



SummitTIMES



Unfortunate that difference of opinion is seen as dissent: Swara

MUMBAI, FEB 4 (PTI): Actor Swara Bhasker today said it was unfortunate that having a different set of opinions could be seen as “dissent” and dissent could be passed off as “sedition” today.

The actor said the problem of intolerance of opinion continued to haunt the country.

Swara had recently criticised “Padmaavat” director Sanjay Leela Bhansali for “glorifying” the now-banned archaic jauhar practise in an open letter, for which she received considerable flak on the social media.

When asked about the backlash, Swara told PTI, “There’s a real problem of intolerance of opinion in India. We see difference of opinion as dissent and dissent as sedition.”

The actor today turned showstopper for fashion designer Shaila Khubchandani’s label Crow.

Dressed in black and grey, Swara walked the ramp with elan.

Talking about her upcoming film, “Veere Di Wedding”, she said she is excited about the project.

“The story has an original feel. It’s the story of four girlfriends, friendship, love and life. Lots of fun along the way.”

Swara featured in the opening show of the last day at the LFW while her co-star Kareena Kapoor Khan is the grand finale showstopper for Anamika Khanna.



SKM marks 6th Foundation Day with eye on Election 2019

VISHNU NEOPANEY LEGSHIP, 04 FEB: Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party celebrated its Sixth Foundation Day here at Legship in West Sikkim today.

Acting president of the party, Syari MLA Kunga Nima Lepcha, while, addressing the party functionaries radiated confidence and said that “SKM party will form the government in 2019 if the enthusiasm among Kantakarīs all over the State is sustained throughout the campaign”.

He urged the party workers for ‘another push’ to edge the 25-year-old ruling Sikkim Democratic Front party out of power.

Mr Lepcha expressed his excitement over the crowd gathered at the event even in the absence of the party president, Prem Singh Tamang.

“SKM party has raised all the public interest issues within and outside the assembly and is effectively playing the role of the principal opposition party,” Mr Lepcha said.

He highlighted that the SDF



government has failed to provide seat reservation to Limboo and Tamang communities and assured that if SKM is voted to power in the next elections, the party will provide justice to the LT communities.

He also asserted that 11 left-out (from Scheduled Tribes category) communities of Sikkim will also be included in the tribal category to bridge political and socioeconomic disparities among the Sikkimese people.

SKM chief coordinator, the Sangha MLA Sonam Lama, pitched for the political rights of Sikkimese Nepalese, adding that Sikkimese people are not safe until the political rights of this section are not secured.

Jacob Khaling, pitching the party’s future policies and programmes in the run-up to the 2019 elections, said that SKM has a youth-oriented system to provide real opportunities to the young. He alleged falling standards of education in all the government schools and alleged

TRIPLE MURDER SHOCKS KALIMPONG

Enraged over missed employment, 34 yr old murders sister-in-law and nephews

SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG, 04 FEB: Resentment over the loss of a possible compassionate employment opportunity drove a 34-year-old here to an insane rage which saw him brutally murder his sister-in-law and two nephews here in Kalimpong’s Gorubathan block last night at around 8 pm.

News of the triple murder has shocked the region. The 34-year-old is alleged to have killed his sister-in-law [34] and her two sons, aged six and eight years old, at their home in Daragaon in Bhasmay under Gorubathan block of Kalimpong district.

According to police reports, the bodies were found ‘drenched in blood’.

Sources inform that the accused was after his brother’s job at Cinchona plantation after the latter passed away a few months ago and since he died in harness, a family member would have been appointed in his stead on compassionate grounds.

However, his sister-in-law reportedly refused to relinquish her claim to the job since she had two children to look after. This resulted in frequent conflicts within the family and culminated in the brutal murders which could have been driven as much by rage as by alcohol.

Superintendent of Police, Kalimpong, Ajeet Singh Yadav, informs that the accused person’s father witnessed the entire incident as his enraged son went after the three victims with a sharp knife.

The accused has been arrested and forwarded to Kalimpong Court. The dead bodies have been sent for post mortem examination.

According to sources, the accused surrendered after committing the murder at Jaldhaka Police Station.

The accused was produced to Kalimpong ACJM court where he was slapped with Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

The police have asked for five days of police remand to investigate the incident which the court accepted and send the accused to five days of police remand.

SSB losing 10 times more jawans in ‘freak’ bike accidents than on duty: Report

NEW DELHI, FEB 4 (PTI): Country’s frontline-guarding force at Bhutan and Nepal borders -- the Sashastra Seema Bal-- has lost 10 times more troops in motorbike accidents in the last three years than at the borders or during operations, a recent report by the paramilitary force has said.

The “disturbing trend”, as noted in the internal report of the force accessed by the PTI, also found that those getting killed in such freak road accidents are “in the prime of their lives, about 30-40 years of age”.

“The report found that in the last three years, between 2015-17,

Her dreams realised, Mary Kom gives wings to others’ through academy



PHILEM DIPAK SINGH IMPHAL, FEB 4 (PTI): Eager to ensure that aspiring boxers get what she did not have growing up, five-time world champion M C Mary Kom is continuing to expand her regional academy here even though a long-pending inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains in waiting.

Nestled at the foot of Langol hills in Manipur’s Imphal West district, Mary Kom’s Boxing Academy, spread across 3.3 acres, is around 10 km from the center of state capital Imphal. It currently houses 45 young boxers, including 20 girls, at the three-storey building.

“Mary wanted to give back

to the sport which has made her famous and this was her dream come true,” the iconic boxer’s husband Onler Karong, who is the Managing Director of the academy, told PTI here.

A five-time world and Asian champion, Mary Kom is also the country’s only woman boxer with an Olympic medal (a bronze won in London 2012 Games). The 35-year-old was christened ‘Magnificent Mary’ by the International Boxing Association (AIBA) a few years ago for her stellar career, which also includes an Asian Games gold medal.

The most recent chapter of her extraordinary life journey was becoming a Rajya Sabha

MP in 2016 and winning her fifth Asian Championships gold medal a year later.

“We want more academies to come up in Manipur and other parts of the country. With modern equipment and facilities, I believe this is the first of its kind in India. This is the first full-fledged boxing academy with all the modern facilities for the training of boxers,” he added.

Mary Kom and the academy are, however, waiting for Modi to formally inaugurate the facility, a request for which has been made to the PM in the past.

“It was completed nearly two years back. We want the PM to formally inaugurate it

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and patchy clouds.
Sunrise: 06:20AM
Sunset: 5:20 PM

SSB losing 10
times more...

contd from pg01

38 personnel of the SSB died in road accidents as compared to only four deaths in the line of duty or operations along the borders and in counter-militancy duties in Jammu and Kashmir.

The data shows that the force is losing about one personnel per month in accidents on an average in the last three years time, the report said.

The research-base report further said that out of the 38 deaths of personnel in road accidents, 28 were killed when they were off duty while 10 died while being on duty.

"Bike accidents are the reason for death in majority of these cases," the report said.

A senior official said personnel in the junior ranks of jawans and sub-officers constituted the bulk of the casualties.

The report added that an analysis of these incidents in the about 80,000-personnel strong force shows more number of personnel were killed while they were off-duty thereby suggesting that once they are "out of the precincts of the force camp or are at home, they feel free from the close supervision and strict discipline of the force."

"They get euphoric and indulge in reckless, irresponsible and drunken driving which eventually turns fatal," it said indicating the possible reasons for these losses.

The force, based on the findings of this internal report, is now undertaking some strict measures to reduce and end the menace of road accidents.

"A disciplined force like SSB which has onerous security tasks on its shoulders cannot lose its men in such freak accidents."

"The increased number of deaths of force personnel in road accidents is a very disturbing trend and warrants immediate remedial measures," it said.

The report said it found that a similar trend of non-operational deaths in other security forces has been witnessed and they too are trying to tackle the issue.

A 'road use and safety culture' programme is now being undertaken in the paramilitary force across all its formations on the two borders it guards and at other locations like in Jammu and Kashmir and in anti-Naxal operations.

The SSB is primarily tasked to guard the 1,751-km long open border with Nepal and the 699-km frontier with Bhutan apart from rendering a variety of internal security duties.

It is also the lead intelligence gathering agency at these two borders as mandated by the Union home ministry under which it functions.



RINPOCHE RETURNS: Dordrupchen Rinpoche of Deorali Chorten returned to Sikkim today from his annual foreign tour. He was received by his followers at Rangpo this afternoon and was scheduled to stay the night there today. Regulars at Deorali Chorten had been missing his presence and will be delighted with news of his return and the Chorten can be expected to receive increased footfalls of the devout now.

Book seeks to take back Hinduism
from hijackers: Tharoor

JAIPUR, FEB 4 (PTI): Congress leader Shashi Tharoor has called for taking back the idea of Hinduism from those who have "hijacked" it and expressed concern over its misuse for very narrow-minded political purposes.

Tharoor, who has come out with a book on his understanding of Hindu religion, says he is not proud of those who suggest that only a Hindu -- "and only a certain kind of Hindu -- can be an authentic Indian. I am proud of those Hindus who utterly reject Hindu communalism, conscious that the communalism of the majority is especially dangerous because it can present itself as nationalist, he says.

According to the Lok Sabha member, the idea for his book 'Why I am a Hindu' had been churning around his head for some time.

I realised that this is very much part of a political agenda and I felt that one had to find a way of speaking out against

it, so that was essentially the origin of the book, Tharoor told PTI at the recently-concluded Jaipur Literature Festival here. I have been concerned for quite some time about the misuse of Hindu religion, faith and identity for very narrow minded political purposes. And particularly because I saw the twist given to the faith as being fundamentally wrong ...

reducing what was actually a soaring metaphysical religion of questioning, of doubt, of uncertainty into some sort of a badge of identity that a British football hooligan would have for his team, he says. And that was why, he adds, he felt it necessary to speak up about his faith.

"As somebody realising that faith and religion are becoming important markers -- political markers, cultural markers, markers of identity ..., I felt it necessary to add my voice in talking about my faith, he adds.

Strength-lifter Pema Dorjee felicitated
at Assam Sports & Cultural Festival

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 FEB:

International sportsperson, Pema Dorjee Bhutia from Sikkim was felicitated during the recently held Assam Sports & Cultural Festival 2018 on 29 Jan at Guwahati in Assam. He was felicitated in recognition of his achievements and contributions towards the sports of strength-lifting in the national and international levels.

He has been feted with a Certificate of Appreciation and a trophy by the organising committee.

Assam Sports & Cultural Festival has been organised every year since 1996 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Lohapurush Predmoda Kanta Sarma who is considered as the father of modern and adventure sports and culture of North-East India.

The organising committee of the festival has already honored many international and national athletes and personalities from other areas of the country with different awards.

Mr Bhutia has already won six international gold medals and title of



champion of champions consecutively in international strength lifting championship held in Bahrain in 2015, in Thailand in 2016 and in Sri Lanka in 2017. He has also won 16 national gold medals and four times national champion of cham-

pions in master's category. He was recognized as the Best Coach last year.

"It is a great honour and immense sense of satisfaction on receiving the award and it has further encouraged me to work harder to take our young generation in the national

and international platforms," Mr Bhutia said.

Mr Bhutia expressed his gratitude to Sikkim Armed Police, Sikkim Strength Lifting Association and his family members and well wishers for their continuous support.

BMDC
CHAIRPERSON
CALLS ON
GOVERNOR

GANGTOK, 04 FEB: Buddhist Monuments Development Council Chairperson, Professor Dr Arvind Alok, called on Governor Shrinivas Patil at Raj Bhavan today, a press release informs.

The release further informs that it was a courtesy call by the Dr Alok who is on a visit to Sikkim. The chairman presented his book 'Buddham Saranam Gacchami' to the Governor. During the interaction with Dr Alok, the Governor advised him to speak with Namgyal Institute of Tibetology Director, Tashi Densappa, and share his thoughts on how to shape the Buddhist University proposed to be established in Sikkim.



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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Organic Planning

To take things forward, address what is distressing farms

Sikkim is now into Phase-2 of its ambitious Organic Farming plans. Given the havoc that chemical fertilisers and pesticides wreck on the environment and health, this was always a very laudable mission. It was clearly also a difficult task, given that twelve years since it was first mooted and two since Sikkim became officially “organic”, one still hears the government complain of resistance being incited against the initiative and the excitement that such a major paradigm shift is expected to make palpable.

To get a grip on what Sikkim decided to go up against when it began the Organic Sikkim experiment in the year 2005, some perspective is required. As per the annual report of the Department of Food Security and Agriculture, Sikkim had consumed 3,429.6 metric tonnes of fertilisers in 2003-2004! That is a huge amount for tiny Sikkim and to really understand the shock this was delivering to the State, one has to see the 3,429.6 metric tonnes not just as consumption but also as procurement. This quantity of chemical fertilisers was sourced by the concerned departments and supplied onwards to the farmers. One is looking at massive handling of funds and issuing of work orders and all its attendant “arrangements”, and expectedly, the first resistance to the proposal clearly came from within the departments themselves even if these were never overtly expressed. Apart from the dependence of the local farmers and local officers on non-organic fertilizers and pesticides, the policy makers in Sikkim also had to contend with a national policy which is structured to benefit the fertilizer-pesticide manufacturing cartel. Soil-poisoning, cancer-causing chemical fertilizers were given Rs. 12,000 crores in subsidy each year (as of 2005) by the Centre which makes them the cheaper option as against the more eco-friendly, but labour intensive hence also more expensive organic options. Much of the central subsidy makes its way to the fields in Sikkim by way of distribution schemes and subsidised supplies and this process leaked and wasted. But this was the convenient system in place and we should know by now how resistant we are to change. The job, hence, was easier said than done.

But Sikkim has pulled it off at least at the policy commitment level even if the practise has still not become as instinctive as would have helped the sector. Here, one needs to also recognise that the lethargy one sees in the farming sector is neither unique to Sikkim nor something caused by its shift away from chemical fertilisers and pesticides. This is a condition across the country caused as much by skewed economic-planning priorities and climate change. It would serve the Sikkim Government well to also look deeper into the high attrition rates from the farms of the State. Agriculture has been plagued by diminishing returns for decades now, and that is perhaps when it lost its sheen. Also, Sikkim was never known as a surplus agriculture society, and when farming is sustenance level for generations, every aspiration for a better life would have meant a move away from the fields. Agricultural plots in the hands of the actual farmers (as different from the landlords who are not active agriculturists) have traditionally been very small in Sikkim and this must have contributed towards the farms not becoming as bountiful as they might have potential for is the belonged to the hands that tilled them. Because of how the social hierarchies worked, farmers never ranked very high in the pecking order which is also probably why naukari was aspired for more than farming. The State Government is toying with the idea of banning import of vegetables into Sikkim. The intention is clearly to support local growers and encourage them to grow more. But this move is inspired from an exclusively Organic Farming perspective; if the Organic Mission is to truly succeed, the thrust should start from understanding what ails the farms and fields from a social, logistical and practical point of view. That way a more holistic approach could be fashioned and less disruptive, but more sustainable, course of action could be initiated.

WRITE US: Readers are invited to comment on, criticise, run down, even appreciate if they like something in this paper. Letters carrying abusive/ indecorous language and personal attacks, except when against people responsible in this newspaper (who are fair game), will have to be ignored. Letters which carry forward a conversation or initiate a dialogue will command immediate attention and receive prominence. Mail us at: letters@summittimes.com

An allegorical message about accepting difference leads Oscar nominations

ANTHONY BONATO
theconversation.com

As a mathematician and film buff, I seek out movies featuring STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) or science fiction themes and even reviewed a couple for The Conversation Canada in September during the Toronto International Film Festival. This year, it was The Shape of Water I had to see.

It is no surprise — now that the Oscar nominations have been revealed — that The Shape of Water has taken the lead. Guillermo del Toro's beautiful romance about choosing love over fear picked up 13 nominations including best picture, best director and best leading actress for Sally Hawkins.

The Shape of Water is a gorgeous and entertaining movie, but it also has a timely, allegorical message about our willingness to accept difference.

Three people, all from the margins, come together over their love for a humanoid sea creature and go to great lengths to save it. The humanoid creature is misunderstood — perhaps like the trio themselves in this early 1960s depiction. One is a person of colour, the other a gay man and the last one a “working class” woman rendered mute from traumatic childhood experiences.

In contrast, the scientists in the film only want to study the creature. The military and bureaucrats call the creature “The Asset” and want to weaponize it.

The night of the film's premiere



at TIFF, there was a palpable buzz in the air. I caught a glimpse of Octavia Spencer, who stars in the film, and edged my way as close as I could get to the front row for a good view of the cast before the film, introduced by director Guillermo del Toro. Toronto Mayor John Tory spoke before the film, and there was a sighting of Benedict Cumberbatch in the audience.

The film had recently won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival. Everyone there, including me, was ready for something special.

I wasn't disappointed. The Shape of Water was a triumphant, modern-day fairytale, and one of the year's best films.

NOT YOUR USUAL MONSTER FLICK With a filmography that includes Pan's Labyrinth, Pacific Rim and Hellboy, it's safe to say that monsters are director Guillermo del Toro's specialty. The title of del Toro's current Art Gallery of Ontario exhibit, At Home with Monsters, is entirely appropriate. One of his persistent themes is finding the beauty and wonder in fantastical creatures, and his latest offering is no exception.

The Shape of Water focuses on the unlikely love story between the amphibious humanoid creature and janitor Elisa Esposito, played by Sally Hawkins. She has no spoken dialogue, as she has lost her voice, save for one offbeat musical daydream. Hawkins' breathtaking performance is remarkable in many ways and made more memorable by how effortlessly we connect with her character. Elisa speaks more with a single glance than others in the film say in minutes of conversation.

The creature is played by Doug Jones, who may be familiar as Lt. Saru from the new TV series Star Trek: Discovery. Like Hawkins, Jones has no dialogue in the movie, acting underneath a rubber and latex bodysuit. Michael Shannon, Octavia Spencer, Michael Stuhlbarg and Richard Jenkins round out a powerhouse supporting cast.

Much of the shooting for the movie took place in Toronto, the city del Toro calls home. Torontonians will recognize The Lakeview restaurant in the city's west end. The scenes shot in the downtown Elgin Theatre garnered en-

thusiastic applause from the local audience.

SHINES A LIGHT

In mathematical research, we create new patterns from nothingness. We shine a light and illuminate the darkness. Film can play a similar role, revealing to us a larger world with its own depth and mystery.

The Shape of Water shines a light. Although it is set in the early 1960s, is a perfect commentary for our time. It asks us to reflect on the qualities that distinguish us; it asks us where we stand.

It brings to light the plight of our fellow residents when they are considered “outsiders,” whether that includes race, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity.

It asks us to think about the impact of new scientific discoveries on the environment: Science can be used to either respect or dominate the natural world.

As someone working in STEM and as a gay person, these are issues with which I have a strong connection. But like the characters' reactions to the creature, everyone will take away something different from the film.

The film tells us that rather than fearing the unknown, we should embrace it. As del Toro said after the TIFF premiere: “It is important to choose love over fear because love is the answer.”

As I watched the final scenes between Elisa and the creature, I came to my own conclusion about the message of the The Shape of Water: The universe is not only alive, it's magical.

[the writer is Professor of Mathematics, Ryerson University]

Empowering the powerless: Let's end energy poverty

JATIN NATHWANI
theconversation.com

“POWER TO THE PEOPLE,” the activists chanted in the 1960s.

The revolutionaries of yesteryear never dreamed of the scientific and technological innovations that could light up distant shelters and communities in the darkest corners of Earth. We are on the cusp of an energy revolution that has the potential to improve the quality of life for the world's most disadvantaged and poor.

Distributed-energy technologies such as micro-grids can provide an electricity-deprived citizen with power — and the ability to create income. This pathway to power delivery is a disruptive force that will forever change the relationship between electricity user and producer. It makes it possible for a citizen with little capital to bypass the heavy hand of bureaucracy and authoritarian dictators.

Distributed energy empowers the powerless. These decentralized energy systems give households the ability to negotiate directly with energy entrepreneurs and access electricity on a pay-as-you-go basis.

LOW-COST INNOVATIONS ARE CRITICAL

Since 2010, we have witnessed dramatic declines in the cost of key energy technologies: 95 per cent for LED lighting, 60 per cent for solar PV and 75 per cent for battery storage.

In addition, these components of distributed energy, when integrated with information and communication technologies (ICTs) — sensors, devices and wireless data transmission — enable payments to be made with phones over vast distances.

Thanks to the smart integration of energy resources at the local level, it's now possible to deliver energy services to a home from stand-alone solar systems, or to combine it with mini-hydroelectric systems or battery storage to meet the needs of a small business or farmer.

Traditionally, electrification has occurred by extending the electrical grid. But this has not been effective for populations that are geographically, economically or politically isolated.

With the low costs and improved performance of distributed energy technologies, there is an unrealized opportunity for positive social

change by drawing the poor into the economic mainstream.

Decentralized energy systems are modular, less complex and readily transported. Thus, they can be adapted and scaled to provide different levels of service for unique needs.

The revolutionaries of the 1960s certainly never imagined a solar-powered suitcase that provides critical medical care to help reduce child and maternal mortality.

PROSPERITY FOLLOWS ELECTRICITY

Energy poverty stalks a third of humanity — some two and a half billion people do not have access to electricity or modern energy services.

The International Energy Agency predicts that more than 600 million people in Africa will need to be served by off-grid renewable solutions by 2030 to meet the UN goal of universal energy access. By 2040, two billion people globally will lack electricity and access to modern fuels for cooking such as natural gas.

The number of people living in extreme poverty and those who comprise the “proverbially poor” (subsisting on less than US\$2 a day) have remained constant from one decade to the next over the last four decades or so.

In Africa alone, energy sector bottlenecks, power shortages and a lack of reliable power cost the region two per cent to four per cent of GDP annually, undermining the prospects for sustainable economic growth, job creation and income opportunities through lack of investment.

The UN Sustainable Development Goal 7 — a call for action to improve “access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” — may simply remain an aspiration. If we focus on extending the electrical grid, as we have in the past, we are not on track to meet the goal.

Instead, we need a significant commitment to new investments in distributed energy systems, combined with scientific and technological breakthroughs to improve affordability, by an order of magnitude, if we are to scale-up these technologies rapidly.

ENERGY FOR HUMAN BETTERMENT

The vicious cycle of energy poverty begins with the lack of access to affordable energy. Those who rely on

traditional fuels, such as firewood, must spend several hours each day collecting fuels. This burden falls disproportionately to women and children, and it robs them of education and income-generating work.

The use of these traditional fuels has additional consequences. Tragically, 600,000 Africans are killed every year by indoor air pollution caused by the use of firewood and charcoal for cooking. Women and children are the primary victims. What's more, collecting firewood for producing charcoal is the main cause of deforestation in many parts of the world.

According to estimates by the World Health Organization, indoor air pollution leads to four million deaths annually, exceeding the toll of malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined.

Energy poverty reverberates in other ways as well. In Nigeria, 36,000 women die in childbirth each year because lifesaving medical care is hampered by a lack of lighting. Across Africa, a lack of electricity prevents children from doing their homework, and in several African countries, more than 80 per cent of primary schools have no electricity.

Innovations such as a backpacks with solar panels that absorb energy during the day to power a lamp for a few hours at night hold promise for these school-aged children.

The potential benefits of electrification for those without service are quite high. When households switch from kerosene lamps to electric light bulbs, they gain 100 times as much light energy for reading, studying, cooking and cultural activities for the same amount of money.

THE LADDER OF ENERGY ACCESS

Providing electricity to more than two billion people within two decades is a daunting prospect. But emerging innovations in distributed energy technologies, combined with advances in the information and communication technologies (ICTs), including sensors and control devices for “off-grid” systems, make it possible.

The transition from zero electricity access to a minimal level of access can give a person light. Light is the link to education and education is the link to empowerment.

Access to a cellphone, radio and TV shapes an individual's connectedness

to the larger community and the global knowledge base. A stand-alone solar home system can handle these tasks.

Micro-grids are the next rung up on the ladder of energy access. They can power fridges, fans, a lathe, irrigation pumps, sewing machines and milking machines, and open pathways for income-generating opportunities.

These off-grid energy solutions hold enormous promise. They give communities the opportunity to leapfrog over technological time scales and improve their access to clean water, health care, food production and transport.

The back-breaking drudgery of time-consuming tasks such as firewood gathering for cooking and water collection can instead be powered by electrons tapped via solar, water or bio wastes.

The big electrical grid has come up short in delivering electricity to the poor and the disenfranchised. Wireless mobile phone technology made building telephone land lines in emerging economies unnecessary. Decentralized energy technologies will do the same for electricity.

A DEMOCRATIC FORCE

The promise of ubiquitous connectivity through the “Internet of Things” is another disruptive pathway that can bring energy to those who need it most.

Peer-to-peer transactions will alter business models and the economics of energy delivery. Blockchain technology is a recent example of how technology can empower individuals.

The emerging scientific and technological revolution in the energy sector is upsetting the balance of power. With access to energy, the citizen is empowered and is no longer dependent on a central authority.

Low-cost clean-energy solutions and improved access to electricity can help bring the disenfranchised into the mainstream economy, possibly reducing migration pressures and conflict.

The promise of energy sector decentralization as a democratic force should neither be underestimated nor ignored for long.

[the writer is Professor and

Ontario Research Chair in Public Policy for Sustainable Energy, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo]



ENERGY & POWER DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM,
GANGTOK

PUBLIC NOTICE IN RESPECT OF

AGGREGATE REVENUE REQUIREMENT & TARIFF PETITION FILED BY PCE CUM SEC-
RETARY, ENERGY & POWER DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM, BE-
FORE SIKKIM STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION.

Notice is hereby circulated to all consumer & stake holders, that the Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim a deemed licensee engaged in the distribution & retail sale of electricity has filed the tariff petition before the Sikkim State Electricity Commission (SSERC) for Sikkim State, the true-up for the FY 2016-17 and APR for FY 2017-18, Business plan & ARR for the period of three financial years from April 01, 2018 to March 31, 2021 and Tariff for the FY 2018-19 in respect of Distribution, Transmission & Generation functions for E&PDS formulated in accordance with the guidelines outlined as per the Regulations 17.1 of the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms & Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Generation, Transmission, Wheeling, Distribution and Retail Supply under Multi Year Frame work) Regulations, 2013.

The Commission has registered & admitted the petition filed by the Department of Power Vide Case No MYT/2018-19/P-01-EPDS dated 04.12.2017.

The summary of ARR- actual 2016-17, estimated 2017-18& projection for control period FY 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21 is given in table below:

Sl. No.	Item of Expenditure	2016-17	2017-18	Control Period (Projections)		
		(Actuals)	(Estimated)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Cost of Fuel	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
2	Cost of Power Purchase	213.51	226.25	239.75	254.07	269.24
3	Cost of Generation	0.00	0.00	21.02	21.55	22.11
4	Employee Costs	71.33	74.50	79.14	83.37	87.79
5	R & M Expenses	15.59	15.25	19.50	20.31	21.18
6	Adm. & Gen. Expenses	0.80	0.80	0.84	0.84	0.88
7	Depreciation	14.64	16.84	17.94	18.84	19.29
8	Advance Against Depreciation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Interest Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Interest on Working Capital	8.25	8.82	11.38	12.27	13.00
11	Return on Equity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Income Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Transmission Charges (Intra State)	0.00	0.00	63.95	77.22	83.06
14	Total Revenue Requirement	324.29	342.65	453.70	488.64	516.72
15	Less: Non-Tariff Income	1.52	1.55	1.59	1.62	1.65
16	Net Revenue Requirement (14-15)	322.76	341.09	452.11	487.02	515.07
17	Revenue from Tariff	173.44	179.57	196.89	207.81	218.20
18	Revenue from Outside State Sale	86.31	86.46	95.78	95.94	96.10
19	Gap (16-17-18)	63.02	75.06	159.45	183.27	200.77
20	Revenue Surplus Carried Over	-	-	-	-	-
21	Additional Revenue from Proposed Tariff	-	-	3.30	2.73	2.10
22	Regulatory asset	-	-	-	-	-
23	Energy Sales (MU)	323.47	344.63	369.36	393.22	415.14

1. **AT&C losses:** The AT&C losses for the year 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21 has been projected at 34.46%, 31.71% & 29.98% respectively.
2. Copies of the fillings & application refer to at para-1 above are available in the following Offices.
(i) Chief Engineer (L/RcumNodal Officer (Revenue), Energy & Power Department, Kazi Road Gangtok
(ii) Additional Chief Engineer (HQ-II), Energy & Power Department,Kazi Road Gangtok
3. Interested parties may peruse the said ARR and tariff proposal and take note thereof during office hours at the above offices free of charge.
4. The ARR and the tariff proposal can be viewed and downloaded from the official website of Energy & Power Department, GOS “**powerdepartmentsikkim.com**”
5. Summary of tariff and charges for retail supply of Electricity to consumers proposed by the Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim for the year 2018-19are indicated in the schedule.
6. Objections /Suggestions, if any on the ARR fillings and tariff proposal submitted by the Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim, together with supporting materials may be filed with Secretary, Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission , Deorali, Gangtok-Sikkim 737102 in five copies in person or through register post so as to reach the Commission on or before 25.02.2018.

7. Objections /Suggestions as above should carry full name and postal address of the person sending the objection which should be supported by an affidavit duly attested thereof. If the objection is filed on behalf of any Organization or any cases of consumer, it should be as per the terms mentioned above. It is also to mention that if the person putting objection/suggestions wants to be heard in person can participate during the day of public hearing.
8. The SSERC, after perusing the written objections received in response to this notice may invite such objectors, as it considers appropriate for a hearing on the specified dates, which will be notified by the Commission in due course.
9. Tariff Schedule:

Sl. No.	Category of consumers	Existing Rate		Proposed Rate	
		Demand Charge (in Rs)	Energy Charge Paisa/ KWh	Demand Charge(in Rs)	Energy Charge Paisa/ KWh
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Domestic Supply				
a)	Up to 50 units		110		
b)	51 to 100 units		234		170
c)	101-200 units		365		370
d)	201 to 400 units		457		460
e)	401 & above		493		500
2	Commercial Supply				
	Up to 50 units		330		
	51 to 200 units		561		450
	201 to 400 units		594		600
	401 & above		635		640
	Demand Charge against sanction load of 25 KVA and above (Rural)	60/KVA/month		60/KVA/month	
	Demand charge against sanction load of 25 KVA and above (Urban)	100/KVA/month		100/KVA/month	
3	Public lighting				
	Rural Areas		270		270
	Urban Areas		500		500
4	Industrial Supply				
a)	HT				
i)	HT (AC) above 3.3 KV				
	Upto 100 KVA	Rs.200/kVA/month	336	Rs.200/kVA/month	350
	100 - 250 KVA	Rs.250/kVA/month	389	Rs.250/kVA/month	400
	250- 500KVA	Rs.290/kVA/month	459	Rs.290/kVA/month	470
	500 KVA and above	Rs.550/kVA/month	496	Rs.555/kVA/month	510
b)	LTIS(Rural)				
	Up to 500 units		250		
	501 - 1000 units		440		350
	1001 & above		580		585
	Demand charge against sanction load 25 KVA and above	60/KVA/month		60/KVA/month	
c)	LTIS(Urban)				
	Up to 500 units		528		
	501 - 1000 units		616		575
	1001 & above		713		715
	Demand charge against sanction load 25 KVA and above	100/KVA/month		100/KVA/month	
5	Bulk supply				
	LT		606		606
	HT		657		660

Sd/-
PCE cum Secretary

R.O.no538/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 03.02.18



Wrists of Fury: Chahal, Yadav on target as India win by 9 wkts

CENTURION, FEB 4 (PTI): Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav’s magical wrist spin outfoxed a depleted South Africa as Indian romped to a crushing nine-wicket win in the second ODI to reclaim the pole position in the ICC rankings here.

India now lead the six-match series 2-0 as they literally annihilated the home team which had the ignominy of being shot out for a paltry 118 in 32.3 overs -- their lowest-ever score at home.

Chahal recorded his career-best ODI figures of 5 for 22 in 8.2 overs and was superbly complemented by Kuldeep (3/20 in 6 overs) with none of the Proteas batsmen able to read them off their hands nor off the pitch.

Interestingly Chahal’s figures were best by any Indian bowler on South African soil eclipsing Yuvraj Singh’s 4 for 6 against Namibia at Pietermaritzburg during 2003 World Cup.

It was a walk in the park for the batsmen as Shikhar Dhawan (51 no) helped himself to a nice half-century in company of skipper Kohli (46 no) to get India atop the 50-over rankings, finishing the match in 20.3overs.

However ICC will not be releasing the ranking

list till the end of the series as it is a convention.

The end of the match bordered on farcical as on-field umpires Aleem Dar and Adrian Holdstock called for lunch with India needing only two runs for a victory.

The umpires went by the book to call for lunch as 19 overs of Indian innings was possible before the break. However commentators Mike Haysman and Sunil Gavaskar were very critical of the rigid ICC ‘Playing Conditions’ with players required to comeback for scoring two runs.

Probably to make a point, India played a maiden over before Kohli got a couple to finish off the match.

It was once again the wiry-framed Chahal and chubby-cheeked Kuldeep, who bamboozled the batsmen with their difficult art-form with a collective haul of 8 for 42 -- best ever by spin duo in an ODI on South African soil.

While AB de Villiers and Faf du Plessis’ absence is an advantage, the performance on South African soil by the spinners will go a long way in shedding the tag of being backyard bullies.

Chahal struck in his second over as Quinton

de Kock (20) was caught in the deep trying to pull his leg-break.

It soon became two wickets in two balls, as new skipper Aiden Markram (8) played a poor stroke off a Kuldeep half-tracker in the very next over being caught in the deep as Bhuvneshwar Kumar took a well-judged catch.

Four balls later, David Miller tried to drive a perfectly dipping leg break delivery and offered a simple catch in the slips. South Africa lost 3 wickets for without any runs in the space of 6 balls and never recovered from thereon.

Khaya Zondo (25) and JP Duminy (25) added 48 runs for the fifth wicket to stem the rot but only for a brief period.

In this meantime, India deployed Hardik Pandya again and Kedar Jadhav (0-11) as well to eat up a few overs.

But the procession began once the wrist-spinners came back in action. Zondo miscued one off Chahal in the 27th over and was caught at midwicket, with Pandya latching on second attempt.

South Africa barely crossed 100 in that over, and then Chahal came with another break-

through, trapping Duminy plumb lbw. The Proteas then lost their last five wickets for 11 runs and were bowled out in the 33rd over.

Chahal trapped Morne Morkel (1) leg before as well, while Kuldeep got rid of Kagiso Rabada (1) with a wrong one, another leg-before.

Chasing a paltry 119 for victory, India started off in hectic manner. Rohit Sharma (15) outlined the intent to go for a demoralizing blow to the opposition as he pulled Morne Morkel (0-30) for a six over midwicket off the 3rd ball of the innings.

While he looked good at the wicket, Rohit couldn’t break his poor run on South African soil and was out caught at fine leg off Kagiso Rabada (1-24).

The latter had troubled Rohit throughout, and nearly had him earlier when a confident shout for caught behind was turned around off DRS in the batsman’s favour.

But this was the only success for the Proteas as Dhawan and Kohli ground their disheartened bowling attack to dust.

The duo put on a chanceless 93-run partnership for the 2nd wicket, putting on a show for the capacity crowd at Supersport Park.

Modi likely to visit Nepal after new govt’s formation: CPN-UML


KATHMANDU, FEB 4 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to visit Nepal soon after the new government takes office, a leader of the CPN-UML left alliance said today.

Nepal’s Left alliance is preparing to form a new government which is expected to be headed by former prime minister and CPN-UML chairman KP Sharma Oli.

CPN-UML Secretary Pradip Gyawali told reporters here that Prime Minister Modi’s visit is most likely after Left alliance leader Oli becomes the prime minister of Nepal. Oli had invited Modi for a visit to Nepal during a recent telephonic conversation with him.

“Modi telephoned Oli twice and both leaders invited each other for a visit to their countries,” Gyawali said.

The recent visit by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj was aimed at clearing the mistrust, and the visit had been instrumental in further strengthening bilateral ties, he said.



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, 5th Mile, Lumsay, Tadong, Gangtok- 737101 (SIKKIM)
Dated: 03/2/2018.

NOTICE

The Department has released the pensions for the months of November 2017 and December 2017, of all beneficiaries drawing pensions/ allowances under the following scheme in the respective accounts in the Nationalized Banks/State Bank of Sikkim and Post Office:

1. INDRIA GANDHI NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION.
2. INDRIA GANDHI NATIONAL DISABILITY PENSION.
3. INDRIA GANDHI NATIONAL WIDOW PENSION.
4. UNMARRIED WOMEN PENSION.
5. SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE.

The beneficiaries are advised to collect their pension/allowance from their respective accounts in the Nationalized Banks/State Bank of Sikkim/Post Office duly producing the Pension Passbook in original issued by the Department along with the Bank/Post Office Passbook. In case, the Pensioner(s) are differently abled and old aged, their legal heir may draw the pension from the Bank/Post Office by submitting the Authorization letter from the Pensioner duly certified by the Ward Panchayat and authenticated by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or the Gram Vikash Adhikari/ Block Development Officer as the case may be. Efforts may be made by all Branch Mangers to disburse the Pensions within a period of one month. The undisbursed amount for any reasons may be refunded to the Department along with the beneficiaries’ Bank account and Scheme details. The Banks are advised to comply with the instructions deliberated and recorded in the Agenda item no. 19 (para 3) of the Minutes of Meeting of the 54th State Level Bankers’ Committee (SLBC) Meeting held on 22nd September 2017. An action taken report in this regard may be submitted to the office of the undersigned.


The Beneficiaries who have not yet enrolled for Aadhaar Number may be requested to do so at their nearest Aadhaar Enrollment Centre and submit their Aadhaar Number and Aadhaar Consent Form to the Department at the earliest duly linked with their bank accounts.

Further, all the Panchayat members in the rural areas and Ward Councilors in urban areas are requested to report the death of beneficiaries along with their death certificates, if any, under their respective Units/ Wards to the Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department on monthly basis to enable us to update the database.

Sd/-

Additional Secretary to the Government of Sikkim.

R.O. No. 539/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 03.02.18



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES AND FAMILY WELFARE
Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok.

No.88/HC-HS & FW/2018 Dated: 02.02.2018

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

I. Applications are invited from eligible local candidates in the prescribed application form for following posts on temporary contractual basis for an initial period of 02(two) years in Health Care, Human Services and Family Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim.

II. The details of the Post are as furnish under:

01. Sikkim Government Pharmacy College:

Sl. No	Name of Post/ Department	No of Post(s)	Consolidated Salary	Essential Qualification	Age Limit
01	02	03	04	05	06
01	Professor/ Associate Professor (Pharmaceutical Chemistry OR Pharmaceuticals).	01	Professor – Rs.90,000 p.m. Associate Professor – Rs.65,000 p.m.	Professor: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in Pharmacology or Pharmaceutical Chemistry or Pharmaceutics recognised by Pharmacy Council of India and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948, WITH Doctorate in Pharmacy (Ph.D) in any specialized subjects recognized by PCI, AND a minimum of 10 (ten) years’ teaching experience in a PCI approved / recognized Pharmacy College. Associate Professor: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in Pharmacology or Pharmaceutical Chemistry or Pharmaceutics recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948, AND a minimum of 03 (three) years’ teaching experience at the level of Assistant Professor or equivalent corresponding to Stage 03 and AGP of Rs.8000 in any PCI approved / recognized Pharmacy College.	Up to 70 years
02	Lecturer/ Assistant Professor	02	Lecturer – Rs.45,000 p.m. Assistant Professor – Rs.50,000 p.m.	Lecturer: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948. Assistant Professor: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948, AND a minimum of 02 (two) years’ teaching experience in any PCI approved / recognized Pharmacy College.	21 – 40 years.
03	Lecturer / Assistant Professor (Pharmacology)	01	Lecturer – Rs.45,000 p.m. Assistant Professor – Rs.50,000 p.m.	Lecturer: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in Pharmacology recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948. Assistant Professor: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in <i>Pharmacology</i> recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948, AND a minimum of 02 (two) years’ teaching experience in any PCI approved / recognized Pharmacy College	21 -40 years.
04	Lecturer / Assistant Professor (Pharmaceutics)	01	Lecturer – Rs.45,000 p.m. Assistant Professor – Rs.50,000 p.m.	Lecturer: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in <i>Pharmaceutics</i> recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948. Assistant Professor: First Class Degree in Bachelor in Pharmacy with Master’s Degree in <i>Pharmaceutics</i> recognised by PCI and registration as Pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act 1948, AND a minimum of 02 (two) years’ teaching experience in any PCI approved / recognized Pharmacy College.	21 – 40 years.
05	Computer Data Operator	01	Rs.15,000/- p.m	Bachelor of Computer Application/ Graduate with Computer Course of minimum of 06(six) months.	21 – 40 years.

02. Sikkim Government Nursing College.

Sl. No.	Name of Post/ Department	No of Post(s)	Consolidated Salary	Essential Qualification	Age Limit
01	02	03	04	05	06
01.	Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor	03	Assistant Professor:- Rs. 40,000/- p.m. Associate Professor: Rs. 50,000/-p.m.	Assistant Professor: M.Sc. Nursing with 03(three) years teaching experience in any Indian Nursing Council/ State Nursing Council Approved / recognized Nursing College. Associate Professor: M.Sc. Nursing with 08(eight) years teaching experience including 05 (five) year teaching experience.	21 – 40
02	Tutor/ Clinical Instructor	05	Rs.30,000/-p.m.	M.Sc. Nursing / B.Sc. Nursing/ Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing with 01 (one) year experience in relevant work.	21 – 40
03	Hostel Warden	02	Rs.15,000/-p.m.	B.Sc. Home Science with Diploma in House Keeping and catering.	21 – 40

III. **Conditions for appointments:**

1. The initial period of contractual appointment is for initial period of 02 (two) years from the date of appointment which may be extended in case of exigency of service.
2. Qualification & experience should be in relevant discipline/field and from an Institution of repute. Experience should have been gained after acquiring the minimum essential qualification.
3. TA /DA for interview etc not admissible.
4. The Government reserves the right to cancel selection process without giving any reason, thereof.
5. Submission of wrong or false information during the process of selection shall disqualify the candidature at any stage.
6. Appointment on contractual post is purely temporary and candidates shall have no claim for regular appointment either in the respective colleges or with the Government of Sikkim.
7. The selected candidates shall join duty within a week of the issuance of appointment order failing which the candidature will be forfeited / cancelled.
8. Unmarried Certificate (for Hostel Warden only.)
9. The candidates should be able to converse in either one of the languages, viz., English, Hindi or Nepali.

R.O. No. 543/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 03.02.2018.

Singapore launches English-Tamil glossary

SINGAPORE, FEB 4 (PTI): A first-of-its-kind English-Tamil glossary with over 4,000 common English terms and their corresponding Tamil words has been launched in Singapore to help translate public communication materials to the Indian language.

Tamil is Singapore's fourth official language along with English, Chinese and Malay.

The 200-page glossary contains a glossary in alphabetical order, a compilation of names of government organisations, as well as lists of educational terms and titles of statutes, The Sunday Times reported.

The glossary was produced by the Tamil Resource Panel under the National Translation Committee (NTC) in collaboration with the Tamil Language Council, the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) said in a statement yesterday.

It aims to be a guide for the practitioners of the Tamil language, including the media, teachers, students and government agencies who need to translate public communication materials to the Tamil language.

The NTC has also identified a list of experienced translators and vetters for government agencies to tap to improve vetting of Tamil translations.

In his speech at the launch of the glossary at The Indian Heritage Centre, Senior Minister of State for Communications and Information Chee Hong Tat said government agencies have not been consistent when tapping a list of experienced Tamil translators and vetters.

"Some have implemented it well, others I suspect, pay lip service and just go through (the) motion," Chee was quoted as saying by the Times.

"I had to knock some heads over the past year, something which I did not particularly enjoy doing, but until we see consistent improvement across the public sector, we have no choice but to continue enforcing the standards to hold agencies accountable for the quality of their translations."

Last year, pamphlets used in National Day Parade rehearsals contained errors in Tamil translation.

Following that, Minister Ng Eng Hen had told Parliament in August that the original Tamil translation submitted was correct but errors were made by the printers.

N Korea slams Trump's 'sinister' State of the Union address

SEOUL, FEB 4 (AFP): North Korea hit back at US President Donald Trump today after he slammed rights abuses under the hermit regime in his State of the Union address, with Pyongyang describing the speech as "screams of Trump terrified" by the North's power. The comments follow months of fiery rhetoric between the two countries that have seen tensions soar, with Trump drawing criticism at home for repeatedly using highly-menacing language towards the reclusive state.

During Wednesday's address, he criticised the "cruel dictatorship" of Kim Jong-Un and the leader's "reckless pursuit" of atomic weapons while vowing to wage "a campaign of maximum pressure" to derail the nuclear threat.

Kim declared his country a fully-fledged nuclear power last November after testing an intercontinental ballistic missile Pyongyang claimed is capable of reaching the US mainland.

Trump also lashed out at widespread human rights abuses under the regime and high-



lighted the case of Otto Warmbier, an American student who died last year shortly after being released from a 17-month-long detention in North Korea.

A spokesperson of the North's foreign ministry on Sunday said the speech reflected "the height of Trump-style arrogance, arbitrariness and self-conceit," in a statement carried by the state-run KCNA news agency.

"Trump also insisted upon the 'maximum pressure' against our country, viciously slandering our most superior people-centered social system," the statement added.

"However, it is no less than screams of Trump terrified at the power of the DPRK that has achieved the great historic cause of completing the state nuclear force and rapidly emerged as the strategic state recognized by the world," it said, using the North's official name.

Also in his address, Trump honoured Ji Seong-Ho, a North Korean defender with only one arm and one leg who made a dramatic, 6,000-mile journey to the South after suffering severe discrimination and torture at home.

The North claimed Trump's comment revealed a "sinister intention to do something against

us by relying on strength while talking about 'American resolve.'"

"If Trump does not get rid of his anachronistic and dogmatic way of thinking, it will only bring about the consequence of further endangering security and future of the United States," the foreign ministry said.

Relations between the two countries reached fresh lows last year with the North launching a series of missiles and staging its most powerful nuclear test to date, in a challenge to Trump who has threatened to "utterly destroy" the regime in the event of an attack.

Kim and Trump have at the same time traded colourful personal barbs against each other, sparking global alarm and fears of further fighting on the peninsula that was left in ruins after the 1950-53 Korean War.

But in a move that seemed aimed at easing tensions and after months of persuasion from Seoul, the North last month said it would send its athletes to the Winter Olympics, due to kick off in the South on Friday.

Maldives govt warns Supreme Court against impeachment move

MALE, FEB 4 (AFP): The beleaguered Maldives government today ordered police and troops to resist any move by the Supreme Court to arrest or impeach President Abdulla Yameen over his refusal to release political prisoners.

The tiny tourist archipelago has been plunged into a political crisis pitting the country's top court against Yameen, whose crackdown on dissent has tarnished the nation's image as an up-market holiday paradise.

The judges on Thursday night ordered authorities to release nine political dissidents and restore the seats of 12 legislators who had been sacked for defecting from Yameen's party, ruling the cases were politically motivated.

But the Yameen government has so far refused to comply with the shock ruling. It has shuttered parliament and resisted international calls to respect the judicial order and restore democracy.

In a national television address on Sunday Attorney General Mohamed Anil remained defiant.

"Any Supreme Court order to arrest the president would be unconstitutional and illegal. So I have asked the police and the army not to implement any unconstitutional order," Anil said.

Former president and current opposition leader Mohamed Nasheed described the government's refusal to obey the supreme court as a "coup".

Nasheed, who was controversially convicted of a terrorism charge and jailed for 13 years in 2015, urged police and troops to uphold the constitution.

"Statements made today by AG Anil...to disobey SC orders is tantamount to a coup. They, and President Yameen must resign immediately," Nasheed said on Twitter. "Security services must uphold the constitution and serve the Maldivian people."



A Russian plane has been downed and the pilot shot dead after ejecting with a parachute in a rebel-held area near Idlib, northern Syria. The pilot resisted capture and fired at the militants before being killed, according to monitors in the country. The Hayat Tahrir al-Sham alliance, which is dominated by jihadists, have claimed responsibility. The Russian defence ministry confirmed the downing of an Su-25 and said the pilot was killed in fighting with "terrorists".

Local politics overshadows Lanka's I-Day celebrations

COLOMBO, FEB 4 (PTI): President Maithripala Sirisena today vowed to fight against corruption which he said has an adverse impact on Sri Lanka's economy as the country celebrated its 70th Independence Day.

Britain's Prince Edward, the youngest son of Queen Elizabeth II, was the chief guest at the 70th Independence Day celebrations.

This is the first time that Queen Elizabeth's son other than Prince Charles has visited Sri Lanka. Charles was the chief guest at the 50th Independence Day celebrations in 1998 and later made two separate trips to the island nation.

The ongoing local election campaign had its effect on the celebrations as Sirisena in his speech chose to deal with his anti-corruption drive in his ad-

dress to the nation.

Sirisena in the recent weeks has taken Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP) to task while campaigning for the February 10 local council election.

He has openly criticised the UNP for corruption, an allegation stemming mainly from the report of a probe he ordered on a scam connected to the issuance of bonds by the Sri Lanka Central Bank.

Sirisena said "patriotism has a new definition which is financial discipline", in an obvious reference to his local election campaign theme.

He said that corruption has become one of the main impediments to the progress towards prosperity, which is the aspiration of all citizens.

He said bribery, corruption, fraud and malpractices are having the most adverse impact on the economic independence of the country and all the politicians should fulfil their duties in an exemplary manner.

The president said that there were adverse repercussions due to the implementation of personal agendas in development strategies.

"There is a requirement of a national movement against corruption in order to establish a clean political culture and such a collective movement must be mobilised with the participation of the intellectual community of the country," he was quoted as saying by Colombo Gazette.

He also paid tribute to the members of security forces who made immense sacrifices to de-

feat the LTTE.

When the LTTE terrorists attempted to break our country, our Army, Navy, Air Force, Police and Civil Defence Services made sacrifices, their lives and limbs and being handicapped, even denying their children and families a proper family life, suffering many such painful experiences on behalf of the future of the nation, freedom of the nation and unity and the territorial integrity, he said.

He pointed out the need for communal harmony among the Sinhala, Tamil, Muslim and Burgher communities to build the nation. Pointing out the right of the people to live as equal citizens, the president said the full-est commitment and support of every section was essential to achieve true reconciliation.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DERBY SPIRIT SUNDAY
Draw No:2 DrawDate on:04/02/18
1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 74A 2657
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
3rd Prize Rs.2000/-
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
5th Prize Rs.500/-
6th Prize Rs.100/-
0002 0005 0022 0032 0100 0106 0128 0164 0173 0177
0187 0214 0225 0290 0293 0318 0346 0408 0417 0436
0473 0479 0486 0490 0532 0546 0572 0590 0597 0689
0704 0763 0790 0873 0875 0889 0901 0939 0955 0970
1013 1031 1054 1067 1134 1156 1157 1181 1185 1208
1215 1222 1284 1329 1354 1363 1382 1403 1408 1412
1423 1429 1444 1445 1491 1512 1514 1522 1538 1541
1558 1572 1597 1633 1647 1682 1728 1755 1800 1821
1844 1901 1917 1943 1955 1964 1969 1981 1982 2076
2081 2103 2106 2127 2132 2148 2154 2184 2194 2198
2201 2205 2265 2292 2314 2331 2340 2350 2381 2420
2442 2479 2487 2489 2493 2534 2566 2601 2630 2651
2677 2685 2710 2729 2736 2739 2767 2787 2797 2810
2818 2833 2834 2848 2887 2934 2956 3001 3004 3011
3015 3054 3083 3117 3161 3170 3172 3189 3195 3249
3273 3284 3326 3334 3335 3350 3388 3407 3488 3505
3507 3522 3529 3530 3531 3532 3537 3565 3585 3603
3643 3659 3669 3708 3714 3721 3735 3751 3763 3778
3780 3788 3791 3804 3826 3829 3859 3873 3911 3914
3926 3928 3950 3985 4007 4035 4115 4120 4123 4127
4133 4145 4184 4190 4192 4261 4342 4362 4395 4407
4420 4430 4438 4450 4459 4466 4480 4492 4500 4529
4556 4608 4610 4617 4634 4698 4747 4776 4777 4808
4833 4853 4883 4895 4914 4929 4938 4946 4968 5061
5083 5084 5111 5132 5133 5145 5149 5152 5178 5197
5209 5241 5306 5328 5348 5373 5505 5515 5538 5580
5611 5628 5669 5735 5761 5787 5837 5857 5884 5885
5888 5902 5908 5918 5941 5972 5973 5977 5991 5996
6023 6048 6074 6090 6121 6125 6154 6196 6215 6225
6232 6249 6245 6247 6255 6282 6294 6346 6347 6394
6395 6406 6460 6474 6478 6492 6501 6529 6531 6540
6576 6626 6732 6743 6752 6774 6794 6841 6863 6875
6921 6924 6929 6962 6976 7007 7033 7034 7043 7053
7057 7071 7089 7121 7125 7126 7127 7179 7188 7223
7231 7266 7268 7278 7281 7286 7287 7289 7290 7306
7340 7342 7373 7381 7390 7415 7426 7460 7481 7491
7493 7547 7555 7557 7558 7570 7571 7578 7590 7602
7607 7611 7623 7633 7650 7664 7671 7673 7693 7703
7715 7719 7722 7725 7788 7815 7827 7833 7901 7905
7929 7931 7959 7984 7992 7993 8021 8033 8043 8079
8120 8133 8134 8135 8137 8146 8161 8178 8185 8255
8256 8269 8308 8323 8332 8351 8365 8376 8454 8480
8481 8530 8546 8601 8622 8634 8640 8647 8655 8685
8691 8723 8734 8740 8780 8784 8789 8790 8865 8886
8915 8928 8937 8965 8969 8975 8977 9039 9041 9054
9058 9066 9123 9130 9141 9147 9162 9206 9221 9225
9228 9231 9296 9300 9335 9337 9379 9382 9386 9404
9458 9491 9520 9531 9543 9570 9571 9577 9584 9588
9590 9614 9626 9636 9688 9691 9701 9741 9772 9796
9807 9874 9889 9899 9917 9933 9940 9946 9965 9969

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LAHIAIXMI LIBRA
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:04/02/18
1st Prize Rs.1,00,00/- 1459
2nd Prize Rs.1,00,00/- 2087 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4556
4th Prize Rs.300/- 4653 5th Prize Rs. 206/- 2936
6th Prize Rs.100/-
1003 1007 1053 1089 1105 1120 1132 1146 1207 1240
1257 1273 1279 1300 1321 1391 1408 1409 1421 1436
1440 1443 1450 1452 1462 1467 1547 1555 1566 1608
1663 1667 1686 1723 1782 1809 1882 1986 1990 2011 2191
1934 1958 1994 2048 2247 2281 2300 2310 2323 2350
2377 2397 2442 2492 2498 2515 2517 2529 2534 2570
2590 2741 2749 2752 2870 2874 2887 2891 2893 2895
3641 3677 3684 3713 3715 3722 3723 3748 3782 3793
3810 3861 3904 3959 3976 4096 4170 4181 4211 4226
4276 4279 4279 4283 4285 4313 4330 4364 4379 4384
4389 4443 4480 4528 4647 4654 4671 4752 4743 4789
4816 4817 4822 4824 4826 4883 4877 4905 4918 4926
4964 4981 4993 5023 5060 5067 5070 5116 5120 5123
5145 5173 5174 5243 5269 5273 5284 5316 5345 5408
5415 5420 5485 5487 5526 5560 5604 5621 5712 5739
5748 5759 5763 5798 5801 5873 5874 5912 5924 5948
5982 5986 6041 6066 6069 6112 6116 6126 6127 6182
6200 6226 6229 6313 6315 6321 6426 6437 6421 6441
6450 6456 6460 6486 6490 6497 6512 6513 6513 6540
6545 6570 6614 6625 6641 6642 6653 6658 6663 6664
6668 6693 6739 6799 6820 6887 6931 6943 6973 6977

MUMBAIXMI RANI
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:04/02/18
1st Prize Rs.1,00,00/- 2036 2nd Prize Rs.500/- 5249
3rd Prize Rs.1,00,00/- 1795 4th Prize Rs.506/- 1409
5th Prize Rs.220/-
1024 1026 1129 1159 1208 1213 1233 1252 1267 1207
1297 1298 1306 1311 1313 1315 1607 1630 1680 1690 1695
1511 1514 1526 1554 1564 1607 1630 1680 1690 1695
1731 1746 1776 1833 1856 1881 1943 1952 1988 2051
2069 2091 2108 2112 2112 2142 2160 2239 2276 2317
2343 2348 2364 2378 2421 2460 2470 2522 2550 2569
2654 2665 2667 2703 2758 2793 2815 2883 2888 2902
2937 2950 2991 3027 3101 3128 3136 3138 3146 3196
3198 3211 3222 3224 3235 3251 3278 3353 3402 3412
3425 3437 3441 3459 3462 3467 3469 3521 3539 3576
3585 3593 3606 3608 3630 3705 3783 3848 3873 3881
3886 3932 3958 3989 4001 4056 4074 4083 4087 4114
4119 4143 4159 4174 4178 4202 4211 4254 4276 4330
4330 4441 4455 4492 4495 4496 4503 4514 4557 4580
4615 4617 4634 4664 4670 4684 4702 4708 4748 4817
4858 4868 4911 4922 4924 4957 4968 4981 5000 5035
5057 5091 5102 5141 5186 5202 5232 5356 5367 5375
5405 5438 5445 5465 5500 5520 5530 5535 5538 5563
5588 5603 5635 5675 5678 5678 5685 5706 5736 5760
5773 5794 5800 5805 5812 5886 5887 5894 5904 5998

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR AFFECTIONATE MORNING
Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:04/02/18
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 87D 95618
Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 95618 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
36051 38753 45495 46700 60225
60886 72364 89848 91463 92699
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0237 0776 2425 3687 4274 4544 6061 6421 7641 9369
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0126 1447 1921 3639 3792 4319 7195 7920 7822 8012
5th Prize Rs.120/-
0041 0094 0293 0582 1056 1073 1239 1500 1518 1570
1581 1736 1761 1906 2200 2231 2307 2385 2511 2573
2718 2795 2822 2878 2963 3018 3122 3168 3186 3218
3224 3233 3257 3269 3460 3557 3568 3577 3653 3686
3869 4023 4237 4297 4320 4332 4573 4932 5132 5201
5373 5498 5546 5630 5708 5766 5812 5900 6058 6113
6115 6292 6397 6491 6517 6554 6717 6751 7024 7132
7155 7510 7531 7693 7712 7907 8291 8344 8345 8603
8633 8645 8654 8693 8795 8983 9028 9048 9149 9284
9827 9495 9504 9523 9681 9757 9785 9807 9822 9829

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR RESPECT
Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:04/02/18
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 99L 00434
Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 00434 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
20559 29836 34758 43097 44773
62713 79875 85894 91562 99448
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0685 0947 2552 3427 5435 5899 7462 7819 9874 9981
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0715 0934 1629 2452 2968 4208 5105 6829 7164 9213
5th Prize Rs.120/-
0024 0191 0404 0435 0515 0529 0555 0649 0695 0844
0892 0903 0924 0946 1119 1161 1207 1256 1281 1358
1407 1472 1590 1708 1873 1936 2054 2254 2255 2337
2346 2587 2599 2662 2804 3118 3243 3327 3350 3379
3525 3620 3634 3672 3695 3717 3726 3760 3840 3907
4165 4218 4402 4450 4711 4927 5002 5055 5116 5144
5221 5246 5479 5568 5656 5700 5744 6015 6034 6110
6160 6199 6598 6812 7211 7293 7321 7674 7897 7941
7947 8164 8416 8612 8756 8784 8900 8904 9010 9071
9173 9225 9439 9474 9633 9720 9723 9781 9820 9881

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR HAWK EVENING
Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:27 DrawDate on:02/02/18
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 97L 09265
Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 09265 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
05189 14499 32411 57938 60699
68012 68243 73451 74054 81325
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0248 0288 0691 2107 3433 4813 5031 7322 8555 9287
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0618 1176 2604 2794 4489 4609 5621 9245 9771 9821
5th Prize Rs.120/-
0157 0422 0436 0472 0476 0514 0727 0782 0961 1005
1131 1187 1381 1386 1405 1426 1497 1556 1660 1731
1846 1886 1939 2035 2215 2327 2410 2441 2469 2471
2527 2668 2755 2905 3044 3055 3154 3195 3346 3491
3654 3675 3742 4240 4341 4360 4522 4602 4641 4733
4990 5066 5145 5252 5262 5379 5662 5693 5733 5734
5773 5792 6143 6193 6198 6300 6134 6690 6749 6827
6877 6992 7040 7147 7267 7520 7739 7791 7849 8070
8144 8234 8414 8433 8500 8553 8725 8821 8845 8973
9050 9019 9252 9512 9576 9684 9712 9818 9823

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Date	Days
7 February	: Rose Day
8 February	: Propose Day
9 February	: Chocolate Day
10 February	: Teddy Day
11 February	: Promise Day
12 February	: Hug Day
13 February	: Kiss Day
14 February	: Valentine's Day

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE VALENTINE WEEK

So the most romantic week of the year is almost here – and if you are lucky enough to be in a relationship, this is the time to shower your girl/man with all the love and affection. Why? Because the world says so and your other half will be expecting it! Even you guys who have been waiting to cross over to the romantic side by expressing your feelings to that girl/boy you like, this is the time to do it. The entire universe is practically conspiring things like this during February. So, here is what the Valentine Week is all about, and we tell you how to go about it. Let's see what does each day stands for:

- Rose Day, (7 February).
- Propose Day, (8 February).
- Chocolate Day (9 February).
- Teddy Day (10 February).
- Promise Day (11 February).
- Hug Day (12 February).
- Kiss Day (13 February).
- Valentine's Day (14 February).

UMA THURMAN ACCUSES HARVEY WEINSTEIN OF ASSAULT

Uma Thurman has finally spoken out about her experience being assaulted by Harvey Weinstein.

In a New York Times story published on Saturday, February 3, the My Super Ex-Girlfriend star, 47, told the outlet that she got to know Weinstein after they worked on Pulp Fiction together. She alleges that Weinstein acted in a bizarre manner in Paris while they were having a meeting, before telling her to follow him down a hall into a steam room: "It was so hot and I said, 'This is ridiculous, what are you doing?' And he was getting very flustered and mad and he jumped up and ran out." Weinstein later attacked her in London at the Savoy Hotel. "It was such a bat to the head. He pushed me down. He tried to shove himself on me. He tried to expose himself. He did all kinds of unpleasant things. But he didn't actually put his back into it and force me. You're like an animal wriggling away, like a lizard," the actress said. "I was doing anything I could to get the train back on the track. My track. Not his track."

After the attack, the disgraced Hollywood producer sent her roses with a note that said, "You have great instincts." Thurman warned Weinstein later that if he did to other people what he did to her, he would lose



his career. A representative for Weinstein told The Times that the former mogul, who acknowledged making a pass at Thurman, agreed that "she very well could have said this." Thurman also alleges that her disdain for Weinstein affected her partnership with Quentin Tarantino, who confronted Harvey on her behalf after initially dismissing her claim.

"The complicated feeling I have about Harvey is how bad I feel about all the women that were attacked after I was. I am one of the reasons that

a young girl would walk into his room alone, the way I did. Quentin used Harvey as the executive producer of 'Kill Bill,' a movie that symbolizes female empowerment," Thurman told the outlet. "And all these lambs walked into slaughter because they were convinced nobody rises to such a position who would do something illegal to you, but they do."

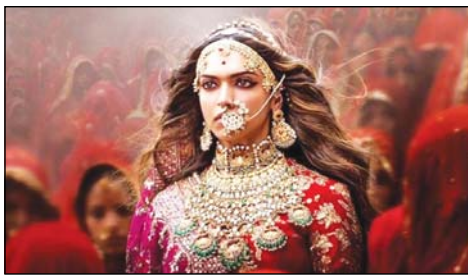
Thurman first broke her silence on Weinstein last year on Thanksgiving, when she shared a photo on Instagram and captioned it, "Happy

Thanksgiving Everyone! (Except you Harvey, and all your wicked conspirators – I'm glad it's going slowly – you don't deserve a bullet.)"

The disgraced former studio head made headlines in October 2017 after The New York Times published a report detailing decades of sexual harassment and assault allegations against him. More than 80 women have come forward, including actresses Rose McGowan, Angelina Jolie, Gwyneth Paltrow and Daryl Hannah.

SANJAY LEELA BHANSALI'S PADMAAVAT FINALLY GETS A NOD FROM THE KARNI SENA

Padmaavat has been directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali and has Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh and Shahid Kapoor in the lead roles. The film revolves around the courage of Rani Padmavati and her ways. Padmaavat was caught off guard when during the making of the film, Sanjay Leela Bhansali was attacked for making a film that would harm the sentiments of the Rajputs. As time went by, the fire was fanned by rumors and hearsay as the film's release was halted because of strong protests against it. A fringe group called the Shri Rajput Karni Sena wanted the film to be banned across India. However, the makers



of Padmaavat were supported by the Supreme Court as after a few cuts in the film, it was given a clean hit with the right to release it all across India. But, the protests seemed to continue and cinema halls were lined with police officers for safety.

But, it now seems that the long drawn battle of Padmaavat has finally come to an end. The Karni Sena has officially decided to stop its protest against the film stating that Padmaavat glorifies the valor of the Rajputs.

Shri Rashtriya Rajput

Karni Sena's Mumbai leader Yogendra Singh Katar said, "a few members watched the movie in Mumbai on Friday, and found that that the movie glorifies the valor and sacrifice of Rajput and every Rajput will feel proud after watching the film. There is no such objectionable scene between Delhi Sultanate ruler Alauddin Khilji and Queen Padmini of Mewar which hurts the sentiments of Rajputs. The Karni Sena takes back their protest and will help the administration to release the film in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat as well as across all cinema houses in India."

BTS' 'MIC DROP' REMIX WITH STEVE AOKI AND DESIGNER CERTIFIED GOLD IN U.S

Coming off the best year of their career thus far, BTS has one new thing to celebrate as they move into 2018: the group just made history by becoming the first Korean group to have a song certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).

On Saturday night (Feb. 3), featured rapper Designer broke the news on Twitter, saying "Mic Drop went gold" and tagging both BTS and Steve Aoki, who produced the remix version of "Mic Drop."

The song, released in November, is BTS' first stateside hit, and peaked at No. 28 on the Hot 100 chart. It has remained on that chart for nine weeks and currently ranks at No. 84 (as of the Feb. 3 chart update). The remix of "Mic Drop" has been gaining



traction on a variety of other charts, and last week the song debuted on the Rhythmic Songs chart, which tracks radio play on stations that cross the divide between pop and R&B/hip-hop.

Being the first Korean group to ever see an album accredited gold by the RIAA is a major achievement for

the boy band that has been making headway stateside thanks to their dynamic music style and a fiercely dedicated fan base known collectively as ARMY. It is the second Korean song to gain this distinction, following Psy's "Gangnam Style," which went multi-platinum in 2012 and 2013, for its digital

and physical versions, respectively.

To be certified gold by the RIAA, a song must move more than 500,000 equivalent units between digital downloads and audio and video streaming, with 150 streams counting toward the equivalent of one formal unit.

BTS' local rep Eshy Gazit also celebrated the news, telling fans that Designer's label, Def Jam Records, had alerted him of it. The Korean act and Aoki have yet to publicly comment on the achievement at time of publication.

"Mic Drop" was released in its original version in September on BTS' Love Yourself: Her EP, while the remix came out in November. The album peaked at No. 7 on the Billboard 200, the highest-ever by a K-pop group.



SPACED OUT! Zayn Malik is spotted on the streets of New York wearing a jacket adorned with NASA patches.

ARIES: The effect from the planetary aspects will bring an end to any lethargy you've been feeling. Aries. It's an excellent day to get up and head into the open to do something active. Walking, running, or going on a hike can make great use of both your energy and creativity. Fresh air and physical exertion will lend much to your health as well, so make the most of this. Even if you have to work today, you can always enjoy the evening.

TAURUS: Take charge of your overall health today. Taurus. You'll likely wake up feeling energetic and well. Seize this opportunity to be active in doing things that will help continue your good feelings. Consider all aspects of your health, including emotional and spiritual. If you can, sit outside in the

sunshine and fresh air to consider the areas of your life that could use a workout. Take a walk, do some gardening, engage in something both creative and physical.

GEMINI: If there's something crafty or artsy you've had your eye on and would really like to get but can't afford, Gemini, consider making it. Even if you don't consider yourself artistic, you may surprise yourself if you give a project half a chance. There are numerous websites that cater to novices and can give you the support and instruction you need. Don't dismiss your ability. Explore this avenue and see about finding a creative niche for yourself.

CANCER: It's the perfect day to get up and head outside. Cancer. You'll likely find yourself feeling positive and energetic, and some

fresh air, sunshine, and physical activity may be long overdue. Even if this is a workday for you, make the most of your breaks and lunch hour by walking. This evening may be the opportune time to get together with some friends for coffee or a favorite sporting event.

LEO: It won't be surprising if you find yourself getting frustrated with a close friend or partner today who is far less ambitious than you, Leo. The energy in the air can really emphasize your "go, go, go" way of reaching goals and achieving success. Others who are passive or fearful in this area may be difficult to understand. Yet each person has to do things in ways that are best for him or her. Try to be patient.

VIRGO: See about using your good relationships with friends and loved ones today to get some group

activities going. Virgo. Chances are you'll feel pretty good and the idea of socializing will appeal to you. See about inviting people over for supper or a game of cards. If you're especially lively, some sports may be just the ticket to get you out and moving. Do whatever it takes to have some fun and get some fresh air today.

LIBRA: If you're lacking a regular exercise routine, Libra, today's a great day to turn that around. Exercise doesn't have to wear you out or hurt. Even relaxing activities like walking or yoga are excellent ways to keep you in good shape. Participating in a sport that appeals to you like volleyball or bowling combines fun with exercise. Heck, even dancing is a recognized form of exercise! See about finding something that will work for you.

SCORPIO: Put your ambition into action today, Scorpio. The day's planetary aspects should find you feeling energetic and positive. Make the most of this by taking steps toward your goals. As you know, if you don't actively pursue things, nothing will happen. The years can pass by so quickly and you wouldn't want to be sitting on a rocker wondering "what if." Trust yourself and do what it takes. Everything starts with a single step. **SAGITTARIUS:** Don't hesitate when it comes to taking on a project or making plans today. Sagittarius. Extra energy will complement your organizational skills, making the perfect combination to handle almost anything. Be sure to write down your goals and plans to help keep you focused. If you decide to tackle any cleaning today, get rid of

the things you never use. Consider donating such items to charity, since there's undoubtedly someone out there who could use them.

CAPRICORN: Today should go well for you, Capricorn. Expect to feel a renewed energy and perspective on things, especially those that are work related. Make the most of this by working toward finishing projects that are waiting for you or by cleaning and organizing your desk or broom closet. Feel confident that you'll be able to handle most any task in no time. When everything you wanted to get done is taken care of, make some plans for a little recreation. You deserve it.

AQUARIUS: Today you may notice that you're feeling very creative and ambitious, Aquarius. You might want to use these

strengths to work directly on an artistic project. Or you may choose to channel that energy into activities like organizing your home or workspace. If you plan it out, there should be plenty of time to get to both if you have a mind to. Make the most of the day!

PISCES: Don't be surprised if you wake up feeling super today, Pisces. Chances are good that you'll feel a renewed physical strength with energy to spare. That said, it might be a good day to tackle any projects that require you to use some muscle. Perhaps there's some yard work that needs to be done or furniture you want to move around. On the fun side, you might want to get to the gym for a workout or swim. Whatever the activity, today is a good day to go for it!