanimously last night to permanently remove the honour given to 72-year-old Suu Kyi in 1997.

"Today we have taken the unprecedented step of stripping her of her city's highest honour because of her inaction in the face of oppression of the minority Rohingya population," Councillor Mary Clarkson said.

"We hope that today we have added our small voice to others calling for human rights and justice for the Rohingya people," she said in a statement.

More than 600,000 Rohingya Muslims have



fled to Bangladesh following a military crackdown in Myanmar's Rakhine state, creating one of the world's most dire refugee crisis.

Last week, Myanmar signed a deal with Bangladesh to allow the refugees to return home.

While the United Nations has described the violence and mass exodus as "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing", Suu Kyi has dismissed all allegations.

Oxford City Council said that when Suu Kyi had

been given the Freedom of the City it was because she reflected the city's values of "tolerance and internationalism" and as a celebration of her opposition to oppression and military rule in Myanmar but now any association with her would tarnish the city's reputation.

"The burning of their [Rohingya] villages has been independently confirmed by satellite images, and the UN has called the situation 'a textbook example of genocide' yet Aung San Suu Kyi has de-

nied any ethnic cleansing and dismissed numerous claims of sexual violence against Rohingya women as 'fake rape,'" it said.

"Oxford has a long tradition of being a diverse and humane city, and our reputation is tarnished by honouring those who turn a blind eye to violence," it added.

A series of UK institutions have been distancing themselves from the Nobel Peace laureate in the wake of the Rohingya crisis.

A portrait of the leader hanging prominently at

the entrance of St Hugh's College, Oxford University, where she studied was moved into storage back in September.

In October, under-graduates at the college where she read politics, philosophy and economics between 1964 and 1967 voted to remove the Myanmar leader's name from the title of their junior common room.

So far, Oxford University has decided not to reconsider an honorary doctorate bestowed upon Suu Kyi in 2012 but has expressed its "profound concern" over the treatment of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar.

At the start of November, musician and Love Aid founder Bob Geldof returned his Freedom of the City of Dublin award because it was also held by Suu Kyi.

The City of London Corporation has also been debating revoking Suu Kyi's Honorary Freedom, bestowed upon her earlier this year.

3 militants blow themselves up during crackdown in Bangladesh

DHAKA, NOV 28 (PTI): Three militants blew themselves up following a security crackdown at their hideout in Bangladesh's northwestern Chapainawabjag district bordering India, officials said today.

The incident took place as security was stepped up ahead of Pope Francis' visit to the country from November 30 to December 2.

A fire broke out at the tin-and-bamboo structure after a firefight and explosions, said Mahabub Alam, Rapid Action Battalion-5 Commanding Officer.

The bodies of the three suspected militants

were found by a bomb disposal unit among the debris after the fire died out, the official said.

Two pistols, three grenades, eight detonators and various bomb-making materials were recovered from inside the location, said RAB Media Wing Director Commander Mufti Mahmud Khan.

The elite anti-crime RAB has detained the building owner's wife Nazma Begum, her father Khorshed Alam and mother Minara Begum from a village for questioning.

"We have wrapped up the operation...three bodies were found at the scene," Mahmud said.

WB assembly passes Biswa Bangla University Bill

KOLKATA, NOV 28 (PTI): The West Bengal assembly today passed the Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay Bill amidst protests by the Left Front and Congress MLAs opposing the title of the legislation.

The Bill was tabled by Education minister Partha Chatterjee who in his reply said that it was surprising to see the Opposition Left Front and Congress members objecting to the use of the word Biswa Bangla.

The LF and Congress members wanted the Bill to be referred to the select committee which was declined by the Speaker Biman Banerjee.

Chatterjee said the Biswa Bangla name got nothing to do with the 'Biswa Bangla' logo. He said that now they are opposing the words

Biswa Bangla, later they might oppose the usage of 'Biswa' or 'Bangla'.

The minister said the state was having now 20 state-run and nine private universities.

The government was also contemplating to set up a university in the name of Sister Nivedita to commemorate 150 years of her birth.

Banerjee said that the logo 'Biswa Bangla' in the Bill is unrelated to the logo in the same name and the rule of sub-judice did not apply here.

The legislators were supreme and sovereign and they are unfettered even when the subject matter was under sub-judice.

The proposed university would be located at Bolpur in Shantiniketan.



1200 Arakan refugees in Mizoram's Lawngtlai district

AIZAWL, NOV 28 (PTI): Around 1200 people from Arakan in Myanmar have taken refuge in Mizoram's southernmost Lawngtlai district after the Myanmar Army launched a crackdown on Arakan militants, state government officials said here today.

The refugees from Arakan area of Myanmar fled and entered Lawngtlai district due to clashes between the Arakan rebels and the Myanmar Army and the last wave of refugees arrived on Saturday last, the official said.

Arakan district in Myanmar is just across

the border.

The deputy commissioner of Lawngtlai, Arun T and superintendent of police Lalsanglura today visited the four villages in the district where the Arakan people had taken refuge.

The Lawngtlai district administration yesterday sent 40 quintals of rice to the four villages where the displaced people were sheltered.

Medical team were sent by the district administration and also by the Assam Rifles to ensure that there was no outbreak of diseases, the officials added.



Fifth day of Song Bing Hot Spring festival at Lingdem

SUMMIT REPORT

DZONGU, 28 Nov:

On the fifth day of the nine-day Song Bing Hot Spring festival at Lingdem in Upper Dzongu, North Sikkim today, former Minister, Thukchuk Lachungpa was present as the chief guest. He was accompanied by festival committee members, Zilla member, Nimkit Lepcha, president festival committee, Karma Lepcha and member, Topnam Lepcha, SLYA members and local gentries.

The chief guest, in his address, appreciated the work of the committee members and public of Lingthem-Ling-

dem for organizing the festival which, he said, is a boon for promoting tourism in the area. He further added that Lingdem 7-side ground constructed by the public can be upgraded to a 9-side ground, for which, he assured to lend support. He also invited all sportspersons, committee members and interested people to his 70th birthday celebration at Gangtok.

Regarding the hot spring, Mr. Bhutia assured that he will help in the development of Lingdem hot spring. The programme also had cultural display by local SHGs.



I-T notices to 1.16 lakh for cash deposit of over Rs 25 lakh

NEW DELHI, NOV 28 (PTI): The Income Tax Department has slapped notices on 1.16 lakh individuals and firms who made cash deposits of more than Rs 25 lakh in bank accounts post note ban but failed to file returns by the due date, CBDT Chairman Sushil Chandra said.

Besides, large cash deposit by people who have filed I-T returns are also under close scrutiny, he said.

The tax department has combed as many as 18 lakh people who had deposited junked 500 and 1000 rupee currency notes of over Rs 2.5 lakh each post demonetisation.

Out of them, individuals and companies who have still not filed their I-T returns were segregated into two categories - those depositing more than Rs 25 lakh in bank accounts and those putting in Rs 10-25 lakh each.

"There are 1.16 lakh people who have deposited more than Rs 25 lakh in cash after demonetisation in old currency notes but still not filed their returns," he told PTI here.

"So we have asked them to file their IT re-

turns within 30 days," he said.

Chandra said 2.4 lakh people had made cash deposits of Rs 10-25 lakh who have not filed returns so far.

"They will also get notices in the second phase," if they did not file the returns, he said.

The notice is under section 142(1) of I-T Act. The official further said the number of people prosecuted for violating the I-T law has more than doubled to 609 in April-September this year from 288 in the same period last fiscal.

The total complaints filed are 1,046 as against 652 in the last year.

Also, convictions have gone up to 43 from 13 last year, Chandra said. "So courts have given judgement convicting people. So those 43 people will face sentences given by courts".

According to the official data, 17.73 lakh suspicious cases involving Rs 3.68 lakh crore have been identified by taxmen in 23.22 lakh bank accounts post demonetisation.

Responses from 11.8 lakh people for 16.92 lakh bank accounts had been received by the department online.

RMDD and SYA kick-off inter-departmental football tourney in Soreng



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 28 Nov:

Rural Management & Development Department [Soreng] under Swachhta Mission in collaboration with Sports & Youth Affairs Department kicked off an inter-departmental

football tournament at Soreng, West Sikkim today, a press release informs.

The inaugural match was attended by Retired Special Secretary, HB Gurung as the chief guest along with Sports & Youth Affairs De-

partment officials, Sub Divisional Magistrate [Soreng] and Additional District Collector [Dev].

The first match was played between Health Department and Roads & Bridges Department where the latter emerged victorious 0-2.

In the second match played between RMDD and Horticulture Department, RMDD enjoyed a comfortable 7-1 win.

Lastly, Police Department thrashed Veterinary/PHE Department 5-2 in the last match of the day.

Russia builds inside-out arena for World Cup

MOSCOW, NOV 28 (AFP): How does it feel to be on the outside looking in?

Football fans visiting Yekaterinburg in the Russian Urals for the 2018 World Cup will find out when they get seated in one of two temporary stands that fill empty plots of land next to the arena -- originally too small to fit FIFA rules.

Openings at each goal end of the stadium's facade offer a remote view of the pitch but no protection from the sun or rain.

And those unlucky enough to only get tickets for the extensions' upper-most rows will stare out directly at the outer edge of the refurbished Yekaterinburg Arena's circular roof.

The UK's perplexed Guardian newspaper suggested the entire ensemble might have come from "outer space" while USA Today screamed that it "couldn't look any scarier".

All of which has left the construction company behind the

42-metre-tall (138-foot-tall) extensions sounding somewhat bemused.

"This is a typical solution for sport facilities built for major international competitions," Sinaara-Development Director General Timur Ufimtsev told AFP.

"In addition, you can see a beautiful panoramic view of Yekaterinburg itself since the stadium is in a central part of the city."

He added that the whole seating section is protected by "tall railings" to make sure no one falls off.

Seven IFFI jurors vote in favour of 'S Durga', uncertainty over screening continues

PANAJI, NOV 28 (PTI): "S Durga" director Sanal Kumar Sasidharan today said a majority of members of the Indian Panorama jury have voted in favour of the Malayalam film being screened at the International Film Festival of India, which ends today. The jury watched the censored version of the controversial film last night.

The film was dropped from the final IFFI list by the Information and Broadcasting ministry.

On November 21, a day after the festival began, the Kerala High Court ordered that the film be screened at the



November 20-28 festival. Sasidharan, who had moved the court, told

PTI that seven jury members were ready for the screening of the film but

four people on the panel, with three new additions, didn't give their

approval.

"I got to know that seven of the members were in favour of the screening of 'S Durga', but three new members on the panel as well one of the old members opposed the screening," Sanal said.

The three new members Sudhir Chaudhary, Satish Kaushik and Vivek Agnihotri -- were put on the jury after jury chairman Sujoy Ghosh and members Apurva Asrani and Gyan Correa resigned in protest over the exclusion of "S Durga" and "Nude" from the festival.

Filmmaker Rahul Rawail was appointed

new chairman of the Indian Panorama section.

The ministry tried to obtain a stay order on the Kerala High Court's decision but it was denied by the court.

According to Sanal, if the film is not screened on the festival's last day today, he may file a contempt of court case against the festival and the ministry.

"If the executives are not obeying the judiciary, then it is a constitutional issue. I may file a contempt of court case," he said.

Sanal is also planning a protest at one of the festival venues here this afternoon.



Two more Russian Sochi Winter Olympians stripped of golds

LAUSANNE, NOV 28 (AFP): Two more Russian bobsleighters from the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics have been stripped of their gold medals for doping, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has said.

Aleksei Negodailo and Dmitrii Trunenkov were members of the same four-man bobsleigh team as Russia's flag carrier for the Games Alexander Zubkov, who had his medal stripped on Friday. The IOC has also taken away the team's title.

The IOC's announcement yesterday comes following hearings by an IOC commission into allegations of state-sponsored doping in Russia at the 2014 Games, hosted by Russia.

The IOC also disqualified Yana Romanova and Olga Vilukhina from all events they took part in at the Sochi Games for doping violations, taking away the silver medals they won.

Vilukhina won silver in the women's 7.5km biathlon event, while both were in the Russian 4x6km biathlon relay team that came second to Ukraine.

In addition, Sergei Chudinov, who came fifth in the men's individual skeleton, was also disqualified for doping breaches.

The five athletes punished were also banned from competing at any future Winter Olympics.

The latest sanctions come just a week before a crucial IOC meeting on

December 5-7 to decide whether Russia can compete at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

As well as Zubkov, speed skater Olga Fatkulina was stripped of her silver medal in the 500 metres last Friday.

Last Wednesday, four Russian skeleton competitors were also disqualified.

Russian sports officials responded to that decision by saying they were prepared to take legal action against the IOC.

Russia has so far lost 11 medals following the IOC's investigations, including four of the 13 Olympic titles they won in 2014.

That means that they have lost their position on top of the medals table to Norway, who won 11 golds.

In total, the IOC has punished 19 Russian Olympians on the recommendation of the commission headed by Swiss sports official Denis Oswald set up to investigate evidence of doping with state involvement.

On Sunday, athletics' world governing body, the IAAF, maintained its suspension of Russia, saying the country still had not done enough to clamp down on doping.

Russia was banned from international athletics in November 2015 over claims of state-sponsored doping, preventing its athletes from competing at the 2016 Rio Olympics and this year's World Championships in London.

Three lakh migratory birds throng Kashmir Valley

MI JE HANGIR

SRINAGAR, NOV 28 (PTI): The gloomy winter landscape of the Kashmir Valley has come alive with a myriad of colours with the arrival of three lakh winged visitors from as far as Central Asia and Europe after arduous efforts by the Wildlife Department to restore their natural habitat.

Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Brahminy Duck, Garganey, Greylag Goose, Mallard, Common Merganser, Northern Pintail, Common Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, Red-Crested Pochard, Ruddy Shelduck, Northern Shoveler, Common Teal, and Eurasian Wigeon are some of the most sighted birds in the wetlands of Kashmir.

The winged visitors start arriving in the valley towards the first week of November as Kashmir presents them a comparatively hospitable alternate habitat compared to the extreme freezing conditions in their natural habitats in Siberia, China, Japan and other countries in northern hemisphere, an official of the Wildlife department said.

"We have recorded around three lakh bird arrivals in the wetlands of Kashmir so far. This is very good number as the concentration of migratory birds will peak around first week of February," Wildlife Warden (Wetlands) Roaif Zargar told PTI.

More birds are likely to arrive in the next 45 days as the temperature is expected to drop in some of the places where



these birds come from.

The birds -- which feed on insects, worms and fish in these water bodies -- present a beautiful picture, changing the colour of the valley landscape.

The Wildlife department took a series of steps to restore the natural habitat of

these birds which were threatened by encroachments, unscientific waste disposal and noise pollution interfering with the ecosystem of the wetlands.

"We have completed works at Hokersar wetlands while Hygam and Shallabug will be completed in 10 to 15 days," Zargar said.

The floods in Kashmir in 2014 had threatened the winter escapade of migratory birds as the September deluge that year brought with it a layer of oil which settled over the water in the Hokersar wetland, causing enormous damage to the ecosystem of the wetland.

The wildlife staff had to drain out the water with oily layer before letting in fresh streams of water to ensure that the visiting birds do not face any difficulty in finding food.

Noise pollution caused by rapid urbanisation around the wetlands, however, continues to be an irritant as it is putting off the visiting birds.

"Noise of all kinds causes disturbance to the birds. This can lead to the birds finding alternate places to spend the winters in," Zargar said.

To tackle the more obvious threat of poaching, the department has set up squads to maintain vigil around the wetlands of Kashmir.

"We have so far recovered four guns from Wullar area. We have also set up teams to keep an eye on any poaching attempts not only within the wetlands but even in the areas surrounding them," Zargar added.

The birds start a long distance flight from various places like Siberia, China and Japan in the month of October in view of freezing temperatures, which makes food scarce for them in their natural summer habitats.

Besides Hokersar, the migratory birds flock the Wullar lake and other wetlands like Hygam, Shallabugh and Murgind in surrounding areas, bringing cheer to bird watchers of the valley.



Protests outside Ajit Pai's home over net neutrality rules

WASHINGTON, NOV 28 (PTI): The Federal Communications Commission chairman, Ajit Pai, has come under a blistering attack by several Indian-American lawmakers and activists for his proposal to repeal the Obama-era net neutrality policy.

The activists also protested outside Pai's home in Virginia with signs directing at his children.

Pai, 44, blasted the activists for "harassing" his family members, saying they "crossed the line".

He is facing backlash from his opponents for his proposal which seeks to reverse Obama era's net neutrality, which meant that all websites are treated equally by Internet providers.

His proposal would end net neutrality and give big Internet providers like Comcast and Verizon broad powers to determine what website should reach out to subscribers faster than others. The activists not only staged protest outside Pai's home with signs directing at his children, they also reportedly sent pizzas to his home every half-and-hour. Some media reports said the frequency was every 15 minutes.

This is the first instance that a senior Indian-American administration official in any of the presidential administration being harassed and threatened by opponents. Signboards and placards placed by protestors outside Pai's house in Virginia mocked him for his views.

"I understand that people are passionate about policy, but the one thing in America that should remain sacred is that families, wives and kids, should remain out of it. And stop harassing us at our homes," Pai told 'Fox and Friends'.

His proposal is scheduled to come out to vote before FCC on December 14. This is expected to pass as the Republicans have five votes as against three from the Democratic Party.

Pai expressed his displeasure when asked about the protest outside his house in Virginia. "It was a little nerve-racking, especially for my wife," he said.

"Internet regulation activists have crossed the line by threatening and harassing my family. They should leave my family out of this and focus on debating the merits of the issue," Pai was quoted as saying by The Washington Post.

In an interview to PBS News early this month, Pai had said the digital landscape has changed, and the government should stop "micromanaging the Web".

Pope meeting Suu Kyi on Myanmar refugee crisis amid outcry

NAYPYITAW, NOV 28 (AP): Pope Francis traveled to Myanmar's capital today to meet with Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who has come under increasing international criticism over a military crackdown on Rohingya Muslims that the UN and US have termed a campaign of "ethnic cleansing."

Francis' speech to Suu Kyi, other Myanmar officials and the diplomatic corps is the most anticipated of his visit, given the outcry over the operation which has sent more than 620,000 Rohingya fleeing into neighboring Bangladesh.

The Rohingya, who have been denied citizenship and other basic rights for decades in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, have reported entire villages burned and looted, and women and girls raped.

Leaders of Myanmar's



Catholic Church have stressed that Suu Kyi, the country's civilian leader, has no power to speak out against the military over the operation, and have urged continued support for her efforts to move Myanmar toward a more democratic

future that includes all its religious minorities, Christians in particular.

How Francis bridges the local Catholic concerns with his legacy of speaking out for oppressed minorities will be key in his speech in Naypy-

itaw, the capital.

His address comes just hours after Suu Kyi was stripped of her latest honor in the West, a "Freedom of the City" award given to her by the Oxford City Council, which said anyone who turns a blind

eye to violence tarnished its own reputation. Suu Kyi studied at Oxford before returning to Myanmar and being placed under detention for 15 years during the country's long military dictatorship.

Before arriving in Naypyitaw, Francis met in Yangon with interfaith leaders at the archbishop's residence, and separately with a prominent but controversial Buddhist leader.

The pope stressed a message of "unity in diversity" in his 40-minute meeting with Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Jewish leaders and told them they should work together to rebuild the country, Vatican spokesman Greg Burke said.

"If we argue, let's argue like brothers, who quickly reconcile," Francis said.

Francis' meeting with Buddhist monk Sitagu Sayad-

aw was undertaken "in an effort to encourage peace and fraternal coexistence as the only way ahead," Burke said.

Sitagu also met with Francis's predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, but has been criticized for using ethnic slurs against Muslims, particularly the Rohingya. He received an award presented by Suu Kyi earlier this year.

Francis dove into the Rohingya refugee crisis hours after arriving on Monday by meeting with the military chief responsible for the crackdown, Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, and three members of the bureau of special operations. The Vatican didn't provide details of the 15-minute "courtesy visit," other than to say that "They spoke of the great responsibility of the authorities of the country in this moment of transition."



Police say they have foiled a plot to carry out a New Year's Eve terror attack in the Australian city of Melbourne. A 20-year-old man has been arrested and accused of planning a mass shooting at Federation Square in the city centre. The man, who has not been named, was born in Australia to Somali parents and was held after police raided a house in the Melbourne suburb of Werribee. Police claim he is an Islamic State sympathiser and accessed an online guidebook produced by al Qaeda on how to commit terrorism and use firearms. Officers had been monitoring the man and arrested him as he allegedly met with people to try and buy an automatic rifle.

Russia to help India set up crisis management centre

Moscow, Nov 28 (PTI): Russia will assist India to set up a national crisis management centre in the country to handle disaster and other emergency situations.

This was agreed during a meeting between Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Russian Minister for Emergency Situations Vladimir Puchkov here today.

Both sides agreed that EMERCOM of Russia would co-operate with India in the establishment of the National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC) in India, an official statement said.

Singh held detailed discussions with Puchkov on cooperation in disaster management. They reviewed the progress made on the agreement on disaster management signed in 2010.



They also agreed on a programme of training of specialists and sharing of each other's experiences as well as best practices in the field of Disaster Management, the statement said.

The two leaders later signed a joint implementation plan for 2018-19 for cooperation in disaster management.

Singh also met Nikolai Patrushev, secretary, Security

Council of Russian Federation yesterday. During the meeting, both sides reinforced their determination to further strengthen their cooperation in the sectors of security and counter-terrorism.

They also reviewed the implementation of the agreement on information security signed in October 2016. Both sides also welcomed the ongoing cooperation and the regular exchange of visits between the two National Security Councils.

During his three-day visit to Russia, Singh will visit the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation and hold talks with its Director Alexander Bortnikov.

Later, he will attend a reception organised by the Indian community.

Man detained in connection with China's port city blast: police



BEIJING, NOV 28 (PTI): Chinese police has arrested a man, wanted for manufacturing and selling illegal explosives, for his involvement in a powerful blast that rocked port city of Ningbo killing two people and wounding more than 30 others.

The man who owned the explosives which had caused the blast last Sunday in Ningbo has been detained, state-run CGTN quoted local police as saying.

The police identified the suspect as a 33-year-old man from China's eastern Anhui Province. He was arrested in central China's Hunan province yesterday.

The suspect admitted that he told his family in Ningbo to dismantle and destroy the explosives to avoid being punished, it said. The suspect was charged with manufacturing and selling illegal explosives, the report said.

The Sunday blast was China's worst industrial explosion in three years which also damaged nearby buildings and vehicles.

Rescuers were seen trying to pull the people out of the rubble from flats whose roofs were blown off.

Ningbo is one of China's major international cargo and container shipping ports.

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2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

00125 10657 23311 38522 42661

42859 51278 71818 88157 98063

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0004 0036 0114 0216 0217 0248 0255 0304 0407 0426

0620 0775 0812 0901 0984 0992 1044 1196 1199 1488

1492 1532 1626 1656 1687 1785 1866 1945 2076 2366

2445 2493 2888 2957 3036 3097 3113 3225 3226 3628

3943 4245 4337 4674 4709 4969 5012 5058 5159 5211

5311 5313 5325 5329 5376 5447 5805 6049 6072 6113

6349 6358 6416 6558 6583 6748 6905 6937 6966 7045

7239 7304 7415 7465 7475 7490 7640 7695 7830 7884

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34399 34645 39277 65499 78818

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0146 0295 0316 0401 0519 0525 0698 0986 1066 1176

1195 1324 1380 1386 1464 1540 1750 1891 2026 2115

2223 2414 2539 2693 2781 2783 2821 2830 2900 3002

3319 3389 3444 3488 3519 3664 3687 3718 3721 3730

3733 3938 4102 4111 4265 4291 4456 4720 4786 4884

5004 5179 5243 5560 5756 5937 6100 6295 6327 6354

6645 6752 7047 7108 7150 7218 7337 7414 7501 7653

7798 7967 8013 8027 8074 8155 8175 8178 8182 8259

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CAMERA SHY: Singer Ed Sheeran holds girlfriend Cherry Seaborn's hand while trying to cover his face.

RANVEER SINGH IS SUPER EXCITED TO PLAY KAPIL DEV IN KABIR KHAN'S NEXT



Ranveer Singh, who will be playing the lead role in Kabir Khan's next film '83, based on the life of cricketing legend Kapil Dev and his spectacular World Cup win, is pumped up to portray the cricketing legend. Ranveer Singh, who's currently waiting for the release of his film Padmavati, has already started prepping up for his next film, Gully Boy opposite Alia Bhatt. After this is complete, he will step into the shoes of Kapil Dev.

The actor spoke to a leading daily about his role in '83 and said, "I remember when Kabir came to me with the movie, I was like, 'chalo, it's great that finally, someone

is planning to make a mainstream Hindi film on the 1983 World Cup victory." He added, "It infused the nation with a lot of pride and was clearly a turning point in our sports history. I wasn't aware that 1983 victory turned the tide because I thought cricket has always been a huge sport in our country."

On being questioned about his transformation for the film, Ranveer said, "Bas woh bowling action aa jaaye. I hope Kapil sir himself gives me some training and tips. It will be absolutely fantastic. It goes without saying that the physical transformation is going to be an important part."

BOOK OF THE DAY

Coraline by Neil Gaiman

Otherworldly and darkly magical, Neil Gaiman's Coraline explores the transformation from dream to nightmare. Little Coraline has always wondered what is behind the locked door in her home's drawing room. What she finds on the other side of the passageway is an oddly familiar house to her own, but strangely different. She finds other parents with buttons for eyes in



the alternate world, who explicitly inform her that they want to make her theirs forever. Coraline will have to gain incredible courage to escape and fight the nightmare and twisted game they began.

Wildly addictive and obscure, Gaiman's presentation of a chilling and sinister fairytale. The lines between a fantasy and a nightmare are often blurred. Gaiman once again reminds us that monsters really exist.



THIS WEEK'S TOP 10 SONGS ON BILLBOARD HOT 100

1. Post Malone featuring 21 Savage- Rockstar
2. Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug- Havana
3. Lil Pump- Gucci Gang
4. Imagine Dragons- Thunder
5. Ed Sheeran- Perfect
6. Cardi B- Bodak Yellow [Money Moves]
7. Sam Smith- Too Good At Goodbyes
8. Portugal. The Man- Feel It Still
9. Demi Lovato- Sorry Not Sorry
10. Maroon 5's featuring SZA- What Lovers Do

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



29TH NOVEMBER

1944: The first Baseball tour group arrived in Paris, France. They were involved in the European War Theatre. This group was made up of New York Giants Manager Mel Ott, Pittsburgh Pirates Manager Bucky Walters, and Cincinnati Pitcher Dutch Leonard. Roy Stockton, the man who was sports writer for the St. Louis Post Dispatch was also present.

1947: The United Nations votes in favor of partitioning the British controlled Palestine and to allow the creation of an Independent Jewish State of Israel. Arab countries all voted against the creation of Israel and 60 years later the area is still in turmoil.

1953: An uprising occurred in Indonesia among the anti-Communists after Communist leader Ho Chi Minh requested an armistice negotiation. Numerous opposers of communism demanded that Indonesia end relations with

France. Chi Minh's agenda was briefly accounted for in Expressen, dated this day.

1963: A Trans-Canada Airlines DC8 crashes into a field, shortly after take off from Montreal's international airport killing all passengers and crew on impact (118), the crash is one of the worst air disasters in Canadian history.

2008: The terrorist attacks were ended by India's National Security Guards (NSG) on November 29 (in an action that is officially named Operation Black Tornado). This resulted in the death of the last remaining attackers at the Taj hotel. Shortly before 0730 fierce gunfire and explosions were heard at the hotel. Almost 100 people had been rescued from a second hotel. Six bodies were found at a Jewish centre. India's foreign minister has said that "elements with links to Pakistan" were involved in the attacks.

TEEN FOUND GUILTY OF PLOTTING TERROR ATTACK AT A JUSTIN BIEBER CONCERT

A U.K. teen was found guilty on Monday for plotting an unexecuted terror attack during a Justin Bieber concert in Wales on June 30, according to The Guardian.

The unnamed 17-year-old was reportedly inspired by ISIS and penned a "martyrdom letter" in which he decried the U.K.'s involvement in Syria and Iraq, called himself "a soldier of the Islamic State," and promised the world would see "more attacks in the future."

According to The Guardian, the teen, who is white, claimed during the trial that he didn't actually practice Islam and simply possessed a "stupid interest in the gory."

"I wanted to see how easy it was for people who had an interest in terrorism to go online and get information because the police and the government are trying to crack down on terrorism and radicalization," The Guardian reports the teen said to the court. "I wanted to see if it was possible, not for me but from someone else's point of view." His explanation wasn't enough to convince the court of his innocence, especially after they'd learned he'd written another note detailing ways to kill large numbers of people, such as driving a car through a crowd. In addition to researching ISIS



ideologies, The Guardian reports the teen had a knife and a hammer in his school bag, had communicated with someone on Instagram about terrorist attacks, and had specifically looked into Bieber's concert security.

Based on his reported internet research, the teen was inspired by a number of terrorist events, possibly including the May 22 bombing at the Manchester Arena, which killed 22 people and

injured dozens of others.

Plots and attacks on massive public events are becoming unnervingly common across the world. In October, more than 50 people were killed when a gunman opened fire on a country music festival in Las Vegas, leaving many in the States to wonder if they'd ever be safe attending a similar event in the future.

The teen will be sentenced in January 2018.

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ARIES: Information you receive from friends could have you worrying a little about your financial security. You may be trying to reach a goal that seems to be in jeopardy - if the news you've heard is true. It may not be! Check the facts before jumping to conclusions and panicking. You could find that there's nothing to worry about.

TAURUS: Usually you have a strong intuitive bond with those close to you, but today you might feel like that part of your brain has shut down. You could get confusing messages, or you could pick up nothing at all. You haven't lost your gift so don't worry about it. You'll have to rely on words for now!

GEMINI: It may be difficult to focus on household chores today. Your mind is on more exalted matters, such as spiritual and intellectual interests and you feel lazy. It's OK to do nothing. You don't have to knock yourself out every day! Relax at home, read, watch TV, and cook if you must do something. Your chores can wait until you feel more energetic.

CANCER: Creative ideas may elude you today. You may have a hankering to do something artistic but with only a few vague notions, and you may not like those. This is a good day to work with others' ideas. Read, play music by a great composer, copy a painting by a

master. This way you'll keep the impulses going without trying to force new ideas that won't come.

LEO: Something may be distracting a close friend or love partner so much that this person isn't very good company. Nor will your friend want to share the source of their preoccupation. Don't try to have a long conversation about it. Back off and let your friend come to terms with it alone. Sometimes that's all you can do.

VIRGO: Your thoughts and feelings may be vague today, and you could be preoccupied. People might talk to you but you won't hear much of what they say, and

you'll remember even less. This is a temporary condition. Don't worry that people think you're rude. The ones that count know you're not. Spend the day reading escapist novels. It won't matter if you can't remember those!

LIBRA: Romantic matters should be going very well now, although today you might have some doubts. Your loved one may be quiet and preoccupied. Don't let your insecurities get the better of you! What's probably going on with your friend has little if anything to do with you and more to do with money matters. Your partner will tell you when the time is right.

SCORPIO: Today you may have so much to do around the house that you don't know where to start. Family members aren't much help. Don't throw up your hands and let it all go. Look around the room, find something that needs to be done, and handle it. Keep doing this and then stop when you're tired. There's no need to work yourself to exhaustion even if you expect visitors. Their homes get messy, too!

SAGITTARIUS: Today the paranormal could be on your mind. Books on related subjects may capture your interest, so you'll probably want to spend the day reading. Some of the concepts might seem

strange even to you, but don't write them off yet. The important thing now is to keep an open mind. Strange things are discovered every day.

CAPRICORN: A strong bond of loyalty that you feel for a friend might propel you into a touchy situation today. Your friend may ask you to do a favor that's difficult if not impossible. Look into the situation and see if there's some way you can help. If not, you'll have to try to make it up later. Sometimes that's all you can do.

AQUARIUS: Confusion may reign today, particularly if you're intuitive. You may pick up strange

vibes that could be unsettling. Don't try to make sense of them. Your ESP may be a bit off, or those people whose feelings you're sensing are stressed and lacking direction. Or it could be both. Either way, you should be back to normal tomorrow.

PISCES: Some bizarre dreams or visions could come to you today. Don't put too much stock in them. You might find that the images are partly scenes from your past, partly information you've received lately, and partly your own fears about the future. If you view them this way, you should be able to see what they're telling you. They aren't prophecies for the future.

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