



SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 217 | Gangtok | Saturday | 19 August 2017

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

RBI to issue new fluorescent blue Rs 50 notes

MUMBAI, AUG 18 (PTI): The Reserve Bank will soon introduce new fluorescent blue Rs 50 banknotes bearing the motif of 'Hampi with Chariot' that depicts India's cultural heritage.

RBI said it will shortly issue these Rs 50 denomination banknotes in the Mahatma Gandhi (new) series.

"The new denomination has motif of Hampi with Chariot on the reverse, depicting the country's cultural heritage. The base colour of the note is fluorescent blue," RBI said in a release.

Among others, the new notes will have designs and geometric patterns aligning with the overall colour schemes, both at the obverse and reverse, it added.

On the obverse/front side, the note will have portrait of Mahatma Gandhi at the centre, denominational value in Devanagari script, micro letters RBI, India -- both in English and Devanagari -- as well as the numeral "50".

The Ashoka pillar emblem will be on the right side of the obverse and an electrottype watermark and the number panel with numerals in ascending order on the top left side and bottom right side.

The new note having dimension of 66 mm turn to pg02

High transmission line over Tibuk and Zusing snaps, villagers raise safety concerns



WANGCHUK BHUTIA MANGAN, 18 AUG:

After one of the wires of a high transmission line running across the villages of Tibuk and Zusing of Mangshila in North Sikkim snapped on 17 Aug causing a power surge (probably upon coming in contact with the local electricity supply line) that fried televisions and refrigerators in some houses, the public of these areas are living in fear of more damage to life and property.

The wire was part of the high transmission line of Teestavalley Power Transmission Ltd [TPTL] and is said to have tripped with the state LT line. The damaged wire also damaged the standing crop in the area, it is informed.

"The high transmission line of TPTL was commissioned earlier this year. There is no clear picture of the cause of damage, maybe it is due to substandard work but this has been posing a threat to the lives of villagers here," said Sharba Dhoj Limboo of 4th Mile, Mangshila.

"The public have also stated that they are scared to send their children to Tibuk School in the rain. The situation has been brought to the knowledge of the District Administration. This is the second time that an HT line has collapsed. However, previously the line wasn't active unlike this time," said Panchayat President, Dilli Ram Limboo.

He further stated that a list of nine houses under threat has already been submitted to the District Administration. Mr Limboo has urged TPTL to resolve the problem.

"Fortunately, no one was walking on the footpath at the time of the incident. The noise of the explosion was also very loud. We saw flames and smoke at the time of the incident," said Suk Bahadur Limboo of Tibuk.

Following the incident, Sub Divisional Magistrate-Mangan, PW Lepcha, visited the spot on 17 Aug and held a meeting with the public and the Panchayat.

The SDM, while speaking to SummitTimes, said that within three days, the Revenue Surveyor will assess the damage which the TPTL will have to compensate. The District Administration has directed the project developer to disburse the compensation within 15 days, the SDM added.

He further said that the District Administration has issued a summon to TPTL officials to visit the North District Administration office on 07 Sept wherein the issue regarding the houses falling under danger zone and other technical problems will be addressed.

It may be mentioned here that TPTL is a joint venture between Teesta Urja Ltd and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Will continue to engage with China for Doklam solution: India

NEW DELHI, AUG 18 (PTI): India today said it will continue to engage with China to find a mutually acceptable solution to the Doklam stand-off, asserting that peace and tranquility on the border is an important pre-requisite for smooth bilateral relationship.

"We will continue to engage with China to find a mutually acceptable solution," MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said replying to a volley of questions on the issue.

Asked about incident between Chinese troops and Indian border guards in Ladakh on August 15, the MEA spokesperson said, "Such incidents are not in the interest of either side."

He said two border

meetings (BPMs) had taken place between Indian border guards and Chinese troops recently.

He said one BPM had taken place at Chushul on August 16 and another one at Nathu La a week before.

When asked whether China had shared hydrological data with India as floods have severely hit Assam and Bihar, Kumar said no such data was received from Beijing on Brahmaputra this year.

India and China have an existing mechanism under which both countries share hydrological data.

Kumar said non-sharing of hydrological data by China cannot be linked to the current standoff as there can be technical reasons for it.

Area domination march in Darjeeling on 65th day of shutdown

DARJEELING (WB), AUG 18 (PTI): Police and security forces today conducted area domination march in various parts of the hills on the 65th day of the indefinite shutdown today.

Though no incident of violence has been reported since last night, the police and security personnel have been keeping a tight vigil, a senior police officer said.

The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), which is spearheading the agitation for a separate Gorkhaland, took out

rallies in various parts of the hills. They demanded restoration of internet services, which was cut off in the hills since June 18, besides an immediate withdrawal of security forces from Darjeeling.

The GJM activists and NGOs were seen distributing food among the locals as food supply has been severely hit due to the prolonged shutdown.

Barring medicine shops, all other commercial establishments, schools and colleges remained shut.

IndiGo cancels 84 flights over engine issues

MUMBAI, AUG 18 (PTI): Budget carrier IndiGo on Friday cancelled 84 flights as it grounded more of its Airbus A320 planes over issues relating to availability of engines.

The InterGlobe Aviation-run IndiGo, which had grounded nine A320 neo (new engine option) planes due to issues regarding its Pratt & Whitney engines in June quarter, has grounded four more aircraft taking the total number of AOG (aircraft on ground) to 13, aviation sources told PTI.

Of these, 11 aircraft (VT-IFC, VT-IXN, VT-ITB, VT-ITS, VT-ITF, VT-ITM, VT-ITP, VT-ITJ, VT-IFM, VT-ITO and VT-ITG) are grounded in Delhi, while one plane each has been grounded at Hyderabad and Chennai, the sources said, adding 84 flights were cancelled Friday.

IndiGo, which is the country's leading air carrier, however, released two statements to explain its position. It said there is no "new development" pertaining to the grounding of neos.

In the first statement, IndiGo said that its eight neos are grounded and it had already factored in the impact of the grounding of these planes in its July-September schedule.

"This is to clarify that our 8 neos are grounded. Our schedule was planned in the month of June itself pertaining to non-availability of these aircraft for the month of July, August and September. The affected passengers have already been accommodated with suitable options," it said.

In the second statement, the airline said four of its Airbus 320(current engine option-ceo) aircraft are "grounded" due to the engines being stuck at the Customs.

"We are awaiting certain clarifications post the implementation of GST, which has led to unplanned flight cancellations. All passengers have been informed of the changes and accommodated with suitable options," it said.

turn to pg03

11 million people affected due to floods in India: IFRC

GENEVA, AUG 18 (PTI): A "serious" humanitarian crisis is unfolding across South Asia where "devastating" monsoon floods have affected more than 16 million people, including over 11 million in India, the Red Cross said today.

According to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), over 16 million people have been affected by monsoon flooding across India, Nepal and Bangladesh with more than 400 deaths in the three countries.

"This is fast becoming one of the most serious humanitarian crises this region has seen in many years and urgent action is needed to meet the growing needs of millions of people affected by these devastating floods," said Martin Faller, Deputy Regional Director for Asia Pacific IFRC.

"Millions of people across Nepal, Bangladesh and India face severe



food shortages and disease caused by polluted flood waters," Faller said.

In India over 11 million people are affected by floods in four states across the north of the country. India's meteorological department is forecasting more heavy rain for the region in the coming days, the IFRC said in a report.

Around 74 more deaths were reported yesterday from the deluge-battered areas of Bihar, Assam and West Bengal, taking the figure of flood casualties to 119 in Bihar.

Flood levels have already reached record highs in Bangladesh. Flooding of major rivers such as the Jamuna has

surpassed levels set in 1988 the deadliest floods the country has ever faced, it said.

"More than one third of Bangladesh and Nepal have been flooded and we fear the humanitarian crisis will get worse in the days and weeks ahead," Faller said.

In Nepal, many areas remain cut off after the most recent destructive floods and landslides, on August 11 and 12.

"This tragic flooding in Nepal has claimed at least 128 lives and 33 people are still missing," said Dev Ratna Dhakhwa, Secretary General, Nepal Red Cross Society.

In Bangladesh, floods are likely to get much worse as swollen rivers

from India pour into the low-lying and densely populated areas in the north and centre of the country. Over 3.9 million people have been affected by the rising flood waters, the report said.

Volunteers from Indian Red Cross and Bangladesh Red Crescent are working non-stop alongside local authorities to help their communities be safe and prepare for worsening floods, it said.

IFRC released just over 320,000 Swiss Francs (USD 330,000) from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in late July to support the immediate needs of 25,000 of the worst affected people in eastern India over three months, it added.

Geneva-based IFRC is the world's largest humanitarian network, comprising 190 member National Societies that work to save lives and promote dignity around the world.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF STNMH

ABHISHEK LEMO GURUNG

IN CONCERT

19 August 2017
Manan Kendra
5:00 PM

GUEST PERFORMERS
EMRS Gangyap
Neha & Smyrna
Bamboo Groove

FINALIST OF THE STAGE

NEHA FRADHAN SMYRNA SAMTEN SHERPA GURAV ASHISH VASHISHTHA ASHWINI

BAMBOO GROOVE

EMRS GANGYAP

SUZHANG ARPANA RINCHEN THULZEY KARMA

Each Friday Field Day team visits Sumbuk Kartikey

SUMMIT REPORT NAMCHI, 18 AUG:

Under Each Friday, Field Day, a team led by District Collector-South and comprising of Joint Director-Human Resource Development Department, Deputy Director-HRDD and other field staffs visited Sumbuk-Kartikey in South Sikkim today.

A press release from the DC's office informs that during their visit at Government Junior High School, Kamarey, a minor slip was observed in front of the school for which a

17m wall will be constructed to protect the school.

Students were tested for reading and mathematical skills and were found to have some problem solving maths problems. Therefore, the DC South has directed the concerned Headmaster to continue with remedial classes on a daily basis.

Further, it was observed that one protective work sanctioned last year has not been completed yet for which Block Development Officer-Sumbuk and concerned Junior Engineer have been



requested to complete it soon. One retention wall and repair of footpath has also been sanctioned through DLRC.

At Kartikey JHS, it has been reported that there was no mathematics teacher in the school since May. The work sanc-

tioned during their last visit had just started with fund being sanctioned by Panchayat. Further, repair and restoration of footpath has been sanctioned through DLRC.

Moving forward with the visit, one portion of land was found to be damaged at Lungchok JHS, therefore, restoration has been sanctioned through DLRC. Students at the school were found to have problem in solving mathematical questions. Hence, the DC South has advised the HM to improve the quali-

ty of remedial classes.

At Sumbuk Senior Secondary School, a school adopted under DISHA, one unique concept of "Classroom Enrichment Programme" was being implemented wherein every last day of a week, one teacher teaches in front of all the school teachers and shares experiences as well in order to evaluate and assess the quality of a teacher.

The DC held a short interactive session with the students of 10th Standard at Sumbuk SSS.

He informed that the aim of DISHA is to improve quality of education and perform better in board exams. He also informed that students have to work hard to pass in boards as the exam pattern has changed. The written exam shall be tougher than previous system of examination, he informed.

He directed the school to conduct weekly diagnostic tests and identify category of students as above average, average and below average. Focus on each student will be done as per the category he or she fits in. Remedial classes for below average students and more activities for above average students is to be conducted.

The Deputy Directors will conduct test every month to assess the improvement or progress of students. After two months, first Achievement Test will be conducted at District Level. The Assessment will be done by teachers of a different school, the DC informed.

He further read out the names of above average students and added that many students were still under average and below average category. The DC urged the teachers and parents to help students lose fear of exams so that they can secure quality marks. He also read out the performance of students in all subjects. Hence he urged the teachers to work hard

so that improvement can be seen.

He informed that the best students will be awarded on monthly basis and their name and photo will be affixed on the school's Notice Board. Further, best teacher for every DISHA school shall also be awarded similarly. Later the best school will also be awarded with Rs 10000 as per the achievement test.

After the board exam is announced, a category for best student, teacher and school has also been decided. The award will be conferred to three best students, teachers and schools, the DC added. He urged parents to help children focus more on studies so that students are more motivated. Principal of the school has requested the JD-HRDD to provide one Maths teacher in the school.

The JD-HRDD urged the students to work hard and focus on studies so as to score more marks in the boards. He informed that the Administration is there to help the students but it is incumbent upon the students to perform well.

The DC South urged the School Management Committee to carry out painting and beautification of the school wall so that the school looks more attractive. Repair and restoration works have been sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA as there was a minor slip in the area.

Robbery at construction company's camp

GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

Some unknown person/s entered the project camp of Mosvaraya Infrastructure Pvt Ltd at Namli Village in East Sikkim on 17 Aug and made away with eight mobile phones and cash amounting to Rs 13,000. The theft was committed at night while 10 labourers were asleep in the camp. Efforts are being made to trace the miscreant/s.

Two booked under SADA

GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

Two persons were found in possession of contraband substances on 17 Aug and have been booked under SADA. The accused, one 22-year-old male hailing from Ranipool and one 28-year-old male originally hailing from Tokal Bermiok and at present residing in Ranipool, were intercepted in a Siliguri-Gangtok bound SNT bus at Rangpo check post. During search, 556 loose capsules of Spasmodoxon and 92 tablets of N10 were recovered from them.

RBI to issue new fluorescent blue Rs 50 notes

contd from pg01

X 135 mm will bear the year of printing on the reverse side, a Swachh Bharat logo with slogan, language panel and the motif of 'Hampi with Chariot'.

"All the banknotes in the denomination of Rs 50 issued by the Reserve Bank in the earlier series will continue to be legal tender," RBI added.

to book advertisements in SummitTimes call 03592-208698 9734152541 9647102692 advertise@summittimes.com

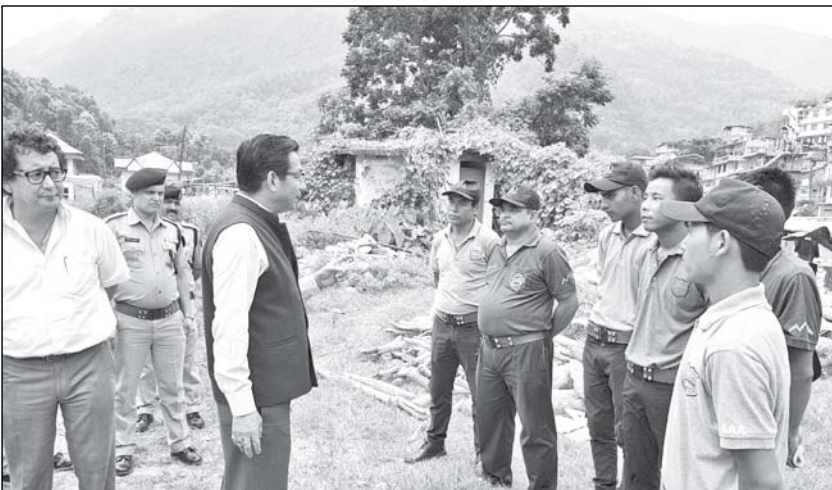
Mock drill of rescue operation held on the banks of Rangit

JORETHANG, 18 AUG [IPR]:

DANS Energy Pvt Ltd in coordination with Sub Divisional Magistrate Office-Jorethang, Fire & Emergency Services, Police, Engineers from Energy and Power and Water Resources & River Development Departments and Naya Bazaar Jorethang Municipal Corporation conducted a mock drill and sensitization programme on Rescue Operation on the banks of River Rangit at Majhigaon in Jorethang on 17 Aug.

The programme was attended by the officers concerned from the sub-division. Pamphlets on safety measures were also distributed on the occasion.

However, it was found that DANS Energy needs to provide proper train-



ing to the guards which could be facilitated by the Fire personnel or NDRF. They need to be prompt in executing their duties effectively. Also commu-

nication channel from First Responder to Incident Commander needs to be ensured. Necessary instruction in this regard will be forwarded to

DANS Energy.

Further, expert local swimmers also need to be provided with necessary equipments or such equipments should

be made available in the Control Room. Similarly, more volunteers need to be identified and necessary trainings are to be provided to them.

Ralap Sec School HM congratulates football team

SUMMIT REPORT SINGTAM, 18 AUG:

Headmaster of Ralap Secondary School, Dorjee Sherpa, has congratulated his school football team for winning the U-14 Independence Day Inter School Football Tournament held at Manjushri Public School on 15 Aug.

The Headmaster appreciated the efforts of the boys and asked all the students to work hard in order to achieve their goals, a press release informs.

The boys from Ralap SS defeated Manjushri Public School with 2-0 in the final. Sandeep Subba and Sangay Tamang scored for the winning team. Further, Suman Tamang and Sandeep



Subba from Ralap SS also bagged Highest Goal Scorer and the Man of the Match trophy. Eight schools had participated in the tournament.

"It was all about team effort and I had faith in my boys," says sports teacher of Ralap SS, Yogesh Gurung.

Headmaster of Ral-

ap SS, in the release, has expressed gratitude to Wendy Pulger of Manjushri Public School for being a wonderful host.

Swachhta Pakhwada at Namchi

SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 18 AUG: Swachhta Pakhwada 2017 with the theme 'One step towards cleanliness' was observed at Namchi on 17 Aug. The event was attended by sportspersons from Sports Authority of India [SAI] and Special Area Games [SAG] Centre, Namchi, and Sports & Youth Affairs officials, Namchi.

Municipal Executive Officer-Namchi, Rajiv Rai, Councillor-Namchi Municipal Corporation, Kamal Chettri, and Additional Director-SYA, NK Pradhan, were also present during the programme.

The event included an awareness programme on waste management, cleanliness drives and a door-to-door awareness campaign.

Orientation programme for One Stop Centre & Women Helpline workers

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

An orientation programme was conducted for the functionaries of One Stop Centre & 181 Women Helpline at Samaj Kalyan Bhawan in Lumsay today which was chaired by Minister for Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department, Tulshi Devi Rai.

A press release informs that One Stop Centre & 181 Women Helpline services intend to support women affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace.

A valedictory function was also organized for the three-month long Motor Driving Training conducted under Spe-



cial Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan scheme. Thirty Scheduled Caste youths successfully completed the training. The Minister handed the certificates to

the beneficiaries.

The Minister, in her address, spoke about the importance of ensuring safety to women in the state and urged all the functionaries of One Stop

Centre to work with utmost dedication. She also urged the beneficiaries of the Motor Driving Training to make the best use of the training and become self-employed.



out-of-the-box
SALE!

BOOKS
new releases,
old favourites
going at a
DISCOUNT

visit
RACHNA
Above Café Fiction
Development Area
Gangtok, Sikkim



Gangtok on Saturday, 19 Aug

Temp: 25°C / 17°C
Forecast: Remaining cloudy and not as warm with showers mainly early on.
Sunrise: 05:08 AM
Sunset: 06:10 PM

Poor attendance of government employees during I-Day celebration: DC West

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 18 AUG: A circular has been issued today by District Collector-West, Kapil Meena, which states that the presence of Head of Departments/officers and staff of government departments during the Independence Day celebration in the district was very poor.

It further states that the attendance of the officers is not satisfactory during other government functions and meetings sometimes called by the District Administration. Attendance and active participation during the celebration of days of national importance is very important and absence during such government functions directly attracts the provisions of State Government Conduct Rules, the circular adds.

As per the directions received in the past from the Chief Minister's Office, it has been asked to forward the names of the employees found absent or non punctual in the government offices repeatedly, the circular reads.

Hence, it is directed that such casual approach of the government employees towards government functions and meetings must be prevented and 100% attendance must be ensured in coming times, the circular reads.

Names of employees who were not found in their offices during a surprise check conducted on Thursday have also been forwarded to higher authorities, the circular informs.

Concerned Sikkimese urges all to join rally on Sunday

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

Concerned Sikkimese, the group that is organizing a rally on 20 Aug in the capital, has appealed to all the people of Sikkim to join the rally. The organizers have also clarified that the rally is for a social cause and totally apolitical.

The rally is being organized on Sunday to register protest against fake Sikkim Subject Certificates/Certificate of Identification.

Addressing a press conference here today,

Concerned Sikkimese chief coordinator, Tshering Wangchuk Lepcha, informed that the rally will start from Titanic Park at 12 noon and will go upto Zero Point and will conclude at Bhanu Park. He stated that the rally is above politics and being held in the interest of Sikkim and its people.

While stressing that the state government should understand this issue, he has appealed to the leaders of ruling and opposition parties, members of various organisations and the general

public to participate in the rally.

Mr Lepcha welcomed the decision of the Chief Minister regarding digitalization of SSC and COI. However, he added that the CM made this announcement due to pressure created by Concerned Sikkimese.

Passang Sherpa stated that the rally is not to protest against the government or any political or non-political organisation but against fake CoIs.

Likewise, Dewakar Basnet suggested re-ver-

ification of the SSCs and COIs along with its digitalization. He also appealed to the members of the civil society to participate in the rally and not to connect it with politics.

Tseten Tashi Bhutia stressed that the rally is just for the Sikkim Subject and COI and not against anyone. He stated that Biraj Adhikari and Delay Namgyal Barfungpa filed the PIL in the interest of all Sikkimese people and this rally is to show the Sikkimese people's support for the PIL.

Phalaichadara JHS students visit Vipassana Centre at Samdong



SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

With the aim of making the concept of learning beyond classroom a reality, two groups of students of Phalaichadara Junior High School visited BAC Rakdong Tintek and Sikkim Vipassana Centre at Samdong in East Sikkim today.

The first group comprised of students from Class IV-V led by D Karki, BP Rai and D Pandey. They visited offices of different departments located in the BAC and interacted with the officials at the BAC.

The second group was led by PP Lepcha, JD Chhetri and Y Bhutia who escorted the students of Class UKG, I, II and III to the Vipassana Centre at Samdong. Similar trips to other places will be organized for students of other classes in the coming months, the release adds.

Yangang BAC conducts coordination meet with HRD officials

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

Yangang BAC, South Sikkim, conducted a coordination meeting today with HRDD officials at Yangang Senior Secondary School. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Director-HRDD, BK Pandey, and was attended by Assistant Director, CB Dahal, Assistant Education Officer, MK Pradhan, a press release informs.

The agenda of organizing the meet was the selection of schools for participation in the Kala



Utsav 2017, a Ministry of Human Resource Department initiative, which is to be held in New Delhi later this year.

The meeting also

congratulated Lingmo School Principal, KL Dahal, for receiving the Best School Award.

Various other issues on education system

were put forward by Principal of Yangang SSS, AD Chhetri, including the use of Atal Digital Lab of Yangang SSS by other schools as well.



YOGA AND HEALTH AWARENESS AT ICAI

GANGTOK, 18 AUG: Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centre organised a daylong programme on Yoga and Health Awareness at ICAI University campus in Gangtok today. The programme was conducted by Director-SYVC, Deepa Gurung, and attended by the faculty and students of ICAI University, a press release informs.

US approves USD 500-million aid to Nepal

KATHMANDU, Aug 18 (PTI): The US has approved USD 500- million aid to Nepal to boost the country's transport and power sectors, including a second cross-border electricity transmission line with India.

The USD 500 million will be provided by the US government's Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a foreign aid agency set up by the US Congress in 2004. It is independent from the State Department and the USAID.

The Nepal government has committed to contribute an additional USD 130 million, the US embassy said in a statement.

The compact - MCC's larger grant programme - includes two projects.

The electricity transmission project

is designed to expand Nepal's power sector, which includes a second cross-border transmission line to facilitate electricity trade with India.

The other project is designed to improve the road maintenance regime in Nepal.

The compact is likely to be signed by both governments in September.

"I am pleased to announce the Millennium Challenge Corporation Board of Directors' approval of the Nepal Compact," said its acting CEO Jonathan Nash.

"This compact with Nepal focuses on the power and transportation sectors to improve regional connectivity, spur private investment, drive growth, and reduce poverty," Nash said.

NHRC notice to Centre over plan to deport Rohingya immigrants

NEW DELHI, Aug 18 (PTI): The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Centre over plan to deport illegal Rohingya immigrants from Myanmar who are residing in various parts of India.

The Centre had said illegal immigrants like the Rohingyas pose grave security challenges as they may be recruited by terror groups, and had asked state governments to identify and deport them. Taking note of the is-

sue, the NHRC said that till today, the country has evolved a practical balance between human and humanitarian obligations on the one hand and security and national interest on the other.

Stating that "India has been home to refugees, for centuries", the Commission has held that from the human rights angle, its "intervention is appropriate" in the matter.

"The National Human Rights Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports regarding the plans of the Government of India to deport about 40,000 illegal Rohingya immigrants from Myanmar, who are residing in various parts of India.

"It has issued a notice to the Union Home Ministry, through its Secretary, calling for a detailed re-

port in the matter within four weeks," it said in a statement.

The NHRC observed that "refugees are no doubt foreign nationals but they are human beings and before taking a big step, the government of India has to look into every aspect of the situation."

The Commission has also observed that the Supreme Court has consistently held that the fundamental right enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution regarding right to life and personal liberty, "applies to all, irrespective of the fact whether they are citizens of India or not."

"It (India) has continued to receive a large number of refugees from different countries. India is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention on Refugees and also the 1967 Protocol.

IndiGo cancels 84 flights over engine issues

contd from pg01

commodated accordingly.

There is no new development pertaining to the grounding of neos. As mentioned in our June earning's call, there were instances where 9 neos were grounded due to inadequate spare engines. At present, 8 neos are grounded because of the unavailability of spare engines. These have already been factored in our revised schedule which was finalized in June and there are no additional flight cancellations on account of these neos," it said.

According to the sources, a total of 667 flights were cancelled by IndiGo between June 21 and July 3 this year, with 61 flights cancelled on June 27 alone, due to the grounding of its planes.

IndiGo President Aditya Ghosh had during the post-Q1 earnings call on July 31 said that "regretta-



bly, there have been days when we have had to ground as many as nine A320 neos due to lack of spare engines. While we do receive certain compensation from Pratt and Whit-

ney for these groundings, the operational disruptions are quite challenging and we are not happy with that situation."

A text message sent to the Director

General of Civil Aviation, B S Bhullar, seeking response to a query whether the DGCA was considering grounding of the entire Airbus A320 neo fleet with P & W engines, did not yield any response.

The aviation regulator had earlier this month expressed its concern over grounding of the A320 PW neo engine-powered aircraft, which are currently being flown by IndiGo and GoAir, and the inconvenience to the passengers after it reviewed the progress made by the US engine maker in fixing the glitches.

The meeting was attended by representatives from P & W, European aircraft major Airbus as well as from IndiGo and GoAir.

In March, the DGCA had asked the engine maker to fix the issues related to its engines powering A320 neo planes of the two budget airlines.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

This tender Notice is being issued for the "Appointment of Training Agency for providing localized IT Domain specific training to Government officials in Gangtok". Interested agencies/firms may submit their proposal at the office of the undersigned. For further details on the Tender Document please log into www.sikkim.gov.in. The last date for submission of proposals is **08/09/2017**.

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE/CRTI.

Environmental Concerns

The real ones, not the ones that babus deem as important

The US is grappling with the embarrassment of having a President who prefers pollution over protection (of the environment) and has imperiled the fate of an international accord which would have scaled down emissions which have been harming the planet for far too long. Meanwhile, the developing world wants the developed countries to clean up their act and reduce their unloading of greenhouse gases. What cannot be denied is that the developed countries remain predominant producers of these gases and therefore need to take the lead in reducing harmful emissions. The developing world, because this section also needs to provide for its people and has a lot of catching up to do is also a major contributor now, although their per capita contribution to the ruining of Earth is comparatively much lower. But then again, most of the people on this planet reside in the developing segment so the quantum becomes too large to ignore. These are part of the global debate on the environment which has been going on for many years. The developed countries have been asking the poorer nations to desist from practices that harm the global environment while the developing countries have pointed the finger right back at the richer countries over the hothouse gas issue. The blame game is not going to cool this planet down or stop it from overheating. While both sides make valid points, the unavoidable fact is that all of us, the rich and the poor, have to live together on spaceship Earth. We have to be collectively responsible for making the world environmentally sustainable.

While the developing countries need to ensure that their factories move up the technological ladder and adopt manufacturing methods that are safe, the richer countries must help with transfer of technology to the poorer countries so that they can become environmentally responsible. The developed countries cannot dictate terms in this regard and have to listen to the reasonable arguments of the poorer nations.

While the debate between the developed and the developing heats up further, it is time that we started another debate at the national level - one between the highlands and lowlands. In Sikkim, as must surely be the case with any other hill state, we suffer because of rules framed by policy-makers sitting in the air-conditioned confines of Shastri Bhavan posturing concern for glaciers like Zemu or Gangotri. They read somewhere that using wood for fuel puts undue pressure on the environment. While this might be true, they don't realise that a villager in Labdang in west Sikkim does not have as easy an access to even kerosene oil as the babu in Delhi has to LPG. He has no alternative, but to depend on the forest for his needs. Why the policy framers can't comprehend the fact that villagers don't exploit the forest resources, but only share it in sustainable models refined over centuries, defies all logic. Maybe it doesn't, because, sadly for the peripheral States like Sikkim, policies are framed with dry statistics in mind by even drier officials. Local concerns are ignored and the colonial hangover sees to it that the natives need to be told what to do. So even though Sikkim and Himachal lost a lot of their forests to provide timber for the railway berths which never even made the climb to their towns, the locals are made to pay. All of a sudden someone realised that the forest cover was shrinking and the forests were made out of bounds for the locals who might have even protested when the plains denuded their hills. Since we sit on the lungs of the entire country, it is time that Sikkim and other states like it should be given a greater say in framing environmental policies. And no, the Forest Rights Act, at least in the form it is understood and implemented is not the way to go. The rest of the country, the section which ruined the environment, should listen to regions which have conserved well and lived responsibly.

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

The Dilemma of Sikkim Subjects

KC PRADHAN

Protection of Sikkim Subject Certificates is the issue that is buzzing all around. We heard the Government's stand in the Chief Minister's Independence Day address. My Whatsapp is flooded with all sorts of comments from people of all shades. It is fun to go through these messages and get to know and understand how the people of Sikkim - rather Gangtokians - look upon it. Some comments are hilarious, some patriotic and rather nostalgic of the days gone by, but the one that struck me the most was a verse: "The world suffers a lot, not because of the violence of bad people but because of the silence of good people". This convinced me to scribble some thoughts off the cuff.

I had a hand in many of the issues related to the issue while in charge of Home Department and then as Chief Secretary. There were around 1.73 lakh recorded in the original Sikkim Subjects Register maintained as per 1961 Sikkim Subject Regulation. Mr NB Bhandari, when he was Chief Minister, announced a further 73,000 left out persons to be declared as Sikkim Subjects and the ball was lobbed in our court. We had a long discussion with officials of the Union Home Ministry arrived at the decision that the basis should primarily be the Sikkim Subjects Register as maintained by the Government of Sikkim. Two Deputy Secretaries from Home Department, GOS, were assigned for spot verification. Proper forms, as jointly drafted by GOS and MHA, were printed and spot verifications carried out. The entire process took a good one year. Around a dozen black tin boxes containing the filled-in forms were ferried from Gangtok to Delhi where the Home Ministry had established a small cell to further scrutinise the details. The final result was that around 10,000 persons were found as genuine left outs (those who had never bothered to apply for SSC even though they qualified to do so) and around 64,000 persons were deemed technical left outs (direct descendants of those whose names were in the Sikkim Subjects Register). These details were tabulated, okayed by MHA and sent back to the State Government here with due instructions that those in this list were considered Sikkim Subjects, rather Indians of Sikkimese origin and with instructions that certificates in this regards could be issued.

The people of Sikkim should remember that Sikkim Subject Certificates were the basis for Indian citizenship consequent upon the merger of Sikkim with the Union of India. So, for all practical purposes, 1,73,000 + 74,000 = 2,47,000 were Indians of Sikkimese origin as in 1991/92 or so. The subsequent Government in its wisdom saw it fit to issue them Certificates of Identity rather than Sikkim Subject Certificates as was held by those whose names featured in the original Sikkim Subjects Register maintained in the Land Revenue Department.

Then came the Government notifications for issue of COI to all the 74,000 persons, followed by the issue of COI based on the verification of 2,47,000 people referred to above.

Then the dilemma arose. SSC was so prized that one without it or a COI based on this document was without privileges at every step. The realization dawned on the people of its importance. Its value was further heightened after the 2008 Finance

Act in which the then Finance Minister P Chidambaram, in his wisdom, thought it fit to exempt all Sikkimese (Sikkim Subjects and their descendants) from Indian Income Tax. Importantly, he lucidly defined Sikkimese in no uncertain terms as never done before. It was a benchmark after Sikkim became part of the Union of India.

Globalization also caught on in Sikkim. With hydropower projects and the boom of pharmaceutical companies getting established here to take advantage of tax relief, influx has grown manifold. More might follow as the tax exemption has further been extended to 2027. In many instances, the people of Sikkim find themselves strangers in their own land. It is therefore understandable the people realise the need for protection of Sikkim Subjects. And while this was happening, some 30,000+ people were found to be holding fake SSCs of COIs, leading to the litigation now in the High Court. The Government is taking cognisance of the issue and digitization of the entire Sikkim Subjects record and COI holders is being considered. Understandably, people believe that many fake COIs have been crept in and proper verification prior to digitization is necessary. It is a daunting task no doubt, but it is an issue to be caught by the horns and some foolproof process established for issuance of COIs.

When such emotive issues crop up and people get charged, there is also a surge of people, groups and parties which want to hop on to the bandwagon. My simple advise to them would be to rise above personal gains and politics and find a just solution to this vexed issue in due consultation with the Government machineries. The Government, at the same time, should look upon them as messiahs of a just cause in the overall interest of the people of Sikkim and for the younger generation and generations yet unborn. I wish the programme all success and hold no ill-will towards anyone in this peaceful and rapidly developing State.

The Sikkim Subject is just one of the issues that needs addressing. There are many that have to be tackled with broadness of heart and I pray all issues of vital interest to our people are suitably redeemed with due participation of the people and the Government - especially since there is only a very slim opposition in the truest sense here. This collaboration is a necessity for any dynamic democratic set of polity. "Democracy is not just about ballots and votes, but also about public deliberations and reasoning, what - to use an old phrase - is often called 'government by discussion'". The editorial "Government by Discussion" in SummitTimes dated 17 August 2017 is worth a read in this regard.

The other day, in another esteemed daily, I read an article on Kazi Lhendup Dorji by veteran journalist Suresh Pramari. He was in his mid-thirties when he worked in Sikkim, I suppose, and must be in his mid-seventies by now. His fiery articles in his fortnightly (if I recollect right) used to put the bureaucracy on tenterhooks. Looks like he has mellowed down with age. He was a true journalist as journalists should be. As Secretary IPR, I had a hard time dealing with him. But I had very intelligent officers like Rinchen Doma (initially in IRS, now IAS, but where, I don't know) and BPS Basnett, repatriated from India House, and they could handle all situations. Pramari writes that Kazi Saheb had no

intention to merge Sikkim with, but his colleagues forced him to do so. This speaks volumes. Kazi Saheb, as such, was not cut out to be a politician, but circumstances put him in the arena. He was a gentle, soft-spoken person, rather meek among the Chanakyas of Delhi. Sikkim glided on, only to realize some 45 years later that we could have had a much better deal. Our greatest weakness is our meekness. We have still to learn to hammer-out our issues with the Pundits of North Block who are all Chanakyas of the first order.

But it is happy augury that the younger lot are coming up with more concern and with a sense of urgency. Combined with internet, social media is accelerating ideas and outreach. To learn that they are coming of age is heartening and now to guide them well so that they can thrash out the matter through discussions, interactions, arguments etc. without being violent. This is the order of the day that we must accept and respect. They may falter at times but they are moving now and nobody can stop that.

I agree that for many of the wrongs of the past, we, the people of the yesteryears, are to be blamed as well. It is not because we did not know, but our temperament of goody, goody people took a beating for which the present generations is bearing the brunt. Also, we were naive to the game played by big powers.

Times have changed though. Opportunities are there in any field one wants to explore. Sikkim is doing exemplary developmental activities much to the envy of other States in the country and is destined to go very far. Here, however, I would like to stress that what we are doing with largesse from the Centre is only the tip of the iceberg. As the Chogyal used to write in almost all files: "Good, but it could have been better." I never knew if there was any "Very Good!" So, we must have broadness of heart to give our younger folk a level playing field. Government's role is just to govern and simplify rules to enable the young to glide with ease. We should be able to grasp well ahead and tackle criticism from any quarter with deftness before the matter bursts. If we cannot handle this minuscule population whom we almost know all by name or at least face, it does not speak very well of us. We are blessed with a land rich in culture, natural grandeur and heritage. Every land needs its custodian. The custody of Sikkim rests with Sikkim Subjects for which a movement for its protection is called for by concerned citizens. I urge all right thinking people to support the cause without any personal gain.

SSC is not only a document for entitlement but also entrusts responsibility on us to look after this beautiful land that we are privileged to call home. This not only means our natural heritage but also our value system that we pass on to future generations. There is not much to be proud of in the present moral landscape which is not befitting enough to pass on. I wish the movement all success.

Lastly, the news of bus mishap at Mangan in which three lost their lives and 40 are injured is heart-breaking. We pray that the souls of deceased rest in peace and wish the injured speedy recovery.

[the writer is former Chief Secretary, Govt of Sikkim]

Why we keep playing the Generation Blame Game ... and why we need to stop

KAREN WEST

theconversation.com

Successive generations' healthy disregard of the previous generation's tastes, habits and customs is a necessary ingredient of human progress. But there is something about the current carving up of the population into ever smaller generational slices of entitlement and opprobrium - from baby boomers and Generation X to millennials and Generation Z - that borders on unhealthy obsession. Part of this is a growing awareness of a "shift in the demographic map".

This is particularly marked in the northern Hemisphere and is accompanied by other profound social, economic and cultural changes - rising economic prosperity and inequality and insecurity, declining political support for state organised welfare, shifts in the make-up of family, decreased deference to hierarchy. Together these challenge how we live, work, consume, and care for and support each other.

Generational roles and expectations can no longer be taken for granted and we are no longer certain about where we stand in the emerging order. Anxieties abound - and projecting these onto imprecise categories of "age others" bolsters a vague sense of shared injustice among those of a certain age - and provides "generations" with another age group to blame. What this generation blame game misses, however, are the ways in which these dubious generational categories mask the profound differences between the people swept into them.

BACK TO THE 'BABY BOOM'

One label that has become symbolically powerful, even if it remains relatively meaningless, over the last decade is the "baby boomer". This is applied loosely to those born during the post-World War II "baby boom" who came of age in the 1960s and 1970s. Commentators have cast the category in a variety of ways, but one of the most egregious examples of the rhetorical gymnastics required to construct the stereotype is Philip Inman's "secret baby boomer millionaires".

According to this, anybody who has an income of £35,000 a year and a work-based pension, enjoys retirement for a full 25 years and is in possession of housing asset wealth of £300,000 is - or will be - a millionaire baby boomer. The implication is that they are cosseted and in need of cutting down to size.

But there are, in fact, many factors that might impede the royal road to this exalted status in retirement that play out over a lifetime, from class, health and disability, to gender, race and ethnicity. These complications, however, are conveniently effaced in the selfish boomer narrative.

Recent research carried out by Karen Glaser and Debbie Price, president of the British Society of Gerontology, and others, points, for example, to a very deep and persistent gender division in retirement. The gender pay gap means that median income-earning women have considerably worse pensions than men, and if they take any kind of career break (to look after

children or others), will be even worse off in retirement. This a gender issue, not a generational one.

Indeed, it isn't easy finding evidence of Inman's millionaire baby boomers among the retirement income statistics of median income-earning women, and even harder among the three quarters of the female population who have taken "career breaks". But the problem is not just that real lives more often than not diverge from the stereotype of the protected baby boomer, but that the model of the coping, smug, self-sufficient retiree who does not need state support has become the policy archetype.

This has very pernicious consequences when it comes to the generation currently entering care and dependency. Unlike baby boomers and millennials, this group doesn't have a label of its own in the public imagination, but gerontologists increasingly refer to the "fourth age"; people in deep old age, who, when crossing the threshold of independence can be abandoned into a wholly inadequate system of social care.

Moreover, in the absence of family, neighbourly or state support, and inadequate and inappropriate services (public or private), having financial resources doesn't necessarily help. Masking these age differences gives rise to a deep ageism that makes the state's abandonment of the fourth age acceptable.

GENERATIONAL 'WAR'

If the generation blame game masks difference, it also masks how overlapping experiences can act as

the basis for intergenerational solidarity and resistance. As US cultural critic Margaret Morganroth Gullette observed, throughout the 1990s, a contrived war between baby boomers and the following Generation Xers, born in the 1960s and 1970s, was waged in media and political discussions. In this war of words, younger US citizens were taught that they should no longer expect the pay and rewards that the bloated and selfish baby boom generation had.

The shattering of the American Dream to accumulate wealth over a lifetime happened under the cover of generational injustice. It wasn't blamed on economics or politics, but on older people. And the same talk of a "war" is now happening between millennials and baby boomers.

What is entirely missed in the UK and Europe's more recent embrace of phoney generational politics is this general degradation of lifetime expectations for all. It is not, as the UK's most enthusiastic cheerleader of strict intergenerational accounting, the Intergenerational Foundation, would have us believe, that economic and social order will miraculously be restored once we have worked out the correct proportions of public and private wealth to which each generation is rightfully entitled. The real problem is that ordinary folk of all generations are being conned - and coached to blame it on each other.

[the writer is Reader and Head of the Sociology and Policy Department, Aston University]

MoEF behaving like ministry of environment destruction:SC told

NEW DELHI, AUG 18 (PTI): The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) is behaving like the Ministry of Environment Destruction, senior advocate Harish Salve told the Supreme Court today.

Salve, who is assisting the apex court as an amicus curiae in a PIL filed by an environmentalist in 1985 dealing with various aspects of pollution, told a bench comprising Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta that the Centre has "diluted" an affidavit due to pressure from the "car lobby".

He, however, did not argue anything about the contents of the Centre's affidavit.

"I am anguished to say that the MoEF is behaving like the Ministry of Environment Destruction," Salve said.

However, Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar, appearing for the Centre, denied any such pressure or influence as claimed by Salve.

The bench fixed the matter for hearing on August 22.

The apex court had earlier passed a slew of directions on several aspects related to pollution including that of pollution from vehicles.

It had recently issued directions that included non-renewal of insurance policy of vehicles unless the owner provides pollution under control (PUC) certificate to the insurance firms.

WB govt plying 41 buses to north Bengal

KOLKATA, AUG 18 (PTI): The West Bengal government is plying 41 buses to destinations in north Bengal and a similar number of vehicles from these places today even as train services to the northern part of the state and Assam remained

suspended for the sixth consecutive day. In a bid to clear a huge number of stranded passengers, North Bengal State Transport Corporation is running 41 buses to and another 41 buses from these destinations to Kolkata, state

Transport secretary Alapan Bandopadhyay said. Bus services between the southern and northern parts of the state had remained suspended for the last five days owing to inundation of national highway 34 and 31 and state highways at different

places in north Bengal. Among these, 10 buses will travel to Siliguri, five to Coochbehar and seven to Raigunj, while an equal number of vehicles will leave these points this evening resuming passenger services, a transport department official said.

NBSTC will also run 24 buses tonight between Siliguri and Malda, with 12 vehicles travelling in each direction. Apart from these, six air-conditioned buses will also ply to Siliguri from here, the official

said. Eastern Railway is running trains up to Malda from here. Services beyond Malda has remained suspended owing to waterlogging of tracks due to floods in North Bengal, Bihar and Assam.

Train services to different destinations in north Bengal and Assam from Howrah and Sealdah stations here were suspended today also, making it the sixth consecutive day that services have remained disrupted, an ER spokesman.



Flood situation improves further in north Bengal

KOLKATA, AUG 18 (PTI): The flood situation in six north Bengal districts improved further today as waters receded following a decrease in rainfall in the past 24 hours.

The current spell of floods has claimed 49 lives in Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur and Malda since July 21. Nearly 15 lakh people have been hit.

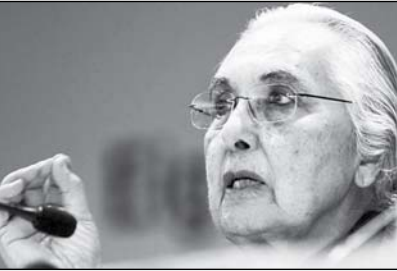
"We are constantly monitoring the situation in the six districts. The district magistrates are working 24x7 ... distributing relief material - dry food, cooked food, water pouches and medicines," an officer in the disaster management department said.

Medical officers are conducting regular check-ups to prevent the outbreak of any waterborne diseases, he added. West Bengal Panchayat Minister Subrata Mukherjee said roads and pipelines for supplying drinking water have been badly damaged in the deluge.

"We are worried about the current situation in the six districts in north Bengal. We are very worried about the magnitude of damage to water pipelines and submersible pumps. Floods have destroyed many roads. The panchayat and rural department will conduct a survey to assess the damage," he said.

5th convocation of Presidency University held

KOLKATA, AUG 18 (PTI): Eminent historian Romila Thapar today said there was need for universities to enable students to question and think critically.



"Education imparts values to think about the society ... Learning cannot be static in the present age. Students should question and think critically," she said in her inaugural address at the fifth convocation of Presidency University.

Thapar, who was conferred the honoris causa, said the university is as an institution of learning and reflects the change in society.

Biocon founder Kiran Majumdar Shaw, who too was conferred the honoris causa said innovation should be the mantra of present day research-based education and should go hand in hand with affordability.

West Bengal Governor and Chancellor K N Tripathi in his convocation address complimented the university's rich faculty and the generous funding of state higher education department to make it as a center of excellence.

Vice-chancellor Anuradha Lohia said two new campuses of the university will come up at Kurseong and New Town.

Altogether 33 students of different streams in undergraduate and post graduate received medals from the governor.

The programme was marred by demonstrations by students belonging to SFI, Independents Consolidation and All India Students Association demonstrated against the Higher Education Bill when the chancellor entered the university campus.

"We wanted to stop higher education minister Partha Chatterjee from attending the convocation as his department had notified the undemocratic act. We have nothing against the governor who is the chancellor but we wanted him to hear the voice of the students," Saumyadeep Ghosh, a student of the university and SFI member told PTI.

Four students boycotted the conferring of degrees to them. When pressed by reporters for his comments on the students demonstration in front of his vehicle, Tripathi said curtly, "Ask this question to Partha Chatterjee."

Vice-Chancellor Anuradha Lohia said students can always demonstrate and there is always space for dialogue on any issue.

'Prepared militarily, will act if N Korea launches missile'

WASHINGTON, AUG 18 (PTI): The US has warned North Korea that it was prepared to meet any eventuality and will take "immediate specific actions" if Pyongyang launches a missile attack against it or its allies. The US' strong assertion comes days after President Donald Trump pledged to answer further aggression from North Korea with "fire and fury".



Speaking at a news conference jointly addressed by US Defence Secretary James Mattis, Japanese Foreign minister Taro Kono and Defence minister Itsunori Onodera, Tillerson said the country was prepared to meet any eventuality from the North Koreans, and sought to make it clear that use of the force was not the "preferred pathway" of the US.

"We are prepared, we are prepared militarily, we are prepared with our allies to respond, if that is necessary. That (military) is not our preferred pathway. That's been made clear as well," he said.

Defence Secretary Mattis said that the US would take immediate specific actions in the event of a missile launch towards US or its allies. "In the event of a missile launch towards the territory of Japan, Guam, the United States, Korea (South Korea), we would take immediate specific actions to take it down," Mattis said.

Responding to a question after the 'two-plus-two' US-Japan talks, Japanese Defence minister Onodera said that in the event there is an attack on Japan, they will use assets available to them for the missile defence.

"But should different circumstances occur, then we will solidify the relation that we have with the US with close communication. We will defend the country, and that is what we discussed today," he said.

Tillerson said the North Korean regime should engage in diplomatic talks to bring better results, unlike in the past. "So, our effort is to cause them (North Korean regime) to want to engage in talks, but engage in talks with an understanding that these talks will lead to a different conclusion than talks of the past. We will continue that effort diplomatically, first and foremost," he said.

But, knowing that North Korea sits with a significant capability already within their grasp, I think it is only prudent that they fully understand the consequences, should they make a bad choice for themselves. And, obviously, there are consequences for others as well," Tillerson added.

According to Onodera, North Korea has plans to launch ballistic missiles to the waters close to Guam. It is also advancing on their efforts to launch ICBM-class ballistic missiles, miniaturising nuclear weapons to warheads. "So for this threat of North Korea, at this meeting we agreed to increase the pressure and to strengthen the alliance's capability. The four of us confirmed the importance of the unwavering US commitment to extend the deterrence," he said.

Observing that Japan and South Korea are on the front line against the North Korean threat, Mattis said the US recognises that any confrontation with North Korea would pose an immediate danger to its allies and their populations. "The US-Japan ministerial meeting is a reminder that each nation gains security in concert with other nations. The international community is speaking with one voice. North Korea must stop its dangerous actions as we work to maintain security and denuclearise the Korean peninsula," he said.

"We are accelerating implementation of the 2015 guidelines for US-Japan defence cooperation and continuing to realign US forces in Japan and Guam. Our militaries are also cooperating in new ways. This includes our emerging cooperation in areas such as space and cyberspace, as well as ballistic missile defence and maritime security," Mattis said.

Mattis said the US and Japan will demonstrate the strength of their alliance by continuing bilateral activities and by enhancing cooperation with South Korea.

He said that the path of provocations and threats chosen by North Korea was not in the best interests of any nation.

"We call on North Korea to choose a better path than one of provocations and threats. Such a path is not in its own best interests nor in the best interests of any other nation," the Defence Secretary said.

TIME TO SIZZLE
THE DRIZZLE AWAY

COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS!!!

SIZZLIN' TANDOOR

A MONTH LONG CELEBRATION OF SIZZLING TANDOORI CUISINE

OPEN FOR DINNER ONLY! 6PM-10PM EVERYDAY ALL AUGUST 2017 FOR RESERVATIONS DIAL 280232

The Royal Plaza

ACCELERATOR ACADEMY

INVITES APPLICANTS FOR

LDC COACHING

GENERAL ENGLISH 85M	GENERAL AWARENESS 35M	BASIC COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE 15M	VIVA 15M
------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------

COMPLETE PACKAGE - CLASSES STARTS FROM 10TH JULY, 2017

ALSO CONTACT FOR UNDERGRADUATE & MASTER'S COLLEGE ADMISSION

OFFICE ADDRESS: DEVELOPMENT AREA, OPP. SIKKIM UNIVERSITY GUEST HOUSE

CONTACT: 9002920828 / 9734829753 9735030778 / 03592-20828

A one horned rhino of Nepal rescued from Indian village

KATHMANDU, AUG 18 (PTI):

An endangered one-horned rhino which was swept away from Nepal's Chitwan National Park by the Rapti river flood to India has been rescued safely.

The two-and-a-half-year-old female rhino was rescued yesterday and brought back to its habitat in Chitwan National Park (CNP) on a truck today, said Narendra Aryal, assistant conservation officer of the CNP.

The rhino was swept away by the flood 42 kilometre south at the Nepal-India border.

It was found at the Bagaha area in Bihar of India and rescued with the help of information provided by the Indian officials. The rhino was found in midst of a sugarcane field in a village.

According to the national park official, the recent flooding in the rivers has swept away at least five other rhinos.

One of the rhinos was spotted heading towards Nepal-India border near the Balmiki Ashram while another missing rhino has been spotted at the Buffer Zone of Indian forest.

One rhino was found dead in the Chitwan National Park area. Two other rhinos have been rescued from nearby area of the national park.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email: letters@summittimes.com

NSH U-14 team to represent Sikkim in Subroto Cup for sub juniors

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

A U-14 team of Namchi Sports Hostel [NSH] is all set to represent Sikkim in the prestigious Subroto Mukherjee Cup International Football Tournament for sub-junior boys to be held from 22 Aug to 06 Sept in New Delhi. Sikkim has been placed in a group that has Bangladesh, Lakshadweep and Daman & Diu.

In a small function here at Paljor Stadium, Minister for Sports & Youth Affairs Department, RB Subba, expressed his best wishes to the team members by offering khadas. The function was also attended by the State Youth Development Board Chairperson, KP Dahal, SYA Department Advisor, Bhim Lakhey, SYA Department Secretary, SD Dhakal, and other officials.

In his address, the Minister congratulated members of the young squad for getting a wonderful opportunity to represent Sikkim in such a prestigious tournament. He stated that the tournament is a big opportunity for them to showcase their skills and game and to move to a higher



level in football.

Mr Subba stressed upon maintaining good discipline and presenting a good image. He stressed upon the need for patience, sacrifice and hard work in a player to be successful in the future.

The Minister encouraged young footballers to take in-

spiration from their seniors of Namchi Sports Hostel who are presently playing for the country and giant clubs.

Members of the State squad are Sonam Tamang, Sanchung Bhutia, Rohit Chettri, Anup Suman Darjee, Tenjon Lepcha, Jigme Dorjee Lepcha, Tashi Bhutia, Pema

Tamang, Sahil Limboo, Sailesh Pradhan, Ajay Tamang, Laxmi Limboo, Aareum Lepcha, Sandeep Rai, Susil Limboo and Tshering Lepcha. The team will be accompanied by Amos Subba as team coach and Zigmee W Khangsherpa as team manager.

The team is scheduled to

leave for the tournament on 24 Aug. Sikkim will be playing its first league match on 28 Aug against Bangladesh followed by the second match against Lakshadweep on 29 Aug and final match against Daman & Diu on 30 Aug.

It is informed that a girls' team of Dentam Senior Sec-

ondary School will be representing Sikkim in U-17 Junior Girls category of this tournament to be held from 03-15 Sept in New Delhi. Dentam SSS team, who is the champion of the state-level school girls football tournament 2017, is currently undergoing coaching camp at Jorethang under two coaches.

It is for the first time that a girls' team from Sikkim is participating in the Subroto Cup International Football tournament.

Likewise, boys' team of Namchi SSS will be representing the state in the U-17 Junior Boys category of the tournament to be held from 09-26 Sept in New Delhi. The coaching camp for boys' team is also currently underway at Namchi.

It is informed that U-14 boys' team of NSH has been participating in this tournament since many years and many talented players of the hostel have got admission in Air Force School, New Delhi for their studies and football coaching. These players are also playing for the country, ISL and I-League clubs.

7 women support referees to officiate at Under-17 World Cup

NEW DELHI, AUG 18 (PTI): In a historic first for international football, seven women officials have been picked as support referees for the FIFA Under-17 World Cup in India, which kicks off on October 6.

"...for the first-ever time, FIFA has selected female referees for a men's tournament. The results and improvements seen in the joint preparations have shown that the time has come for the elite female referees to officiate in men's competitions together with their male colleagues," the event's organising committee said in a statement.

The FIFA Referees Committee has appointed 21 trios of match officials, representing all six confederations.

"For FIFA, it is essential to ensure that the best match officials from all around the world are selected for FIFA competi-



tions," the organising committee stated.

For some of the selected match officials, the event will be an important step in their preparations for FIFA's flagship competition, the 2018

World Cup in Russia.

"We think it's time for the elite female referees to be involved in a FIFA men's competition. They worked together with male match officials last year and now we want to

see them working together in a competition," said FIFA Head of Refereeing Massimo Busacca.

The referees have completed a host of activities together in several seminars, includ-

ing theoretical sessions in the classroom and practical sessions on the field of play.

The match officials have also discussed and practiced various game situations to achieve consistency and uniformity.

The under-17 World Cup will take place in Goa, Guwahati, Kochi, Kolkata, Navi Mumbai and New Delhi between October 6 and 28.

The final will be played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium in Kolkata on October 28.

The support referees picked for the Under-17 World Cup: Ok Ri Hyang (Korea), Gladys Lengwe (Zambia), Carol Anne Chenard (Canada), Claudia Umpierrez (Uruguay), Anna-Marie Keighley (New Zealand), Kateryna Monzul (Ukraine), Esther Staubli (Switzerland).

CONTACT

Summit TIMES

REPORTERS

NAMCHI

9832048410,

9775736596

SINGTAM

7699771651

MANGAN/

DIKCHU

9832612485/

9434011213

SILIGURI

9609066814

DARJEELING

9434121862

GANGTOK

8016270440,

9832082664,

9832424750

Kanchendzonga Marathon 2017 to be held on 06 Nov

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 18 AUG:

Sikkim Mountaineering Association [SMA] has announced the second edition of Kanchendzonga Marathon 2017 to be held on 06 Nov this year on the Dzongri trail in West Sikkim. The first edition of this high altitude trial marathon was held in the year 2015 with the participation of 20 runners.

This year the marathon has three categories which includes the full marathon of 42 KMs from Goecha La to Yuksom and half marathon of 21 KMs for men and women from Phedang to Yuksom.

An organising committee has been formed for the Kanchendzonga Marathon 2017, which has STDC Chairperson, RN Rai, as advisor, Sikkim Housing & Development Board Secretary, Sarala Rai, as chairperson, Everester Kunzang Gyatso as technical director and director of Exotic Vacation Nepal, Wangpin Thondup, as head of publicity and marketing.

Addressing a press conference here today, organising committee chairperson, Ms Rai stated that this year the marathon



has three categories and attractive cash prizes.

"We want to continue holding this marathon making it an annual event in the State to attract runners from national and international levels with more promotion," she said.

She stated that the main objective of the event is to further promote Sikkim tourism and to encourage the young towards adventure activities and to live a healthy and productive life. She added that such events will help to showcase the natural resource and beauty of the State and to increase tourist inflow in Sikkim.

Ms Rai shared plans of organizing this marathon in a bigger manner in the near future. She stated that the process is on to approach national and international agencies for recognition of this marathon.

Likewise, STDC Chairperson, Mr Rai stated that the corporation will provide all required administrative and logistical support in the event. He stated that such events will help in further promoting Sikkim tourism and to bring in more tourists in the State. He added that the establishment of the brand name of this mara-

thon in coming years will attract more adventure lovers to Sikkim.

The press conference was also addressed by the technical director, Mr Gyatso, and publicity and marketing head, Mr Thondup.

The full marathon has Rs 1 lakh, Rs 75,000 and Rs 50,000 as cash prize for the first, second and third position holders, respectively. Likewise, in half marathon for men and women, the winners will receive cash prize of Rs 60,000 each while the first and second runner up will get Rs 45,000 and Rs 30,000, respectively.



Akhilesh suggests CBI probe into Gorakhpur hospital death

LUCKNOW, AUG 18 (PTI): Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav today suggested a CBI probe into the children deaths in a Gorakhpur hospital along with all the other ongoing probes to ascertain the reasons leading to the tragedy.

"If the BJP government so wants it should recommend a CBI inquiry into the children deaths in the BRD Medical College hospital... Along with other probes, the agency could also be roped in," he told reporters here.

Replying to questions, he said that the cause of the deaths will be known after the completion of inquiries, but the matters that are coming to the fore now smack of corruption somewhere causing a breakdown in the supply of oxygen in the ward.

"Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is not speaking on this issue... The government is not even providing help to the victims," Yadav said.

The death toll in the BRD hospital since August 7 till yesterday was 71 due to various causes including encephalitis.

Some of the deaths were alleged to have been caused by shortage of oxygen supply, a claim dismissed by the Uttar Pradesh government.

Describing Adityanath as "the digital chief minister of a new India", the former chief minister said he (Adityanath) was unaware of the reality and was instead embroiled in issues like namaz on the roads and Janmashtami functions in police stations. "The BJP has given a digital chief minister to Uttar Pradesh ... Just as things digital are not on the ground, he too is oblivious of the real things," Yadav said.

14 dead, 100 injured in two Spanish seaside city attacks

BARCELONA, AUG 18 (AFP): Drivers have ploughed into pedestrians in two quick-succession, separate attacks in Barcelona and another popular Spanish seaside city, leaving 14 people dead and injuring more than 100 others.

In the first incident, which was claimed by the Islamic State group, a white van sped into a street packed full of tourists in central Barcelona yesterday afternoon, knocking people out of the way and killing 13 in a scene of chaos and horror.

Some eight hours later in Cambrils, a city 120 kilometres south of Barcelona, an Audi A3 car rammed into pedestrians, injuring six civilians -- one of them critical -- and a police officer, authorities said.

Gunfire ensued during which police killed the five attackers, some of whom were wearing explosive belts.

Police said they were "working on the hypothesis that the terrorists shot dead in Cambrils are linked to what happened in Barcelona".

Witnesses in Barcelona recounted how bodies were strewn along the famous Las Ramblas boulevard where



the driver went on a rampage as other people fled for their lives, screaming in panic.

The carnage in a city hugely popular with tourists from around the world is the latest in a wave of attacks in Europe where vehicles have been used as weapons of terror.

As world leaders united in condemning the carnage, the IS propaganda agency Amaq claimed that it was carried out by "soldiers" from the jihadist group.

Police announced the arrest of two suspects, identified as a Spaniard and a Mo-

roccan, but said the driver was still on the run.

"We're united in grief," Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said in a televised address after rushing to Barcelona, the biggest city in Catalonia, a region in Spain's northeast whose separatist government is defying Madrid with a drive for independence.

"Above all we're united in the firm intention to defeat those who want to take our values and way of life from us."

There were at least 18 na-

tionalities among the Barcelona victims who came from countries as varied as France, Venezuela, Australia, Ireland, Peru, Algeria and China, according to Spain's civil protection agency.

Belgium said one of its citizens had died in the Las Ramblas assault, while The Hague said three Dutch were injured and a Greek diplomat reported three nationals had been wounded -- a woman and her two children.

Las Ramblas is one of Barcelona's busiest streets, lined with shops and restaurants

and normally packed with tourists and street performers until well into the night.

"When it happened I ran out and saw the damage," local shop worker Xavi Perez told AFP.

"There were bodies on the ground with people crowding round them. People were crying. There were lots of foreigners."

Tom Gueller, who lives on a road next to Las Ramblas, said he saw the vehicle speeding along the boulevard.

"It wasn't slowing down at all. It was just going straight through the middle of the crowds in the middle of the Ramblas," he told BBC radio.

In Cambrils, meanwhile, Markel Artabe, a 20-year-old restaurant worker, said he was on the seaside promenade when he heard what he initially thought were fireworks, but soon realised were gunshots.

"I saw a foreigner dead with a gunshot in the head. His friends were crying out 'help'. I also saw dead bodies that seemed to be terrorists because they were wearing explosive belts."

Spain, the world's third tourism destination, had un-

til now been spared the kind of extremist violence that has rocked nearby France, Belgium and Germany.

It had even seen a surge in tourists as visitors fled other restive sunshine destinations like Tunisia and Egypt.

But it is no stranger to jihadist attacks, having been hit by what is still Europe's deadliest in March 2004, when bombs exploded on commuter trains in Madrid, killing 191 people in an attack claimed by Al Qaeda-inspired extremists.

Police said yesterday that one of the arrested suspects in the Barcelona attack was a Spaniard born in Melilla, a Spanish territory on Morocco's north coast, and the other a Moroccan named as Driss Oukabir.

The Spaniard was arrested in Alcanar, about 200 kilometres south of Barcelona, the scene of an explosion in a house late Wednesday that left one person dead and seven wounded and is believed to be linked to yesterday's assault.

The emergency services said a woman injured in the Cambrils attack has died, bringing the total to 14 in both attacks.

Lanka appoints first Tamil Navy chief after four decades

COLOMBO, AUG 18 (PTI): Rear Admiral Travis Sinniah was today appointed as the chief of Sri Lanka's naval forces, making him the first from the minority Tamil community to head the Navy since the brutal civil war erupted in the country 45 years ago.

Sinniah, who played a decisive role in the destruction of the LTTE warships in deep sea during the height of the civil war, was appointed as the Navy chief by President Maithripala Sirisena.

"Rear Admiral Travis Sinniah, who has served Sri Lanka Navy with immense loyalty for many decades, took office as the Navy Commander to-



day," President Sirisena tweeted.

His services will be effective from August 22.

Sinniah succeeds Vice Admiral Ravi Wijegunaratne who has retired.

He is the second Tamil to head the Lankan Navy after Rajan Kadirgamar, who was the commander in the late 1960s. Sinniah is the first from the Tamil community to head the Navy since the outbreak of the civil war in the north and east of the island in 1972.

He successfully commanded a mission

in 2007 to destroy the LTTE's weapons smuggling ships in international waters off Indonesia and Australia, that is considered as Sri Lankan Navy's biggest achievement, media reports said.

Sinniah, who joined the Navy in 1982, was the senior most Naval officer to be in active combat operations at sea during the conflict with the LTTE separatists.

It was also announced that Wijegunaratne would be appointed as the Chief of Defence Staff

(CDS).

The LTTE waged a war with the government to carve out a separate Tamil homeland in the regions with the conflict ending in 2009. Tamils in the country claim discrimination at the hands of the Sinhala majority.

According to UN figures, up to 40,000 civilians were killed by security forces during Rajapaksa's regime that brought an end to the brutal civil war with the defeat of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in 2009.

Sharif, sons fail to appear before anti-corruption body

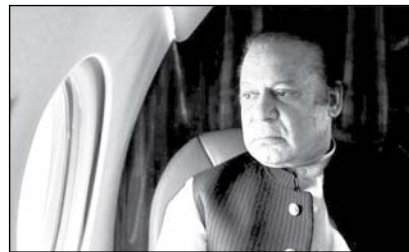
LAHORE, AUG 18 (PTI): Ousted Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif and his two sons today failed to appear before the top anti-graft body, which wanted to interrogate them over money laundering and corruption charges revealed by the Panama Papers.

On July 28, a five-member Supreme Court bench disqualified Sharif from continuing in his office for possessing a work permit at the firm of his son in the UAE.

The court also ordered the NAB to investigate money laundering and other corruption charges against Sharif, his children, son-in-law Safdar and federal finance minister Ishaq Dar, a relative of Sharif, in light of the report of the Joint Investigation Team.

The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) following a Supreme Court order had issued summons to Sharif and his sons - Hussain and Hasan - to interrogate them at its Lahore office over their offshore properties revealed last year by the Panama Papers leak.

A 10-member NAB team had reached La-



hore from Rawalpindi to record the statements of the Sharifs, but they did not turn up before the office closed at 3 pm local time, a NAB official told PTI.

"Sharif and his sons were supposed to join the investigation today here in Lahore office but we are informed by the office of Sharif that he is not coming. No reason has been given to us," the official said.

He said the NAB would issue second summons to them in two weeks.

A leader close to the Sharif family denied receiving any summons. "Nawaz Sharif and his sons had not yet received the NAB summons. Sharif will only decide whether or not to appear before the NAB after receiving the summons," Senator

Pervaiz Rashid told PTI.

But another leader of the ruling PML-N party said Sharif has decided not to join the investigation. He said Sharif will join the probe only after the Supreme Court decides his review petition against the court's verdict that disqualified him.

The 67-year-old three-time prime minister has denied any wrongdoing. Last week, Sharif held a defiant roadshow with thousands of supporters from Islamabad to Lahore to project his political strength after the Supreme Court verdict.

One of the three applications Sharif filed in the Supreme Court calls for staying "further implementation of the judgement till a decision on the review petition is taken".

Kutse Shegu



The Kutse Shegu of **Late Jigdal Bhutia** who left for heavenly abode on 04.07.2017 falls on **21.08.2017 [Monday]**. All relatives, friends, and well wisher are requested

to join us for offering prayer to the departed soul at **Ben Thalabari, Ravangla Road, South Sikkim**. We take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude towards those who extended their support during the time of our bereavement.

Phintso Bhutia (father), Diki Doma Bhutia (Mother), Gawala Bhutia (sister), Jeje Lhamu Bhutia (Wife). Contact no: 9733017529, 9733042713, 9647480772, 8759013559.

Anthyesthi Kriya



The 14th day Anthyesthi Kriya of **late Mani Kumari Gurung** who left for her heavenly abode on 10.08.2017 falls on **23.08.2017 [Wednesday]**. All relatives, friends & well-wishers are requested to join us in the offering prayers for the departed soul on the above mentioned date at our residence at **Middle Burtuk, Manbir Colony, Gangtok**.

Ganga Psd. Gurung, Dil Psd. Gurung, Dhan Bdr. Gurung, Ram Bdr. Gurung [brothers-in-law], Ashib Gurung [son]
Ph: 9564874111

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR VULTURE EVENING
Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward

Draw No:3 DrawDate on:18/08/17
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 91E 04723
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 04723 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
08571 24553 25441 30726 33670
47202 47348 47455 64069 81949
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
13271 17005 38535 51160 64068
65783 71839 84562 88912 95207
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
0020 0343 1375 2838 4681 6414 7862 7971 8118 8899
5th Prize Rs.500/-
0624 1549 1717 2186 2324 3081 4013 6051 8390 8500
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0084 0211 0218 0230 0402 0420 0497 0593 0666 0733
0768 0897 1006 1016 1040 1161 1325 1361 1431 1510
1530 1611 1669 1888 1958 2020 2083 2119 2150 2211
2795 2835 2963 3011 3106 3208 3255 3315 3367 3530
3726 3743 3895 3914 3948 4186 4351 4445 4454 4851
4995 5009 5261 5276 5316 5395 5399 5443 5523 5656
5818 5974 5980 6025 6043 6131 6183 6220 6299 6395
6436 6470 6523 6600 6644 6854 6881 6886 7074 7152
7271 7405 7468 7490 7651 7652 7910 8489 8512 8625
8694 8783 8930 8966 9433 9460 9553 9666 9737 9862
Issued by:
The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland
For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR TENDER

Draw No:3 DrawDate on:18/08/17
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 86K 79381
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 79381 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
07610 13421 20510 29373 30082
31007 39208 50402 86508 93382
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
12312 21081 57213 57891 66276
80466 88601 92605 97168 97365
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
0053 0393 1688 3989 4795 5346 5870 7956 8279 8777
5th Prize Rs.500/-
0046 0717 2410 3595 4011 4119 4691 5773 6542 7989
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0065 0097 0760 0822 0845 0929 0969 1261 1317 1348
1395 1408 1438 1761 1793 1839 1969 2089 2228 2274
2426 2504 2536 2852 2936 3238 3361 3569 3833 3835
3999 4132 4176 4223 4275 4443 4527 4537 4548 4563
4680 4783 4892 4941 5018 5125 5213 5299 5332 5366
5370 5440 5598 5611 5725 5734 5822 5918 6003 6147
6148 6155 6169 6333 6432 6639 6681 6788 6866 7010
7026 7220 7498 7707 7721 7770 7958 7990 8060 8075
8359 8447 8536 8659 8803 8847 9001 9048 9190 9194
9406 9417 9421 9550 9706 9746 9814 9829 9906 9989
Issued by:
The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok
please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR HONOUR MORNING

Draw No:3 DrawDate on:18/08/17
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 94L 29669
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 29669 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
12491 12940 13485 14242 29139
38542 48902 53655 61648 99534
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
02269 07126 17813 24623 32501
41997 79091 79889 85126 99768
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
1701 5788 6444 6488 7134 7355 7431 7488 8873 9788
5th Prize Rs.500/-
0862 2156 2210 2552 3224 3355 6004 7779 7786 8462
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0066 0232 0365 0389 0582 0589 0680 0696 0775 0841
0869 0924 0936 0945 1185 1258 1286 1517 1603 1802
1883 2000 2006 2245 2246 2332 2361 2365 2504 2587
2593 2640 2680 2818 2856 2894 3132 3457 3555 3658
4027 4071 4132 4500 4598 4608 4670 4717 4780 4848
4943 4964 5110 5564 5616 5785 5831 6007 6020 6086
6166 6356 6359 6490 6636 6822 6875 7079 7132 7153
7163 7190 7201 7248 7420 7474 7620 7753 7868 7896
7950 7960 7970 8022 8113 8471 8597 8648 8693 8774
8917 9057 9078 9122 9164 9466 9553 9563 9748 9959
Issued by:
The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries,
For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com



FROM GOOFY VINE STAR TO TEEN HEARTTHROB!

Singer/Songwriter Shawn Mendes brings his Illuminate World Tour to Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey. Shawn is touring in support of his sophomore album Illuminate [Island Records], which debuted at #1 on the Billboard 200 chart and features hit singles "Treat You Better" and "Mercy."



'THE THREE STOOGES' SET FOR INDIAN TV REVIVAL!

Larry, Moe and Curly are face-slapping and eye-poking their way to India.

US-based C3 Entertainment's iconic Vaudeville comedy franchise, "The Three Stooges," is set to be adapted for Indian television. With a working title of "Three Stooges Bole Toh Hungama Ho Gaya," the Hindi-language series is being developed by Mumbai-based Galani Entertainments.

A broadcaster has yet to be identified for the show, whose title translates into English as "When You Say 'The Three Stooges' You Mean a Laugh Riot."

Galani Entertainments is linked to Vijay Galani Moviez/Film Folks, whose credits include Salman Khan vehicles "Veer" and "Suryavanshi" and "Ajnabee," starring Akshay Kumar and Kareena Kapoor. New talent will be cast in the roles of Larry, Moe and Curly.

The original comedy trio featured in some 190 film shorts from 1934 to 1958, with U.S. television syndication beginning thereafter. "The most appealing factor for recreating 'The Three Stooges' in India is the universal appeal of the boys' comedy," said producer Pratik Vijay Galani of Galani Entertainments.

"This is the perfect time to extend 'The Three Stooges' franchise in India to the 1.3 billion population," said Earl Benjamin, president of C3. Television is the largest component of India's media and entertainment industry, growing at 8.5% a year and valued at \$9 billion.

Separately, C3 is currently developing the fami-

ly feature "The Three Little Stooges." Also in the works is a follow-up to the 2012 "The Three Stooges Movie" with Sean Hayes, Chris Diamontopoulos and Will Sasso reprising their roles as Larry, Moe and Curly.

AEROSMITH WILL PLAY FOR 'NEXT 5 YEARS'

Despite starting their farewell tour in May, guitarist Brad Whitford has confirmed the 'I Don't Want To Miss A Thing' hitmakers aren't going anywhere too soon, and have just recorded a "very rock 'n roll" new song.

He said: "Hopefully, there's five more years. It's got longer. We're going to keep playing until we can't play anymore. You don't have to record a whole CD anymore. We've started recording a new song. It's very rock 'n roll.

Hopefully, we can put out this one song or two or three." Brad also hinted the 'Walk This Way' group - also made up of Steven Tyler, Joe Perry, Tom Hamilton and Joey Kramer - could be tempted to record a Latin-inspired tune in the near future.

He added to Billboard Argentina: "I don't hear it that much. But the rhythm is undeniable, and the quality of the music is superior. I don't think there's anybody that can ignore Latin rhythm. "The music business has changed so much since we started. You have to do things really differently. We could just release one song and make it available for download. It is a different world in the music business."

Last year, Aerosmith announced a farewell tour called 'Aero-Vederci Baby!,'



which began in May 2017.

In January, Joe admitted the tour will probably last a "few years".

He said: "The feeling is, right now is gonna be in semi-tour mode for the next few years.

"We'll be taking time off here and there, but we really want to play some of the places that we've maybe played once before, maybe never before. Kind of go around and hit all the spots you can."



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

19TH AUGUST WORLD HISTORY

1692: Five women were hanged in Salem, Massachusetts after being convicted of the crime of witchcraft. Fourteen more people were executed that year and 150 others were imprisoned.

1839: During a meeting of the French Academy of Sciences in Paris a new photographic process was unveiled by Louis-Jacques-Mande Daguerre. This process produced a negative image on paper from which positive images could be made.

1934: A plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler as Fuhrer. 38 million Germans voted to make Adolf Hitler the official successor to President von Hindenburg.

1950: Edith Sampson became the first African-American representative to the United Nations.

1982: Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the second woman to be launched into space.

INDIAN HISTORY

1600: Ahmednagar, the capital of Nizam Shahi dynasty was captured by Akbar.

1666: Chattrapati Shivaji escaped with his son Sambaji in the sweet baskets on August 19 from Aurangzeb's prison in Agra.

1757: The first rupee coin of the East India Company was minted in Kolkata [then Calcutta].

1939: Foundation-stone of Mahajati Sadan of Subhas Chandra Bose's conception was laid in Kolkata by Rabindranath Tagore.

1944: The last Japanese troops were driven out of India.

Bareilly Ki Barfi: This Barfi is definitely worth a Try!

Cast: Ayushmann Khurrana, Kriti Sanon, Rajkumar Rao, Pankaj Tripathi, Seema Pahwa
Direction: Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari
Genre: RomCom

Bareilly Ki Barfi Story: Bitti Mishra [Kriti] is a bohemian Bareilly girl who falls deeply in love with Pritam Vidrohi [Rajkumar] an author because she admires his progressive way of thinking. Finding him though proves to be as hard as looking for a needle in the haystack. So Bitti seeks the help of the local printing press-owner, Chirag Dubey [Ayushmann] on her journey of love.

Bareilly Ki Barfi Review: BKB is a hoary moment for Hindi cinema. This romcom set in the North Indian town of Bareilly, breaks the shackles of Bollywood's continued dependence on cardboard cuts and instead introduces you to real people, whose charms are infectious. The writers Nitesh Tiwari [director and writer of the much-acclaimed blockbuster Dangal] and Shreyas Jain have put

together a sweet, identifiable crowd-pleaser that excels in the writing, direction, acting and music departments.

As far as performances go--Rajkumar Rao is the scene-stealer. Whether he's the stammering sari salesman or the gali ka gunda, he



is magnetic.

Kriti Sanon makes for a lovable Bitti and beti, while Ayushmann goes from white to grey so effortlessly you stay invested in him. Pankaj Tripathi and Seema Pahwa are also in fine fettle and you're actually tempted to ask them for an encore.

Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari who

won notices for her directorial debut Nil Battey Sannata, is in top form again. She puts heart into this comedy and the flawless writing makes it that much more effective.

Every time you guffaw at the antics of the lead and supporting cast, you are reminded that there is so much humour in our daily routine which we have forgotten to stop and savour.

Coming back to the protagonist, Bitti, she's the only daughter of a sweetmeat shop owner [Pankaj] and his conservative wife [Seema]. Her dad raises her like a son, even allowing her the occasional puff and swig. In sharp contrast, her regular small-town Ma, who only wants to see her daughter hitched.

On a train journey, Bitti accidentally ends up devouring a novel titled Bareilly Ki Barfi and here comes a twist in the tale. Not only does she identify with the lead character of the book, she also desperately seeks the author. She starts spending a lot of time with Chirag, they become besties, too, and he promises to help find her Pritam-pyaare.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email
news@
summittimes.com

ARCTIC CIRCLE



BABY BLUES



ARIES: If you've been hesitant about whether you should go on a diet, this would be a great day to start, Aries. If you're one of those people who really doesn't have to watch what you eat, good for you! However, you should still stay away from rich foods. Don't drink too much alcohol, and stay away from a lot of chocolate.

TAURUS: If you don't feel that you make enough money, this is the time to do something about it, Taurus. Are you sure you're doing everything you can to earn as much as possible? Perhaps you've wanted to change jobs for quite some time but

something is holding you back. What do you think? Try to figure it out.

GEMINI: Today you'll have a banker's precision, Gemini. You will recheck everything from your expenses to your investments to your children's pocket money, not to mention how much you've paid back on your loans. Keep at it! This is the time to do it. Despite what others think, it's important.

CANCER: Do you wonder whether other people are attracted to you, Cancer? If you'd like to reassure yourself, you could work on your outward appearance today. You may have an in-

clination to change something, but you don't have to overdo it. The energy of the day is about adding one special touch that makes all the difference when combined with your natural charm.

LEO: You're probably looking for new objectives in your career and personal life, Leo. Today you'll get the opportunity to share some dynamic ideas with new people. If you can, you should try to set up regular meetings with them. This could be your new group for brainstorming. These new friendships could be very productive in terms of personal fulfillment.

VIRGO: This will be a great day for you! Your children, grandchildren, or siblings may have a lot of excess energy. It's up to you to take care of them, Virgo. It's your turn to plan things in the family. You won't have any trouble with this task. Have you ever thought about being a planner or organizer for a living?

LIBRA: A wonderful day lies ahead, Libra. Life is giving you more space and freedom at the moment. You could take advantage of this space to do something with your creativity. It's the perfect time to sign up for some art classes or just begin

something on your own, like singing, painting, or writing. What would you like to do? Do it!

SCORPIO: Scorpio, do you feel like you're in a video game and about to get eaten by a monster? Today you should try a new game - avoiding stress! Whether this concerns your career or personal life, you need to find some neutral territory where you can relax. How about going to a friend's house?

SAGITTARIUS: After a few days of moving in slow motion, today you will get back all of your energy, Sagittarius. Your instincts will be excellent and

draw you to the people who can help you. It might be an excellent day to write any reports - or even your memoirs. Don't be afraid to grab a pen and paper - you will be wonderfully prolific!

CAPRICORN: If you've encountered a lot of resistance on some of your projects, Capricorn, you should probably let them go. It's possible that you're still doing something a certain way even though your goals have changed. All you used to think about was getting ahead in your career. Is that what you still want? Think about it.

AQUARIUS: The planetary positions are telling you to watch

what you eat, Aquarius. Why don't you think about eating more fruit? Buy the nicest fruit you can find and really be good to yourself. What you do for your body will bring great benefits in a week or two. It's time to get a lot of sleep, too.

PISCES: What a perfect day to go to a spa, get a massage, or enjoy a sauna, Pisces. You've accumulated a lot of tension and stress lately, and you may have had a hard time trying to calm down. You need some peace and quiet. Don't even pick up a newspaper. Try not to even think! Just tune out and take care of yourself.