

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Pachey landslide pulverizes 5 buildings



Six injured, 102 relocated to safer habitations

ARPAN PRADHAN
Gangtok, 10 Jul:

Incessant rainfall triggered a massive landslide at Pachey in Pakyong, East Sikkim, at around 8:30 a.m. this morning which washed out five buildings of the area and left six people injured including an 80-year-old woman.

According to local residents, around 200 metres above the Pakyong-Machong road at Pachey continuous rainfall for the past few days had loosened the earth and a minor slide was visible on Sunday. Stones were also falling down the slope, but no one thought this to be potentially disastrous.

"It had been raining for the past three days here. We thought the stones would stop falling eventually. In the morning today, stones were still falling so I and my son went to park our car in a safer location. Immediately after that, everything got washed out in front of our eyes," said Bhakta Bahadur Gurung, whose house was also washed away in the slide.

The owners of four other buildings that got swept away are KB Gurung, CK Subba, Manish Agarwal and Bishnu Bhakta Dhital.

"We are safe because the landslide hit the area in the morning hours when we were all awake. It would have been a different scenario if this incident had occurred at night or even in the early morn-

ing hours. A lot of lives would have been lost. We are lucky that we are safe and alive but we have lost everything, from money to documents to our home," said Mr Gurung.

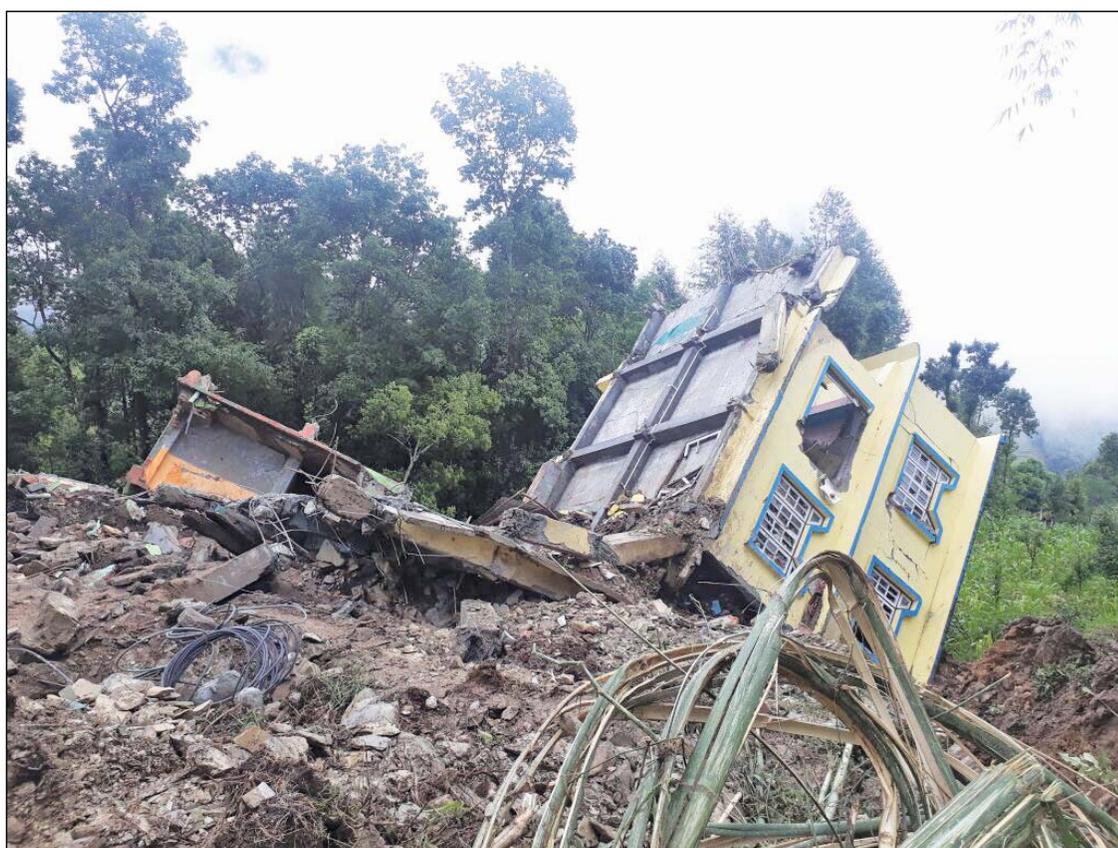
The injured persons have been identified as Sujita Chettri (43), Chandra Kala Subba (80), Dil Kumari Rai (35), Sashi kala Gurung (52), KB Gurung (58) and Abishek Rai (13).

"We reached the landslide spot and saw the landslide was still active and was slowly moving down. We saw an old lady being swept along with the slide. We managed to rescue her somehow but she was severely injured and terrified at the time of rescue," said one of the Police personnel, Lha Tshering Lepcha, who rescued the 80-year-old woman.

As per the information received from the Pakyong Primary Health Centre, out of the six injured persons, two [KB Gurung and Abishek Rai] were discharged after being given First Aid while the rest have been referred to STNM Hospital for further treatment, informed Dr Tshewang Donka of PHC Pakyong.

Besides the five buildings that got buried and the six injured persons, buildings in and around the area of landslide belonging to PR Dahal, RB Gurung, KN Pokhrel along with four more buildings below the road towards the SDM Office have been found to be in danger and, thus, unfit for habitation.

"Arrangements are being made by the concerned department and relief camp has been established," said one of the officials.



There were 24 people living in the buildings that were washed away, some of whom have now been shifted to the PWD guest house while some have moved in

with their relatives. Furthermore, 17 families which include 78 people from the area have been relocated to the RMDD guest house and annex

building of SDM office. It was informed that the moment the landslide occurred, local youth immediately rushed to the spot to rescue people and were lat-

er joined by Police, Fire personnel, a team of NDRF and officials from the District Administration.

Area MLA, Minister DT Lepcha,

turn to pg07

Centre, WB govt discuss Darj situation

NEW DELHI, JUL 9 (PTI): The Centre today discussed with the West Bengal Police and central paramilitary forces the prevailing situation in Darjeeling, where protests led by the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha for a separate state turned violent on Saturday.

At a meeting, senior officials of the Home Ministry, West Bengal police and central paramilitary forces reviewed the steps taken to restore normalcy there.

The ministry officials stressed the need for "rationalisation" of forces through proper deployment of security personnel at sensitive places, sources said.

The meeting was at-

tended by Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Home Ministry Rina Mitra, West Bengal additional director general of police Anuj Sharma among others.

The officials also discussed plans for making optimum use of the central forces to ensure that peace is restored in Darjeeling, sources said.



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Man accused of molesting minor

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

A 31-year-old man from Bhorong in Central Pendam, East Sikkim, was arrested and booked under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 on 09 Jul by Rangpo police.

The man has been accused of molesting a 09-year-old minor girl. According to the report filed at Rangpo Police Station, the victim's father had sent her to the shop belonging to the accused to buy cigarettes.

On reaching the shop, the accused allegedly molested her. The minor victim started crying on reaching her home and narrated the ordeal to her family following which they registered a case at Rangpo PS. It was further informed that the accused had molested the victim in the past too.

The accused has been brought under police custody.

SKM

reiterates support to Karmapa to Sikkim demand

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

A team led by spokesperson of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha, Kunga Nima Lepcha, and working presidents, MP Subba & Navin Kariki, visited BL house in Gangtok today to meet the monks who are on a relay hunger strike demanding that 17th Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje be allowed to visit Sikkim.

A press release issued by press & publicity secretary, Arun Upreti, informs that the SKM team appreciated the struggle of the monks of Sikkim and expressed hope that this demand will be fulfilled as soon as possible.

On the completion of one year of the strike by the monks, SKM reiterated its support to the monk body and sought the state government's serious intervention and positive action on bringing the Karmapa to Sikkim without any further delay.

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

Indefinite relay hunger strike by monks completes 1 year

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

The indefinite relay hunger strike by monks from various monasteries of the State at BL House demanding that the 17th Gyalwang Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje be allowed to visit Sikkim completed one year today.

On the completion of 365 days of the relay hunger strike, monks marked their protest with black bands on their head and reiterated the demand to immediately allow the Karmapa to visit and bless Sikkim. On the occasion, the monk body Denjong Lhadey also submitted a

memorandum on the same to the Governor, Chief Secretary and Director General of Police and a report of their hunger strike to the DC [East] and SP [East].

Addressing a press conference today, Denjong Lhadey coordinator, Chewang Lama, mentioned that the indefinite relay hunger strike was started on 10 July 2016 and more than 1000 monks from across the State have participated in this hunger strike till now.

"It is really disheartening that there has been no response from the Central government or the State government even on the completion of

one year," he said.

The movement will be intensified if the concerned authorities take no action on their demand by the end of this month.

Accusing the state government of misguiding the Centre on the issue, Mr Lama said that the KS Rao report has diminished the prospect of the Karmapa being allowed to visit Sikkim. He demanded that the state government withdraw the report and send a fresh report to the Centre.

Instead of supporting the movement, Bhutia-Lepcha Ministers and MLAs of the State have been accus-

ing monks for holding the hunger strike. He threatened to gherao the houses of BL Ministers and MLAs if they make such allegations again in the future.

Meanwhile, a press release from Denjong Lhadey informs that on the completion of one year of the hunger strike, monks unanimously adopted various resolutions.

The release demands a clarification from the Indian government on whether the Indian government reserves the right to decide on the movement of any individual to Sikkim or not.

"It is very condemnable that

the religious rights and interests of the people should be encroached or subuded for a long period of 17 years in the garb of security. National security and concern is indeed a matter of utmost concern and there is no compromise on it, we respect it. However, the manager of national security must also be sensitive and considerate to our religious concern at the same time for the Buddha dharma has strongly been guarding the nation's northern frontier with its message of peace and non-violence. It's been 17 frustrating long years now," the release says.



BENGALIS CONDEMN WB CHAUVINISM AGAINST SIKKIM IN SILIGURI

The All Sikkim Bengali Association carried out a candlelight-rally from Titanic Park here to Bhanupath on Sunday evening appealing for uninterrupted access for Sikkim through Siliguri and condemning acts of vandalism reported there targeting Sikkim vehicles and supplies. [SANDEEP PRASAD]

Kpg calls in the Army too



SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 10 JUL: After Darjeeling, Kalimpong district administration has also sought Army deployment. The administration has called Army to keep

the situation under control, informed Kalimpong District Magistrate, Dr Viswanath today. "One Column of Army has been called to take control of the situation," informed the DM.

SKM sees antinational content in CM's comments on Sikkim being sandwiched between Chinese and WB posturing

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has condemned the recent statement of the Chief Minister when he is reported to have commented that "the people of Sikkim

did not merge with the Indian Union to become a sandwich between China and Bengal". The party has alleged that such a statement was highly damaging and antinational in nature, especially when there was a serious standoff underway

between India and China along Sikkim's borders. The SKM party sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister on the same today. The party has demanded to initiate appropriate action against the CM for his thoughtless,

irresponsible, threatening and perilous comment. Addressing a press conference today, SKM MLA, Kunga Nima Lepcha, who is also the spokesperson of the party, alleged that it was an irresponsible and highly damaging statement of the CM.

The memorandum goes on to claim that "such anti-national comments" have "fuelled the sinister design of China to advocate that it might have to rethink the status of Sikkim," with a section of the Chinese media, even going as far as

to call for Sikkim's independence and separation from India. The party has also demanded that the State government issue a white paper on the CM's claims about the State having suffered a loss of Rs 60,000 crores due to

disruptions caused by the Gorkhaland movement. The party has also called on the State government to make arrangements for Sikkimese students enrolled in schools in Darjeeling which are showing no signs of resuming.



Now rains create havoc on NH10

SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 10 JUL:

In addition to the unrest in the neighbouring Hills affecting smooth traffic along NH10 which is the lifeline of Sikkim, heavy rainfall is now taking its toll on the highway part of which falls under Kalimpong.

Heavy rainfall in the last 48 hours in Kalimpong has triggered many landslides along NH10. A stretch of 150 ft road at Bhuichale has sunk about 3 ft below the normal road level.

Bhuichale, the area between

Lohapul and Hanuman Mandir area under Rambi Police Post, Kalimpong, is a landslide prone zone. The Teesta flowing below the highway constantly erodes the base resulting in massive sinking of the road.

At around 5 a.m. this morning, the stretch began to sink forcing traffic to a halt. A massive convoy of Army vehicles plying to Sikkim was also stranded for nearly 2 hours.

Executive Engineer of PWD Roads, NH Division, Uttam Pradhan, said, "The overnight

rain has damaged the highway at Bhuichale. Almost 150 feet of road has sunk about 3 feet down."

Not just Bhuichale, a crack has been spotted at 29th Mile near NHPC Stage III and Basua near Coronation Bridge. These areas are also in danger of getting swept away by the river in the coming days.

The infamous Likuveer also came back to life on Sunday and as debris fell from the slope, traffic was stalled on the highway for some time.

State Leadership Academy begins work at SCERT



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has been identified as the State Leadership Academy by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NEUPA), New Delhi, an official press release informs.

The State Leadership Academy is expected to carry out leadership activities in the State, as part of which, SCERT

is conducting a 10-day "Capacity Building Workshop for State Leadership Teams" from 10 to 19 July at its campus here at Lower Burtuk, Gangtok.

Ten members of the State Resource Group and a team of 28, including Principals of Senior Secondary Schools from all districts, SCERT and DIET faculty and officials from HRDD are participating.

The workshop was inaugurated by Additional Chief Secretary, Secretary-in-Charge for HRDD, GP Upadhyaya.

Gangtok on Tuesday, 11 July

Temp: 22°C / 18°C
Forecast: Periods of rain and a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 04:48 AM
Sunset: 06:34 PM

Bhanu Jayanti to highlight contributions of Nepali-speakers towards nation building

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 09 JUL:
Like every year Bhanu Jayanti celebrations will be held in the capital in grand manner. The 203rd Bhanu Jayanti celebrations committee President and Gangtok MLA, Phinsto Chopel while speaking to media-persons informed that this year's theme for the celebration is "Rashritya Ekbadhata".

He also informed that since many students will be taking part in the celebrations, there will be a stronger focus at highlighting the achievements and contributions of the Nepali-speaking population of the country.

"We should know about the achievements of our own people," he said.

In Singtam, the day will be marked with interschool competitions on Ramayan recitation, folk dance and poetry.

The state level Bhanu Jayanti will be held on 13 July in the capital organised by the Nepali Sahitya Parishad.

"This year's theme is to remember the contributions made by Nepali speaking people of India in the national development," said Kavita Sharma, Journalist.

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Sikkim's football stars call on Governor

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 JUL:
Governor, Shrinivas Patil, today granted audience to a group of five reputed professional football players of Sikkim at Raj Bhavan in Gangtok. Indian national team members namely Nirmal Chettri, Sanju Pradhan, Bikash Jairu, Robin Gurung and Nim Tshering Lepcha were part of the group, a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs.

The Governor expressed his delight on meeting the players representing Sikkim at the national football arena and congratulated them on their achievements. He stated that Sikkim is blessed with abundant talented footballers; the need is to identify, groom and help them to excel in the field. This is possible only through the collaborative effort of all the stakeholders including professional clubs,

football association and sports authorities. He also encouraged the players to look into the future prospects of professional footballers in reputed clubs so that they are secured financially.

While lauding the initiative of the players to open football academies at various places across the State, the Governor urged them to contribute back to society when they are in their prime and earning.

The players also submitted some suggestions for the promotion of sporting activities in Sikkim and football in particular and sought the direction of the Governor for the improvement in the overall sporting activities in Sikkim.

The Governor assured all possible help in their future endeavors and asked them to remain committed to the promotion of football in Sikkim.



CAUGHT IN A QUEUE: Some may use long queues as a time to listen to their playlist, or collect their thoughts, but of late, most of the people waiting in near desperation for the LPG delivery truck to arrive have been talking about the Gorkhaland agitation. Bhabhis and aunties here in the Diesel Power House area, while waiting for the refill, were talking about how they were not getting fresh vegetables in the market and of how one of them was stuck in traffic for two hours recently because the petrol pump at 5th Mile was packed with vehicles and blocking the highway. Queues are bad enough in themselves and when also too frequent, can and will lead to an existential crisis. [PALZOR MACHUNGPA]

Singtam picks winners of Ramayan Paath and poetry recital compts for Bhanu Jayanti

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 10 JUL:

The auditions and selection for Ramayan and poetry recitation competitions for the upcoming Bhanu Jayanti successfully concluded here at the auditorium hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat today.

Six schools from in and around Singtam participated in the auditions.

In the interschool Ramayan Paath competition, Singtam Senior Secondary School stood first followed by Sumin Lingchey Government School and Sirwani Secondary Government School in the second and third places respectively.

Nishan Dungal, a teacher from East Point School, took the first place at the open Ramayan Paath competition, followed by Khus Narayan Dahal from Khamdong and Nisha Dulal taking the



second and third places, respectively. Similarly, the poetry recitation competition, Chewan Koirala from Lower Samdong and Umesh Adhikari from Singtam Senior Secondary School took the first and second place, respectively, with Pratham Chettri from Simun Lingchey Government School and Arjun Chettri from Little Angel Academy sharing the third place. Prabhat Panday stood first in the open poetry

recitation contest while Manju Sharma from Khamdong along with Krishna Dungal from Namphing-South Sikkim shared the second place. Prabha Tamang from Chisopani came third in the recitation. The programme also featured performances by comedian Ram Sharma, popularly known as Firkey. Minister of Agriculture Development, Somnath Poudyal, attended the programme as chief

guest accompanied by area MLA-Central Pandam, Gopal Barialy. Filmmaker, Chundi Lal Ghimeray, accom-

panied by Bina Kharel, Bhakti Shri Sharma, and Dayaram Bhattarai sat on the jury for the auditions.

SAATHI organizes workshop for SMCs, launches mobile app



SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India [SAATHI], a project initiative under Chief Minister's Youth Empowerment Mission, conducted a daylong School Management Committee Workshop at the conference hall of Social Justice Empowerment & Welfare Department in Lumsey, Tadong, on 08 Jul. There were over 40 participants comprising of the Principals, SMC members and teacher coordinators from 12 Government Senior Secondary schools of the East district of Sikkim participating in the event, a press release received from SAATHI office informs.

The first SMC workshop for the year 2017-2018 had participants from Deorali Girls' Senior Secondary School, Rumtek Senior Secondary School, Modern Secondary School, Bojoghari Senior Secondary School, Rangpo Senior Secondary School, Tadong Senior Secondary School, Ranipool Senior Secondary School, Assam Linzey Senior Secondary School, West Point Senior Secondary School, Enchey Senior Secondary School, Singtam Senior Secondary School and Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School.

The programme started with a welcome address by president-SAATHI, Tempo Bhutia, followed by a presentation of the 'SAATHI

Model' by Debabrata Biswas from Deorali SSS.

The programme was then taken forward by Principal-West Point SSS, Pemba Lhamu, addressing the topic of 'Problems of Drugs in Schools'. Thereafter, Choden from Tadong SSS talked about her experiences working as a teacher coordinator and dealing with children exposed to substance abuse.

This was then followed by a session wherein steps and measures to strengthen the School Management Committee were discussed. This session was chaired by the guest of honour, Member of Parliament [Lok Sabha], PD Rai.

The programme concluded with the official launch of the SAATHI App presented by Karma Michung Bhutia and his team from Demi Solutions as a token of concern for the current scenario related to drug abuse.

By partnering to build the SAATHI mobile app, Demi Solutions supports the Chief Minister's vision to eliminate drugs & substance abuse from the state of Sikkim, adds the release.

"It is a sad fact that every Sikkimese knows someone, who is battling drug/alcohol/substance addiction in Sikkim. It is a disease that has spread deep in our society in some cases uprooted families. By creating the SAATHI mobile app we

at DEMI Solutions, hope to make a small contribution towards the efforts envisioned by our CM towards tackling this social disease. I would like to take the opportunity to thank MP, PD Rai, and members of SAATHI team for working with us and would like to acknowledge the contribution of Mahadav Bhattarai, Allen Lepcha, Sonam Bhutia, Dennis Pant, Aditya Rai & Prerna Kerongi," said founder of Demi Solutions, Karma Michung Bhutia.

It may be mentioned here, Demi Solutions is a Sikkimese owned enterprise and is founded by Karma Michung Bhutia in 2013. It is headquartered in Gangtok, Sikkim. Demi Solutions is a provider of Information & Communication Technology services, focused on solving its customers' digital transformation challenges. Its services span across digital and mainstream technologies while its digital transformation services focuses on eGovernance, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Mobility, Cloud Computing, BIGData, Biosciences, IoT and Sustainable Agriculture. For more information, visit <http://www.demi.co.in>

It is further informed in the release that SAATHI will be organizing its next Offsite Training Camp at Chemchey in South Sikkim with the students from various SAATHI schools from 14-16 Jul.

Lok Adalat takes up 89 cases, settles 59

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 JUL:

National Lok Adalat relating to Criminal Compoundable Offences Negotiable Instruments Act cases under Section 138, bank recovery cases, MACT cases, matrimonial disputes, labour disputes cases, land acquisition cases, electricity & water bills [excluding non-compoundable], service matters relating to pay and

allowance and retirement benefits, revenue cases, other civil cases [rent, injunction suits, specific performance suits], etc., was organized by Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on 08 Jul, a press release issued by Sikkim SLSA informs.

Out of 89 cases taken up, 59 cases were settled. A sum of Rs 12,67,996 was awarded by the Lok Adalat Benches during the session.

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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

When Disasters Come As a Surprise, They Expose Ineptitude

Study every aspect of the Pachey disaster to formulate a better advance warning system

The monsoon has opened up in earnest. The first major calamity, the worst in a very long time by the sheer scale of property destroyed, has collapsed at Pachey near Pakyong in East Sikkim. After the affected people have been safely and comfortably rehabilitated and the slide zone adequately contained, one hopes that experts are called in to study and explain what happened there on Monday morning. It is not enough to blame the rains, because although the weekend was wet, it was not unseasonably so for this time of the year. And, if rains alone are not to blame, then Sikkim needs to understand the contributing factors more intimately because most of its towns and suburbs have settled on slopes and ridges which have traditionally been left uninhabited. The lessons that the Pachey disaster has to share need to be learned well because slope failure needs to be understood better so that the warning signs are noticed and responded to in time to avoid casualties elsewhere. Sikkim is urbanizing on a fast clip, but there is no reason why it should blunder along recklessly as well. Studying the Pachey slide could offer significant pointers on how amenities should be planned, how drainage worked and drive home how important it is for disasters to be met more with preparedness and advance warning systems than the current, almost exclusive, emphasis on response and mitigation. It is necessary that this approach is taken, if not for better town planning, then at least to ensure that no one is caught off-guard or unprepared despite the many advance warnings that disasters invariably send out before the event actually occurs.

And the preparedness better be better than that manner in which troublespots on the highways have traditionally been tackled. The monsoon has only just set in, but roads across Sikkim are already reporting blocks. Portions of roads across the State are either already collapsing or getting buried. Yes, it is monsoons and the hills are fragile, even a lay person knows that. Fine, the concerned agencies, depending on which road is under stress, are clearing the debris or pushing retaining walls up. But even this much lay people can do by themselves. Why then are there agencies with specific duties to look after roads being financed by the State and the Centre? If repair is all that these agencies can do, why not earmark budgets for villages around notorious trouble-spots instead? That way, the crores that go out on salaries towards engineers and experts at BRO or Roads & Bridges Department can also be invested directly on repairs. The point being made here is that repairs are short-term measures; measures that anyone confronted with a broken road will devise. What one expects of agencies with the human and material resources to look after roads are more long-term corrections and better advance planning. It confounds all logic that a more permanent solution is not available for landslides that come down every year around the same spots. In these times of scientific temper, it is bewildering that the mechanics of road repairs has not developed beyond wiremeshed retaining walls and bull-dozer clearances.

Given that NH10 is a strategically important lifeline, by now, an inch-by-square inch mapping of the road alignment should have been at hand with projections on which contour can take how much rainfall before collapsing. A special cell should be monitoring the rainfall records at regular intervals to organise road-gangs and support equipment the moment precipitation hits the red band for a particular area. Exactly the same should be adopted down till the Gram Panchayat level for habitations and settlements.

All of this again is more about response. What Sikkim roads should have received by now is a proper plan on how to contain at least the troublespots that have troubled every monsoon for decades now. There is no justification for collapses and blockages at the same spots year on year. There is no excuse for why a long-term plan to settle these stretches is either not available or not successful. Sikkim, even as it pushes for an alternate highway, should also start demanding that real experts be commissioned to recommend the engineering basics that will hold up its roads more reliably in the future.

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AFTAB ALAM
theconversation.com

Outraged by the rising number of targeted lynchings against Muslims in India, thousands of people took to the streets in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and other major cities India for spontaneous demonstrations under the banner "Not in My Name" on June 28.

Protesters decried the government's inability to protect citizens against harassment and random violence by self-proclaimed Hindu vigilante groups, whose victims are mainly Indian Muslims.

The latest incident occurred on June 22, when 15-year-old Junaid Khan was assaulted by an angry mob and stabbed to death on a crowded train as he was returning from Eid shopping, just a few kilometres from New Delhi, India's capital.

According to media reports, the mob taunted Junaid and his brothers, calling them "mulla", "beef-eaters" and "anti-nationals". They grabbed at the boys' beards and threw their skull caps to the floor. Junaid's blood-soaked body lay in his brother's lap for hours, as he screamed for help.

Despite the fact that this happened in front of a packed crowd, the police could find no witnesses who would testify to the incident.

The same day, another lynching was reported in West Bengal's North Dinajpur district, in which three Muslim men were beaten to death for allegedly stealing cows.

LYNCHING "BEEF EATERS"
In the last six months, a dozen Muslims have been lynched, always with the pretext of defending "Hindu values", which, in some interpretations, considers cows sacred.

The violence began in September 2015 when a Muslim ironsmith named Mohammad Akhlaq was brutally killed in front of his family by a mob of cow vigilantes in Dadr's Bishara village, allegedly for storing beef in his refrigerator.

The violence reached a high point in early 2017. At least 20 "cow-terror attacks" were reported in the first six months of the year, 75% more than the total number of incidents in 2016.

Finally, on June 29, after Junaid's murder, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi broke his long silence on the subject. In a speech given at an ashram in Ahmadabad, Gujarat, he warned that "killing of people in the name of

Is lynching the new normal in India?



protecting cows is unacceptable".

Just hours after his address, another gruesome incident took place. A mob of 100 people lynched a 45-year-old Muslim trader in Ramgarh district of Jharkhand on the suspicion of carrying beef in his car.

While some welcomed Modi's remarks, many doubt that they will have any impact on the ground. In August 2016, the prime minister similarly condemned the cow vigilantes who had brutally stripped and flogged a group of Dalit men in Una, Gujarat, for skinning a dead cow. Still, the violence continued unabated.

According to the news data website India Spend, over the past eight years there have been 63 reported lynchings. A staggering 61 of them took place after Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) assumed power in 2014.

PINK REVOLUTION
On the campaign trail in 2014, Modi repeatedly condemned the slaughter and sale of cows.

"Do you want to support people who want to bring about a Pink Revolution?" he asked in an April 2 2014 meeting, referring to the colour of raw buffalo meat, and accusing the Congress of promoting cow slaughter and capitalising on meat exports.

Many BJP-ruled states have tightened cow-protection laws in recent months. In populous Uttar Pradesh state, a new government resolution to crackdown on illegal slaughterhouses emboldened some groups to set fire to meat shops.

On March 31 BJP-ruled Gujarat, where citizens will go to polls later

this year to choose their state's chief minister, amended the Animal Preservation Act of 1954 to extend the maximum sentence for cow slaughter from the present seven-year jail term to life imprisonment.

Narendra Modi headed the same state between 2011 and 2014, during which time he proved its commitment to protecting cows by offering a \$US150,000 reward for cow vigilantes and instituted a biennial Best Cow Protector award.

DESTROYING SECULARISM
It is difficult not to see in the current spate of "Hindu vigilantism" a conscious, sustained and systematic attempt to incite religious feeling in secular, multicultural India.

Raising the bogeyman of cow slaughter is a way of stoking fear about India becoming a Muslim-majority country in which Hindus are portrayed as vulnerable victims.

Police inaction and the slapping of counter-cases against the victims themselves have emboldened cow vigilante groups, which have begun to spring up by the thousand, especially in the northern part of the country and in BJP-ruled states.

All of this has been met mostly with silence. After a humiliating electoral defeat in Uttar Pradesh, the parties that typically draw Muslim votes have been playing a blame-game, trying not to further alienate Hindu voters.

For the BJP, cow protection is a strategic choice. By continuously raising the issue, the party boosts its image as the lone protector of Hindu religion and culture in India. It also deflects attention from the real is-

suces confronting the country, such as farmer suicides, unemployment, economic slowdown, the Kashmir conflict, terrorism and nationalism (Indian Maoist armed guerrilla group).

Today, anyone who is critical of the Hindutva agenda - a nationalist ideology founded on an essentialist extreme vision of Hinduism - including liberal scholars and members of the media, are subjected to harsh criticism and pressure.

In this climate of suspicion and insecurity, the culture of mob violence thrives.

Amnesty International India has condemned hate crimes against Muslims, but civil society organisations are already under severe strain, confronting a slew of actions against them by the BJP government.

Indian Muslims, for their part, are demoralised by all the violence and the lack of credible leadership from within their own ranks. Muslim clergy are a divided lot, still grappling with the simmering dissent over the controversial so-called instant divorce law.

After Junaid's murder, Muslim citizens in India wore black armbands to protest during Eid prayer, and many refrained from the traditional shopping for or wearing of new clothes.

The politics of hate against minorities something should concern everyone in India. If the government continues overlooking the issue of lynchings, some fear that angry and frustrated Muslims - especially the young - may fall prey to radicalisation.

[the writer is Professor, Aligarh Muslim University]

When Trump met Putin, and how the Russian won the day

KUMUDA SIMPSON
theconversation.com

It was the meeting we've all been waiting for: US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin met on Friday during the G20 meeting in Hamburg, Germany.

The key question was whether Trump or Putin would emerge as the stronger leader, with most backing Putin's ability to manipulate and control the exchange. Trump's lack of diplomatic or political experience, and his unwillingness to prepare for the encounter, inspired very little confidence that he would walk away with any serious concessions from Putin.

The meeting was scheduled to take half-an-hour. In fact it lasted more than two hours, and an indication the two leaders found a significant amount to talk about. The only other people present were US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, and two interpreters. The little we know of what was actually discussed has come from statements Lavrov and Tillerson gave to the press following the meeting.

RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE US ELECTION
Tillerson said Trump pressed Putin over Russian interference in the 2016 election, but seemed to accept his denial that Russia did any such thing.

"President Putin denied such involvement, as I think he has in the past. Tillerson said the White House was not "dismissing the issue" but wanted to focus on "how do we secure a commitment" that there will not be interference in the future.

The big question going in to the meeting was whether or not Trump would raise the accusation with Putin. While he clearly did, the ease with which he appears to have accepted Putin's protestations of innocence, and his reassurance that it won't happen again, is remarkable.

According to journalists' reports on Twitter, Lavrov had a slightly different spin on Trump's reaction to the issue. He said: "Trump said he heard



Putin's statements that Russia didn't hack election and accepts them."

In light of Trump's remarks in Poland the day before, when he called into doubt the reliability of US intelligence on the issue, this has further undermined the credibility of the US intelligence community. That Trump did this during a face-to-face meeting with Putin can only deepen the mistrust between the CIA and FBI have for the White House, and further damage morale.

It can also be read as a clear victory for Putin, who came away from the meeting without having to seriously address charges that Russia systematically engaged in what is a gross violation of the democratic integrity and sovereignty of another country.

SYRIA
There was a clear opportunity for Trump to use the meeting to pressure Putin over his continuing support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

While any significant agreements over how to resolve one of the most complex conflicts in the region were highly unlikely, the two leaders did agree to support a ceasefire in an area of southwestern Syria. There were no other details, and Tillerson himself admitted that ceasefires in Syria have tended to fall apart very quickly.

While Russia and the US have a shared interest in fighting Islamic State in Syria, they disagree over

the almost every other aspect of the conflict, particularly the future of Assad and the role of Iran.

Trump has recently ratcheted up to anti-Iranian rhetoric and it seems the Russian relationship with Iran could become a significant point of conflict between the US and Russia in the future.

No transcript of the meeting is available so it's impossible to know exactly what was discussed here. But if Putin was not pressed on these points, it is certainly a missed opportunity.

SHARED INTERESTS

While both Lavrov and Tillerson highlighted the shared interests the two countries have, neither Ukraine nor the ongoing nuclear crisis in North Korea could be counted among them.

North Korea's testing of an intercontinental ballistic missile guaranteed that it would be high on the list of issues that would be discussed. Russia has contradicted the consensus among the other G20 leaders over the missile's range, and blocked a resolution by the UN Security Council calling for "significant measures" in response to the test.

So, what do we make of this highly anticipated meeting?

With very little detail about what was actually discussed, and with the narrative firmly controlled by Lavrov, Trump would seem to have gained very little while conceding much.

Putin has come away with an implicit agreement to move on from the question of election meddling, without promising more than "dialogue" on Ukraine, no agreement on how to deal with North Korea, and no real movement on the horrific human tragedy in Syria.

Along with Tillerson's affirmation that the two leaders shared "a clear positive chemistry", it's hard not to recall George W. Bush's claim to have seen into Putin's soul, and conclude that Putin has once again expertly played a US president.

[the writer is Lecturer in International Relations, La Trobe University]

Calm prevails in riot-hit Baduria

KOLKATA, JULY 10 (PTI): Peace prevailed in riot-hit Baduria town and adjacent areas of North 24 Parganas district for the second day today even though Internet services remained suspended.

A week after communal violence erupted over a Facebook post, shops, markets and business centres reopened today and people came out on the streets to resume normal life.

However, Internet services remained suspended at Baduria, Swarnapnagar, Deganga and Basirhat town of North 24 Parganas district.

There have been no reports of any untoward incident from anywhere in the district, police said.

Large number of police personnel including paramilitary forces remained posted in violence-hit areas as night patrolling was conducted, a senior official of the state Home department told PTI.

"Things have really improved here but we are keeping a tight vigil on the situation so that everything gets back to normal sooner," the officer said.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday had announced that a judicial commission headed by Justice (Retd) Soumitra Pal of the Calcutta High Court would probe the communal violence that rocked Baduria and Basirhat in North 24 Parganas district.

Banerjee had also accused the Modi government and the BJP of trying to "disturb peace" and "destroy" the federal structure by allowing people from across the border to enter the state and vitiate the atmosphere.

Saradha scam: CBI questions TMC MP Satabdi Roy in Kolkata

NEW DELHI, JUL 10 (PTI): Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Satabdi Roy was today quizzed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the Saradha ponzi scheme case.

Roy, a Bengali actor and a Member of Parliament from Birbhum in West Bengal, was questioned at the CBI office in Kolkata, sources in the central probe agency said.

She was a brand ambassador of the Saradha Group and it was suspected that she had taken money from the ponzi scheme company to promote it, they added.

The agency had registered the case on June 4, 2014, in accordance with a Supreme Court order dated May 9, 2014, against then chairman and managing director of Saradha Group, Sudipta Sen, and others under penal provisions pertaining to criminal conspiracy, cheating and other offences.

It was alleged that the accused persons had collected huge sums from investors under various schemes by fraudulently promising high returns, but failed to pay the amount to them.

Beware, time could be running out for all sides

SUDIPTA CHANDA SILIGURI, 10 JUL:

Rains are much feared in the hills for it brings about landslides, the scourge of the Darjeeling hills and neighbouring Sikkim both located in the environmentally fragile eastern Himalayas.

But, rains are being prayed for in the Darjeeling hills like never before so that the little Johnnies, who have been at play with matchsticks the past one month burning down whatever catches their fancy, stay home sparing people the panic every time some artefact is torched. The rains could also allow sneak in some provisions for the beleaguered homes.

That is the impact the month-long bandh scarred further with

uncontrollable violence is having in the Darjeeling hills. Given the environmental problems in the hills, residents and shops normally stock a couple of months' basic ration, more so during monsoons when roads can get blocked for days due to landslides. The provisions are running out for want of replenishment.

Tuesday would witness another round, 5th to be exact, of brainstorming by the Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee (GMCC), the all-party platform that is meant to provide a roadmap for the movement. The platform has precious little to show in terms of achievement since formation.

The buzz filtering out of the hills at this moment is that the GMCC on

Tuesday might propose a week's relaxation of the banking sector. If accepted, the proposal gives rise to a crucial question. Where would people spend the money they draw? Vehicles are off the roads so movement is out. The shops are closed so shopping is out. Does it therefore mean the bandh would be relaxed too? Here is keeping the fingers crossed.

Another theory is doing the rounds. The agitators might have received some indication from Delhi. If yes, that is a positive sign and would help defuse the tension that has escalated in the past three days requiring the recall of the Army. The jawans have been deployed for area domination, which is not an encouraging sign especially with China

rattling sabre in the Sikkim-Bhutan theatre.

The Centre might have other reasons as well to finally turn attention towards this region, which is contiguous to the Northeast. In addition to the Gorkhaland movement, the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) on Sunday launched a stir for a separate state to be formed out of the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council.

That aside, the demand for a separate state of Kamtapur hit the streets in lower Assam on Monday. The proposed state comprises areas both in lower Assam and north Bengal. The agitators held up train movement in parts of lower Assam on Monday forcing several Assam-bound trains

to break journey at New Jalpaiguri Station near Siliguri.

Nagaland too is politically on the boil. Nagaland chief minister Shurhozelie Liezietsu on Sunday sacked four ministers of his government along with 10 Parliamentary secretaries and suspended 10 senior members from active and primary membership of the NPF central committee indicating a rebellion is cooking in the sensitive state.

The entire region starting from the Nepal border to the Northeast including the Sikkim-Bhutan confluence with Tibet has slipped into a turbulent state. That alone should make the Centre sit up and act taking all agitating parties into confidence. No devil's alternative here.

Manipur landslides affect transport link, vehicles stranded on National Highways

IMPHAL, JULY 10 (PTI): Landslides, triggered by torrential rains in Manipur, have severely affected transport links to the landlocked state with buses and goods and fuel carriers stranded on national highways.

A landslide, stretching for 200 metres, along the Imphal-Jirri NH 37 at Sinam village in Tamenglong district yesterday cut off the transport link among the Manipur state capital, Assam and Nagaland.

Imphal-bound vehicles from Nagaland and Assam were stranded as NH 37 connects Imphal with Assam and Nagaland.

Border Road Task Force (BRTF) personnel were clearing the debris and repairing the damaged portion to open the highway to traffic, officials said.

Landslides on several points along the important Imphal-Dimapur highway NH-39 yesterday have also affected movement of vehicles in Senapati district.

NH 39 connects Imphal-Senapati district (in Manipur) with Dimapur in Nagaland and Assam.

Cars, passenger buses and hundreds of goods and fuel carriers were stranded on the



national highway in Senapati district.

The landslide occurred after portions of hill slopes started caving in one after another in the two districts, triggered by torrential rains.

The incessant downpour since last week also affected the state with paddy fields and residential areas of Imphal valley inundated due to overflow of

Nambul river and Kongba River, which flows across the capital town.

Collapse of river banks of Imphal River particularly at Irong, Bashikhong and Mayang Imphal in Imphal West district and Lilong in Thoubal district have forced more than 5000 people to seek refuge in temporary relief camps.

Army personnel were roped

in last week after the state government sought Army help to evacuate persons in the severely-affected areas.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh, during inspection of the flood situation in Thoubal and Imphal East districts on Saturday last, had assured rehabilitation for the affected, particularly whose residences were swept away by Imphal River.

Nepal officials to hold talks with India on GST

SHIRISH B PRADHAN

KATHMANDU, JUL 10 (PTI): Nepal will send a high-level delegation to India tomorrow to hold talks with the Indian authorities over the possible impact of GST on the trade between the two countries.

The delegation will discuss issues concerning Goods and Services Tax (GST) recently imposed in India in relation to the bilateral Trade and Transit Treaty between the two countries, officials said here.

The team led by Ravi

Shankar Sainju, joint secretary at the Commerce Ministry, will arrive in New Delhi tomorrow to discuss the issues.

Officials from Ministry of Finance and Commerce will be included in the delegation.

Nepal would be drawing attention of the Indian government over GST implementation in relation to the bilateral Trade and Transit Treaty, Sainju said.

"Though the actual impact of the GST on the bilateral trade is yet to be seen, Nepal government

wants to address the problems the domestic traders might be facing following the implementation of GST," he said.

Nepal expressed its concern following complaints raised by the traders and freight forwarders.

"Goods intended for import into or export from the territories of either contracting parties from or to a third country shall be accorded freedom of transit through the territories of the other party. No distinction shall be made based on

the flag of vessels, the place of origin, departure and exit destination or ownership of goods, reads the bilateral trade.

Despite such provision in the treaty, the traders and freight forwarders have been complaining to the government about slow pace of movement of goods during export and import of goods to and from India since last week when the Indian Government enforced GST.

According to the traders and freight forwarders, the authority at the

Kolkata Port earlier used to impose 15 per cent logistic service charge on goods imported from third countries. With GST coming into effect, that charge has been raised to 18 per cent.

Although the GST should not affect Nepal's trade, however with the confusion to the officials at implementation level, Nepali traders could have been facing problem, Sainju said.

Landlocked Nepal depends on transshipment via India for trade with the rest of the world.



INPT blocks NH and railway tracks demanding separate state

AGARTALA, JUL 10 (PTI):

The Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) leaders and supporters today blocked the Assam-Agartala national highway (NH) and railway tracks at Khamthingbari in West Tripura district, to demand for a separate state for the tribal people.

However, there was no report of any untoward incident, police said. The Superintendent of Police (SP) of West district said "The situation is peaceful along the national highway".

The INPT is demanding that a separate state be carved out for the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) areas, which constitutes two third of the state territory and is the home to the tribals, who form one third of

the population.

As the IPFT supporters blocked the national highway and railway track at Khamthingbari in West Tripura district the road traffic has been diverted to Agartala-Khowai-Teliamura due to the blockade.

The blockade affected train services. A large number of security personnel have been deployed in and around Khamthingbari.

NC Debbarma, the self-styled president of IPFT said "We are hopeful there will be no untoward incident during the blockade programme. I had a meeting with top officials of police and discussed the issue. We are in favour of peaceful observance of blockade programme", he told reporters at Khamthingbari.

Assam floods kill 7 in a day, over 12.55 lakh hit

GUWAHATI, JUL 10 (PTI): The flood situation in Assam turned critical with seven people losing their lives in a day today, affecting over 12.55 lakh people across 20 districts in the state.

According to a report by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), seven people were killed in various flood-related incidents in Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat and Lakhimpur districts.

With this, the total number of people losing their lives in this year's flood-related cases has gone up to 33, including seven in Guwahati.

In the worst-affected Lakhimpur, three persons were killed in the last 24 hours in drowning and landslide cases.

At Nowboicha area, Kanak Gogoi (50) drowned, while a couple Krishna Bahadur Dorji

(55) and Sulemaya Dorji (45) were killed in landslide in the Narayanpur area.

In Jorhat district, two kids - Binod Bhuyan (4) and Munu Bhuyan (6) - died due to drowning in Teok area, ASDMA said.

Bijoy Bhuyan (54) also died due to drowning at Bokakhat in Golaghat, while another minor Sagar Das (12) drowned at Matia in Goalpara.

The ASDMA said more than 12.55 lakh people are suffering at present in Lakhimpur, Darrang, Jorhat, Golaghat, Cachar, Dhemaji, Biswanath, Karimganj, Sonitpur, Majuli, Barpeta, Nagaon, Nalbari, Sivasagar, Morigaon, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Dhubri, Kokrajhar and South Salmara districts.

Till yesterday, 4.87 lakh people were affected in the latest wave of floods in the state.

Most of Kaziranga National Park is under water, leaving some animals dead and some moving to nearby highlands.

Some animals were killed by speeding vehicles on the National Highway 37, which passes through the Park.

Forest guards have started patrolling in boats, specially during night, with the help of other agencies like Assam Police and Special Task Force to save the animals from poachers.

The ASDMA said 2,053 villages are under water at present and more than 1.05 lakh hectares of crop areas have been damaged.

The worst-affected is Lakhimpur, where over 2.92 lakh people have been affected by the deluge, followed by South Salmara with more than 2.5 lakh sufferers.

In Guwahati also, water log-

ging and landslide incidents have been reported, but there is no casualty.

Authorities are running 148 relief camps and distribution centres in 11 districts, where 12,295 persons are currently taking shelter.

Government has distributed 2,523.70 quintals of rice, 461.11 quintals of dal and 130.34 quintals of salt among the flood victims, the ASDMA said.

Across the state, 4,48,803 animals and poultry have been affected by flood waters.

Due to impact of the floods, many roads, embankments and bridges have been damaged in several districts, including Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Majuli, Biswanath, Barpeta, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Sivasagar, Karimganj, South Salmara and Nalbari.

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Anthyesthi Kriya



The 13th day Anthyesthi Kriya of **Late Jai Narayan Sharma (80)** retired SE, Building who left for his heavenly abode on 2nd July 2017 falls on **14th July 2017**. All friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for departed soul

at our residence in Lower Ghorpisey, Namchi, below CM's residence.

We also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during the time of our bereavement.

Shona Sharma (wife), Sachin Rizal, Sameer Sharma (sons) & all families members. Ph. 9563779165/9614404550

United Dzomsa and Sadarian FC continue winning ways at C-Div Sikkim League

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 JULY:

With the help of a brace from Sangay Sherpa, United Dzomsa Football Club registered a 2-0 victory over Pakyong Football Club today in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association C-Division Sikkim League here at Paljor Stadium.

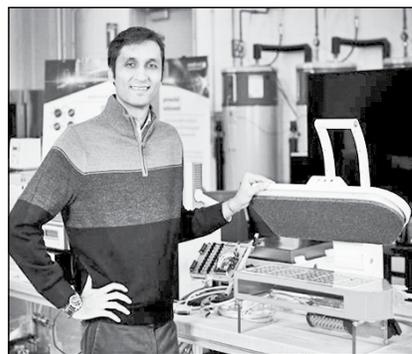
Sangay scored in the 49th and 66th minutes.

In the other match of the day, Sadarian FC thrashed Chujachen Sports Academy 6-1.

Silash Tamang scored a hat-trick for Sadarian FC while his teammates Sagar Subba scored a brace and Suman Dewan added a goal for the team's victory.

The lone goal of Chujachen Sports Academy was scored by Richard Gurung in the 68th minute.

On Tuesday, the first match will be played between Buzz Football Club and Yeti Football Club, while in the second match Renzong FC will take on Devendra FC.



Indian-American invents dryer that requires no heat

SEEMA HAKHU KACHRU

HOUSTON, JUL 10 (PTI): Waiting an hour for your clothes to dry could be worrisome when you need something in a rush, but an Indian-American researcher has found a way out.

Viral Patel and his team of researchers at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee have developed a dryer that could make doing laundry much quicker.

Called the ultrasonic dryer, it's expected to be up to five times more energy efficient than most conventional dryers and able to dry a large load of clothes in about half the time.

"It is a completely new approach. Instead of evaporation, it's technically performing mechanical extraction of the moisture within the fabric," Patel told Knoxville News Sentinel.

Patel said that traditional dryers generally use straight-forward technology: as air gets sucked in from the surrounding area, it travels through a heater or gas burner and into the drum where the clothes tumble around allowing the heat to absorb the moisture

MUMBAI, JUL 10 (PTI): Suspense continued over India's next coach with the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) today deciding to put the appointment on hold while sending a pointed message to skipper Virat Kohli to understand "how coaches operate".

Speaking on behalf of the three-member CAC, former captain Sourav Ganguly made it clear that the panel was not in a hurry and made it clear that Kohli will need to understand the nuances associated with professional coaching.

"Virat will need to understand how coaches operate. At the same time, you have to give credit to Virat that he has stayed out of the coach selection process. We will have a detailed chat with him once he is back from the West Indies," Ganguly, flanked by committee member VVS Laxman and joint secretary Amitabh Choudhary, told mediapersons here.

Ganguly's message was an indicator that the CAC has taken a grave note of the situation after the infamous Kohli-Anil Kumble fallout leading to the latter's departure.

Five candidates --- namely Ravi Shastri, Virender Sehwag, Tom Moody, Richard Pybus and Lalchand Rajput were interviewed with Sehwag being the only one physically present at the BCCI Headquarters.

Ganguly and Laxman were joined by Sachin Tendulkar via Skype and the former skipper said that the process is complete.

Ganguly informed that West Indian Phil Simmons did not make himself available for the interview.

However, the decision to with-



hold the appointment is a clear indication that Ravi Shastri is no longer a runaway favourite for the top job as has been the popular perception.

Sehwag's interview went on for two hours.

"You will get to know soon," Sehwag told reporters while leaving Cricket Centre.

"We will hold on to the announcements as we need a few more days. We feel there is no hurry, the Sri Lanka tour is coming in a few days'

time," Ganguly said.

Ganguly made it clear that they are looking at the bigger picture for the next two years and will take a decision in the best interest of Indian cricket.

Asked about the inputs taken from Kohli in the meetings during the ICC Champions Trophy in England, Ganguly said, "That was on a different aspect. As I said, he has stayed out of the whole thing.

"We want to make sure we take the

best possible decision for Indian cricket. The coach, captain and players are the ones who will take Indian cricket forward. The CAC goes out of the picture once the coach is selected."

Reiterating the policy of the BCCI, Ganguly stated that the appointment will be made keeping in mind the 2019 World Cup.

"Once we make this announcement, it has to be till the World Cup (2019)," said Ganguly.

Ganguly said that the presenta-

tions given by coaches on their roadmap for Indian cricket were no different from what they saw last year.

"From what we have heard from the coaches, it is not different from last year. We will take a call in the due course of time. We are not in a hurry. Sri Lanka is a long tour. We want to make sure that everybody is in synchronisation.

"It's not me, Sachin, Amitabh (Choudhary) or Rahul (Johri), who will play. It is the players who will be playing and the support staff will be there. Everybody should be in synchronisation," Ganguly said in a matter-of-fact manner.

He, however, made it clear that Kohli remains an important cog in the decision-making process.

"Virat is an important cog in the system and we will take a call which would be the best way forward for the team and the boys because they are going to play."

Later in the day, BCCI acting secretary Amitabh Choudhary said coach announcement was put on hold after due consideration.

"The CAC after due consideration thought that they could postpone the announcement of the name just to make sure that the other stakeholders understand that a coach has certain...every individual has a certain style and every professional can have a certain style.

"So the other stakeholders are made to understand that the style is typical of a person and therefore we should become accommodative of that. So it was only with this intent that the three greats decided to announce it later," said the secretary.

Terai, Dooars not to be included in Gorkhaland: Adivasis

SILIGURI (WB), JUL 10 (PTI): Akhila Bharatiya Adivasi Vikas Parishad today threatened to resist Gorkha Janmukti Morcha if it wants to spread their agitation for Gorkhaland from Darjeeling hills to Terai or Dooars region.

"GJM's agitation has its effect in the plains and tribal people living in GTA area are facing the heat. We will put up resistance if GJM spreads their agitation to Dooars and Terai," ABAVP state president Birsa Tirkey said.

Terai and Dooars region constitute the plains of Darjeeling district, entire Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar district and upper region of Cooch Behar district of West Bengal.

"We are not ready to accept Gorkhaland where Dooars and Terai would be a part of. If we are attacked, we will resist," the ABAVP state president said.

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Seven Amarnath pilgrims killed in Anantnag as militants fire: Police

SRINAGAR, JUL 10 (PTI): Seven Amarnath pilgrims, five of them women, were killed in a militant attack in Anantnag, the police said.

At 8.20 pm today, the militants attacked an armoured car of the police, an official said. When the police fired back, the mil-

itants fled, firing indiscriminately, the official added.

A bus carrying yatrins was on the highway when the incident occurred.

"In the firing by militants, seven people, five of them women, were killed, and another seven injured," the official said.

The bus had come from Sonamarg. The pilgrims were on their way back after visiting the Amarnath shrine.

The police claimed the bus driver had violated rules for the pilgrimage, which state that no yatra vehicle should be on a highway after 7 pm.

Pak hands over 78 prisoners to India

M ZULQERNAIN

LAHORE, JUL 10 (PTI): The Pakistan Rangers today handed over 78 Indian prisoners, mostly fishermen, to the Border Security Force (BSF) at the Wagah Border after they were released from a jail in Karachi.

A Rangers' official told PTI that 77 Indian fishermen and one other Indian prisoner were handed over to the BSF after verification of their immigration papers.

Indian prisoners were handed over after a parade that concluded at dawn, the official said.

The Indian fishermen, who were released from Karachi's Landhi jail, yesterday were brought here by a train this afternoon.

"We received the fishermen at the

Lahore railways station and brought them to Edhi Foundation and served them food. We have also presented them with a pair of shalwar kameez and Rs 5,000 as gift," Edhi Foundation spokesman Younis Bhatti said.

He said the fishermen were later transported to the Wagah border by bus.

Most of the fishermen handed over to the BSF had completed their sentences at the Landhi jail. They had been held for crossing into Pakistani waters inadvertently.

About 298 Indian fishermen are still languishing in the Sindh province of Pakistan, media reports said.

Indian fishermen often languish in jail in Sindh even after serving their terms because of bureaucratic hurdles.

VP election: 11 nominations till now

NEW DELHI, JUL 10 (PTI): Eleven candidates have filed nomination papers till now for the August 5 vice-presidential election. From July 4 till yesterday, 9 nominations were filed while papers were filed today.

Four papers were outrightly rejected by the returning officer as the aspirants had neither filed the certified copy of the electoral roll to prove that they are voters of a Lok Sabha seat nor had they deposited Rs 15,000 in cash as security.

The nomination papers of the rest are also liable to be rejected on July 19, the day of scrutiny, for not having 20 electors as proposers and as many as seconders.

The electoral college which elects the vice president, who is also the ex-officio chairman of the Rajya Sabha, consists of elected and nominated members of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.

The total strength of the two houses is 790, but there are some vacancies. So far, neither the ruling NDA, nor the opposition have announced their candidates for the elections.

Simple, inexpensive system to remove spilt oil from sea

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUL 10 (PTI):

Scientists have developed a simple, cheap and environment-friendly system that can effectively remove spilt crude oil from sea that can pollute and even destroy marine ecosystems.

Marine oil spills are disasters that cannot be completely avoided as long as we drill for oil or transport it across the ocean, researchers said.

An effective measure would be to remove spilt oil slicks by absorption into a separable solid phase.

Now, scientists from the Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research (IISER) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala have found that conglomeration of the oil to a rigid gel with impregnated cellulose and scooping the particles out is possible.

Kana M Suresan and Anamalai Prathap from IISER have developed and tested an intriguingly simple strategy.

Combining absorption and gelation processes, they tightly bound the oil to a porous matrix and then simply scooped

the solid particles out of the water.

Even full with the oil, the granules did not sink but remained at the surface.

The scientists also demonstrated that squeezing of the congealed granules can help recover the spilt oil.

The scientists chose cellulose as an environment friendly, cheap and porous carrier matrix and impregnated it with a so-called oleogelator, a cheap organic compound.

This simple impregnation step proved to be key in con-

verting the cellulose to an effective oil-absorbing and recycling system.

"Phase-selective organogelators are amphiphiles which can congeal oils selectively from a biphasic mixture of oil and water," the scientists wrote in the journal *Angewandte Chemie*.

Gelation occurs because the gelator molecules get dissolved in the oily phase, and then they form a three-dimensional fibre network through hydrogen bonding.

The oil becomes trapped in

this fibrillar network to form a rigid gel. Thus, gelation turns the liquid oil phase into a solid one, which can be simply scooped out.

The other advantage of impregnation is that the gelator renders the cellulose matrix hydrophobic. It did not suck in water as naked cellulose does.

However, it "absorbed all the oil, and the rigid globules containing the congealed oil could be scooped out after two hours, leaving the clean water," the researchers said.

Kanwar Yatra: UP issues do's and don'ts for devotees

Lucknow, Jul 10 (PTI): As the annual Kanwar yatra began today, the Uttar Pradesh Home Department issued detailed do's and don'ts for devotees and banned DJs on their route.

The devotees have also been asked to maintain calm and not to hurt the feelings of any community. The directions for the devotees come a day after Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath asked pilgrims participating in the yatra not to play "vulgar" movie songs and not to "show-off".

Kanwar Yatra is an annual pilgrimage undertaken by devotees of Lord Shiva. It begins from Gangotri from where devotees fetch holy water of River Ganga in small pots and carry it to Neelkanth.

"Prohibitory orders will be imposed in all districts and DJs will be banned. This information will be given to all DJ owners", it said.

However, in special cases, permission will be given by the district magistrate concerned.

"No loudspeakers or any public address system should be used without permission of authorities concerned", the directive added.

The 'kanwariyas' (devotees of Lord Shiva) have been asked to carry identity cards, not to misbehave with anyone and not to get "provoked by any incident" and keep calm.

"During their yatra, they should not consume liquor or smoke", it said, adding they should carrying phone numbers of family members and friends in their bags and if unwell carry medicines with them.

Requesting 'kanwariyas' to support police, the directives said they should take the route earmarked for them and pave way for ambulances and other vehicles deployed for essential services.

The chief minister had said yesterday that "Kanwar yatra is about to begin. Playing of vulgar film songs and DJs do not go with religious feelings. Also, it is improper to indulge in gambling after worshipping Goddess Lakshmi on Diwali".

CONTACT

SummitTIMES

REPORTERS

NAMCHI

9832048410,

9775736596

SINGTAM

7699771651

MANGAN/ DIKCHU

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9434011213

SILIGURI

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DARJEELING

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GANGTOK

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Trading resumes at NSE after technical issues

MUMBAI, JUL 10 (PTI): Trading activities resumed at the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in the afternoon today after the system faced technical glitches in the morning that led to trade disruptions.

An exchange spokesperson said trading resumed at 1230 hours and no problems are being faced.

Investors faced problems in executing trades in the morning as technical glitches forced the exchange to stop trading in the cash as well as the F&O (futures and options) segments.

"Due to technical reasons in the cash market, trading has been stopped in cash and F&O segment of the NSE," the

exchange had said in a statement at around 1030 hours.

The technical team of NSE is looking into the issue and market re-open time would be intimated shortly, it had said.

A little later, NSE's chief of business development Ravi Varanasi said normal market operations would reopen at 1115 hours. However, as the

technical issues persisted, there was a delay in resumption of normal trading. Operations finally resumed at 1230 hours.

The spokesperson said cash and F&O segments are functioning normally, but a "display issue has been noticed which is being addressed".

A BSE spokesperson said the

exchange is not facing any problems. Earlier, brokers and those trading on the NSE had said stock prices did not get updated and there was also an issue in accessing the F&O segment.

In a message posted on its website, the NSE had said the cash market segment shall reopen at 1215 hours and end at 1222-1223 hours.

"Cash market segment normal market and F&O segment shall open at 1230 hours," it had said.

The exchange had also said that in the F&O segment, members would be given a 15-minute window to cancel their outstanding orders and the window was to be available from 1215-1229 hours.

Lanka's monks vow to fight constitutional reform

COLOMBO, JUL 10 (PTI): Sri Lanka's hardline Buddhist monks today vowed to resist the government's decision to draft a new Constitution, threatening to hold nation-wide protests against the move to give political autonomy to the minority Tamil community.

Claiming that President Maithripala Sirisena government has no mandate to introduce the new constitution, hardline monk Maagalkande Sudaththa told media here the country's influential Buddhists are going from district-to-district to educate their followers about the "dangers" of the proposed Constitution.

The hardline monks vowed to back the opposition mounted by the monk leaders against the government's move to change the island's constitution.

They threatened to hold street protests against the government's decision.

Sudaththa's remarks



came after Sri Lankan government asserted that the government will go ahead with the process of drafting the new Constitution to give its Tamil minority greater autonomy.

Government spokesman and Health Minister Rajitha Senaratne said the parliament will not reverse the process begun in April last year to draft the Constitution.

"The government got 6.2 million votes to change the constitution," Senaratne had said.

"The monks can have their views, but the people's mandate at two elections in 2015 was to change the Constitution. We will not work against the people's will just because Buddhist monks want us to do so," he had said.

President Maithripala Sirisena last week met the senior monks and assured that they would be informed on the final draft of the constitutional reform.

Sri Lankan parliament had converted it-

self into a constitutional assembly to draft a new Constitution to replace the existing 1978 Constitution.

Suddhaththa said about 70 per cent of MPs in the 225-member parliament are a "asleep" when important issues are discussed. He accused them of being "uneducated".

Nearly 70 per cent of the island's population is Buddhist.

The latest move by the Buddhist community is a new challenge to the

government of Sirisena who himself is a Buddhist and is committed to ethnic unity.

The hardline stance of monks is being seen as the history repeating itself whenever successive Sri Lankan governments attempted reforms to grant political autonomy to the Tamil minority in its bid to end ethnic strife in the island.

All such attempts since 1958 have been scuttled by Buddhist monks who took the anti-reform platform driving the Sinhala majority to oppose the blue prints for power sharing.

This led to a bloody armed conflict waged by the LTTE to carve out a separate Tamil state in the north and east provinces.

The LTTE was militarily defeated in 2009, yet the root causes of the conflict remain to be addressed.

Tamils, who live predominantly in the north and east of Sri Lanka, form the largest minority group in the country constituting for 11.1 per cent of the population.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) ran a nearly three-decade separatist campaign leading to a bloody war with the Sri Lankan security forces.

According to the UN figures, up to 40,000 civilians were killed by the security forces during former president Mahinda Rajapaksa's regime that brought an end to the brutal conflict with the defeat of the LTTE in 2009.



Pachey landslide pulverizes 5 buildings

contd from pg01

District Collector-East Prabhakar Verma, Sub Divisional Magistrate-Pakyong, Additional Director General of Police-Law & Order, Akshay Sachdeva, Superintendent of Police-East, Tenzing Loday Lepcha, Chief Medical Officer and other concerned officials visited the area accompanied by Special Secretary-LR&D-MD, Rinzing Chewang, Additional Director-SSD-MA, GC Khanal, along with a team of geologists who reviewed the situation. The team of geologists will carry out a detailed survey of the landslide affected area.

During his visit, Area MLA Mr Lepcha personally supervised the operations and issued directions for the provision

of all necessary support and relief materials to the victims.

SDM-Pakyong informed that they are busy with the rescue and relief operations as this was their first and prime priority and will assess the losses later.

The Power Department has been directed to cut off the power supply in the area immediately to avoid any mishaps, and the PHE Department has also been directed to cut the water supply in the area that runs above the landslide area.

All the line departments have been alerted to restore essential services immediately. It has been further informed that ex-gratia to the affected will be released as per the SDRF norms.

Tomato prices still ruling high at Rs 60-75 per kg

NEW DELHI, JUL 10 (PTI): Tomato prices are ruling in the range of Rs 60-75 per kg in most retail markets in the country as rains have damaged the crop in major producing states such as Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

However, the supplies are expected to improve in coming days with rains receding in some parts helping transport of the crop to mandis.

The prices of tomato, the key kitchen staple, have gone up for last two weeks. It is available at Rs 75 per kg in Kolkata, Rs 70 in Del-

hi, Rs 60 in Chennai and Rs 59 in Mumbai, as per official data.

"Frequent rains have not only damaged the tomato crop in big producing states like Karnataka, but also affected the transportation," Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Deputy Director General (Horticulture) AK Singh told PTI.

According to reports from the states, the rains have started receding in Karnataka, giving some respite to growers and traders. The supplies from the state will begin to improve, he said.

In the case of Uttar Pradesh,

the part close to Uttarakhand is still affected due to rains while the western region closer to Delhi is recovering. There are mixed reports from Madhya Pradesh.

Singh said it is difficult to assess the extent of damage of the kharif crop at present. But these states have huge area under tomato crop and the supplies could not reach mandis due to poor infrastructure and transportation.

The country's tomato production is estimated to be higher by 15 per cent at 187 lakh tonnes in 2016-17 crop year (July- June), as per the government estimate.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR LUCK
Draw No:52 DrawDate on:10/07/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 80H 77515
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 77515 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
02167 19580 29358 30974 45767
50207 56496 70151 84287 85475
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
04351 13064 18266 19967 40522
42577 67564 90778 93318 97150
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
0325 0416 0647 3235 3551 3975 7267 8075 8168 8696
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0396 2474 6043 6123 6179 7624 7697 8278 9436 9866
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0121 0175 0238 0403 0696 0839 0931 1143 1164 1229
1238 1357 1488 1514 1781 1936 1941 2407 2442 2486
2539 2558 2571 2633 2716 2946 2963 2993 3105 3297
3400 3480 3651 3692 3754 3791 3833 3854 4082 4360
4376 4426 4441 4447 4451 4513 4591 4595 4619 4746
4763 4791 4935 5423 5436 5661 5694 5801 5842 5947
6019 6079 6095 6158 6187 6337 6399 6557 6594 6612
6629 6844 7128 7238 7376 7440 7470 7540 7607 7613
7695 7728 7745 7888 7889 7948 8151 8366 8404 8484
8631 8755 8912 8984 9123 9349 9496 9566 9763 9768
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please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR PARROT MORNING
Draw No:48 DrawDate on:10/07/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 90D 72015
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 72015 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
06420 15657 16985 27636 31209
71896 73002 81206 82527 83957
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
01956 15898 18591 32123 35907
41318 83624 83976 85204 98326
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
1139 1823 2764 3530 3875 5114 5742 7649 7796 8218
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0590 1981 2873 4077 4130 5351 5598 6766 7893 9552
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0332 0592 0616 0618 0623 0757 0830 0832 0964 1153
1274 1325 1371 1486 1557 1929 1935 2059 2060 2125
2172 2220 2224 2499 2522 2594 2757 2976 3024 3044
3092 3122 3181 3465 3682 3707 3724 3726 3970 4041
4078 4113 4162 4242 4248 4371 4622 4700 4734 4754
4978 4981 5010 5428 5675 5825 5851 5872 5989 6066
6086 6098 6137 6209 6637 6958 6991 7041 7118 7223
7257 7428 7503 7504 7713 7852 7902 8114 8208 8288
8383 8513 8539 8542 8611 8640 8981 9036 9110 9334
9439 9595 9615 9628 9676 9713 9725 9811 9813 9843
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Anthyesthi Kriya
Anthyesthi Kriya of **Late Pushpa Chandra Neopaney** who left for heavenly abode on 03 July falls on **13th July 2017**. Friends, well-wishers and family members are requested to attend the praying ceremony to be held at our residence at **Tadong, Gangtok, East Sikkim**.
Devka Neopaney [wife], Ajay Neopaney [son], Anjana Neopaney [daughter] & all Neopaney family.
Cont: 9932072702, 9933540556

Anthyesthi Kriya
Anthyesthi Kriya of **Late JN Sharma** who left for heavenly abode on 02 July falls on **14th July 2017**. Friends, well-wishers and family members are requested to attend the praying ceremony to be held at our residence at **Melli Bazar, near Hospital Melli, South Sikkim**.
Tanika Pd Sharma, Ishwar Pd. Sharma (sons) Kiran Sharma, Kalyani Sharma, Beena Sharma & Prabha Sharma (Daughters) Lata Sharma & Indira Sharma (Daughter in law) & All Dhital's Family
Cont: 9434164758, 9434209933

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
SINGAM GOLD MORNING
Draw time: 11:55 am onwards
Draw No:11 DrawDate on:10/07/17
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 94A 02655
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 02655 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
12141 26244 29552 47978 49058
49073 64351 64874 70083 79095
3rd Prize Rs.500/-
0330 1333 4240 5477 6013 6266 7479 8455 9084 9895
0371 4631 5430 6632 6797 7949 8202 8603 8753 8981
5th Prize Rs.130/-
0153 0173 0220 0239 0280 0355 0368 0426 0503 0600
0763 0832 0950 1117 1238 1287 1370 1949 2005 2062
2094 2169 2419 2437 2545 2684 2733 3127 3148 3152
3239 3464 3494 3568 3576 3643 3907 3928 3992 4025
4616 4713 4801 4890 4902 4956 5133 5466 5476 5543
5666 5769 5824 5853 5870 6115 6187 6190 6324 6352
6393 6425 6688 6964 7012 7032 7088 7176 7284 7326
7407 7591 7636 7675 7698 7746 7863 7979 8614 8620
8676 8756 8862 8980 9039 9098 9110 9127 9156 9161
9163 9224 9548 9686 9727 9833 9852 9941 9980 9984
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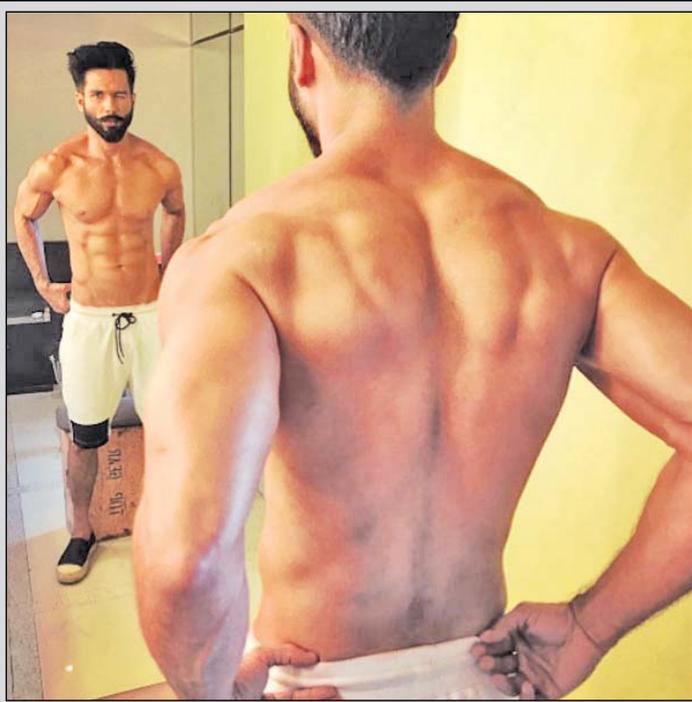
NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR AFFECTIONATE EVENING
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:116 DrawDate on:10/07/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 92H 89871
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 89871 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
22779 24808 25535 28541 35562
63722 69982 74554 78943 90655
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
10956 11532 13436 30028 30467
40039 45249 65540 87783 93313
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
0787 3308 3793 4846 5241 7318 7683 7875 8724 9748
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0079 0298 0360 1130 1470 6710 8269 8414 8786 9366
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0059 0164 0179 0542 0642 0744 0820 0965 1302 1331
1343 1486 1627 1688 1726 1764 1896 1906 1925 2028
2152 2242 2250 2258 2364 2515 2555 2617 2765 2826
2840 2964 2970 2989 3243 3275 3285 3380 3443 3592
3640 3648 3683 3858 3980 4016 4174 4298 4336 4409
4520 4533 4571 4608 4700 4858 4978 5000 5052 5095
5188 5400 5777 5848 5883 5939 6028 6033 6181 6212
6362 6407 6719 6930 6979 7284 7330 7339 7415 7438
7450 7531 7567 7711 7802 7943 8029 8420 8542 8571
8902 9046 9230 9286 9353 9495 9496 9510 9614 9913
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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

A Gentleman trailer!



SHAHID'S MIRROR SELFIE WILL MAKE YOU WANT TO HIT THE GYM ASAP! The actor, who has gone through intense training for his upcoming film Padmavati, will turn you green with envy with this picture. The super fit body of Shahid Kapoor is surely giving us major health goals. We want to hit the gym ASAP.

CELEBSCOOP

Shia LaBeouf released from prison on a USD 7,000 bond



Actor Shia LaBeouf has been released from prison following his arrest on suspicion of disorderly conduct and public drunkenness.

The 31-year-old was arrested in Savannah, Georgia, on Saturday, where he was filming for "The Peanut Butter Falcon" with Dakota Johnson and Bruce Dern.

According to the Chatham County Sheriff's Office, LaBeouf was taken into custody around 4 a.m., and was released later Saturday from Chatham county detention center after posting a \$7,000 bond.

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department gave out a statement that the actor approached a bystander and a police officer asking for a cigarette. He became disorderly, using profanities and vulgar language when he wasn't given a cigarette.

He was told to leave the area but refused to and became ag-

gressive toward the officer.

"When the officer attempted to place LaBeouf under arrest, LaBeouf ran to a nearby hotel. LaBeouf was arrested in the hotel lobby, where his disorderly behaviour continued," read the statement.

This is not the first time the "Transformers" star had trouble with the law.

In January, he was arrested in New York after the police said he got in a scuffle with a man at his own art exhibition. Those charges were later dismissed.

Other instances include arrests for public intoxication in 2015 in Texas and a driving under influence (DUI) in 2008 in California.

In 2014, LaBeouf pleaded guilty to one count of disorderly conduct after an outburst at a Broadway theatre. The star agreed to get alcohol abuse treatment as part of a settlement related to the incident.

Sidharth Malhotra and Jacqueline Fernandez's hot chemistry, kick ass stunts and picturesque locales are the highlights

After looking at the posters and first looks from Sidharth Malhotra and Jacqueline Fernandez's *A Gentleman*, we got quite excited. But wait there's more! The makers just released the *A Gentleman* trailer and we have to say Sidharth and Jacqueline have taken

the production to a whole new level in this film. Not only do we see some insane stunts, but the blazing guns and the hand to hand combat sequences are amazing. The trailer is totally entertaining, but it tells us a lot about the story too. Here's a quick breakdown of what we saw and thought about the trailer...

What's it about: In the *A Gentleman* trailer, we see a well mannered guy - Gaurav (Sidharth) trying hard to convince Kavya (Jacqueline) to marry him. While she doesn't have any problem with him, she wants him to be a little more macho. That's when Rishi enters. No it's not another guy, but Sidharth himself. While we cannot establish if it is a double role or Gaurav's alter ego, we do see a lot of chaos once Rishi comes in

to the picture. Kavya and Gaurav's world turns upside down as everyone tries to hunt Rishi down. What will happen in the end? Are Gaurav and Rishi one? Who will win Kavya's heart? Well, we will have to see the movie to figure these answers out!

What's Hot: The plot of the movie looks fantastic, but what makes it even more interesting are the picturesque locales and huge mon-

tages. The production quality on this film is fantastic and it really feels like a Hollywood movie. Add to that some insane action sequences and we have a winner. Jacqueline and Sidharth's sizzling chemistry and hot kiss is also something you will not be able to take your eyes off of. Suniel Shetty's short but bad ass appearance is an added bonus. But it is the background song and the Bandook Meri Laila song that left us excited for more.

What's Not: Though the production quality is high, in some portions of the trailer we can see the use of special effects very clearly and it is not pleasant to watch. But apart from that, the trailer was immaculate.

Check out the trailer of the movie today!

CENSORBOARD SHOCKS AGAIN!

Gives Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif's Jagga Jasoos a U/A

Anurag Basu intended this Friday release — *Jagga Jasoos* — to be a big wide-screen fantasy aimed specially at children. So, he isn't likely to be happy with the Central Board of Film Certification's (CBFC) verdict.

On Friday, in what must rank as one of the swiftest censorial certifying moves, *Jagga Jasoos* was granted 'U/A' with no cuts. "The film was submitted for certification on Thursday, and was cleared on Friday afternoon," says a source.

However, this show of dexterity by the CBFC hasn't gone down well with the team of *Jagga Jasoos*. A source close to director Anurag Basu bemoans, "We wonder what the censor board saw in *Jagga Jasoos* that made it suitable for children only accompanied by an adult." The movie, which was in the making for around four years, is about a boy's journey to find his father.

However, censor chief Pahlaj Nihalani defends the film's 'U/A' certification arguing, "Let the film release. The world will see why we think it is necessary for children to be accompanied by an adult."

Jagga Jasoos stars Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif



for the third time after Ajab Prem ki Ghazab Kahani and Rajeenti. This film follows the journey of boy in search of his father, Shruti played by Katrina Kaif helps him along the way. The film will reportedly have twenty songs. After a two year delay, the film is finally set to release on 14 July.

HOLLYBUZZ!



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

11TH JULY

WORLD HISTORY

1735: Mathematical calculations suggest that it is on this day the dwarf planet Pluto moved inside the orbit of Neptune for the last time before 1979.

1801: French astronomer Jean-Louis Pons made his first comet discovery. In the next 27 years he discovered another 36 comets, more than any other person in history.

1848: Waterloo railway station was opened in London.

1921: Former President of the United States William Howard Taft sworn in as 10th Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court, becoming the only person ever to hold both offices.

1921: The Red Army captured Mongolia from the White Army and established the Mongolian People's Republic.

INDIAN HISTORY

1957: Co-founder of the Muslim League, Aga Sultan Sir Muhammad (1877-1957), Aga Khan III passed away. He was one of the founders and the first president of the All-India Muslim League (AIML).

2000: Noted Punjabi writer Amrita Pritam was honoured with the highest award for Punjabi literature, the Shatabdi Samman.

LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REINER



"I REALLY DON'T MIND LEROY DRESSING LIKE THAT... IT JUST MEANS MORE CLOSET SPACE FOR ME."

ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT



THE DAY AHEAD
ARIES: Plans to get together with a close friend or romantic partner might go awry due to circumstances beyond your control. Aries. Sudden events could necessitate being out of touch. You might have to face delays when you're trying to make arrangements. Don't give up - you will reach your goal but just a little later than you'd hoped. Accept things as they are and change your schedule. These things happen.
TAURUS: A member of your household has perhaps been withholding some negative emotions for a long time. He or she may finally let loose with everything today. This could prove disconcerting. Taurus, as you probably had no idea this was going

on. Some honest talk is definitely in order. Try to show that you understand. All should be fine in the end.
GEMINI: An unexpected and perhaps unwelcome call or email from a co-worker might mean you have to work some extra hours, Gemini. This could be frustrating. You may feel that someone is taking unfair advantage of you. If you aren't up to doing it, say no. This won't affect your long-term standing with this person. Otherwise, grit your teeth, dig in, and think of it as a favor.
CANCER: You may have been saving up for something you really wanted, Cancer, when an unexpected expense compels you to spend some of your savings. This could cause some

gloom. Make sure you've exhausted all of your other options before digging into your nest egg. Appearances could be deceiving. There could be other resources at your disposal that you didn't immediately think of.
LEO: Some hidden problems in your house could suddenly appear. Leo. This could involve plumbing, electricity, or the walls. Repairs are definitely indicated. It's best if you see them right away rather than wait. The problem will only escalate if neglected. It's probably better to call in professionals than to try to do it yourself. Things like this are a drag, but they happen.
VIRGO: Some strange communications could come your way today,

Virgo. Hang-ups or blank emails could have you wondering who the person is and what they want from you. This is probably due more to problems with phone lines or Internet connections than to anything else, so don't waste time worrying. If you think you know who's trying to reach you, wait until tomorrow and contact him or her.
LIBRA: A group you're affiliated with could find some discrepancies in their financial records and ask you to check into it. Libra. This is probably due more to mistaken entries or lost pages than to any major disaster, but solving it will set everyone's mind at ease. Don't be surprised if you have to dig through little scraps of paper

buried in the bottom of files. It will be worth it, though.
SCORPIO: Secrets that someone close has been trying to keep hidden could come out today. Scorpio. This may or may not be something Earth-shaking, but either way, some quick damage control might prevent them from becoming common knowledge. The people around you are more understanding than you know, so express how you feel. By tomorrow it should be old news. Take care of business and all will be well.
SAGITTARIUS: Some strange news concerning friends who live far away could come to you secondhand today. Sagittarius. Attempts to reach the people in question may prove

fruitless, at least now. Withhold judgment about what you hear until you talk to your friends, as much of what is passed on to you is likely to be misinformation. Tomorrow you should have better luck reaching them.
CAPRICORN: Some rather unsettling insights into a friend's thoughts and feelings could come to you today. Your intuition is keener than usual, Capricorn, so trust your instincts about everyone, even strangers. Disconcerting though it may be, the experience will increase your understanding of others and enable you to deal with them in the right way. This could strengthen your relationships.
AQUARIUS: A disagreement with a friend or family member could

cause confusion and hurt feelings if it isn't nipped in the bud. Communication is the key. Aquarius. Avert misunderstanding by explaining in detail exactly what it is you need or what you're prepared to give. Don't assume everyone knows this already. Do this in person if you can. Phone or email might not be as effective.
PISCES: Plans to get some long-neglected tasks done around the house or yard may be interrupted by a phone call from someone dear who lives far away. You might be so excited by the call that you are no longer in the right frame of mind to finish your work once the conversation ends. Don't worry. You can always get the tasks done later.