

# SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 73 | Gangtok | Wednesday | 21 March 2018

O N T O P O F T H E N E W S

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

## Chamling writes to Sushma for Karmapa's visit to Sikkim

**GANGTOK, MAR 20 (PTI):** Chief Minister Pawan Chamling today said he has written a letter to External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, seeking permission for the 17th Karmapa's Ogyen Trinley Dorje's visit to Sikkim.

The 17th Karmapa is the head of the 900-year-old Karma Kagyu lineage and currently resides in Gyuto monastery near Dharamsala after making a dramatic escape from Tibet in 2000.

"I wrote a letter today to Sushma Swaraj seeking her assistance and co-operation in permitting the 17th Karmapa, His Holiness Ogyen Trinley Dorje to visit any monastery in Sikkim, if not Rumtek Monastery, to bless our people," the CM posted on Facebook today.

This (17th Karmapa's visit) would fulfil the long pending demand of the people and the Sikkim government, he adds.

Chamling has been trying to impress upon the Centre to allow the 17th Karmapa to visit Sikkim where the previous incarnation had established his seat in exile.



## Siliguri Mayor submits Rs 4.6 cr deficit budget

**SMRITA KHAWAS SILIGURI, 20 MAR:** Siliguri Mayor, Asok Bhattacharya, submitted Rs 4.6 crore deficit budget for the financial year 2018-19 at Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) today. The budget has shown total expenditure to be Rs 309 crore and total income to be Rs 304 crore. However the target set for the revenue incomes is Rs 45.35 crore this year which is 10 crores more than last year. However, Mr Bhattacharya claimed that the state government has not released funds meant for the civic board since last three years including this year. Mr Bhattacharya appealed to all the councilors to accompany him to Kolkata in order to meet

turn to pg02

## Workshop on Assessment of Livability Indices for Sikkim

**GANGTOK, 20 MAR [IPR]:** A daylong State level workshop on Assessment of Livability Indices for Sikkim was held at the conference hall of The Regal Hotel in Tadong today. The workshop was organized by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India, in coordination with Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim.

The meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim, AK Srivastava, and attended by Secretary, UD&HD cum State Mission Director, Smart City Mission, LB Chhetri, Municipal Commissioner [Gangtok Municipal Corporation], District Collectors [East and South], Municipal Executive Officer [Namchi], officers of line departments viz Energy & Power, Health, HRDD, UD&HD and SREDA.



Chief Secretary, Mr Srivastava, in his inaugural address, gave a brief about the liveability assessment which has been initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to assess the liveability

standard of 116 Indian cities which include the identified smart cities and few more cities with a population of over one million.

The cities will be assessed on 15 core parameters such as

governance, social infrastructure, education, employment, health and safety and security. The Liveability Index will also take into account physical infrastructure such as housing, open spaces, land use, ener-

gy and water availability, solid-waste management and pollution, among others, he added.

He also focused on the Sustainable Development Goals for various infrastructure developments. However, he specifically mentioned the requirement of smooth traffic, good drainage system, shopping complex, amusement park, good gymnasium and most important, a stress relieving centre viz meditation centre as key requirements for liveability.

The Ministry under a World Bank-funded programme has selected the IP-SOS Research in consortium with the Athena Infonomics India and Economist Group for the assessment of the liveability indices.

The Ministry of Urban Development has developed a set of 'Liveability Standards'

relevant to Indian cities, with 79 indicators in 15 categories for measuring institutional, social, economic and physical aspects that affect quality of life. These included education, healthcare, roads, mobility, jobs, grievance redressal, pollution, emergency response, green open spaces, as well as cultural and entertainment opportunities.

It is informed that the economist portal will be used to spatially map the data and the Liveability Index outputs will serve as a database for decision making on urban policy and planning.

In Sikkim, the two Smart Cities, Gangtok and Namchi, will be participating and all the cities are required to submit the details by 16 Apr, 2018. The ranking will be announced on 15 Jun, 2018 by MOUD.

## Chairperson Railway Boards inspects DHR status

### SUMMIT REPORT

**SILIGURI, 20 MAR:**

Chairperson of the Indian Railway Board, Ashwani Lohani, visited the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway today. He has assured that he will look into the possibility of reduction of fares and starting of 2nd class coach service to make the journey more accessible for general public.

Mr Lohani directed that all restoration works must be done by preserving the heritage character of the railway. He also instructed that air brake modification of the steam engine must be done to increase efficiency and reduce manpower requirement

After inspecting the AC coach, he instructed that all first class coaches are to be made AC within a short period.

He inspected the Tindharia workshop and ordered for a facelift of the workshop by 01 April. Senior supervisors will also be sent for training abroad to make them



aware of the superior standards being practiced, he informed. He instructed that 2 rail buses be made in the workshop within the next 6 months.

In accordance with the heritage character of the railway, he ordered that all DHR staff be dressed in the original uniform worn during pre independence days.

In Kurseong, a brief presentation was made by the UNESCO team working on the Comprehensive Conservation Management Programme. He assured all possible help from the Indian Railways.

Mr Lohani said that all 14 steam engines will be revived.

He also inspected

the Printing Press at Kurseong and interacted with local people including Municipality members and senior citizen association.

It is to be mentioned that Mr Lohani was the person responsible for drafting the application for according World Heritage status to DHR by UNESCO.

## Bodies of 39 Indians abducted by ISIS in Iraq in 2015 found

**BAGHDAD, MAR 20 (AP):** Iraqi authorities have found the bodies of 39 Indian construction workers abducted when Islamic State militants overran the northern city of Mosul more than three years ago, officials said today.

The bodies were buried near the village of Badush, northwest of Mosul, in an area that Iraqi forces recaptured last July.

The killing was a "heinous crime carried out by Daesh terrorist gangs," Iraqi official Najiha Abdul-Amir al-Shimari told reporters. Daesh is the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group.

The bodies are "citizens of the friendly Indian state. Their dignity was supposed to be protected, but the forces of evil wanted to defame the principles of Islam," said Najiha, the head of Iraq's Martyrs Establishment, a government body dealing with people killed in the fight against the Islamic State group.

The abducted workers, most from northern India, had been employed by a construction company near Mosul when militants captured wide swaths of the area.

Relatives said they received phone calls from some of the workers five days after Mosul was captured, asking for help.

Around 10,000 Indians worked and lived in Iraq at that time.

As many as 40 Indians were originally abducted by terrorist organisation ISIS in June 2015 from Mosul in Iraq but one of them escaped by posing as a Muslim from Bangladesh, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said today in a suo motu statement in Rajya Sabha.

Swaraj said the mass grave had exactly 39 bodies, with distinctive features like long hair, non-Iraqi shoes and IDs.

The bodies were then sent to Baghdad for DNA testing.

DNA testing by Martyrs Foundation has established identity of 38 Indians while there has been 70 per cent matching of the DNA for the 39th person, she said.

Minister of State for External Affairs VK Singh will be flying to Iraq to bring back the bodies on a special flight.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said all Indians stand in solidarity with the families of the 39 Indians killed in Mosul in Iraq and the government is "fully committed" to ensure the safety of Indians abroad.

"Every Indian grieves with those who lost their loved ones in Mosul. We stand in solidarity with the bereaved families and pay our respects to the Indians killed in Mosul.

"The MEA and particularly my colleague

turn to pg02

## Shattered families of massacred Indians ask "why Centre kept us in the dark?"

**CHANDIGARH, MAR 20 (PTI):** As they try to come to terms with the grim reality, family members of the 39 Indians massacred years ago in Iraq by terror organisation ISIS have one question: why did the Centre keep them in the dark all this while?

Heart-rending scenes were visible outside the homes of the deceased in Punjab as wailing family members tried to give vent to their pain having heard on TV, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj's statement that all 39 Indians in ISIS captivity were dead and their bodies had been recovered.

Several relatives of the killed workers said they were

not officially informed about their loved ones by any government authority.

What do we say now? asked a dejected Sarwan whose 31-year-old brother Nishan was among those killed. "The government kept us in the dark all these years," Sarwan, who belongs to Amritsar, claimed.

Now after four years, they are making such a shocking statement, he agonised.

"We met the Union minister (Swaraj) 11 to 12 times and were told that as per their sources, the missing Indians are alive. They have been saying that Harjit Masih, the lone survivor, is a liar. If your sources have been saying they

were alive and now suddenly what happened. The government should have told us they have no information about missing Indians rather than making false statements," said Sarwan, who received heard his brother's voice over a phone call in June 21, 2014.

With hopes dashed all of a sudden, anger seethes out.

"It is the government's biggest failure. Most of the missing Indians were from Punjab. When the government could save nurses from Kerala why it completely failed in saving other Indians," he asked.

We have been seeking time from the minister for the last several months but

we were not given a chance to meet her, he claimed.

An inconsolable Gurpinder Kaur, whose 27-year-old younger brother Manjinder Singh was among the missing Indians also asked similar questions.

"Initially, they were saying the Indians are alive. Now the minister today made such a statement," Kaur said, her voice choking.

We were not even told about it; we came to know from the TV, she added.

Manjinder Singh, who was into farming, was pushed into Iraq by fraudulent travel agents, she claimed. Manjinder Singh wanted to go to Dubai, said Kaur.

"I am trying to know from the government how all this happened," she said.

The family of Gobinder Singh learnt about the shattering news also from TV channels.

"We have not received yet received any call from the Union ministry about the confirmation of death of 39 Indians," said Davinder Singh, the deceased's younger brother.

Gobinder Singh was a resident of Murar village in Kapurthala.

We now request the government to announce financial help and give a government job to the son of Gobinder Singh so he can take care of his family, Davinder Singh

said.

"We just got false assurances from the government," said Dimplejeet Kaur, sister of Dharminder Kumar (27).

"All our hopes were dashed today," she said.

Kumar went to Iraq to earn for his family in 2014. He was a resident of village Talwandi Jhira in Gurdaspur district.

Last year, the government of India collected DNA samples of the family members of the missing Indians.

Among the 39 Indians who were missing, most were from different places in Punjab like Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala and Jalandhar.



## SDF behind attack on BJP workers in Namchi, alleges SPA

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

Sikkim People's Alliance (SPA) has strongly condemned the assault on two BJP workers in Namchi, South Sikkim on 19 Mar and accused Sikkim Democratic Front workers of carrying out the assault.

"We strongly condemn the criminal mindset of the SDF party for using their party workers to incite violence and hatred in our peaceful State. This incident points to the death of democracy and free speech to keep explosive issues out of discussion," SPA has said in a press release.

Reacting to the "overall decline" of SDF in the State, the party is indulging in such violence to suppress its opponents, SPA alleges.

SPA has urged the District Police and the Administration to apprehend the culprits and book them in accordance to law.

## Bodies of 39 Indians abducted by ISIS...

**Contd from pg01**

leagues @SushmaSwaraj Ji and @Gen\_VKSingh Ji left no stone unturned in trying to trace and safely bring back those we lost in Mosul," the PM said in a series of tweets.

He added that the government remains fully committed towards ensuring the safety of "our sisters and brothers overseas".

Meanwhile, the MEA has released the names of 39 Indians killed in Iraq. Of the 39 deceased, 27 are from Punjab, six are from Bihar, four from Himachal Pradesh and two from West Bengal.

Here is the list of the deceased: Dharminder Kumar – Punjab; Harish Kumar – Punjab; Harsimranjeet Singh – Punjab; Kanwaljit Singh – Punjab; Malkit Singh – Punjab; Ranjit Singh – Punjab; Sonu – Punjab; Sandeep Kumar – Punjab; Manjinder Singh – Punjab; Gurcharan Singh – Punjab; Balwant Rai – Punjab; Roop Lal – Punjab; Devinder Singh – Punjab; Kulwinder Singh – Punjab; Jatinder Singh – Punjab; Nishan Singh – Punjab; Gurdeep Singh – Punjab; Kamaljit Singh – Punjab; Gobinder Singh – Punjab; Pritpal Sharma – Punjab; Sukhwinder Singh – Punjab; Jasvir Singh – Punjab; Parvinder Kumar – Punjab; Balvir Chand – Punjab; Surjeet Mainka – Punjab; Nand Lal – Punjab; Rakesh Kumar – Punjab; Aman Kumar – Himachal Pradesh; Sandeep Singh Rana – Himachal Pradesh; Inderjet – Himachal Pradesh; Hem Raj – Himachal Pradesh; Samar Tikadar – West Bengal; Khokhan Sikder – West Bengal; Santosh Kumar Singh – Bihar; Bidya Bhushan Tiwari – Bihar; Adalat Singh – Bihar; Sunil Kumar Kushwaha – Bihar; Dharmendra Kumar – Bihar; Raju Kumar Yadav – Bihar (to be verified).

## Nandok farmers trained in pest management

**SUBASH RAI**  
**UPPER NANDOK, 20 MAR:**

"CO-ORDINATION and co-operation between the Department and the farmers is must to make organic farming successful in the state," said Dy Director (East), Food Security & Agriculture Development Department [FS&ADD], Sushma Pradhan, today.

Ms Pradhan was addressing the concluding session of the two-day long training programme as part of the Human Resource Development Programme on Integrated Pest Management [IPM] organized by the Central Integrated Plant Management Centre [CIPMC], Gangtok, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India for Nandok Gram Panchayat Unit.

She said that her department has various schemes for farmers but their benefits cannot be enjoyed unless farmers implement it wholeheartedly. She also informed about the state government's recently launched Farmers



Pension scheme in which Rs. 1,000 per month will be given to those farmers who have attained the age of 50 years and are totally dependent on farming for their livelihood. The Dy Director briefed the gathering of around 40 farmers about the criteria to be fulfilled to avail this benefit.

Panchayat president, Upper Nandok GPU, Umakanta Sharma, in his address, urged the farmers to become serious about their profession and urged

them to avail full benefits not only from the state government but also from the Central Government agencies. He informed that the government had recently announced Rs. 1 crore for the best progressive farmer as an award. On this, Mr Sharma urged all Nandokians to put their level best to win the award.

In her address, FS&ADD Inspector [Nandok], Bindu Dhamala, assured that she will put her utmost effort into helping the farmers of

her area. In return, she urged the farmers to co-operate with her department to implement the schemes smoothly.

Later, Plant Protection Officer, CIPMC, BR Meena, informed that there are several methods to control/ manage pests by using locally available plants and other ingredients. He said that it is very important for farmers to know farmer-friendly and anti-crops insects living in their fields.

He also demonstrated how pests can be controlled using easily available ingredients around the villages and also taught the farmers techniques and technologies to prepare such organic pesticides.

Others who also addressed the farmers were K Elangovan [Asst. PPO], Ram Naresh Prasad [Scientific Assistant], Dinesh Chettri [Nimthang ward Panchayat], Field Assistants, Meena Rai [Nandok] and Amrita Rai [Ranka].

## Final coordination meeting held for 11th Lampokhari Tourism Festival

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

The final general meeting for the celebration of the 11th Lampokhari Tourism Festival 2018 [26-28 Mar] was held on 19 Mar at the conference hall of Regu BAC in East Sikkim. The meet was organised by Aritar Dalapchand Lampokhari Development Society [ADLDS] and was chaired by chief patron of Lampokhari Tourism Festival cum area MLA, Bikram Pradhan, a press release informs.

During the meeting, the representatives of the Sub Committees informed about progress on fund raising and other work.

MLA cum chief patron, Mr Pradhan, said, "By observing the Lampokhari Festival, we are following the Tourism Government Calendar and it is an example for the State."

He requested all to cooperate for successfully conducting the festival and attract participants for different events like State level Super Chef Competition, Super Mom and Dad, Super Couple and Inter School Dance



Competition.

Additional District Collector [Dev], Urvashi Poudyal, urged all to avoid the use of plastic related items during the festival while Panchayat Inspector of ADC office, Sunil Pradhan, suggested using leaf plates at stalls. In comparison to previous fes-

tivals, more items have been added this year like awareness on Swachh Bharat Mission by Rural Management Development Department, Job Mela by SICB, Karfector, Ayush & medical treatment and organic stalls.

Events like inter-school dance competition, Lampokha-

ri Super Mom, Dad Dance and Voice of Lampokhari [Grand finale] have been added to the list of events for the festival along with performances by guest artists from Nepal, Sabbin Rai and Shiva Pariyar along with local talents, the release adds.

## Siliguri Mayor submits Rs 4.6 cr deficit budget

**Contd from pg01**

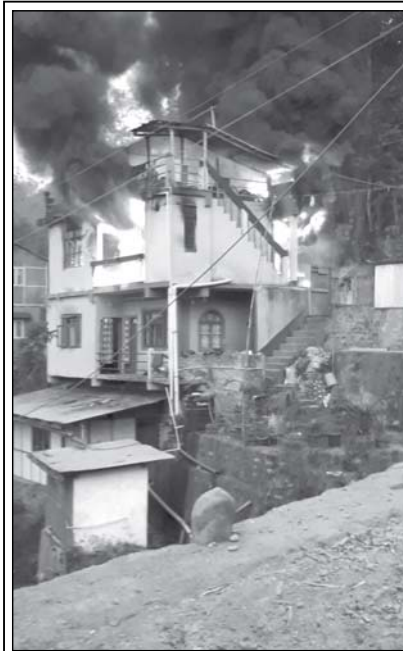
Expressing his views on the new budget placed by the civic board, Mr Sarkar said that the 29-page budget has nothing except the dreams of Mr Bhattacharya.

"A very long budget but has nothing in it. There are no views or dimensions in the budget. The budget placed today was nothing but a 'Political Document' and dreams of the mayor," claimed Mr Sarkar.

Speaking in the same tune, Congress leader, Sujoy Ghatak said, "This is a loss budget. There has been no development in SMC for last three years. If it had, Congress would be with the board, no confusion would have been surfaced. We will work for the development of the people."

The budget will be tabled for discussion on 22 March at SMC.

Meanwhile leader of the Opposition, Ranjan Sarkar opposed the idea and said, "Mr Bhattacharya being a Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) can place these things in the Assembly. There is no need for us to meet the Ministers."



## SHOP GUTTED BY FIRE IN KALIMPONG

**KALIMPONG, 20 MAR:** A shop and a room at Dungra in Kalimpong, West Bengal were gutted in a fire this morning. The family said that some 'antisocial elements' caused the fire while the villagers alleged that fire tenders reached the spot an hour late.

## SKM to march for justice in Gangtok

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has announced a 'March for Justice' on 24 March in the capital to press for various demands with the state government. The march will start from Saraswati Mandir at 5th Mile, Tadong and will end at Bhanu Park, Zero Point, informs an SKM press release. The party has appealed to the public to participate in the rally.

Through this march, SKM will place seven demands which include immediate termination of service of government employees on extension, immediate regularization of employees who have already worked for

more than five years on MR, Adhoc, coterminous and contract basis and to regularise home guards who have already given service of 5 years along with arrears.

"Since home guards have been well trained, they should not be appointed as night guards and peons. Instead, they should be regularised and promoted in the Police force," the party has said.

The demands also include abolishing of labour contract system in private sector; provision of regular jobs in government departments after interviews, preference to local youth in contracts and supply works, and cancellation of pilots provided to the Ministers.



## Devotees gather for Kalash-Yatra at Kamarey

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

A weeklong Srimad Bhagwat Katha Gyan Mahayaga organised under the banner of Sri Ram Mandir Dharmshala Nirman Samiti commenced today at Kamarey under Rhenock constituency in East Sikkim with a 50 KM Kalash-Yatra, a press release informs.

The Yatra started from Kamarey and proceeded towards Rangpo Indrakil Prayag to collect water from the Teesta.

The Yatra then moved towards Majhitar, Bagheykhola, Bardaang, Singtam, West Pandam, Budang-Gadi, Central Pandam and Duga.

Various organisations volunteered for the distribution of refreshments to participants of the Yatra which also included different jhankis with children decked up as Lord Ram, Sita, Laxman, Lord Shiva, etc.

The Yatra was organised in a grand manner with a huge gathering.



## SJA CONDUCTS WORKSHOP FOR DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGES

**GANGTOK, 20 MAR [IPR]:** Sikkim Judicial Academy organized a workshop on "Deciding Appeals [in Civil and Criminal Cases] and cases under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996" for District & Sessions Judges on 17-18 Mar at the Sikkim Judicial Academy, High Court Premises in Gangtok. Former District & Sessions Judge, West Bengal, Mahadeb Ghose, was the resource person for the programme.



**Gangtok on  
Wednesday,  
21 Mar**

**Temp:** 24°C / 10°C  
**Forecast:** Rather cloudy with a shower or thunderstorm around in the afternoon.  
**Sunrise:** 05:39 AM  
**Sunset:** 5:47 PM

## Stranded tourist dies of breathing problem at Sela Pass

**ITANAGAR, MAR 20 (PTI):** A tourist from Maharashtra died at Sela Pass in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang district after he was stranded there for a day due to heavy snowfall, government officials said here today.

He was got stuck there along with other tourists on Saturday and died on Sunday, the officials said.

The tourist reportedly died due to breathing problem, they said.

The last rites of the tourist was performed yesterday with support from the Tawang Monpa Employees Society (TMES), an official said.

The family members of the deceased were present when the last rites were performed at the Changbu cremation ground, the official added.

The other stranded tourists were rescued, he said.

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

# For the love of butterflies

**YOUNG TAMANG  
GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

Inspired by nature and its beauty, Sonam Wangchuk Lepcha turned himself into a naturalist, butterfly enthusiast and then a photographer and a writer.

Sonam [27] was born and brought up in the Noom-Panang village of Upper Dzongu in North Sikkim. Born to parents, Sherap Pintso Lepcha and Late Dukmit Lepcha, Sonam completed his fundamentals from various schools of North Sikkim.

Despite the effects of modernity and westernization on the young these days, somehow Sonam has been able to cultivate and nurture his love for nature. He felt that he needed to treasure all of it and document it. He would have never come up with any books if nature had not inspired him to.

Sonam has published three books so far. In the year 2011, he came up with his first



book "Dzongu Nye Mayallyang, North Sikkim". The book focused on the natural beauty of Dzongu [photography] and also had short stories of his small Noom-Panang village.

In the year 2015, he released the 2nd edition of his book, "The Myths of Mutanchi", a collection of tales from Dzongu. Sonam has also released his new book "The Book on Dzongu Butterflies-North Sikkim" which gives an idea of the different species of butterflies found in Dzongu region of North Sikkim.



"It is fairly recent since I began appreciating the fact that our Renjiongyang, especially Sikkim, is truly blessed with beautiful species of butterflies known as Thamblyok in Lepcha. During my explorations, I had to acknowledge that Sikkim is indeed a paradise for butterfly enthusiasts," said Sonam while talking to SummitTimes.

"This has been established

by individuals like Isaac Kehmkar who published a book on Indian butterflies. Similarly, Meena Haribal and Nosang Muringla Limboo, have also based their respective books on Sikkim butterflies," added Sonam.

Sonam's journey in the exploration of butterflies in Sikkim started when he was on a short trip to Namprikdang in Dzongu, North Sikkim in 2016. He came across

many species of butterflies in the valley but failed to identify even one, which really saddened him. However, his urge to understand butterflies turned him towards documenting and photographing butterflies thereafter.

He later visited Blyokvoo near Upper Dzongu. The original name of Blyokvoo is Thamblyokvoo which stands for the 'meeting place for butterflies'. This visit piqued his interest and fascination for butterflies and the rich cultural heritage of the Lepcha community.

Sonam believes that in future, places like Dzongu in Sikkim can prove to be important geographical habitats for promoting conservation and protection measures for various butterfly species. It will be equally potent to build awareness about these precious little inhabitants with the help of eco-tourism and by means of informative guided tours for nature enthusi-

asts that are aimed at sharing and broadening the knowledge base about the species.

Before such plans are implemented, it is equally vital that proper measures and stringent laws are in place to curb any illegal practices, such as trapping of butterflies; as such incidents have occurred in the past. The focus should be on conservation policies, he adds.

Sonam further states that all his books aim to encourage the youth of Sikkim as it has become important to appreciate and explore natural treasures that our region holds.

Sonam finds himself very grateful to Padmashree Nukung Keepu Tshering Lepcha for writing the foreword for his book. He is equally grateful to Cultural President, Mutanchi Loam Aal Shezum, Dzongu, Namgyal Lepcha, for his support and motivation and others who have supported his passion and works.



## Organic 7x7 opens at Namthang

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

An organic outlet under the brand name "Organic 7X7" was opened by Namthang Organic Farmers Producers Organisation Cooperative Society [NOFPOCS] at Namthang in South Sikkim today. This FPO has been promoted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, South Sikkim in collaboration with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development [NABARD], a

press release informs.

General Manager, NABARD, Gangtok Regional Office, Anjana Lama, attended the occasion as chief guest along with Block Development Officer, Namthang, AB Gurung, District Development Manager, NABARD [South], Tempa Choda Bhutia, officials from Cooperative Department, Agriculture Technology Management Agency [ATMA], Hor-

iculture & Cash Crop Development Department, Social Justice and Empowerment Department, Zilla Panchayats and farmers.

The programme also featured the valedictory function of six weeks long village attachment under Rural Agriculture Work Experience [RAWEX] programme for 4th year B.Sc. Agriculture students of Abhilashi University, Mandi [Himachal Pradesh].

**SAGAR CHETTRI  
GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

A four-member team of Body Building & Power Lifting Association of Sikkim [BBPLAS] is all set to represent Sikkim in the 11th edition of Mr India Senior Men's and Women's Body Building & 6th Men's and Women's Physique Sports National Championship 2018 to be held from 23-25 Mar at Pune in Maharashtra. The team is scheduled to leave for the championship on 22 Mar.

The team includes Pema WD Bhutia, Subham Kumar Prasad and Hishey Namgyal Bhutia in body building com-

petition and Romario Gyatso Bhutia in men's physique competition. The team will be accompanied by Virendra Singh as the team coach cum manager. All four team members are participating for the first time in a national level competition.

Addressing a press conference here today, BBPLAS president, Sanjay Chettri, mentioned that BBPLAS was formed last year and is sending a team for a national level competition for the first time. He assured that the association will continue to send teams annually for national competitions to promote and to en-

courage local bodybuilders at higher levels.

It is informed that BBPLAS is affiliated with Indian Body Builders

Federation [IBBF], which has been recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Sports Authority of India.

## Body building & power lifting team to take part in national c'ship



## Students participate in sporting events in SU fest

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 20 MAR:**

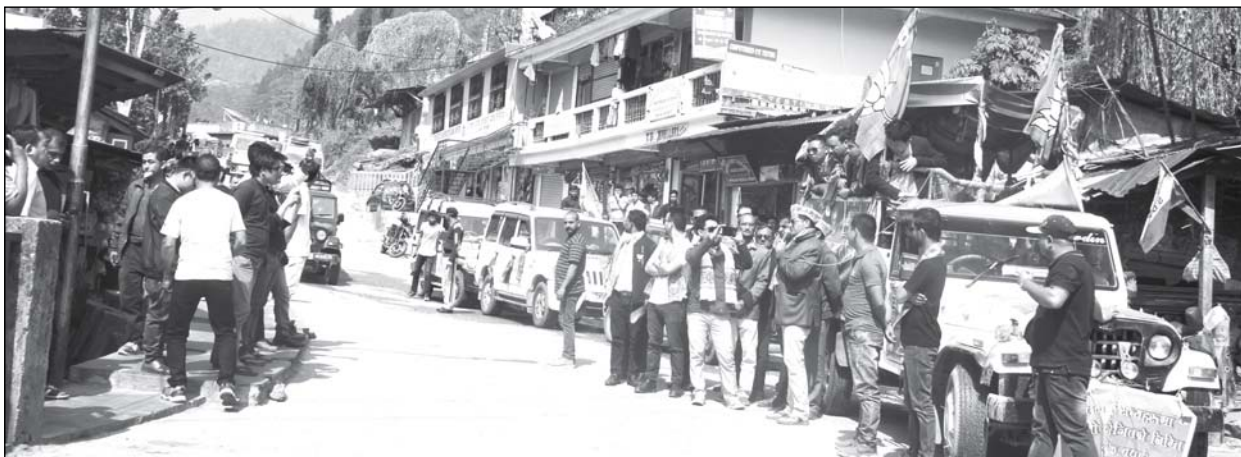
A month-long fest, 'Ramailo SU-Khim', organized by the SUSA (Sikkim University Students' Association) executives of Sikkim University has entered the fourth day. The fest had started on 17 March.

A press release informs that participants from different departments' today participated in the sports events. Cricket for the boys and for girls, track and field and Kabaddi events were organized by the executive members of SUSA.

The events started from 9 a.m. in the Ranka Khel ground. A total of 700 students from various departments of Sikkim

University took part in the events. The fest is an initiative taken by the first SUSA executive members of the University, to inculcate the feeling of unity and healthy participation among the students, the release mentions.

On 18 March, drama, reuse and painting competition was held. The following day, on 19 March, essay and inter-departmental debate competition took place. The events were coordinated by Mamta Agarwal [secretary for Social Service Affairs], Dawa Sherpa [secretary for Academic Affairs], Rishobh Sandilya [secretary for Games and Sporting Affairs].



## BJP BLAMES SDF FOR NAMCHI ATTACK

**GANGTOK, 20 MAR:** The victory rally of Bharatiya Janta Party Sikkim Pradesh led by the State president, DB Chauhan, covered North Sikkim today. The fifth day of the rally started from Singtam and covered Sirwani, Makha, Dikchu, Rangrang and reached Mangan, informs a BJP press release.

The release informs that after taking a round of Mangan Bazaar, the rally transformed into a meeting which was addressed by the State president wherein he alleged that the attack on BJP workers at Namchi was carried out by SDF. The rally then covered Mangshila, Phodong, Kabi and finally concluded at Singtam party office.

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



## Unhappy Because We Revel in Pessimism?

*Take away Hope and there is nothing left*

Happiness is not a quantifiable emotion and its definition and measure differs from person to person. But still, the UN insists on preparing a World Happiness Index every year. It is possible that the enumerators have worked out indices and algorithms which can measure happiness in very general terms for country-sized populations with some reasonable accuracy. We hope it does, because what follows is born from where our country finds itself in the world ranking for happiness.

India has been ranked a sad 133rd in the World Happiness Index 2018 which measured 156 countries in terms of happiness. India dropped 11 places from last year's almost as miserable 122nd rank. If consistency can bring some joy to this dismal news, then we have been consistent because the year before last, the country was ranked 118th. Since Look East is being bandied about so much of late, here is another stat from the Index, save war-ravaged Afghanistan ranked 145th in the list of 156, everyone else in the neighbourhood is, as per the UN, happier than us. Pakistan is ranked 75th, Nepal 101st, the "happy nation" of Bhutan not as gleeful at 97th, Sri Lanka at 116th and Bangladesh is ranked 115th. Myanmar, despite being embroiled in ethnic violence, is still happier at 130th.

The Index explains how the rankings were worked out, but we have our take on it as well. It is the pessimism that has been coursing through our country of late which has hounded out happiness. Hope, that feeling that keeps us going, is being sucked out of the environs.

Given how desperate things can get in our country, it remains a miracle that it still holds together. And the miracle comes by way of hope, the inexplicable optimism which sees a future despite the travails of the present. Take that away and everything will collapse. And the surest way to kill hope is by infecting the society with pessimism.

As pessimism sinks in, suspicions grow, and before one even realizes, it's misanthropy all around. Not only do people stop trusting, they also start hating. It is then no longer about being pragmatic, but an obsession with remaining defeatist. That is one condition that even democracy cannot assail. Demoralise a people to a nadir from where they can spy no silver lining and from thereon even humanity can be subverted at will. Fear can also help in the subversion, but fear is difficult to instill and even more difficult to sustain whereas pessimism is an instinctive trait in the present times of frequent dejections and thus easier to contaminate with. When the pollution is complete, the people become dejected, see no hope and refuse to get involved. The public domain is then occupied by "vested interests" who feed paranoia with one hand to keep people dispirited and "negotiate" favours for themselves with the other. The people are too distracted by their dejections to notice or even care and when they are so indisposed, surrender the power that was theirs. Take away faith, dismember hope and then there are no solutions possible. Happiness goes into a freefall then.

A society so disinclined then lives in an environment where there are no meaningful debates, because loaded with pessimism minds speak only to themselves and refuse to engage other voices. There are worrying trends all across the country which suggest that we are a people who are losing hope and hence clinging to straws as weak as projected nationalism and hollow strength, not because things are bad, but because we refuse to see the positives, refuse to engage. This is a worrying trend which has encroached on Sikkim too. There is too much of leader speaking/arguing with leader and not enough of people speaking to leaders. Because of this there is too much claiming and complaining in the public domain and not enough positivity.

This trend has to be stemmed. People have to get involved more. Without involvement, there is no sense of achievement, no sense of belonging; what is democracy then? Where is happiness? Perhaps we speak too soon here, both, for India and for Sikkim. But what if we are speaking up too late?

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

# The Shape of Water: An allegorical critique of Trump

JOHN RICHARDSON  
*theconversation.com*

Resistance to Donald Trump's presidency has taken many forms, including legal challenges, resignations, media criticism, women's marches, political rebukes and endless rounds of late night mockery. The Best Picture winner at the 90th Academy Awards provides another, less obvious example of resistance. The top film was *The Shape of Water*, an allegorical love story between a mute woman and a green sea monster.

I am a high school English teacher and an adjunct professor in the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Education with a background in live theatre, critical pedagogy and youth culture. I teach Bachelor of Education students who may one day teach high school English classes.

Part of my course covers the importance of critical literacy, which I believe we can teach by asking teenagers to view film as more than just entertainment but as a vital source of insight on contemporary culture, issues and society.

Many of my classroom discussions focus on the ways in which this year's top movies, not just Oscar nominees, offer clever responses to the racist, sexist and xenophobic policies and rhetoric that have accompanied Trump's rise to the top.

Lady Bird argues that the lives of young women are worthy of exploration. Three Billboards Outside of Ebbing, Missouri offers a flame-thrower portrayal of the corruption, racial conflict and violence at the heart of the American dream. Black Panther triumphantly demonstrates that Black actors and filmmakers can produce a Hollywood blockbuster and that African-American culture can yield an exciting, mythological story appealing to all audiences.

But it is *The Shape of Water* that offers the most detailed, poetic critique of Trump and the hollow promises of his "Make America Great Again" philosophy.

### LIVES OF QUIET OPPRESSION

Set in 1962 Baltimore, director Guillermo Del Toro's film tells the story of Elisa, a young mute woman who works as a cleaner at a mysterious government facility that is home to a recently captured "Amphibian Man." Zelda is her African-American co-worker and Giles, a gay graphic designer whose work and identity are "ahead of his time," is her roommate.

These are the Americans who live lives of quiet oppression in the past-tense America that shimmers, myth-



ical and revered, at the heart of the Trump campaign promise. The film both upholds and undermines the old mythologies that can provide comfort and reassurance to people whose lives have been disrupted by global trade, population movements and the emergence of AI in the workplace.

The Cold War is in full swing in the film, and the dichotomy between the United States and Russia, between "good" and "evil," is both referenced and undermined.

Americans and Russians are in conflict, but it's a Russian agent who acts ethically. There is a traditional Main Street dessert shop, but the affable server turns out to be a vile racist and homophobe who adopts a southern accent for marketing purposes and is actually from Ottawa.

The pies look appealing, but they are mass-produced and the store is part of a new phenomena, the franchise. The film is poised at the moment when authenticity is being lost to illusion.

### A TRUMP PROXY

Opposing the quiet, marginalized Americans is Strickland, a shadowy government worker upon whose character the filmmakers apply hateful qualities like layers of slime. It becomes evident that Strickland is designed as a bridge to Trump's present-day political toxicity when a smooth-talking car salesman tells him: "You are the man of the future."

A further connection to Trump is made when Strickland announces:

"The future is bright. You gotta trust in that. This is America." Here the film has fun with its ironic presentation of the past. As audience members in 2018 watching a film set in a period of time more than half a century ago, we may question whether the future has indeed turned out to be "bright."

Reading news stories about the Robert Mueller investigation into the Trump campaign's alleged involvement with Russia, we may feel profoundly uneasy about the relationship between trust and leadership.

Witnessing the assault on otherness and a turn to American nativism, we may question what it now means to be American, and where a nation that was once so welcoming to immigrants has gone.

But then the film also picks up on the way in which truth in the Trump era has been attacked, questioned and undermined. "Bonanza is not violent. It's real life. The way it was," Strickland tells his son about the popular Western TV show of the time. A TV show is said to be "true" much in the same way that Trump draws on cable news personalities as experts fit to serve in the White House.

Like Trump, Strickland boasts about his power to sexually assault women when he harasses silent Elisa with the line: "Bet I can make you squawk a little." He has sex with his wife in a mechanical manner that diminishes and belittles her. His casual vulgarity oozes male privilege. His repellent masculinity crowds out a

woman's agency.

Strickland calls the beautiful South American Amphibian Man an "affront" and takes pleasure in torturing him with his sizzling cattle prod.

"How did they get in?" he asks of the Russian agents who infiltrated his facility, the question echoing the current political discourse around "illegals" and "shithole countries" as well as the president's restrictive immigration policies.

### A REBUKE TO IGNORANCE

When the mute woman, the Black woman and the gay man act together to free the beautiful "undesirable" from his prison, the film suggests that the creativity and humanism of outsiders can prevail against cruelty and corruption.

Cowardly, vile and literally rotting from having lost fingers earlier in the story, Strickland dies by the same violence he promulgated. He is the real monster. Elisa and Amphibian Man fall in love and slip away to a watery paradise. Breathing underwater, she opens her eyes and looks at him. She is alive.

Not everyone can escape to the ocean's depths to escape the Trump presidency, but we can escape to the movies. *The Shape of Water* reminds audiences of the humanity of those people who are marginalized and belittled. Its artistry alone is a rebuke to ignorance.

*[the writer is Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa]*

## How kids in a low-income country use laptops: lessons from Madagascar

SANDRA NOGRY  
*theconversation.com*

Every child, no matter what country they're from or their social background, should have the chance to use and learn about technology. That's the thinking behind a number of projects led by international organisations like UNESCO and UNICEF. They hope to bolster education and economic growth by making digital technologies available in the developing world.

The One Laptop Per Child project was a pioneer in this field. This educational project, launched by the MIT in 2005, produces laptop computers suitable for children aged between 6 and 12. These are loaded with an operating system that features free educational software called Sugar. The programme has been rolled out at schools in more than 30 countries.

The project aims to equip all primary school children and all teachers with computers in a way that involves communities and that ensures everyone feels a sense of responsibility for the equipment. For example, kids aged six to 12 own their computers and can take them home to use.



Research shows that using technology in school makes children more engaged with learning. We wanted to know how children in low-income countries use laptops in their everyday lives; in school and after class. To find out, we embarked on a study in a village in Madagascar four years after the project was launched there.

Our results show that the use of computers in low-income countries supports formal and informal learning activities at home. It provides easy access to information, educational games and tools for self-expression.

### USE AT SCHOOL

Madagascar, an island nation off Africa's southeast coast, is extremely poor: 75% of the population (25 million) live below the poverty line, and the country scores low on the human development index, performing poorly in areas like education and living standards.

The study was conducted in a village located on the island of Nosy Komba, in the northeast of the country. Laptops are seen among residents there as high status objects because they cost a lot of money. None of the parents we interviewed could afford

to buy one. They also have a high symbolic value: parents believe that if their children can master laptop use they will become more intelligent and develop professional skills.

A programme was rolled out in the village by

turn to 06





## Mamata to visit Delhi next week

**KOLKATA, MAR 20 (PTI):** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will be attending an opposition parties' meet convened by NCP leader Sharad Pawar next week, a top source in the TMC said today.

She will be travelling to New Delhi on a four-day visit next week from March 26 to extend support to the emerging opposition alliance against the BJP, the source said.

"She is scheduled to attend Sharad Pawar's opposition parties' meet. She is likely to meet leaders of other opposition parties as well. Efforts are on to arrange a meeting with (UPA chairperson) Sonia Gandhi and (Congress chief) Rahul Gandhi," the TMC source told PTI.

"Our leaders are in touch with the Congress leadership for fixing a meeting, but nothing is finalised as of now," he said.

Pawar has called a meeting of all opposition leaders, including of the Congress, to discuss a strategy for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

NCP leader Praful Patel had earlier this month met Banerjee here and invited her to attend the meet.

Banerjee, who has been a critic of the Narendra Modi-led government and its policies, had recently called for uniting all the anti-BJP forces to defeat the saffron party in the 2019 Lok Sabha election.

The TMC chief yesterday met TRS president and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Rao, who visited her, and discussed the process of setting up a federal front against the BJP government at the Centre.

## Spandan art festival concludes in Gangtok

**GANGTOK, 20 MAR [IPR]:** The 13th edition of Spandan National and International Art Festival concluded today here at Limboo Bhawan in Gangtok with Minister for Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department, GM Gurung, as chief guest.

Addressing the function, Mr Gurung said, "With this kind of art festival, we are able to share the works of artists from different places of the country. It is good to see the works of artists and their hard works having different messages in the form of art."

It may be mentioned here, the six-day festival was organized by Spandan International, Goa, as part of Spandan Global Art Festival covering all 29 States



and 07 Union Territories of India and abroad, which had commenced in July 2016 and will continue till December 2018.

It is a multi-event National Art Festival, and till date Spandan has organized 70 shows across the nation in a span of 55 months where artists from different states of

India had exhibited their arts.

Fifteen artists from Sikkim, Assam, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and Gujarat displayed their paintings during this fest.

During the function, three artists from Sikkim and Mizoram were presented with awards.

Prominent artist from Mizoram, Thang Rokhuma,

was awarded with Lifetime Achievement Award [Social Award] with Sikkimese artist, Kamal Khaling, and Mizo artist, Lalhming Mawii [Amoi], being presented the Spandan Social Creative Award. Spandan Award for Excellence was given to Sikkim artist, Hem Khawas. The chief guest handed over the awards to the awardees.

Festival organizer, Anant Vikas, was also felicitated by Sikkim's artists for organizing a promotional festival in Sikkim.

Mr Vikas, in his address, said, "Gangtok needs one art gallery where Sikkim artists can display and sell their arts and will also help promote local artists."

## 330 Pak, 1,770 B'deshi nationals deported in 3 yrs: govt

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** As many as 330 Pakistani and 1,770 Bangladeshi nationals, who were illegally staying in India, have been repatriated in the last three years, the Lok Sabha was informed today.

Union minister of state for home Kiren Rijiju said the central government is vested with powers to deport a foreign national under section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 for illegally staying in the country.

"As per available information, approximately 330 Paki-



stani and approximately 1,770 Bangladeshi nationals have been repatriated during the last three years," he said in a written reply.

Rijiju said illegal migrants enter the country in clandestine and surreptitious manner

and, therefore, accurate estimate of such illegal migrants is not available.

Some instances of violation of the law and involvement in illegal activities by foreign nationals have been reported, he said.

to book advertisements in Summit Times, mail us at [advertise@summit-times.com](mailto:advertise@summit-times.com)

or Call  
9933427505  
9734152451  
9647102692  
03592-208698

## Emerging Artist award for Siliguri artist Biplab Sarkar

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** Siliguri-based miniature artist Biplab Sarkar has been chosen as the Glenfiddichs Emerging Artist of the Year 2018.

The seventh recipient of the honour, Sarkar will represent India at the Glenfiddich Artists in Residence (AiR) programme where he will spend three months at the Glenfiddich Distillery in Scotland with artists from around the world.

It is Sarkar's miniature narrative body of work exploring the relationship of body and object in an urban context that made him stand out.

His art largely deals with the lifestyle and struggles of hawkers working at heritage sites, tourist places, local market or the independent wanderers.

The simplistic forms painted with subtle tones of water colors with some line drawings are evolved from the photographic reference.

"I am extremely honored and excited to have been selected for the 2018 Glenfiddich Artists in Residence programme. I look forward to exploring new ideas while on residence at Glenfiddich distillery and working with artists from different cultures and practices," the artist said.

The artist will be also awarded Rs 10 lakh,

which includes an international allowance of Rs 1,20,000 per month and a work allowance of Rs 500,000, besides being given a solo show at Bestcollegeart.com Gallery here.

The 17-year-old AiR programme brings winners from different countries together to spend three months at the Glenfiddich Distillery in Scotland, and take inspiration from their surroundings to produce new work.

"We are delighted to invite (winner) to be the 7th Indian artist to join the Glenfiddich residency programme.

"Our globally recognized forum Artists in Residence (AiR), launched in 2002, provides a unique and inspired platform for artists from around the world to showcase their talent and to gain international recognition. Through this programme, we are trying to recognize and encourage the emerging talent of India," Andy Fairgrieve, global coordinator and organizer of the programme, said.

The award was judged by a 12-member jury including leading artists, gallery owners, art critics and art collectors like Swapan Seth, Sunil Sethi, Veer Munshi, Jagannath Panda, Nitin Bhayana, Sunil V, Bhavna Kakar, among others.

## How kids in a low-income country use laptops: lessons from Madagascar...

contd from pg4

One Laptop Per Child France and another French organisation, Gduceur. They supplied laptops and provided technical, logistical, administrative, financial and educational support. The laptops were given to 160 children aged between 5 and 15 enrolled in the village's primary school.

Our analysis was both quantitative and a qualitative. We examined logs that showed which applications the children had used on their laptops during the previous 12 months; we analysed what they'd produced – for instance, recorded files. And we interviewed the children and their parents.

The results showed that the laptops were used very differently at school and in the children's homes. At school, computers were generally used to learn about word processing, to play educational games and to support creative activities (drawing, digital story telling). Computers were also used as a virtual learning environment that offered a range of resources unavailable in the classroom like calculators, eBooks, maps, a watch, measuring tools and so on.

At home the children, like their peers in developed countries, largely used computers to take photos or make videos, listen to music, play games, share content and do homework. The younger children tended to use fewer reading and writing applications. Those in the equivalent of fourth and

fifth grade used more digital books; they also shared images and videos more frequently with their friends.

**SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES**  
Our findings suggest that developing countries like Madagascar have something in common with western nations when it comes to laptop use, such as how the children used the computers at home.

But there was one marked difference: computer use in Madagascar tended to be a collective rather than an individual practice. Children and their families would gather around one laptop to play educational games, take photos or make videos. Computers were being used to strengthen existing social relations among siblings, parents and peers.

All of this is important and valuable. Laptops have introduced the children of Nosy Komba to previously inaccessible tools. But we found that original projects were limited. While applications used were designed to foster creativity, children need support to develop creativity skills.

Educators have a crucial role to play here. They can help to nurture children's creativity: they can help them to connect their lived experience and to express their imagination to produce original content. This will unlock new forms of expression and different kinds of literacy, including visual.

[the writer is Professeure associée en Psychologie de l'éducation, Université de Cergy-Pontoise]

### Kutse Shegu

The 49th Day Kutse Shegu of Late Phichi Bhutia of Linkey Busty, who left for heavenly abode on 10.02.2018 falls on 29.03.2018. All relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers to departed soul at our resident at Burtuk Helipad, Gangtok. We offer our sincere gratitude towards those who stood by us in the time of bereavement.

Mrs Karma Doma Bhutia (wife)- 9002372646, Ms Karma Doka Bhutia (daughter), Mr Chung Chung Bhutia (brother in law)- 9563337908, Mr. Lala Bhutia (brother in law)- 9434710142.

SummitTIMES  
ON TOP OF THE NEWS

informed, inquisitive, relevant





## Yuki advances in Miami qualifiers, Ramkumar ousted

**MIAMI (US), MAR 20 (PTI):** Continuing his imperious form, Yuki Bhambri crushed Argentina's Renzo Olivo in straight sets to move into the final round of the ATP Miami Masters qualifiers but Ramkumar Ramanathan was ousted from the high-profile tournament.

Yuki, who qualified for the Indian Wells Masters and went on to scalp world number 12 Lucas Pille, dispatched Olivo 6-4 6-1 in the opening round of the USD 7,972,535 hard court event.

He next faces Sweden's Elias Ymer, ranked 133 and coached by Rob-in Soderling, the two-time French Open finalist.

However, Ramkumar fell in the first round, losing 6-7(4) 4-6 to American Michael Mmoh.

## Winning in Davis Cup tough without playing together on Tour: Amritraj

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** Tennis great Vijay Amritraj says there should be least controversy with regards to India's doubles combination in Davis Cup since the doubles match matters only when there are "even singles matches".

AITA has teamed up Leander Paes and Rohan Bopanna for the next month's tie against China despite latter's reservations about being paired with the veteran legend.

Asked if it was a good idea to pair the players, who do not share chemistry, Amritraj said "I don't know" but pointed that those players, who play together on the Tour are likely to have a better chance to win in Davis Cup too.

"Nobody starts playing tennis, thinking of becoming doubles or mixed doubles specialist. Tell a five year old child, he won't say 'I want to be the best mixed doubles player'. It does not work like that. You want to be the next Roger Federer and the next Rafael Nadal. That's the goal."

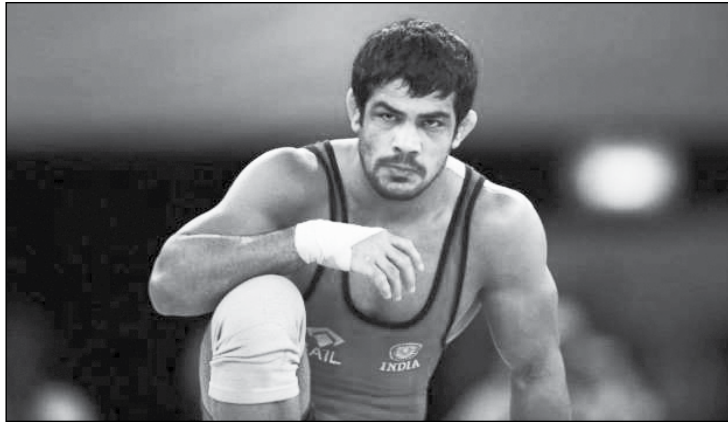
### SAUMOJOYOTI S CHOUDHURY

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** There is nothing to prove anymore but quite a bit left to achieve, says India's most decorated wrestler Sushil Kumar, who considers next month's Commonwealth Games the first step towards accomplishing his "unfulfilled" dream of a third Olympic medal.

A two-time defending champion at the Commonwealth Games, the 34-year-old, who has an Olympic bronze and silver to his credit, feels competing in Gold Coast would prolong his career.

The 66kg freestyle grappler expects to get a fair idea of where he stands at the international stage when he takes the mat in the CWG.

"Since I started wrestling my only aim was to represent the country and do well for it. I have always given my 100 per cent on the mat whenever I was fit. I can't change peo-



ple's mindset. I have nothing to prove to anyone," Sushil told PTI in an exclusive interview.

The tinge of bitterness in that statement is due to the selection controversies he has found himself.

The most prominent was before the 2016 Olympics, where Narsingh Yadav, even-

tually suspended for failing a dope test, was preferred over him without a formal trial. It denied him a shot at what could have been a third successive Olympic medal.

He was picked for Gold Coast after an ugly trial where his supporters and those of his rival Parveen Rana came

to blows over which of the two deserved to be selected.

"I have two Olympic medals. I have nothing to prove to anyone. But I have an unfulfilled dream and I came very close to it in 2012 (London Games where he won a silver). I feel I owe it to the country to get a gold at the Olympics," he

said.

Written off quite a few times, Sushil has also braved career-threatening injuries to make comebacks. However, despite his proven credentials, Sushil has been dropped from the government's Target Olympic Podium scheme (TOPS) but the veteran has no complaints.

"I don't think about what people say about me. My job is to give my 100 per cent whenever I am fit. I have achieved everything in life and I didn't have to make a comeback through the Nationals," Sushil said.

"My job is to give my 100 per cent on the mat and not think about medals which can put pressure on you."

Keeping in mind the CWG, Sushil is travelling to Georgia later this week for a 10-day training schedule along with his sparring partner Harpool and coach Vladimir Merstervishvili.

While Sushil is bearing his own expenses, Olympic Gold

Quest is covering the cost cost for his partner Harpool.

"I don't regret not being in the TOPS. My only aim is to give my best for the country whenever I am selected. So, I am travelling to Georgia later this week along with Harpool and coach Vladimir for a 10-day training stint," he said.

At 34, his critics might be writing him off but Sushil feels a wrestler can continue at the international stage till 40 provided he takes good care of his body.

"I feel a wrestler can continue till 40 if he can maintain his body. Everything depends on the individual and his lifestyle," said Sushil.

"I have been working hard for the last four years. I have worked on my tactics and I am confident of a good show despite people's apprehensions," concluded Sushil, who missed the recent Asian Championships due to a knee injury.

# CWG: Chance to celebrate Indian shooting's youth brigade

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** Bristling with talent and supremely confident about their skills, a gifted bunch of youngsters could make the upcoming Commonwealth Games in Australia a celebration of Indian shooting's rich talent pool.

Having stamped their class on the big stage, the youngest shooters in the national team will again jostle for space with the big players, vying for top honours at the Belmont Shooting Complex in Brisbane from April 8 to 14.

The abundance of talent is complemented by a confident approach which the likes of Manu Bhaker, Mehuli Ghosh, Anish Bhanwala and Anjum Moudgil will display at the Games.

The mix of confidence and talent helped India produce its best-ever ISSF World Cup performance in the recently-concluded tournament in Mexico, where the shooters won an unprecedented nine medals, including four gold.

No wonder the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president is optimistic of a bright future.

"I am thrilled that our faith in youngsters are giving results. This was a stupendous performance," Raninder said.

"We have key international events lined up throughout the year and a performance like this by youngsters of the squad bodes well," he added.

The NRAI boss deserves credit for doing his bit in streamlining the sport after the debacle at the 2016 Rio Olympics.

India's only individual Olympic gold medallist, Abhinav Bindra, specifically, lauded Raninder recently for the shooters' stellar show, attributing it to the "vision" showed by the president and pointed to the investment in junior programme.



The teenage shooters not only impressed but did so in their maiden World Cup appearance, and will take the confidence into the Commonwealth Games, which will be followed by the World Championships and Asian Games.

Jhajjar girl Manu, 16, stole the show at her international debut with gold in 10m air pistol and a day later bagged another yellow metal in the mixed team event alongside Om Prakash Mitharwal.

Shooting happened to her by chance after a brush with contact sports and the multi-faceted pistol sensation is now looking ahead to more global success.

"I am extremely happy at winning two gold medals (in Mexico), especially as this was my first World Cup. I look forward to perform even better in upcoming competitions," Manu said.

That she had also won a staggering 15 medals, including nine gold, at the 61st National Shooting Championship in Thiruvananthapuram will not be forgotten in a hurry.

Training under Joydeep Karmakar, who missed an Olympic medal by a whisker, Mehuli has come a long way since being 'blacklisted' for misfiring a shot that

hit an employee during her early days at the Serampore Rifle Club I Bengal.

Threats of a police complaint literally shook the small town girl before her mother, following a few sessions with a psychologist, got her enrolled at Karmakar's academy in Kolkata, which meant a travel time of more than four hours daily in local trains with her heavy equipment.

After winning two bronze medals in Guadalajara, Mehuli, who admires ace badminton champion P V Sindhu, has now set her eyes on the upcoming tournaments, including the Commonwealth Games.

Prior to that, two medals came in the 2016 Nationals, eight in 2017 Nationals, followed by a gold medal in the youth category of the Asian Airgun Championships in Japan.

For the likes of Bhanwala and Anjum too, CWG remains the immediate target.

The Central Board of Secondary Education's unprecedented act to reschedule three Board exam papers on the shooter's request, says a lot about Bhanwala's talent and its recognition.

Anjum is also a multi-faceted personality and a lot will be expected of her at the Games.

## After Australia loss, BCCI plans bench-strength building measures for women

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** India's heavy loss to Australia in the recent Women's ODI Championship fixture has prompted the BCCI to expedite the process of strengthening the bench strength of the national team.

After streamlining the domestic structure and introducing India A tours, the selectors have been asked to handpick a pool of pacers, spinners and wicketkeepers and test them in a camp at the National Cricket Academy beginning later this month.

The likes of Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami are not going to be around for long and the board feels that it is time to act now.

Lead pacer Jhulan was not fit to play against Australia and that hurt the team which was blanked 0-3 in the series.

The women's committee -- comprising COA member Diana Edulji, Mithali (ODI captain), Harmanpreet Kaur (T20 captain), Hemlata Kala (selection committee chief) and Prof. Ratnakar Shetty (convenor) -- will meet on March 28 to review the team's disappointing performance against Australia and discuss the way forward.

"There is a definite need for more quality pace bowlers and spinners. The Australia series showed us that. They played our spinners rather easily while our team struggled against theirs. We also need more firepower in the batting department," Edul-

ji, who is also a former India captain, told PTI.

More consistency is also expected from established names like Harmanpreet and opener Smriti Mandhana.

Looking ahead, the board is planning to scout for talent from all parts of the country including the North East.

"The recent tweaks in the domestic structure, including the introduction of the U-16 category, will take a while to take shape. But there is still a need to find the right available talent from all parts of India including North East, an area which has not been explored much," Edulji said.

The popularity of the women's game has shot up ever since India played in the World Cup final in England last year. The female cricketers finally have money and fame coming their way after years of neglect.

"Since they have all the facilities now, they must perform consistently. That is the only way to keep the interest in women's cricket alive," summed up Edulji.

Going forward, India not playing regular international matches won't be an issue anymore with a majority of teams willing to play the sub-continental side outside the ongoing ICC ODI Championship.

The team's next challenge is the home T20 tri-series involving England and Australia, beginning Thursday in Mumbai.

# Tendulkar urges Gadkari to act against fake helmet makers

**NEW DELHI, MAR 20 (PTI):** Cricket icon and Rajya Sabha MP Sachin Tendulkar has sought action against manufacturers of low-quality helmets, continuing his campaign for safe two-wheeler riding.

In a letter to transport minister Nitin Gadkari, Tendulkar said given the high rate of accidents involving two-wheeler drivers, it is important that safety equipment for them is of highest quality.

"I am writing to you to request your ministry to consider action against helmet manufacturers using low grade material and selling it with a fake ISI mark. As sportspersons, we understand the importance of us-

ing original high-quality safety equipment when we go to play on the field," Tendulkar stated in his letter.

"The same original high-quality standards need to be maintained when it comes to helmets that will be used by two-wheeler riders in India," he added.

An active campaigner of road safety, Tendulkar has been routinely seen urging people to use helmets, during traffic signal halts, in social media posts.

Citing media reports, Tendulkar said that over 70 per cent of bike riders in India end up buying fake helmets.

"This is an absolutely alarming situation considering

two-wheelers accounted for over 30 per cent of road accidents, the highest among all kind of accidents in 2016. The availability of fake helmets is a danger to two-wheeler riders considering that wearing an appropriate helmet improves chances of survival of bikers by 42 per cent," Tendulkar said.

Reportedly, the government is contemplating penalising non-ISI or fake ISI marked helmet manufacturers but nothing concrete has been done till now.

"I understand that the ministry has been actively working on public safety measures. I would strongly urge your ministry to take strong action against man-

ufacturers of helmets that are putting lives of people at risk by using fake ISI marks on low grade, low quality helmets that will not protect head injuries in an accident," the legendary batsman said.

Tendulkar also called for lowering prices of good quality helmets so that riders do not seek cheaper options.

The 44-year-old said large-scale awareness drives should be launched to educate people about the importance of using quality safety gear.

"I look forward to your prompt action and extend my full support to your office to promote safe two-wheeler riding among our citizens," he said.





Kim Jong Nam murder suspect thought hit was a prank: lawyer

**SHAH ALAM, MAR 20 (AFP):** A Vietnamese woman accused of assassinating the North Korean leader's half-brother with a nerve agent thought she was taking part in a practical joke and only realised he was dead after her arrest, a court heard today.

Doan Thi Huong is on trial with Indonesian woman Siti Aisyah over the Cold War-style killing of Kim Jong Nam at Kuala Lumpur International Airport on February 13 last year.

Defence lawyers have argued that the women were recruited to take part in what they thought were prank TV shows but were instead tricked into becoming inadvertent assassins, in an elaborate plot by a group of North Korean agents.

The women, in their 20s, have denied murdering Kim Jong Un's estranged half-brother by smearing VX nerve agent on his face as he waited for a flight to Macau. They face death by hanging if found guilty.

Huong's lawyer Hisyam Teh Poh Teik told the trial that one of four North Koreans suspected of involvement in the murder had recruited the Vietnamese woman to perform what she thought were pranks.

According to Huong's police statement presented to the High Court in Shah Alam, she travelled to Malaysia not long before the assassination.

In the days before the murder, Huong went to Kuala Lumpur airport twice and met the North Korean, whom she knew as Mr Y, according to the statement.

The court previously heard his real name was Ri Ji Hyon, and he fled Malaysia shortly after the murder with the other North Korean suspects.

Under his instructions Huong carried out pranks which involved sneaking up behind people and rubbing her hands on their face, the court heard.

MISSING



**Ms Rebika Biswakarma, D/o. Govind Biswakarma,** age about 13 years, R/o of Kumrek, East Sikkim is missing. Any information regarding her or anyone seen her please inform Ranipool Police Station or Contact: **03592-251712.**

China will not cede single inch of land, ready for 'bloody battle: Xi

**K J M VARMA BEIJING, MAR 20 (PTI):** China will not cede a "single inch of land" and is ready to wage a "bloody battle" to take its due place in the world, a belligerent President Xi Jinping, now enjoying probably a life-long tenure, asserted today.

In a 30-minute long nationalistic speech in China's Parliament, Xi said "since modern times, rejuvenation of the great Chinese nation has become the biggest dream of our nation".

"The Chinese people and the Chinese nation have a shared conviction which is not a single inch of our land will be and can be ceded from China Xi said, addressing the closing session of the NPC the first by a President in recent years.

Though Xi made no mention of any territorial issues, the country has been involved in a number of disputes.

Besides the border dispute with India, China claims rights over the disputed islands in East China Sea under the control of Japan and vast stretches of the South China Sea (SCS) where it is firmly asserting its control.

Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims over the South China Sea.

Xi said China has all the ca-



pabilities to take its due place in the world.

Every year, Chinese annual parliament season ends with a press conference by the Premier. This is the first-time a President addressed its valedictory session.

Xi this month has altered the course of the history of China after the NPC besides re-electing him for a second five-year term also ratified a constitutional amendment scrapping the decades old

two-term limit paving the way him to remain in power for life.

He has emerged as the most powerful leader after Mao Zedong as he headed the ruling Communist Party of China, (CPC), the military and the Presidency.

Seeking to allay fears about absolute powers enjoyed by him controlling all levers of power, Xi vowed to continue to serve as a servant of the people.

"The Chinese people has been indomitable and persistent. We are resolved to fight the bloody battle against our enemies and on the basis of independence we are determined to recapture the relics," he said.

"We have strong capabilities of taking our due place in the world. We have fought for that big dream for about 170 years. Today more than ever the Chinese people are close to that dream, ever more con-

fident and capable of realising the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," he said.

"I am convinced once the 1.3 billion Chinese people carrying on such big dreams we will certainly translate into a reality," he said amid thunderous applause in a nationally televised speech.

"We should safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country and achieve full unification of the motherland. This is the aspiration of all Chinese people. This is also in line with fundamental of the Chinese nation," Xi said in an apparent reference to Taiwan which China claims as part of it.

In his speech, Xi also delivered a stern message to the separatists.

"Faced with this important question of our nation and history any action that separates the country is doomed to fail. These separatist actions will be met with the condemnation of the people and punishment of the history," he said.

"Chinese people have strong determination, full confidence and every capability to triumph over all the separatist actions," he said.

Besides Taiwan, China brands the Dalai Lama as "splittist". China is also carry-

ing out extensive crackdown in the Muslim Uyghur majority Xinjiang against the separatist group East Turkistan Islamic Movement, (ETIM).

Xi said any actions and tricks to split China are certain to meet with the people's condemnation and the punishment.

At the same time, he also sought to allay the concerns of the world about rising China as well as his multibillion dollar pet project the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), saying that China's development does not pose a threat to any other country

"China will never seek hegemony or engage in expansion. Only those who are accustomed to threatening others see everyone as a threat," he said, taking a dig at the US.

"We will not impose our will on other people and China will continue to advance its BRI and strengthen exchanges and cooperation with other countries in the world so that reforming and opening of China will benefit all mankind," Xi said.

The BRI has special implications for India as the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is part of it. India has protested to China over the CPEC as it traverses through Pakistan occupied Kashmir.

US won't resume security aid to Pak till it allays concerns on terror safe havens

**WASHINGTON, MAR 20 (PTI):** The US will not resume security aid to Pakistan until it addresses America's concerns on terrorist safe havens, the Pentagon said, underlining that Islamabad's action against militants would not only help Afghanistan but also protect India and the entire region.

The US in January suspended more than USD 1.15 billion security assistance to Pakistan, accusing Islamabad of harbouring terror groups like the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani Network within its border and showing unwilling-

ness to take decisive actions against them.

In addition, the Department of Defense had suspended the entire USD 900 million of the Coalition Support Fund (CSF) money to Pakistan for the fiscal year 2017.

"The US government has been very honest and open both publicly and privately with Pakistan on the things that they need to address before we can move forward with the resumption of the aid that has been suspended," Lt Col Mike Andrews, a spokesperson of the Department of Defence told PTI.



Donald Trump has called for drug traffickers to be given the death penalty, declaring: "This isn't about nice anymore." Announcing his plans to tackle the US' opioid epidemic, the President said a tough stance was required because "toughness is the thing they most fear". Opioids, including prescription opioids, heroin and synthetic drugs, killed more than 42,000 people in the US in 2016, the highest total ever recorded. Mr Trump unveiled his plans in New Hampshire, a state that has been hard hit by the drug scourge. The move represents the laying down of an early marker in the 45th President's re-election campaign for 2020.

French ex-president Sarkozy held in Libya financing probe

**PARIS, MAR 20 (AFP):** Former French president Nicolas Sarkozy was taken into police custody on Tuesday for questioning over suspected Libyan financing of his 2007 election campaign, a source close to the inquiry told AFP.

Sarkozy, 63, had until now refused to respond to a summons for questioning in the case, which drew heightened scrutiny last November when a businessman admitted delivering three cash-stuffed suitcases from the Libyan leader as contributions towards the French leader's first presidential bid.

Sarkozy's detention was first reported by the Mediapart investigative news site and French daily Le Monde and comes several weeks after a former associate, Alexandre Djouhri, was arrested in London and later released on bail.

Djouhri was returned to



pre-trial detention in February after France issued a second warrant for his arrest, ahead of a hearing scheduled for March 28.

A source close to the inquiry also said that Brice Hortefeux, a top government minister during Sarkozy's presidency, was also questioned Tuesday as part of

the inquiry.

Before his arrest in January, Djouhri, a 59-year-old Swiss resident, was well known among France's rightwing political establishment, and had refused to respond to summons for questioning in Paris.

He has been a focus of the in-

quiry opened in 2013 by judges investigating earlier claims by late Libyan ruler Moamer Kadhafi and his son Seif al-Islam that they provided funds for Sarkozy's election effort.

Sarkozy has dismissed the allegations as the claims of vindictive Libyan regime members furious over his participation in the US-led military intervention that ended Kadhafi's 41-year rule.

Franco-Lebanese businessman Ziad Takieddine said he had made three trips from Tripoli to Paris in late 2006 and early 2007 with cash for Sarkozy's campaign.

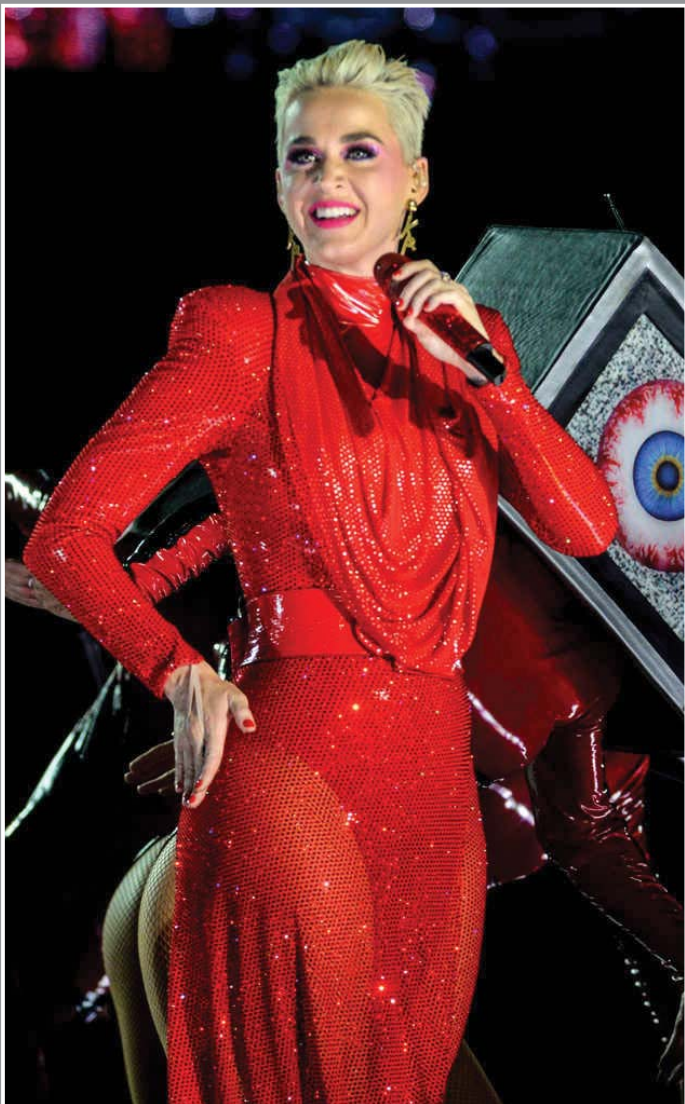
Each time he carried a suitcase containing 1.5 to 2.0 million euros in 2000-euro and 500-euro notes, Takieddine claimed in a French media interview, saying he was given the money by Kadhafi's military intelligence chief Abdallah Senussi.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR SINCERE MORNING	DEAR LOVED	DEAR PARROT EVENING
Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards	Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards	Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:16 DrawDate on:20/03/18	Draw No:16 DrawDate on:20/03/18	Draw No:34 DrawDate on:20/03/18
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 87G 27023	1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 69D 81791	1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 87C 79770
(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 27023 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 81791 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.9495/- 79770 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-	2nd Prize Rs.9000/-	2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
00527 03957 10913 13669 26733	01512 02613 04100 10361 10701	02870 06054 11543 26206 26769
27587 41198 61034 75807 97154	15185 21268 34187 71217 87106	41949 49998 88463 94604 96447
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0658 3389 4330 4656 4890 5116 6972 9376 9972 9990	3rd Prize Rs.500/- 2092 2149 2160 2844 4946 4983 5353 6018 8214 8310	3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1023 1497 2442 3906 5959 6486 6780 7756 9241 9526
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0199 1343 1399 3497 4084 4150 6116 7047 9811 9879	4th Prize Rs.250/- 0652 1134 1682 2830 4639 5145 6642 6948 6989 8893	4th Prize Rs.250/- 0766 0904 3192 4330 5091 5157 5521 5947 6035 7465
5th Prize Rs.120/-	5th Prize Rs.120/-	5th Prize Rs.120/-
0000 0004 0156 0187 0260 0531 0665 0667 0812 0833	0085 0088 0133 0290 0319 0379 0411 0510 0598 0682	0000 0100 0108 0169 0218 0317 0424 0463 0475 0491
1228 1272 1427 1443 1503 1776 1795 1841 1917 1979	0863 0939 1014 1105 1146 1169 1210 1265 1276 1364	0655 0710 1022 1209 1223 1228 1237 1293 1502 1511
2152 2165 2188 2352 2480 2522 2576 2611 2825 2847	1524 1559 1659 1763 1845 1920 1922 2006 2016 2574	1525 1623 1717 1963 2059 2142 2239 2513 2661 2749
2959 3110 3293 3337 3351 3510 3559 3575 3584 3804	3041 3104 3130 3177 3250 3259 3456 3515 3585 3695	2886 2891 3031 3154 3255 3291 3310 3511 3787 3876
3938 4101 4143 4248 4296 4343 4589 4749 4809 4937	4245 4295 4384 4419 4570 4617 4814 5051 5123 5207	4015 4148 4246 4277 4518 4543 4553 4607 4710 4881
5143 5194 5232 5288 5293 5529 5536 5805 5872 5941	5286 5412 5431 5628 5689 5709 5846 6195 6249 6338	5129 5160 5225 5275 5309 5861 5933 5957 5980 6189
6042 6164 6225 6309 6473 6492 6533 6683 6721 6749	6466 6857 6893 6988 6916 6934 6938 6949 6950 7010	6241 6298 6413 6465 6804 6922 7030 7077 7151 7155
6777 6883 6947 6980 7022 7252 7353 7392 7588 7913	7167 7209 7332 7361 7421 7500 7575 7589 7628 7729	7391 7530 7660 7679 7888 7973 7976 7996 8019 8056
7978 7980 8130 8146 8410 8442 8500 8536 8607 8660	7919 8105 8274 8332 8362 8584 8658 8776 8803 8873	8110 8184 8265 8375 8437 8528 8646 8918 9155 9161
9678 8833 8865 8914 9083 9207 9614 9710 9833 9932	9020 9105 9483 9484 9553 9592 9689 9714 9903 9996	9216 9217 9242 9423 9559 9574 9585 9686 9693 9724
Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Results, Please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com		
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE		

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES
LABHLAXMI TAURUS
Draw No:7 DrawDate on:20/03/18
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5833
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 2084 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 5095
4th Prize Rs.300/- 6688 5th Prize Rs. 201/- 6517
6th Prize Rs.100/-
1030 1076 1156 1162 1171 1206 1215 1247 1256 1320
1322 1342 1385 1388 1418 1440 1445 1452 1454 1459
1468 1481 1484 1557 1635 1640 1642 1644 1668 1684
1688 1713 1719 1724 1725 1776 1892 1920 1958 1991
1992 2031 2036 2071 2097 2114 2207 2225 2249 2312
2387 2409 2456 2457 2492 2520 2533 2559 2578 2583
2586 2619 2656 2720 2737 2826 2846 2857 2913 2943
2972 2978 3012 3057 3070 3074 3077 3090 3096 3113
3143 3152 3169 3177 3226 3268 3325 3405 3458 3466
3469 3552 3558 3566 3621 3682 3703 3711 3719 3848
3885 3892 3895 3954 3968 3993 4035 4044 4057 4065
4084 4094 4152 4163 4181 4219 4226 4311 4321 4379
4385 4401 4487 4510 4526 4572 4586 4591 4621 4625
4637 4638 4655 4669 4718 4746 4765 4805 4814 4825
4827 4837 4840 4890 4922 4966 4996 5012 5027 5051
5082 5133 5160 5167 5184 5192 5209 5220 5234 5239
5265 5269 5344 5345 5354 5356 5361 5380 5438 5466
5481 5509 5514 5515 5563 5565 5642 5668 5700 5705
5715 5716 5734 5758 5810 5826 5840 5873 5878 5981
5998 6012 6021 6022 6025 6029 6040 6072 6105 6126
6165 6188 6207 6284 6287 6297 6325 6326 6336 6363
6381 6389 6407 6408 6418 6462 6471 6480 6495 6514
6575 6589 6595 6616 6621 6667 6677 6692 6728 6797
6836 6858 6864 6923 6927 6933 6937 6946 6951 6968
Issued by: The Director ,Mizoram State Lotteries, For result please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
MUMBAILAXMI LAXMAN
Draw No:7 DrawDate on:20/03/18
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 2444 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 3652
3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 1624 4th Prize Rs. 501/- 1436
5th Prize Rs.200/-
1002 1015 1027 1083 1086 1203 1245 1262 1314 1334
1366 1520 1569 1625 1661 1689 1696 1807 1865 1905
2010 2133 2138 2148 2169 2220 2234 2238 2265 2318
2363 2373 2385 2394 2505 2592 2593 2668 2670 2746
2898 2920 3011 3119 3180 3185 3228 3248 3261 3274
3329 3333 3375 3402 3474 3558 3611 3636 3770 3780
3835 3861 3866 3915 3917 4015 4035 4188 4200 4288
4357 4522 4622 4647 4686 4693 4793 4794 4872 4922
4937 4971 5127 5205 5238 5278 5310 5387 5392 5428
5459 5562 5660 5679 5683 5771 5791 5806 5848 5940
6th Prize Rs.100/-
1003 1048 1056 1065 1085 1118 1139 1172 1181 1210
1218 1232 1260 1268 1280 1300 1397 1418 1441 1541
1591 1592 1613 1623 1682 1701 1728 1732 1784 1785
1833 1845 1853 1861 1882 1919 1928 1997 2055 2099
2151 2205 2267 2320 2330 2337 2352 2391 2462 2469
2470 2476 2488 2509 2515 2518 2520 2523 2533 2536
2596 2607 2667 2679 2708 2754 2766 2788 2827 2844
2875 2903 2962 3004 3027 3058 3061 3082 3087 3093
3104 3111 3172 3181 3215 3225 3232 3255 3309 3315
3317 3343 3348 3365 3371 3380 3386 3389 3407 3416
3425 3445 3466 3508 3511 3522 3535 3539 3554 3619
3632 3671 3676 3679 3707 3715 3756 3759 3818 3830
3875 3884 3906 3920 3942 3974 3992 3999 4032 4042
4114 4119 4136 4158 4221 4233 4239 4242 4269 4305
4312 4337 4368 4375 4387 4389 4420 4435 4474 4504
4561 4687 4689 4701 4717 4739 4780 4804 4808 4826
4829 4845 4905 4976 5009 5010 5034 5039 5055 5087
5125 5135 5154 5161 5172 5282 5314 5333 5368 5405
5414 5424 5426 5445 5505 5534 5553 5560 5600 5643
5690 5711 5721 5722 5735 5744 5755 5804 5854 5879
Issued by: The Commissioner, ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES,ITANAGAR.





**BABY, YOU'RE A FIREWORK!** Singer Katy Perry looks fierce in a red costume during a concert in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

## SANJANA SANGHI CONFIRMED FOR 'THE FAULT IN OUR STARS' REMAKE

After months of playing the guessing game and speculating, the cast for the remake of *The Fault In Our Stars* has finally been revealed. Fox Star Studios and Mukesh Chhabra have finally zeroed in on Sanjana Sanghi for the Hindi adaptation of the Hollywood blockbuster, *'The Fault In Our Stars'*, a romantic drama with Sushant Singh Rajput in the lead.

Rucha Pathak, Chief Creative Officer, said, "Mukesh called me out of the blue one day to meet her... and she had a striking and yet innocent personality but what really caught my attention was when Mukesh screen tested her. She nailed it in her audition and we knew right away she was our leading lady. Looking forward to launching this talented young lady in Mukesh's directorial debut."

Confirming the casting of Sanjana Sanghi, Mukesh Chhabra, Director, said "I met Sanjana first during the casting of *Rockstar*. She was a young and dynamic girl



with great energy. After a few years, she reconnected for a few ad casting jobs - she came across as a mature young lady and to my surprise, she was a fabulous actor. I was instantly sure that I would love to make a film with her one day. Once *The Fault in Our Stars* script was ready, she fitted right in, the perfect face. Well, I can't wait to create magic with this talented girl.

Presented and Produced by Fox Star Studios, the film's

shoot will begin by mid of 2018. Ace casting director Mukesh Chhabra will make his debut as a director with this film, while Academy Award winner A.R Rahman will compose the music for the romance drama.

*The Fault In Our Stars* is based on John Green's bestselling novel and a 2014 Hollywood blockbuster. The Hollywood film had Shailene Woodley and Ansel Elgort playing the lead character.

## FIFTH HARMONY ANNOUNCES INDEFINITE HIATUS

Fifth Harmony group members, Dinah Jane, Normani Kordei, Ally Brooke and Lauren Jauregui, announced the news via Twitter on Monday. The group members attributed the hiatus to their desire to pursue "solo endeavors."

"Reflecting on the past six years since we started on *X-Factor*, we've realized just how far we've come and we appreciate everything so much, more now than ever," a note from the group said, citing their start on the competition show. "We've really had one hell of a memorable journey together and can't begin to express our gratitude to y'all for coming along with us on this wild ride!"

The note continued, "After six years going hard, non-stop, we also realized that in order to stay authentic to ourselves and to you, we do need to take some time for now to go on a hiatus from Fifth Harmony in order to pursue solo endeavors."

They added, "We are all very excited and grateful to be able to take this time to



learn and grow creatively and really find our footing as individuals. In doing this we are allowing ourselves to gain new experiences, strengths and perspectives that we can bring back to our Fifth Harmony family."

They then thanked their fans.

"To our Harmonizers, thank you for everything we have been able to build as Fifth Harmony. With your love and encouragement we will continue to build on ourselves, support one another

in everything we do, and keep making you proud, each other proud and ourselves proud."

They concluded, "We do have some upcoming shows through the end of the year which will still happen as planned, and we can't wait! All our love, from the bottom of our hearts, Dinah Jane, Lauren, Normani and Ally xoxoxo."

Group members have already started pursuing solo opportunities. In February, Normani released

her single "Love Lies" with Khalid. She also appeared on the most recent season of *Dancing With the Stars* and made it to the finale. In addition, Dinah Jane released "Boom Boom" with RedOne, Daddy Yankee and French Montana in Oct. 2017.

However, these weren't the only artists to explore solo opportunities. Lauren released "All Night" with Steve Aoki in January and Ally dropped "Perfect" with Topic that same month.

### BOX-OFFICE

## SONU KE TITU KI SWEETY CROSSES RS 100 CRORE MARK



Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan, whose latest film *Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety* hit theatres on February 23, has all the reasons to party hard - the film has crossed the coveted Rs 100 crore in the fourth week of its release.

With this feat, it has outrun films such as Akshay Kumar's *Padman* to become the second biggest hit of the year till now, after *Padmaavat*. The movie has emerged as a surprise hit at the box office, especially given its estimated budget is as low as Rs 30 crore.

Trade analyst Taran Adarsh tweeted the figures and wrote, "Truly UNSTOPPABLE... 100 cr and counting... #SonuKeTituKiSweety marches into ₹ 100 cr Club... SECOND FILM to cross ₹ 100 cr mark in 2018, after #Pad-

maavat... [Week 4] Fri 1.27 cr, Sat 2.11 cr, Sun 2.32 cr, Mon 76 lakhs. Total: ₹ 100.10 cr. India biz... #SKTKS."

Starring Sunny Singh, Nushrat Bharucha and Kartik Aaryan, *Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety* was also the fourth highest weekend opener for the year 2018. While Sanjay Leela Bhansali's *Padmaavat* (Rs 114 crore) is the top weekend opener, Ajay Devgn's *Raid* became the second on the list with Rs 41 crore as the collection.

Directed by Luv Ranjan of *Pyaar Ka PUNCHNAAM* fame, *Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety* opened to mixed reviews and was mainly slammed for a sexist approach. The film's collections, however, grew on word-of-mouth and it has been able to become the first sleeper hit of the year.



## RACE 3 JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ'S FIRST LOOK REVEALED

Jacqueline Fernandez's first look from *Race 3* was teased by Salman Khan on Tuesday.

Salman Khan is as good as his word. After promising on Monday that he will introduce us to his *Race 3* family (is it just us or does it remind you of a certain Vin Diesel in a blockbuster franchise called *Fast & Furious*), he is on the job. If Monday belonged to his *Sikander* - a man in a sharp suit who believes in being armed and dangerous - Tuesday has brought about Jacqueline Fernandez's Jessica.

Salman wrote while introducing Jacqueline's character, "Jessica: Raw power . #Race3 #Race3ThisEid @AsliJacqueline @SKFilmsofficial @TipsOfficial." Jacqueline herself added, "...and power can be dangerous!! #Race3ThisEid @SKFilmsOf-

ficial @tipsofficial."

On Monday, Salman had tweeted about his *Race 3* character, "Is hafte milata hoon #Race3 ki family se ... mera naam hai Sikander. Selfless over selfish . #Race3ThisEid @tipsofficial @SKFilmsofficial."

*Race 3* is being directed by Remo D'Souza while director duo Abbas-Mustan helmed the first two parts. While Anil Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan starred in both the iterations of *Race*, Akshaye Khanna, Katrina Kaif and Sameera Reddy were seen in the first film and John Abraham, Jacqueline Fernandez and Deepika Padukone starred in *Race 2*.

Daisy Shah, Saqib Saleem and Bobby Deol also form part of the cast. *Race 3* releases on Eid this year on June 3.

## THIS WEEK'S TOP 10 SONGS ON BILLBOARD HOT 100



1. Drake- God's Plan
2. Ed Sheeran- Perfect
3. Bruno Mars featuring Cardi B- Finesse [Remix]
4. Bebe Rexha featuring Florida Georgia Line - Meant To Be
5. Post Malone featuring Ty Dolla \$ign- Psycho
6. Zedd, Maren Morris and Grey- The Middle
7. Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug- Havana
8. The Weeknd and Kendrick Lamar- Pray for Me
9. BlocBoy JB featuring Drake- Look Alive
10. Kendrick Lamar featuring SZA- All The Stars

**ARIES:** A number of invitations to social events could come your way today, some from people you really don't know well. Don't pass them up, however. You could make some fortunate contacts or even some new friends at these parties. You enjoy being around people, Aries, but today you might find it a bit tedious. Your heart is with your family. You're probably looking forward to being at home and cuddling with a romantic partner.

**TAURUS:** Visitors could come to your home tonight, Taurus, possibly for an informal get-together of some kind. Dear friends might be involved in some way. You're likely to be very busy during the day, perhaps tying up loose ends. Your

mind is probably going a thousand miles an hour, so you'll need to wind down before going to bed tonight. You don't want to lose any sleep.

**GEMINI:** You may appear to have your head in the clouds today, Gemini. The truth is, you've got a lot of important things on your mind. Others might be offended or even amused at your distance. Try not to worry about this too much. You need to take care of resolving those problems you've been ruminating on before worrying about everyone else's reaction.

**CANCER:** You might feel that money is flowing out of your bank account all too quickly lately, and this might be a cause of worry for you. You could feel

you've spent too much on decorations for your home or on entertaining family and friends. Don't worry! You'll make up for it, and besides, you can't take it with you, you know. Watch your spending, Cancer, but don't turn into a miser.

**LEO:** This will be a good day for you, Leo. You should be feeling happy, excited, enthusiastic, and optimistic about the future. Relations with family, friends, and neighbors are likely to be warm and congenial. Today could involve a lot of time on the phone or out running errands. Expect a surprise encounter with someone you haven't seen in a long time. You'll spend some time reminiscing and catching up.

**VIRGO:** A rush of humanitarian spirit and a desire to do some real good might find you looking into various charities in order to find those you might want to help. However, money could be flowing out for other purposes a bit too quickly for your tastes, Virgo. It perhaps would be best to find one group that suits you and give only to that one. Save other worthy causes for another time.

**LIBRA:** You, along with a significant other in your life, could be very busy trying to make time to see each other today, Libra. Later, when you're finally alone, your phone could be ringing nonstop, further intruding upon your time together. Don't be afraid to turn it off! If a call is particularly import-

ant, they'll call again later. **SCORPIO:** Today you could be faced with a bunch of people from out of town that you've never met before. You're likely to find this exciting and stimulating, but you could also feel a bit flustered. You might also not be at your most outgoing right now. This could be a better day to listen than to try to talk. Sometimes that impresses people more than anything you might say, Scorpio.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Travel and adventure are on your mind. You could be daydreaming about flying to exotic places and doing unusual things, such as touring the ancient sights of India or going on safari in Kenya. Such dreams are possible, Sagittarius, so you might want

to look into it. You also might

want to learn about exciting fields of interest, so this is a good day to sign up for a class or workshop.

**CAPRICORN:** It may not be easy for you to convince someone today. No matter how profound your idea or how convincing your explanations, the other person just isn't ready to believe it yet. Don't be pushy. Maybe this person needs to sleep on it for a couple of nights, or maybe they just need to do their own research. Be patient and focus on other things in the meantime!

**AQUARIUS:** It may not be easy for you to convince someone today. No matter how profound your idea or how convincing

your explanations, the other person just isn't ready to believe it yet. Don't be pushy. Maybe this person needs to sleep on it for a couple of nights, or maybe they just need to do their own research. Be patient and focus on other things in the meantime!

**PISCES:** You've got a lot on your mind right now, Pisces, and others might be interpreting your quiet behavior as your being aloof. Go right ahead and let them think whatever they want. You've got some real issues to think through, and decisions with important consequences to come up with. You'll be able to smooth their ruffled feathers later. Right now, just focus on taking care of yourself.