



SummitTIMES

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

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HRD workshop for officers and school heads with professors from Finland

GANGTOK, 05 DEC [IPR]:

A two-day consultative workshop of Human Resource Development Department with Professor Jari and Professor Patrik of Helsinki University, Finland was conducted on 04 and 05b Dec at Si-chey in Gangtok.

Human Resource & Development Department Minister, RB Subba, was present as the chief guest on the inaugural day of the workshop while Member of Parliament [Lok Sabha], PD Rai attended the programme as the special guest.

Additional Chief Secretary [HRDD], GP Upadhyaya apprised the Finnish educationists about the system of governance in India in general and about the education system in India in particular. The programme had two parallel sessions in which administrators were grouped with Professor Patrik and school heads and educationists were grouped with Professor Jari.

Some fruitful and conclusive discussions were made which yielded to further making a link with the Finnish education with Sikkim in order to achieve quality education.

It may be mentioned here that Finland has achieved top class of education system in the world and Sikkim has been looking forward

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Healthy Sikkim will be Happy Sikkim: CM

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

GANGTOK, 05 DEC:

"We have achieved the milestone of providing free education for all in Sikkim which was one of our primary priorities," said Chief Minister Pawan Chamling while addressing the public and students of Samdong Senior Secondary School in East Sikkim today during the platinum jubilee celebrations of Samdong SSS.

The CM further added that people should take the benefit of free education being provided till college level.

"By the next academic session, we will start kindergarten education in all government schools in order to provide quality education equal to what is being provided by private schools," Mr Chamling announced.



He said that more medical and pharmacy colleges will be established in Sikkim and that the State Government will also be starting a State University for the same.

"We are providing every opportunity to students in terms of ed-

ucation so that they can opt to pursue education in the best Universities abroad. Our government is student and youth oriented," the CM added.

The CM further stressed on developing and focusing on tourism and Organic farming as options for employment

opportunities.

Addressing the road conditions in the State, Mr Chamling said, "The carpeting of the road should be done during the night as well as overtime. The image of the State is being tarnished due to poor road conditions."

He further appealed

to the people to stop consuming imported mangoes and bananas which are harmful to health and added that these fruits will also be banned for import after 31 March next year.

"I want Sikkim to be healthy and happy," he expressed.

"We have offered loans for construction of houses to the people from HUDCO at the lowest interest rates which will be subsidized by the revenue accrued from power generation," the CM informed.

Responding to the demands placed by the people, the CM made various announcements namely the construction of temple at the Sanskrit Mahavidhyalaya at Samdong, upgradation of Raley School if feasible, construction of club house

for Upper Samdong if land is provided and Jhora training.

Regarding the demands of road construction, the CM urged the concerned departments for survey and preparation of DPR.

Earlier, the guests were welcomed by Tourism Minister, area MLA Ugen T Gyatso Bhutia.

The function also included a cake-cutting ceremony marking 75 years of the establishment of Samdong SSS.

Principal, Samdong SSS, Radha Pradhan, presented the school report and its history and tabled demands like proper school fencing, toilet, school bus, hostel, six-room building for Science and provision of permanent drinking water supply.

The CM also inaugu-

rated the school pavilion constructed by the Pandey family of the area.

Minister of Human Resource Development Department, RB Subba, in his speech, said that education in Sikkim should improve at the primary level and added that the department is sending permanent Principal in all Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools.

During the function today, retired primary school teacher, Loden Choden Namkhapa, retired Assistant Conservator of Forest, Sandup Tshering Bhutia, entrepreneur, Dr Arjun Adhikari, and Post Doctoral Scientist-Department of Plant and Environmental Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, Dr Dew Kumar Sharma, were felicitated by the organizing committee.

Mayal Lyang Lepcha Idol auditions on Monday

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 05 DEC:

Sikkim Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association [SILTA] is all set to organise a State-level Lepcha singing competition, the Mayal Lyang Lepcha Idol, in the capital.

The organisers have registered 100 contestants for the auditions scheduled to be held on 11 Dec here at YOLO restaurant in Deorali. The top-ten contestants from the audition will again take on each other for the title in the grand finale scheduled to be held on 11 Jan next year at Mayfair Resort.

This was announced by SILTA president, Mayalmit Lepcha, at a



press conference held here today.

She informed that 100 talented Lepcha singers from different parts of the State had registered online for the auditions of the event. The audition will have popular Lepcha musicians and singers, Mickna Tshering Lepcha, Ongyal Tshering Lepcha and Sam-

rit Lepcha, as judges.

"The main objective of the event is to provide a platform to promote talented singers hiding in different corners of the State. We also want to encourage young artists to come forward with confidence to express their talent," Ms Lepcha said.

She further informed

that top ten contestants will be groomed for the grand finale. She also shared plans to conduct the event annually from next year.

The event carries cash prizes of Rs 25,000 for the winner, Rs 15,000 for first runner-up and Rs 10,000 for second runner-up.

WB Govt trying to end Gorkhaland movement: Bimal Gurung to SC

NEW DELHI, DEC 5 (PTI):

Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) leader Bimal Gurung today alleged in the Supreme Court that the West Bengal government was trying to "effectively end" the movement for a separate Gorkhaland by implicating its members in false cases.

Gurung's counsel claimed before a bench of Justices A K Sikri and Ashok Bhushan that the state was proceeding in a "biased manner" against GJM members and there was an environment of "constant fear" in Darjeeling due to this.

Senior advocate P S Patwalia, representing Gurung, sought an investigation by an independent agency in the cases lodged against the party members as also in their alleged extra-judicial killings by the police, maintaining that a fair probe was not expected from the state.

"We cannot expect a fair investigation. It is persecution. So probe by an independent agency is required," he said.

However, senior counsel A M Singhvi, appearing for West Bengal Police, said there were dan-



gerous consequences of what the GJM leader was arguing before the apex court as there was a situation of public disorder.

During the hearing, Patwalia raised the issue of alleged violation of human rights and extra-judicial killings by the state police and referred to a number of such purported cases.

He claimed that a GJM supporter was shot dead by West Bengal Police in Sikkim and a case has been lodged against the police officials there.

"GJM leaders are arrested in false cases," he said, adding "they are trying to effectively end the movement".

"There is an environment of constant fear in the Darjeeling region as the police is looking for GJM members.

State is proceeding in a biased manner," he

claimed.

Patwalia said the state cannot act like this as the movement for separate statehood was going on for long and the issue which Gurung has raised before the top court was of fair trial and fair investigation of these cases.

The arguments remained inconclusive and would continue on December 8.

Gurung had earlier told the apex court that main flash-point of confrontation was that the GJM had opposed the state government's move to make Bengali language mandatory in the schools in West Bengal.

The state police had maintained that Gurung was absconding, not co-operating in the probe of cases lodged against him and playing "blatant politics", claiming that Gu-

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Air quality 'very poor', NO2-laced haze deepens worries

NEW DELHI, DEC 5 (PTI):

Air quality in Delhi, 'very poor' since November 23, remained unchanged today, with high-level of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) across residential areas heightening the toxicity of the haze.

The United Nations marked the day as the first international smog day. It is a moment to remember all of the people who have died prematurely, and avoidably, because of the air pollution, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said in a statement.

The city's average Air Quality Index (AQI) was 378 on a scale of 500, classified as 'very poor', marginally better than yesterday's 390.

The haze did not disrupt the proceedings of the ongoing test match between India and Sri Lanka at the Feroz Shah Kotla, however, the Lankans wore N95 anti-pollution masks while fielding.

One of the players



even threw up a couple of times.

The concentration of NO2 breached the

24-hour safe limit of 80 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m3) in areas like Dilshad Garden, ITO,

Mandir Marg, Anand Vihar and R K Puram.

At RK Puram, a densely populated residential area, NO2 was recorded at 135 ug/m3 while levels at ITO, which witnesses heavy volume of traffic, was 206.

During the week, NO2 had climbed to levels as high as 195 at Anand Vihar while the same was 155 and 127 at RK Puram and Dilshad Garden,

respectively.

According to the Central Control Room for Air Quality Management of the CPCB, the concentration of the most dominant pollutants, PM2.5 and PM10, were 261 and 438 ug/m3 around 5 pm.

Pollution is considered severe plus or emergency when readings of PM2.5 and PM10 cross 300 and 500 ug/

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A calendar dedicated to Sikkim's butterflies

NITESH R PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 5 DEC:

When Chief Minister Pawan Chamling launched Sikkim Ornithological Society Calendar 2018 on 03 December, it was the culmination of a labour of love of Nosang M Limboo and his team of photographers who worked through some trying conditions to photograph these beautiful creatures - Butterflies.

"I was stuck in wet sand till my hips on the banks of the Rongyoung Chu in excitement over clicking the

rare Black Prince Butterfly," shares Nosang, also known as the Butterfly Man of Sikkim.

The entire process of making the Calendar took between 6 to 8 months including designing and printing.

"This calendar is dedicated to the younger generation of Sikkim," says Nosang, who is also the SOS president.

He holds up the calendar as evidence of the marked increase in awareness levels in the minds of people in Sikkim in the span of the

past five years.

The calendar contains excellent photographs of colourful Butterflies found in Sikkim and features works of six photographers.

Stressing that the richness of butterflies in the State inspired the team, he adds that their pursuit of generating wider awareness about Sikkim's rich bird and butterfly wealth continues.

"We have distributed 500 birds and butterflies charts earlier this year to schools all over Sikkim," he informs.



Man accused of raping daughter

GANGTOK, 05 DEC: A 38-year-old man has been accused of raping his 14-year-old daughter.

According to the police, the incident occurred five months back when the victim's mother had gone away from home to attend a funeral. During the mother's absence the accused reportedly raped his daughter multiple times.

The accused reportedly threatened the victim with dire consequences if she revealed the incident to anyone.

Out of fear, the victim kept the incident to herself until she became pregnant.

The accused after hearing about the pregnancy fled the village after which the victim narrated the incident to her aunt who lodged a police report at Nayabazar Police Station on 04 Dec.

The victim was then taken to child protection unit for counseling and rehabilitation.

The accused on the other hand has been booked under Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012. Efforts are being made to trace the accused.

Air quality 'very poor', NO2-laced...

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m3, respectively. The corresponding prescribed standards are 60 and 100.

Six out of the CPCB's 17 stations had 'severe' quality air, which affects healthy people and seriously impacts those with existing respiratory or cardiovascular diseases, by 6 pm.

The rest was in the 'very poor' zone, which comes with the warning that people may develop respiratory illness on prolonged exposure.

An AQI between 0-50 is considered Good, 51-100 Satisfactory, 101-200 Moderate, 201-300 Poor, 301-400 Very Poor, and 401-500 Severe.

WB Govt trying to end Gorkhaland movement: Bimal Gurung to SC

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rung was facing trial in 23 cases and several other criminal cases were lodged against him.

It had alleged that several serious incidents had taken place under Gurung's leadership, including the killing of a 26-year-old police official during the recent Gorkhaland agitation.

The police has sought vacation of the court's November 20 order restraining it from taking any coercive step against Gurung, who is seeking a probe by NIA or CBI in the killings of several Gorkhaland activists during the recent agitation.

The GJM central committee had recently suspended Gurung for six months and appointed Binay Tamang as the party's new president.

South DAC's DAAV prog for Manley Kamrang wraps up

NAMCHI, 05 DEC [IPR]: A day-long coordination meeting with the newly elected zilla and gram panchayats and the concluding ceremony of District Administration Adopted Village program for Manley Kamrang Gram Panchayat Unit organised by the Department of Panchayati Raj Institution, Rural Management & Development Department was held at Namchi, South Sikkim today.

Speaker KN Rai attended the ceremony as the chief guest accompanied by Adhyaksha [South], Farwanti Tamang, Upadhyaksha [South], Bhim Bahadur Lhakey and District Collector [South], Raj Yadav.

Addressing the event, the Speaker extended his best wishes to the newly elected zilla and gram panchayat members. Hailing the architecture of Panchayati Raj as an ideal one, the Speaker spoke about the democratic decentralization of power that enables effective decision-making and accountability to the governed.

He further added that this form of local governance not only enhances the effectiveness of public policies and service delivery, but also gives greater voice to the public.

The Speaker strongly advocated the panchayats to work for the empowerment

of the society and work with a genuine public-interest while also calling upon the line departments and panchayats to carry out legitimate and justifiable work under each GPU.

He also spoke about the significance of panchayats both attending and participating in Gram Sabhas to educate people about the varied schemes and initiatives of the State Government devised for the overall growth and benefit of the public.

Further, underlining the dire need for practicing solid and liquid waste in villages, he urged the panchayats to work towards upholding the status

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Chief Secy chairs preparatory meeting for R-Day 2018

GANGTOK, 05 DEC [IPR]: The Home Department convened a meeting in connection with the celebration of Republic Day 2018. The meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary, Alok K Srivastav, and was mainly called to

discuss the preparation for the upcoming Republic day celebration in the State capital.

Various agendas were discussed which included major involvement from all the line departments under the Govern-

ment of Sikkim. Various topics were discussed for the Republic Day celebration and works were distributed amongst various departments. Agendas included cultural programmes, displays, traffic management, power

supply, medical facilities and others.

The meeting was also attended by Additional Chief Secretary, SC Gupta, and other officers and representatives of the State government machinery.



North DAC gears up for Namsoong, holds prep meet

MANGAN, 05 DEC [IPR]: A preparatory meeting for the upcoming State Level Tribal Festival Namsoong 2017 was held here at the District Administrative Center conference hall on Tuesday.

It was decided that the festival will kick off on 26 Dec at Namprik-

dang Ground, Dzongu. The four day long tribal fest will conclude on 29 Dec.

The festival will feature dances, songs, sports, traditional music and a photo exhibition.

Sub Divisional Magistrate [Dzongu], Tshering Dorjee Bhutia pre-

sented the details for the preparation of the festival.

The meeting was attended by Additional Director [Animal Husbandry], Dr S.K Subba, Sub Divisional Magistrate [Mangan], P.W Lepcha and representatives from various departments of the district.

Ghatani attends Sigeng JHS annual day function, urges for quality education



GYALSHING, 05 DEC [IPR]: Sigeng Government Junior High School in West Sikkim organized its annual day celebration today in the presence of Minister-cum-Area MLA of Salghari Zoom Constituency, Arjun Kumar Ghatani, as chief guest accompanied by Block Development Officer-Mangalbari BAC, Prem Subba, officials from Human Resource Development Department, Rural Development Assistant, Panchayats, parents and public from the vicinity.

Addressing the students, Mr Ghatani highlighted the policies implemented by the State government to provide quality education and various facilities so that the children from underprivileged background can acquire quality education and the knowledge of human values. He drew lights on the vision of Chief

Minister Pawan Chamling to empower every student with the potential to deal with emerging competitive age and their future challenges.

Mr Ghatani underlined opportunities created by the State government namely Chief Minister's Meritorious Scholarship Schemes and Dr BR Ambedkar Scholarship Schemes and further advised Panchayats, civil societies, School Managing Committee, parents to render support to school teachers so that students are fully capable and skilled so that exclusive opportunities of studying in renowned public school as envisioned by the CM becomes possible.

He urged the concerned officials for early completion of reconstruction work at the damaged site in the school premises and ongoing construction of additional infrastructure.

Earlier, Mr Ghatani inaugurated the Multi Purpose Hall of Sigeng JHS and advised school to conduct yoga sessions for healthy life of the participants.

During the programme, Superintendent Engineer [South/West]-Urban Development & Housing Department, MK Rai, Additional Director-HRDD, Robin Dong, Additional Director-Rural Management & Development Department, Manorath Rai, graduate teacher, UR Dong, and retired teachers of Mabong Sigeng GPU were felicitated during the function.

Mr Ghatani handed over the felicitation letters to the honorees and awards to the topper of the annual session.

Samiktsha Rai of class-II and Monika Tamang of Class-VIII topped the primary and upper primary section with 85 % and 70%, respectively.

HRD workshop for officers and school heads with professors from Finland



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to seeking ideas and replicable styles from the Finnish education in order to achieve top class education system with special focus on primary education.

The ground work begun in 22 May, 2017 when Finland's Ambassador to India, Nina Vaskunlathi visited Sikkim and interacted with the educationists and administrators of the HRDD.

Directors, district Joint Directors and other officers of the HRDD attended the workshop along with principals from various Government and private schools.

On the second day the workshop begun with a visit to Deorali Senior Secondary School by the Finland delegates followed by another session with the educationists of the State.



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V7 PLUS

**Gangtok on
Wednesday,
06 Dec**

Temp: 21°C /08°C
Forecast: Nice
and pleasant with
sun and clouds.
Sunrise: 06:11 AM
Sunset: 4:41 PM

BJP tours Soreng- Chakung, takes up B.Ed college issue

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 DEC:**

A Bharatiya Janta Party Sikkim Pradesh team, led by its president, DB Chauhan, toured Soreng-Chakung constituency in West Sikkim and interacted with the people of the area today.

The people of the constituency have been facing acute drinking water supply problems and bad roads, informs a press release issued by BJP Sikkim spokesperson, JB Darnal.

The release contends that the Human Resource Development Department had admitted 150 students in B-Ed College at Soreng in 2015-17 and 2016-18 batches instead of the allotted 100 seats in the college without taking prior permission from the National Council for Teacher's Educations.

On the same, the release states that due to violation of the rules, the college is not being able to provide mark sheets and certificates to students. It is informed that passed out students were denied admissions in M-Ed as they have still not got their results.

BJP state-unit has asked the HRDD to solve the issue within 10 days.

Source segregation of waste in process at Rangpo

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 DEC:**

A daylong sensitization programme on the theme, "Source Segregation," was organized by Rangpo Nagar Panchayat as a part of its Information Education Communication [IEC] activities in coordination with Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban] at Mandi Bazar Municipal Ward in Rangpo on 28 Nov, a press release informs.

The area MLA attended the function as chief guest accompanied by Councilors, Municipal Executive Officer, Station Head Officer, staff of Rangpo Nagar Panchayat and the public of respective wards of Rangpo.

Project Coordinator, State Mission Directorate, Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban], UD&HD, Arit Basnett, was present as the resource person and stressed upon the initiative of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs [MoHUA] which has mandated compulsory Source Segregation with effect from 05 June 2017 [World En-



vironment Day].

He briefed the programme about the importance of composting bio-degradable waste [kitchen/ wet waste] at source by adopting the concept of Smart Bin technology and also detailed the procedures/ protocol for achieving Open Defecation Free status.

Additionally, Municipal Executive Officer, during his session, announced that from 01 Nov this year, all Municipal wards under Rangpo Nagar Panchayat have begun source segregation. The wet waste is collected on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays while

the Dry Waste is collected on Wednesdays and Sundays, he informed.

Colour-coded bins [blue for dry waste and green for wet waste] provided by the State Mission Directorate for Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban] were distributed by the chief guest during the function.

It may be mentioned here, the event in Rangpo is in consonance with various directives under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban. Ministry of Environment and Forest [MoEF] had mandated source segregation of waste as compulsory under the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs [MoHUA] had also mandated compulsory source segregation of waste from 05 June 2017. Ever since the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban], UD&HD has been training and sensitizing the public, government officials and elected representatives of the ULBs on source segregation of waste.

At present, Gangtok Municipal Corporation has started with source segregation of waste in Arithang ward. In the remaining ULBs, 200 sets of colour coded bins have been distributed for source segregation of waste as a pilot project. The methodology being adopted in these ULBs is col-

lection of dry waste-4 days a week and wet waste-2 days a week. Frequency of collection of wet waste is more than dry waste because the dry waste can be stored longer than wet waste which immediately putrefies within 12 hours.

The pilot project will be later up scaled to all the households and wards as the main intention currently is to generate awareness on source segregation of waste and set example for others to follow, the release adds.

Further, it may be noted that source segregation is not limited to only households. Even commercial establishments, government offices, educational institutes and any other establishment generating waste have to comply with the mandate by the government.

Rangpo Nagar Panchayat and the State Mission Directorate, Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban], has appealed to all the stakeholders of waste management to support this initiative being taken up under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban.



Reconstructed Ramom Mani Lhakhang inaugurated at Shipgyer

**SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 05 DEC:**

The newly reconstructed Ramom Mani

Lhakhang at Ramom Ward under Shipgyer Gram Panchayat Unit in Dzongu, North Sikkim

was inaugurated today by the area MLA, Deputy Speaker Sonam Gyatso Lepcha.

The function was also attended by Sub Divisional Magistrate [Chungthang], Sonam Tobgay Tashi, zilla and gram panchayats of the GPU, monks and general public.

A special prayer was conducted by a Bongthing before the inauguration.

The chief guest also offered prayer at the Mani Lhakhang while the students of different schools presented various cultural programmes.

The reconstruction work has been carried out under the aegis of Bhavishya Bharat Foundation, Teesta Urja. The concerned BBF officials were also present during the event.

Annual Day at Singtam Government School



YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 05 DEC:

Singtam Government Senior Secondary School celebrated its Annual Day today with the felicitation of retired teachers and school board toppers. Former Principal of Singtam SSS, Manju Pradhan, was conferred with the Vidy- alaya Gyan Sagar Award during the function.

Agriculture Minister, Aarea MLA Som Nath Poudyal, who attended the programme as chief guest, in his address, said, "It is a proud moment for me to be a part of such an auspicious event and I thank the school and School Management Committee members for inviting me. Bookish knowledge is not enough for the overall development of students. They should also read newspapers in order to stay aware of their

surroundings."

The daylong celebration featured dance and song presentations along with a skit based on Swachh Mission.

Government contractor and general order supplier, RP Dhakal, who is also one of the members and advisor of SMC, was felicitated by the organizing committee along with Suresh Pradhan and Sanjay Agrawal for their support and generosity in supporting the school by providing facilities both on financial and materialistic aspect.

During the programme, the third edition of the school magazine, "Asmakam", was also released by the chief guest.

Asmakam is a collection of articles, poems and information contributed by the school students. The design and layout of the magazine is done by English Post Graduate Teacher, Dipendra Sharma.

Citations and souvenirs were presented to retired teachers, school toppers, best students and students who obtained 100% attendance.

New Panchayats felicitated by United Christian Welfare Society

**SUMMIT REPORT
SINGTAM, 05 DEC:**

United Christian Welfare Society of Sikkim [UCWSS] organized a felicitation and thanks-giving programme for the newly elected Zilla and Ward Panchayats belonging to Christian community from North, South and West districts here at the Nepali Dhar-masala today.

The programme commenced with a prayer ceremony led by Pastor Roshan Chettri from Shilo Church, Singtam which was followed by song and dance presentations by members of UCWSS.

On the occasion, the newly elected Zilla and Ward Panchayats expressed their gratitude over the organization of the event and assured every possible help and support for the community.



SKM's Sadbhavna tour of North Sikkim concludes

**SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 05 DEC:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party's Sadbhavna Motor Rally concluded its North Sikkim tour today. The rally team, which was led by Sangha MLA, Sonam Lama, was given a warm welcome at different areas wherein the party members interacted with the people of the respective areas. The rally proceeded to Chungthang from Mangan this morning and visited Dzongu. Later, in the evening, SKM motor rally left for Gangtok.

South DAC's DAAV prog for Manley Kamrang wraps up...

contd from pg02

Panchayat and Zilla members for holistic development of a Gram Panchayat Unit and accentuated their efficacy in upliftment of their respective GPU's.

Additionally, under the DAAV program, DC South called upon all the Panchayat members to ensure public awareness of various schemes and policies provided by the state and the centre government for the welfare and benefit of the people.

The gathering was also addressed by Additional District Collector (Dev), Benu Gurung [Integrated Child Development Scheme] center, GPK [Gram Prashasan Kendra], PHSC [Primary Health Sub Center] and other government infrastructure in the said area.

He further laid down the roles and responsibilities of

The program also saw the distribution of television sets as e-learning material to various schools, distribution of xerox machine to ITI Centre Kichum-dumra and distribution of LPG cylinder to Upper Kamrang ICDS under DAAV.

Junior Engineer, Yogesh Rai, (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act), Gram Rojgar Sevak (MGNREGA), Bina Rai and MGNREGA mate Damber Mangar along with the best students at GPU level from class IV to IX were also awarded with cash prize by Block Administrative Centre (BAC), Namchi and Mamley Kamrang GPU respectively.

Additionally, Assistant Engineer [Namchi Block Administrative Center], Gaki

Bhutia, Headmaster [Kamrang Secondary School], Kamal Sapkota, Panchayat Inspector [Namchi BAC], Nima Chozang Sherpa Supervisor ICDS [Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department], Norbu Lepcha and Deputy Director , Dr Pratap Subba [Agriculture Department] were all conferred with 'Second Line of Officers Award' for their involvement in the DAAV programme.

The program was also attended by ADC (Dev) Namchi , Benu Gurung, ADC (Dev) Ravangla, DB Rawat, head of departments and officials from various line departments along with zilla and panchayat members, students and stakeholders from all GPs under South District.



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
SOCIAL JUSTICE EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
LUMSEY, 5TH MILE, TADONG, EAST SIKKIM
No. 51/SJE&WD/2017-18 Dated: 04/12/2017**

NOTICE

Based on their performance in the Viva Voce/ Interview held on 18/09/2017 and 19/09/2017, the following candidates are hereby selected in the posts as given against their names under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, namely:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Name of the selected candidates
1.	Counsellor	Laxana Subedi
2	Social Worker	Amrit Sharma
3	Social Worker	Bandana Rai (D/o Shri Gokul Rai)
4.	Social Worker	Sanjok Rai
5.	Social Worker	Ribena Chettri
6	Outreach Worker	Anjel Subba
7	Outreach Worker	Tika Maya Limboo
8.	Outreach Worker	Rinzing Choden Bhutia

The candidates are directed to report to the Office of the Deputy Secretary/ ICPS, within 15 days from the date of issue of this Notice. If they fail to report within 15 days their selection shall be cancelled and the offer of appointment in the panel list in order of merit.

BY ORDER.

**Sd/-
DEPUTY SECRETARY, WCD
SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM.
R.O. No. 448/jpr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 04.12.2017**

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Sikkim Deserves More Professional Promotion

Just word of mouth will not suffice any more

A quaint tourist festival concluded recently in Dzongu. Except the invited guests, their respective entourages and the handful who caught the news on local rags, it is unlikely that too many others knew of it or made the time to visit. There used to be a music fest of huge potential that was hosted in Mangan for some years until that too fell silent. The Maghe Mela attraction has lost its sheen even before it was leveraged for the tourism prospects it carried. The winter fest in Gangtok is so erratic that no one appears to even bother to promote it even among locals. Sikkim is now an Organic State for all intents and purposes, but this USP has still not been dovetailed into its introduction as a tourist destination. It should be obvious by now that left to the babus, Sikkim will continue to move from event to event, lacking the coherence and cohesion required to launch a collaborative promotion.

Tourism is all about promotion, which in today's information-age translates as advertisements. Without promotion in the right places, conveying the right message, tourism potential will remain but a tantalising prospect of the boom that could have been. Of course word of mouth plays a role in promoting a destination and flawless services go a long way in establishing tourism credentials, but for these factors to kick in, one needs the right promotion. More tourists land in Malaysia than the flights bring into India. We obviously offer a much more varied experience, and yet, even Tiny Malaysia beats us with the "Truly Asia" slogan [of much older vintage than the Incredible India tag line]. Tourism is booming in Malaysia, and if anything, the destination's increasing popularity has triggered even more aggressive advertising across all mediums, from television channels to websites to newspapers to magazines to facebook to wherever it is that a prospective visitor might look. They have obviously recognised the importance of promotion.

Promotion and planning have however been consistently ignored by Sikkim, most noticeable so in the tourism sector. When was the last time you saw a slick spot on TV, or a captivating spread in a magazine or newspaper or a sponsored message popping up on your Facebook feed tempting a prospective audience with a holiday in Sikkim? The State is lucky that enough people are smitten by the land and its people to keep arrivals high, save the hiccup of neighbourhood troubles.

Tourism has grown in the State despite a shoddy and extremely unprofessional approach to promotion. An increasing number of Sikkimese are investing in the hospitality industry, a huge number converting residential buildings into hotels. The number of destinations has not increased by much in the recent past, so one is essentially looking at selling the same "points". What this means is that repeat-visitors will soon start tiring out and to ensure that businesses do not fail and the target numbers are achieved, Sikkim will need to promote itself much better, much more.

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Women's NGOs are changing the world—and not getting credit for it

DR. BIPASHA BARUAH & DR. KATE GRANTHAM
theconversation.com

In contemporary global development circles, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are now performing many more roles and activities than they did a few decades ago.

NGOs work with governments, community groups and the private sector — to develop and implement programs, monitor and evaluate their progress and help train people working on those projects.

They're considered more nimble than other institutions in accomplishing development goals, because they can reach the most vulnerable or disaffected people in a community and find innovative solutions to problems.

Although their funding streams and institutional decision-making structures are typically multinational, NGOs' legitimacy, indeed, often rests on perceptions of them being "local" and "close to the people."

NGOs are increasingly taking on the responsibility of implementing the gender equality and women's empowerment agendas of the global development sector.

But very rarely have researchers tried to understand or document the specific challenges and opportunities that NGOs working on gender equality, or those that define themselves as feminist NGOs or women's NGOs, face — when participating in multiple-stakeholder projects like Canada's new feminist international assistance policy.

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015, and the Canadian initiative that includes \$150 million in funding for advancing the rights of women and girls, will undoubtedly increase the engagement of women's NGOs in a variety of activities.

That means understanding the opportunities and constraints faced by women's NGOs in multiple-stakeholder projects is increasingly important.

WOMEN'S NGOS IN INDIA AND TANZANIA

We're basing our observations upon research conducted over the past decade in India, where women's NGOs were involved in delivering urban basic services like water, sanitation and electricity, and in Tanzania, where women's NGOs helped deliver community health and microenterprise development services.

In both contexts, we found that women's NGOs played crucial roles in development projects, often mobilizing, organizing and building projects that otherwise would never have launched.

In India, for example, women's NGOs in the state of Gujarat mobilized local communities to participate in urban development projects. They helped form community-based organizations to represent local interests and implemented community development projects — such as health services, adult literacy and child care.

Women's NGOs also conducted research to determine whether local communities could afford to pay for basic urban services.

They negotiated subsidies, fair pricing and flexible terms of payment with utilities on behalf of marginalized people. They arranged access to loans from microfinance institutions for households that could not cover the cost of water or electricity connections.

And by insisting that water and electricity bills be issued in the names of female heads of households, women's NGOs strengthened women's access to property and housing.



The NGOs also educated stakeholders about the realities of life for the urban poor, and shared lessons learned in one urban area with NGOs in other cities in India. In Tanzania, we studied the community partner role played by a women's NGO in a project delivering health and microenterprise services across East Africa.

The project, which brought together the Tanzanian government, public research and medical institutions, international charitable organizations, community-based organizations and beneficiaries, envisioned the establishment of community kitchens across East Africa to produce probiotic yogurt.

The yogurt would be sold for profit and distributed for free to certain vulnerable groups, including children with nutritional deficiencies and people living with HIV/AIDS.

WOMEN OPERATED THE YOGURT KITCHENS

Local entrepreneurs were offered loans, technical assistance and other training to start up the businesses. A women's NGO that had previously worked to reduce gender-based violence in Tanzania helped local communities establish, operate and maintain the kitchens.

Before the idea of community kitchens was taken up by more financially and politically powerful project partners, it was in fact the women's NGO that had proposed the idea of establishing yogurt kitchens that could be run by local women in keeping with Tanzanian dietary, cultural and consumer norms.

The four earliest community kitchens were run entirely by women. The economic empowerment of poor women in Tanzania was identified as one of the founding goals of the project because of the advocacy work done by the women's NGO.

In later years, the pilot project was expanded to include kitchens run by men.

The women's NGO provided training on probiotic yogurt production, the health benefits of probiotics, financial accounting, entrepreneurship and the importance of combatting HIV/AIDS transmission and stigma.

Until 2012, when the women's NGO withdrew from the project, community kitchen groups also received training on gender equality, the rights of women and girls and the links between violence against women and HIV.

WOMEN'S NGOS EASILY MARGINALIZED

Common findings emerge from our research in India and Tanzania.

In both contexts, we found that women's NGOs had made vital contributions to the success of development projects, but they were easily marginalized and trivialized once those projects got off the ground.

In India, after the success of the pilot projects, the other partners declared that they would "go it alone" and no longer involve the NGO partner in delivering basic urban services.

A similar pattern emerged in Tanzania. Once the project was well-established, it started to expand to include community yogurt kitchens run by men, as well as kitchens in other parts of Tanzania, Rwanda and Kenya. The women's NGO was forced out.

What's more, the gender equality training, identified initially as a key project priority in Tanzania, was discontinued entirely.

Although the contributions made by the women's NGOs were critical to the existence and success of the initiatives, they were often dismissed as supplementary and dispensable by the other partners.

Because the NGOs' role of organizing, mobilizing and helping local communities participate in development initiatives was seen as a "natural" extension of women's care-giving work, it was easy for other partners to diminish and dismiss their contributions.

And because the other partners did not fully appreciate the contributions of the women's NGOs, they were unwilling to share credit for the success of the project.

HOW TO BOLSTER THE ROLE OF WOMEN'S NGOS

We recommend several strategies to strengthen and validate the role of women's NGOs in development partnership projects. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) that defines the specific roles and responsibilities of each partner should be an essential requirement for multiple-stakeholder projects.

The lack of such formal agreements entrenches the perception that the role NGOs play is not particularly valuable. But the involvement of partners with a wide range of views, sizes, structures and experiences underscores the importance of formalizing the role of women's NGOs. When the relationship among the different parties is formalized, constructive debate can be encouraged among all partners.

The lack of a memorandum of understanding causes overlaps in function, weakens accountability and exacerbates conflict among partners. While it's possible for diverse institutions with different philosophies to work in an integrated way, it doesn't happen automatically or easily.

At a deeper structural level, advocacy work — whether it's gender equality or community mobilization — must be treated as a non-negotiable priority in global development partnership projects, instead of as a value-added or supplementary task.

WOMEN'S NGOS DESERVE RECOGNITION

Our research has shown that women's NGOs play integral roles in the projects they participate in.

It's unfortunate they must "justify" their long-term involvement in such initiatives, but it may be incumbent upon them to make their contributions to the project more visible to the different partners and to the development community at large.

Collecting, maintaining and analyzing data on a regular basis about key project impacts and outcomes will be crucial for making NGO contributions more visible and less dismissible.

Collaborating with academics and other development professionals to publish and disseminate findings from such projects will also strengthen and validate NGO efforts. This article is one small contribution toward ensuring women's NGOs get the credit and support they so richly deserve.

[Dr. Bipasha Baruah is Professor & Canada Research Chair in Global Women's Issues, Western University; Dr. Kate Grantam is Research Associate, International Development, McGill University]

Why remote Antarctica is so important in a warming world

CHRIS FOGWILL, CHRIS TURNEY & ZOE ROBINSON

theconversation.com

Ever since the ancient Greeks speculated a continent must exist in the south polar regions to balance those in the north, Antarctica has been popularly described as remote and extreme. Over the past two centuries, these factors have combined to create, in the human psyche, an almost mythical land — an idea reinforced by tales of heroism and adventure from the Edwardian golden age of "heroic exploration" and pioneers such as Robert Falcon Scott, Roald Amundsen and Ernest Shackleton.

Recent research, however, is casting new light on the importance of the southernmost continent, overturning centuries of misunderstanding and highlighting the role of Antarctica in how our planet works and the role it may play in a future, warmer world.

What was once thought to be a largely unchanging mass of snow and ice is anything but. Antarctica holds a staggering amount of water. The three ice sheets that cover the continent contain around 70% of our planet's fresh water, all of which we now know to be vulnerable to warming air and oceans. If all the ice sheets were to melt, Antarctica would raise global sea levels by at least 56m.

Where, when, and how quickly they might melt is a major focus of research. No one is suggesting all the ice sheets will melt over the next century but, given their size, even small losses could have global repercussions. Possible scenarios are deeply concerning: in addition to rising sea levels, meltwater would slow down the world's ocean circulation, while shifting wind belts may affect the climate in the southern hemisphere.



In 2014, NASA reported that several major Antarctic ice streams, which hold enough water to trigger the equivalent of a one-and-a-half metre sea level rise, are now irreversibly in retreat. With more than 150m people exposed to the threat of sea level rise and sea levels now rising at a faster rate globally than any time in the past 3,000 years, these are sobering statistics for island nations and coastal cities worldwide.

AN IMMEDIATE AND ACUTE THREAT

Recent storm surges following hurricanes have demonstrated that rising sea levels are a future threat for densely populated regions such as Florida and New York. Meanwhile the threat for low-lying islands in areas such as the Pacific is immediate and acute.

Multiple factors mean that the vulnerability to

global sea level rise is geographically variable and unequal, while there are also regional differences in the extremity of sea level rise itself. At present, the consensus of the IPCC 2013 report suggests a rise of between 40 and 80cm over the next century, with Antarctica only contributing around 5cm of this. Recent projections, however, suggest that Antarctic contributions may be up to ten times higher.

Studies also suggest that in a world 1.5-2°C warmer than today we will be locked into millennia of irreversible sea level rise, due to the slow response time of the Antarctic ice sheets to atmospheric and ocean warming.

We may already be living in such a world. Recent evidence shows global temperatures are close to

1.5°C warmer than pre-industrial times and, after the COP23 meeting in Bonn in November, it is apparent that keeping temperature rise within 2°C is unlikely.

So we now need to reconsider future sea level projections given the potential global impact from Antarctica. Given that 93% of the heat from anthropogenic global warming has gone into the ocean, and these warming ocean waters are now meeting the floating margins of the Antarctic ice sheet, the potential for rapid ice sheet melt in a 2°C world is high.

In polar regions, surface temperatures are projected to rise twice as fast as the global average, due to a phenomenon known as polar amplification. However, there is still hope to avoid this sword of Damocles, as studies suggest that a major reduction in greenhouse gases over the next decade would mean that irreversible sea level rise could be avoided. It is therefore crucial to reduce CO₂ levels now for the benefit of future generations, or adapt to a world in which more of our shorelines are significantly redrawn.

This is both a scientific and societal issue. We have choices: technological innovations are providing new ways to reduce CO₂ emissions, and offer the reality of a low-carbon future. This may help minimise sea level rise from Antarctica and make mitigation a viable possibility.

Given what rising sea levels could mean for human societies across the world, we must maintain our longstanding view of Antarctica as the most remote and isolated continent.

[Chris Fogwill is Professor of Glaciology and Palaeoclimatology, Keele University; Chris Turney is Professor of Earth Sciences and Climate Change, UNSW; Zoe Robinson is Reader in Physical Geography and Sustainability/Director of Education for Sustainability, Keele University]

Soil Health Day observed in Darj

SUMMIT REPORT
DARJEELING, 05 DEC: Darjeeling Krishi Vigyan Kendra observed World Soil Health Day at its campus today. The programme was organised to make people, especially farmers, aware of the importance of soil testing and how to manage good soil health. The program was attended by Kalimpong MLA, Sarita Rai. Farmers from different parts of the district participated in the programme. Soil health cards were handed over to farmers on the day. Also on the occasion, Darjeeling KVK released a movie and a leaflet on soil collection techniques.

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Mizoram govt reschedules repatriation of Bru families

AIZAWL, DEC 5 (PTI): Mizoram government has re-scheduled the proposed repatriation of over 5,000 Bru families from six relief camps in Tripura to March next year, a senior state Home department official today said. The official said that as per the earlier schedule, it was proposed that the repatriation would begin from December first week, but it was deferred to March as the Union Ministry of Home Affairs failed to release funds meant for the exercise. He said the proposal to commence the repatriation from March, 2018 would be implemented on time only if the Centre releases the fund for expenses to be incurred in the repatriation process. The state government had submitted a revised estimate for the expenses for repatriation to the tune of Rs 123 crore. The Mizoram government officials who conducted the identification in the Tripura relief camps during Novem-



ber 2 to November 23 this year, identified 32,857 people belonging to 5,413 families as bona fide residents of Mizoram and to be repatriated. The proposed physical repatriation scheduled to commence from November 30 could, however, not take off due to different reasons including increase in the number of bona fide residents of Mizoram from 21,000 to 32,857, necessitating revision of the expenditure estimate. Thousands of Brus fled Mizoram and migrated to Tripura after Bru militants gunned down a forest guard inside the Dampa Tiger Re-

serve on October 21, 1997. The first effort to repatriate them in November 16, 2009 not only fizzled out due to the murder of a Mizo youth by Bru militants near Tripura border Bungthum village three days before the commencement of the repatriation, but triggered another wave of exodus. Even as a number of families have returned to Mizoram during the government-sponsored repatriation process as also on their own will, thousands of them remained in the Tripura relief camps making several fresh demands and conditions for their return.

If there is land, second airport near Kolkata can come up: Raju

KOLKATA, DEC 5 (PTI): Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju today said if land was available, a second airport near Kolkata was a possibility. "Kolkata needs an alternative airport. If the West Bengal government gets a land, it can happen," he said during a media interaction here. Currently, the city has one airport -- the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport at Dum Dum on the suburbs. Raju said land was a state subject and that a huge land was needed for an airport. The Dum Dum airport is expected to reach a saturation point soon, given the way it is growing in terms of air traffic. Asked about the greenfield airport at Andal near Durgapur, Raju said its future depended on whether the airlines wanted to use it. Regarding the Centre's regional connectivity scheme, UDAN (Ude Desh-ka Aam Nagrik), he said



more airports would become active with the start of the scheduled flight operations after the second round of auctions. The minister had, last month, said the second round of bidding had drawn a "very good response" and that 17 players had come up with initial proposals. As many as 141 initial propos-

Manipur: sexual relation now main reason for HIV transmission

IMPHAL, DEC 5 (PTI): Sexual contact has now become the primary cause for transmission of HIV/AIDS virus in Manipur. A 2016-17 survey by the Manipur AIDS Control Society (MACS) said the virus is now transmitted through sexual relationship in 78 per cent of HIV/AIDS transmission cases in the state. While 15 per cent are due to sharing of syringes, the remaining 7 per cent are attributed to parent-to-child transmission, the survey said. "Penetration of HIV/AIDS into the general populace has changed to sexual route over the last 10 years unlike earlier when the virus used to

spread through sharing of syringes among injecting drug users," MACS Project Director Valentina Arambam told PTI. The state has 24,457 HIV/AIDS affected individuals till August 2017. Arambam attributed the increase of HIV/AIDS cases through sexual route to social stigma and fear of rejection by affected children born to AIDS-infected parents. HIV/AIDS in Manipur peaked during the late '90s and the early years of this century and a number of children born at that time are now adults and sexually active. Such men or women do not reveal to their partners that they are

HIV affected due to fear of rejection and the virus spreads, Arambam said. Transmission of the disease through sharing of syringe is declining now because of intense campaign, she said adding that efforts are on to contain HIV/AIDS in the state. "Manipur which once topped all the eight North Eastern states (including Sikkim) in terms of the number of HIV/AIDS affected patients is now occupying the fifth position," Arambam said. Three most affected districts are Chandel, Ukhrul and Senapati and the National AIDS Control Organisation intends to launch an epidemiological investigation in those places.

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Assam govt mulls recruiting 4,500 differently-abled persons

GUWAHATI, DEC 5 (PTI): Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today directed the Social Welfare Department to finalize the selection criterion for filling up of nearly 4,500 posts reserved for differently-abled persons. According to an official release, Sonowal insisted on clearing all vacancies backlog of differently-abled persons in various government departments within December 20. While chairing a meeting with representatives of associations of differently-abled persons, he said that all backlog vacancies be filled up through a special recruitment drive. "Presently, there are around 4,419 vacant posts under PH category in different government departments and the number may go up as assessment of few other departments is still going on," the statement said. Sonowal directed the Social Welfare Department to draw up a recruitment framework in consultation with the associations of differently-abled. The Chief Minister further asked the Social Welfare Department to prepare a calendar for all the other government departments outlining the selection process for simultaneous recruitment throughout the state. The representatives of the associations requested the Chief Minister to take steps for construction of a Rest House for different-abled persons in Guwahati. Sonowal agreed to the demand and directed the Social Welfare Department to identify suitable land for the same.

Antheysthi Kriya
The Antheysthi Kriya of **Late Ram Bahadur Rai** who left for his heavenly abode on 02/12/2017 falls on **09/12/2017 (Saturday)**. All friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for departed soul at Ranka, Zero Mile, East Sikkim.
*Kamla Rai (wife),
Pravin Rai & Sushant Rai (sons)
Ph. 8759347021, 9733053324*

SummitTIMES ON TOP OF THE NEWS informed, inquisitive, relevant

Caste politics rule the roost in Gujarat polls

PRASHANT THAKOR

AHMEDABAD, DEC 5 (PTI): The caste factor is likely to remain at the core of Gujarat Assembly polls following the emergence of caste-based movements, with major parties distributing tickets accordingly.

Both the BJP and Congress have kept the caste arithmetic in mind while given tickets for polls. The Patidars and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) have been given maximum tickets by both the main parties.

The BJP has nominated 50 Patidars this time, while the Congress has fielded 41 candidates from the community.

The ruling party has fielded 58 OBCs while the Congress has 62 such nominees.

The main opposition party has given tickets to 14 Dalits while the BJP has fielded 13.

As per political pundits, this Assembly poll will be a battle to win that "extra four to five per cent vote share".

The BJP cannot afford to lose that while the Congress is trying its best to attract the castes which are 'angry' and can fill in that gap in the vote share.

According to political analyst Achyut Yagnik, a mere swing of about four to five per cent would prove to be game changer for Congress.

However, he believes that though there is some possibility the Congress may win some additional seats this time, it is too early to predict that it would come to power despite the support extended by caste leaders - Hardik Patel, Alpesh Thakor and Jignesh Mevani.

"If you look at the vote share in the elections of 2002, 2007 and 2012, Congress bagged around 40 per cent while BJP got 49 per cent each time. Now, even a slight swing four to five per cent would significantly benefit Congress," Yagnik said.

He said "the caste factor is still at the core of Gujarat's politics and tickets are also distributed accordingly."

Since the last two decades, the BJP was enjoying support of the Patidars, be it urban or rural voters. But caste equations seem to have changed after Hardik Patel's agitation demanding reservation for Patidars, which triggered the rise of a counter agitation by OBC leader Alpesh Thakor.

When the BJP government was busy placating them, Jignesh Mevani took up the cause of Dalits after the Una flogging incident and started agitating against the ruling party.

While Thakor has already joined the Congress, Patel and Mevani moved closer to the opposition party and appealed to their



respective communities not to vote for the BJP.

As per a rough estimate, the Patidars account for 11 to 12 per cent of Gujarat's six crore population. Though scattered across many sub-communities, the OBC population, including the influential Thakors in north and Kolis in central Gujarat and Saurashtra, account for around 40 per cent.

The BJP is fighting on all the 182 Assembly seats while the Congress has not fielded its candidates on six seats - five which were given to the Bharatiya Tribal Party and one seat where Mevani is contesting as an Independent.

Political analyst Ghanshyam

Shah feels the Congress has an upper hand at the moment.

However, he says, it will be premature to think that the entire Patidar community or the OBCs would vote for the opposition party.

"Ultimately, Hardik and Alpesh are leading an individual fight in some way. Though they have extended their support to the Congress, we should not conclude that all the votes of Patidars and OBCs would go the party," Shah said.

"However, looking at the current dynamics, the Congress is having an upper hand in comparison to the 2012 Assembly polls," he said.

Though the Congress has in-

directly supported Mevani by not fielding any candidate against him on Vadgam(SC) seat, Shah claimed that the Dalit vote swing would not leave any impact due to the marginal population.

"Dalits are scattered. They are only seven per cent of Gujarat's population. Even in reserved seats, they account for only 10 to 11 per cent," he said.

Another political analyst Hari Desai feels it will be a challenge for the BJP to retain its loyal vote bank of Patidars. However, he admits that Patels are not opening their cards despite being persuaded by Hardik Patel.

"We can not conclude that all the Patidars would vote as per Hardik's appeal, because, those who are party workers and loyal, will ultimately go for BJP. But, it is clear that their loyal vote bank is drifting away after Hardik's agitation," he said.

Citing the vote share data, Desai claimed that a minor swing in the loyal vote bank of BJP would prove to be a windfall gain for the Congress.

This time, the Congress has fielded six Muslims while the BJP has not nominated anyone from the community.

According to the Election Com-

mission of India's data on the 2012 Gujarat polls, the BJP then received 47.85 per cent of the valid votes, while the Congress garnered 38.93 per cent votes - a difference of 8.92 per cent between the two parties.

While the Congress is elated to see the new caste dynamics coming to its rescue, the BJP still believes that no one is leaving its ship.

"People from all communities, including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are coming to Congress with a hope that we will bring a solution to their problems. We firmly believe that Congress will form the government this time," Congress spokesperson Manish Doshi said.

However, the BJP feels this is not going to happen.

"These new caste equations will not leave any impact," Gujarat BJP spokesperson Bharat Pandya said.

"It is a fact that when a social movement turns political, it loses its credibility. The same is happening with Hardik, Alpesh and Mevani. Gujarat never accepts people who talk negative," he said.

Gujarat will vote in two phases - on December 9 and 14 - to elect a new 182-member Assembly. The counting of votes will take place on December 18.

Gurpreet suspended for two matches for "violent conduct"

NEW DELHI, DEC 5 (PTI): India's number one and Bengaluru FC goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu has been handed a two-match suspension and a fine of Rs 3 lakh by the Indian Super League for his "violent conduct" during his side's away match against FC Goa last week.

Gurpreet had a clash with Manuel Lanzarote Bruno, whom he shoved on the head from behind after the FC Goa player pushed him. The referee gave Gurpreet the marching orders while also awarding a penalty to FC Goa in the first half.

Bengaluru FC lost the match 3-4 at the Nehru Stadium at Maragao on November 30.

"Bengaluru FC player, Jersey No. 1 Gurpreet Singh Sandhu has been handed a two-match suspension and fine of INR 3 Lakhs with immediate effect for the Hero Indian Super League 2017-18 season," the ISL said in a statement.



"AIFF Disciplinary Committee today announced the decision on the breach of AIFF Disciplinary Code Article 49 (misconduct against opponents or person other than match officials), based on the Referee's report of violent conduct by Gurpreet Singh Sandhu in Hero ISL Match No. 12 played between FC Goa and Bengaluru FC on 30 November 2017 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Goa," the statement added.

The ISL said the fine should be

deposited to the All India Football Federation within 10 days from the date of communication of this decision and until such payment, the match suspension will continue, over and above the two-match suspension.

Gurpreet will sit out of Bengaluru FC's two upcoming away games, against NorthEast United FC (on December 8 in Guwahati) and FC Pune City (on December 14 in Pune).

JK women's football team nets a goal, led by stone-thrower-turned goalie

NEW DELHI, DEC 5 (PTI):

As a disgruntled student, Afshan Ashiq led other girls in throwing stones at the police on Srinagar streets. Today, the poster girl of stone throwers is the captain of Jammu and Kashmir's women's football team -- a dream transformation that also speaks of the government's success in winning the hearts of Kashmiris.

The 21-year-old Ashiq walked across the lawns of the residence of Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today, saying she does not want to "look back."

"My life has changed forever. I want to be an achiever and do something to make the state and the nation proud," said Ashiq, whose life story may soon be turned into a biopic.

A renowned Bollywood filmmaker, who for now wishes to remain anonymous, plans to make a film on the tall Ashiq, her team's goalkeeper who is studying for her B.A. in Srinagar.

She led her 22-mem-



ber football team that called on Singh, along with three officials. Ashiq said she was pleasantly surprised to see how he wasted no time in redressing their grievances over the lack of sports-related infrastructure in the state.

"When we told the home minister that Jammu and Kashmir lacks sports infrastructure, he immediately called up the Chief Minister (Mehbooba Mufti) and requested her to do the needful to help us," Ashiq, who is from Srinagar, said.

Ashiq, who defends the 24-foot-long and 8-foot-high goal post for her team, said the youth in Kashmir Valley was talented and all that they

required was a platform.

"The minister also told us that Rs 100 crore had already been sanctioned (under the Prime Minister's special package) for the state," the captain of the CM s-XI team told PTI.

She agrees that her life and career had made a remarkable U-turn since the days when her picture was splashed in the national media as a stone pelted.

The same hands that threw stones at the forces now ward off many a hard kick as she guards the goalpost.

During the 30-minute meeting with Singh, the team members conveyed to him that if proper infrastructure -- such as

training facilities -- came up in Jammu and Kashmir, the youth could be motivated to hone their talents and bring laurels to the state, staying away from terrorism and other unlawful activities.

Team manager Tsering Angmo said the sports infrastructure in the border areas was particularly poor and needed urgent attention so that young Kashmiris could be weaned away from illicit acts.

"With proper infrastructure in place, the youth can take up sports to nourish their talents and no one can brainwash anyone. No one will join terrorism or indulge in stone pelting," Angmo, who is from Ladakh, said.

Ashiq and Angmo thanked Singh for listening to them and for speaking to the chief minister about their problems. Later, the home minister tweeted, "Met the young and energetic girls of JK's first ever Women Football Team. They are highly motivated and driven when it comes to football."

How Shashi Kapoor got his name!

NEW DELHI, DEC 5 (PTI): Do you know how Shashi Kapoor got his name? Kapoor was born as Balbir Raj but his mother did not like the name and began calling him Shashi - or moonbeam - since he was obsessed with the moon and spent long hours watching it.

Shashi Kapoor was born to Prithviraj Kapoor and Ramsarni Kapoor on March 18, 1938 in then Calcutta. He was given the name Balbir Raj - in keeping with the Kapoor family tradition of adopting the word 'Raj' (or 'king') in its many variations.

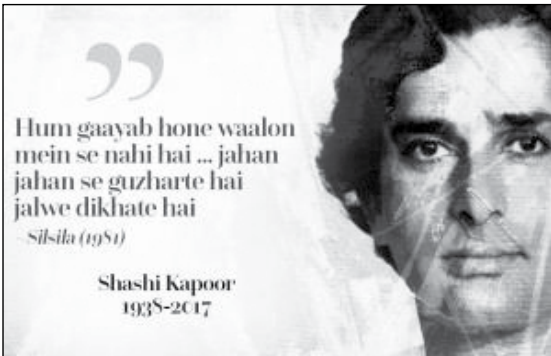
But Ramsarni was less than happy with the name Balbir and thus changed it to Shashi.

This nugget of information extracted from the book "Shashi Kapoor: The Householder, The Star", written by Aseem Chhabra and published by Rupa Publications last year.

Shashi Kapoor died in Mumbai yesterday at the age of 79 due to a kidney problem.

The book also says how Raj Kapoor used to call his brother 'taxi'. Raj Kapoor used the word 'taxi' to describe his brother when he was desperately trying to get dates from Shashi for "Satyam Shivam Sundaram".

While actors were queueing up to play the lead role in the film, Raj strongly felt that only Shashi could play his younger self in this somewhat autobiographical tale. So he looked at his brother's schedule and



coolly appropriated all the dates he had given other filmmakers.

His frenetic lifestyle, which made a car his semi-permanent address, led to the nickname, "taxi," the book says.

According to Chhabra, Jennifer Kendal Kapoor maintained a strict watch over her husband's diet when she was alive.

"This is the reason why, unlike the other Kapoor men, Shashi Kapoor stayed slim for the longest time. It was also why a lot of those around Shashi would feel sorry for him," he writes.

"I remember, when I worked with him, I would look at his food and say, 'What's wrong with you, Shashi Uncle?'" he quotes Neetu Singh Kapoor as telling him.

"One orange he would have and thoda sa dahi (a little bit of yogurt). That was his lunch. And he

would say, 'My wife will kill me if I eat anything more!'"

Chhabra says the early works of the 1960s and 1970s established Shashi Kapoor as a star of Hindi cinema, and then, several key films formed a part of his legacy.

"There is no actual count of how many movies he acted in.

Many - such as 'Sammy and Rosie Get Laid', 'Jinnah' and 'Side Streets' - never got theatre releases in India, and a few - such as 'Siddhartha' and 'Heat and Dust' - have been forgotten today.

But the landmark films - 'Deewaar', 'Kabhi Kabhie', 'Junoon', 'Kalyug', and even one of his first works, 'Dharmputra' - are still part of Hindi film history, and are definitely worth revisiting, if only to find the terrific, nuanced actor lurking inside that very attractive man!" he says.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

LABHLAXMI TAURUS

Draw No:1 DrawDate on:05/12/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 3164
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 3376 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 5548
4th Prize Rs.300/- 3740 5th Prize Rs. 201/- 4903
6th Prize Rs.100/-
1015 1054 1073 1094 1098 1129 1148 1177 1207 1302
1307 1319 1371 1384 1421 1426 1438 1518 1519 1532
1554 1614 1627 1628 1633 1641 1703 1713 1809 1819
1831 1860 1957 1960 1994 2033 2086 2087 2106 2139
2173 2180 2190 2230 2263 2279 2283 2298 2360 2371
2372 2434 2448 2483 2494 2495 2511 2519 2522 2538
2542 2552 2577 2579 2594 2618 2620 2635 2665 2681
2689 2711 2738 2748 2795 2810 2856 2878 2887 2985
2996 3002 3062 3110 3134 3143 3171 3210 3220 3254
3279 3351 3387 3405 3414 3415 3426 3451 3548 3554
3562 3643 3656 3657 3703 3735 3791 3840 3886 3893
3902 3917 3930 3957 3975 4008 4016 4019 4053 4068
4071 4082 4145 4146 4151 4182 4213 4222 4254 4292
4301 4310 4333 4348 4367 4381 4432 4437 4446 4474
4502 4539 4543 4590 4602 4605 4617 4651 4691 4764
4768 4858 4897 4900 4971 4999 5028 5031 5063 5110
5146 5168 5182 5194 5208 5260 5317 5353 5371 5372
5374 5379 5460 5462 5489 5498 5530 5537 5546 5562
5563 5591 5599 5605 5616 5624 5633 5673 5773 5781
5807 5811 5848 5857 5880 5893 5905 5921 5975 5997
6026 6055 6083 6088 6097 6101 6118 6140 6179 6241
6243 6257 6297 6301 6341 6347 6391 6470 6508 6539
6542 6543 6563 6568 6589 6615 6628 6642 6677 6687
6695 6721 6728 6750 6804 6806 6870 6879 6882 6966

MUMBAILAXMI LAXMAN

Draw No:1 DrawDate on:05/12/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5195 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 4866
3rd Prize Rs.1,000/- 1650 4th Prize Rs.501/- 1775
5th Prize Rs.220/-
1019 1024 1055 1069 1072 1075 1086 1093 1096 1122
1142 1162 1184 1197 1200 1213 1271 1273 1342 1383
1473 1480 1528 1560 1602 1607 1617 1655 1664 1682
1700 1709 1717 1738 1740 1756 1865 1869 1872 1921
1935 1985 2006 2031 2034 2036 2040 2054 2063 2091
2094 2106 2108 2121 2155 2171 2187 2207 2210 2228
2250 2281 2289 2307 2318 2324 2341 2350 2365 2376
2408 2422 2436 2443 2463 2480 2487 2492 2550 2552
2558 2583 2617 2625 2628 2630 2682 2686 2795 2826
2834 2845 2917 2948 3002 3039 3075 3090 3122 3140
3149 3168 3352 3384 3469 3526 3532 3578 3663 3699
3704 3768 3771 3785 3821 3834 3869 3885 3924 3960
3980 4086 4111 4121 4185 4277 4278 4283 4308 4318
4334 4336 4400 4410 4413 4425 4476 4480 4487 4507
4523 4621 4653 4693 4711 4721 4758 4761 4791 4817
4821 4826 4833 4852 4879 4881 4921 4926 4927 4928
4938 4941 4952 4974 4986 5001 5083 5090 5112 5117
5320 5345 5351 5493 5529 5536 5618 5626 5636 5641
5669 5693 5699 5721 5743 5750 5761 5785 5809 5810
5844 5845 5855 5911 5916 5936 5956 5957 5962 5970

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

India's influence stops countries from raising Kashmir issue

WASHINGTON, DEC 5 (PTI): India's growing influence and economic power have enabled it impose a "gag order" on Kashmir with western countries being unwilling to raise the issue at the international level, including in the UN, 'president' of the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir has claimed.

Masood Khan, a former Pakistani Ambassador to the United Nations, is currently here for what he described as part of his effort to apprise the international community about the current situation in Kashmir. He said India had veto on the talks between the two South Asian neighbours. "India has strategic alliances with certain countries.

Because of the lucrative deals that it offers to powerful countries in the West, it has practically imposed a gag order on Kashmir," Khan claimed yesterday at the thinly-attended Atlantic Council, a top American think-tank.

He alleged that because of India's increasing influence, "people here (in Washington DC), in Brussels, in London or other world capitals don't talk about Kashmir, because this would have consequences for these countries, like in terms of economic transactions, and strategic costs".

UN envoy arrives in North Korea as nuclear tensions soar

BEIJING, DEC 5 (AFP): A senior United Nations official arrived in North Korea today for a rare visit aimed at defusing soaring tensions over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons programme.

Jeffrey Feltman's visit - the first by a UN diplomat of his rank since 2010 - comes less than a week after North Korea said it test-fired a new ballistic missile capable of reaching the United States.

Feltman shook hands with a North Korean foreign ministry official after flying into Pyongyang from Beijing on the North's Air Koryo.

His trip comes a day after the United States and South Korea launched their biggest-ever joint air exercise - maneuvers slammed by Pyongyang as an "all-out provocation".

The five-day Vigilant Ace drill involves 230 aircraft, including F-22 Raptor stealth jet fighters, and tens of thousands of



troops, Seoul's air force said.

Feltman, the UN's under secretary general for political affairs, arrived in China on Monday as Beijing is one of the few transit points to North Korea in the world.

He met with a Chinese vice foreign minister while there. China, which is Pyongyang's sole major diplomatic and military ally, has called on the United States to freeze

military drills and North Korea to halt weapons tests to calm tensions.

In the North, Feltman will discuss "issues of mutual interest and concern" with officials, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said, adding he was unable to say whether the envoy will meet the reclusive state's leader Kim Jong-Un.

"The first step - that North Korea agreed to have (Feltman) visit - is

a positive sign," Wang Dong, an international studies professor at Peking University, told AFP.

"If the diplomatic effort is successful, then they will certainly be able to exercise some persuasion. It will be Feltman's first visit to North Korea since he took office five years ago.

"After declaring that the country has achieved full nuclear statehood, the North is likely to re-

affirm to the UN envoy its promise that... it will use its nuclear weapons only for defence purposes," Koh Yu-Hwan, a professor at Dongguk University in Seoul, told AFP.

The UN Security Council has hit the isolated and impoverished North with a package of sanctions over its increasingly powerful missile and nuclear tests, which have rattled Washington and its regional allies South Korea and Japan.

Pyongyang ramped up already high tensions on the Korean Peninsula five days ago when it announced it had successfully test-fired a new ICBM, which it says brings the whole of the continental United States within range.

Analysts say it is unclear whether the missile survived re-entry into the earth's atmosphere or could successfully deliver a warhead to its target -- key technology

hurdles for Pyongyang. A Cathay Pacific crew flying from San Francisco to Hong Kong said they spotted what they believed was the missile, with one airline official saying the crew described seeing it "blow up and fall apart".

In recent years, Pyongyang has accelerated its drive to bring together nuclear and missile technology capable of threatening the US, which it accuses of hostility. US President Donald Trump has engaged in months of tit-for-tat rhetoric with Kim, pejoratively dubbing him "Little Rocket Man" and a "sick puppy".

In a new editorial today, North Korean state media blasted the joint US-South Korean drills as going "beyond the danger line" adding the two allies were like "a group of tiger moths flying into fire only to perish in it".

As well as featuring the latest generation

of stealth fighters, this year's war games involve simulated precision attacks on the North's military installations, including its missile launch sites and artillery units, Yonhap news agency said, citing unnamed Seoul sources.

Over the weekend Trump's National Security Adviser HR McMaster told a security forum that the potential for war with the North "is increasing every day".

But some Trump advisers say US military options are limited when Pyongyang could launch an artillery barrage on the South Korean capital - only around 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the heavily-fortified border and home to 10 million people.

China's foreign ministry today said it "welcomes the UN to play a constructive role in properly settling the Korean peninsula nuclear issue".

Yemen ex-president killed as fighting shakes capital

SANAA, DEC 5 (AFP): Yemen's ex-president Ali Abdullah Saleh was killed on 04 Dec as fighting raged between his forces and Iran-backed rebels, the insurgents and his party said, following the dramatic collapse of their anti-government alliance. Saleh, who ruled Yemen with an iron fist for three decades until 2012, had joined forces with the Shiite Huthi rebels three years ago when they took control of large parts of the Arabian Peninsula.



insula country including the capital Sanaa.

But that alliance unravelled over the last week, with heavy fighting across the capital, and Saleh was reportedly shot dead by Huthi fighters after he fled the city.

His death could mark a major turning point in a conflict that has left thousands dead, led to one of the world's worst humanitarian crises and deepened tensions between Middle East rivals

Saudi Arabia and Iran.

President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi, the head of Yemen's internationally recognised government, moved to take advantage of the chaos by ordering an offensive to retake the capital.

The Saudi-led military coalition backing Hadi's government carried out a wave of air strikes on the capital and warned residents to evacuate areas under rebel control.

Supreme Court allows Trump's travel ban to take full effect

WASHINGTON, DEC 5 (PTI): In a major triumph for US President Donald Trump, the Supreme Court has backed his controversial travel ban targeting people from six Muslim-majority countries, asserting that its immediate enforcement can go into full effect pending appeal.

The travel ban is the third version of a contentious policy that Trump first sought to implement a week after taking office in January.

As a result of the yesterday's ruling by the Supreme Court's, Trump's travel ban, which restricts travel to the US by people from Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia and Chad without bona fide connections to America, can take full effect while legal challenges proceed.

Seven of the nine judges lifted restrictions on the travel ban imposed by other courts earlier. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Justice Sonia Sotomayor said they would have denied the government's request.

The court gave no reason for its decision,

but said it expected lower court review of the executive orders to proceed quickly.

"Multiple government agencies have conducted a comprehensive, worldwide review of the information shared by foreign governments that is used to screen aliens seeking entry to the US," US Solicitor General Noel Francisco argued in court papers.

"We are not surprised by today's Supreme Court decision permitting immediate enforcement of the President's proclamation limiting travel from countries presenting heightened risks of terrorism," White House spokesman Hogan Gidley said after the order.

Trump's travel ban was challenged by Hawaii and American Civil Liberties Union in separate lawsuits. They argued that such a ban discriminated against Muslims.

"It is difficult to conceive of a more flagrant example of discrimination because of nationality," said Indian-American attorney Neal Katyal, who appeared for Hawaii.

New York Immigration Coalition Executive Director Steven Choi said it was entirely unacceptable and un-American to discriminate against people based on race or religion.

"Allowing the full enforcement of the Muslim ban will not make this country safer or greater. Nearly a year after we rallied at JFK in response to the first Muslim ban, we will continue to fight Trump's plan to turn bigotry into policy and resist this latest assault on our liberties just as we have every day since Trump took office," Choi said.

Michael S Glassner, executive director of Donald J Trump for President campaign committee, welcomed the decision.

"From June 16, 2015 to this day, President Trump's immigration policies have always been about one thing: keeping Americans safe from people who seek to do us harm and attack our freedoms," he said.

"As promised, the President directed his administration to conduct a thorough

and appropriate review of immigration vetting procedures, in place under the previous administration, to ensure that terrorist attacks do not occur on American soil," he said.

"Now that the Supreme Court has ordered the lifting of restrictions on this ban, minimum security standards for entry into the US can be enforced," he added.

All Americans should take heart that President Trump is fully committed to Making America Safe Again, and will continue the fight to ensure their safety no matter what, Glassner said.

Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, said that it was unfortunate that the full ban can move forward for now.

"This order does not address the merits of our claims. We continue to stand for freedom, equality, and for those who are unfairly being separated from their loved ones. We will be arguing Friday in the Fourth Circuit that the ban should ultimately be struck down," Jadwat said.



The Supreme Court has ruled that President Trump's immigration travel ban against six majority-Muslim countries can take full effect while legal challenges against the latest version are still tied up in courts. The high court's identical orders in two challenges to the ban mean that most travelers from Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia and Chad cannot enter the United States while the cases proceed.

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Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards

Draw No:1 DrawDate on:05/12/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 99G 44077

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 44077 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

29519 35237 49344 60504 61878

63950 78721 91920 93328 95502

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 2403 2426 4038 4684 5451 6164 7031 7812 8720 9139

4th Prize Rs.250/- 4010 4708 4816 5146 6382 6552 6767 7659 8169 9126

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0147 0183 0190 0359 0531 0852 0869 0872 0887 1009

1010 1051 1270 1331 1405 1689 1919 2048 2054 2109

2439 2453 2594 2614 2674 2687 2738 2847 2861 2979

3023 3074 3556 3584 3616 3617 3677 3710 3739 3999

4049 4061 4149 4153 4399 4430 4432 4484 4545 4559

4936 4975 5028 5089 5212 5325 5379 5412 5701 5722

5781 6056 6270 6286 6318 6575 6656 6847 6870 6895

6932 7019 7229 7369 7510 7620 7695 7754 7823 7883

8278 8283 8422 8503 9022 9023 9032 9229 9269 9285

9347 9415 9446 9513 9565 9582 9678 9764 9771 9948

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR LOVED

Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards

Draw No:1 DrawDate on:05/12/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 85G 79008

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 79008 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

10044 12681 12922 36302 52701

60850 69725 76500 87426 88183

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 3350 3581 3599 4092 4755 5092 5545 6569 7207 7326

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0245 1818 2976 2983 4315 5051 5352 5627 6155 6798

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0014 0082 0176 0553 0666 0668 0702 0729 0778 0864

0959 1153 1211 1378 1408 1496 1595 1922 2111 2206

2222 2338 2685 2856 2940 3023 3030 3059 3060 3360

3656 3722 3856 3903 3914 4182 4403 4479 4650 4773

4811 5022 5112 5123 5132 5152 5337 5342 5363 5559

5603 5642 5657 5667 5848 5865 5873 6006 6143 6144

6157 6195 6216 6232 6336 6402 6430 6447 6519 6629

6649 6701 6907 7009 7171 7271 7357 7484 7499 7611

7742 7758 7804 7889 8116 8157 8312 8369 8554 8562

8992 9081 9445 9495 9508 9577 9694 9738 9802 9858

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR PARROT EVENING

Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards

Draw No:19 DrawDate on:05/12/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 99E 56507

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 56507 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

03177 36395 39864 51603 52948

66579 70625 74515 81446 88575

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0328 0466 1028 3868 4618 5314 7176 7506 7634 8600

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0746 3607 4696 4900 5117 6023 6933 7479 8183 9823

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0017 0035 0078 0279 0293 0310 0317 0327 0353 0360

0463 0593 0644 0734 0742 0868 0928 0976 1021 1277

1322 1354 1431 1562 1646 2052 2060 2169 2302 2615

2809 2916 2928 2990 3083 3215 3452 3531 3550 3557

3839 3984 4043 4082 4097 4202 4263 4500 4615 4663

4783 4894 5019 5034 5144 5288 5516 5703 5989 6041

6103 6202 6430 6540 6556 6810 6828 6857 6950 7021

7053 7061 7257 7283 7377 7380 7563 7645 7663 7713

7899 8367 8520 8577 8723 8788 8834 8866 8942 9163

9169 9196 9323 9412 9504 9540 9642 9811 9843 9863

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE



STUNNER IN ORANGE: Supermodel Karlie Kloss strikes a pose in a creation by Vivienne Westwood at Fashion Awards 2017 in London.

BOXOFFICECLASH

ITS RAJINIKANTH'S 2.0 VS AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR FOR APRIL 2018



Shankar's 2.0 has been a long time coming. The film, which was originally set to arrive in cinemas this year on Diwali, was later pushed to a December 2017 debut. It was once again moved a month further to January, in order to allow more time for post-production. After too much rescheduling, the Rajinikanth-Akshay Kumar starrer now has an official releasing date all ready for April 2018.

In a letter issued to the media, Lyca Productions announced that the release date of the 3D sci-fi film, which is touted as the most expensive film not just in India, but across Asia, has been pushed further. The movie, which also features Amy Jackson, is currently in post production. The Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman has scored the music for the project, which is a sequel to 2010 blockbuster Enthiran.

Made on a budget of over Rs 400 crore, 2.0 is Shankar's most ambitious project. It is the first Indian film that's completely shot in 3D and will release in 3D formats in Tamil, Telugu

and Hindi. The film's trailer will be released on December 12, Rajinikanth's birthday.

On the other hand, Marvel's Avengers: Infinity War is here to create havoc. The film's trailer has hit 35 million views in less than 24 hours. Marvel Studio dropped the official trailer on Nov. 29. The first footage showed superhero team-ups — the Avengers, the Guardians of the Galaxy, and almost every other major Marvel hero — joining forces to take on Thanos (Josh Brolin), who is trying to collect the Infinity Stones.

The movie picks up four years after the events of "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2." The ensemble cast includes Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man, Brolin as Thanos, Mark Ruffalo as the Hulk, Tom Hiddleston as Loki, Chris Evans as Captain America, Chris Hemsworth as Thor, and Chris Pratt as Peter Quill/Star-Lord.

Avengers will hit the screens on May 4, 2018, in the USA but will release in India a week earlier that is on the 27th of April.

ARIES: A long-term dream toward which you've been working for a long time, could finally show signs of coming true. You're feeling especially energetic and enthusiastic now, so you might feel motivated to give it one last push to finally make your dream reality. You'll probably go out with friends or members of a group you belong to and celebrate tonight.

TAURUS: Congratulations to you! Career progress is in the wind! If you've wanted to create a dream career, you'll be able to do so today. If you've been hoping to start your own business, don't wait another moment. The next year should be a successful and profitable one

for you, although not without its surprises.

GEMINI: A business opportunity in a distant state or even foreign country could be in the works. It could require a lot of travel or perhaps even relocation. You may have mixed feelings about it, but you're unlikely to turn it down. This could be a real break! Your health over the next year should be robust and glowing, and you'll have the energy to take on any project you want.

CANCER: A chance to increase your income could come your way. This could involve extra work or investments. Investments involving land or other real estate could be especially profitable now. There

could also be contracts or legal papers involved that bring money your way, so be prepared. The end of this year should see you more financially secure than you were at the beginning.

LEO: A partnership that may have been moving steadily forward might seem stalled in its tracks. This could involve either business or romance. This isn't a good time to try to pressure your partner toward progress. You'll only meet stubborn resistance, which will slow things down even more. Be patient and let things progress in their own time.

VIRGO: You should be at your peak of health. Physically, you feel

strong and energetic. You're in the physical and mental space to accomplish wonders, so don't be surprised if today you do just that. This could bring you the promise of a brighter future in the creative, professional, and financial domains.

LIBRA: The result of a creative innovation you've been working on should make itself apparent today. You'll be pleasantly surprised! Your ingenuity should pay off big, and your accomplishments won't go unnoticed. You're likely to enjoy positive feedback, recognition, and bright prospects for the future development of your ideas. In the evening, go out and have a good time.

SCORPIO: The opportunity to run a business out of your home could arise today, perhaps involving a metaphysical subject. Don't be surprised if it takes off right away. Friends or past business associates may want to be involved. This is worthy of serious consideration. Benefits through the efforts of others are strongly indicated now. Be prepared for a great future, and start enjoying it now!

SAGITTARIUS: A neighbor might be having a hard time and need some extra support now. A new business could open up in your neighborhood that in some way opens doors for you. It could be a new employment opportunity or it

could mean a more efficient way of operating in your current profession. Don't be surprised if you spend a lot of time driving around today.

CAPRICORN: As career and money matters continue to advance for you, more ideas and opportunities for expanding your horizons could come to you. You may have a hard time deciding which ones are most practical now. It may help to make a list and then judge which ones you want to use. Expect a lot of action and many changes, particularly regarding business possibilities.

AQUARIUS: Your energy and enthusiasm are at an all-time high. Your life, business, and money

matters are going very well, and there are no signs that this will change any time soon. Romance should also be going very well. This should be doing wonders for your self-image. Whatever you've been doing, keep it up! You've got a lot to look forward to.

PISCES: Tension between you and a business partner could have you doubting your professional future in the current situation. Don't waste too much time worrying about it. You may not be aware of it now, but career and money matters are going well and are likely to continue like this for a while. Of course, that depends on you and what you're willing to do to keep it going.

K-TOWN

BTS EARNS HIGHEST-CHARTING & FIRST TOP 40 HOT 100 HIT FOR A K-POP GROUP WITH 'MIC DROP'



The song, featuring Designer, debuts at No. 28, besting BTS' first Hot 100 entry, the No. 67-peaking "DNA."

BTS breaks its own record for the highest-charting entry on the Billboard Hot 100 songs chart for a K-pop group, as "MIC Drop," featuring Designer (and remixed by Steve Aoki), debuts at No. 28. It marks the K-pop kings' first top 40 Hot 100 entry and the first for any K-pop group.

The track claims the honor of highest-charting Hot 100 hit by a K-pop group from BTS' first (and only other) Hot 100 entry, "DNA," which reached No. 67 on the chart dated Oct. 14.

The seven-member South Korean boy band's new mostly Korean language sin-

gle launches with 9.8 million first-week U.S. streams and 45,000 downloads sold, according to Nielsen Music. (The Hot 100 blends streaming, sales and radio airplay data.)

Only one other K-pop act has charted higher than BTS on the Hot 100: South Korean rapper/singer PSY, led by his smash "Gangnam Style," which peaked at No. 2 for seven weeks in 2012. He added the No. 5 hit "Gentleman" in 2013 and the No. 26-peaking "Hangover" in 2014.

Helping spark first-week chart action for "MIC Drop," BTS performed the song on The Ellen DeGeneres Show Nov. 27. The act made its U.S. live-performance debut (with "DNA") on the American Music Awards Nov. 19.

TAYLOR SWIFT COVERS 'BRITISH VOGUE' IN A SAINT LAURENT DRESS AND DARK LIP



After spending much of early 2017 out of the spotlight, Taylor Swift is back in a big way on the cover of British Vogue's January issue. The Reputation singer's cover was released on Monday, December 4, and the 27-year-old Grammy winner looks decidedly different, wearing a bold dark lip and smokey eye.

The cover was photographed by Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott, who also shot the photos for her latest album. The "Look What You Made Me Do" singer wore a red embellished Saint Laurent dress by Anthony Vaccarello. Her tresses were styled by Paul Hanlon and her edgy glam makeup was created by Isamaya Ffrench. There's also a 12-page spread styled by the mag's new editor, Edward Enninful, that declares the singer is "Remade." Choosing Swift as the cover girl makes sense considering the mag is branding itself as #NewVogue for 2018. The singer went on

an image overhaul herself in her "LWYMMMD" video, where she kills old versions of herself from past albums and declares, "The old Taylor can't come to the phone right now."



THIS WEEK'S TOP 10 SONGS ON BILLBOARD HOT 100

1. Post Malone featuring 21 Savage- Rockstar
2. Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug- Havana
3. Ed Sheeran- Perfect
4. Lil Pump- Gucci Gang
5. Imagine Dragons- Thunder
6. Sam Smith- Too Good at Goodbyes
7. Cardi B- Bodak Yellow [Money Moves]
8. G-Eazy featuring A\$AP Rocky and Cardi B- No Limit
9. Maroon 5 featuring SZA- What Lovers Do
10. Portugal. The Man- Feel It Still



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

06TH DECEMBER

1989: A gunman dressed in combat fatigues enters the Ecole Polytechnique a Montreal engineering school Cafeteria where he separates the male and female students and begins shooting the female students, he then went into other classrooms doing similar thing. By the end of his reign of terror he had killed murdered 14 women students and injured a further 12 before killing himself. The gunman was 25 year-old Marc Lepine, armed with a legally obtained semi-automatic rifle.

1790: The United States Capitol moves from New York City to Philadelphia where it stays as the capitol until 1800 when the District of Columbia is completed and becomes the capitol.

1900: The Earl of Halsbury read the queen's speech in the House of Lords. In this special session the monarch appealed for funds

to keep the British army going in South Africa and China. A sizable number of women were present and the meeting was brief.

1978: Spaniards cast a vote for democracy and are expected to endorse a new constitution in the referendum ending 40 years of dictatorial rule.

1992: A mob of Hindu militants tears down the Babri mosque in Ayodhya and attacked Muslim houses and property in the area setting off two months of Hindu-Muslim rioting that claimed at least 2,000 lives.

2006: NASA photographs reveal the deposits seen in two gullies on Mars that suggest that they have carried water through them over the past seven years. These are of liquid water, and not the water ice and water vapor that were already known to have existed on Mars. The photos have increased speculation of the potential for microbial life on the planet. "These observations give the strongest evidence to date that water still flows occasionally on the surface of Mars," said one of the Mars Exploration Program's scientists.

LOCKHORNS

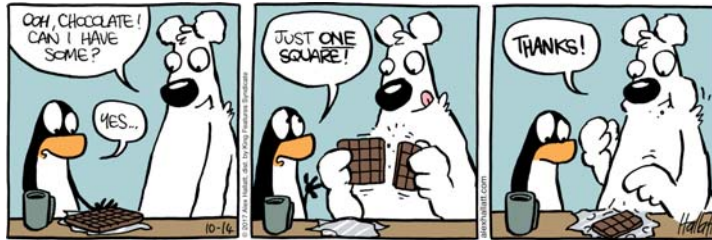
- HOEST & REINER



"I CAN REMEMBER WHEN THIS WAS ALL ONE AREA CODE."

ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT

