



SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Dalai Lama congratulates Chamling for becoming the longest serving CM

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

The Dalai Lama congratulated Chief Minister Pawan Chamling for becoming the longest serving Chief Minister of any Indian state.

In a letter to Mr Chamling,

the Dalai Lama said that he admires his more than two decades of service to the people of Sikkim.

"Having had the pleasure of visiting Sikkim many times since 1956, I have personally witnessed its development," the

Dalai Lama said.

He further said that Sikkim has seen progress in prosperity and development at all levels of the society.

"I also commend your efforts at maintaining social harmony among the differ-

ent communities in Sikkim. I am confident that under your leadership you will continue to work for the people of your state, particularly by improving the lives of the less provided section of the people in your State," he wrote.

Singer Mohit Chauhan is Sikkim's Green Ambassador

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Principal Secretary, Department of Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management, Dr Thomas Chandy in a notification issued today announced to nominate Bollywood playback singer Mohit Chauhan as the Green Ambassador for promoting Sikkim as a 'Green Destination', internationally and nationally on voluntarily basis.

The notification further read that the nomination was approved by State Government.



Accepting the offer, Mohit Chauhan took to Facebook and wrote, "Humbled and honored to be made Green Ambassador for Sikkim, truly a green haven. My heartfelt gratitude to

Shri pawan Chamlingji, Tshering Wangdi Lepchaji and the people of Sikkim for this huge honor n love. I shall carry Sikkim's message to go green and organic the world over!"

SC stays Calcutta HC order on WB panchayat polls

NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): The Supreme Court today stayed the Calcutta High Court order asking the West Bengal State Election Commission to accept nomination papers filed through e-mail for contesting the panchayat elections in the state.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra took note of the fact that almost 17,000 candidates have won the panchayat polls unopposed and dubbed it "worrying", while directing the State Election Commission (SEC) not to declare them as winners.

The bench, also comprising Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud, directed the state poll panel to ensure "free and fair" panchayat elections on May 14 in the state.

The apex court said the high court's direction and the fact that 34 per cent of the candidates have won unopposed, is "worrying".

On May 8, the high court had directed the SEC to accept the nominations of those candidates named by CPI(M) who had filed their papers electronically within the stipulated time before 3 pm on April 23.

Senior advocate P S Patwalia, appearing for one of the parties, today said that 17,000, which is almost 34 per cent of

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Gangtok cops swing into action to check over speeding

REBYNA RANA
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

A team of Traffic Police from Gangtok today conducted speed check along NH 10 between Ranipool and 32 Mile in East Sikkim wherein seven vehicles were challaned for over speeding.

It is informed that the Traffic Police team has installed a device that instantly detects vehicles that are travelling at a speed of 40 KM and above along the highway.

The permissible speed limit on the highway is 40 KM while it is



10 km in bazaar areas.

"We had received many complaints of vehicles travelling at high speeds along the high-

way between Ranipool and Gangtok and hence we conducted the drive today. We will conduct regular such drive in

coming days," said one of the Traffic Police.

It was also informed that the road leading downwards from Dukhit Pan Dokan to Kazi Road in Gangtok has been made one-way since yesterday. Only vehicles moving up towards Dukhit Pan Dokan are allowed to move. Downward vehicles are not allowed from 8 am to 7 pm. This has been done to ease congestion of traffic and also to give more space for pedestrian to walk, added the Traffic Police.

RANCHI/PATNA, MAY 10 (PTI): Jailed RJD chief Lalu Prasad was today granted a three-day parole to attend his son's wedding in Patna this Saturday, a senior jail officer said today.

Prasad, 69, who has been convicted in three fodder scam cases by a special CBI court in Ranchi since December last year, is currently undergoing treatment at the RIMS hospital in the Jharkhand capital.

He has been granted parole for three days, Inspector General of Prison Harsh Mangla told PTI.

However, the IG Prison was not categorical about the effective date of parole and said it depended upon when the jail authorities would release him. Mangla added that as per the rules, the



travel time is not counted in the duration of the parole.

Bhola Yadav, RJD General Secretary and a close aide of Prasad, told PTI in Ranchi that they were planning to go to Patna by the evening flight.

"Flight tickets are being arranged to go to Patna by evening flight today," Bhola Yadav, who is also an RJD MLA in Bihar, said adding Prasad is

likely to return to Ranchi on May 14 on completion of parole.

Prasad's elder son and former Bihar minister Tej Pratap Yadav's marriage with daughter of RJD MLA Chandrika Rai is scheduled on May 12 in Patna.

The RJD chief was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi

turn to pg03

Three-day All India Moot Court Competition kicks off

NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Law fraternity and students of the State were introduced to the first ever All India Moot Court Competition here at Chintan Bhawan today. The three-day event is being organized by Sikkim Government Law College and National Human Rights Commission.

The inauguration event was attended by Law Minister, R.B Subba along with National Human Rights Commission member Jyotika Kalra, Human Resource and Development Department Principal Secretary, G.P Upadhaya, SGL College Principal, Ganeshji Tiwari, NHRC Additional Registrar, Bikalraj Rai, students from law colleges and universities from across the country along with faculties and students from Sikkim.

Moot Court Competitions are organized between law students to give them the dynamics of real court to learn how court proceedings and functions are conducted. The topic of discussion for the moot court session was on the right to abortion and



termination of unwanted pregnancy in case of rape and other cases.

Minister RB Subba in his address stated that judiciary in the country has been shaping slowly into a strong one.

"Moot court being organized here today is part of experimental exercise for our people to know the

intricacies of legal proceedings," he added.

He further informed that the judiciary and government have collaborated in setting up courts in all four districts of the State along with civil courts in Rangpo and Soreng recently.

Jyotika Kalra, who assumed office as member of NHRC on 05 Apr,

2017 was a practicing advocate and advocate-on-record for more than 27 years at Supreme Court of India. She has filed Public Interest Litigations (PIL) on various women issues such as non-recruitment of women in Armed Forces and was also awarded Outstanding Women (2014) by National Commission for Women.

In her address at the event, she stated, "Lawyers are the leaders of the country and NHRC looks at lawyers to be Human Rights defenders. Students are the strength of the country. Classrooms give you an idea of the subject but you become a lawyer only in court rooms. Moot Court prepares the students for the reality of court rooms."

She congratulated the students and law fraternity of the State for attending the event.

Students from Maharashtra National Law University, North Bengal University, Lloyd Law College, Uttar Pradesh, Indian Institute of Legal Studies, Siliguri, Jalpaiguri Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth New Law College, Pune, National Law University, Bhopal, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, University Five Year Law College, Jaipur, along with students of ICFAI University and Sikkim University are set to participate in the three-day event.

CM's speeches on the ongoing Sikkim tour are against the Sikkimese: BJP

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Bharatiya Janata Party Sikkim Pradesh has alleged that the Chief Minister has given the statement against the interest of Sikkim and its people in his speeches in his ongoing State tour. While criticizing the statement, the party alleged that the CM has been giving false and baseless statement to have misled innocent people of the State.

A BJP press release stated that the statements of the CM on the non tribal were insecure, Limboo Tamang seat reservation and other issues were very insensitive and misleading statements. The party has demanded to make the report of the high power committed on LT seat reservation and report on how no tribal Nepalese were insecure public.

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Health Minister visits Jorethang CHC

JORETHANG, 10 MAY [IPR]: Minister for Health Care, Human Services and Family Welfare Department, Arjun Kumar Ghatani visited Jorethang Community Health Centre (CHC) today.

Mr Ghatani interacted with doctors, health professionals and patients in General Out Patient Department, pharmacy, Minor Operation Theater and DOT Room and took stock on prevalence of diseases, quality of medicines, functioning of machines and equipment and medical cases.

The Minister took the opportunity to visit the ongoing vertical extension of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy [AYUSH] building.

The extended building will provide separate rooms for doctors, nurses, dispensary, storage, conference room and a lavatory.

Thereafter, Mr Ghatani visited Opioid Substitution Therapy Centre and encouraged admitted patients to get rid of substance abuse and live a



healthy life. The Minister was informed on various components of health centers by

Medical Officer in-charge, Jorethang Community Helath Center, Dr Som Nath Adhikari.

Three day workshop on climate change kicks off in Darjeeling

SUMMIT REPORT

DARJEELING, 10 MAY:

THREE DAY WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE KICKS OFF IN DARJEELING

to carefully study climatic changes occurring in Darjeeling Hills and take appropriate measures for adaptation", said MLA Darjeeling, Amar Singh Rai while inaugurating the three-day workshop on climate change in Darjeeling today.

The workshop is being organized by Centre for Media studies, Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP) of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Department of Science and Technology (DST) Government of India with Department of Science Technology and Higher



Education, Government of West Bengal.

The objective of the workshop is to discuss and share experiences on environment

reporting with special focus on climate change.

During the workshop, experts from leading research institutes and the State Gov-

ernment officials spoke about different aspects of climate change adaptation in the hilly districts of West Bengal.

"These kinds of workshops are being organized to make media persons aware about the importance of climate change and how it should be communicated to the masses," said SDC Deputy Director, Shirish Sinha.

Seven similar workshops on climate change have already been held in Almora (Uttarakhand), Imphal (Manipur), Gangtok (Sikkim), Shillong (Meghalaya), Aizawl (Mizoram), Kohima (Nagaland) and Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh).

52 gold biscuits seized in Mizoram, 2 arrested

AIZAWL, MAY 10 (PTI):

Customs officials have seized 52 gold biscuits valued at Rs 269 lakh from Mizoram and arrested two Myanmar nationals in this connection, a senior customs official said.

Superintendent of the anti-smuggling unit of the Aizawl customs division, L H Haokip said, acting on a tip-off, the customs officials intercepted a car at Seling

customs checkgate on Tuesday and seized the gold bars, weighing eight kilogramme, from the possession of the two persons. The Seling customs checkgate is located 40 kilometre from the state capital.

The two persons were identified as David Muangpi (23) and Somkhankap (19) -- residents of Sanmeuh Kawlpi and Tahan areas of Myanmar respectively.

They were arrested and produced before a local court here yesterday, Haokip said.

Customs officials said that gold smuggling from Myanmar, using Mizoram as a conduit, is on the rise in the state since 2015.

The Mizoram police had on Monday seized gold bars worth over Rs 3 crore from Champhai district and arrested one person in this connection.

SPCC holds a meet at 6th Mile

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

A meeting of Sikkim Pradesh Congress Committee [SPCC] was held at its head-office in 6th Mile, Tadong on 09 May which was chaired by SPCC president, Bharat Basnet, an SPCC press release informs.

The release informed that during Samjhauta Diwas organised by NSU at Gangtok, SPCC president expressed that the announcement of the ruling SDF government to increase seats from 32 to 40 of the State Assembly and reports on the green signal given by the Home Ministry on the same was very unfortunate for Sikkim and the matter of criticism.

The release added that this will completely

violating the Sikkim Government Act 1974, Representation of Sikkim Subject Act 1974 and other historic incidents and documents protected by the Article 371F and it will also abolish the importance of the Article 371F. The party president has appealed all political parties to save the existence of Sikkim from the conspiracy of NDA and SDF government.

The release informed that the meeting also informed about the resignation of senior leaders, Tara Shrestha, Punya Koirala, and other two from the party. The meeting urged all party workers to create mass awareness among the people against the increase of seats to 40.



Training prog on organic farming at Sudunglakha

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Farmer's training programme on organic farming, inputs preparation and management was organized by Sikkim Organic Mission in collaboration with Conservation of Nature, Culture and Development of Eco Tourism (CONCEDE) service provider at Sudunglakha Gairi Gaon today, a press release informs.

CONCEDE State in-charge, R. N. Sharma described the preparation of vermicompost and herbal medicine. He also briefed about domestic

treatment of ginger, potato and tomato plants.

He cautioned the farmers to not use chemical fertilizers in fields and adapt organic methods to spread the State-wide Organic Mission to remote places of the State.

The training programme was attended by field in-charge [Rhenock], Santosh Chettri, CONCEDE in-charge [Dalapchand GPU], B. B. Pradhan, Sudunglakha in-charge, Ganesh Giri with Arun Niroula and field staff of Rolep, Lingtam, Sudunglakha, Rhenock and Aritar.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DERBY MEET THURSDAY

Draw No:16 DrawDate on:10/05/18

1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 93A 3707

(Including Super Prize Amt)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

0510 1670 2376 4284 5808

3rd Prize Rs.3,000/-

0355 1064 2450 2493 4012 6070 7188 7522 9426 9773

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

1472 3546 3692 4138 5202 5753 5905 6934 8143 9221

5th Prize Rs.500/-

0023 0127 0171 0358 0630 3497 3854 4611 5971 7454

6th Prize Rs.100/-

0035 0039 0045 0111 0116 0129 0155 0160 0163 0170

0172 0209 0266 0290 0347 0378 0387 0451 0453 0457

0481 0482 0550 0582 0586 0602 0613 0634 0653 0662

0703 0730 0788 0801 0873 0878 0888 0913 0923 0957

0981 0996 1013 1016 1021 1042 1058 1084 1148 1178

1182 1190 1192 1213 1214 1248 1250 1289 1293 1335

1336 1361 1363 1380 1384 1425 1430 1464 1471 1480

1532 1561 1581 1623 1664 1665 1678 1695 1740 1755

1769 1801 1821 1883 1894 1908 1911 1928 1931 1933

1963 1993 1994 2029 2031 2056 2065 2077 2079 2138

2177 2211 2229 2261 2285 2407 2425 2453 2457 2500

2503 2550 2559 2565 2595 2596 2610 2638 2652 2690

2718 2723 2749 2763 2809 2813 2810 2890 2913 2917

2942 2970 3006 3020 3028 3042 3046 3050 3057 3062

3115 3126 3137 3154 3156 3169 3228 3243 3261 3264

3270 3271 3290 3306 3315 3328 3343 3347 3349 3360

3437 3456 3459 3472 3491 3525 3559 3582 3583 3602

3624 3633 3658 3666 3679 3683 3689 3691 3698 3704

3725 3762 3815 3824 3855 3870 3875 3931 3937 3939

3964 4086 4096 4097 4101 4103 4141 4151 4163 4179

4202 4221 4264 4312 4340 4363 4380 4385 4404 4408

4435 4443 4447 4461 4486 4563 4565 4608 4655 4657

4662 4690 4698 4711 4725 4751 4767 4791 4823 4867

4879 4883 4944 4945 4950 4958 4961 4965 4978 4995

5030 5042 5047 5060 5062 5079 5088 5147 5171 5192

5200 5263 5271 5293 5310 5338 5373 5376 5446 5447

5473 5485 5496 5506 5524 5612 5615 5640 5655 5673

5676 5683 5693 5694 5706 5714 5723 5737 5743 5744

5825 5828 5886 5888 5916 5953 5954 5986 6014 6017

6040 6064 6085 6108 6156 6168 6182 6193 6200 6201

6234 6289 6293 6309 6310 6331 6454 6514 6519 6608

6610 6616 6618 6633 6639 6642 6656 6659 6712 6717

6746 6750 6752 6777 6808 6817 6822 6834 6835 6873

6876 6914 6935 6980 6991 7028 7059 7135 7204 7233

7250 7252 7262 7272 7275 7336 7354 7357 7360 7368

7383 7389 7480 7487 7504 7512 7526 7554 7601 7609

7613 7694 7713 7729 7737 7738 7747 7771 7779 7794

7808 7811 7860 7876 7896 7930 7933 7942 7954 7957

7983 7989 7991 8012 8035 8058 8117 8141 8178 8203

8213 8227 8232 8256 8301 8313 8317 8329 8335 8344

8348 8386 8410 8414 8438 8466 8517 8544 8562 8592

8641 8656 8657 8662 8704 8729 8735 8751 8755 8764

8770 8785 8798 8851 8856 8895 8917 8970 8977 8989

9017 9026 9033 9053 9057 9061 9073 9095 9112 9142

9163 9176 9210 9217 9223 9227 9253 9267 9280 9300

9321 9334 9358 9359 9375 9376 9387 9397 9413 9417

9421 9425 9427 9436 9448 9457 9461 9464 9497 9521

9527 9544 9574 9597 9619 9620 9622 9635 9704 9724

9727 9739 9762 9777 9794 9797 9809 9816 9843 9885

9892 9894 9922 9928 9930 9944 9945 9970 9977 9983

Issued by:

The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries,

Government Of Sikkim, Deorali - 737102, Sikkim

please: Visit : www.sikkimlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

SC stays Calcutta HC order on WB panchayat polls

contd from pg01

the total panchayat seats, have been won unopposed by candidates of one party and the election process was not being conducted properly. Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, representing the SEC, said the issue before the apex court did not pertain to candidates winning the polls unopposed, rather it was about a Calcutta HC order asking the poll panel to accept the nominations through e-mail.

Dwivedi said under the law, the returning officers are required

to scrutinise the nomination papers after the candidates file the documents before them, as he termed the high court order as "absurd".

The counsel said the high court had read the Information Technology Act into the Representation of People Act.

The bench posted the matter for further hearing on July 3.

The SEC today moved the apex court challenging the Calcutta HC order directing it to accept the nominations of candidates who have filed their papers electronically.

ly within the stipulated time for the panchayat elections.

The state poll panel has sought a stay of the operation of May 8 order, saying it would suffer "irreparable loss and injury".

Anticipating the SEC's move, the state's main opposition CPI(M) and BJP filed caveat before the top court saying no ex-parte orders should be passed.

Caveat is a legal notice to a court or public officer that certain actions may not be taken without informing the person who gave the notice.

The CPI(M) has claimed that many of its candidates were prevented from filing nominations by the state's ruling Trinamool Congress.

The SEC petition arrays CPI(M) as a respondent, besides the state government, the ruling Trinamool Congress, state panchayat secretary and others.

Passing the order, the HC had observed that the poll process itself involved participation and to shut out an intending bona fide candidate from participating in it, thwarted the very basic

democratic principles on which it stood.

The court had said that though the filing of nominations through e-mail was not a recognised procedure under the West Bengal Panchayat Act of 2003, but in a situation where allegations of obstructing candidates from filing nominations had surfaced and had also been noted by the SEC, it should have allowed the filing of papers through e-mail.

The SEC, being a constitutional body, had to act "fairly, transparently and independently" to

Gangtok on Friday, 11 May
Temp: 26°C /10°C
Forecast: A passing shower in the morning; otherwise intervals of clouds and sunshine.
Sunrise: 04:50 AM
Sunset: 6:14 PM

Shopkeepers facing problems for online renewal: SKM

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:
A team of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party led by its general secretary, Arun Uprety, has visited Gangtok Municipal Corporation office today. The party stated that it has found that GMC has started online renewal of all shop licenses but shops owners have been facing lots of problem due to incomplete work of the government.

An SKM press release informed that due to less qualification some shopkeepers have been facing problems for online renewal. The party has further alleged that the process has been started without prior homework by GMC which has led to many troubles for shop owners.

The GMC has also decided the correct support system before launching online service. The release alleged that GMC has been asking shop owners to go to cyber cafe for renewal and added that this system was unsafe as many businessmen were not well qualified.

The release added that GMC should start single window support system in the interest of general businessmen and GMC workers should provide full support to them.

IMI, RMDD and Zero Waste Himalaya to conduct workshop on waste management

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:
Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) in collaboration with Rural Management and Development Department, Government of Sikkim and Zero Waste Himalaya is organizing a two-day workshop to discuss the issues of waste in Sikkim and other Himalayan States of the country.

A press release from CEO, Eco-Tourism & Conservation Society Of Sikkim [ECCOS] informs that the workshop is being organized as part of a series of events leading to World Environment Day (WED) on 05 June. The theme for World

Environment Day this year is 'Beat Plastic Pollution', the release reads.

"This is a great recognition of the plastic waste problem, especially that of single-use plastic. More importantly, it is a call for governments, industries, NGOs, communities and individuals to come together and urgently reduce the production and excessive use of single-use plastic polluting our environment, and threatening human health, and to move towards sustainable alternatives," the release reads.

India is the global host of 'Beat Plastic Pollution' World Environment Day, 2018. World Environment Day, this year is scheduled

to hold series of events including a workshop on Zero Waste in Gangtok, Himalayan Cleanup Campaign and a day-long event in Delhi as part of World Environment Day.

The two-day workshop in Gangtok with representatives from 12 mountain States is being organised with the objectives to understand mountain stories on existing best practices on waste, enhance knowledge and sharing on National and State waste policies contextualise it for the mountains and identify gaps and challenges, develop a plan for the Clean Himalaya Campaign at the State /

regional level with focus on single use disposable plastics, generate ideas for the WED workshop in Delhi and identify areas of work and intervention beyond World Environment Day for each State. Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), PD Rai and Harshad Barde are scheduled to address the workshop. The workshop aims to decode the WED theme and introduce participants to plastic free campaigns from across the globe. Subsequently, another highlight of the workshop shall be the growing importance of Zero Waste and its fundamentals, reads the release.

Swaraj in Myanmar to hold talks with country's leadership

NAY PYI TAW, MAY 10 (PTD): External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj today arrived here on a two-day visit during which she is expected to hold discussions with Myanmar's top leadership on key bilateral and regional issues, including the situation in the Rakhine state from where thousands of Rohingya Muslims had fled following violence last year.

Myanmar is one of India's strategic neighbours and it shares a 1,640 km border with a number of northeastern states, including militancy-hit Nagaland and Manipur.

On her arrival in Nay Pyi Taw, Swaraj was warmly received by India's Ambassador



Vikram Misri and Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar U Myint Thu. "EAM will hold discussions with Myanmar leadership to further reinforce our bilateral ties," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

She is expected to hold discussion on the situation in the violence-hit Rakhine state. An estimated

6,00,000 Rohingya Muslims had fled Myanmar's Rakhine State since August last year after large-scale violence there.

In December last, India had announced a development assistance of USD 25 million for the Rakhine state.

India yesterday sent to Bangladesh its second relief consignment to help tens of thousands of displaced following a military crackdown.



Mia by Tanishq opens at New Market in Gangtok

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 10 MAY:
Mia by Tanishq has opened its first exclusive store in the State here at New Market in MG Marg. The store was inaugurated by Regional Business Manager- East of Titan Company Limited, Anirban Banerjee, and Director of Topsis Private Limited, Dwipayan Sen, this afternoon.

Mia by Tanishq is one of India's most-loved jewellery brands and known for its modern, trendy and light jewellery crafted in gold and diamonds available in a variety of products including earrings, finger rings, bracelets, pendants and neckwear

starting at Rs 3999.

Gangtok store is spread across in an area of 800 sq ft and this is the first Mia store in Sikkim and the sixth in the Eastern region. Mia has also announced an inaugural offer of upto 20% off from 10 to 13 May.

On the occasion, Mr Banerjee expressed happiness on the launching of the first store at Gangtok.

"With this new showroom, it is our endeavor to provide world class and unique jeweler shopping experience with an unbeatable retail ambience. Our commitment, through this expansion, remains to provide an enriched shopping experience for every

young woman to look trendy," he expressed.

It is informed that born with the heritage and the legacy of Tanishq, Mia is a brand of bold, modern and chic jewelry and for the young and the stylish, Mia by Tanishq crafts gold jewelry for the everyday that were unique, minimal and extremely versatile. It is informed that crafted in 14 kt gold, the Mia line of fine jewellery has over 500 designs and is available in all leading Tanishq stores across India and has an expanding network with 14 standalone stores and dedicated shop-in-shop at leading multi-brand outlets.



URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

EOI NO.02/UD&HD

DATED: 09.05.2018

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO:02/UD&HD

On behalf of the Government of Sikkim, the Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim invites the Expression of interest (EOI) for "The Project Regional facility for Solid Waste Treatment and Disposal Project at Shapsu to cater to South & West Sikkim in Sikkim" funded under Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) of NLCPR scheme on a Design, Build and Transfer (DBT) basis from the registered Contractors (Civil) enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department (SPWD) and having experience and expertise for construction of sanitary landfill on a sloping terrain. The interested contractors shall submit their Expression of Interest to the Principal Chief Engineer, Urban Development & Housing Department, Gangtok, East Sikkim on or before 22nd May 2018 along with the requisite documents to fulfil the pre-qualification as per the Eligibility Criteria indicated at section 3.0 below.

The detail in respect of the project overview, bidding and selection processes, guidelines and other conditions are briefed hereunder in the respective sections.

The details of mandatory requirements, general condition, tender guidelines, bid system, selection process, project overview, project completion schedule, tender schedule etc will be uploaded in the department website www.udhdsikkim.org on 11th May 2018.

1.0 Name of the projects:-

Regional facility for Solid Waste Treatment and Disposal Project at Shapsu to cater to South & West Sikkim in Sikkim" funded under Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) of NLCPR Scheme. The cost of Project is Rs.1000.00 Lakhs(Rupees one thousand lakhs) only.

2.0 Eligibility Criteria:-

The Eligibility Criteria to be fulfilled by the intending bidders for pre-qualification are as under:

- The intending bidder shall be the holder of Class-I A enlistment certificate as a civil contractor registered with Sikkim Public Works Department (SPWD), Government of Sikkim. The attested copy of the validated enlistment/ registration of the intending bidder shall be attached with Expression of Interest.
- The intending bidder shall have adequate experience in construction of Solid Waste Treatment Projects with a proven track record of having successfully executed and completed at least one similar nature of project of net worth not less than Rs.8.00 crore in a single work order/job order or at least Rs.5.00 crore in two work order/job orders in the last 10 years. The completion certificate of the client/ client department issued in the name of the bidder for having successfully completed the similar work indicating project cost, location, name/ type of the project or any other relevant information about the project shall be attached with the expression of Interest.
- The annual turnover of the intending bidder shall not be less than Rs.3.00 crore per annum in the past three years or not less than Rs.6.00 crore cumulative in the past two years. The certified copy of the balance sheet of the last three years duly vetted by the registered Chartered Accountants shall be attached with the Expression of Interest.
- The intending bidder shall submit a latest Solvency Certificate from the State Bank of Sikkim or of any other Nationalised Banks operating in Sikkim issued not earlier than 31st March, 2018 for a minimum amount of Rs.4.00 crore with the Expression of Interest.
- Intending bidders under category Class – I A civil contractors enlisted with Sikkim PWD may also in tie up with the company from within and outside the state having expertise in such type of project and submit their requisite documents for pre-qualification as per eligibility criteria under clause (iii) of the Expression of Interest. However, company engaged by the intending bidders shall be no party in the agreement signed between the successful bidder and the department. Successful bidder shall be solely responsible for any breach of contract agreement signed with the department.
- Stock Materials (Cement & Steel) shall be supplied through S.T.C.S. Tadong, Gangtok.

3.0 Additional mandatory requirements:-

The bidders shall submit the attested photo copies of the following documents along with the other supporting documents to fulfil the prequalification as per the eligibility criteria under section 3.0

- GST Registration Clearance Certificate.
- Profit/Loss account statement as on 31st March of the previous financial year.
- The bidder shall provide the valid postal address, mobile number and email address along with the Expression of Interest.

4.0 Submission of Expression of Interest:-

The expression of Interest shall be submitted in computer printed form in a wax sealed envelope along with all the relevant documents mentioned at eligibility criteria under section (iii) and additional mandatory requirements as per section (iv) and sent at the following address or personally delivered to:-

THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT
R.O. No. 71/jpr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 10.5.2018 GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM, GANGTOK.

Lalu granted 3 days parole for son's marriage

contd from pg01

on March 29 for specialised treatment and was discharged on April 30. The hospital had said his condition had improved significantly but the former Bihar chief minister alleged a "political conspiracy" behind his discharge.

The application on behalf of the RJD chief, moved on Monday last, had sought a five-day parole but only three days were granted. Asked about it, the Jharkhand Prison IG said, "We decided on the matter considering the need."

RJD supporters in Patna were upbeat about Prasad's return to Patna. Prasad could not attend the engagement ceremony of his son in Patna on April 18 following which Tej Pratap had tweeted "Miss you PAPA".

The 10, Circular Road bungalow, allotted to former chief minister and Prasad's wife Rabri Devi, has been abuzz with wedding preparations for the past few days. 'Slogans of Lalu Yadav Zindabad' resonated in the complex as soon as the supporters learned that the RJD supremo has been granted parole and that he would be coming to Patna.

The party's national spokesman and Rajya Sabha member Manoj Jha said, "We are glad that our leader has finally been allowed to attend wedding of his son."

"We are, however, disappointed at the shabby treatment meted

out to him at every stage," he told PTL.

Jha alleged that Prasad was "forcibly sent back" to Ranchi from AIIMS "notwithstanding his fragile health which deserves best-possible medical care".

"Now, he has been granted parole for only three days though he had sought it for just two more days. This once again proves that the ruling dispensation in the country is devoid of basic human sensitivity," Jha alleged.

"We do not even know whom to complain. Every institution has been subverted for settling political scores. But, the people of Bihar are watching all the events intently. We have full faith in their wisdom and their power to give a befitting reply to those who are drunk on power," he said.

Meanwhile, a number of political leaders are expected to attend the wedding of Tej Pratap Yadav and Aishwarya Rai. The bride's grandfather Daroga Rai was the chief minister of Bihar in early 70s from Congress.

A huge stage is being erected at the sprawling Veterinary College ground where the couple will exchange garlands in the presence of guests.

"We are expecting about 20,000 guests from across the country. Invitations have been sent to almost every major political figure and luminaries from various

walks of life," Bihar RJD president Ram Chandra Purve said here.

Prominent among those who have been invited to the wedding are UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Congress president Rahul Gandhi, Bihar Governor Satya Pal Mallik, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi and Chief Justice of the Patna High Court Rajendra K Menon and Yoga guru Baba Ramdev.

Pandals have been erected at the house of Rabri Devi where pre-wedding rituals will be conducted as well as at the residence of Chandrika Rai, where the marriage will take place in a traditional way.

In Prasad's native Phulwaria block in Gopalganj district, his nephew Ramanand Yadav said that they had received an invitation and so have many others in the village. "Hundreds of people from here will be visiting Patna to give their blessings to the young couple," he said.

Ram Das and Dayanand Pandey, both priests at local temples, said they were going to the wedding. Asked about how they feel about the high-profile event, one of them said, "We are not at all worried about how much 'dakshina' we will be offered. They (the Lalu family) are magnanimous people and know how to treat poor people like us well".

Insensitivity and Ignorance towards Suicides

Too many lives lost. Still, too little attention being paid

Readers would have noticed that this newspaper does not report cases of suicides on a regular basis any more.

Unfortunately, that is not because the number of suicides has gone down or that they are not being recorded any more. Suicide continues to claim Sikkimese lives, but the decision not to report them on a day to day basis is a conscious one. Again, this decision was not taken in a repeat of the preferred Sikkimese cop-out of sweeping things under the carpet, it was necessitated due to two reasons – one, it was clearly not serving any purpose anymore, and two, it was normalizing this staggeringly unnatural situation. When newspapers in Sikkim started reporting every case of suicide being recorded in Sikkim, it was because journalists noticed a disturbing trend and believed that the reportage would pressurize the government and the society at large to take note and do something about it. That engagement is still desperately awaited. Instead, what Sikkim appears to be satisfied with even a marginal drop in its suicide rate ranking or a sliver of a fall in the number of suicides. None of this perceived “reduction” is happening because of any intervention, so there is no comfort to take from any changes in the statistics either. Instead, what increased reportage is suspected to have achieved is an unhealthy normalization of this trend. The initial shock appears to have worn off, and people seem to have begun accepting suicides as routine occurrences. More dangerously, this “normalizing” could even be making the decision to commit suicide easier for those desperately in need of counseling and medical aid. This situation is most unfortunate.

The editorial decision to report on every suicide that was reported in the State was with the idea to convey the worry that was already being felt in some circles to the readers. News-reports on suicides are brief not because they are space-fillers, and never reported with accompanying photographs or graphic details [save the method used to commit suicide], because the idea is not to sensationalise the incident or cater to voyeuristic instincts. The reason why these ‘unnatural deaths’ were reported with such regularity was to flag it as a situation that demands immediate social intervention.

As mentioned, the move did succeed because even though there is a general acceptance around Sikkim that the number of suicides is too worryingly high, the next step, the social responsibility of understanding and addressing the situation never arrives. What is worse, the only sections issuing public statements on suicides remain poorly informed, obviously unconcerned and definitely not the agencies that one would recommend for social commentary. There have been instances in the past when political parties have blamed aspects like price rise and unemployment for the suicides. Apart from being factually incorrect, these suppositions and statements were also disrespectful towards the lives lost to suicides in Sikkim. The least that these cases deserve is a clear explanation on what caused them. Unfortunately, no academically sound study has been conducted in the State to explain why so many suicides have been taking place here. In a way, until this is explained, the societal involvement required cannot be nudged along in the right direction.

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

Inner Line Permit Dilemma

SD TSHERING

The agitation in Manipur for implementation of Inner Line Permit has once again brought the issue of Inner Line Permits to the notice of the nation. Manipur is not the only state asking for Inner line Permit but the issue has also been raised by Meghalaya and has now also found supporters in Sikkim. Nationalist Sikkim United Organization, a non political organization recently raised the demand for Inner Line Permit for Sikkim to curb the influx of migrants to the State. An Inner Line Permit is a travel document issued by the Government of India to allow an Indian citizen to travel to certain parts within the country. An Inner Line Permit or ILP is a document that is issued by the government of India for travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period. This practice owes its origin to the British administration's Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulations of 1873, which controlled the movement of British subjects into certain areas. In independent India, it is seen both as a security measure as well as an effort to conserve the ethno-social demographics of certain societies. Presently, the ILP system is in place for entering Nagaland, Mizoram, and parts of Arunachal Pradesh. Inner Line Permits are issued for 15 days and can be extended for one year in Arunachal Pradesh and for six months in Nagaland and Mizoram. The Inner Line Permit was put in place to protect the cultural identity of the indigenous people and prevent influx of people from other regions. However the present agitation is mainly focused on protection of land and immovable properties, political representation, employment, business and illegal migrants. There is a under current in all north eastern states demands relating to preservation of the cultural, traditional and linguistic aspects of states. . Unregulated influx is seen as the greatest danger towards a demographic imbalance which in the end shall have major negative implications on the indigenous status of tribal people. Tripura is a fine example of impact of influx on local population, Tripura was a princely state. A total of 185 Tripuri Kings ruled Tripura for 3000 years until its merger with the union of India in 1949. Tripura was originally land of almost exclusively of Tripuri people till the nineteenth century. Up to the middle of 20th century Tripuri people were still a majority in the state, but by the mid 20th century, the Tripuri people became minority in their own homeland. Influx in Northeastern states is mainly due to absence of any system of identification, detection, registration and control of illegal immigration especially in Manipur. Attractions like low population density, sparse population, better economic, employment opportunities, easy means of earning and livelihood. Easy opportunity to mix with the native population due to common religion, easy means of communication. Easy opportunity to mix with the native population due to common religion, easy means of communication. Better economic, political or religious freedom in the name of democracy.

In light of above reasons the demand in Sikkim will have to be examined. Population data shows that there has been a large growth in population since 1975 due to growth of migrants from neighbouring states which is nearing fifty percent of the state population. This influx can pose a serious danger to the ethnicity and cultural identity of the indigenous people. Business and non government employment is already dominated by non locals. Political representation is also heavily influenced by non locals in Gangtok, Singtam, Rangpo and Jorethang constituencies and has significant sway in other constituencies also. However Sikkim scenario is quite different from other northeastern states. Most northeastern states have no identification of its indigenous people leading to a problem both in Manipur and Assam in identifying non local population. In this regard Sikkim has the benefit of having records of its local people which helps in identifying migrants. Old Sikkim laws like Land Revenue act has prevented non locals from buying land and immovable property in Sikkim which was missing in other northeastern states. Employment protection in government jobs has also been protected by the old laws unlike other northeastern states. However the state government is lax in enforcing and protecting its old laws. The issues of cancelling fake Sikkim Subject and COI is not been taken seriously and more stringent measures of verifying identification before issuing COI has not been done. Protection of land and immovable properties is circumvented by allowing non local companies and individuals to own immovable property and land by acquiring lease for long periods. Employment in non government jobs has only been given lip service by the government and no protection of employment and facilities in private firms and companies has been enforced. Protection of political representation of indigenous people has been diluted by choosing non local candidates to woo non local population. Protection of local culture and ethnicity is done more for dividing communities for political benefit while trying to be more Indianness than Sikkimese. Will Inner Line Permit benefit the state is a debatable issues but can it be enforced is a legal issue. The Inner Line Regulation is a pre-Constitutional law and hence, the other question that whether the Regulation can still be enforced in those areas where it is applicable after the commencement of the Constitution in view of the fundamental rights

Sl.No	COMMUNITY	NON SIKKIMESE	SIKKIMESE
1	Bhutia	9222(6.29%)	66848(15.37%)
2	Lepcha	1793 (1.22%)	22036(9.99%)
3	Tamang	12082(8.24%)	27375(6.29%)
4	Limboo	11803(8.05%)	44847(10.31%)
5	Bahun	3726(2.54%)	36384(8.36%)
6	Cheetri	14943(10.20%)	56893(13.08%)
7	Pradhan	3824(2.61%)	178124(09%)
8	Rai	16327(11.14%)	62324(14.33%)
9	Manger	3909(2.67%)	11793(2.71%)
10	Gurung	4196(2.86%)	30148(6.93%)
11	Sunwar/Mukhia	1214(0.83%)	18280.42%)
12	Thami	260(0.18%)	193(0.04%)
13	Jogi	66(05%)	424(0.10%)
14	Dewan	63(0.04%)	1130.03%)
15	Bhujel	9840(67%)	2579(0.59%)
16	Kami	6929(4.73%)	17838(4.10%)
17	Damai	3846(2.62%)	8476(1.95%)
18	Sarki	3846(0.31%)	692(0.16%)
19	Maji	189(0.13%)	317(0.07%)
20	Sanyasi/Giri	246(0.17%)	1091(0.25%)
21	Others	50483(34.44%)	3561(0.82%)
Total		146564(100%)	434982(100%)

YEAR	POPULATION	% INCREASE
1891	30458	
1901	87920	188.66
1921	81721	-7.05
1931	109808	34.37
1941	121520	10.67
1951	137725	33.47
1961	162189	17.76
1971	209843	29.38
1981	316385	50.77
1991	406457	28.47
2001	540851	33.06
2011	610577	12.89

to settle and reside and move freely in any part of India under Article 19(1) the answer is in the affirmative in view of Art. 13 of the Constitution as having no retrospective effect to pre constitutional laws. The present central government is a strong advocate of Ekta Bharat and it is unlikely to support any laws which

prevent isolation of any state through restriction on travel and curb on economic integration. While other northeast states are examining various methods like passing new laws to protect locals and examining methods of issuing 3 tier id cards for migrants. Arunachal Pradesh recently suspended train travel on it new rail line in fear of large influx in absence of proper method of issuing inner line permits to travellers arriving by train. Sikkim need to install protective instruments that are in consonance with the law or by incorporating the sets of already existing laws to form a strongly binding regulated provision which not only provides ethnic protection but can also have salutary effects on the emerging rise of crimes in the state of Sikkim. Like Arunachal Pradesh the fear of large influx through rail and air in not unfounded and need to take preventive measures before this happens is a prime responsibility of the state government. Experience in North eastern states has shown that sincere and timely implementation of protective measures through laws is the only measure to protect the preservation of local interest.

Manipur Regulation of Visitors, Tenants and Migrant Workers Bill 2015. ILP system doesn't prohibit outsiders from entering into a state. It merely requires them to get registered so they can be easily identified.

Another solution was to provide for a 3-tier ID card for immigrants. Manipur legislative assembly passed the three controversial bills – the Protection of Manipur People Bill, 2015, the Manipur Land Revenue and Land Reforms (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2015, and the Manipur Shops and Establishments (Second Amendment) Bill, 2015 – without any discussion, the hill-valley divide escalated even more. The tribals see the bills – that will put into effect the ILP regime, which is intended to protect the land and other economic rights of the indigenous populations of the Manipur against outsiders – as yet another ploy by the Meities to exclude the people in the hills from the mainstream economy of the state. Two important points in the bills have become eyesores for the tribals. One, the Protection of Manipur Bill, 2015 mentions 1951 as the cut-off year to define the residency of Manipuri people.

Top 10 Reasons Why We Need ILP

1. Protection of land and immovable properties- Once the ILP has been enforced, then the outsiders will not be allowed to purchase, acquire any land in the entire state. It will also make certain that the native people would be the sole owner of land. Moreover, as a result of it, it will ensure the territorial integrity of the state.
2. Manual work- It's clear that in the state most of the manual works were done by outsiders, if the outsiders in the state were bound by the ILP regulation then, the native people will not be deprived of manual works.
3. Unemployment- If the ILP came into effect, the ever increasing issue of unemployment in the state would be lessened as outsiders in the state are not able to get a domicile certificate so long as they are bound by ILP.
4. Source of income- Domestic tourist and outsiders who want to enter the state are need to have ILP and a minimal fee as to be paid by the person (in the case of Mizoram-Rs 120, Rs 20/- Application form for renewal/extension, Rs 20/- Application Form Types of ILPs) it would be a source of revenue for the state.
5. Business and economy- If the ILP came into effect, instead of some business class people who are seemingly controlling the market of Manipur only the indigenous Manipuris people will become proprietors of shops and other business establishments. It means, we will control the market and the sudden fluctuation in the prices of essential commodities in the market

at the whims of few non-Manipuri will stop for forever. If so, then it would be a real solace to the burdensome Manipur economic situation by increasing the economic status of genuine Manipuri people.

6. Political representation – There were instances of non-Manipuri elected in the Manipur Legislative Assembly. ILP would ensure only native Manipuri people were elected to represent the native people.

7. Sentimental issue and havoc- Expert have the opinion that if we did not check the influx in and around the bordering areas of the state, such as Jiribam bordering Bangladesh, Moreh bordering Myanmar, it would be a sentimental issue resulting a massive havoc in future. ILP can prevent it.

8. Cultural identity- We who are still have to pay our dues for incorporating Multi denominational in our religious rituals following the proselytization of Vaisnavism during 15th century (King Kyamba), can save ourselves from such further unwanted aftermath in future. Moreover, some of the smaller tribal communities might be extinct, if we did not check the influx. Our only hope is ILP.

9. Criminals and epidemic diseases- It is an effective tool in prevention of entering criminals and epidemic diseases into the state.

10. ILP a Prestige of the state- ILP is not to prevent outsiders entering into Manipur, but its sole purpose is to check the illegal migrants in the state. It will enable to build a unique Manipuri identity, and gain respect from other societies.

The Inner Line Regulation is a pre-Constitutional law and hence, the other question that whether the Regulation can still be enforced in those areas where it is applicable after the commencement of the Constitution in view of the fundamental rights to settle and reside and move freely in any part of India under Article 19(1) the answer is in the affirmative in view of Art. 13 of the Constitution as having no retrospective effect to pre constitutional laws.

To conclude we also need to recognize the undercurrent of demands relating to preservation of the cultural, traditional and linguistic aspects of Meghalaya. Unregulated influx is seen as the greatest danger towards a demographic imbalance which in the end shall have major negative implications on the indigenous status of the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo people. Therefore the need to is to install protective instruments that are in consonance with the law or by incorporating the sets of already existing laws to form a strongly binding regulated provision which not only provides ethnic protection but can also have salutary effects on the emerging rise of crimes in the state of Meghalaya. To conclude we also need to recognize the undercurrent of demands relating to preservation of the cultural, traditional and linguistic aspects of Meghalaya. Unregulated influx is seen as the greatest danger towards a demographic imbalance which in the end shall have major negative implications on the indigenous status of the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo people. Therefore the need to is to install protective instruments that are in consonance with the law or by incorporating the sets of already existing laws to form a strongly binding regulated provision which not only provides ethnic protection but can also have salutary effects on the emerging rise of crimes in the state of Meghalaya.

Tripura was a princely state. A total of 185 Tripuri Kings ruled Tripura for 3000 years until its merger with the union of India in 1949. Tripura was originally land of almost exclusively of Tripuri people till the nineteenth century. Up to the middle of 20th century Tripuri people were still a majority in the state, but by the middle of 20th century, the Tripuri people became minority in their own homeland.

The population of the Andamans was 343,125 in 2011 having grown from 50,000 in 1960. Of the people who live in the Andaman Islands, a small minority of about 1,000 are indigenous people of the Andamans.

Why illegal migration continue unabated during the last 60 years.

1. Absence of any system of identification, detection, registration and control of illegal immigration in Manipur.
2. Attractions like low population density, sparse population, better economic, employment opportunities, easy means of earning and livelihood.
3. Easy opportunity to mix with the native population due to common religion, easy means of communication.
4. Better economic, political or religious freedom in the name of democracy.
5. 1) To prevent flow of illegal migrants especially from neighbouring countries and restrict migrants from other states.
- 2) To protect the culture, tradition and social values of the inhabitants.
- 3) To prevent encroachment by outsiders without the residents permission.
6. ILP system has following advantages:
 - 1) Prevents rise of insurgent and extremist feelings.
 - 2) Gives confidence to the region that their culture and tradition is being preserved.
 - 3) In line with our principle of integration with autonomy.
 - 4) Gives state sufficient power to restrict illegal migrants.

[the writer retired as Secretary, Department of Economics, Statistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Govt of Sikkim]

Nepal all set to welcome PM Modi

KATHMANDU, MAY 10 (PTI): Nepal is all set to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is arriving in the country tomorrow for a two-day state visit during which he will hold talks with the top leadership here with a focus on implementing key India-assisted projects and building mutual trust.

This will be the third visit of Prime Minister Modi to Nepal and the first high-level visit from India since the formation of the new Government in Nepal.

He will start his visit from the historic city of Janakpur, the birthplace of Sita, tomorrow morning.

In Janakpur, Modi will visit 20th century Janaki temple and offer special prayers. Later, Prime Minister Modi will be accorded a civic reception by the Janakpur Sub-Metropolitan City at Barhabigha ground.

Ahead of the visit, Foreign Minister Pradeep Gyawali along with India's Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri visited the city to take stock of the arrangements. The security has been tightened in the city with the deployment of more police personnel.

In the afternoon, the Prime Minister will fly to the capital,



Kathmandu, where he will be given a guard of honour by the Nepal Army.

Welcome gates with pictures of Modi and his Nepalese counterpart KP Oli have been installed at different places on the way to the main city area from the Tribhuvan International Airport. Roads have been decorated with flags of Nepal and India. The prime minister will call on Vice President Nanda Bahadur Pun and President Bidya Devi Bhandari in the afternoon.

In the evening, Modi will hold delegation-level talks with Oli.

Later, both leaders will jointly lay the foundation stone

of Arun-III hydro power project through a remote system and issue a press statement. Modi will also attend a banquet hosted by Prime Minister Oli.

On Saturday, Prime Minister will visit historic Muktinath temple in Mustang district situated in north-west Nepal to offer prayers. Modi will attend a reception hosted by Ambassador Puri in his honour.

Leaders of various political parties in the country will call on Prime Minister Modi in Kathmandu.

Oli on Tuesday held discussions with former prime ministers and former foreign ministers about Modi's visit. He

briefed them about issues to be taken up with Modi and solicited their advice. Oli also informed Parliament about the visit.

The visit is in keeping with the tradition of regular high-level exchanges between India and Nepal, and will enable leaders to discuss matters of mutual interest and to strengthen cooperation in all areas of age-old, multi-faceted and expanding partnership between the two countries, the Ministry of External Affairs said in New Delhi said in a statement last week.

Official sources in New Delhi earlier said that during Modi's two-day visit, India will seek to consolidate relationship with the new Nepalese government headed by Oli who has returned to power riding on a spectacular electoral victory and now leads a stable dispensation after years of political instability.

The aim will also be to bring "substance" and "seriousness" in ties, a source said, while expressing the hope that "it will further build trust between the two neighbours".

They said both sides will deliberate on the implementation of the ambitious rail proj-

ect to link Kathmandu with Raxaul in Bihar and connecting landlocked Nepal with river transport system with India, apart from several other key connectivity projects.

India had offered these mega projects during Oli's visit here last month, seen as a move to counter China's efforts to expand influence over Kathmandu by offering various infrastructure projects.

Nepalese PM Oli had visited India around a month back which was seen as an attempt to repair Nepal's ties with New Delhi. In 2016, Oli had publicly criticised India for interfering in Nepal's internal matters and accused it of toppling his government over the issue of Madhesi, who are mostly of Indian-origin. Modi and Oli are likely to sign a number of pacts and inaugurate the Rs 6000-crore Arun 3 project which is expected to generate around 900 MW of power.

The sources said there may be an announcement on the proposed Ramayan circuit, under which fifteen destinations like Ayodhya, Nandigram, Shringverpur and Chitrakoot will be developed to promote religious tourism.

Naidu meets Panamanian President, discusses bilateral ties

PANAMA CITY, MAY 10 (PTI): Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has underlined Panama's strategic significance to India as he met Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela Rodrigues and discussed bilateral cooperation in agriculture, trade, health, culture and education.

During their talks yesterday, he also sought Panama's support for India's candidature to the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2019-2021 and also called for greater exchange of high-level visits between the two nations to deepen bilateral relations in various areas of mutual interest.

Panamanian Vice President Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado also accompanied them during their talks.

The two leaders witnessed the signing of an MoU between India and Panama on exemption of visas for holders of diplomatic and official passports. They also witnessed signing of MoU in the field of agriculture.

Naidu also visited the Panama Canal. Breaking protocol, President Rodriguez accompanied him to the famous canal.

This was an unscheduled engagement of the Panamanian President that surprised the diplomats of both the coun-

tries, a statement said.

Indian labourers in the 19th Century had contributed in building Panama railways and the canal.

Naidu during his talks with Panamanian leaders also reaffirmed India's support for Panama's candidature for the UN Security Council's non-permanent seat.

India also reiterated its resolve to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

"I am happy to know that Panama helped consolidate Latin America's support against the global scourge of terrorism," Naidu said.

"India recognizes Panama's significance on account of its strategic location, robust economy and its active diplomatic pursuits," he said. He said there was a need for greater exchange of high-level visits, especially at the political level, to deepen bilateral relations further in various areas of mutual interest.

"India and Panama always had cordial ties. They are the oldest in the Central American region. These ties are based on our common values and a shared commitment to democracy, pluralism, multi-culturalism, and the rule of law," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

CM Pema Khandu inaugurates Arunachal's biggest solar plant

ITANAGAR, MAY 10 (PTI): Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu today inaugurated the state's biggest solar power plant at Energy Awareness Park here in the presence of Power Minister Tamiyo Taga.

The plant, with a capacity of 1 MW, was commissioned on April 1 at an estimated investment of Rs 8.50 crore, a statement issued by the government said here today.

The officials of Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA), who successfully implemented the project, received accolades from Khandu on this occasion.

The CM urged them to venture into more such environment-friendly initiatives in the future.

"Our activities should not disturb the environment. A solar power plant is more environment-friendly in comparison to a gas-based proj-



ect," Khandu said, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been initiating several measures to minimize the effect of global warming.

The state government has stepped up efforts to fulfill the rural electrification target, set by the Centre, by the end of this year under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), he said.

"As of now, APEDA is ensuring ten per cent off-grid power connecti-

ty in the villages of the state. The government is contemplating the idea to install solar plants in health centers and upcoming mini secretariats in the districts," the chief minister explained.

Marki Loya, the director of APEDA, said the new plant will reduce the burden of energy bills on the state.

"With the commissioning of the solar plant, import of energy from other states will reduce considerably. That, in

turn, will cut down the energy bills of Arunachal Pradesh," he said.

The fully-automatic plant will be able to run without manpower, Loya stated.

"Depending on weather condition and solar radiation, power generation starts around 5.30 am and continues till 6 pm. The plant has generated more than 1 lakh units of electricity from the date of its commissioning," he added.

Three Indian ships set sail for MALABAR exercise with US, Japanese navies

SINGAPORE, MAY 10 (PTI): Three Indian naval ships sailed out of Singapore today to join upcoming MALABAR exercise which will be held jointly with the US and Japanese navies off Guam in the Pacific Ocean.

Speaking to reporters at the sailing off, India's High Commissioner to Singapore Jawed Ashraf said the Eastern Team fleet is continuing India's commitment and objective to see the oceans remain "peaceful, open space and uncontested".

"These ships are on their way to MALABAR exercise with the navies of United States and Japan, and one of them, INS Sahyadri, will take part in the 'RIMPAC' exercise," he said.

RIMPAC or the Rim of Pacific Exercise is the biggest maritime warfare exercise involving navies

of several countries. It is held by the US Navy biennially in the ocean around Hawaii.

The US-Japan-India joint naval exercise comes amidst flexing of muscles by China in the regional waters.

During the deployment while on MALABAR exercise, the ships will be building partnerships and closer bonds with the navies of Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam.

"In a way, our engagement with the region is growing with regular exercises," he said, stressing on the excellent relations with major maritime power.

INS Sahyadri and INS Kamorta as well as tanker INS Shakti, with 730 navy personnel, were in Singapore for three days, interacting with the local Navy.

Ashraf underlined India and Singapore's naval relations, which last year saw visits by India's eight navy ships and two coast guard ships.

"With Singapore, we have the longest and uninterrupted exercise which has been going on for 25 years," he said.

The envoy also highlighted the success of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium, a platform where navies can communicate with each other and develop a sense of understanding, which has now grown to 34 member countries including Singapore.

MILAN, he said, was another naval exercise promoting multi-lateral exercises and understanding in managing oceans.

He stressed India's good relations with many of the littoral states, say-

ing "we will continue to build on that".

"We are conscious of the need to work with others (navies) to prevent any contesting (in the Ocean)," said the envoy, adding that the Indian Ocean remains most peaceful and the most uncontested region.

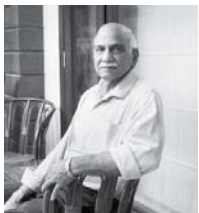
The US had last week warned China that it would face "consequences" for military buildup in the disputed South China Sea in the Pacific Ocean where Beijing has deployed anti-ship cruise missiles and surface-to-air missile systems.

China is engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in both the South China Sea and the East China Sea. China claims almost all of South China Sea. Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims.

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Former Test cricketer Rajinder Pal passes away

NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): Former Delhi cricketer Rajinder Pal, who had represented the country in one Test match, passed away at his Dehradun residence yesterday, family sources confirmed. "My elder brother Rajinder Pal passed away yesterday at his Dehradun residence. He was 80 years old and is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter," his younger brother Ravinder Pal, also a former first-class cricketer said.

A right-arm medium pacer, Rajinder Pal played his only Test match against England (then known as MCC) during the 1963-64 series at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai. He bowled 13 economical overs (0/19 in 11 overs & 0/3 in 2 overs) in that Test but returned wicket-less, which forced the selectors to replace him with a much quicker Ramakant Desai for the next Test match.

Incidentally, along with Rajinder Pal, the other debutant was leg spin wizard Bhagwat Chandrasekhar, who went onto have a distinguished international career.

However, it was domestic cricket where Rajinder Pal was a force to reckon with, scalping 337 wickets from 98 first class games with 23 five wicket hauls. He served Delhi for a decade in Ranji Trophy, followed by stints for Southern Punjab (Punjab had two teams in Ranji then) and Haryana. After his retirement, he was involved in coaching junior cricketers and settled in Dehradun.

A few months back, he came to Delhi to attend a felicitation function of former state captains organised by the Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA).



TNA and Hee-Gyathang SSS in quarter finals of U-17 LD Kazi Gold Cup tourney

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

In the second day of the on-going final phase of the boys' category of U-17 LD Kazi Memorial Gold Cup Inter School Football Tournament at Chakung

in West Sikkim Hee-Gyathang Senior Secondary School, North Sikkim defeated Hee-Yangthang Senior Secondary School, West Sikkim 3-1 and Tashi Namgyal Academy, East Sikkim beat Manjushree Pubic School, South Sikkim 2-0.

With their victory in respective matches, Hee-Gyathang Senior Secondary School, North Sikkim and Tashi Namgyal Academy, East Sikkim have now successfully made it to

the quarter finals round of the tournament.

The second day of the tournament was attended by Assistant Education Officer [Soreng], B.C Dahal and AEO [Chumbung], R.K Sharma as chief guests.

Sir Alex Ferguson, former Manchester United boss out of intensive care

LONDON, MAY 10: Sir Alex Ferguson no longer needs intensive care after having emergency surgery on Saturday for a brain haemorrhage, Manchester United have announced.

Ferguson, 76, will continue his rehabilitation as an inpatient at Salford Royal Hospital.

The Scot retired as United manager in May 2013 after winning 38 trophies during 26 years in charge.

"His family have been overwhelmed by the level of support," the club added. The family continue to request "vital" privacy as Ferguson enters the next stage of his recovery.

He was last seen in public at Old Trafford last



month when he presented outgoing Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger with a commemorative trophy.

Reacting to the update on his condition, Wenger said: "It's fantastic news. He has worked very hard and deserves a long period of enjoying

life. I hope he's back soon and in good shape."

Yaya Toure wished Ferguson a speedy recovery before the midfielder gave a farewell speech following his final game for Manchester City.

The most successful manager in the history

Champions League in 1999, the year in which he was knighted.

A host of Premier League managers, including Wenger and Manchester City's Pep Guardiola, sent their good wishes over the weekend to Ferguson.

Wenger described Ferguson as "an optimistic man" with Guardiola saying his thoughts were with Ferguson's wife Cathy and the rest of his family.

Guardiola said on Wednesday night it was "amazing news" that he had left intensive care.

Ferguson became United manager in November 1986 after spells in charge of Scotland, Aberdeen, St Mirren and East Stirlingshire.

Sex and Man City-Romario gives Brazil star Jesus World Cup pointer



MANCHESTER, 10 MAY: Gabriel Jesus should make sure he has plenty of sex to increase his chances of a successful World Cup, according to Brazil great Romario, informs a news report published in sportskeeda.com

The former Barcelona striker was the hero of Brazil's triumphant 1994 campaign in the United States, scoring five times before a penalty shootout victory over Italy in the final.

Manchester City's Jesus is in line to shoulder the same burden of leading the line for the Seleccion at Russia 2018 and Romario, now a federal senator in Rio de Janeiro, had a colourful tip on how the 21-year-old should make the most of his downtime.

"Have enough sex is one piece of advice - as is making the most you can of your days off," he told Lance.

"And, of course, you must concentrate on match days and during the games.

"I believe Jesus is quite aware of his football and what it represents for the Brazilian nation.

"He has to arrive at the World Cup and score a goal. That's the most important thing."

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Jesus faces a battle with Liverpool's Roberto Firmino to be Tite's starting striker in the finals and Romario believes calling upon the striking instincts that have seen him score 12 times in City's Premier League title triumph will be key.

"Jesus must understand that, at the World Cup, the first opportunity you get to score a goal may be your last," the 52-year-old said.

"There is one thing Jesus must do - go to the World Cup and score goals, it is good that he is playing in Europe because maybe 80 or 90 per cent of the best players in the world play there and he will have faced them already."

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Mighty CSK to test desperate Royals in must-win game

JAIPUR, MAY 10 (PTI): Back to winning ways after a hat-trick of defeats, a desperate Rajasthan Royals face a herculean task when they take on mighty Chennai Super Kings in a must-win Indian Premier League (IPL) match, here tomorrow.

Three consecutive defeats have more or less sealed their fate but Royals somehow managed to keep themselves afloat with a 15-run win over Kings XI Punjab in their last game here.

But for things to turn around for the Royals, every aspect of their game needs to improve and click for them in the remaining four games.

Tomorrow's match would also provide Royals a chance to avenge their 64-run loss to CSK at Pune in their previous encounter.

The Rajasthan outfit didn't have the best of campaigns so far this season and are placed sixth with just eight points from 10 games.

Standing precariously, the Ajinkya Rahane-led side need to win tomorrow to keep alive their play-off chances. A defeat will definitely end their hopes.

The hosts are back on their home turf, where they have recorded three of their four victories and this might work for Royals going into tomorrow's crucial game.

Royals were badly hurt by the lackluster performance of their batsmen and bowlers this season.

Average performance by captain Ra-



hane and Sanju Samson and below-par show of star English all-rounder Ben Stokes and Rahul Tripathi has hurt Royals badly and the hosts need its batting unit to fire in unison against the formidable CSK.

English wicket-keeper batsman Jos

Buttler came to Royals' rescue in their last match smashing a 58-ball 82 to take the hosts to 158 for eight, a target which their bowlers defended, thanks to impressive performances from Krishnappa Gowtham, Kiwi spinner Ish Sodhi and Jofra Archer.

CSK, on the other hand, are sitting pretty at the second spot with 14 points from 10 games and a win from their remaining four games would be enough to seal their place in the play-offs.

Returning to the tournament after serving a two-year suspension, CSK are in

red-hot form this season under talismanic skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Their batsmen are in top form but bowling still remains a concern for CSK, despite a fine performance against Royal Challengers Bangalore in their last game.

CSK bowlers finally came to the party on May 5, restricting RCB to 127 for nine, a target which they chased down with six wickets in hand.

Left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja (3/18) and veteran Harbhajan Singh (2/22) were the wreckers-in-chief for CSK against RCB.

However, the pace trio of Lungi Ngidi, David Willey and Shardul Thakur needs to take up more responsibility upfront in the absence of injured Deepak Chahar.

The Chennai batsmen, though, are on song and most are among runs with Ambati Rayudu, Australian Shane Watson, West Indian Dwayne Bravo, skipper Dhoni and Suresh Raina all contributing when the team needed them.

Rayudu, especially, has batted well both as an opener and at number four, and is currently at the third position in the run-scorers chart with 423 runs from 10 games.

Skipper Dhoni, on his part, has reminded his critics that he is not past his prime with his trademark towering sixes.

Dhoni is seventh on the run scorers list with 360 runs that include three half-centuries with 79 not out being the highest.

Trump personally welcomes 3 Americans freed by North Korea back to the US

WASHINGTON, MAY 10 (PTI): Donald Trump personally welcomed home three American detainees today after they were released by Pyongyang, seen as a diplomatic win for the US President ahead of his planned summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. The Americans -- Kim Dong Chul, Kim Hak-song and Kim Sang Duk, also known as Tony Kim -- were freed yesterday while Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was on a visit to the North Korean capital to finalise the details of the summit.

The trio had been jailed for anti-state activities and placed in North Korean labour camps.

Trump and his wife Melania entered the plane after it landed in the early hours of Thursday and a few minutes later emerged with the three Americans of South Korean origin to wave to the media.

Vice President Mike Pence and his wife Karen Pence were also on hand to welcome the three men home. Speaking to the media on the tarmac at Joint Base Andrews Air Force Base, Kim Dong Chul said his release felt "like a dream."

"We are very, very happy," he said.

The three former detainees earlier issued a joint statement thanking Trump for their release.

"We would like to express our deep appreciation to the United States government, President Trump, Secretary Pompeo, and the people of the United States for bringing us home," the trio said.

Malaysia’s Mahathir wins shock election victory, toppling long-ruling regime

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 10 (AFP): Malaysia's veteran ex-leader Mahathir Mohamad, 92, won a historic election victory today, in a political earthquake that toppled the country's scandal-plagued premier and ousted a regime that had ruled for over six decades.

In a stunning political upset that took pundits by surprise, Mahathir's opposition alliance ended the long hold on power of the Barisan Nasional coalition, which has been in power in Malaysia since its birth as an independent country in 1957.

The thumping victory capped a dramatic political comeback for Mahathir, who previously ruled the country with an iron fist for 22 years and came out of retirement to take on Prime Minister Najib Razak after the leader became embroiled in a massive corruption scandal.

When he takes power, Mahathir will be the oldest prime minister in the world.

Despite the shock result there were no reports of trouble on the streets, where pockets of celebration erupted overnight.

A flag-waving crowd of support-



ers gathered on a field outside the headquarters of Mahathir's party near Kuala Lumpur.

Suva Selvan, a 48-year-old doctor, said he felt the country had just won its independence.

"I feel that with this change we probably can see something better in the future... our hope for the future is a better government, fair, free and united," he told AFP.

Defeat could just be the beginning of Najib's troubles. Mahathir has vowed to bring him to justice over allegations that billions of dollars were looted from sovereign

wealth fund 1MDB, which the scandal-hit leader set up and oversaw.

But at a press conference after his win, Mahathir vowed: "We are not seeking revenge. We want to restore the rule of law." He said he would be sworn in today.

Mahathir's return to the political frontlines saw him throw in his lot with an opposition alliance filled with parties that he crushed while in power, and which included jailed opposition icon Anwar Ibrahim -- his former nemesis.

Anwar is due to be released from prison in June. Mahathir has vowed

to get him a royal pardon, and later hand over the premiership to him.

As well as seizing control of the national government, several state legislatures across the country fell into opposition hands for the first time, including the highly symbolic bastion of Johor, the birthplace of Najib's party that was the lynchpin of the ruling coalition.

Official results from the Election Commission showed that Mahathir's opposition grouping Pakatan Harapan, along with a small ally, had secured 121 parliamentary seats. 112 are needed to form a government.

BN got 79 seats -- a dramatic drop from the 133 they held previously. Najib was nowhere to be seen as the evening wore on, and was believed to have holed up inside his house for talks with senior members of BN.

The opposition win was particularly striking as critics said that Najib tried everything he could to cling to power.

His government was accused of pushing a redrawing of electoral boundaries through parliament that created constituencies packed with

the country's Muslim Malay majority, who have traditionally supported BN.

He called the election on a weekday -- polls are typically held at the weekend in Malaysia -- in what observers said was an effort to keep turnout down, which would hurt the opposition. In the event, voters flocked to the polls in huge numbers.

Ultimately the explosive allegations of corruption, coupled with anger at rising living costs, proved too much for Malaysia's 15 million voters, already sick of racially divisive politics in the multi-ethnic country and graft scandals under years of BN rule.

In Mahathir, the opposition found the perfect person to take on Najib. He is a staunch Malay nationalist who could appeal to the country's biggest ethnic group, and whose years in power were remembered as a prosperous period in the country's history.

The initial euphoria at the opposition victory will likely give way to some apprehension.

Mahathir was also a accused of being an authoritarian leader, and political opponents were thrown in jail during his time in office.



Adam has burst in Kenya killing at least 27 people and causing "huge destruction of both life and property", Kenyan officials have confirmed. The burst happened in Solai near the Rift Valley city of Nakuru, 120 miles northwest of the capital Nairobi, late on Wednesday. The Kenyan Red Cross estimates that more than 500 families have been caught up in the deluge, with many people still unaccounted for. Police chief Gideon Kibunjah said 36 people had been hospitalised.

Major Israeli raids hit ‘Iranian’ targets in Syria after rocket fire

JERUSALEM, MAY 10 (AFP): Israel's army said today it had carried out widespread raids against Iranian targets in Syria overnight after rocket fire towards its forces which it blamed on Iran, marking a sharp escalation between the two enemies.

The incident came after weeks of rising tensions and followed US President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from a key 2015 Iran nuclear deal on Tuesday, a move Israel had long advocated.

The raids were one of the largest Israeli military operations in recent years and the biggest such assault on Iranian targets, the military said.

"We hit nearly all the Iranian infrastructure in Syria," Defence Minister Avigdor Lieberman told a security conference on Thursday morning.

"They need to remember the saying that if it rains on us, it'll storm on them. I hope we've finished this episode and everyone understood."

Israel carried out the raids after it said around 20 rockets, either Fajr or Grad type, were fired from Syria at its forces in the occupied Golan Heights at around midnight.

It blamed the rocket fire on Iran's Al-Quds force, adding that Israel's anti-missile system intercepted four of the projectiles while the rest did not land in its territory.

No Israelis were wounded.

If confirmed, the incident would be the first such rocket fire by Iranian forces in Syria towards Israel.

"We know that comes from the al-Quds force," army spokesman lieutenant-colonel Jonathan Conricus said, refer-

ring to the special forces unit affiliated with Iran's Revolutionary Guard.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said dozens of rockets were fired from Syria toward the Israeli-occupied Golan, but did not confirm they were fired by Iranian forces.

It alleged the rockets followed a "first Israeli bombardment on the town of Baath" in Quneitra province.

A senior pro-regime military source in Syria confirmed the salvo of rockets, but insisted Israel had fired first.

Later, in the early hours of the morning, explosions were heard in Damascus, while live images were broadcast on television showing projectiles above the Syrian capital and several missiles destroyed by Syrian anti-aircraft systems.

Syrian state media reported that Israeli missile strikes had hit military bases as well as an arms depot and a military radar installation, without specifying the locations.

The official SANA news agency added that "dozens of missiles were shot down by anti-aircraft systems in Syrian airspace", saying a number of missiles had reached their targets.

Israel's military later confirmed it had carried out the raids, saying dozens of Iranian military targets had been struck and all of its aircraft had returned safely.

Conricus said intelligence, logistics, storage and vehicles as well as the origin of the rockets were targeted. Syrian air defences, which fired dozens of times on Israeli forces, were also targeted, he said.

There had been no com-

ment from Iranian officials.

Lieberman called the rocket fire "a new phase".

"We don't want an escalation, but won't let anyone attack us or build an infrastructure to attack us in the future," he said.

"We're facing a new reality. The Iranian attempt to bring anti-aircraft systems to our borders and close our skies is intolerable and unacceptable."

An Israeli military statement said "this Iranian aggression is another proof of the intentions behind the establishment of the Iranian regime in Syria and the threat it poses to Israel and regional stability."

It added that it "will not allow the Iranian threat to establish itself in Syria. The Syrian regime will be held accountable for everything happening in its territory."

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1272 1292 1320 1351 1375 1386 1400 1406 1448 1465
1467 1493 1506 1587 1588 1601 1641 1689 1716 1737
1741 1758 1768 1807 1846 1847 1853 1872 1889 1898
1937 1946 1958 1967 1994 2014 2024 2025 2083 2141
2159 2170 2189 2311 2402 2424 2428 2447 2487 2507
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2729 2743 2822 2852 2856 2867 2884 2898 2909 2940
2950 2972 3012 3133 3182 3188 3197 3218 3252 3269
3273 3291 3326 3327 3329 3373 3411 3414 3418 3439
3474 3601 3617 3675 3678 3681 3731 3735 3798 3808
3811 3821 3834 3836 3838 3878 3879 3881 3884 3888
3905 3935 3990 3997 4017 4088 4116 4207 4230 4235
4240 4283 4298 4304 4413 4429 4460 4495 4509 4513
4522 4523 4583 4588 4628 4648 4654 4694 4708 4732
4772 4789 4803 4916 4958 5067 5080 5101 5106 5192
5250 5259 5268 5312 5326 5357 5386 5416 5434 5436
5483 5516 5524 5534 5538 5560 5563 5569 5570 5589
5590 5591 5592 5601 5613 5666 5724 5741 5747 5770
5797 5800 5851 5869 5885 5888 5916 5942 5946 5984
6066 6023 6054 6107 6117 6150 6171 6174 6179 6228
6233 6256 6261 6269 6306 6307 6320 6347 6385 6431
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1993 2056 2109 2124 2152 2159 2170 2223 2232 2240
2244 2285 2296 2335 2349 2459 2468 2585 2595 2741
2764 2833 2847 2853 2868 2947 2986 3024 3143 3179
3209 3214 3240 3246 3251 3335 3461 3502 3584 3616
3650 3737 3780 3911 3991 3997 4007 4035 4048 4069
4154 4167 4212 4264 4270 4286 4367 4409 4418 4506
4673 4704 4726 4730 4790 4815 4846 5049 5102 5118
5166 5236 5307 5351 5354 5499 5562 5579 5742 5762
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1012 1019 1023 1039 1091 1145 1219 1263 1266 1270
1279 1310 1326 1410 1444 1506 1513 1524 1530 1532
1543 1567 1602 1645 1650 1662 1697 1733 1740 1744
1764 1782 1786 1855 1857 1891 1892 1925 1934 1973
1978 1979 1996 2003 2078 2140 2163 2171 2173 2208 2239
2261 2353 2382 2390 2392 2396 2441 2486 2499 2507
2540 2550 2562 2565 2602 2621 2635 2649 2665 2668
2692 2703 2732 2748 2789 2797 2799 2802 2818 2821
2825 2857 2920 2963 2975 2984 3023 3035 3044 3085
3096 3105 3130 3131 3133 3173 3178 3201 3224 3275
3306 3363 3369 3384 3412 3431 3432 3438 3439 3446
3475 3527 3529 3534 3693 3741 3746 3786 3857 3863
3868 3878 3888 3904 3912 3929 3988 3993 4008 4040
4098 4112 4232 4239 4244 4265 4266 4282 4321 4327
4374 4413 4448 4455 4473 4479 4533 4538 4555 4572
4696 4729 4732 4754 4771 4788 4801 4803 4826 4850
4852 4942 4943 4978 5030 5100 5108 5153 5187 5209
5220 5279 5289 5298 5304 5323 5362 5372 5400 5407
5420 5425 5438 5487 5531 5570 5585 5586 5591 5592
5594 5613 5719 5757 5780 5783 5904 5912 5916 5948

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4th Prize Rs.250/- 1716 2664 2749 3662 3803 6377 6962 8968 9285 9949
5th Prize Rs.120/-
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1358 1476 1478 1560 1966 2004 2015 2336 2342 2355
2455 2484 2596 2701 2796 2801 2821 2854 2981 3212
3373 3493 3683 3706 3804 3815 3844 4002 4008 4038
4088 4214 4272 4328 4393 5052 5127 5195 5287 5353
5365 5377 5404 5408 5590 5890 5982 6098 6204 6211
6303 6305 6689 6757 6774 6796 7013 7032 7079 7083
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7847 8183 8270 8345 8361 8411 8417 8754 8830 8919
9120 9155 9238 9338 9493 9515 9564 9706 9768 9944

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0924 1196 1199 1322 1373 1531 1536 1626 1798 1814
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2817 2847 2860 2986 3091 3229 3288 3498 3757 3765
4078 4088 4211 4364 4482 4982 4987 5236 5267 5268
5304 5652 5946 5951 6073 6089 6264 6393 6422 6518
6533 6534 6548 6698 7064 7213 7243 7433 7468 7476
7630 7667 7668 7697 7838 8217 8254 8393 8678 8776
8809 8816 8840 8921 8936 9007 9064 9096 9103 9243
9277 9279 9330 9397 9416 9512 9658 9829 9830 9835

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12215 12411 34889 37382 43706
61863 65639 74174 84595 94362
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1874 3529 4043 4423 5707 5709 6716 8005 8501 9162
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0389 0886 0999 1024 1333 4636 4858 7678 7682 9215
5th Prize Rs.120/-
0155 0332 0603 0626 0705 0915 1015 1052 1081 1111
1117 1326 1365 1375 1456 1523 1557 1807 1988 2260
2399 2358 2376 2385 2387 2507 2510 2576 2713 2902
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3500 3643 3823 3829 4011 4027 4054 4338 4410 5011
5013 5332 5355 5392 5428 5478 5624 5702 5916 5925
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CASUAL IN CANNES: Fresh from Met Gala, Bollywood beauty Deepika Padukone shared a sultry new picture in a white T-shirt, blue denims and nude heels from Cannes.

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR BREAKS CHINA PRESALES RECORD

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR breaks another presales record prior to its release in China. Marvel Studios is basking in the glory of Infinity War's reception. The film is a critical hit and is being received positively by audiences. The anticipation, great word of mouth, and lack of competition is propelling Infinity War up the all-time box office charts too. After claiming the biggest domestic and global opening of all-time, there's no stopping the 19th entry in the MCU.

The film's giant box office haul was easy to see coming considering the hype around all of the MCU's heroes coming together to battle Thanos. But, that anticipation was immediately felt when tickets went on sale and broke a few records in that department too. Infinity War has done all of this without even opening in China yet, and it's poised to be a major territory for the film based on its presales numbers.

Avengers: Infinity War now holds the record for most presales in China ever. With still a day to go before the film officially opens, the blockbuster has tallied \$47.5 million in presale tickets. That just edges out China's previous record holder Monster Hunt 2, but easily



surpasses Fate of the Furious' \$25M record for films made in Hollywood.

Presale tickets continue to become a bigger market as audiences look to secure their seat ahead of walking into the theater. Actual projections for Infinity War's China opening are not yet available, but these numbers indicate it will be rather big. Monster Hunt 2 and Fate of the Furious are China's two biggest opening weekends of all-time after taking in \$187.9M and \$184.9M, respectively. If Infinity War is outselling them in advance, the flood of general moviegoers could give the movie a chance to be China's biggest opening ever.

Marvel's biggest opening in China is

Avengers: Age of Ultron's \$155M, which went on to make an MCU best \$240M in this market. Infinity War currently sits at just over \$1.2 billion at the worldwide box office, and could skyrocket up the charts this weekend again with a strong showing. How well it does in China will be a major factor in determining how high the movie will eventually climb. There are now estimates that put a final gross close to \$2 billion for Infinity War, but it still has a long ways to go before that becomes a reality. Luckily, China appears to be eager to see the latest the MCU has to offer, so Avengers: Infinity War should have everything it needs to get there.

ARIES: The day ahead will be as busy as can be. Matters that had been left unsettled are now becoming urgent. Today brings an opportunity to release some steam, Aries, but it's also time to realize the toll these stressful situations take on your physical health. So set some time aside for relaxation, but not before you've resolved outstanding issues once and for all.

TAURUS: You can expect today to be tense, Taurus, as the people close to you are likely to be especially irritable. Adults and children alike may throw tantrums for no reason, and you'll be criticized for having overlooked some small detail. Fortunately, your new awareness helps you realize that you ar-

en't obligated to do anyone any favors. In this new role, you're able to express your discontent with a quiet, calm authority.

GEMINI: The moment has come to affirm your individuality and life choices, Gemini. The planetary energy will make you work hard to rethink the number of obligations you undertake. Admit it – they've been weighing you down. You can exist comfortably without them, and you can accomplish all that you do with much more effectiveness and enthusiasm if you lighten your load. By all means, liberate yourself!

CANCER: Why not go directly to the heart of the problem, Cancer? This could be the question you've been asking yourself

concerning a commitment to a cause that's important to you. Even if your life seems too far removed to support this cause, this just might be the time to make the leap. In any case, these kinds of leaps of faith tend to occur during days with this kind of planetary energy.

LEO: Don't let your fear or anger get the better of you today, Leo. You're going to be pushed to the forefront and you may even be forced to make some big decisions regarding the direction of your professional life. Perhaps you've been feeling that it's a little premature to take action, but, frankly, you no longer have any choice. Whether you know it or not, you're ready!

VIRGO: Your ideas about life

are going through some radical changes. None of the givens that you've always taken for granted apply any more, Virgo. Rather than lament the changes, grow from them. So don't drag your feet! Stand up and move ahead. This is no time for a vacation. You have some rebuilding to do.

LIBRA: Today's aspects will clarify any team situations of which you're a part, Libra. This could concern teams in your private or professional life. This is the moment to take action. Make use of any benefits gleaned from your reflections of the past few days. Don't be afraid to modify what is already in place. If you hesitate, you will only succeed in making your-

FAST & FURIOUS SPINOFF RELEASE DATE MOVES A WEEK BACK



Universal's Fast & Furious spinoff concerning Luke Hobbs (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson) and Deckard Shaw (Jason Statham) has been pushed back slightly. It's almost impossible to imagine that Universal ever dreamed that its modestly budgeted – for a major studio movie – action flick The Fast and the Furious would take off the way it has, spawning a franchise currently comprised of eight films. Made for only \$38 million, the summer 2001 release hauled in over \$200 million worldwide. That's an impressive take to be sure, but only the tip of the iceberg for the franchise.

Up to and including last year's hit The Fate of the Furious, the Fast & Furious franchise has so far earned a whopping \$5.1 billion worldwide. Even more impressive is how Fast & Furious is one of the rare film series that has actually gained in critical stature as it's progressed, in that the more recent entries tend to be regarded much more highly by most than the originals. Appropriately,

The Fate of the Furious and 2015's Furious 7 are actually the highest-grossing entries in the franchise so far, racing to over \$1 billion each.

While it'll be a bit of a wait for fans before the supposedly series-concluding Fast & Furious 9 and 10 come out – 2020 and 2021, respectively – 2019 is set to expand the Fast & Furious landscape by producing the franchise's first spinoff. The still currently untitled film centers on the characters of Luke Hobbs and Deckard Shaw, respectively played by The Rock and Jason Statham. Hobbs joined the series in 2011's Fast Five, and has long been a fan favorite. Shaw made his proper debut in Furious 7, after a quick cameo in Fast & Furious 6. The Hobbs and Shaw spinoff was originally set for a July 26, 2019 release date, but will now roll into theaters a bit later, on August 2, 2019.

Doing a spinoff focusing on Hobbs and Shaw makes a lot of sense, not only due to the overwhelming popularity of Dwayne Johnson's Hobbs – and to a lesser de-

gree, Statham's Shaw – but also because it's well-known that Johnson and main Fast & Furious series star Vin Diesel don't get along. Their bad blood has become very public in recent years, with the two men refusing to even work together during production of The Fate of the Furious. One wonders how much of a presence Hobbs will have in the final two Fast and Furious movies, considering this friction.

As it stands, the untitled Fast & Furious spinoff will now go head to head at the box office with both FOX's repeatedly delayed X-Men-based horror movie The New Mutants and a currently unrevealed event film from Warner Bros. Honestly, considering the mega success of the most recent Fast & Furious movies, FOX and WB might be wise to respond to this move by bumping its planned August 2 releases to a different weekend, as it's not hard to imagine Hobbs and Shaw zooming away with #1 by a wide margin.



OFFICIAL! NEHA DHUPIA AND ANGAD BEDI HAVE TIED THE KNOT

Best friends and now partners for life – Neha Dhupia and Angad Bedi are officially married now. Yes, you heard that right! Just when we were still hearing about the continued celebrations of the Sonam Kapoor and Anand Ahuja's grand wedding, the news of Neha – Angad's wedding came as a beautiful surprise. The two stars have been each other's best friends for quite a while now and the wedding was announced today by both Neha and Angad on their official social media handles with the cutest captions ever. On one hand, where Angad wrote, "Best friend.. now Wife!!! Well hello there Mrs BEDI!!! @nehadhupia"

Neha too made sure to speak her heart out as she captioned the picture saying, "Best decision of my life.. today, I married my best friend. Hello there, husband! @angadbedi"

From what the pictures look like, their wedding was held following Sikh rituals. The location of Neha's latest Instagram story says New Delhi so we are guessing the wedding was held in New Delhi. Angad Bedi is the son of cricketer Bishan Singh Bedi and has his roots in Delhi. While we wait for more details, we must admit that we are just so happy for these two. Here's wishing them all luck and love.

self more anxious.

SCORPIO: Your stroll through the universe of possibilities that you so love has come to an end, Scorpio. It's time for you to come back to Earth and join the rest of us. You have more hope than most people, like the good Scorpio that you are. You understand that we need your imagination and courage regarding the future! Today you may have to make an important professional decision.

SAGITTARIUS: You must have felt the pressure rising in the past week. Intense, isn't it? Do you have a job to finish at the last minute? Is there some ill humor or misunderstanding among your relations? Are you dissatisfied with yourself? To-

day you can make a fresh start, complete with good resolutions. You thought you'd worked hard enough, but guess what? The task is only beginning!

CAPRICORN: There's some likelihood that your heart will flutter as certain plans begin to be realized. If you have your heart set on someone who seems impossibly remote, or you're hoping to transform and improve an existing love relationship, the day ahead will enable you to make strides toward this goal, but not without some mishaps. Be prepared to tackle a crisis or two, Capricorn!

AQUARIUS: Although the forecast is stormy, the day ahead may give you an opportunity to free yourself from your

family, literally or figuratively. Be wary even if the course seems clear to you. You could be in danger of being swayed by a powerful person. The resolutions you make today could have a major impact on your future.

PISCES: Today you could feel a little more vulnerable than usual, Pisces. Perhaps you feel hemmed in by decisions you can't put off any longer. Or you could be a little overworked and overwhelmed by all your activities. If only your children could be a little more independent! The day ahead will help you make some decisive progress. No backward glances allowed! Dwelling on the past won't help you at all.