

# SummitTIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 279 | Gangtok | Friday | 03 November 2017

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

## 2.63 lakh voters to seal fate of 1,290 candidates today

### HIGHEST NUMBER OF CANDIDATES PER ZILLA IN WEST SIKKIM

#### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 NOV:

The 2017 Panchayat elections will see approximately 3 candidates fighting for each of the 26 Zilla Panchayat

seats going to poll on Friday in West Sikkim, the highest number of candidates per seat among the districts. There are 70 candidates in the fray for Zilla Panchayat election in the district. West has 31 Zillas out of which 05 seats went to SDF candidates uncontested.

In South Sikkim, 57 candidates will be battling it out for the 21 Zilla Panchayat seats. Seven SDF candidates have al-

ready won uncontested in the district.

Out of the 32 Zilla Panchayat seats in East Sikkim, 08 went to SDF candidates uncontested. For the remaining 24 seats there are 73 candidates.

For North Sikkim, 28 candidates are in the fray for the 13 Zilla Panchayat seats while 07 seats have been won by SDF uncontested.

For the Gram Panchayat

election, there are 443 candidates for the 211 seats in West while South Sikkim has 288 candidates for 135 seats.

There are 285 candidates for the 132 Gram Panchayat seats in East Sikkim while 46 candidates are in the fray for the 22 Gram Panchayat seats in North Sikkim.

SDF has won uncontested in 136 Gram Panchayats in West, 148 in South, 163 in East

and 90 in North Sikkim.

West has 84607 voters out of which 40826 are female and 43781 are male. In East there are 95135 voters, of which 46651 are female and 48484 are male.

In South, there are 72088 voters out of which 34982 are female and 37106 are male. In North Sikkim, there are 11255 voters out of which 5426 are female and 5829 are male.

## Kanchan Panda, Sikkim's first entrepreneur fest coming up in end-Nov

**GANGTOK, 02 NOV [IPR]:** Sikkim State Cooperative Union (SICUN) in partnership with Sikkim Entrepreneurs Organization (SEO) is organizing a two-day event 'Kanchan Panda Startup Fest 2017' on 24-25 Nov, a press release informs.

The event is being organised to bring together aspiring, established and eager entrepreneurs from Sikkim, both rural and urban, and provide them a platform to interact with the stakeholders, thought leaders, industrialists and academia to exchange views, opinions and insights about investment, innovation and creation of lucrative business ventures.

The KP-Fest draws its inspiration from the Chief Minister's Youth Empowerment & Self-Reliant Mission.

"The two-day event will help the participants get access to mentoring, handholding, product and service assessment, customer market and

funding. The immediate result expected out of the event is to understand the impact of Start-Ups on the social and economic wellbeing of the State," reads the release.

Principal Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, Sanjeev Sanyal, Accel's key member who has led investments in BookMyShow, Holiday-IQ, PropTiger, Prashant Prakash, Founder and CEO of ishippo.com, Karma Bhutia, Founder of Padup Venture, Pankaj Thakar, SHEROES founder, Sairee Chahal and Professor of Economics at the South Asian Institute of Management, Nepal and the former Finance Minister of Nepal, Madhukar Shamser Rana are some of the keynote speakers announced for the event.

Online registrations for the fest are open and the interested participants are directed to register on [www.kanchanpanda.com](http://www.kanchanpanda.com) for free.

## Nepal polls: Deuba, Prachanda file nomination for second phase

**KATHMANDU, NOV 2 (PTI):** Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and former premier Prachanda today filed their nominations for the second phase of the parliamentary and provincial polls scheduled to be held in 45 districts on December 7.

Deuba, also the president of the ruling Nepali Congress, filed his nomination for a parliamentary seat from his home district Dadeldhura in far west Nepal. He would be contesting the election for the sixth time from the same constituency.

CPN-UML chief, KP Oli filed his nomination from Jhapa district constituency No 5, situated in eastern Nepal.

Prachanda, CPN-Maoist Centre chief, filed his candidacy from Chitawan district constituency No 3 situated in central Nepal while former Prime Minister and CPN-UML senior leader Madhav Kumar Nepal fielded his papers from Kathmandu constituency No 2.

Apart from the prominent leaders, other candidates also filed their nominations, between 10 am and 5 pm.

"The candidates registered their candidacy at the offices of the chief returning officers and the returning officers in their constituencies in a peaceful manner today, an Election Commission spokesperson said.

On October 22, candidates had filed their nomination papers for the first phase of polls scheduled to take place on November 26.

Another senior leader of UML Jhalanath Khanal fielded his candidacy from Ilam constituency No 1 in eastern Nepal, while Nepali Congress general secretary Shashanka Koirala fielded his candidacy from Nawalparasi 1.

## IFOAM delegates visit organic farming sites in East Sikkim

**GANGTOK, 02 NOV (IPR):** A daylong field visit was organized by Agriculture and Horticulture Department for the seven-member delegation from International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM).

IFOAM delegates visited various places of organic farming such as Saramsa, Radang, Budang Central Pandam of East Sikkim including Food Preservation Factory, Sikkim Supreme, today.

In the morning, the delegates visited Saramsa organic farming field and inspected fields of leafy vegetables, paddy, manufacturing of organic pesticides, etc.

During their visit, Director, FSAD Department, Kiran Pradhan explained about the fertilizer Panchakavya and its preparation and how it is being used in farming in Sikkim. Organic farming involves growing and nurturing



crops without the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, he added.

The objective of the visit was to learn about the methods of Organic Farming in Sikkim and to study the processing activities, the methods of

propagation of different fruit crops and to have an understanding of the economic activities of a processing plant. The delegates also saw how mixed cropping is done.

Secretary, Horticulture Department, Khorlo

Bhutia, Director, Kiran Pradhan and other senior officials shared details about organic farming and its various methods. Further the delegates were informed about the importance of organic farming, packaging prac-

tices of various crops and also about its production.

In the afternoon, the delegates visited Food Preservation Factory, Sikkim Supreme and Budang Organic Farms.

Farmers and villagers turn to pg03

## Suu Kyi visits Myanmar region torn by Rohingya conflict

**YANGON, NOV 2 (AP):** Aung San Suu Kyi made her first visit as Myanmar's leader today to the conflict-torn region where more than half a million Rohingya Muslims have fled state-led violence that has spiralled into Asia's worst refugee crisis in decades.

Her visit to Rakhine state comes as Suu Kyi is under intense international scrutiny for her response to the exodus, which the U.N. has called "ethnic cleansing," and as her government said it is working on a plan to repatriate those who fled to Bangladesh.

Suu Kyi arrived in the state capital, Sittwe, in the morning and headed to restive northern Rakhine where many Rohingya villages were located. During a 2015 election campaign, she visited southern Rakhine, where there hasn't been much conflict.

"The state counselor just arrived but she is heading to Maungdaw, northern Rakhine, with the state officials," said Tin Maung SWE, a deputy



director of the Rakhine government, using Suu Kyi's official title.

Government spokesman Zaw Htay would not release Suu Kyi's plans for the trip until later because of security concerns.

More than 600,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to

Bangladesh since Aug. 25, when security forces in Buddhist-majority Myanmar began what they called "clearance operations" in response to deadly attacks on police outposts by insurgents.

The campaign has included the burning of Rohingya

villages and alleged widespread rights violations.

Fleeing Rohingya have described arson, rape and shootings by Myanmar soldiers and Buddhist mobs that left them no option but to make the dangerous and sometimes deadly journey through jun-

gles and by sea to Bangladesh.

The exodus has slowed at some points but has not stopped.

Today morning, at least 2,000 terrified and starving Rohingya huddled in rice paddy fields near one border crossing on the Naf river. They had waited for more than 24 hours for permission to enter Bangladesh and spent the night in the muddy fields.

The global image of Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace laureate, has been damaged by the crisis and she has come under intense criticism to do more to end the violence and condemn those responsible. Several fellow peace prize winners have publicly condemned Suu Kyi for what they see as her apparent indifference to the plight of the Rohingya.

Though Suu Kyi has been the de facto head of Myanmar's civilian government since her party swept elections in 2015, the former political prisoner is limited

in her control of the country by a constitution written by the military junta that ruled Myanmar for decades. The military has effective veto power over all legislation and controls key ministries including those overseeing security and defense.

The military is in charge of operations in northern Rakhine, and ending them is not up to Suu Kyi.

Even when Suu Kyi has spoken on the issue, she has drawn criticism. In a September speech, her first public comments after the current crisis began, she asked for patience from the international community and suggested the refugees were partly responsible, saying more than half of the Rohingya villages had not been destroyed by the violence.

Suu Kyi faces a potential domestic backlash if she speaks on behalf of the Rohingya, who have been the target of anti-Muslim rhetoric.

turn to pg02



## GAC files police complaint against CM

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 02 NOV:**

Gorkha Apex Committee [GAC] today lodged a police complaint against Chief Minister Pawan Chamling here at Sadar Police Station.

GAC has accused the Sikkim Democratic Front president of threatening Independent candidates contesting the Panchayat elections and also levelled charges of abetment to suicide against Mr Chamling.

Chief convenor of GAC, Passang Sherpa, told media persons today that the police complaints were based in the CM's address at Makha on 30 Oct.

He also showed a video clip of the purported address and informed that GAC has already written to the State Election Commission, Home Ministry and National Human Rights Commission about the same.

GAC has also demanded a public apology from the CM.



## Three parked vehicles vandalized at Singtam

**YOGEN THATAL**  
**SINGTAM, 02 NOV:**

Some unknown miscreants vandalized three vehicles parked near Lal Bazaar in Singtam on Wednesday night.

One Bolero, an SUV and a local taxi have reportedly been vandalized by the miscreants. A report has been filed at Singtam Police Station. Efforts are being made by the authorities to trace the culprits.



## Polling essentials dispatched in South Sikkim

**NAMCHI, 02 NOV [IPR]:** Polling materials for the polling teams of 233 polling stations under South District were dispatched from the strong room located in Namchi Senior Secondary School auditorium today.

The dispatch procedure was overlooked by General Election Observer (South), Tshewang Gyachho, Returning Officer (RO), Raj Yadav, Assistant Returning Officers, Benu Gurung, BC Rai, Sunil Mothey along-

side sector magistrates and election agents.

RO (South) reiterated that the poll timings for the voters has been notified by the Sikkim State Election Commission (SSEC) from 08 a.m. to 04 p.m. and the Presiding Of-

ficers will conduct a mock poll at 7 a.m. on the polling day, one hour prior to the poll in their respective polling stations which he stressed is 'a mandatory procedure for the officer'.

Also the candidates and their election agents

are directed to be present for the mock poll in their respective polling stations at 6.30 a.m. on 03 Nov. Special provisions and special measures have also been taken for the 16 sensitive polling booths of South Sikkim.



## SAATHI offsite training camp concludes at Chemchey

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 02 NOV:**

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India (SAATHI), a project initiative under Chief Minister's Youth Empowerment Mission, 2013 wrapped up its three-day long refresher offsite training camp for the year 2017-18 today, a

press release informs.

Hundred students from Tadong Senior Secondary School, Deorali Senior Secondary School, Bojoghari Senior Secondary School, Modern Senior Secondary School, Kalzang Gyatso Senior Secondary School Kabi, Mangan Senior Secondary Schools, Singtam Senior Secondary School, Bi-

raspati Parsai Senior Secondary School Ranipool, Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School and West Point Senior Secondary School attended the camp.

SAATHI conducted the residential camps at the Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism (IHCAE) in Chemchey, South Sikkim. The

students were accompanied by the teacher coordinators of the respective schools and also the SAATHI project team.

Various motivational and technical sessions on drugs along with learning based fun and physical activities were conducted with the students, informs the release.

## Polling officers leave for respective stations in North



**WANGCHUK BHUTIA**  
**MANGAN, 02 NOV:**

The presiding and polling officers today left for their respective polling stations from Zilla Bhawan in Mangan, North Sikkim for the Panchayat election scheduled to be held on Friday.

In North, 13 Zilla Territorial Constituencies and 22 Gram Panchayat

Wards are scheduled to go to poll.

A team of engineers from Electronics Corporation of India Limited [ECIL] were present on the spot to test the dispatched EVMs. General Observer [North], Sonam Y Lepcha and Returning Officer [North], Karma R Bonpo were also present to oversee the dispatch process.

## Suu Kyi visits Myanmar region torn...

**contd from pg01**

ric. Many people agree with the official government stance that there is no such ethnicity as Rohingya and that those in the country have illegally migrated from Bangladesh.

Though Rohingya first arrived generations ago, they were stripped of their citizenship in 1982, denying them almost all rights and rendering them stateless. They cannot travel freely, practice their religion, or work as teachers or doctors, and they have little access to medical care, food or education.

Myanmar's backers globally have also had to tread carefully, not wanting to undermine Suu Kyi's weak civilian government at a time when the country is just emerging from decades of authoritarian rule. Still, counties such as the U.S. have warned Myanmar about potential repercussions if it doesn't address the crisis, including the risk of attracting international terrorists, scaring off investment, and ultimately stunting its transition to democracy.

The government said Tuesday that it is ready

to repatriate Rohingya who had fled, but blamed Bangladesh for slowing the process.

"We are ready to accept the refugees and to start a verification and scrutiny process, but we have not reached an agreement with the Bangladeshi authorities for repatriation," said Zaw Htay, the government spokesman.

He said those who could prove they were residents of Myanmar would be allowed to return. Many Rohingya have no identity documents.

Ali Hossain, a top government administrator in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar district, said yesterday that Bangladesh is doing "more than enough" to help the refugees, and placed the blame for delays in the repatriation process on Myanmar.

"Myanmar is talking about repatriation but more and more people are still being forced to come to Bangladesh," he said.

"There is a situation in Myanmar. We know that, the whole world knows that."

"Bangladesh is not playing any tricks here. We are doing our best," he said.

## West Election Officials dispatch EVMs to respective polling stations



**GYALSHING, 02 NOV [IPR]:** Returning Officer [West], Kapil Meena

along with the Assistant Returning Officers of the district directed the safe dispatch of Electronic Voting Machines [EVMs]

for the Panchayat election on Friday.

After the dispatch process the election officials were briefed by Additional District Collector [West], Hondala Gyaltsen

regarding proper filing procedures and file keeping process which is to be done from Friday. The official casting of vote will take place from 08 a.m. till 04 p.m.

All the Sector Mag-

istrates have been directed by the Returning Officer, West to submit the report on the successful delivery of EVMs at the designated polling stations of the district.

## Election essentials dispatched in East

**GANGTOK, 02 NOV [IPR]:**

Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and election materials for East District were distributed to the polling parties today at Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen. General Observer, Rinzing Chewang Bhutia was present during the dispatch process.

The elections for the Zilla Panchayats and Gram

Panchayats shall be contested at 24 Territorial Constituencies and 132 Gram Panchayat Wards. 235 polling stations have been arranged for the poll which shall be held on Friday from 08 a.m. to 04 p.m. The total number of electors for the Panchayat Elections in the district is 95135 comprising of 48,484 male and 46,651 female

electors.

1,300 polling personnel have been deputed for the elections. Moreover, 571 Police Personnel have been deployed for polling duty and to ensure law and order during the election.

560 postal ballots for Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies and 399 postal ballots for Gram Panchayat

Wards have been received at the Drop Boxes kept at Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen.

Further, the government servants who have not collected their postal ballots are directed to collect the same from the Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen positively on 03 Nov.

## To contact SummitTIMES

**GANGTOK:**  
For circulation details Contact: (Sandeep) 9734152451 & for Advertisement booking at 9933427505 or at office no 03592 208698. Mail us at advertise@summittimes.com

## KOLKATA OFFICE:

Irshad Ali/ Imteeyaz. Synapse, 6, Madan Street, Mezzine - 2, 2nd floor. Kolkata - 700072. Ph. 033-22124348/ fax 033-22124337/ mob. 9830547774/ 983108397. E-mail: contact.synapse@gmail.com/ irshad\_ali123@rediffmail.com



**Gangtok on Friday, 03 Nov**

**Temp:** 23°C / 09°C  
**Forecast:** Mostly sunny and pleasant.  
**Sunrise:** 05:47 AM  
**Sunset:** 4:51 PM

**Kolkata Metro has Feb 2018 date with advanced Chinese trains**

**NEW DELHI, NOV 2 (PTI):** Come February, the commuters of Kolkata Metro would finally get a taste of travelling in the most advanced coaches they have seen, with China-made rakes making their way into the 'City of Joy', a senior railways official said.

Imported at a cost of Rs 7.1 lakh per coach from the China Railway Rolling Stock Corp. Ltd (CRRC), the city would get 14 trains with a total of 112 coaches, he told PTI.

This means Kolkata Metro will soon be able to shed its non-AC rakes, at least in the existing north-south corridor.

"These will be state-of-the-art AC coaches with comfortable seating and much like the metro trains run by the DMRC in Delhi. They will also have CCTV cameras," said the official.

Real-time footage from the coaches will be visible to the motorman, who will monitor it on a console. This would enable him to act swiftly in case of any disturbance in the coaches, officials said.

The coaches would be fitted with 30-tonne air conditioners, instead of the existing 22-tonne machines.

The commuters will also be able to communicate with the motorman during an emergency through eight talk-back units.

Once operational, the trains will replace the old ones, which have been running for over three decades in Kolkata's 27.22-km-long south-north subway line.

As many as 300 Kolkata Metro services ferry over 6,50,000 commuters on a daily basis, making it the second-busiest metro system in India after Delhi.



## Sikkim Aakraman Football Club to host a fund raising musical gala

**SAGAR CHETTRI**  
**GANGTOK, 02 NOV:**

Sikkim Aakraman Football Club is all set to organize its first ever fund raising event here in the capital this month. The club is organizing a grand musical event, Autumn Ball, on 11 Nov here at Thuendel Food and Spirits at Lower Burtuk.

The main attraction of the event is 'Vetrock 2017', which will feature performances by the first three rock bands of Sikkim once again after a gap of many decades. The event also has a series of performances by popular bands and artists of Sikkim and a felicitation programme.

The event was announced by Sikkim Aakraman Football Club during a press conference here today which was addressed by its co-founder, Sonam Gyaltsen Tenzing, president, Jigme Singye, general secretary, Karma Tshering and manager, Khituk Tongden.

The club was established in 2013 and has already impressed people with its performances in various tournaments in and outside the State. Sikkim Aakraman FC is also the Senior Division League champions of 2016.

"We are targeting the masses with a very impressive line-up of

musical performances by some of the talented artists of the State," Mr Tenzing said.

He informed that the main attraction of the event was 'Vetrock 2017', which will feature performances from Sikkim's first rock bands, The Orchids, Flickers and Dewan Brothers. He stated that the event is a rare opportunity to witness the reunion of the oldest rock bands of Sikkim once again.

The event will have performances by Bamboo Groove, a group of artists from Sikkim and Darjeeling. The stage will also be shared by Sikkim's Lepcha band,

Sofiyum and local artists, Tshering Leizum, Neha & Smyrna and Sonam Gaychen Wangdi followed by other activities.

"Another attraction of the event is the felicitation of The Orchids, Flickers and Dewan Brothers for their contribution to the music scene in Sikkim. The club will also felicitate Asian medalists, HT Basi [Jerry Basi], Thupten Pagpal Bhutia and Karma P Bhutia for their contributions towards football," informs Sikkim Aakraman FC president, Mr Singye.

He stated that the main objective of the event is to spread awareness especially among

the elderly, on their role and support for the development of sports in the State.

"There are many talented and skilful footballers in the State. They just need proper support and guidance from us. It is also an attempt to encourage people of all age groups to come together in support of the State football teams," he said.

Mr Singye stated that Sikkim Aakraman FC is a self sustained club so the event aims to raise funds to further promote Sikkim football and footballers. He added that the club has decided to organize the event annually from now onwards.

## GATC set to perform for 3rd time at NE Fest in Delhi

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 02 NOV:** Hard rock sensation, Girish and The Chronicles (GATC), is all set to perform at the 04th edition of North East Festival, being held at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi, from 03-05 Nov. The band from Sikkim currently based in Bangalore will be headlining the second day of the three-day festival.

The band has already been a part of this festival, consecutively for the past two years, and this is the third time that the band is being featured as the headlining act.

The festival will feature many artists, representing various states of the North East. Display of different cuisines, art works, short films etc.



will also be a part of the festival.

The frontman of the band, Girish Pradhan recently featured with renowned guitar player, Baiju Dharmajan, at the NH7 Weekender event held at Meghalaya and shared the stage with legendary guitarist Steve

Vai.

GATC is currently recording their second album, after the release of their first album 'Back on Earth' in 2014. They are planning to complete the production by December, which will be followed by the release and promotional tours.

## 90% of mental health patients deprived of medical care: Prez

**NEW DELHI, NOV 2 (PTI):** President Ram Nath Kovind today warned that India was staring at a possible mental health epidemic and said over 90 per cent of those affected by mental health issues do not receive the required medical care.

While inaugurating the World Congress of Mental Health here, the president quoted World Health Organisation (WHO) figures to state that India has one of the highest prevalence of mental illnesses globally.

"Our National Mental Health Survey, 2016 found that close to 14 per cent of India's population required active mental health interventions. About two per cent suffered from severe mental disorders," Kovind said.

Nearly two hundred thousand Indians take their own lives each year

and if data for attempted suicide was included the number went up substantially, he added.

The president warned that India was staring at a possible mental health epidemic.

"These are worrying statistics. It is also a fact that those living in metropolitan cities and those who were young whether in the productive age group, or children and teenagers are most vulnerable to mental illnesses, he said.

In India, he said, both these factors were a cause for concern as India had a young population, with 65 per cent of people below the age of 35.

## SMU Prof awarded PhD degree

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 02 NOV:**

Sikkim Manipal University has announced that it is awarding Sikkim University's Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Applications, Rebika Rai with a Doctor of Philosophy [PhD] degree for her thesis on 'Improved Methodology for Classifying Imagery Using Swarm Computing Techniques', a press release from the university informs.

The research was carried out under the guidance of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology [SMIT] Professor and Head of Department, Department of Computer Applications, Dr Ratika Pradhan, and former SMIT Dean [Academics], Dr Mrinal Kanti Ghose.

"Ms Rai has successfully defended her work on 30 Oct and has been recommended for an award of Doctor of Philosophy degree by the Board of Examiners of Sikkim Manipal University," reads the release.

During her research Ms Rai worked on processing various images using the swarm behavior of ants, bees and birds using Swarm Computing Techniques.

Born to Santaman Rai and Bela Pradhan of Setipool, Saramsa, East Sikkim, Ms Rai did her schooling from Holy Cross School, Tadong. She completed her B.E (Bachelor's of Engineering) in Department of Computer Science and Engineering from Amravati University,



ty, Maharashtra; M.Tech (Master's of Technology) in Department of Computer Science and Engineering from Sikkim Manipal University.

She has been a university topper at Amravati University, Maharashtra and was awarded with National Merit Scholarship framed by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Government of India for her postgraduate studies in 2006.

She is the author of the 'Open Source Hardware: An Introductory Approach' and has published numerous research papers in various international journals and conferences. Her research areas include image processing, soft computing, database and robotics.

Ms Rai will be awarded with the PhD degree on the next convocation ceremony of Sikkim Manipal University.

Prior to working with Sikkim University, she was working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SMIT, Majitar.

## IFOAM delegates visit organic farming sites in East Sikkim...

**Contd from pg01**

of Budang welcomed the delegates and provided information about the organic farming farms. Discussions and interactive session were held with the foreign delegates about the process of organic farming.

The field visit also saw a cultural programme organized by the farmers of Budang followed by cultural programmes of different Sikkimese communities.

The delegates also visited the Food Preservation Factory (Sikkim Supreme) at Singtam which is the only Organic Food Processing Unit and which produces high quality bottled products direct from the gardens of nature.

The field visit was a successful and informative one and had the presence of other senior officials from the concerned Departments.



**འཇམ་དཔལ་འབྱུང་གི་ཤེས་རིག་མཁས་ཁྱབ་ཁང་།**  
**NAMGYAL INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY**  
 Gangtok, Sikkim  
 Ph: (03592) 281525 / 280822

### NOTICE

**SUBJECT- SIX WEEKS DURATION SHORT TERM INTENSIVE COURSE IN BUDDHIST STUDIES**

The Namgyal Institute of Tibetology will be conducting 6 (six) weeks duration Short Term Intensive courses in English on the following subject matters:

- Tibetan/Himalayan Buddhist Art and Architecture – Resource person : Mr. Pranshu Samdarshi With effect from 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 (day class)
- Shaytrin (Nagarjuna's letter to a friend) – Resource Person : Khenpo Chowang With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018 from 4.30 – 6.00 pm.

All those interested candidates who are registered college students or graduates in any discipline may submit their application to the Joint Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology on or before 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 duly indicating the subject of their choice and paying the requisite registration fee of Rs.700/-. The application must be accompanied by authentic documents to prove their qualification for the course. Online application will also be accepted subject to submission of scanned copies of their qualification certificates and on payment of registration fee in the office of the Joint Director prior to taking admission.

For syllabus content and application form, kindly check on the NIT website- [www.tibetology.net](http://www.tibetology.net).

Sd/- JOINT DIRECTOR,  
**NAMGYAL INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY,**  
**GANGTOK – SIKKIM (INDIA)**  
 Ph. No. +91 3592 280822: (Mob) +91 9832031614  
 Email: [directormitsikkim@gmail.com](mailto:directormitsikkim@gmail.com)  
 Website: - [www.tibetology.net](http://www.tibetology.net).

### CONTACT

**Summit TIMES**

REPORTERS  
 NAMCHI  
 9832048410,  
 9775736596  
 SINGTAM  
 7699771651  
 MANGAN/  
 DIKCHU  
 9832612485/  
 9434011213  
 SILIGURI  
 9609066814  
 DARJEELING  
 9434121862  
 GANGTOK  
 8016270440,  
 9832082664,  
 9832424750





## Accident Care

*More needs to be done in response to accidents and mishaps*

Imagine a scenario in which a road mishap, say in remote North Sikkim, leaves a group of people injured and in immediate need of medical attention ranging from the routine first-aid to specialist interventions. You do not even have to stretch your imagination if you have been following news on a regular basis and are aware of such accidents in different parts of Sikkim in the not so distant past. While accidents cannot be averted with certainty, what can be assured is that accident victims receive the required medical attention sans the red tape and without having to bounce through a circuitous route to medical attention. But that is invariably what happens. Continuing with the scenario outlined earlier, the injured will first be rushed to the nearest PHC if they are far from the district hospitals. There can be no qualms with this since trained medical attention is necessary in the early hours to establish the nature of injuries. Of course, it would be ideal if the first responder teams to accident sites included doctors and paramedics so that such diagnosis can be made on the spot. After this, the injured will be taken to the nearest district hospital where they will be checked again and then, if required, referred on to STNM Hospital in Gangtok and chances are that from here they will be driven onwards to CRH down in Tadong. The more complicated cases will then be referred out of the State to Siliguri or Delhi.

From the time of the accident to their eventual discharge from hospital, the victims (the less injured ones) of a road mishap end up spending more time on the road, moving from one 'referral' to the next, than they spend recuperating or coming to grips with their trauma and grief. Sikkim's roads are a punishment for even able-bodied passengers, the trauma that injured bodies suffer careening from one medical inspection to the other should not be wished on anyone. The doctor with referral powers at the final end of the state is just as capable as the doctor who must have attended to the accident victims first. Why then, should the power to refer patients out of the State not rest with the first doctor itself depending on his/her prognosis. That would cut down on travel time substantially, and time is of essence in such cases, all will agree.

There is still more that needs to be done when it comes to handling accident trauma cases. Accidents, as mentioned, cannot be avoided, but what defeats all explanation is the scenario which definitely confounds everyone – the level of medical assistance available for trauma victims in Sikkim. This basic facility remains unattained even though by now, speciality wings should have been added to district hospitals and even Primary Health Centres here at least on paper. Given the hilly terrain, poor driving etiquette and unreliable roads, every PHC in Sikkim should have reasonably advanced infrastructure and manpower to attend to accident cases. Tourist destinations in high altitudes [like Nathula and Gurudongmar] should have personnel and equipment to allow visitors with high altitude sickness symptoms to recuperate. This facility, one may add here, need not necessarily be provided and maintained by the Government and could even be sponsored by tourism stakeholders; after all, it is tourists who develop complications there, with the residents mostly acclimatized. Agreed the army assists in times of emergencies, but this should still be a service that is more accessible and specifically dedicated to tourist emergencies. These should already have been in place, and yet, one stares at a reality where in the event of a medical emergency, a victim's fate depends on the presence of mind of the people around, the speed at which the referral can be typed out and the road worthiness of the ambulance which zips the victim from one referral pit-stop to the other. Unfortunate...

## 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](mailto:letters@summittimes.com)

# Guyana, one of South America's poorest countries, struck oil. Will it go boom or bust?

ANTHONY T. BRYAN  
*theconversation.com*

Today, Guyana is one of South America's poorest countries, with an average per capita annual income of around US\$4,000.

But within the decade, it could be among the richest. In 2015, Exxon-Mobil and its international partners discovered vast oil reserves off the Caribbean coast of this small country. By 2018, five new wells will be pumping out 120,000 barrels of Guyanese crude daily.

Deep-water surveys estimate Guyana's oil reserves at around 2 billion barrels. That pales in comparison to neighboring Venezuela but surpasses the reserves of Trinidad and Tobago, long the Caribbean's biggest oil producer.

In short, Guyana is on the verge of unprecedented wealth – but only if it plays its cards right. As I've seen during two decades of research into Caribbean oil and gas development, natural resources can easily become a curse.

Is Guyana prepared for the good and the bad of the oil bonanza to come?

**GUYANA LAYS THE GROUNDWORK**  
Given its marine reserves, by the mid-2020s Guyanese oil production offshore could rise to 400,000 barrels a day. Once production starts next year, Guyana will receive a 2 percent royalty on gross earnings and 50 percent of oil proceeds.

While that's a fairly low royalty by international standards, it will make Guyana rich. At the current market price of around \$50 per barrel, this country of 750,000 people can expect to net \$1 million a day in oil earnings.

Since full monetization of Guyana's oil and gas resources will occur in five to 15 years, the country has less than a decade to deal with numerous energy-related hurdles, including unresolved territorial issues with Venezuela, environmental protection, wealth management and social concerns.

The government's top priority is to resolve a border controversy dating back to Guyana's days as a British colony. For 200 years, Venezuela has claimed sovereignty over two-thirds of Guyana's territory, including its exclusive economic zone.

This controversy – which hing-



es on a disagreement over the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea – is unlikely to scare off international oil companies. Venezuela could muck things up a bit for Guyana, though, by increasing Navy patrols in Venezuela's exclusive economic zone, which abuts Guyana's disputed maritime area, deterring oil vessels and intercepting commercial ships.

Hoping to avoid such confrontations, Guyana is now pursuing a judicial settlement at the U.N. If the countries fail to settle, the case will go to the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Inadequate infrastructure is another constraint to growth. Guyana now has an ambitious \$164 million plan to upgrade its road networks, bridges, ports, telecommunications and river transport system. But to get Guyana's crude to international markets, some of this construction must be done by 2018 – a tall order for a small nation.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS**  
As oil production expands, protecting the marine environment will become an urgent issue for the entire Caribbean region.

In April, three Venezuelan doctors transporting medical supplies from Trinidad to Venezuela drowned when their boat overturned in an oil slick. A barge belonging to Trinidad and Tobago's national oil company had ruptured, discharging 300 million barrels of crude into the sea just seven miles from Venezuela.

Most recently, in October, a fisherman discovered an unreported "massive" spill off of Trinidad's northwest coast. A video posted to Facebook shows black waters near Chaguaramas, the site of a major national park.

The source of the spill remains unknown.

Such catastrophes are commonplace around Trinidad, which for 110 years has been the Caribbean's major oil producer.

They should serve as a warning for Guyana. Maritime crude drilling goes hand in hand with leaky pipelines, ruptured barges and rig malfunctions. In my experience, spills rarely result in sanctions for oil and gas producers.

According to a June 2017 report from Guyana's Environmental Protection Agency, the country's forests and ecosystems are, today, almost untouched. To keep Guyana pristine even as the oil and gas sector grows, proper environmental management systems are critical.

**AVOIDING THE RESOURCE CURSE**  
Revenue management is another big question mark right now. From Iran to Nigeria, worldwide experience confirms that social conflict and economic instability result when income from drilling, mining and the like is unequally distributed.

This is called the "resource curse," and Guyana must move quickly to avoid it. Recent opinion polls show that the Guyanese public has little faith in the leadership ability of both the government and the opposition.

Indeed, Guyana's gross mismanagement of its corruption-plagued sugar and mineral extraction industries raises doubt about whether the coming oil windfall will actually benefit citizens.

The Guyanese government seems to be aware of these financial management risks. On Oct. 26, Guyana became the latest member of the Extractive Industries Transparency

Initiative, an international watchdog that partners with organizations like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

In addition to monitoring Guyana's resource governance, the initiative requires mandatory full financial disclosures to "demonstrate commitment to reform and anti-corruption."

A critical next step would be to establish a sovereign wealth fund, following the good examples of Trinidad and Norway. This type of national savings account ensures that oil revenues are invested and spent in a way that transcends political cycles and generations.

## ETHNIC STRIFE

There is good reason for concern about Guyana's future as an oil power. Though the country has enjoyed relative political stability over the past decade, its society is fractious. Politics in Guyana – whose population is 29 percent Afro-Guyanese and 40 percent Indo-Guyanese – divide along racial lines, with the two main ethnic groups competing over money and power.

Protests in 2012 killed three people, and more unrest occurred earlier this year.

Challenges aside, Guyana also has some solid foundations for economic development. Its well-educated population and open, market-driven financial climate make it an attractive destination for American, Chinese, Mexican and Brazilian companies, among others.

From 2006 to 2015, foreign direct investment – mostly in Guyana's mining, tourism and telecommunications sectors – averaged \$188 million per year, representing 7.9 percent of gross domestic product. That will surely grow once oil starts flowing.

The odds of a success are aided by Trinidad and Tobago, which has been providing technical assistance to Guyana since 2016. In addition to helping its neighbor develop its energy and gas expertise, Trinidad hopes its own refinery will soon begin processing Guyanese crude.

One way or another, oil riches will transform Guyana. With sound economic policy and thoughtful leadership, it can be for the better.

*[The writer is Professor of International Relations, The University of the West Indies: St. Augustine Campus]*

# What evolutionary theory can teach us about the appearance of aliens

SAMUEL LEVIN  
*theconversation.com*

Aliens could be everywhere. There are at least 100 billion planets in our galaxy alone, and at least 20% of them could be habitable. Even if a tiny fraction of those planets – less than one percent of one percent – evolved life, there would still be tens of thousands of planets with aliens in our vicinity. But if we want to figure out where to start looking for these neighbours, we need to understand what they might be like and where they might thrive.

Ultimately, we want to understand as much as possible about an extraterrestrial species before we encounter it. And yet, making predictions about aliens is hard. The reason is simple: we have only one example – life on Earth – to extrapolate from. Just because eyes and limbs have evolved many times on Earth doesn't mean they'll appear even once elsewhere. Just because we are made of carbon and coded by DNA doesn't mean aliens will be – they could be silicon based and coded by "XNA".

However, as my colleagues and I argue in our new study, published in the International Journal of Astrobiology, there is another approach to making predictions about aliens that gets around this problem. That is to use evolutionary theory as a guiding principle. The theory of natural selection allows us to make predictions that don't depend on the details of Earth, and so will hold even for eyeless, nitrogen-breathing aliens.

Darwin formulated his theory of natural selection long before we knew what DNA was, how mutations appeared, or even how traits were passed on. It is remarkably simple, and requires just a few ingredients to work: variation (some giraffes have longer necks than others), heritability of that variation (long-necked giraffes have long-necked babies) and differential success linked to the variation (long-necked giraffes eat more leaves and have more babies).

## DARWIN'S ALIENS

In our paper, we use evolutionary theory to make a number of predictions about aliens. First, we argue that aliens will undergo natural selection. This is something often either taken for granted or assumed to be an unknown. We show that there are

firm theoretical grounds for believing that aliens will undergo (or have undergone) natural selection.

This is because "apparent design" is what sets life apart from non-life – such as a single celled organism from inert rocks. Living things have many intricate parts fine tuned for the common purpose of replicating the organism. The only way to achieve this apparent design, or adaptedness, the only way to get life, is through natural selection.

So as aliens are highly likely to undergo natural selection, we can make some predictions about



what they will be like. In particular, our predictions are about complex aliens. By complexity, we mean anything more complex than, say, a virus.

Even a bacterial cell has intricate parts that work together to achieve goals, like moving and eating. In other words, most "aliens" we would be interested in finding, or even able to find, are complex. That's because the only things so simple that they could have arisen without natural selection would be molecules, which are both physically hard to detect and hard to distinguish from the background of inert molecules. They'd also be transient – without natural selection making them fitter they'd disappear. Even if we did find them, we probably wouldn't even classify them as life.

Complexity on Earth has arisen through a handful of something called "major transitions in individuality". These occur when independent organisms come together to form a new type of individual. On Earth, genes came together to form genomes, single celled organisms formed multi-cellular organisms, like us. In some rare cases, multi-cellular organisms, like insects, have formed societies that act as "super organisms" themselves. These events are rare, and require extreme evolutionary condi-

tions to occur.

We argue that complex aliens will, too, have undergone major transitions, as this is likely the only way to advance beyond a simple replicating molecule. Because the conditions for major transitions to occur are rare, and because they are quite well understood from an evolutionary perspective, this allows us to say something about the makeup of aliens.

In particular, just as you and I are made up of cells which are made up of nuclei and mitochondria (the breathing engine of the cell) which are made up of genes, aliens will be a similar nested hierarchy of units. Aliens might not be made of "cells" as we think of them, but they will be made up of parts which were once free living, and those parts in turn will be too – all the way down to the aliens' hereditary material (whatever it is). Our parts have mechanisms in place that keep all the parts working together to make an organism.

For example, our cells all start as one single cell (the "zygote"), and this means all our cells are clones, which is why they cooperate to make us. Aliens will have similar ways of enforcing cooperation between their internal parts, at each level of units.

Aliens may not have two legs, or any legs at all, but their structure, from an evolutionary standpoint, will be much more familiar than we might have thought. By familiar, I don't mean superficially familiar. They may look, on the surface, wildly different from anything on Earth. But they will be similar on a more fundamental level: their bodies will be constructed in the same way (formerly free-living parts within formerly free-living parts), and they will have undergone a similar evolutionary history (independent organisms cooperating to form new, higher level organisms).

There is much more work to be done to understand what aliens might be like and where we might find them. And the tantalising question – "Are we alone?" – remains unanswered. But, as we have shown, if we're not alone, perhaps we understand more about the makeup of our neighbours than science fiction would have us believe.

*[The writer is PhD candidate in Zoology, University of Oxford]*





# Niti Aayog selects five IIM Calcutta students

**KOLKATA, Nov 2 (PTI):** Government's top planning body Niti Aayog has selected five students of the prestigious IIM Calcutta in course of its talent hunt in the famed management institution this year.

National Institution for Transforming India (Niti) Aayog visited the campus for the first time and made five offers during the summer placement this year, an IIM Calcutta press release said.

Living up to its reputation IIM Calcutta registered 100 per cent placement again with big companies such as Goldman Sachs, Coke and Boston Consulting Group (BCG) enrolling talented students of the business school.

While Goldman Sachs made the highest number of offers in finance, the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) was the top recruiter in terms of hiring number of students, the release said.

Students also got placements in other major sectors like marketing, general management, e-commerce, operations and product management, it said.

Coke, Uber and Aditya Birla Group were the top job givers in marketing, operations and general management respectively, the release added.

A total number of 180 firms across diverse sectors had come to the institute for the summer placements, which recorded 100 per cent placement in two days last week, the press release said.

Altogether 188 offers amounting to 41 per cent



# BRO builds world's highest motorable road in Ladak

**SRINAGAR, Nov 2 (PTI):** In a major feat, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed the world's highest motorable road in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir, passing through Umlingla Top at a height of over 19,300 feet.

The feat was achieved under 'Project Himank' of the organisation.

Being close to Hanle, the 86km long strategic road connects Chisumle and Demchok villages, located 230 Kms from Leh. These villages are stone's throw away from the Indo-China border in eastern sector, a spokesman of BRO said.

Felicitating the BRO personnel for completing the herculean task, Chief Engineer, Project Himank, Brigadier D M Purvima, said constructing the road at the altitude of over 19,300 feet was filled with life threatening challenges.

He said the climate at the location is always adverse for construction activities.

"During peak summers, temperature hovers around minus 10-20 degrees Celsius, and in winters, it dips to minus 40 degrees. Oxygen level at the altitude is 50 per cent less than at normal places," Purvima said.

"Efficiency of machines and manpower declines by 50 per cent due to harsh climate and less oxygen level. Also, machine operators have to come down every 10 minutes for oxygen," he

**ZAFRI MUDASSER NOFIL**  
**NEW DELHI, Nov 2 (PTI):** Nobel Peace Prize-winning economist Muhammad Yunus, the Bangladesh-based champion of microfinance, says he sees no reason for his Grameen Bank to set up operations here as India has several successful microcredit organisations and many of these are modelled after the bank he founded.

He also says that he has been proposing to Indian policy makers to create a separate banking law to allow setting up of specialised banks for the poor.

"In the mean time I suggested (them) to give limited banking licence to successful MFIs (microfinance institutions) so that they can take deposits to become financially self-reliant, and expand their operation at a faster speed," he says.

"The Reserve Bank of India has issued licences to convert 10 leading MFIs into specialised banks. I see no reason for Grameen Bank to set up its own operation in India while the newly created microfinance banks are doing commendable jobs," Yunus told PTI in an interview.



He was responding to a question on whether there is any plan by his Grameen Bank to set up and expand its presence in India.

Yunus has come out with a new book 'A World of Three Zeros: The New Economics of Zero Poverty, Zero Unemployment, and Zero Net Carbon Emissions', published by Hachette India, in which he sets out a vision for a new economic system that tackles these three problems together.

The book is dedicated to highlighting the impending danger of exponential rise of wealth

concentration globally and nationally, he says, adding it argues that wealth concentration is a ticking time bomb, it can explode politically and socially any time.

"We need to address that. The book presents four mega powers which can slow down, and even reverse, the process of wealth concentration. These are: power of youth, power of social business, power of technology, and power of good governance.

Not only can they reverse the flow of wealth from upwards to downwards, they can lay the foundation of a new civilisation based on human values, moving out of a civilisation based on greed," he says.

Besides being the founder of Grameen Bank and the father of microcredit, Yunus is also the creator of social business, which has had huge impact on the grassroots economy across the Indian subcontinent and in emerging economies across the world.

He and his Grameen Bank were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2006 "for their efforts to create economic and social

development from below".

Asked how relevant microfinance is to India and Bangladesh today when there has been a huge expansion of commercial banking networks in remote rural areas, Yunus says it was born to point out the failure of conventional banking in reaching out to the bottom half of global population.

"As long as loan sharks, pawn shops, and informal lending exist, we know that banking system remains incomplete. It is not about how many people are left out from the system.

"As long as it leaves people unaddressed microfinance should be there to remind the banking system that this can be done, there is no room to relax with the sense of accomplishment," he says.

In Bangladesh, Grameen Bank and MFIs are still the prime institutions to address the financial need of millions of poor families in the country, he says, adding "We don't see any sign of commercial banks taking over these responsibilities."

# Uttarakhand floods: Still homeless, four years on

**UTTARKASHI (UTTARAKHAND), Nov 2 (PTI):** Twenty families who were displaced during the 2013 floods in Uttarakhand have again approached the government in the hope that they will be resettled.

The families, from Kafnaul village in Barkot area, yesterday met Uttarkashi District Magistrate Ashish Kumar Chauhan to apprise him of their situation.

"We have approached the authorities a number of times but nothing has been done so far," said Dharmiyalal, who led the delegation to the district magistrate.

In 2013, their homes near a local rivulet in Barkot were washed away after floods ravaged the hill state, killing thousands of people and leaving many thousands more stranded.


Barkot Sub-Divisional Magistrate Manuj Goyal, who headed a team to look into the plight of homeless people in his area, said he had sent his report to the district administration with suggestions for their resettlement or relocation but a response was still awaited.

The affected families are forced to stay in rented spaces in nearby villages. They haven't got any compensation or financial assistance promised to them by the district administration, he said.

to book advertisements in SummitTimes call

03592-208698  
9734152541  
9647102692

advertise@summittimes.com



**SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK.**  
**Phone No: 03592 207753. Fax : 03592-207753**

**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**

Applications are invited from eligible local candidates for filling up 01 (one) post of Data-Entry Operator for the Mediation Centre, South Sikkim at Namchi on purely temporary basis in the Pay Band and Grade Pay, plus allowances, as admissible under the Rules from to time as mentioned below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Pay Band + Grade Pay	Qualification
1	Data Entry Operator	01	PB 5200-20200 + Rs.2600/-	Senior Secondary (Class XII) passed from a recognized Board possessing a Diploma in Computer Application and also having knowledge of typing with a minimum speed of 35 words per minute.

**CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**

- The minimum age limit is 18 years and the maximum age limit is 40 years (in view of the Notification No. M(3)/(55)/GEN/DOP/PT-III dated 03/07/2017).
- Candidates fulfilling the above conditions may apply for the post along with the supporting documents and address proof, duly attested by a gazetted officer, one stamp sized photograph and telephone/mobile number.
- Other Requisites:**
  - Candidates must be in possession of either Sikkim Subject Certificate or Certificate of Identification issued by the Competent Authority under relevant rules of the State Government.
  - Candidates already in Government Service or in Public Sector Undertaking or similar organizations, whether in permanent or temporary capacity or as work-charged employee shall submit their application along with a "No Objection Certificate" from their present employer.
  - Candidates must possess valid Employment Card issued by D.O.P.A.R.T., Government of Sikkim.
  - SC/ST/OBC/MBC Certificate as the case may be.
  - Class XII passed certificate and mark sheet from a recognized Board.
  - Certificate of Diploma in Computer Application from a recognized Centre.
  - Certificate of Typing with a minimum speed of 35 words per minute from a recognized Institute.
- The application along with attested copies of the documents mentioned in paragraph (3) above should reach the office of the Member Secretary, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok on or before **30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 (Thursday) between 10:00 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.** No applications will be entertained after 30.11.2017 on any ground.
- Names of the candidates found eligible on preliminary scrutiny of their applications will be displayed on the 'Notice Board' of the Office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on **8<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 (Friday) between 10:00 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.**
- Candidates found eligible on scrutiny of the applications for the post of Data-Entry Operator will be required to appear for **Technical Test on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017(Friday)** in the morning at 10:00 a.m. followed by the **Viva-Voce** on the same day (afternoon) in the Office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok.
- Admit Card for the candidates eligible to sit for the interview may be collected from the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on **8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.**
- No separate calling letters will be issued to the eligible candidates.
- Candidates are required to bring all their documents in original when they appear for the technical test and viva-voce. No T.A./D.A. shall be paid for appearing in the interview/Viva-Voce.
- The Sikkim State Legal Services Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application, with or without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-  
**MEMBER SECRETARY,**  
**SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY,**  
**DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK,**  
**EAST SIKKIM.**



## Former Dy Dir of MoEF awarded 3 years in jail in bribery case

**NEW DELHI, Nov 2 (PTI):** A former deputy director of the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) has been awarded a three year term by a special court here for taking bribe to grant environmental clearance to an Orissa-based power and steel company in 2013.

49-year old Neeraj Khatri was arrested in January 2013 for allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 7 lakh for granting environmental clearance for the company -- Chariot Steel and Power Pvt Ltd. (CSPPL).

Special CBI Judge N K Malhotra also sentenced the company's Managing Director Suresh Joshi to three years in jail, while handing down jail terms of two and one years to mid-dlemen--Raisri Achutananda Srichandan and his son Raisri Chinmaya Srichandan respectively.

The court also imposed varied amounts as fine on convicts and said that it was not a case warranting award of maximum sentence as there were mitigating circumstances in their favour.

According to public prosecutor Shampa Tikait, Srichandans owned S S Environs, a Bhubaneswar-based consultant firm which lobbied for environment clearance (EC) for CSPPL's Raboga limestone mine in Orissa.

The plea for grant of EC was scheduled for consideration by the re-constituted Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining), headed by a joint secretary-level officer, a day after Khatri was arrested.

Khatri was apprehended while accepting the bribe from co-accused Chinmaya outside a posh hotel at Mehrauli in south Delhi.

Contact  
Summit  
TIMES at  
9832556698,  
9832369520  
news@summittimes.com

# Mt Zion School taekwondo team bags 11 medals



## SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 Nov:

Beginners Taekwondo State Championship was held at White Hall complex on 29 Oct. Eleven students from Mount Zion School participated in the tournament and won two gold, three silver and six bronze medals.

Pradnya Bista [Class 2] and Deevyani Koirala [Class 5] won gold while Calvin Ongden Lepcha, Smriti Chettri and Yeshi Bhutia won silver medals. The bronze medalists are Samdup Bhutia, Nyema Sherpa, Baibhav Lama, Barun Rai, Tshewang Bhutia and Su-shaine Panday.

Coach Sanjay Subba has expressed his happiness on the performance of his students and thanked the parents for their support. He has also expressed hope that the school's students will continue to bag medals in state and national tournaments.



## BCCI HOLDS ANTI-DOPING WORKSHOP IN GANGTOK

**GANGTOK, 02 Nov:** Board of Control for Cricket in India [BCCI] conducted a day-long Anti Doping & Anti Corruption Education Workshop here in the capital on Wednesday. Around 70 participants attended the workshop, which was hosted by Sikkim Cricket Association [SCA]. An SCA press release informs that the participants consisted of players and officials of the association. Doping and corruption is being viewed as a serious concern with many national and international players being punished for their involvement in such acts. The workshop was conducted by Dr Abhijit Salve on anti doping education and Dheeraj Malhotra for the anti corruption education.

# AITA to seek government guidelines to tackle Age Fraud issue

## AMANPREET SINGH

**NEW DELHI, Nov 2 (PTI):** The AITA has recognised the urgent need to tackle the serious issue of age fraud during the National tennis championships but anticipating litigation, it has expressed helplessness to address the menace and is seeking guidelines from the government.

The recent hard courts national championship at DLTA was rocked by allegations that several over-aged players were competing in various age groups, denying a level-playing field to genuine kids.

The aggrieved parents had signed a petition during the championship and demanded appropriate action from the National Federation.

Acknowledging the concerns, the All India Tennis Association (AITA) discussed the matter at its recent Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Kolkata.

"We don't know what to do if we make someone (suspects) undergo the medical tests to establish the real age and it is challenged in the court and the court



sets aside the findings.

What will we do then?" said AITA Secretary General Hironmoy Chatterjee said, explaining the predicament. "That's why we will ask the ministry to provide the guidelines."

An AITA Executive Committee member informed that a committee has been formed which will soon start looking into the complaints.

The National Sports Code

(2011) has made provisions to tackle the issue and approved the guidelines, circulated via a letter by the then joint secretary Injeti Srinivas on November 25, 2009.

The guidelines stipulated that the Federation should resort to medical examination of an athlete whenever doubt arises with regard to the age of an athlete on account of his or her physical appearance, receipt of

any complaint or any other valid ground, which should be duly communicated to the athlete.

It further stated that the Federation should ensure that the medical tests include physical examination, dental examination and radiological examination at a credible hospital, preferably a government.

If an athlete contest the findings of the medical test in question, it would be incumbent upon the Federation to arrange for a re-examination, preferably at a reputed government hospital.

In the event of a conclusive proof that an athlete has committed an age fraud, he or she should be banned from participating in any sporting event for a period of two years on the first detection and for five years on any subsequent detection.

The guidelines also stipulated that Federation should conduct random verifications at regular intervals. The Code is though silent on what should be done if the findings are challenged in the court and if the findings are set aside by the judiciary.

## We may never see another Usain Bolt ever again: Johnson



**NEW DELHI, Nov 2 (PTI):** South African Wayne van Niekerk may be the next big thing in world athletics but he will never ever be able to match the aura of Usain Bolt, feels legendary American sprinter Michael Johnson.

Van Niekerk is the current World and Olympic champion in the 400m and many feel that he will fill-up the void left by the Jamaican, who retired after the last World Championship in London.

"You have to understand when someone is retiring, another person will take his place. So Van Niekerk will be the No 1 attraction in world athletics. But he won't be the new Usain Bolt. Just because you are number 1 does not make you Usain Bolt," Johnson said during a promotional event here today.

"Van Niekerk does not have the electric personality of Bolt. There wasn't

a personality like Usain Bolt before Usain Bolt! Even I was more business like in my approach. So we may never see another Usain Bolt ever again," said the eight-time World Championship medalist and double Olympic champion.

Johnson however felt that Bolt should have retired after winning the triple gold medal at the Rio Olympics. "I spoke to Usain and advised him to stop after Rio.

Because I think after winning double gold medals (100m and 200m) in three editions of Olympics and also winning World Championship, I don't think you have a lot of motivation left.

It is very difficult to win double gold medal in successive editions of Olympics and that too thrice," said Johnson while speaking at the 'Royal Stag Barrel Select Perfect Strokes'.

**FLAT AVAILABLE FOR COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS:** A flat measuring around 3,000 sq ft across an entire floor; conveniently located on the roadside and ideal for development into a showroom, bank or corporate office, is available for rent at Church Road, DPH. The property is available for immediate occupation and can also be developed to suit the requirements of prospective tenants. Contact: 9434117687

# JCOs are gazetted officers, clarifies Army; cancels earlier note



## MANASH PRATIM BHUYAN

**NEW DELHI, Nov 2 (PTI):** In a significant move that will benefit over 64,000 personnel, the Army has said junior commissioned officers (JCOs) are gazetted officers, cancelling its earlier note that described them as "non-gazetted" officers.

The decision by the Army two days back comes amid growing resentment from a large section of its personnel over issues relating to pay-parity and ranking.

In an official note, the Army headquarters has cancelled a communication issued in response to an RTI application in 2011 which had stated that the JCOs are non-gazetted officers, according to documents accessed by PTI.

Highly placed official sources said the Army committed a "major mistake" in 2011 on the status of the JCOs and now the Army headquarters has removed the ambiguity and made it clear that JCOs are gazetted officers.

The clarification will benefit over 64,000

JCOs who are ranked in three categories -- Naib Subedar, Subedar and Subedar Major.

The 2011 note had triggered widespread outrage among the JCOs.

Asked how the Army headquarters made the "mistake" in 2011, classifying the JCOs as non-gazetted officers, a senior Army official said there are separate definitions of officers and the JCOs in the manual of military law and it could have been a case of misinterpretation of the rule book.

The issuance of the letter is also seen as a message by the Army to the government to address grievances of a section of the Army personnel over what they call "disparity" in the current pay band.

The issue of status equivalence between military officers and their civilian counterparts was discussed at the recently concluded Army Commanders' conference.

Asked whether the Army headquarters will send a fresh communication to the RTI applicant who had filed the query about status of the JCOs in 2011, the Army refused to

comment.

Defence Ministry sources last week had said that it was seriously examining the long-standing issue relating to status equivalence between military officers and their civilian counterparts.

There has been growing resentment among the military officers who have been insisting that the current status equivalence was flawed and that government must address their concerns.

As per the current pay structure, the subedar majors and subedars are part of the pay band for gazetted officers but there has been discrepancies there as well, said an official.

The Naib subedars whose number of around 55,000 get salary under non-gazetted category, he said.

The matter is among the main issues being examined as part of the pay and allowances anomaly.

Last year, then Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar had set up a high-level committee to look into the issue.



## India joins intl community urging end to US embargo on Cuba

**NEW YORK, Nov 2 (PTI):** India has joined the international community to back a UN resolution seeking the early withdrawal of the over five-decade long economic, commercial and financial embargo on Cuba by the United States.

Except for the US and Israel, 191 of the 193-member countries of the United Nations yesterday voted in favour of a General Assembly resolution -- "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

At the height of the Cold War, the US had imposed the trade embargo on Cuba in 1959. It has remained in force and can only be lifted by the US Congress, which has steadfastly rejected such a move.

Introducing the resolution, Cuba's Foreign Minister Bruno Eduardo Rodriguez Parrilla alleged the US new policy on Cuba was intended to take relations back to a past of confrontation. Notably, last year both the US and Israel had abstained from the vote for the first time since it was tabled in 1992.

# No consensus over listing Azhar as global terrorist: China

**K J M VARMA**

**BEIJING, Nov 2 (PTI):** China today indicated that there was no change in its policy of blocking India's efforts to list Pakistan-based JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist by the UN, saying there was still no consensus over the issue.

The indication came hours before China's technical hold on a proposal by the US, France and Britain to list Azhar as a global terrorist was set to lapse.

"We raised a technical hold so as to allow more time for the committee and its members to deliberate on this matter."

But there is still absence of consensus on this matter," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing when asked



whether China would veto the application again.

A veto-wielding permanent member of the Security Council, China has repeatedly blocked India's move to put a ban on the JeM ter-

rorist under the Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the Council.

Defending China's consistent technical holds, Hua said China's actions are meant to ensure and safeguard the authority and effective-

ness of the 1267 Committee of the UN Security Council.

"We will continue to follow the mandate of the committee and its rules of procedure and remain in constant communication and coordination with the members of the committee," she said.

To the follow-up questions, Hua said the committee has its rules. The committee is yet reach the consensus.

"The Committee is yet to reach an agreement. This is a fact," she said.

China had in August extended by three months its technical hold on the proposal to list Azhar as a global terrorist after having blocked the move in February this year at the UN.

Hua's remarks indicate that China will continue its policy to block

moves by India and other countries led by the US to block Azhar's listing during the second term of Chinese President Xi Jinping, which began over a week ago.

China in the past had asked India to discuss the issue directly with Pakistan in order to reach an understanding on Azhar's listing issue. In the last two years, China has stonewalled efforts by India to declare Azhar as a global terrorist.

Last year in March, China was the only member in the 15-nation UN organ to put a hold on India's application with all other 14 members of the Council supporting New Delhi's bid to place Azhar on the 1267 sanctions list that would subject him to an assets freeze and travel ban.



Aung San Suu Kyi has visited areas of Myanmar hit by ethnic violence for the first time since hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims began fleeing the country. The Myanmar leader boarded a military helicopter at Sittwe, Rakhine state capital, and will travel to the border district of Maungdaw, which has seen the greatest exodus of people across the border into Bangladesh. Ms Suu Kyi has faced strong international condemnation for her response to what UN officials have termed "ethnic cleansing" by the army in the region.

## Want to see India, Bhutan developing normal relations: China



**BEIJING, Nov 2 (PTI):**

China today reacted cautiously to President Ram Nath Kovind appreciating Bhutan's support during the Doklam standoff, saying it wants to see New Delhi and Thimphu developing "normal relations".

Reacting to Bhutan King's Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck's visit to India, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing that both India and Bhutan are China's close neighbours.

"We are committed to develop friendly relations with these two countries and also we would like to see India and Bhutan developing normal relations," she said.

About Kovind appreciating Bhutan's support in resolving the Doklam incident, Hua said, "You mentioned about the Indian border troops trespassing incident from June to August."

We have talked about our position many times before. I believe we are also clear about that."

"We believe that China and India had properly settled this issue through diplomatic means. Consistent with our common interest, we hope India could follow the historical conventions and work with China to ensure the peace tranquillity of the border area," she said.

In his meeting with King Wangchuck, Kovind expressed his deep appreciation for Bhutan's

support in resolving the recent stand-off with China at Doklam.

The manner in which both India and Bhutan stood together to address the situation in Doklam "is a clear testimony to our friendship", a Rashtrapati Bhavan statement said.

India and China were locked in a 73-day stand-off in Doklam, a tri-junction between the Sino-India and Bhutanese border near Sikkim, from June 16 this year after Indian Army personnel stopped the Chinese Army from building a road in the area.

The standoff ended on August 28 after both sides reached an understanding on a quick "disengagement" of border personnel.

# US shares names of 20 terror groups with Pakistan: Report

**ISLAMABAD, Nov 2 (PTI):** The US has shared with Pakistan a list 20 terrorist groups like the LeT, JeM and HUM that Washington believes are operating from its soil to target India and Afghanistan, a media report said today.

Top on the list is the Haqqani network which, the US says has safe havens in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas in northwestern Pakistan and uses them to launch attacks into Afghanistan, Dawn reported.

The list includes three types of militants groups: those who launch attacks into Afghanistan, those who attack targets inside Pakistan and those who are focused on Kashmir, the newspaper quoted diplomatic sources as saying.

India-specific terror groups like Harakat-ul Mujahideen, Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) are also on the list.

Harakatul Mujahideen is a Pakistan-based militant group operating primarily in Kashmir. The US says that group had links to Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda as well, the report said.

JeM operates mainly in Kashmir.

The United States identified LeT as one of the largest and most active terrorist organisations in South Asia. Founded in 1987 by Hafiz Saeed, Abdullah Azzam and Zafar Iqbal in Afghanistan, the group had its headquarters in Muridke in Punjab province. It too is focused on Kashmir, the report said.



State Rex Tillerson gave a list of 75 terrorists to Pakistani officials when he visited Islamabad last week.

Tillerson told the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Monday that Pakistan was willing to target terrorists if provided specific information about their whereabouts and Washington plans to give Islamabad the opportunity to do so.

He said the information that the US delegation gave Pakistan went "beyond just names of individuals" and also expected "to receive information" from Pakistan that would be useful in targeting militants.

Tillerson said that it was in the interest of Pakistan to change its "long-standing" relationship with terrorist organisations.

"The conversation with the Pakistani government is for them to recognise that they will be one of the greatest beneficiaries of a successful peace process in Afghanistan, Tillerson told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing on Monday.

Tillerson, who also visited Afghanistan and India last week, responded to questions on Pakistan's co-operation in the fight against terrorism in the aftermath of US President Donald Trump's South Asia Policy.

"Pakistan lives with two very unstable borders, one with Afghanistan, one with India and our message to them is -- You have to begin to create greater stability inside your country and that means denying safe haven to any of these organisations that launch attacks from your territory," Tillerson said.

Lashkar-e-Taiba was involved in the 2001 Indian parliament attack and the 2008 Mumbai attacks.

The US blames this group for committing hundreds of target killings and dozens of mass attacks inside Pakistan. The Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), an umbrella organisation of various militant groups, was based in FATA, but has now relocated to Afghanistan. The US says that the group wants to enforce its own interpretation of Sharia and plans to unite against Nato-led forces in Afghanistan. It has conducted hundreds of terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.

Other groups on the list are: Harakatul Jihadi-i-Islami, Jamaatul Ahrar, Jamaatud Dawa al-Quran and Tariq Gidar Group, which is one of 13 TTP affiliates.

The Tariq Gidar Group has been behind some of the deadliest attacks inside Pakistan, including the Dec 16, 2014, massacre at the Army Public School in Peshawar that left 132 schoolchildren and nine staffers dead.

The sources, however, rejected as incorrect the suggestion that US Secretary of

## Under pressure, social media giants acknowledge meddling

**WASHINGTON, Nov 2 (AP):** In three exhaustive hearings this week, executives from Facebook, Twitter and Google acknowledged that their platforms were used by Russia to try and create division over such disparate issues as immigration, gun control and politics.

House investigators released a trove of Facebook and Twitter ads that showed just how extraordinary the cyber intrusion was.

The companies' admissions and disclosures were one of the first real wins

for congressional investigators, who have been frustrated by delays since they launched probes into Russian election interference earlier this year.

Initially dismissive of Russia's threat, all three companies have pledged improvements since lawmakers ramped up pressure and called them to testify.

The few dozen ads released encouraged demonstrations against President Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton and fostered support and opposition to minority groups.

~ **SummitTIMES** ~  
**CLASSIFIEDS**

---

**WINTER CRASH COURSE**  
 X & XII CBSE / ISC / ICSE - 2017-18  
**REGULAR & CRASH NEET / IIT JEE, ADVANCED COACHING FOR CLASS X & XII GOING ON.....**  
 Try & continue, highly experienced faculties.  
**BEST SUCCESS RECORD SINCE 2007.**

---

**ACHIEVEMENTS**  
 NEET & JEE mains qualified, selection of students-17-MBBS, 13-BDS, 41-Engineering, through entrance.  
 We Complete Syllabus, weekly mock test, last minute questions & answers preparation, Parents can check Regular attendance & weekly MOCK test performance.  
**Don't go far away from home! Giving best Coaching, SPECIAL CARE & HOSPITALITIES, HOSTEL available for BOYS & GIRLS separately**  
 Join Advance Coaching for X & XII (Appearing ix & xi May Join)

**UDISHA** PNG SCHOOL ROAD, GANGTOK.  
**Call: 9434137448 / 9083289834**

**NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES**

**DEAR FALCON EVENING**  
 Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards  
 Draw No:14 DrawDate on:02/11/17

**1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 85J 22279**  
**(Including Super Prize Amt)**  
 2nd Prize Rs.9497/- 22279 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
 3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-  
 13375 15145 18170 26721 36735  
 43761 56372 61084 66954 79072  
 4th Prize Rs.500/- 0146 1079 2086 3077 3524 4159 5081 6507 8238 9412  
 5th Prize Rs.250/- 0352 0823 1116 4164 4930 4974 5201 5295 9234 9512  
 6th Prize Rs.120/-  
 0004 0013 0075 0148 0166 0244 0280 0385 0456 0466  
 0486 0557 0798 0941 1155 1257 1343 1603 1677 1741  
 2056 2164 2285 2305 2551 2609 2853 3132 3177 3236  
 3292 3390 3400 3470 3595 3737 3789 3796 3879 3892  
 4028 4031 4088 4285 4451 4508 4546 4556 5049 5242  
 5259 5291 5418 5468 5512 5599 5610 5717 5910 5959  
 6378 6467 6590 6595 6611 6613 6690 6784 6864 7203  
 7292 7361 7362 7395 7474 7607 7840 7909 8165 8213  
 8220 8433 8533 8558 8599 8617 8627 8693 8763 8803  
 8856 8930 8949 9043 9282 9795 9894 9919 9933 9986

**Issued by:**  
 The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland  
 For Results, Please visit: [www.nagalandlotteries.com](http://www.nagalandlotteries.com)  
**KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE**

**SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES**

**DEAR WORTHY MORNING**  
 Draw No:9 DrawDate on:02/11/17

**1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 93L 32950**  
**(Including Super Prize Amt)**  
 2nd Prize Rs.9497/- 32950 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
 3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-  
 10669 20590 23748 44458 46028  
 52085 52922 68673 79000 81596  
 4th Prize Rs.500/- 0775 1465 3113 4608 7663 8012 8390 9076 9177 9535  
 5th Prize Rs.250/- 0516 1107 1186 2396 3378 3527 5176 5226 6529 9011  
 6th Prize Rs.120/-  
 0002 0058 0270 0292 0315 0629 0822 0840 0872 0981  
 1529 1541 1615 1823 1921 1978 2176 2500 2838 2889  
 2996 3208 3229 3301 3454 3599 3747 3773 3778 3788  
 4114 4122 4128 4190 4231 4236 4343 4390 4460 4538  
 4578 4698 4799 4815 5021 5327 5425 5461 5621 5706  
 5839 5881 5896 5968 6000 6045 6063 6076 6171 6226  
 6240 6254 6389 6420 6641 6884 7022 7074 7121 7156  
 7425 7485 7650 7717 7779 7794 7824 7895 8160 8233  
 8277 8334 8406 8482 8522 8627 8720 8731 8822 9070  
 9114 9118 9129 9164 9305 9368 9531 9760 9855 9884

**Issued by:**  
 The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102, Gangtok, Sikkim.  
 Please Visit: [www.sikkimlotteries.com](http://www.sikkimlotteries.com)  
**KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE**





**ON SET!** Priyanka Chopra films scenes for Quantico in Queens, New York. She is also starring in two Hollywood projects scheduled to release next year.

# SELENA GOMEZ AND JUSTIN BIEBER SHARE "SWEET" MOMENT ON BIKE RIDE TOGETHER

**#Jelena is back on?!! Or maybe not**

The former couple was spotted riding bikes together in Los Angeles on Wednesday. Pictures show 23-year-old Bieber helping 25-year-old Gomez get on her bike and riding around the city.

"Selena and Justin took a bike ride from her house on Wednesday morning," an eyewitness told online news website E! News.

"Justin was very sweet and held up Selena's bike for her as she got on. They were having a blast together. Justin was singing loudly and dancing with his arms in the air while riding down a busy street. Selena was laughing so hard she had to cover her mouth and try not to fall off her bike. She clearly thinks he is hilarious."

The eyewitness continued, "Justin was



leading the way and giving the middle finger as a joke. Selena was following along and cars were stopped to watch them. They have a really good time together and seem to be able to pick up right where they left off. They got off their bikes and stopped and talked for a minute before they continued their ride back to her house."

This sighting of the duo comes two days after it was announced that Gomez had called it quits with her boyfriend of 10 months, The Weeknd. Gomez and Bieber have been spending time together recently. Over the weekend, the duo was

spotted grabbing breakfast and attending church together. And now that they're enjoying more time together, what's the status of their relationship?

## THE DAY AHEAD

**ARIES:** Plans to get together with friends tonight could be delayed by responsibilities. It won't stop you but it will mean getting together a little later. Someone close to you might feel a little down and seek a sympathetic ear. Try to get this person to forget his or her insecurities and see the situation as it is.

**TAURUS:** You might have to work just a little harder to make money now. This might involve putting in extra time on a task, or it could simply mean that you have to make a few extra trips to the bank. Artistic insights might not be coming as profusely as usual, but this is all right. Relax and let things be, and

the ideas will start coming again.

**GEMINI:** A delay in receiving acknowledgment of some sort could happen today. This might be disappointing, but don't let it get you down. You'll receive it, just maybe not on time! This isn't a good day to execute any legal contracts or start a vacation. It's a great day to take care of mundane tasks. Get busy!

**CANCER:** Depressing news about the state of the world economy or stock market could have you feeling gloomy and wondering about your financial future. Don't worry. The world economy is in pretty good shape and you should be, too. Equity in property investments could

be down, but they should recover shortly. Go with the flow and don't believe everything you read or hear.

**LEO:** A close friend or romantic partner might not seem communicative today and you might wonder whether this person still cares for you. He or she is experiencing a few difficulties, perhaps involving money, and so isn't particularly good company. Listen if your friend wants to talk, but otherwise just be there. That's what is important anyway.

**VIRGO:** Do you have a garden or some houseplants that seem a little droopy? Don't worry about whether or not they're all going to die. Re-

vive them! You might feel that some things are more trouble than they're worth. Give yourself space to be gloomy for a while and then perk yourself up. Buy yourself a present.

**LIBRA:** Today close friends, a love partner, or children may appear to be in a quiet, melancholy mood. You might wonder if you've done something to cause it, but it probably has very little to do with you, if anything. Responsibilities could be weighing on everyone, including you. The only answer is to pitch in and take care of business. Then treat yourselves afterward!

**SCORPIO:** Home responsibilities may increase markedly today, leav-

ing you feeling like you're the only member of the household getting anything done. You might give in to gloom, but don't dwell on it for too long. You will feel a lot better if you pitch in and take care of whatever needs to be done and then treat yourself by going out to celebrate. Go to a movie, or better yet, a concert.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Hurry up and wait is today's phrase. A visit from a close friend, love partner, or colleague might be delayed, perhaps because of something regarding money or possibly the arts. It keeps you trapped waiting, unable to go anywhere. At times like this, it's best to distract yourself. Find some-

thing to do that engrosses you and the time will go by more quickly.

**CAPRICORN:** You've been doing well financially. You want to do better, but you might feel temporarily discouraged. It seems you have to keep working harder to keep up the pace. This is more the result of low biorhythms than any true assessment of your situation. Today you might have to work a little harder, but you'll get the results you want. Tomorrow will then be easier on you.

**AQUARIUS:** Today you might think you look awful and perhaps want to go out and change your whole look. Buy some new clothes

and go for a workout. Even though you probably look pretty good, these activities make you feel good and increase your self-confidence. Your self-image is proportionate to your state of mind. You might just feel a bit down now.

**PISCES:** Today you might feel unloved even though there's no real reason for it. Your relationships should be pretty strong, but your biorhythms are down so you might be lacking in self-confidence. Phone a close friend and get together. Go shopping or to a movie and raise your spirits. By the end of the day you'll feel like your old self again!

# BEYONCE TO STAR IN DISNEY'S LIVE-ACTION 'LION KING'



The cast list for director Jon Favreau's remake of The Lion King was released Wednesday, and Beyoncé Knowles-Carter will play the female lead. The singer, songwriter, and actress will take on the role of a lion named Nala, the love interest to the main character Simba, who will be played by Atlanta and Community's Donald Glover. Beyoncé posted the cast for the film's major roles on her Facebook page on Wednesday afternoon.

It's a more diverse cast than Disney's original 1994 animated film, in which, despite the film's African savan-

nah setting, Matthew Broderick played Simba, Moira Kelly played Nala, and Jeremy Irons played the villain (who, in a smart bit of casting for the new film, will now be played by Chiwetel Ejiofor). One thing hasn't changed: James Earl Jones will reprise his role as Mufasa, because it wouldn't be fair to ask anyone to follow James Earl Jones. Other highlights of the new cast include John Oliver as Zazu, a nervous hornbill; Seth Rogen as Pumbaa the warthog; Billy Eichner as a meerkat named Timon; and Keegan-Michael Key as one of the three hyenas who pal around with Chiwetel

Ejiofor's villainous lion, Scar. Disney's press release describes the film as being "From Disney Live Action," as in the division of the studio, but doesn't refer to it as a "live-action" film. This makes sense, given that every character is a talking animal. As far as what that would even mean, director Favreau and animation supervisor Andrew R. Jones also collaborat-

ed on The Jungle Book, which looked like this: So presumably, that, but take the human out. Live action footage will be shot by five-time Academy Award nominee Caleb Deschanel, which could mean location shooting in Africa or lots of shots of the interior of a giant green room, depending. The Lion King will be released on July 19, 2019.

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

03<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER

**1957- Space-Dog In Space:** A dog was launched into orbit to-day as the first animal in space on board Sputnik 2, a Russian spacecraft, and became the first living animal to enter the Earth's orbit.

**1913 U.S.A.- First Income Tax:** The first American citizens receive information over the new national income tax. A married man living with his wife, who is in receipt of an income of \$5,000 pays \$10 a year and if his income is \$10,000 he pays \$60 per year.

**1920- U.S.A. Rabies:** A girl was bit by a dog that was suspected to be "mad". Usually this meant that a dog had a disease such as rabies. However, in this case the girl had become unaffected by a certain treatment given to her, and no mention of rabies (or treatment of rabies) was mentioned in the news record of this incident. This girl was affected severely, in that the dog bites had caused a nervous condition-at least temporarily.

**1944- World War II- The Air War:** A report was made regarding current World War II activity. A total of 155 Nazi planes headed for Merseburg, Germany were shot down by



the U.S. Eighth Air Force fighter pilot division. This was a new record set. Furthermore within 24 hours it was reported that 4,480 tons of explosives and fire bombs were dropped by the British on Dusseldorf.

**1953- Korea- POW's:** Prisoners of war (POWs) in Korea became very outspoken as communists (Reds) tried to get the POWs to see things "their way." During interviews that were held between the prisoners and Reds, cursing attacks, taunting, singing, and other actions took place. Only 17 of the 483 prisoners interviewed had been scheduled to return to North Korea.

**2007- Pakistan:** President Gen. Pervez Musharraf Suspends Constitution: Hundreds of government opponents are thrown into jail after imposition of martial law, suspension of the constitution and dismissal of most of the Supreme Court by President Gen. Pervez Musharraf.

## HERE'S THE FIRST LOOK OF DHANUSH'S DEBUT HOLLYWOOD FILM



Dhanush had proved his mettle not only in the South film industry but also Bollywood with his unparalleled performance in Raanjhana and now he's cashing his ticket to Hollywood with his next film The Extraordinary Journey of the Fakir.

"What's great is I get to work with a great actor, Dhanush, who is a huge star in India, he's a great actor, but also a great dancer, a great singer, he has a very unique way of dancing and moving, he's just very charming,"

**BOLLYBUZZ!!!**

In the first look of the film, he is seen all dapper in a suit with leading lady Bérénice Bejo, sharing a candid moment in a large gathering. The look is sure making us curious for the film to be out. The Extraordinary Journey of the Fakir also stars Erin Moriarty, Sarah-Jeanne Labrosse among others.

The film reportedly is based on a novel written by Romain Puertolas. The film has been shot across India, Brussels, Paris and Rome. It will have elements of drama and comedy. There are media reports that it's a story about a man on the look for his estranged father.

Director Ken Scott expressed his delight at working with Dhanush while speaking to a leading daily,

## LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"I THOUGHT LEROY AND I WOULD GROW OLD TOGETHER, BUT HE BEAT ME TO IT."

## ARCTIC CIRCLE - HALLATT



## BABY BLUES - KIRKMAN & SCOTT

