



SummitTIMES

Christians of Sikkim to felicitate CM at All Sikkim Christian Summit

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

More than 50,000 Christians from across the State are expected to attend the All Sikkim Christian Summit [ASCS] 2018 scheduled to be held on 07 Feb at Jorethang playground in South Sikkim. This mega event will be chaired by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest.

This was informed during a press conference of ASCS here today, which was addressed by working president, Satish Chandra Rai, vice-president, Patrus Gurung, and publicity secretary, Stephen Karki. Addressing the press conference, the working president mentioned that all churches of Sikkim have come together to host this mega and historic event for

the first time in the State. He added that the preparations are on to organise the event in a grand manner. More than 50,000 leaders and members of different churches from across the State are expected to attend the summit, said Mr Rai. He informed that ASCS will felicitate the CM on behalf of all Christians of Sikkim for his successful leadership and for

his exemplary works in various sectors for Sikkim and its people. The CM will also be felicitating pastors of different churches of Sikkim on the occasion, he informed. People of Sikkim have been practicing their respective religions and believe freely under the present government in the State, he added. The summit will also have presentations by a 400-member choir team and by other Christian artists.

"On the occasion, we Christians of the State will pray together for peace, security and development of Sikkim and well-being of the people," said Mr Rai. It is informed that the main function will be followed by musical event in the evening.

Gangtok observes First International Straw-Free Day

NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Gangtok joined the world to celebrate the first ever International Straw-Free Day, an initiative to fight plastic pollution with societal change.

Where do we most often find ourselves wasting straws? Bars and restaurants are the top culprits.

It has become custom in the service industry to bring patrons drinks with plastic straws in them.

Waiters and bartenders aren't trained to ask customers whether or not they would prefer a straw in their drink. They simply give it to you regardless of whether or not you'll use it. And after you have left the bar these straws find their way straight to the garbage bin.

According to Zero Waste Himalaya volunteer, Animesh Gautam around 25 restaurants and cafes in Gangtok avoided using plastic straws today.

Highlighting about various aspects of not using straws he said that reducing plastic by not using straws will have a long term impact on the environment.

Talking about the implementation of a straw free business day, Bakers Cafe employee, Diwas Rai informed that the cafe

produces '400-500 plastic straws daily'. He also stressed that the cafe is now open to finding alternatives to plastic straws.

Volunteer Animesh Gautam added that the organization 'Zero Waste Himalaya' will also help restaurants in finding different alternatives to plastic like bamboo straw.

Further adding he said that stainless steel straw can also be a good option.

Highlighting Sikkim's eco tourism and eco friendly policies and environment, he expressed the need for more such initiatives so that citizens can take small steps at their own level.

The catastrophic impact of plastics not only cause land, water and air pollution but also caused landslides which is a common problem in the Himalayan state and neighbouring Darjeeling hills.

In order to promote a more vibrant and people centric movement that will promote sustainable way of life in the Himalayas, this team has started an online campaign with #skiptheshow.

Volunteer Animesh Gautam has thanked all the restaurants, pubs and cafes of the capital for taking part in the International plastic straw free day today.

CBSE withdraws uniform evaluation policy for classes 6 to 8

NEW DELHI, FEB 3 (PTI): The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has withdrawn its policy of uniform assessment for classes 6 to 8, following objection from the country's top child rights body NCPCR.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) argued that the evaluation policy was in violation of the Right to Education Act (RTE).

"As per decision of the Governing Body of the board, the earlier circular regarding uniform system of assessment, examination and report card for classes 6 to 8 stands repealed," according to an official notification by the CBSE.

The earlier circular had stated that "to increase the confidence in the students to start preparing for Class 10 Board examination when they join the upper primary stage in Class 6, the CBSE has decided to implement the uniform system of assessment, examination pattern and issue of report cards for classes 6 to 8 also on the similar pattern".

The system of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation for Class X has also been done away with after the central government decided to reintroduce board examination for the class from this year.

GTA Secy visits Kalimpong, takes stock of development works

SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG, 03 FEB:

Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) Secretary, C Murugan reached Kalimpong today to assess the progress of development works in Kalimpong. Today he visited the Circular road, under construction auditorium, 9 mile under construction car parking area, Main road, CK Chowk and Motor Stand along with different roads which are under construction in and around Kalimpong and lastly to Lower Santook where a road is under construction under the PMGSY project.

Addressing media persons, Mr Murugan said, "We are undertaking a lot of development work here in Kalimpong District. We are giving importance to rural connectivity, education, health. The purpose of my visit is to take stock of the progress in devel-



opment works. After the agitation all the contractors have started work. We have ordered the sub assistant engineer to visit the site every week, assistant engineer to visit the site every 15 days and executive engineer to visit every month. By doing this we will ensure

regular monitoring of the project so that the work finishes on time."

Mr Murugan also visited the market area where plans of beautification have been confirmed. When asked about his visit, he informed that this is a preliminary stage, where

proper planning is required and an architect needs to take a look at the site first.

"We will discuss the matter with GTA BOA after this visit," he added.

He then went on to visit the Lower Santook PMGSY road where a 6

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Woman arrested in 9-yr-old's murder case

SMRITA KHAWAS
SILIGURI, 03 FEB:

"FOLLOWING A RECENT development in the murder case of 9-year-old girl child, one Sumati Sarkar has been arrested for tampering with evidence and asking her son to change his statement," informed Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zone 1, Gaurav Lal, while speaking to media persons over the phone today.

The body of the nine-year-old was found on 26 Jan. One Sujit Sarkar had been arrested within days of the incident and the woman arrested today is his mother. The deceased's family stays on rent in the house owned by Sumati Sarkar.

Mr Lal further stated, "We are on the verge of closing the case. The brother and father of the accused seem to have no involvement in this case. Their questioning will, however, follow. Postmortem report is under process. We are waiting for it."

India growth story to pick up speed with development of the North East: PM

ACHINTA BORAH
GUWAHATI, FEB 3 (PTI):

Highlighting "path breaking" economic reforms undertaken by his government, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said India's growth story will further pick up speed when there is an all-round development of the Northeast.

Inaugurating the two-day 'Global Investors Summit' hosted by Assam, he stressed on the importance of 'Act East Policy' in the Centre's aim of achieving balanced and fast-paced growth of the North-eastern region.

"We have created the Act East Policy and the Northeast is at the heart of it.

"The Act East Policy requires increased people to people contact, trade ties and other relations with countries on India's east, particularly ASEAN countries," he said.

The prime minister said due to economic reforms, India is today the most preferred investment destination



in the world with the highest FDI in last fiscal at USD 60 billion, and highlighted the country's improved credit rating, low inflation rate and opening of various sectors to foreign direct investment.

"The world sees India today as an emerging power house for economic growth," he said.

Modi said his government has changed the work culture

of the official machinery, giving it greater speed, and "we want all projects to be completed before target".

Pointing to initiatives announced in the Budget on health insurance and free cooking gas connection for the poor and transparency in tax regime, he said all the schemes of the Union government are oriented towards bringing

about a qualitative change in the lives of the people.

The aim is to improve "ease of living", the prime minister said. The Union government has taken up many path breaking economic reforms in last three years, which have simplified procedures for doing business, he said.

It is a result of these reforms that India today ranks

100 among 190 countries in the Doing Business Report, of the World Bank, after climbing up 42 ranks, Modi said.

India's position has improved in many other ratings like Global Competitiveness Index of World Economic Forum and Moody's rating upgrade from stable to positive in November 2017.

"Our policies have ensured that inflation remains below 5 per cent mark. Now, we have foreign exchange reserves of USD 418 billion." Many new sectors have been opened for 100 per cent FDI through automatic route like automobiles, textiles, tourism, ports and highways.

"Today, India is one of the most preferred destinations for FDI. India has received highest ever annual FDI of USD 60 billion in 2016-17," he said.

Talking about the recent announcements in the budget, he said 45-50 crore people will benefit from the health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat and it has enhanced

the possibilities of setting up hospitals in tier II and III cities by hospital chains.

Modi said the government's current focus is on infrastructure investment and next year it will be investing about Rs 6 lakh crore in this sector.

"This year we aim to complete more than 9,000 kilometres length of National Highways. We will be developing 35,000 kilometers of roads with investment of Rs 5.35 lakh crore under Bharatmala project," he said, adding the Railways will make an investment of Rs 1.48 lakh crore in 2018-19.

Assam is hosting its first global investors summit to showcase its manufacturing opportunities and geostrategic advantages to foreign and domestic investors.

The summit aims at highlighting Assam's core competencies in different sectors along with the policy initiatives taken by the state government.

turn to pg03

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Foundation Day celebration will boost party's morale: SKM acting prez



VISHNU NEOPANEY
GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha is all set to observe its 6th foundation day at Legship ground in West Sikkim on 04 Feb.

The party's 6th foundation day, however, will be marked by the absence of its president Prem Singh Tamang [Golay], who is serving a jail term following his conviction in a corruption case.

Acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha told Summit-

Times over the phone that despite the absence of the party president, the party workers will keep fighting against the fifth term rule of Sikkim Democratic Front in the State. The foundation day celebration will further boost the party's morale in this fight, he added.

Mr Lepcha said that SKM has set an example of being an influential opposition in Sikkim with proper ideology and vision.

"We want to set an example by making Sikkim free from vindictive politics and fake

promises. We want to establish transparent development, free of misdeeds with disciplined management of the system," he expressed.

SKM spokesperson, Bikash Basnett said that all the preparation work has been completed for the celebration.

The party thanks all those who have supported it from the day PS Golay started his campaign with the slogan of 'Change' in 2009, he added.

As the main opposition front, SKM has successfully raised people's issues in the

State Assembly as well as at the Centre and we have tried our level best to be vigilant against every misdeed and injustice of the ruling government, said Mr Basnett.

"Before SKM, opposition members were largely targeted either mentally or physically but now with our strong presence we have created a space where one can openly be part of the opposition. However, true democracy is yet to be established and SKM is working towards that," he added.



Interaction session on driving as profession

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 03 FEB:

A team of officers from Urban Development & Housing Department along with instructor of driving school of Singtam, Future Career Academy, conducted an interaction session with the locals and unemployed youth of Singtam at the community hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat today with Councilor, Rajani Singh, as special guest.

The aim of the programme was to generate employment opportunities in the field of driving and to provide placement at national and international level.

"All Urban Local Bodies in Sikkim are providing motor vehicle training under the guidance of the state government. Individuals will be trained according to their capability and interests. The trainees at the end will be provided a stipend along with certificates by the department," informed UD&HD Under Secretary, Srijana Chettri.

Besides driving, the trainees will also be educated on mechanical aspects of motor vehicles during the training period.

It is informed that the team will be heading to Rangpo wherein similar information will be shared with the youth.

Siddhartha Sen takes charge as regional head of Power Grid



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Executive Director, Siddhartha Sen has assumed charge as the Eastern Region-II Head of Power Grid Corporation of India, a press release informs. Mr Sen previously led the National Transmission Control Centre in Manesar. He has also served the Region as General Manager (Projects) and General Manager (O&M).

Workshop on Mission Jyoti held at South DAC

NAMCHI, 03 FEB [IPR]: A daylong training cum workshop on 'Mission Jyoti: Flames of Fearlessness' was held at South District Administrative Center in Namchi, South Sikkim today.

The programme was organized by South District Police Department in collaboration with Integrated Child Protection Scheme and Welfare Department.

During the course of the program the engineers of Namchi Smart City project presented a brief power point presentation on the Mission Jyoti App designed by them showcasing its multi-platform access. It was informed that the app is a first-of-its-kind initiative in the State and is extremely user friendly and that the app has been developed espe-



cially to assist the police personnel and various stakeholders to reach out to the public and ensure service delivery in quick time.

Additionally, it was updated that the app ensures major focus on

the various aspects of Mission Jyoti alongside providing an alert to the control room during dangerous situations without having to dial any number.

It may be mentioned here that Mission Jyoti is

an initiative undertaken by the South District Police Department to generate ample awareness on child abuse, drug abuse and suicide in our society.

During the course of the program a detailed interaction was

also conducted between the gathering and the app developers wherein qualitative feedbacks and modifications to assist in improving the features of the applications were discussed.

The programme was attended by Superintendent of Police (South), Dr. Y Shiv Prasad, Chairperson (Child Welfare Committee), T Choden Bhutia, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Linda Palmo, Sub Divisional Magistrate (HQ), Sunil Mothey, Joint City Town Planner (Smart City), Navin Rai, District Child Protection Officer (South), Roshni Gurung, Chairperson (State Commission for Protection of Child Rights), Deekila Bhutia, District Medical Superintendent (South), Dr DC Sharma, officials and police personnel at large.

Ensure each district has a family court: SC judge to state CJs

CHENNAI, FEB 3 (PTI): Supreme Court Judge Justice Kurian Joseph today urged Chief Justices of High Courts to take immediate steps to ensure that every district in a state has at least one family court, to help easy access to justice and speedy disposal of matrimonial disputes.

He was delivering the inaugural address at the fourth regional conference on "Sensitisation of Family Court Matters" organised here for the states of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Justice Joseph also said that judges in family courts should possess a sixth sense to find the epicentre of family disputes and take

appropriate action.

"Family court judges should possess a sixth sense, to find out the epicentre of matrimonial disputes. They are like homoeopathy doctors, who unlike allopathy doctors, prescribe treatment based on the constitution and special features of the patients," he added.

"The primary objective of family courts is not to decide disputes, but to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement," the judge said.

In her address, Chief Justice of Madras High Court Justice Indira Banerjee said preservation of family as an institution is important for the country and added that family court judges must take their

work very seriously.

She called upon family court judges to never give up on the scope for settlement, as it would happen at any stage of the case.

"But you must also understand that in cases where there are no scope for settlement, mere procrastination of cases would only increase the agony of the parties," she added.

Justice Banerjee also stressed that matters of maintenance and custody of child be dealt with expeditiously and with sensitivity.

Acting Chief Justice of Jharkhand, Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel and Tamil Nadu Advocate-General Vijay Narayan also spoke.

Mamata to attend political workshop campaign in Siliguri

SMRITA KHAWAS

SILIGURI, 03 FEB:

Trinamool Congress, Darjeeling district, will be organising a political workshop campaign for the youth and students of North Bengal on 05 Feb at Kanchenjunga Stadium in Siliguri in the presence of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

The workshop is being jointly organized by Trinamool's youth and students' wings, Trinamool Youth Congress and Trinamool Chhatra Parishad for eight districts of North Bengal.

In a press conference held today, Tourism Min-



ister, Gautam Deb, said, "The party is focusing on campaigning in all 47 wards under Siliguri Municipal Corporation and four blocks. Around 75,000 youths and students from North Bengal including Hills will converge at the programme. For the first time, the programme is being organised in such a big manner."

GTA Secy visits Kalimpong...

Contd from pg01

kms road is under construction.

"Kalimpong is an agricultural belt, many farmers came and visited me few days ago. They are cultivating orchids and appealed to us to help them. We are making

a plan by involving agricultural experts," the Secretary stated.

He informed about a meeting with a group of agriculture graduates numbering around 125 at Dalgaon on Sunday.

Being an MSc in horticulture himself, he said

that the authorities are keen to develop horticulture in Kalimpong.

"We are sending an officer from the Directorate of Cinchona and Horticulture of Kalimpong

to Bangalore to study the international flower auction centre. We can also introduce such centres in Kalimpong which could benefit floriculture farmers here."



COME ONE, COME ALL

The All Sikkim Christian Summit is organising A HISTORIC EVENT at Jorethang Khel Maidan on 07/02/2018.

On behalf of ASCS President Rev. Joseph Tamang invites all Pastors, Leaders & Believers of Churches of

Sikkim to participate & witness this Summit.

Hon'ble CM Dr. Pawan Chamling will be the Chief Guest on this auspicious occasion.

Date: 07/02/2018 Venue: Jorethang Khel Maidan.
Time: 9 AM. Contact: 9733159418, 9647917395, 9641878315.

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.

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clouds and sun.
Sunrise: 06:20AM
Sunset: 5:19 PM

India growth story to pick up speed with de- velopment of the North East: PM

Contd from pg01

The prime minister said the tagline of the summit 'Advantage Assam: India's Express way to ASEAN' is not just a statement but is a comprehensive vision.

India's growth story will further pick up speed only when there is an all-round development of the Northeast and its people, he said.

Modi said development of MSME sector is a priority for the government as this is the back-bone of country's industries.

"In this year's budget, we are giving a big relief to MSMEs by reducing rate of income tax to 25 per cent on companies reporting a turn-over of up to Rs. 250 crore.

"This will benefit almost 99 per cent of companies, he said.

Modi said the 2018-19 budget has provided additional deduction to the employees of 30 per cent of the wages paid for new employees under the Income Tax Act.

"We are also rolling out e-assessment of income tax across the country to eliminate corruption and bring efficiency and transparency, he said.

Further, the women employees contribution to EPF will be 8 per cent for first three years against existing rate of 12 per cent.

The prime minister said he was happy to note that Assam is ranked first among the Northeastern states in the Ease of Doing Business report.

"I am sure that with the present leadership of the state government, Assam is going to further improve its current position to emerge as one of the most sought-after states for industrial investment in the country," he said.

Those present at the event included Bhutanese PM Tshering Tobgay, several Union ministers, Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, chief ministers of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, ambassadors and high commissioners of 16 countries, RIL chairman Mukesh Ambani, Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekharan besides other.

SLYA's winter coaching for Board exam students concludes

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Free Winter Coaching organized by the Sikkim Lepcha Youth Association [SLYA] for underprivileged students from all over the state concluded on 02 Feb. The valedictory function of the coaching classes which had begun on 10 Dec last year was held at Tashi Namgyal Secondary School auditorium on 02 Feb.

A press release informs that this year there were 398 enrollments in the coaching camp, both Class X and XII combined. Twenty-two experienced teachers volunteered to help the students with their board exam preparations which is scheduled to be held in March.

The valedictory function was attended by Human Resource Development Department Advisor, OT Lepcha as the chief guest along with Principal Secretary [HRDD], GP Upadhyaya, department officials, SLYA members and students.

Various cultural dances, poetry recital and other items were performed by the students. The programme also highlighted the contributions of various well-wishers of the Association and its activities throughout the year.

Principal Secretary [HRDD], GP Upadhyaya was also felicitated by SLYA for his support and guidance in organizing the coaching camp. Similarly, volunteer teachers of the coaching camp were also felicitated with certificates of appreciation.

The chief guest, in his address, talked about quality education and various government initiatives to ensure quality in the education system of the State. He also emphasized on the present reservation system and confusion in various reservation quotas.

Expressing gratitude to the organizers, teachers and the students, he stressed that the state government has always supported such noble endeavors. Further extending his best wishes to the students for their board examination he urged them to work hard and try to rise above from the reservation system.

Mr Upadhyaya congratulated the Sikkim Lepcha Youth Association for successfully conducting the winter coaching classes since many years. He also touched upon the present decision of the HRDD in revising the school calendar, and stressed that

the decision made by the department is student centric and would benefit the students. Further, he encouraged the students to work hard for their upcoming board examination.

SLYA president, Ongden Tshering Lepcha, in his address, touched upon various issues from reservation system to political representation, education and employment.

He thanked the state government for bestowing special status to Lepchas as a primitive tribe of Sikkim. He stressed that the present reservation system i.e Primitive Tribe and Bhutia-Lepcha reservation quota is confusing the Lepcha community.

He also hinted at some complaints received by the organization regarding administrative discrepancies in providing proper reservation to Lepcha candidates.

He requested the Lepcha representatives in the state government to take up the issue with concerned authorities in order to avert further confusion. The organization also made a special reference to Housing and Buildings Minister, DT Lepcha and thanked him for all the support to the organization.

SMIMS workshop delves on doc-patient relationship



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Research unit of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences, Gangtok wrapped up a three-day long workshop on 'Theater of the Oppressed-Art and Science of Communication' on 02 Feb. The workshop had started on 31 Jan, a press release informs.

The workshop was

supported by Dr Ramdas Pai and Vasanthi Pai.

Former Director, Professor of Pathology, Navjeevan Singh, Former Director, Professor of Ophthalmology, Dr Upreet Dhaliwal and Associate Professor of Physiology at the University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi, Dr Satendra Singh were the resource persons of the workshop.

The workshop was held to augment skills for empathy and communication in doctor-patient relationship, informs the release.

Associate Dean, Research, SMIMS, Dr Bidita Khandelwal in her introductory remarks stressed the need to develop soft skills along with the technical skills.

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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
JORETHANG

No: 60/UDHD/JRT **Dated:02.02.2018**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Divisional Engineer (S/W), Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, Jorethang invites percentage rate bids from the Appropriate Class of registered Contractors enlisted under SPWD for the work as listed below:

Sl. No	Name of works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs. In Lakhs)	Bid value (Rs. In Lakhs)	Cost of tender/ bid form (Rs. In Lakhs)	Completion period.
1.	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Construction of Rural Market- ing centre (Rodhi Bazaar) at Begha, West Sikkim.	1.88	75.24	0.15	12 months.

The Calendar of events is as under:-
SCHEDULE OF DATE AND TIME.

Date of receipt of application	:	2/3/2018 during office hours.
Date of issue of Tendered documents	:	2/3/2018 during office hours.
Date of issue of Tender Form	:	5/5/2018 during office hours.
Date of submission of Tender Forms and documents	:	5/5/2018 during office hours.
Date of opening of Tender:	:	6/6/2018 during office hours.

Further details may be sought from office of the undersigned.

Sd/- DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (SW)
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
JORETHANG

NIT No: 26/E-Proc/UDHD. **Dated:02.02.2018**

INVITATION FOR BIDS

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer (South/West Circle), Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, invites percentage rate bids through e-procurement. The bids should be submitted online through the website www.sikkimtender.gov.in for the work as listed below.

Sl. No.	Name or works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs)	Bid value (Rs)	Cost of tender/ bid form (Rs in Lakhs)	Completion period.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of New Road from Gumpa Dara via Leksey Colony to Begha Sheep Farm, West Sikkim.	Rs.6,20,466.00	Rs.2,48,18,641.17	Rs.30,000.00	24 months.

The calendar of events is as under:-

i)	Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal:	:	3/2/2018
ii)	Last date & Time for seeking clarification regarding bids.	:	19/2/2018 up to 1500 Hrs.
iii)	Time & Date for issue Challan towards the Cost of Tender Document	:	26/2/2018 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM
iii)	Start Date for online submission of bids	:	20/2/2018
iv)	Last Date for Online submission of bids	:	5/3/2018 up to 1600 hrs.
v)	Submission of hard copy of the documents	:	3/3/2018 up to 1500 hrs.
v)	Date of opening of bids:	:	6/3/2018 at 1100 Hrs.

The Standard Bidding Document, Bill of Quantities (BoQ) & Tender Notice may be downloaded from www.sikkimtender.gov.in.

Sd/- SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT, JORETHANG.

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK

NIT No: 25/E-Proc/UD&HD **Dated: 02/02/2018**

INVITATION FOR BIDS

On behalf of Governor of Sikkim, Additional Chief Engineer, Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, invites percentage rate bids through e-procurement. The bids should be submitted inline through the website www.sikkimtender.gov.in for the work as listed below:

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Bid security 2.5% of the bid value (Rs)	Bid Value (Rs)	Cost of tender/ bid form (Rs in Lakhs)	Completion period
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Infrastructure Development Works at Labdang, West Sikkim	24,48,280.00	9,79,31,183.46	50000.00	36 months

The calendar of event is as under:-

i)	Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal	:	3/2/2018
ii)	Last Date & Time for seeking clarification regarding bids	:	19/2/2018 upto 1500 hrs
iii)	Time & Date for issue of Challan towards to Cost of Tender Document	:	26/2/2018 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM
iii)	Start Date for Online submission of bids	:	20/2/2018
iv)	Last Date for Online submission of bids	:	5/3/2018 upto 1600 hrs
v)	Submission of hard copy of the documents	:	3/3/2018 upto 1500 hrs
v)	Date of opening of bids	:	6/3/2018 at 1100 hrs

The Standard Bidding Document, Bill of Quantities (BoQ). Analysis of rates & Tender Notice may be downloaded from www.sikkimtender.gov.in.

Sd/- ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT

R.O. No. 537/ir/pub/class/17-18 dt. 02.02.2018

SummitTIMES

Health Issues Caught

...now to arrest the conditions

A fresh round of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Annual and Total Check up for Healthy Sikkim [CATCH] is underway across the State. This flagship programme of the Government of Sikkim aims to provide comprehensive healthcare on annual and periodical basis. The focus is clearly on early detection and diagnosis to ensure that people can make lifestyle course-corrections in time and avert long-term illness. This is undoubtedly one of the more visionary of policy initiatives to have been attempted in Sikkim and it would serve the objectives of the mission well if CATCH was continued consistently and its findings shared more widely to flag the larger health worries and inform future policy interventions for the targeted impact. The administrators will be well advised to evaluate the reach and impact of the previous rounds of CATCH and the health providers and the people would do well for themselves if they recognized the prevalent health of the population.

Data collated by the State Government based on baseline assessments in the CATCH programme during 2014-15 identified the major health conditions found prevalent among those who attended the camps. As per this data, the top-5 diseases in Sikkim are: Hypertension/ High Blood pressure, carries teeth, malnutrition, anaemia and mental illness. If one pauses with this information for a while, it will dawn that there are no major revelations in this statistic because we receive confirmation of these "problems" on a daily basis in our lives. Strokes, resulting from high blood pressure, are reported often and just about every person here will definitely know someone who has had someone in the family felled by a stroke. The brisk business that dentists enjoy now in Sikkim is evidence of the dental issues which rank second and the malnutrition has been pointed out by several other surveys and probably results from unhealthy eating habits (too much "junk" food). Anaemia, Sikkim has always known as prevalent condition, but the staggering ratio of Sikkimese women who live with anaemia asks many questions of social practises and nutrition. High prevalence of mental illness is also reiterated by the continuing challenge of suicides across the State. And it is in its ability to put things in perspective so clearly, apart from providing individuals information about their health status in time, that makes the CATCH programme so special and necessary.

Take hypertension for instance – one can have high blood pressure for years without any symptoms, but even without symptoms, damage to blood vessels and heart continues and can be detected. Uncontrolled high blood pressure increases the risk of serious health problems, including heart attack and stroke. Catching it early clearly helps and since we do not have a culture of regular health checkups and visit doctors and hospitals only after we take ill, the Government bringing this concept to the doorsteps is welcome.

Sikkim is not alone in the stress it finds the health and wellbeing of its citizens under. While communicable, maternal, neonatal and nutritional diseases have dropped across the nation, the rates of non-communicable diseases have risen to epidemic proportions. Several research studies have observed high rates of diabetes and high blood pressure in India. This is in sync with what Sikkim has found through CATCH as well. And knowing these details is important because food habits and lifestyle have changed substantial in the recent past in Sikkim. And this has not been for the better and come at a cost on health. Across the board, people now consume more processed and refined foods, less fruits and vegetables, take in more carbohydrates than is healthy and are lack physical exercise. Now, to see what we do now that we know...a

Pan-India heritage walk festival kicks off

NEW DELHI, FEB 3 (PTI): From textile trail in Ahmedabad to stories of the Partition in Amritsar and from exploring the making of Lutyens' Delhi to tracing history of theatres in Mumbai, a heritage-themed festival promises to offer diverse experiences to people this month.

The India Heritage Walk Festival began today with walks in World Heritage City Ahmedabad, Delhi's Mehrauli Archaeological Park and a nature walk in Hyderabad, its organisers said. The festival spans across 20 cities, including Agra, Bengaluru, Varanasi, Chennai, Kolkata, Srinagar and Itanagar.

"This is the first time we are holding a walk festival to celebrate the heritage of India. Besides walks, there will be 'baithaks' for history enthusiasts and 'instameets' for Instagram users," a representative of Sahapedia told PTI.

Sahapedia, an open online resource on the arts, cultures and heritage of India, has

joined hands with YES Culture of YES Bank for this multi-faceted walk festival.

"One of our first events, 'Walking the Sacred Route at World City of Ahmedabad' is slated for today while the textile trail walk will be held there on February 10. In Delhi, noted historian Sohail Hashmi is leading a walk in Mehrauli Archaeological Park and there will be an event in Nizamuddin Basti on Sufi culture too," the representative said.

In Vadodra, heritage aficionados can explore the Indo-Saracenic architecture at MSU, Baroda on February 17 and in Bikaner a Holi Walk would be held on February 25, she said.

Mumbai residents can explore the bylanes of Bandra tomorrow with a walk leader while on February 11 they can trace the history of old single-screen theatres of the tinsel town through 'The Talkies Walk'.

In Srinagar, a walk will be held on February 26 around the Jhelum River.

ALKA KURIAN
theconversation.com

Reading other women's #MeToo stories brings back memories of my sexual abuse as a young girl growing up in the late 1970s and 1980s in India.

Like many women, I couldn't talk about it then. India had a tradition-bound society with strict gender norms and expectations. But a lot has changed since.

A new and powerful anti-sexism movement began in India, long before the present day feminist resurgence in the U.S., as I explore in a book I recently co-edited.

NEW MODES OF PROTEST

In the early 21st century, millennial Indian women launched a radically new kind of feminist politics that had not been seen before. Inspired by a vocabulary of rights and modes of protest used by the youth across the world, such as Occupy Wall Street and the Arab Spring, they initiated a series of social media campaigns against the culture of sexual violence.

The earliest campaigns - the 2003 Blank Noise Project against eve-teasing, the 2009 Pink Chaddi (underwear) movement against moral policing and the 2011 SlutWalk protest against victim-blaming - were limited in their scope but set the tone for this new mode of protest. Campaigns such as the 2011 Why Loiter project on women's right to public spaces, the 2015 Pinjra Tod (Break the Cage) movement against sexist curfew rules in student halls and the 2017 Bekhauf Azadi (Freedom without Fear) March resonated with a much larger number of women, turning this social media-led phenomenon into a true feminist movement.

These online campaigns represented a heightened level of frustration among the youth in a country where, despite several decades of feminist activism, the deep-rooted problem of gender inequality and sexual violence persists.

MAINSTREAM FEMINISM IN INDIA

Mainstream Indian feminism has tended to focus on issues such as child marriage, sex-selective abortions and dowry-related violence. It saw sexuality only in terms of extraordinary forms of sexual violence against marginal women, such as rape of Dalit (formerly "untouchable"), tribal, or Muslim women, or those living in the country's military zones such as Kashmir or the North East.

But it did little to address the question of eve-teasing - the everyday, supposedly harmless and largely sanctioned practice of sexual harassment and molestation that affects women on the streets and in workplaces, across class, caste and religion. For it, this problem could easily be solved by protecting and restricting women.

Things changed when India's 1990's economic liberalization triggered an unintended and unexpected cultural shift in the country. It brought questions of women's freedom, choice and desire to the forefront.

On the one hand, Western multinational companies that began investing in the country in a big way, opened up massive job opportunities for women in urban India. On the other, the arrival from the West of sexually explicit images - through film and cable TV - into Indian homes changed the

#MeToo is riding a new wave of feminism in India



meaning of sexuality and sexual desire for young women. Print and visual media, for example, began to show a new kind of Indian femininity that was comfortable with her modernity and sexuality.

These transformations unleashed a major backlash from conservative Indians who felt threatened by the changing lifestyle of a growing number of educated, professionally skilled and financially independent women questioning traditional gender roles and expectations.

Faced with the resultant rise of sexual violence in the society, rather than tackling the root cause of misogyny and sexism or ensuring women's safety in public places, the state and society responded by being patronizing and policing young women's behavior. They sought to keeping women safe by restricting their movement.

NEW INDIAN FEMINISM

The 2012 fatal gang rape of a 23-year-old student in Delhi became a tipping point. An unprecedented number of millennial youth launched a rallying cry for women's unconditional freedom. They asserted that women have absolute right to their choices, their bodies and to their movement in public spaces at any time of day or night. They challenged outmoded cultural beliefs that women invite sexual violence through their clothes and behavior.

By bringing the discourse of freedom, sexuality, choice and desire into the public realm - in the streets and through social media - this agitation forced the government to expand its legal definition of rape, introducing harsher punishment for rapists and criminalizing stalking and voyeurism.

A HOLISTIC MOVEMENT

What is unique about this movement is that it is a multilayered struggle. It combines freedom from sexual oppression with freedom from caste, ethnic and religious oppression.

Often referred to as India's "Arab Spring," this

movement created a ripple effect for other struggles to break out. The Chalo Dilli or #NotInMyName movements rose up against the right-wing state led violence against Dalits and Muslims. In this sense, this new feminist agitation represents an impressive level of maturity, inclusivity and political sophistication.

I see this new movement as the rise of "fourth-wave" feminism in India. I borrow the idea from the British journalist and writer Kira Cochrane and the American feminist blogger Jessica Valenti. While Cochrane and Valenti define the fourth wave in the West as online feminism, fourth wave in India, I claim, is a mostly social media-led holistic movement that combines women's freedom with a wider call for social justice for minority men and women.

A WAYS TO GO

The battle is far from over.

While some of the younger actresses have started to speak out about sexual abuse in India's largest film industry, Bollywood, it is doubtful if these revelations will have the kind of impact that it had in the U.S. A law student's list on social media containing names of 50 sexually abusive academics has been decried by many for not following due process. And, like many in the U.S. who fear that #MeToo has become a movement for the privileged few, many Indians reject this online feminist movement for being too elitist in a country where only a quarter of its population has access to the internet.

However, now that the battle cry has been launched, the only way out is forward. I'd contend that Indian and American women alike must amplify their voices, mark how they're different from previous feminist movements and set a goal of freedom for all.

[the writer is Senior Lecturer, School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, University of Washington, Bothell]

How Yemeni women are fighting the war

CONNIE CHRISTIANSEN
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Since 2015, a Saudi-led coalition has waged war against Shia Houthi forces in Yemen. More than 8,000 people have been killed, and more than 49,000 injured; at least 69% of the population is reportedly in need of humanitarian assistance. Million of Yemenis are facing starvation. Weapons circulation is widespread and uncontrolled: in 2016, a UN report estimated that between 40m to 60m firearms were circulating freely in the country.

The conflict has had a devastating impact on the women of the country. Household breadwinners are usually men; many are fighting, injured or killed. There is an economic crisis in the private sector, and many public sector jobs are no longer paying salaries. The health and security of the female population is endangered by exposure to cholera and other diseases. And then there's the issue of child marriages: the severe poverty crisis means that prepubescent girls are married off to repay debts, or to raise funds to feed the rest of the family.

A woman from the Northern Ibb region, which is occupied by the rebel Houthi army, explained the situation to a research team: "We live in a state of lawlessness: no security, no protection and no functional law enforcement authorities. A person may be shot dead for a trivial thing. The security situation doesn't look like it did in the past. Now, there are informal groups behaving as if they were



Yemeni women take part in a sit-in and a protest against the ongoing conflict in the Arab country, outside the UN offices in Sana'a, Yemen, 16 March 2017.

law enforcement authorities. These groups have power, and their power is the law. They use force against whoever disagrees with them or criticises their behaviour."

As the feminist scholar Cynthia Enloe has pointed out, women are crucial for war and play supportive roles for the military. Indeed, many Yemeni women are not victims of war or just escaping or hiding from this war. In many contrasting ways, they are actively supporting it, and not only on humanitarian grounds.

WOMEN ENGAGING IN WAR

Although many Yemeni women discourage their family members from taking part in the conflict and very few take up arms themselves, they also help recruit men to the army.

They also support combatants by cooking food for them and helping to distribute it.

A young woman, Nasseem Al-Odaini, whose family has fled to the neighbouring Ibb region, stayed behind in Houthi-occupied Taiz and initiated an organisation that assist the combatants that support the former government. As she told Middle East Eye: "We want to encourage the pro-government forces to advance in the province, by raising the spirits of the fighters".

Other Yemeni women try to mitigate the impact of the conflict the best way possible. For example, women engage in humanitarian relief and in providing social and psychological support for people who have been

traumatised by the war. They also engage in peace processes when they initiate discussions of the conflict in their communities.

Since the war is not equally intense in every part of the country, there are better possibilities for women to participate in peace processes around the port city of Aden, in the south, than it is in the north, where the Houthi army has taken control and Saudi coalition airstrikes are part of everyday life. Accordingly, women's conditions and activities differ from one region to another.

A BLOCKED MOMENTUM

In the north, local communities are more divided (between supporters and adversaries of the Houthi government) than in the south. When women enter the public and participate in charity work, they may be questioned by "de facto authorities" (read: the Houthi army) who, according to one woman, would try to prevent them from doing their work. They would also tell women that they are not allowed to appear in public before men:

"They [the Houthis] are opposed to women playing a role in public life. According to them, the woman's role is restricted to cooking and housework. They marginalise women; they deny their role in the community."

Women in Northern and Southern parts of Yemen are not full citizens. According to Amnesty International, they "face discrimination in matters of marriage, divorce, inheritance, and child custody, and the state fails

turn to 05

Dogs bite 3,397 people in a year in Mizoram

AIZAWL, FEB 3 (PTI): When a dog bites a man, it is not news, they say. But when 3,397 people are bitten by dogs in a year, it may be one.

A record maintained by Economics and Statistics department of Mizoram government said, 3,397 people of the state, mainly from urban areas, suffered dog bites during 2016-2017 financial year.

It said 1,363 of these victims were women and one person died due to dog bite during the period.

Not just canine cases, the department has records of nips by cats and rats, besides snake bites.

At least 101 people including 55 women were bitten by cats, and 37 people - of whom 15 were women - were bitten by rats during the same period.

Altogether 221 snake bite cases were recorded by the department in the state in 2016-2017.

Reliance to invest Rs 2,500 crore in Assam, create 80,000 jobs:

Mukesh Ambani GUWAHATI, FEB 3 (PTI): Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani today announced an investment of Rs 2,500 crore in Assam in various sectors, including retail, petroleum, telecom, tourism and sports, creating jobs for at least 80,000 people over the next three years.

"Today I am happy to announce five commitments for Assam over the next three years. Reliance will invest an additional Rs 2,500 crore to augment its presence in this market," he said at the inaugural function of the Global Investors Summit 2018 here.

Under this programme, the company will enhance its retail division's outlet to 40 from existing two, while the number of petrol depots will be increased to 165 from the existing 27, he added.

"We are also going to open new offices in all 145 tehsil headquarters across Assam. Our approach has always been to create sustainable livelihood opportunities and have generated 20,000 jobs in Assam," Ambani said.

Assam has always been a low priority market for other telecom operators, but it is a 'Category A' market for Reliance, he added. "We now target to increase the sustainable livelihood opportunities by five-fold to 1,00,000 jobs," Ambani said.

In the tourism sector, the company's CSR wing Reliance Foundation will partner with Assam government to set up a centre at an university to promote "wildlife protection and eco-tourism," he added.

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to take adequate measures to prevent, investigate, and punish domestic violence". Discrimination against women in Yemen go back far beyond the war and are associated with local customs according to several studies. And yet, Yemeni women maintain their engagement in the development of their country.

AN OLD ENGAGEMENT

During the popular uprising in the country in 2011 where hundreds of thousands of Yemenis followed the "youth movement" and protested against the corrupt reign of the then-president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, Yemeni women took to the streets to an extent that was unfore-

China values India ties but firm on 'sovereign rights': Yi

KJM VARMA

BEIJING, FEB 3 (PTI):

China always values the good neighbourliness and friendship with India, but it is also firm on upholding its "sovereign rights", interests and territorial integrity, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said today.

Beijing handled the Dokalam standoff with "restraint", showing the "emphasis" it places on ties with New Delhi, he said.

Touching on China's relations with major countries and its diplomatic initiatives last year, Yi, in a lengthy article in the Chinese International Studies journal, dwelt about Sino-India ties, stating that Beijing's diplomatic engagement with New Delhi resulted in India withdrawing its troops and equipment from Dokalam.

The journal is published by China Institute of International Studies, a think-tank attached to

the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The 73-day standoff at Dokalam over which Bhutan also has counter claims began in June last year when Indian troops objected to Chinese army building a road close to India's Chicken-Neck Corridor, a narrow corridor connecting north-eastern states.

The standoff ended on August 28 after Chinese troops agreed to stop building the road following which both the sides agreed on the "expeditious disengagement" of personnel at Dokalam, according to the External Affairs Ministry.

Yi said China always values the good neighbourliness and friendship with India as "we are each other's big neighbours and ancient civilisations".

In the meantime, China is also firm in upholding its sovereign rights and interests and territorial integrity, he said.

"We handled the Indian border troops trespass into China's Dong Long (Dokalam) area in our national interest, on just grounds and with restraint. Through diplomatic means, we engaged with the Indian side and it withdrew its equipment and personnel.

"This demonstrates not only the value and emphasis we put on relations with India but also our sincerity and sense of responsibility in maintaining regional peace and stability," the foreign minister said.

"We believe as we continue to engage in in-depth strategic communication and promptly dispel strategic misgivings, the strategic value of China-India cooperation will speak for itself and there will be a prospect of 'the Dragon and Elephant dancing together' and 1+1=11 effect as expected by the leaders," Yi said.

On Chinese diplomacy in general, he said China will continue to break new ground in pursuing major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

"We will take a longer and broader perspective, and be even more open-minded and resourceful in our diplomacy. We will give more consideration to the overall interests of the world and humanity, and work in a proactive manner," he said.

China will firmly uphold the existing international system with the UN at the core, and protect and expand the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries, he said.

"We will continue to act as a responsible major country to contribute to world peace, promote global development, and uphold the international order," Yi added.

ISKCON devotees arriving for 'Gour Purnima' festival

KOLKATA, FEB 3 (PTI): With a month left for 'Gour Purnima', the biggest festival for the Gaudiya Vaishnavs of Mayapur, devotees from across the world are arriving at the global headquarters of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) there.

This is the centenary year of 'Nabadwip Mandala Parikrama', which was started by Bhakti Sidhanta Saraswati Prabhupada in 1918, an ISKCON Mayapur statement said today.

More than 6000 foreign devotees from 50 countries and 4000 Indian devotees are expected to take part in the centenary celebrations of the eight-day 'Nabadwip Mandal Parikrama', which will be held from February 18, the statement said.

During the 'Parikrama' devotees from Russia, China, Australia, Africa, US, Bangladesh and other European countries will walk almost 80 km covering all major spots where Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu had visited, it said.

Apart from the festivities, the ISKCON Leadership Sangha (ILS), which is held every alternate year at Mayapur, will see the congregation of more than 1000 senior devotees, office bearers, temple presidents from across the world.

From February 26, international groups will present cultural programmes depicting the life and teachings of Sri Chaitanya MahaPrabhu culminating with the celebration of 'Gour Purnima' on March 2, the statement said.



Earlier, General Goldfein had stressed on the "strong relationship" between the two air forces.

"We look forward to deepening the relationship between our two air forces, he said in his posts

on Twitter and Facebook. The first squadron of Tejas was inducted into the IAF in July 2016.

US Air Force chief flies India's Tejas

JODHPUR, FEB 3 (PTI):

The Chief of Staff of the US Air Force, General David L. Goldfein, today flew India's indigenous light combat aircraft 'Tejas' at the air force station here.

Goldfein, who arrived here yesterday, was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal A. P. Singh as co-pilot during the sortie, defence officials said.

"General David L. Goldfein, Chief of Staff of the US Air Force, is on an official visit to India. He flew a sortie in 'Made in India' LCA Tejas aircraft at AF Stn Jodhpur today," the IAF said on Twitter

Goldfein yesterday interacted with the airmen and pilots at the station.

"His visit was a gesture of mutual cooperation between the Indian and the US air forces, both of which are considered the best in the world," the official said.

BJP joins hands with NDPP for Nagaland Assembly poll

KOHIMA, FEB 3 (PTI): The BJP has decided to forge an alliance with newly floated Nationalist Democratic People's Party (NDPP) led by former chief minister Neiphiu Rio for the February 27 Assembly poll in Nagaland.

The BJP has dumped its 15-year-old alliance partner, the ruling Naga People's Front (NPF).

A decision to this effect was taken in New Delhi yesterday at a meeting between BJP president Amit Shah and Rio in the presence of BJP's Nagaland president Visasolie Lhoungu, the party's state media cell convener, K James Vizo said here today.

He said the NDPP would contest 40 of the

60 seats in the state assembly while the BJP would field candidates in the remain 20 seats.

The BJP is the only party till date to announce that it will contest the election.

Eleven parties including the ruling Naga People's Front on January 29 had decided not to contest the February 27 polls, agreeing to the demand of tribal bodies and civil society groups to resolve the protracted Naga political problem first.

Later, the BJP had announced it would contest the polls. The state BJP sources here said the party's grassroots workers were against the party forging any pre-poll alliance with anyone.

IT parks to come up in every district of Bengal : Minister

KOLKATA, FEB 3 (PTI): West Bengal Information Technology minister Bratya Basu today said IT parks will come up in every district of the state to boost entrepreneurship.

The IT parks will be set up by the department in collaboration with local chambers of commerce in the coming days, Basu told reporters here on the sidelines of the launch of a book by GlobSyn Founder Bikram Dasgupta here.

"This (IT parks) is a part of IT Park Mission of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee," he said adding the total number of IT parks in the districts will be announced soon.

Basu said the environment perception about Bengal has changed to an investment friendly destination in the past six years.

"This has been corroborated in the buzz created over the recent Bengal Global Business Summit ... The perception has changed to an environment of entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity resulting in largescale investment proposals in different sectors including IT," he said.

"The IT hub's proximity to the airport, the peaceful living and the infrastructure have made things conducive for Bengal," he said.

Dasgupta, who authored the book 'I Did It My Way', said, "The readers will get to know about the formative years of the Indian IT industry and how a few educated middle class youths transformed the nation through it"

months long conference was to formulate a new and more democratic constitution for a united Yemen. However, the draft constitution which included a general 30% gender quota was rejected by the Houthi movement in September 2014, before the population had given their voice in a referendum.

By then disappointment with the process towards a new Yemen had given the Houthis wide popular support. They occupied major government institutions in the capital, Sana'a and removed the transition government recognised internationally. Interestingly, it was not the gender quota which made the Houthis reject the draft constitution, but the view to a power-sharing

model which did not give them what they expected.

The Houthi movement's occupation of the capital and seizure of government seemed to mark both the beginning of a war, and the end of momentum for women's rights in Yemen - a country which generally figures in the lowest ranks of Arab gender equality indexes. In 2014, a group of women from diverse political backgrounds pushed for political solutions instead of war. Since then they have been sidelined from peace negotiations - but that doesn't mean that Yemeni women have lost all hope.

[The writer is Visiting associate professor, Lebanese American University]

SpiceJet mulls seaplanes on Brahmaputra

GUWAHATI, FEB 3 (PTI): Low-cost carrier SpiceJet today said it is exploring possibilities to introduce seaplanes on Brahmaputra in Assam, making the river the largest waterways in the world.

"We are exploring possibilities for introducing seaplanes in Assam. With the seaplanes, Brahmaputra can be the largest waterway in the world," SpiceJet chairman and managing director Ajay Singh said at the inaugural function of the Global Investors Summit 2018 here.

Seaplanes have immense potential in the form of tourism, adventure travel as well as improving connectivity, he said but did not elaborate on the company's plans on introducing them.

Seaplanes are typically fixed-wing aircraft with much fewer number of seats and can take off from and land on water.

While they have been in use since the 19th century, they have lagged behind full fledged aircraft after heavy investments

were made in setting up airports in the 20th century. They have been re-emerging as a niche segment.

On the air network, the Singh said "We propose to connect Assam to Thailand, Myanmar and other ASEAN countries.

This will surely help the region grow economically." SpiceJet also aims to help the agriculture sector of Assam and has begun transporting consignments of fresh vegetables and fruits from it to other parts of the country, Singh informed.

"Going forward, SpiceJet will invest in creating a modern supply chain network and build storage capacities across Assam. We want to help the government actively in its 'Act East Policy'," he added.

Singh had said at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos that seaplanes can boost the country's tourism sector in a big way as they can convert any pond into an airport and can make any river a runway.

Myanmar refugees moved to one relief camp from four villages

AIZAWL, FEB 3 (PTI): Refugees from Myanmar who took shelter in four villages in Mizoram's Lawngtlai district are being moved to one relief camp at Hmawngbuchhuah village, district officials said today.

They are being moved to a single place so that they could be given proper attention, food, essential commodities and relief materials, the officials said.

The refugees, now numbering 1,053, including 566 women belonging to 244 families, are refusing to return to their homes in Myanmar, though the Assam Rifles personnel and the Myanmar Army officials said today. The refugees were safe for the people to return.

Earlier, the Myanmar nationals fled

their villages in Myanmar's Chin state and took shelter in Mizoram's Laitlang, Zochachhuah, Dumzaulung and Hmawngbuchhuah villages since November 25 last year, an official said.

They fled after the Myanmar Army launched massive crackdown on the Arakan Army (AA) militants in the area.

The refugees do not want to return to Myanmar as they fear that landmines planted along the Mizoram-Myanmar border, where the Myanmar Army and the AA militants clashed for months, could endanger their lives, the official said.

One woman was killed by a concealed landmine and a man was maimed by another landmine blast in January near the Mizoram-Myanmar border in the district.

IOC to invest Rs 3,400 crore in Assam to augment operations

GUWAHATI, FEB 3 (PTI): Indian Oil Corporation will invest Rs 3,400 crore in Assam over the next five years to expand its operations by setting up new units as well as upgrading the existing ones, a senior IOC official said today.

The company will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Assam Government to this effect at the two-day 'Advantage Assam - Global Investors Summit 2018', beginning here today, the official said.

"We are signing an MoU with the state government that will empower us to invest Rs 3,400 crore in Assam over the next five years. This will be for various projects across the state," Indian Oil Corporation, Executive Director (IndianOil-AOD), Dipankar Ray told PTI at the Summit.

The company's Board has already approved the funding and it may increase in future depending upon the progress of the work, he said.

"The major chunk of this will go for expansion

of our refinery capacities. We are going to add new units and also upgrade the existing ones to improve the fuel quality and BS-VI compliant fuel will be required as per norms," Ray said.

The company will also enhance the capacities of its LPG bottling plants at North Guwahati, Silchar and Mirza, he added.

"The petroleum storage capacities are also being enhanced at various places like Barak

valley and Digboi. In Barak valley, we are setting up a new depot, which will be well-connected by rail network and will have provision for pipeline connectivity as well," Ray informed.

Besides, IOC's existing depots at Betkuchi in Guwahati, Lumding and Missamari will see capacity expansion under this project, he added.

"Some projects under this MoU have already started, while some will begin soon. These projects will also help create jobs, mostly in contract through indirect route," Ray said.



India beat Aus for record fourth U-19 WC title

MOUNT MAUNGANUI, FEB 3 (PTI):

India on Saturday lifted a record fourth U-19 World Cup trophy after an eight-wicket rout of Australia in the final, underlining their dominant run in the tournament and giving Rahul Dravid the biggest success of his coaching career.

As it has been the case throughout the tournament, India had all their bases covered with bowlers bouncing back to dismiss Australia for 216 from 183 for four at one stage.

The highly-rated batting, barring a minor blip, completed the job with conviction as India chased down the modest target in 38.5 overs.

Delhi-boy Manjot Kalra emerged as the man for big occasion, scoring a sublime 101 not out off 102 balls and anchoring the innings after the loss of captain Prithvi Shaw and team's leading scorer in the tournament, Shubman Gil. With a fourth crown, India also surpassed Australia in the race of most U-19 World Cup titles. Prior to the final, India and Australia were locked at three titles each.

The team's performance was also a fitting tribute to coach Dravid, who finally got his hands on a World Cup trophy.

Under Dravid, the side had finished runner-up in the 2016 edition in Bangladesh.

India's previous title came in Australia six years ago when the Unmukt Chand-led team beat the hosts in the final.

The Virat Kohli-led side was victorious in 2008 and Mohammad Kaif was captain when India triumphed way back in 2000.

"Really proud of the boys and the effort they put in," said Dravid as his boys continued with the on-field celebrations.

"Hopefully it's a memory they cherish for a long, long time, but hopefully not the lasting memory and they have many more great moments and bigger things in future. I don't want to mention names but everyone in the support staff has put in a great effort. We do the best for the kids," the Indian great added.

In the current edition, India were the overwhelming favourites and they played like one, dishing out dominant performances one after the other.

The gulf between them and other teams was clearly evident. In the playing eleven of the final, India fielded five players with the First-Class experience while Australia had



just one in captain Jason Sangha.

"I really can't express what I am feeling now," said skipper Shaw.

"All credit to our support staff, they've really been supporting us for the last two years, especially Rahul sir. He is a legend. And full credit to the guys as well. It was the final, a very crucial hundred from Manjot."

On man of the series Gill and performance of other his teammates, Shaw added: "Gill was batting really well throughout. And the two pacers, Shivam Mavi and Kamlesh Nagarkoti were excellent too."

Having lost skipper Shaw (29) and Gill (31), Kalra displayed commendable calm and composure to see the team through.

Harvik Desai (47 not out) provided the support Kalra needed after India were 131 for two in the 22nd over. The two shared 89 runs for the third wicket in what turned out to be a match-winning partnership.

Kalra, who had smashed a match-winning 86 against Australia in the tournament opener, was in devastating touch again.

He hammered the spinners for huge sixes and showed his silken touch by beautifully driving the pacers through covers. In the end, he finished with eight fours and three sixes.

It was only fitting that he reached the three figures in the last over of the final. Desai hit the winning boundary, sending the team members and the packed crowd into frenzy.

Earlier, Jonathan Merlo made a solid 76 before the India's left-arm spin duo of Shiva Singh and Anukul Roy sprung into action, limiting Australia to 216.

At 183 for four, Australia looked well on course to reach 250 in a high-pressure match until the Indi-

an spinners engineered the collapse with the Sangha-led side losing its last six wickets for 33 runs.

Australia, who had little hesitation in batting first, were guilty of not converting starts into big partnerships.

Merlo and Param Uppal (34) were involved in a 75-run stand for the fourth wicket before the innings' top-scorer shared 49-runs with Nathan McSweeney (23) to set the platform for a competitive total.

However, the momentum shifted hugely into India's favour when Shiva (2/36) set up Sweeney to have the batsman caught and bowled, leaving Australia at 183 for five.

Earlier, India's leading wicket-taker in the event, Anukul Roy (2/32), had sent back Uppal in similar fashion as offered a simple catch back to the bowler while attempting to play against the spin.

While Indian spinners delivered under pressure in the middle overs, the pacers were impressive again upfront and towards the end.

Hitting through the line was not easy as the surface was on the slower side. The best example of that was the dismissal of openers Jack Edwards (28) and Max Bryant (14).

Pacer Ishan Porel (2/30) got rid of both the openers who punched a rising ball straight to cover.

Kamlesh Nagarkoti (2/41), another find for India in the tournament, removed Sangha (13) with the one that moved away just enough to take the edge to the wicket-keeper.

Nagarkoti along with Shivam Mavi (1/46) also helped in polishing off the tail after Shiva's accurate throw from deep had Baxter Bolt run out on 13.

Both teams went into the contest unchanged.



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

*Samaj Kalyan Bhawan, 5th Mile, Lumsay, Tadong,
Gangtok- 737101 (SIKKIM)*

Dated: 03/2/2018.

NOTICE

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

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

The beneficiaries are advised to collect their pension/allowance from their respective accounts in the Nationalized Banks/State Bank of Sikkim/Post Office duly producing the Pension Passbook in original issued by the Department along with the Bank/Post Office Passbook. In case, the Pensioner(s) are differently abled and old aged, their legal heir may draw the pension from the Bank/Post Office by submitting the Authorization letter from the Pensioner duly certified by the Ward Panchayat and authenticated by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate or the Gram Vikash Adhikari/ Block Development Officer as the case may be.

Efforts may be made by all Branch Managers to disburse the Pensions within a period of one month. The undisbursed amount for any reasons may be refunded to the Department along with the beneficiaries' Bank account and Scheme details.

The Banks are advised to comply with the instructions deliberated and recorded in the Agenda item no. 19 (para 3) of the Minutes of Meeting of the 54th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) Meeting held on 22nd September 2017. An action taken report in this regard may be submitted to the office of the undersigned.

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

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

Sd/-

Additional Secretary to the Government of Sikkim.

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



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES AND FAMILY WELFARE

Tashiling Secretariat, Gangtok.

No.88/HC-HS & FW/2018

Dated: 02.02.2018

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

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

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

01. Sikkim Government Pharmacy College:

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

02. Sikkim Government Nursing College.

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

III. Conditions for appointments:

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

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

dt. 03.02.2018.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

SIKKIM SUPER WEEKLY

Draw No:5 DrawDate on:03/02/18

1st Prize:Rs.2 Crores/- 71A 1357

1257 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize:Rs.5000/-

0024 0066 0142 0249 0336 0378 0414 0426 0589 0621

0727 1006 1144 1173 1302 1442 1474 1496 1558 1797

1921 1943 1948 1970 2226 2470 2644 2675 2725 2758

2987 2996 3103 3137 3179 3358 3360 3488 3570 3592

4178 4211 4458 4475 4525 4536 4625 4626 4648 4843

4971 4985 4990 5090 5164 5482 5567 5624 6125 6211

6228 6414 6431 6720 6892 6964 7615 7650 7654 7669

7751 7929 8031 8091 8122 8286 8308 8435 8457 8461

8535 8679 8694 8735 8775 8963 8984 8988 9038 9120

9208 9205 9317 9371 9479 9513 9549 9587 9713 9728

3rd Prize:Rs.5000/-

0086 0129 0153 0182 0182 0401 0460 0506 0829 1078

1287 1525 1554 1646 1658 1682 1809 2038 2074 2094

2182 2185 2404 2554 2759 2762 2772 2774 2777 2969

3016 3091 3121 3205 3305 3308 3434 3597 3787 4019

4020 4112 4283 4322 4521 4634 4870 4876 4974 5004

5116 5420 5478 5793 6075 6070 6107 6104 6127 6500

6880 7066 7106 7108 7264 7442 7442 7446 7580 7644 7709

7723 7727 8007 8244 8253 8373 8388 8501 8575 8626

8715 8719 8722 8809 9060 9163 9173 9247 9268 9326

9423 9565 9784 9804 9810 9824 9875 9916 9948 9987

4th Prize:Rs.4000/-

0087 0527 0716 0780 0894 1012 1256 1514 1696 1759

2042 2190 2205 2216 2454 2529 2536 2573 2575 2604

2879 3074 3106 3118 3201 3286 3594 3867 3959 4147

4269 4275 4516 4526 4601 4767 4781 4831 4846 4944

4986 5192 5315 5321 5353 5383 5390 5620 5659 5856

5917 6159 6281 6371 6371 6519 6535 6544 6556 6595 6598

6631 6674 6848 6927 6962 6988 7030 7142 7232 7237

7315 7426 7497 7541 7581 7666 7735 7841 7854 7904

7962 8018 8082 8062 8067 8059 8708 8761 8797 9056

9158 9214 9225 9459 9519 9547 9413 9484 9590 9647 9936

9013 9025 9434 9491 9528 9661 9765 9942 9944 9954

5th Prize:Rs.2000/-

0038 0062 0341 0374 0478 0688 0863 1067 1172 1189

1434 1538 1793 1814 1896 1902 1932 2384 2410 2494

2536 2540 2622 2679 2876 3166 3363 3409 3610 3716

3725 3853 3964 4040 4259 4319 4456 4481 4538 4604

4787 4848 5165 5179 5247 5413 5484 5590 5647 5936

5989 6083 6454 6465 6583 6631 6614 6642 6691 6719

6899 7021 7111 7266 7273 7438 7574 7613 7795 7879

7924 7980 7987 8132 8173 8247 8289 8414 8415 8459

8581 8589 8701 8706 8720 8743 8885 8915 8925 9010

9013 9025 9434 9491 9528 9661 9765 9942 9944 9954

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

Release of Republican memo fuels Trump, FBI distrust

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, FEB 3 (PTI):

The bitterness between Donald Trump and the FBI has intensified after the release of a controversial Republican memo, with the president calling it a "disgrace" while the agency's chief pledging to defend his agents.

The memo which was released yesterday accuses senior law enforcement officials of misleading a court in order to conduct surveillance on a former Trump campaign adviser during its probe into the alleged Russian collusion in the 2016 election.

"The memorandum raises serious concerns about the integrity of decisions made at the highest levels of the Department of Justice and the FBI to use the government's most intrusive surveillance tools against American citizens," White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement.

The memo, written by House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes, alleges that the FBI used the opposition research dossier



on Trump and Russia written by ex-British intelligence agent Christopher Steele to secure a FISA surveillance warrant on former Trump foreign policy adviser Carter Page without disclosing that the dossier was funded in part by Democratic sources.

Sanders said the decision to release the memo was made with input from the president's national security team including law enforcement officials and members of the intelligence community.

"...for whom the president has great respect. He is especially grateful to the hard-working rank-and-file public servants who work every day

to keep America safe and uphold our laws while protecting the constitutional rights of all Americans," Sanders said.

Noting that minority members of the Committee have reportedly drafted a separate memorandum, Sanders said the administration stands ready to work with Congress to accommodate oversight requests consistent with applicable standards, including the need to protect intelligence sources and methods.

Trump called the memo's contents "a disgrace".

"A lot of people should be ashamed of themselves," he said following the memo's declassification. Coming out in Trump's defence, Congressman Dana Rohrabacher said the memo "highlights a truth".

"The integrity of even our law enforcement and intelligence agencies can be politicised and compromised. From time-to-time, we all must be reminded of that vulnerability.

That is why we must insist on congressional oversight of all federal agencies, especially

of our foreign and domestic intelligence services," he said.

Rohrabacher commended Trump for "standing up for transparency" and alleged that the Democrats tried to thwart the inquiry.

"This was nothing less than an attempted cover-up of wrongdoing by the last administration. This whole episode makes Watergate pale in comparison," he said.

Publicly, the FBI said nothing, but Director Christopher Wray sent out a video and written statement to employees, urging them not to get distracted by the debate raging about them.

"The American people read the papers, and they hear lots of talk on cable TV and social media. But they see and experience the actual work you do keeping communities safe and our nation secure, often dealing with sensitive matters and making decisions under difficult circumstances," Wray said.

"And that work will always matter more. Talk is cheap; the work you do is what will endure."

It is unclear whether Trump will use the memo to fire people involved in the Russia probe, including Deputy Attorney General Rod J Rosenstein, who oversees it. Democrats warned against any dismissals at the Justice Department, saying such moves would trigger a constitutional crisis.

Former FBI Director James Comey, who was abruptly fired by Trump last year for his handling of the Russia inquiry, criticised the memo.

"That's it?" Comey said on Twitter.

"Dishonest and misleading memo wrecked the House intel committee, destroyed trust with Intelligence Community, damaged relationship with FISA court, and inexcusably exposed classified investigation of an American citizen. For what?" Comey wrote, adding: "DOJ & FBI must keep doing their jobs."

Since he was fired, Comey has increasingly taken to Twitter to support the FBI and other intelligence agencies.

Cop arrested over Sri Lankan newspaper editor's killing

COLOMBO, FEB 3 (PTI): A policeman in Sri Lanka has been arrested and remanded in police custody over the killing of a leading newspaper's editor, a vocal critic of former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, nine years ago, officials said here.

Lasantha Wickrematunga, the founder and editor of the Sunday Leader, was waylaid by some unidentified bike-borne assailants who gunned him down in the Colombo suburb of Ratmalana in January 2009.

Sub Inspector Tissa Sugathapala, the officer in charge (crimes) of the Colombo suburban police station of Mount Lavinia, was accused of concealing and destroying information pertaining to the killing of Wickrematunga.

The sub-inspector was yesterday remanded in two weeks police custody, the officials said.

Wickrematunga was involved in a legal fight with Rajapaksa brother, the then powerful defence secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

After a decade-long

rule of Rajapaksa was ended in 2015, the new government under President Maithripala Sirisena had revived the murder investigation. Wickrematunga was declared a World Press Freedom Hero of the International Press Institute in 2010.

In his final editorial, which was published in 2009 after his assassination, Wickrematunge wrote, "When finally I am killed, it will be the government that kills me."

He also wrote that he hoped his murder would not be interpreted as a "defeat of press freedom but as an inspiration".

Wickrematunga was also critical of defence procurements under Rajapaksa in the war against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

His murder is considered among grave incidents of abuse of freedom of media blamed on the Rajapaksa government in Sri Lanka, which during the time was ranked one of the worse places for journalists to work.

N Korea flouts sanctions, earning USD 200 mln from banned exports: UN

UNITED NATIONS, FEB 3 (AFP): North Korea is flouting UN sanctions by exporting coal, iron, steel and other commodities banned under UN sanctions, earning nearly USD 200 million in revenue last year, a UN report said today.

A UN panel of experts also found evidence of North Korea's ongoing military cooperation with Syria to develop its ballistic missile and chemical weapons programs, and with Myanmar.

North Korea "continued to export almost all the commodities prohibited in the resolutions, generating nearly USD 200 million in revenue between January and September 2017," said the report by the experts seen by AFP.

Coal shipments were delivered to China, Malaysia, South Korea, Russia and Vietnam by ship using "a combination of multiple evasion techniques, routes and deceptive tactics," said the report.

The Security Council last year adopted a series of resolutions to tighten and expand exports bans aimed at cutting off revenue to North Korea's military programs.

The United States led the push for tough economic sanctions against North Korea after its sixth nuclear test and a series of ballistic missile launches that indicated the US mainland could soon be within reach of a nuclear strike by Pyongyang.

The panel found that North Korea "is already flouting the most recent resolutions by exploiting global oil supply chains, complicit foreign nationals, offshore company registries, and the international banking system."

Seven ships have been barred from ports worldwide for violating UN sanctions with coal and petroleum transfers, but the experts said much more must be done to confront "these rampant illicit activities."

While sanctions have been significantly broadened, this "expansion of the regime is yet to be matched by the requisite political will" to implement the measures, the experts said.



Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates had intentions to invade Qatar at the beginning of a diplomatic crisis that erupted in June, according to Qatar's defence minister. In an interview with on Friday, Khalid bin Mohammad Al Attiyah said his Gulf neighbours have "tried everything" to destabilise the country, but their intentions to invade were "diffused" by Qatar. "They have intentions to intervene militarily," said Attiyah. When asked to confirm whether he thought such a threat still existed today, he responded: "We have diffused this intention. But at the beginning of the crisis, they had this intention. They tried to provoke the tribes. They used mosques against us. Then they tried to get some puppets to bring in and replace our leaders."

Trump admin announces new policy to modernise nuclear arsenal

WASHINGTON, FEB 3 (PTI): The Trump administration has announced a new policy to modernise its nuclear arsenal by developing new smaller atomic bombs and enhancing its deterrence capabilities.

The strategy, President Donald Trump said, is tailored and flexible to address the wide array of threats in the 21st century.

"It pursues modernisation of our nuclear command, control, and communications, all three legs of our triad, our dual capable aircraft, and our nuclear infrastructure," said Trump after the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) was out at the Pentagon.

The strategy develops capabilities aimed at making use of nuclear weapons less likely, he said, adding that it enhances deterrence of strategic attacks against the US, its allies and partners, that may not come in the form of nuclear weapons.

"And, importantly, it reaffirms our commitment to arms control and nuclear non-proliferation, maintains the moratorium on nuclear testing, and commits to improving efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to nuclear terrorism," Trump said.

In his preface to the new policy, that runs into 100 pages, Defence Secretary Jim Mattis said maintaining an effective nuclear deterrent is much less expensive than fighting a war that the US was unable to deter.

"While we will be relentless in ensuring our nuclear capabilities are effective, the US is not turning away from its long-held arms control, non-proliferation, and nuclear security objectives," Mattis said.

"Our commitment to the goals of the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) remains strong," he said.

Mattis said Russia and China are pursuing entirely new nuclear

capabilities tailored to achieve particular national security objectives while also modernising its conventional military, challenging traditional US military superiority.

Russia, Mattis said, is modernising these weapons as well as its other strategic systems.

"Even more troubling has been Russia's adoption of military strategies and capabilities that rely on nuclear escalation for their success," said Mattis.

"These developments, coupled with Russia's seizure of Crimea and nuclear threats against our allies, mark Moscow's decided return to Great Power competition," he said.

North Korea and Iran are the other two countries that figure in the report.

There is no mention of Pakistan in the report, even as senior US officials in the past have expressed concerns over the security of nuclear weapons in the

South Asian country.

"Expanding flexible US nuclear options now, to include low-yield options, is important for the preservation of credible deterrence against regional aggression," said the report as released by the Pentagon.

"It will raise the nuclear threshold and help ensure that potential adversaries perceive no possible advantage in limited nuclear escalation, making nuclear employment less likely," the report said.

The US will maintain, and enhance as necessary, the capability to forward deploy nuclear bombers and dual capability aircraft (DCA) around the world, it said.

Additionally, in the near-term, the US will modify a small number of existing SLBM warheads to provide a low-yield option, and in the longer term, pursue a modern nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile (SLCM), the report said.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DERBY SPORT SATURDAY	
Draw No:2 DrawDate on:03/02/18	
1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 55A 6362	
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-	
0541 1214 1643 3795 5094 5757 6747 6758 9550 9697	
3rd Prize Rs.2000/-	
0513 2673 4425 5183 7961 8524 8618 8835 9708 9881	
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	
1019 1416 1819 2529 2697 4728 5030 6051 7846 9325	
5th Prize Rs.500/-	
0251 0681 0761 1344 1483 3784 4235 5755 8767 9174	
6th Prize Rs.100/-	
0024 0109 0117 0138 0144 0145 0162 0169 0180 0182	
0183 0189 0214 0222 0244 0267 0268 0282 0288 0297	
0298 0311 0315 0338 0354 0394 0418 0443 0456 0463	
0477 0533 0584 0606 0613 0677 0751 0823 0827 0852	
0853 0856 0876 0885 0924 1003 1008 1014 1046 1054	
1063 1087 1108 1134 1136 1137 1178 1209 1222 1229	
1233 1253 1267 1281 1300 1320 1326 1367 1396 1411	
1489 1507 1526 1532 1559 1579 1585 1596 1615 1632	
1634 1642 1685 1687 1746 1767 1815 1816 1827 1861	
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2577 2581 2614 2659 2666 2686 2726 2737 2738 2742	
2744 2746 2785 2803 2818 2857 2917 2929 2967 2982	
2995 3028 3043 3051 3071 3080 3089 3107 3118 3136	
3188 3197 3202 3207 3234 3309 3345 3402 3408 3479	
3484 3485 3528 3533 3548 3565 3570 3597 3629 3634	
3651 3678 3686 3693 3704 3735 3767 3768 3806 3807	
3812 3859 3919 3935 3952 3955 3960 3970 3978 3988	
4015 4031 4036 4048 4077 4111 4113 4124 4129 4146	
4155 4170 4177 4194 4202 4208 4227 4237 4258 4303	
4306 4322 4328 4329 4347 4354 4363 4366 4437 4455	
4466 4472 4477 4517 4527 4548 4551 4600 4620 4624	
4625 4646 4671 4693 4696 4713 4721 4777 4811 4859	
4866 4940 4942 4975 5026 5027 5029 5057 5085 5111	
5158 5207 5217 5247 5280 5298 5340 5361 5371 5436	
5439 5443 5444 5447 5476 5502 5507 5520 5526 5532	
5543 5657 5662 5688 5722 5724 5734 5738 5745 5759	
5775 5871 5882 5888 5889 5917 5920 5924 5931 5935	
5944 5958 5960 5978 6005 6056 6094 6105 6106 6115	
6132 6137 6161 6168 6177 6186 6190 6209 6237 6292	
6318 6330 6358 6361 6376 6399 6419 6451 6466 6476	
6542 6557 6584 6588 6593 6635 6710 6711 6713 6714	
6720 6726 6728 6733 6740 6786 6805 6808 6833 6906	
6927 6963 6998 7010 7123 7128 7164 7229 7263 7266	
7277 7278 7306 7320 7332 7340 7372 7392 7404 7441	
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7572 7583 7620 7625 7695 7713 7730 7738 7740 7749	
7755 7766 7775 7783 7787 7793 7805 7832 7845 7850	
7878 7919 7931 7944 7969 7981 8008 8010 8027 8030	
8073 8077 8081 8118 8136 8143 8168 8173 8178 8182	
8197 8270 8271 8278 8299 8318 8321 8357 8389 8409	
8451 8454 8496 8501 8515 8516 8539 8591 8601 8615	
8616 8630 8634 8638 8669 8692 8718 8750 8761 8771	
8780 8797 8806 8821 8823 8833 8885 8914 8936 8991	
9000 9004 9026 9032 9072 9075 9095 9099 9107 9120	
9129 9137 9146 9245 9251 9257 9261 9268 9270 9283	
9313 9335 9392 9393 9427 9436 9440 9442 9447 9453	
9474 9490 9515 9517 9575 9578 9605 9667 9669 9686	
9763 9787 9797 9810 9819 9854 9871 9874 9880 9889	
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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE	

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
LABHAXMI VIRGO	MUMBAIXMI RAJA
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:03/02/18	Draw No:9 DrawDate on:03/02/18
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 1795	1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 4717 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 2242
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 2397 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4541	3rd Prize Rs.1,000/- 1496 4th Prize Rs.505/- 2446
5th Prize Rs.100/-	5th Prize Rs.220/-
1004 1005 1001 1056 1076 1107 1164 1178 1196 1241	1095 1006 1062 1073 1085 1089 1108 1136 1143 1169
1255 1487 1501 1534 1539 1557 1584 1676 1678 1688	1196 1244 1272 1274 1275 1299 1299 1308 1314 1340 1460
1737 1747 1758 1759 1812 1840 1884 1899 1917 1921	1451 1454 1476 1527 1537 1584 1686 1748 1782 1811
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Issued by: The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Government Of Sikkim, Deorail - 737102, Sikkim Please Visit : www.sikkimlotteries.com	

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR GENTLE MORNING	
Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards	
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:02/12/18	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 83M Z2805	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.9459/- 22805 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-	
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DENIM GODDESS 'Bad Liar' singer Selena Gomez rocks a vintage denim look while stepping out for lunch in Los Angeles.

APP-DATE: Instagram's new 'type mode' lets you add text-only pages to your stories



Instagram's newest Stories feature doesn't feel much like Instagram. The platform's new "type mode," which was launched globally on 01 Feb, lets users add pages to their stories that just involve text. No photos or videos are needed. Users can choose from colorful, customizable backgrounds and different text styles, including a neon font and one that's reminiscent of a typewriter. Stickers can be added, too.

To use the Type Mode, you open the camera icon on the top left part of your screen. At the bottom, you will notice the Type label will be present besides the Live label. Click on it and you are ready to type in whatever your heart desires.

Type on the text to try different fonts such as Modern, Neon, Typewriter or Strong. After that, you can also choose different coloured backgrounds.

Though this new feature provides some quirky texts and some eye-catching backgrounds, one can not help but notice how similar it is to Facebook's own text status with coloured backgrounds.

Type is another from a long list of updates that have been taken from Facebook, including how long ago someone was active on their DM, read receipts that cannot be turned off, archiving older photos and more.

In fact, this style of "bold white text on a brightly colored background" started in the

main Facebook feed, and a type mode already exists in Messenger and Facebook Stories.

There are other examples: Instagram DMs now say how long ago someone was active, like Facebook Messenger. Those DMs also have read receipts that are on by default and cannot be turned off, just like Facebook Messenger. It's a terrible situation when you're trying to avoid people.

Users can also now create "archives" of photos and videos they previously posted to their main Instagram grid, which effectively hides those posts from their followers without fully deleting them. This is similar to how Facebook users can toggle privacy settings on individual photos.

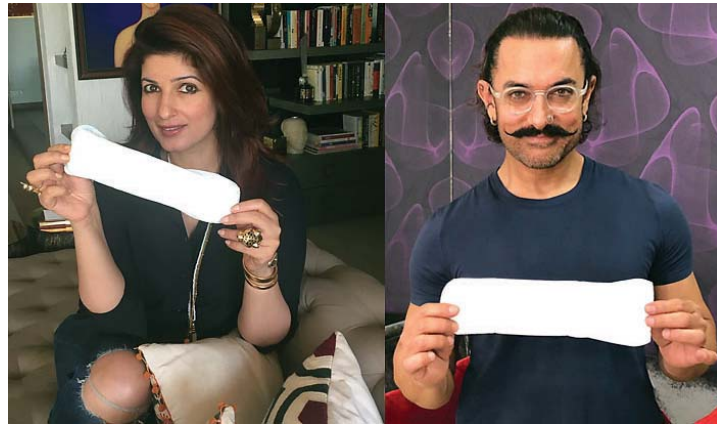
AAMIR KHAN TAKES UP TWINKLE KHANNA'S CHALLENGE OF NORMALIZING A SANITARY PAD

Twinkle Khanna steps into the world of being a producer with her maiden project PadMan. The film has Akshay Kumar, Sonam Kapoor and Radhika Apte playing pivotal roles.

Twinkle was questioned by several journalists throughout the promotions of the film about what made her produce PadMan. The only answer that Mrs. Funnybones gave was that the story of film needed to reach the masses. PadMan is based on the life of entrepreneur Arunachalam Muruganatham, who made low-cost sanitary pads for the women of his village.

Akshay Kumar will be seen playing Arunachalam in the film.

The cast of the film is busy promoting the film by attending various events, however, producer Twinkle Khanna has come up with the most effective way to serve



the purpose of the film.

Twinkle has started a social media wave by taking on the challenge of Arunachalam Muruganatham of holding a sanitary pad in one's hand and normalizing it.

After Twinkle posted a picture of herself, Aamir Khan soon followed her lead.

He also posted a similar picture to join the wave, captioning it, "Yes, that's a Pad in my hand & there's nothing to be ashamed about. It's natural! Period. #PadManChallenge"

The actor also tagged Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan to take up the challenge.

PadMan is all set to hit the theatres on 9th February. Radhika Apte, Sonam Kapoor and Akshay Kumar have all been constantly releasing songs and behind the scenes videos of the film. The cast is leaving no threads loose in promoting the film.

Spice Girls confirm reunion to work on unconfirmed projects



Posh, Ginger, Baby, Sporty and Scary say "the time now feels right to explore some incredible new opportunities together".

The Spice Girls have confirmed they will work together again after they were pictured together for the first time in years.

'Posh Spice' Victoria Beckham, 43, posted a picture on social media of all five stars, believed to have been taken in the London home of 'Ginger' Geri Horner, 45.

Beckham said in the Instagram post: "Love my girls!!!! So many kisses!!! X Exciting x."

Rumours suggested they would be discussing new projects, worth up to £10m each. And they confirmed they would work together again in a statement after their meeting.

"We have enjoyed a wonderful afternoon catching up and reminiscing about the amazing times we have spent together," the group said.

"We are always overwhelmed at how much interest there is across the whole world for The Spice Girls.

"The time now feels right to explore some incredible new opportunities together.

"We all agree that there are many exciting possibilities that will once again embrace the original essence of The Spice Girls, while reinforcing our message of female empowerment for future generations."

Other members of the group shared similar posts, with Emma Bunton writing her "future is looking spicy" and Horner assuring fans that girl power in alive and well.

Melanie Brown wrote: "These amazing women have helped me become who I am, so to all the girls out there remember 'friendship never ever ends'"

Beckham, Horner, 'Scary' Melanie Brown, 42, 'Baby' Emma Bunton, 42, and 'Sporty' Mel Chisholm, 44, last

performed as a five-piece at the London Olympics in 2012.

Fashion designer Beckham is believed to have decided the time is now right to work together again after previously being reluctant to reunite.

She has reportedly been given assurances by pop supremo and the band's former manager Simon Fuller - who is also behind the new ventures - that her vocals will not be needed, according to The Sun.

The stars, who had a string of hits in the late 1990s until 2000, are reportedly considering TV projects in China, a new television talent show, endorsement deals and a compilation album celebrating their greatest hits.

The "girl power" group's hits include Wannabe, Spice Up Your Life, Do It, Stop, Too Much and 2 Become 1. It is believed they will not do a full tour due to family and business commitments.



Kendrick Lamar and The Weeknd release new Black Panther track, "Pray for me"

The anticipation for Black Panther couldn't be higher. Ryan Coogler's film is breaking presales records left and right, while his cast, led by Chadwick Boseman, is putting all other stars to shame on the red carpet. Kendrick Lamar's done his part to stoke those flames, dropping songs here and there from the soundtrack he's curated. The latest track from Lamar features the Weeknd, who wonders who will "Pray For Me."

Lamar's bars about a "sacrifice for the greater good" and The Weeknd's melancholy hook are a reminder that for all the Afrofuturist badassery that Black Panther has in store for us, T'Challa (Chadwick Boseman) is still conflicted about his ascension to the throne and what he'll have to do to defend it.

The Black Panther soundtrack drops February 9, just one week ahead of the film's debut.

ARIES: Dare to be different, Aries. It can be so easy to fall into a drill. Sleeping at the same time, eating at the same time, wearing the same style, and going about work the same way day after day. Before you know it, you feel like you're in a rut. The only way to get away from this is to make a decision to break free by doing something unique. Try a new haircut. Wear colors that are unusual for you. If the need is there, consider a new career. Pursue expansion.

TAURUS: If your lifestyle is considerably different than that of others, resist feeling self-conscious about it today, Taurus. Try to remember that you chose the life you have for specific reasons. Even if you've come to a point where you're considering a change,

there's no need to feel badly, ashamed, or embarrassed about what you are now. Everyone has to make his or her own way. If this conforms to the norm, that's fine. If it doesn't, that's fine, too.

GEMINI: An enhanced feeling of determination could motivate you today, Gemini. Finish the things that aren't complete and make some plans for this evening. Don't hesitate to take on something that feels complicated or big. Chances are you'll be able to handle most anything and it will feel great when it's finished. Enjoy your day by making the most of opportunity. **CANCER:** Feeling the effects of today's energies, Cancer? Take heart if this is the case, because the end of the tunnel isn't as far away as it seems. Do your best

to take things one step at a time and see about making some plans for a little fun this evening. Get together with friends or take in a movie. Help yourself feel better by staying busy and focused and follow up with some recreation. Before you know it, the aspect will pass and you'll be back to normal. **LEO:** Consider making some plans for a vacation or short getaway, Leo. Looking forward to something fun can make even the toughest of days far easier to handle. You'll be amazed how much you can manage when there's an end in plain sight. Your entire attitude can lighten. So take the bull by the horns and create an incentive for yourself. Do something special to reward the hard work you do day after day.

VIRGO: Don't judge someone if he or she has a different lifestyle than what you consider to be OK, Virgo. You probably lean toward the traditional, yet not everyone feels this way about relationships, working, or lifestyle. While it may seem impossible to understand and even frighten you, try not to be too harsh on those you deem odd. You'd be better off using that energy to keep your own life on track. **LIBRA:** Friends seeking advice or a shoulder to cry on could be plentiful today, Libra. You're one of best people to give them the support and care they need. Just be sure that you don't give so much to others that you don't have anything left for yourself. True friendship is about sharing and the exchange of problems and help.

Running yourself down will leave you in a place where you aren't going to be much help to anyone. **SCORPIO:** Getting through today shouldn't pose too big a problem for you, Scorpio. You may feel a huge second wind that can give you the drive and determination to see your chores and projects through. Make some plans for this evening, such as getting together with friends or taking in an event that really intrigues you. Until then, go about your tasks bit by bit. You'll get things finished before you know it. **SAGITTARIUS:** Working within boundaries and restrictions could really get to you today, Sagittarius. Yours is an independent spirit and your best achievements are often born of doing things your own way. Yet like it or not, we all have

to follow guidelines and rules. Do your best to follow suit and finish what needs to be done. Afterward, you may find more freedom to act independently without consequences. Exercise patience and diligence as needed today. **CAPRICORN:** Chances are that you'll feel upbeat and positive today, Capricorn. Consider sharing this energy with those around you who are feeling less than content. Your attitude can have a profound effect on friends, partners, spouses, and children. Even neighbors and extended family can pick up on your spirit without you even realizing it. Share your optimism with everyone you can today. If you see someone hurt or angry, tell him or her that everything will eventually work out and to keep trying.

AQUARIUS: Don't discount your ability to be extremely resourceful if you need to be, Aquarius. If you don't have everything you need or all of the required information, take time to think. Who can you ask? What places can you access? Who might know where you can find what you need? Rather than panic because the pieces aren't all there, instead make a list of contacts and go for it. Trust in yourself. **PISCES:** Try not to let today's blues get you down, Pisces. While it's true that some days can seem to drag on, the busier you are the faster time will pass. Get down to finishing any work still before you and then make plans for tonight. If there's a light at the end of the tunnel, not only will things seem to speed up but you'll feel better knowing it's coming.