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Bhaichung Bhutia to join Premier Futsal

Mumbai, Jul 13 (PTI): Star football player and former India skipper Bhaichung Bhutia will join the Premier Futsal as the Talent Director heading its Indian amateur talent hunt program.

"Premier Futsal League has emerged as a category- defining offering in the Indian sporting landscape...It is a great honour for me to be a part of such a tour-nament," Bhutia said in a statement here.

Dinesh Raj, managing director, Premier Futsal League said, "It is a matter of great pride and honour for us to have a personality of Bhaichung's stature to be a part of Premier Futsal.



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STATE-LEVEL BHANU JAYANTI CELEBRATION IN GANGTOK

Bhanu Bhakta more relevant in present times: CM

GANGTOK, 13 Jul: ИВнапи Bhakta is more relevant now than ever to strengthen the unity of the Nepali community in the country," said Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling while speak-ing during the state-level 203rd Bhanu Jayanti cel-ebration held at Manan Kendra, Gangtok today.

The Chief Minister also placed a suggestion before the audience that the annual celebration of the birth anniversary of Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya everywhere in the country could have a common theme every year based on prevalent contexts. This would give a strong message of unity among the Indian Ne-palis spread across the

country, he added.

He stated that the overpowering influence of global link language English over local lan-guages is a universal phenomenon and should not



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and collective efforts to safeguard and promote our own language. For this, education should be life-oriented and not confined to being profession-oriented, he added.

Simultaneously, con-scious effort should be made to safeguard and promote our language which can be possible turn to pg03



Hill intelligentsia rise in protest on Bhanujayanti

SUDIPTA CHANDA

wo days of relative peace and hopes had

Two days of relative peace and hopes had soared that the separate state movement in the Darjeeling hills was changing course. But no, muscle is back again on the streets

since Wednesday night.

Besides the violence, pressure politics is now the in thing. And, as suspected, Trinamool councilors of the different hill civic bodies and officials of the community-based development boards chief minister Mamata Banerjee had formed to allegedly drive a wedge among the different ethnic groupings, are likely to fall victims to the pressure tactic.

Several officials of the community boards have reportedly expressed the desire to resign their positions and so have several civic representatives. It is also reported that Chung Chung Bhutia, the lone Trinamool councilor of Darjeeling Municipality, has re-signed from the Trinamool. Whether the resignees join any of the po-

litical parties agitating for the separate state is for time to tell, but the phenomena of people in position leaving the Trinamool would unique in Mamata Banerjee's West Bengal. For the past six plus years, ever since the

Trinamool came to power in the state, movement of people's representatives deserting their parent organization has been in only one direction - towards the Trinamool often against lucre, often under duress. That one-way street is under threat in the hills.

Very significantly on Thursday, a number of eminent personalities of the Darjeeling hills, who won awards of excellence from the state government for their contribution in enriching different art forms, have turned in their awards as a mark of protest against the state government's ways of handling the hill situation and also to express solidarity with the movement.

Normally placid, the civil society, when it speaks, people listen. When it reacts, people follow. The role of the civil society during the

Singur and Nandigram incidents is a burning example of not too distant times of what impact a civil society movement can have on the overall psyche of the populace. It had led to a change in government in the state paving way for the Trinamool to the seat of power.

Not that Thursday's spurning of awards by a section of the hill intelligentsia would lead to the formation of Gorkhaland, but it surely would speak louder than all the hos-tilities perpetrated so far. That is the impact

of the civil society.

There is, however, the other form of the movement too – the strong-arm tactic. And, keeping with the spirit of muscle, pro-Gorkhaland bandh supporters obstructed tourism minister, Gautam Deb from attending the birth application and the spirit of North Control of North Con ing the birth anniversary programme of Nepalese poet Bhanubhakta Acharya at Panighatta – about 20 km from Siliguri town proper on the day. The hill movement along with the bandh now seems to have entered a one-way street, for how long, is the question.

GTA office, railway station set on fire in Darjeeling Hills

Fast unto death by GMCC leaders postponed

SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG/ DARJEELING, 13 JUL:

AGTA office, a railway station and a government department guest house were set aflame and several vehicles damaged overnight here in the Darjeeling hills in a continuation of arson and vandalism which have become routine occurrences after night fall in the latest round of the movement

for Statehood. It was in the series of similar re-gressions that two Sik-kim-bound trucks were also vandalized last night at Tarkhola on NH10 barely eight kilometers short Rangpo, and the house of the Tamang Development Board chairperson at-tacked in the outskirts of

Kalimpong.
Today was the 29th day of the indefinite shutdown.

Meanwhile, two days

after having announced that leaders of its constituent leaders would sit on turn to pg05

Sikkim Govt approaches SC for safe passage of Sikkim vehicles

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 JUL: ne State Govern

approached the Supreme Court on 11 July seeking its intervention in ensuring safe passage for Sikkim-bound vehicles from Siliguri in neighbour-ing West Bengal. Members of Parliament, Hissey La-chungpa and PD Rai, along with Chief Secretary, Alok Kumar Srivastava filed a writ petition in the Apex Court seeking directions for safe transportation of essential commodities and safety of Sikkim vehicles

along NH10 and in Siliguri.
The Sikkim Government has listed Secretary. Ministry of Home, Gov-ernment of India, the Secretary Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways, the State of West Bengal through Chief Secretary

Writers Building, City Kolkata, and Director General of Police West as respondents.

The writ petition is expected to be heard by a division bench of Apex Court on 17 July, next Monday.

However, it is not clear if the writ petition talks about the losses incurred by the State because of the frequent bandhs in the neighbour-ing hills. When Summit-Times tried to contact the Advocate General, A Maraiputham in New Delhi for further details on the case, he was not available for comments.

It may be recalled that the Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling, while addressing a function in South Sikkim last week, turn to pg02

NHPC shuts down both Darjeeling hydel units, apprises govt

KOLKATA, JUL 13 (PTI): The National Hydel Pow-er Corporation has shut down both its hydel power plants in the Darjeel-ing hills and has sought additional security for them from the West Ben-

"Today we have shut the 160 MW Teesta Low Dam IV unit after a pro-Gorkhaland mob agitated at the plant. Yesterday, we had to stop oper-ations of the 132 MW Teesta Low Dam III at Rambi as a precaution after over than 600 people gheraoed the site," a NHPC official told PTI

today.

NHPC has apprised the West Bengal power department secretary of the situation.

"We had already written to the state power secretary, the chief secretary and Darjeeling dis trict magistrate to beef up security at the NHPC installations in Darjeeling district.

Today we met the

power secretary and sought help," the official

Rammam power plant (51 MW) and Jaldhaka hydel power plant (44 MW) of WBSEDCL is also closed for security reasons.

According to official sources, the state gov-ernment has assured to peef up security and at the same time pointed to the insufficient central security forces in the





FOR ADMISSIONS ENQUIRY he Accelerator office Development Area



Contact No: 9002920828 / 03592-20828

Man assaulted

in Martam GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

Three persons hailing from Upper Martam, East Sikkim, reportedly assaulted one Sagar Gadaily with a wheel range of a vehicle on his head after forcefully entering his residence at Upper Martam on 12 Jul. The victim has been referred to CRH Tadong, while two of the accused have been arrested. The other accused is abscond-ing and efforts are being made to trace him.

One dies in truck mishap

GANGTOK, 13 IUL:

One DCM truck, driven by one 30-year-old male hailing from Lachen in North Sikkim, met with an accident and tumbled down the road approxi-mately 35ft below near Lachen. The truck was hired to ferry porters from Zeema-I to Lachen and had 24 occupants including the driver. Out of the 24 occupants, eight managed to escape unhurt. Out of the other 16 injured occupants, nine were seriously injured and were forwarded to Mangan Dis trict Hospital. However, one occupant [27-year-old male from Chungthang] was declared brought dead by the Medical Officer on duty.

Three SADA cases

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

During routine checking of incoming vehicles at Rangpo checkpost on 12 Jul, three per sons hailing from Sichey, East Sikkim, were found in possession of one bot-tle of cough syrup, six files of Spasmoproxyvon containing 144 capsules and five files of N-10 containing 100 tablets. The trio has been booked un-der SADA Act.

In another SADA case on the same day, one 36-year-old male hailing from Singtam, East Sikkim, was found in pos-session of four bottles of Phencyrex cough syrup and 72 files of Spasmo-proxyvon. The accused was further found to be under the influence of contraband substances

during the time of arrest.

In the third SADA case of the day, a truck plying from Siliguri to-wards Jorethang on 12 Jul was intercepted at Manpur junction after Police received information from sources that the truck carried con-traband substances. On investigation, two sacks of contraband substance es were found concealed between the stocks of cement bags. The driver of the truck [32-yearold male from Deythang, West Sikkim] and his helper boy managed to flee from the scene leaving the truck unattended. The seized contraband substances included 485 bottles of Wis-Cof cough syrup and 72 files of Spasmoproxyvon cap-sules. Sources have been deployed to trace the absconding duo.

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Two truck drivers injured in attack near Tarkhola

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

A nother incident of vandalism and looting of Sikkim trucks has been reported on the National Highway between Melli and Rangpo last night. It is learnt that more than 35 trucks carrying food items, industrial goods and essential commodities from Siliguri were suddenly attacked and vandalised by a group of miscreants. It is informed that two drivers were also injured in the incident which took place between 12 a.m. to 01 a.m. in the night.

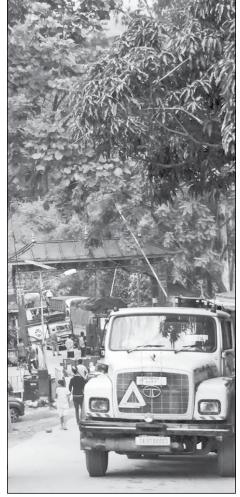
An affected driver, Hirman Tamang, in-

formed that a group of people attacked his vehicle near Tarkhola and snatched away his wallet which had cash Rs 19,000 and his mobile phone. Another driver, Manoj Tamang, reported that around eight persons suddenly attacked his vehicle near Tarkhola and physically assaulted him. However, he ran into the nearby jungle to save his life.

The incident has already been reported at

Rangpo Police outpost in West Bengal side and Rangpo Police Station on the Sikkim side. Traffic on the National Highway was stranded as affected drivers blocked the highway with their trucks from 01 a.m. to 06 a.m.

Sikkim Truck Drivers Association president. Mingma Sherpa, raised concern over the safe-ty of truck drivers and warned that drivers will stop plying trucks on the highway if the administration does not take any action to save them from Police harassment in Siliguri and from attacks and vandalism by anti-social elements on



Bhanu Jayanti celebration in Namchi

NAMCHI, 13 JUL [IPR]: The 203rd birth anniver-sary of Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya was observed amidst much gaiety at the Community Hall in Namchi today. The celebration was organized by South Sikkim Sahitya Sammelan in collaboration with District Administration South. Chairperson of Namchi Municipal Council, Uday Chandra Rai, attended the programme as chief guest along with officials, litterateurs, local gentry

and students.

The programme began with an offering of garlands and prayers to the statue of Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharva at Bhanu Park, Namchi. Thereafter, Shova Ya-tra took off from Bhanu Park till Community Hall, Namchi wherein the cel-

ering, chief guest Mr Rai spoke in detail about the significance of cel-ebrating Bhanu Jayanti and underlined that Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya is considered as one of the most prominent and revered literary figures in the history of Nepali literature.

Mr Rai detailed on how Bhanu Bhakta Acharya wrote immensely on Nepali literature and laid emphasis on the many



topics covered by the literary figure ranging from human tragedies to various social issues. He highlighted that through the writings of Bhanu Bhakta Acharya, Nepali literature has been exposed, com-prehended, understood

and appreciated globally.
Additionally, he urged the students present to inculcate a habit of reading various kinds of Nepali literature and put forth a concept of establishing a reading corner in Namchi for the greater good of the

general public.

President-South Sikkim Sahayatik Sammelan, Tiru Prasad, presented a brief overview about the life and the achievements of Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya and further advocated the attendees of the celebration to draw inspiration from Aadi Kavi's work as well as of other Nepali litter-ateurs thereby, bringing laurels to the state in literature and in various

other spheres.

This year Shiv Kumar Rai Smriti Purakskar was presented to Sahityakar Basanti Sharma while the Kavi Agam Singh Tamang Prathiba Purakskar was handed to Kavi Sharman

The day's event saw schools participating in Ramayan Path. Kayita Path [poem recitation] and Nepali Lok Nritya.

Namchi Girls Senior Secondary School, Nam-Senior Secondary School and New Secondsecond and third, respectively, in the Ramayan competition. Similarly, in Kavitya Path, the first position was secured by Anisha Sharma from Namchi Girls Senior Secondary School followed by Maniam Subba from Namchi Public School and Kripa Chettri from New Secondary School in the second and third positions, respectively.

Bhanu Jayanti at Pakyong



GANGTOK, 13 JUL: The 203rd Bhanu Jayanti was celebrated today at Pakyong in East Sikkim with much gaiety. The programme was organised by Sikkim Prativa Pratisthan of Pakyong.

Minister for Transport De-

contd from pg01 had said that the State is considering legal action

against the West Bengal

government demanding

compensation for losses

upto Rs 60,000 crore suf-

fered by Sikkim due to the unrest in West Bengal.

Shortly after unrest began in the neighbour-

ing hills. Sikkim vehicles

travelling to and from Siliguri became targets

for vandals and a series

of attacks on vehicles have since been report-

ed. This has also resulted

in shortage of essential commodities in the State

as the number of vehi-

cles carrying supplies has whittled down. Ear-

lier, bandhs in the hills

Sikkim Govt

approaches SC for

safe passage of Sikkim

vehicles

made travel along the NH10 unsafe, however, this time, Sikkim vehicles

are also being targeted in Siliguri since the Sikkim CM spoke in support of

the Gorkhaland demand.

Today, however, Sikkim vehicles were attacked at

Tar-Khola near Rangpo

ment has also filed an

Interlocutory Applica-tion seeking favourable

order directing the Cen-tral Government and the

West Bengal Government

to provide safe passage to the commuters from

Sikkim and transporta-

tion of essential com-modities, fuel, medicines

and other materials.

in West Bengal. The Sikkim Govern-

partment, DT Lepcha, attended the event as chief guest and paid homage to 'Aadi Kavi' Bhani Bhakta Acharya by offering khada and garland on the statue of Bhanu Bhakta at Bhanu Baatika in Pakyong during the inaugural

A Shova Yatra was taken out from Bhanu Baatika and gathered at the auditorium of St Xavier's School, Pakyong. The Yatra had the participation of the attending guests, students and teachers of various schools of Pakyong and the general public.

Bhanu Jayanti in Singtam

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 13 JUL:
The 203rd birth anniversary of Adi Kavi
Bhanu Bhakta Acharya
celebrated with great fervor here in Singtam todav.

Attending the programme were Tourism gramme were fourism Minister, Ugen T Gyasto, and area MLA, Somnath Poudyal as chief guests accompanied by littera-teurs Chuni Lal Ghimerey and Pravin Rai, along with other dignitaries, students and teachers from various schools in

and around Singtam and the local public.

A Sobha Yatra was taken out during the programme which had the participation of students to school a programme when the participation of students. dents, teachers, mem-bers of NGOs, Singtam Motor Taxi Workers Association, Marwari Yuva Manch-Singtam, Bihari Jagran Manch-Singtam, Jagran Manch-Singson , Dara Gaon Suraksha Samiti, Shanti Nagar Gaon Sudhar Samiti, Jan Kalyan Samaj and various other organizations.
The event also fea

turn to pg05

Gyalshing celebrates Bhanu Jayanti

GYALSHING, 13 IUL [IPR]:

The 203rd birth anniversary of 'Aadi Kavi' Bhanu Bhakta Acharya was celebrated here in Gyalshing today. The programme was jointly organised by Paschim Sikkim Sahitya Prakashan and District Administra-tive Centre and had MLA-Yangthang, Chandra Maya Subba, as chief guest along with Advisor-Tourism Depart-ment, MB Dahal, Chairperson-Milk Union, MB Rai, and Chairperson-Gyalshing Municipal Corpora-tion, IK Neopani, as special guests.

The programme started with offering of garland to the statue of Bha-nu Bhakta at Bhanu Salig followed by Shova Yatra till the Community Hall in Gyalshing where the main event of the day was held.

Yangthang MLA, Ms Subba, while addressing the gathering, said that Bhanu Jayanti celebration must be a source of inspiration to all the people of Sikkim towards preserving culture, language and literature. She appealed to the coming generation to develop more interest in preservation of the same.

During the occasion, many literary figures and individuals from various fields were honoured. Snehalata Rai of Darjeeling was awarded with Lall Man-Sancharani Award along with citation and cash prize of Rs 15,000, sponsored by eminent writer, BB Muringla,

in memory of his parents.
Sharasta Puraskar 2016-17 in three different categories was awarded to

Kiran Chettri of Gangtok for Katha Kamala Rai of Mirik for Kavita and DB Ghising from Siliguri for Nibandha. Cash prize of Rs 5000 along with cita-tions were handed to the awardees. Trivhawan Dhakal Smriti Puraskar

सुधार मण्डली

was awarded to Chetana Sharma, a student of Gyalshing Girls' Senior Secondary School for securing the highest marks in class X board exam in Nepali subject from the district.

For the various competitions that were held at the interschool and open level, the chief guest presented certificates and cash prizes to the winners. Pelling SSS [school level] and Ariga-on Samaj Sudhar Mandali [open level] were declared the best in the Ramayan recitation competition.

Likewise, Krishna Sharma [school

level] of Middle Gyalshing Secondary School and Puran Bhandari [open level] of Khecheopalri were declared winners for Kavita recitation.

For Katha, Pratiksha Sharma [school level] of Gyalshing GSSS and Anmol Sharma [open level] from Salley were declared winners. The winners of Nibandha competition were Sandhya Rai of Gyalshing GSSS at the school level and Purnima Sharma of Durga Samaj, Salley, at the open level.

The celebration also featured the release of a collection of poems written by Sanjoy Pradhan, "Sangharsh Pratibimba" and a colourful cultural programme presented by the students of different schools.

Meeting

resolves to promote

and preserve Lepcha

Heritage Centre

SUMMIT REPORT

Youth Association, Lob-

son-State Social Welfare

Board, Phurmit Lepcha,

Chairperson-Sikkim In-

Board, Executive mem-bers of SLYA, Sub Divi-

sional Magistrate-Yangyang, Panchayats and the general public.

Gangtok on Friday, 14 July Temp: 25°C /19°C Forecast: Mostly cloudy with a shower or thunderstorm around Sunrise: 04:49 AM

Sunset: 06:33 PM

Chamling rues WB's failure in providing safe passage for Sikkim vehicles

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

As Sikkim continues to get crushed in the tussle between an intransigent Darjeeling's aspiration for statehood and the West Bengal's consistently shoddy handling of the situation, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling today regretted the neigh bouring state's failure in ensuring security for Sikkim vehicles and travelers.

Speaking at the Bhanu lavanti celebration here today, the CM said, "Law and order is a state subject, but when Sikkim faces problems in Sili-guri in West Bengal, the state government there remains silent instead of

Atta, maida, pulses and sugar in short supply in South

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

District Collector-South conducted a meeting today with all officers to review the situation of availability of essential commodities in the market in South district.

As per a press release from DC South, during the meeting, scarcity of atta, maida, pulses and sugar in the open markets of Temi, Bermiok and Namthang was reported by District Civil Supplies Officer-South. The DCSO has been directed to co-ordinate and supply the items to the mentioned areas

from nearby markets. The supply of Essential Commodities in Melli, Jorethang, Namchi and Ravangla was reportedly improving and supplies are being received from time to time.

The DCSO-South fur-

ther informed that the supply of PDS will last till

With regard to High eed Diesel/Motor Spirit supply in the district, scarcity was report-ed only in Yangang and the Sub Divisional Magistrate of the area has been directed to continue rationing till the stock becomes sufficient

here, the distribution of HSD/MS is being done under the supervision of SDM, Sub Divisional Po-lice Officer and Station House Officer of South

As per the report of Joint Director of Animal Husbandry, Livestock, Fisheries & Veterinary Sciences, shortage in supply of chicken, egg and fish in the district has reached an 'alarm-ing situation' while the supply of other meat is normal, the release mentions.

The Chief Medical Officer-South, during

the meeting, highlighted that there is inadequate supply of medicine from Central Health Store Organisation [CHSO]. As a result, the district is not receiving the required amount of supply from the head office.

However, it was re-ported that there is sufficient supply of medicine in open market. A meet-ing with all the medical shop owners has been conducted and they have been directed to keep sufficient stock of medicines, the CMO-South apprised.

A report submitted by Joint Director-Agri-

culture/Horticulture Department highlights that there is sufficient supply of vegetables except onion. Availability of onion in the market will reach an 'alarming situation' after three days, it was informed. The concerned officers have been directed to arrange for extra supply of vegetables in the market

The supply of LPG cylinders in the South District will continue to be normal till next week. Another report will be submitted later next week by the DCSO-South as per the situation, the release adds.

was also held wherein problems and challenges

faced by the companies

were discussed and vari-ous questions were raised

by the representatives of

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:
Accordination meeting concerning the Lepcha Heritage Centre in Yangyang was held on 12 Jul at the Centre of the Lepcha community.

The Primitive Tribe
Welfare Board on their part requested all the local stake holders for their cooperation and coordination so that they can work in tandem for der the chairmanship of Chairperson of Primthe conservation and up itive Tribe Development gradation of the Centre.

The SLYA [Central Ex-Board, Sonam Dupden Lepcha, informs a press release issued by general secretary-Sikkim Lepcha

ecutive Committee] also held another brief meeting with all the stake holders sang Chopel Lepcha.

The meeting was attended by Chairperpresent regarding the cel-ebration of upcoming Indigenous Lepcha Festival 'Tendong Lho Rum Faat'. The proposal of the dustrial Board, Kumari Mangar, officials from Primitive Tribe Welfare

ernment for the welfare

Youth Association to celebrate the upcoming fes-tival at the Lepcha Heritage Centre on 07 Aug and at Mt Tendong on 08 Aug was widely appreciated and welcomed by the gathering. Further the

also decided to elect Phurmit Lepcha [Chairper-son, State Social Welfare Boardl as the Chairperson of the Celebration Committee for the upcoming indigenous Lepcha festival, the release adds

work for the promotion and the preservation of the Lepcha Heritage Centre that was conceptualized by the present gov-

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Lok Sabha MP chairs meeting with stakeholders on GST An interactive session

ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

Λ n important meeting An Important

An Goods & Services Tax and related issues was held at the conference hall of Eco-Paradise Resort in Rangpo, East Sikkim today. The meeting was chaired by Lok Sabha MP, PD Rai, along with other officials.

The programme also had the presence of the Medical Superintendent of STNM Hospital, Dr KB Gurung, along with a team of doctors from STNM Hospital. Various Pharmaceutical companies that are functional in the State and other organisations like NHPC, Titan, Godrej, and



some power project comwere also present during the meeting.

Mishel Chandak presented a short prese tion on implementation of GST as per the Government of India directives and various issues related to the same

Along with GST, the meeting also discussed is-

sues on Sustainable Development Goals for which a brief was presented by RP Gurung from Eco-Tourism

and issues that are being faced by the companies

the different companies. Lok Sabha MP, Mr Rai, After a prolonged discussion, the meeting unanimously resolved to during his address, highlighted the importance of the meeting since it is imperative to understand the implementation of GST. He said that the main objective behind organising the meeting was to discuss issues related to GST and to understand the problems

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Bhanu Bhakta more relevant in present times: CM

contd from pg01

only if intellectuals and members of the civil society collectively take initiatives. Instead of blaming anyone, we should introspect on our own shortcomings and work towards mending them, he

The CM further stated that the Government has consistently worked towards preservation of Nepali language through creation of infrastructures and institutions of learning. He informed that the Government has even started recruiting Nepali Graduate teachers and will expand to the Primary level too in near future. (Presently only Post Graduate Teachers are recruited for Ne-

pali Language).

The Chief Minister expressed his concern over the under-utilization of institutions created by the Government such as the Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya Adhyayan Kendra in Gyalshing, which he lamented, is allowed to stagnate as a mere infrastructure. He exhorted the literary community and members of the civil society to take ownership of such institutions instead of depending entirely on the Government for its sustenance and development.

"I call upon the learned community to come forward with your suggestions to safeguard these infrastructures created by the Government for the intellectual development of the present and future generations," added the Chief

The CM further announced that the annual grant of Rs. 10 lakh awarded to Nepali Sahitya Parishad will now be increased to Rs. 15 lakh. He added that this increased amount could be used to increase the amount that accompanies the 'Bhanu Puraskar' which will hence-forth be made Rs. 5 lakh. He further suggested that cash incentives be given to the Seva Shri Samman recipients as well.

Announcing the Gyan Mandir, In-dia's biggest library in Gangtok, he said that a large number of books in Nepali will be collected. He further appealed to all to donate in any way possible for the establishment of the library.

This year, noted litterateur Raj K. Shrestha was conferred with the 'Bhanu Puraskar'. The Award is constituted by the Nepali Sahitya Parishad Sikkim and is conferred every year on the occasion of Bhanu Jayanti on individuals who have made noteworthy contribution in the field of Nepali literature and preservation of the language and culture. Mr Shrestha has made significant contribution to Nepali literature in period spanning over three decades. le was awarded the 'Bhanu Puraskar' by the Chief Minister who was present as the chief guest.

Apart from the 'Bhanu Puraskar',

the Seva Shree Samman was also conferred to individuals for their no-table contribution in various fields like language, literature, music, art and journalism.

The Seva Shree Samman Awardees

were K.N. Sharma - Bhasa Seva Shree Samman, N.H. Khan – Sahitya Seva Shree Samman, Sanjay Subba – Sangeet Seva Shree Samman, Madhav Ghimire – Sangeet Seva Shree Samman, Matrika Sharma – Natak Seva Shree Samman, Geeta Bhandari - Patrakarita Seva Shree Samman and Bhawani Pradhan Chitrakarita Seva Shree Samman.

Earlier, finalists of the Inter School Ramayan Path Competition presented verses from the Nepali Ramayan. In the competition held earlier this week, Tadong Senior Secondary School had stood first, while there was a tie for the second prize between Deorali Girls SSS and Enchey SSS. The third prize went to West Point Senior Secondary School. The participants were also handed over cash awards announced by the Chief Minister during his address.

The programme also saw ry recitation by Smita Basnet of PNG School and Gopal Dhakal in the open category. They had stood first in their respective categories in the competition held earlier in the week. The par-ticipants of the poetry competition were also felicitated and awarded cash

grant from the Chief Minister.
Likewise, in the Inter-School
Shova Yatra Competition held in the morning, Tashi Namgyal Senior Sec-ondary School, Tashi Namgyal Academy and Modern Senior Secondary School stood first second and third respectively in the inter-school category, while in the open category, Nepali Sanskriti Samrakshan Samiti 5th Mile Tadong stood first and Akhil Kirat Rai Sangh and Akhil Sikkim Thami Sangh were first and second runners up respectively.

Bhanu Jayanti celebrated at Mangan

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

Mangan, 13 Jul:

The 203rd birth anniversary
of Aadi Kavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya was organized by Bha-nu Jayanti Celebration Committee of Mangan District Administration, North Sikkim, at the Community Hall of Mangan

The programme was attended by Minister of Forest, Mines and Geology, TW Lepcha, as chief guest. The programme fea-tured Ramayan Path and poem recitations by students of different schools, teachers and local

The first position in Ra-mayan Path was bagged by Mangan Senior Secondary School with Little Flower School in the second position. The schools second position. were presented with certificates

and tokens by the chief guest.

The chief guest, in his address, highlighted the importance of the day and stressed on preserving our tradition, culture and literature.

"Hydel projects are one of the important sources of revenue for the state government.





SummitTIMES

Learning from **Achievers**

Rewinding to when Sikkim extended Samman

In the current environment of hypersensitivity about issues of identity and belonging, it would perhaps be apt to step back and rewind to a moment thirteen years ago, when, at exactly this time of the year in 2004, the Sikkim hosted a grand Sikkim Samman Sammelan. One misses the event and hopes that it will be revived in the coming years so that people of the region realize that despite all the ignorance in the mainland about their "status as Indians", a staggering number of them have done the region and their respective communities proud, have broken stereotypes and have helped create new introductions for the people provided they

are interested in leveraging them.

As mentioned, the Sikkim Samman Sammelan was a grand affair and managed to achieve a lot. Apart from lavishing honour on those who truly deserve it, it brought to Sikkim's midst, as also the regions, people who have gone against the grain so to speak - people who have shaken off the languor which characterises the professional pursuits of the Hill people; People who have persevered and proven wrong the prejudices which brand every person from these parts a "kancha or Bahadur" in the boorish indifference of the plains. Success did not have easy for any of the 63 achievers felicitated on the occasion. Of course, success does not come easy to anyone, but the Nepali-speakers who received Sikkim's Samman in 2004 were also combating stereotypes and chauvinism, so they had to sweat and persevere even more, much more, and hence the Samman, and nence the need to take more inspiration from them. Not only did they go up against a system which did not understand them or their ambitions, they did so from home bases which were equally confused [if not downright unsupportive] of their pursuits. What is more, they achieved what they did in the absence of precedence or grooming. They are people, everyone, even tangentially associated with them, can be proud of hence the need to take more inspiration from them. Not only

But why was it Sikkim that had organised the felicitations, some might ask? Well, for the simple reason that only Sikkim, of all parts that Nepali-speaking people reside, has the resources of a State at its disposal. To applaud the initiative some more - because it is now apparent that only Sikkim cares any more. But the event was not just about felicitating achievers. There was much more meaning attached to it than just philanthropy. Unfortunately, not all the nuances got through.

At a certain level, the issues debated (it was a three day affair of felicitations, speeches and deliberations) were not just about a particular community, but representative of the aspirations of all the people of the region, their right to an identity and individuality and recognition for what they are. It was a good beginning. It is another matter that the moment did not grow into confident pride, and identity continues to depreciate into tokenism and superficial displays in these parts. The lesson of perseverance that the achievers exemplified should have infused the expressions of selfhood with self-belief, but leaders continue to deal in self-denial and paranoia. And they are not called out. When people are fed doubts and fears more than ambition and confidence, they are easily riled into violence (with triggers as puny as Facebook posts) and as easily cowed into submission with calls to keep the larger picture in sight. Gangtok Bhanu Jayanti 2004 had attempted to show a different path, but that path has not received enough takers.

Teaching Little Girls to Lead

VIRGINIA GARCÍA BEAUDOUX

By the age of two, most children use gender pronouns in their speech and proactively identify people as men and women. And by the time they turn seven, little boys and little girls have already learnt a lot about what is expected of them within our – binary – gender system.

Much of this learning is uninten-

tional, communicated via pop culture.

A few years ago, a researchers from Granada University analysed 621 characters of both sexes from 163 cartoon series, including Mon-ster High and Shin Chan. They found that women are largely relegated to secondary roles: girlfriends, mothers or companions to the animated heroes and villains.

Not only are cartoon women rarely leading characters, they're also awash in stereotypes. The Spanish researchers reported that most animated women are materialistic, jealous and superficial, obsessed with their bodies d keen to please other people.

HOW DO PRINCESSES LEAD?

Even when women do play the lead, they often reify tired adages about

With Pocahontas (1995), for example, Disney showed that not even cartoon women can "have it all". The Indian princess must choose be-tween success in the public sphere and a happy romantic life.

Indeed studies have found that in all of the princess films produced by Disney between 1989 and 1999, male characters have three times as much dialogue as female characters.

American linguists found that men speak 68% of the time in The Little Mermaid, 71% in Beauty and the Beast, 90% in Aladdin and 76% in Pocahontas. Ariel, the little mermaid herself, actually prefers to be struck dumb forever in exchange for a man.

These lessons are not lost on chil-dren, who are well aware that superheroes are mostly boys and princesses are girls. That makes it more difficult to model leadership for young women.

Unlike superheroes, who use their straordinary gifts to do good for so ciety, cartoon princesses tend to focus on private issues, not public service.

Disney has shown some improve-ment since the days of passive Snow White (1937) and submissive Cinderella (1950). In recent years, female leaders have appeared among the studio's characters, most notably in Mulan (1998) and the 2013 megahit, Frozen.

But the messages conveyed are not so far removed from the most conventional Disney stereotypes. Mulan is a bold Chinese warrior, respected and followed by her peo-

nle all of whom think she is a man because she has deceived them by cutting her hair. The point here apears to be that to become a go ader, a woman should look and act like a man.

Opinion

Frozen was hailed as "not your typical princess movie", because it portrays two sisters who don't need to be rescued by a handsome prince. Instead, at the film's end, Elsa and Anna save each other with their sororal love. But, the protagonist Elsa has du-

bious leadership skills. As the elder sister, she is responsible for govern-ing, but when she gets nervous she lets her emotions get the better of her. Despite her good intentions, she cannot effectively wield power.

As a result, she freezes her realm and withdraws into a solitary world. In other words, she lacks emotional

LESSONS IN FEMALE LEADERSHIP What have we learned? Now, chil-

dren, repeat after me

- adership is male.
- 2. Women are better leaders when
- they look and act like men.

 3. A successful public life interferes in a woman's private life.
- 4. When women get emotionally involved, they lose rational thought, and their leadership capacity fails them.

It's hardly surprising that the les-sons we've internalised since childhood are reproduced every day by (adult) media coverage of, say, female politicians, who face stereotypes and obstacles utterly unknown to their male colleag

ALL IN GOOD FUN

But wait, say some cultural observers, aren't we're going too far, here? Watching Disney movies and play-acting the characters - that's just kids' stuff, fun and games! Not exactly. Last year, academics

This year, the NFL's first female coach, Jen Welter, showed little girls that they can even lead the boys to victory

from Brigham Young University in Utah looked into this subject, interviewing and observing 198 boys and girls in preschool and kindergarten.

They found that the more the girls identified with "princess culture", the more they exhibited patterns of behaviour that corresponded to female stereotypes suggesting that beauty, sweetness and obedience are wom en's most valuable assets. The study empirically validates concerns that sociologists and feminists have been discussing for some time.

Recognising that female lead-

ership is not well represented in Western society doesn't mean kids shouldn't be exposed to these cultural products. It's fine for a girl to play at being a princess, as long as she can also kick around a soccer ball, build things with nuts and tools, play the drums and fancy becoming a scientist, engineer, astronaut or firefighter.

Likewise, there's no reason why a boy dressed as his favourite superhero shouldn't pretend to take care of babies, cook dinner or vacuum the

GENDER FREE TOYS

This was the message of a 2015 holiday advertising campaign launched by the French supermarket chain

System II which reminded consumers that there are not toys for boys and toys for girls - there are just toys.

The commercial headlined #GenderFreeChristmas, opens by reflecting the clichés that surround children from birth, saying that perceptions about gender ("Girls like kitchens", "boys play with guns") are shaped by what we're

taught when we're very young.

Those stereotypical conceptions fall apart when a group of little girls and boys are allowed to enter a room full of toys. A little girl rushes to the model car set; a boy goes for a baby doll.

Whether driven by profit or by so-cial responsibility, companies are become more aware of the gender stereotypes promoted by their products. In Sweden, the chain stores Toys R Us and BR-Toys have said they'll stop publishing gender-differentiated catalogs and dividing toys into "girls"

and "boys" sections.
Still, families must talk with children about the meaning of what they see, ensuring that girls understand that princesses are just one kind of role model – there's also the powerful Wonder Woman, smart Velma from Scooby-Doo and Peppa Pig (dubbed a "weird feminist" by one conservative blogger).

And, last but not least, adults must

ensure that we do not reinforce negative gender messaging in our daily lives by making girls feel that they are most valuable when they look like pretty princesses.

[the writer is Professor of Political Communication and Public Opinion, University of Buenos Airesl

How to maintain the balance between boundaries and freedom in secondary school parenting

ANDREW MARTIN

there are four people central to sec-I ondary school students' learning and achievement: the student, the parent (or carer), the teacher, and the peers. Without question, the most influential of these is the student themselves

It is the student who must engage in class, do homework, complete assignments, study, and sit exams. My research shows the next two most influential people are parents and teachers. While I have previously discussed the role of teachers, there is also much to be said regarding the role of parents and parenting.

Parents influence secondary school outcomes in numerous ways, including providing or arranging for help, encouraging the child, valuing effort and education and creating a home environment conducive to study

PARENTING STYLE

During secondary school, students will move through different stages of adoles-cence. Over this time they will experience enormous social, physical, emotional, and cognitive changes. In addition to the ma-jor academic task of completing school, students also have the major developmental task of establishing their autonomy, self-responsibility, and self-directedness. Meanwhile, parents will need to maintain

a delicate balance between providing support as needed and "letting go" as needed. Research indicates there are four par-

"authoritarian" style adopts clear boundaries, consequences, routines, structure, and expectations - but little

enting styles:

- warmth and acceptance of the child.
 A "laissez-faire" or "permissive" style has very few boundaries, consequences, routines, structure, and expectations - but a good deal of warmth and acceptance.
- A "neglectful" style is characterised by very few boundaries, consequences, rou-tines, structure, and expectations - and very little warmth and acceptance.
- An "authoritative" style has clear boundaries, consequences, routines, structure, and expectations - and also a good deal of warmth and acceptance of the child.

 Overall, it is the "authoritative" parent-

ing style that is linked to positive academic outcomes. Adolescents are best able to establish their autonomy, self-responsibility, and self-directedness when they are raised

In a secure and predictable environment.

Undoubtedly, they will push and exceed the boundaries, but that and its consequences are part of the development of their identity and understanding the social "norms" to which they will be held to

WHEN TO SUPPORT AND

The line separating each parenting style can be blurry. As young people move into later adolescence, the "optimal" style will tend to slide between "authoritative" and

There will be times when it is appro priate to let go and even allow the child to "fail". In other situations, however, rules and routines must be observed and consequences administered if not. This may be because "failing" would present too much of a risk to the young person's wellbeing.

Knowing when to let go also depends on the individual teenager. For example, there are some students with learning challenges that necessitate relatively more support, structure, and routine.

Some of my recent research, for instance, has focused on students with ADHD. These students experience significant executive function deficits (for example, planning, organisation and working memory) that impede their academic development. As a result of these challenges. found these students were significantly less likely to complete schoolwork and significantly more likely to be suspended, expelled, change schools, or repeat a grade. These students therefore benefit from relatively more parental involvement and support than other students.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CHILD'S

STRENGTHS AND ABILITIES

Effective teachers will take the time to understand their students so they understand who they are teaching and how to optimise their academic outcomes. They will differentiate and individualise instruction to make the most of each student's attributes

Similarly, parents who can understand and accept their adolescent's temperament, abilities, strengths, weaknesses, and interests, are in a far better position to know when and how to support them. They will also more accurately know when and how to let go as necessary.

Indeed, social researchers have suggested we have some key needs that are critical to be met for our optimal functioning. One of these - the need to be taken seriously - is considered paramount, as is the importance of feeling understood and accepted by others.

Adolescents place high value on being taken seriously, feeling understood, and feeling accepted. Parents who strive to unnd and accept their child are in a terrific position to provide tailored support as it's needed. This is also the basis for a good relationship and an adolescent's further growth and personal development. 50% OF SOMETHING IS BETTER

THAN 100% OF NOTHING
Given adolescents' drive for autonomy, it is

natural for them to push back from parents and overstep boundaries. How parents respond to this is critical. Under-reaching or over-reaching is often undesirable. When the chips are down, I often ask parents to identify what they consider "minimally ac-ceptable" to them and seek a compromise und this

For example, a parent might want four hours study each weeknight leading up to Year 12 exams, but if the child is do-ing nothing, then two hours each night is an improvement. Not only are these two a potential basis for three hours down the track, but the parent has kept the lines of communication open, along with the likelihood of future compromise and negotiation

THE LONG GAME

Adolescence is a time when a young person and their parent are figuring themselves and each other out. It is not easy and the journey will vary from family to family. Becoming autonomous, self-responsible and self-directed will not happen at the last minute at the end of high school. Rather, it is a long game and to play it well, the parenting style will need to adjust over the course of high school and in response to the individual attributes of the adolescent.

[the writer is Scientia Professor and Professor of Educ tional Psychology, UNSW]

FCS&CA Deptt meets wholesale dealers

GANGTOK, 13 JUL [IPR]:
An emergency meeting with the wholesale agents of Gangtok was convened by the Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, SK Shilal, today. The main objective of the meeting was to assess and monitor the present status of essential commodities in the market.

In the wake of the disruption of normal vehicular movement caused by the ongoing unrest in the neighbouring Darjeeling hills, the Secretary appealed to the wholesale dealers to cooperate in the situation and assured them that the department will extend all possible help to ensure that there is no shortage in the market.

He also mentioned that a special task force has also been constituted by DC East to monitor daily stock position in the market and to ensure that no malpractices or hoarding takes place.

Mr Shilal also said that the department is disseminating daily stock position of essential commodities to the District Administration and Home Department. Similar inspections and monitoring of essential commodities are also being conducted in all the markets of East district by the concerned Food Department In-charges.

Singtam Bhanu... contd from pg02

tured the distribution of trophies and cash prizes to winners of the Ramayana and poetry recitation competition at both school and open level held at the auditorium of Singtam Nagar Panchayat on 10-11 Jul. The trophies were sponsored jointly by an official of Food Department, Shyam Rai, in the memory of his late parents, Bihari Jagram Manch-Singtam and Jai Shree Chettri.

Å fashion show was also organised during the day's event wherein students presented cultural dresses of various cultures of the State.

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Heavy downpour causes flash floods, landslides in Nagaland

KOHIMA, JUL 13 (PTI): Incessant rains across Nagaland has led to flash floods and landslides in several areas of the state, officials today said.

Yeveto village under Niuland Sub-Division in Dimapur district has been severely affected by the flood waters of Zubza river, official reports said.

Crops and plantations have been destroyed, livestock swept away and many families in the villages have been rendered homeless, the report said adding, a team of Irrigation, Flood Control and Power departments led



by Niuland ADC V Lovitoly Sema has visited the

spot to take stock of the situation and coordinate

relief and rescue work.

There has been no

reports of any casualty or injuries to anyone, the report said.

In Kohima, the Disaster Management Authority (DMA) said the heavy downpour has caused landslides, besides severely damaging over 20 houses in Peraciezie Colony here.

in Peraciezie Colony here.

There are also reports of landslides affecting the road transport in several parts of the state.

The Dimapur-Kohima National Highway-29 has also been badly damaged near Kiruphema village and alternate routes are being arranged for passage of vehicles, the DMA said.

Therefore, the Cabinet said,

the dissidents have "no legal

right" to demand the Governor

for effecting change of leader-

ship, which can be taken up only in the official meeting of the NPF

legislature party. It also said that

they "cannot demand" a special assembly session to resolve an

The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee, meanwhile,

has urged the governor to dis-

miss the Liezietsu government and recommended the imposi-

tion of President's Rule in the

internal party matter either.



Irom Sharmila to marry Desmond Coutinho in Kodaikanal

KODAIKANAL (TN), JUL 13 (PTI): Manipur's iconic human rights activist Irom Sharmila has filed an application at the Sub-Registrar office here, to marry her long-time partner Desmond Coutinho, a British national.

Accompanied by
Coutinho, she filed the
application for registration of marriage under
Hindu Marriage Act last
evening, Sub-Registrar of
Kodaikanal Rajesh said.
The official said per-

mission could not be given for the inter-religion marriage immediately under the Hindu Marriage Act and it could be registered only under the Special Marriage Act, by giving a notice period of 30 days to receive objections, if any.

Meanwhile, the local police and Tehsildar have sought information

Uttaranchal Dental

on the wedding date of the activist, the official said.

Sharmila moved to this hill town with Coutinho following her poll debacle in the Manipur state assembly elections in March and her party 'People's Resurgence and Justice Alliance' suffered a rout.

The 44-year-old shot to fame after she launched her fast-un-to-death on November 4, 2000, demanding the withdrawal of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 from Manipur.

Sharmila, also known as 'Iron Lady', broke her 16-year- old hunger strike, the world's longest, on August 9, 2016 and declared she wanted to become the chief minister so that she could repeal the contentious AFSPA.

Nagaland Cabinet turns down Guv's directive on trust vote

KOHIMA, JUL 13 (PTI): The Nagaland political crisis took a new turn today with the state cabinet turning down Governor P B Acharya's directive to Chief Minister Shurhozelie Liezietsu to call an emergency assembly session by July 15 to seek trust vote.

A cabinet meeting headed by Liezietsu discussed the governor's directive last night and took the decision against calling any emergency session of the assembly.

"The state cabinet was of the firm opinion that there was no justification for an emergency session of the assembly to discuss or resolve the internal affairs of the ruling Naga People's Front (NPF)," stated a joint statement issued by Chief Minister Liezietsu and Chief Secretary Panjak Kumar.

The cabinet quoted a Supreme Court judgement, saying that "the governor can summon or prorogue and dissolve the House, only on the aid and advice of the council of ministers with the chief minister as its head, and not on his own."



With the by-poll to Northern Angami-I seat already notified and the Model Code of Conduct in force, the cabinet felt that since the chief minister has filed his nomination on July 11, "it would not be legally proper for the cabinet to advise so, and for the governor to summon the assembly during this election period."

"There is no split in NPF and the party supports the Shurhozelie-led ministry," the cabinet maintained.

The governor's directive, asking Liezietsu to seek a trust vote in the assembly on or before July 15, came after former

Chief Minister T R Zeliang staked claim to form the government.

Zeliang claimed that he has the support of 37 NPF MLAs and seven independent legislators in the 60-member House.

"The group of dissident legislators from the NPF, now reportedly camping at Kaziranga in Assam under the leadership of T R Zeliang, who are demanding change of leadership still belong to the NPF Party.

"Though as many as 10 MLAs have been suspended, they are still bound by their membership of the NPF Party and they do not have a separate identity in the assembly," the cabinet said.

as State as it faces an "extraordinary situation of political instain bility".

Acharya is yet to respond to the Cabinet's decision not to call an emergency session of the assembly. He is expected to arrive here tomorrow.

The present strength of the 60-member Nagaland assembly is 59 as the Northern Angami I seat is vacant now. The bypoll for the seat would be held on July 29.

In the assembly, the NPF has 47 members, the BJP four and independents eight.

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GTA office, railway station set on fire in Darjeeling Hills

contd from pg01

a fast-unto-death in pursuit of the Gorkhaland demand, the Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee today informed that the indefinite hunger-strike, which was scheduled to begin at Chowrasta in Darjeeling on 15 July, has been postponed.

at Chowrasta in Darjeering on 15 July, has been postponed.

Addressing a press conference here this evening, the GMCC convener, Kalyan Dewan, announced that the proposed fast unto death has been postponed in light of the upcoming Presidential elections. No new date for the indefinite hunger strike has been decided yet, he further informed.

Elsewhere, the hills recorded acts of arson despite continued deployment of three columns of army in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and

As day broke, the paramilitary and police forces patrolled the streets and kept a strict vigil as Gorkhaland supporters took out colourful rallies reciting poems of Bhanubhakta Acharya and carrying placards demanding Gorkhaland. Bhanu Jayanti, it may be

Gorkha Unity Day in the Darjeeling hills today.

Internet services re-

mained suspended for the 26th day. Also today, the ban on internet services and news on local cable channels was extended till 25 July. The Gorkhaland Ter-

The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) office for travel and tourism at Chowrastha-Mall Road in the

hill town was set ablaze early this morning. Several government vehicles were also damaged near the Darjeeling toy-train station last night, media reports have stated.

A railway station at Gayabari area of Kurseong was set on fire this morning besides a guest house of the Soil Conservation Department near Teesta Bazaar, officials inform.

MISSING CHILDREN FROM SIKKIM

















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Anthyesthi Kriya The 13th day Anthyesthi Kriya of Late Jai Narayan Sharma (80) retired SE, Building who

thi Kriya of Late Jai Narayan Sharma (80) retired SE, Building who left for his heavenly abode on 2nd July 2017 falls on 14th July 2017. All friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for departed soul at our residence in Lower

Ghurpisey, Namchi, below CM's residence.
We also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during the time of our bereavement.

Shova Sharma(wife), Sachin Rizal, Sameer Sharma(sons) & all families members. Ph. 9563779165/9614404550

SHSC enters semis of SFA *U-15 football* tourney

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:
Sikkim Himalayan
Sporting Club thrashed Melli Sports Academy 4-0 in the quarter-final match in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association Under-15 knock out Foot-ball Tournament 2017 here at Palior Stadium on Thursday. A brace each by Abhijit Subba and Hissay Wangchi helped Sikkim Himalayan SC enter the semi-final round of the

tournament.
On Friday, North
Sikkim Football Association, Mangan will take on Gangtok Football Club in another quarter final match of the tournament.

11 Indians killed in Saudi blaze

JEDDAH/NEW DELHI, JUL 13 (PTI): Eleven Indians have been killed in a fire in the southern Saudi city of Nairan and the Indian Consulate in Jeddah is providing all assistance to the families of the deceased and those injured in the tragedy, the External Af-

fairs Ministry said today.

Among the Indians killed in the fire, four were from Uttar Pradesh, three from Kerala, one from Bihar, one from Tamil Nadu and details of two others were yet to be ascertained, it said.

Apart from the 11 Indians killed, five Indians were also injured in the blaze that ripped through a windowless house where the workers

were staying.
External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Go-pal Baglay in New Delhi put out the details of the deceased and said the Consulate General of In-dia, Jeddah, was providing "all assistance"

Arab News reported that 11 people suffocated and six were injured yesterday, in a fire that ripped through a windowless house shared at a farm. they house

"Firefighters put out a blaze in an old house lack-ing windows for ventilation. Eleven people died of asphyxiation, and six others were injured," the local civil defence authority said. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj in New Delhi said, "I am aware of the fire tragedy in Najran...I have spoken to Consul General Jeddah."

Arjun Rai appointed Manager of Indian Legends team

SAURABH RAI

SILIGURI, 13 JUL:
Senior Manager of United Sikkim FC who has recently been appointed as the Joint Secretary of Sikkim Football Association, Arjun Rai, has been entrusted with the role of Manager of the Indian Legends team.

The Indian Legends team comprises of legendary players like IM Vijayan, Bhaichung Bhutia and Bruno Cutinho along with a host of other former Indian international players. They will be playing matches all across the country and abroad for charity and benefit of fellow footballers

On 18 Jul, the Indian Leg-ends will play a match against



Oorja Under-19 selection team in New Delhi. The team will also present an amount of Rs 5 lakh to former India International goalkeeper, Bhaskar Ganguly, after the match.

"It's a big achievement for me and a matter of great hap-piness. I think it's an honour to the entire football fraternity of Sikkim I had never thought that I would be a manager of such a

great team, the Indian Legends. Till now my biggest achieve-ment was when I got appointed as the Manager of United Sikkim FC in the I-League. Now this achievement to be the Manager of the Indian Legends has sur-passed that," said Mr Rai. Mr Rai has been serving Sikkim football for more than 2

decades in various capacities. A former National Level footballer, he has remained attached to the game even after retiring in the 90s. He is popular amongst the players and has been the manager of Sikkim team for many Santosh Trophy and other National level tournaments over



SFA C Division S-League

SUMMIT REPORT

Daddy's Dzongri played a goalless draw against Mustang Football Club in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association C Division Sikkim-League here at Paljor Stadium today

In another match, Aftamath Football Club defeated Khamdong Sports Academy 3-2. Namgyal, Avilash Subba and Kalden scored a goal each for Af-tamath FC, while Karma Chopel and Avay Pradhan scored a goal each for Khamdong SA.

Tathangchen Football Club will take on Tadong Yargay Football Club on Friday, which will be followed by another match between Gangtok Sporting Club and Kumar Sporting Club.

Jigdal Denzongpa Memorial Chess tourney begins

GANGTOK, 13 JUL:

Four-day long Jigdal
Denzongpa Memo-L Denzongpa Memorial State-level Open Chess Tournament 2017 was inaugurated by Lok Sabha MP, PD Rai, here at SDF Bhawan in Gangtok today. Three hundred and twenty seven [327] chess players from different parts of the State are participating in the tournament.

The tournament is being organised by Sik-Chess Association [SCA] in memory of a tal-ented state chess player, Jigdal Denzongpa, for his contribution towards the development of chess in the State.

In his inaugural ad-dress, Lok Sabha MP, Mr Rai, who was present as the chief guest, ex-pressed his happiness on



maximum participation

tournament. He also appreciated the efforts of the SCA for promoting

chess in the State and for providing bigger plat-form to young children through such events. He also expressed his best wishes to all participants

Sikkim Olympic Association president, BK Roka, encouraged SCA to contin-ue with its efforts for the promotion and development of chess in the State. He also assured to provide all possible support and help from the SOA in near future.

Chief Arbiter of the tournament, Dharmen-dra Kumar, congratulated the SCA for producing talented chess players from Sikkim in a short period. He also appreciated the efforts of SCA general secretary, Mahendra Dhakal, for taking chess forward in the State. He also stated that the increase in participa-tion of school students was a good sign of development of the game in the State.

A state chess player Phurba Wangyal Bhut-ia, spoke about the life and contribution of Late Denzongpa to Sikkim

The inaugural function was also attended by family members of Late Denzongpa. The inaugural function was followed by commencement of matches in the tournament.
The tournament is

following the FIDE Swiss League System of 9 rounds. The tournament also has prizes in U-7 [boys & girls], U-9 [boys & girls], U-11 [boys & girls], U-13 [boys & girls] and U-15 [boys & girls] categories apart from cash prizes to top 15 in the open categories. The tournament carries total cash prize of around Rs 1 lakh.

Indian women cueists slam disgraceful pay disparity

New Delhi, July 13 (PTI): Keerath Bhandaal and Suniti Damani may be little known names in the world of cuesports but have reignited the age old debate on pay disparity, saying it is "disgraceful" to be paid five times less than men for a national title despite representing India for many years.

"We are still very much on our

own despite playing for India for so many years. I won a national title earlier this year and all I got was Rs 5000. It is disgraceful to say the least," Bhandaal, who was all of 10 when she made her World Championship debut in 2007, told PTI.

Delhi-based Bhandaal has claimed national titles in both billiards and snooker while Damani is among the country's leading snook er players, having won the national pool title in 2012.

Besides their achievements at the national level, they have represented India at multiple World



Championships.

The pittance of prize money was for the junior girls' title while the previous season, she got Rs 10,000 for winning the senior billiards title last year while the men received Rs

The prize money we get has

more of a sentimental value than monetary value. It is unreal to think national champion is getting Rs 10,000. They might as well not pay us," joked Bhandaal, who is still pursuing academics and is studying in the city's Jesus and Mary College.
The men not only get paid five

times more, they also get the bulk of the public sector jobs. Sixteen-time World Champion Pankaj Advani is employed by ONGC while his teammate at the recently concluded Asian Snooker Championship, is with the Railways.
"The disparity is everywhere be

it the prize money or finding jobs or sponsors. Most leading male players have the job security while the women continue to be ignored," said Damani, who juggles with a private job in Kolkata and training stints in

"I have taken a break from my job to come here and practice. Despite being the leading player in the country for so many years, I still have to fend for myself. I still feel I am treated like a beginner. It is disheartening to be honest.

"There has to be a system where top 8 players of the country don't have to worry about anything other cry at the moment," added Damani. India's biggest name in the busi-

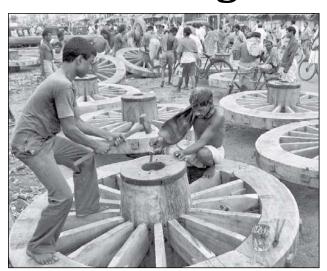
ness, Advani, says there are some pressing issues in Indian cuesports that need to be addressed.

"You have to ask the federation about the prize money disparity and other issues faced by women players. I can only say that all Indian players should be looked after well. They can only perform better if they don't have to worry about their future," said Advani.

S Balasubramanian, secretary of he Billiards and Snooker Federa-tion of India (BSFI), promised an increase in the women's prize money from next year onwards but it would still not be at par with the men.

"It has been decided that BSFI will significantly increase the prize money in women's events. As far as women not getting jobs is con-cerned, it is up to the public sector companies to hire them. We can only

The making of chariots for Puri Ratha Yatra!



NEW DELHI, JUL 13 (PTI): Do you know that three new wooden chariots to carry the presiding deities of the Sri-mandira temple at Odisha's Puri are constructed every year for the Ratha Yatra and the process of making these starts nearly four months be-

fore the annual procession?

The Ratha Yatra in which Lord Jagannatha and siblings Balabhadra and Subhadra ride the three colourful chariots in their annual sojourn to their garden house and birthplace Gundicha Temple, where they stay for seven days before returning, is a meticulously planned event that sees the congregation of lakhs of devo-

tees, says a new book.
In "Ratha Yatra: Chariot Festival of Sri Jagannatha in Puri",

former civil servant Subas Pani tells how the chariot procession is rooted in ancient traditions, myths and legends and embodthe most colourful elements of the classical and folk cultures of the Indian subcontinent and the Odisha region.

"The process of making the chariots starts around four months before the Ratha Yatra on the auspicious occasion of Saraswati Puja or Basanta Pan-chami, typically in February, in a simple ceremony in front of the temple office," the book, published by Niyogi, says.

The first lot of timber arrives by this time but before that, a team from the temple office proceed for selection of trees.

"On reaching the Dasapalla area, they first offer prayers at the temple of Bada Raula Thakurani, a village deity representing the mother goddess. Thereafter, they proceed to select the trees from nearby forests," the author

But before cutting down the first tree, they offer a simple puja at the site. Earlier, the logs were trans-

ported through the river and then by bullock carts but nowadays trucks are used.

Hard wood varieties like phasi, dhaura and asana and soft wood like simili, gambhari and mahi as well as trunks of coco-nut and palm trees are used for the construction.

The construction of the chariots is done according to a schedule and sequence followed for generations, starting on the Akshyaya Trutiya day with the ceremony of Ratha Anukula.

The final decoration of the chariots is completed on the day of the Ratha Yatra by adding the floral embellishments

The making of the chariots is the responsibility of separate groups of servitors granted privileges for this purpose, as is the case with other activities associated with the temple and wor-ship of Jagannatha.

The coffee-table book covers a wide span including the geography of Puri, legends surrounding the temple, the unique architectural style of the temple complex and the elaborate preparatory summer festivals leading up to the main festival.

It brings alive every stage of

the intricate rituals and ceremonies lasting almost two months, giving a complete portrayal of different phases of the festival.

India ready to forge 'ambitious' trading relations with UK: May

India is among the countries ready to forge an "ambitious" new trading relationship with the UK after Britain leaves the European Union (EU). Prime Minister Theresa May has told the Parliament.

In a statement in the House of Commons on the recently concluded G20 summit in Hamburg, May said that her meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi involved discussions on a wide range of issues, including tackling modern day

"At this summit, I held a number of meetings with other world leaders, all of whom made ers, all of whom made clear their strong desire to forge ambitious new bilateral trading rela-tionships with the UK after Brexit. This includ-

Man arrested

allegedly raping and kill-

ing a minor schoolgirl in Kotkhai area here, a case

which has sparked state-

wide outrage.

The class X student

had gone missing in Shimla district on July 4 and her body was re-

covered from the nearby

Halila forest two days later. The police had reg-

istered a case against un-

known people.

Based on evidence

gathered so far, a police team arrested Ashish Chauhan alias Ashu (29),

a resident of Sharaal vil-

lage in the Mahasu area of Kotkhai, said Inspec-

tor General of Police

(Southern Range) Zahur

H Zaidi, who is also head-

The SIT is in the pro-cess of collecting more

evidence and more ar-rests are likely in the

days to come, Director

General of Police Somesh

Referring to some photographs which have been doing the rounds of social networking sites and apps, the DGP ap-

pealed to people not to circulate unverified news

and photographs relat-

ed to the case on social

media. Such posts can attract civil and criminal

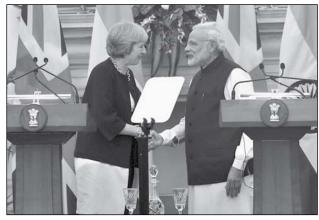
liability, he said, apart from making the case more complicated.

ing the SIT.

for raping,

schoolgirl

killing



ed America, Japan, China and India," May said in her statement on Monday.

In response to Op-position Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn on the issue of striking new trade deals, she added: "I am very happy to tell him (Corbyn) that we are already working with the Americans on what a trade deal might look like. We already have a working group with the Australians, and we have a working group with India as well.

"We are working on trade in three areas. Obviously, one area is looking ahead to the trade agreements we can have with those countries we do not currently have them with as a member of the European Union.

"The second is ensuring that, where there are trade agreements with the EU, we are able to roll those forward as we leave the EU. The third area is

ElseWhere

working with countries such as India and Australia to discuss what changes we can make now, before we leave the EU, to improve our trade relationship." Labour MP Graham

Jones asked May if she had raised the issue of modern day slavery and child prostitution in In-dia during her meeting with Modi, to which she said that it was an issue "previously" raised with the Indian PM as the UK wants "people aroun the world to address it".

"We are very clear that we want to see this issue being dealt with.

why we have put into leg-islation the requirement for companies here in the UK, which will be man-ufacturing and will be sourcing products from around the world, to look at their supply chains and report on what they find in them and whether or not modern slavery is taking place within them," she told Parliament.

Modi and May had held bilateral talks on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Germany last week, during which the Indian leader had raised the issue of Indian economic offenders like li-quor baron Vijay Mallya and former Indian Premier League chief Lalit Modi and sought the UK s cooperation in extraditing them to face the Indian courts.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DERBY STURDY

Draw No:39 DrawDate on:13/07/17

1st Prize Rs.25,00,000/- B 64953

2nd Prize Rs.10,000/-1543 4117 4343 4970 8048

Rrd Prize Rs 5000/-

0504 5041 7068 7461 9182 4th Prize Rs.2.000/-

1605 2146 6906 7868 9286 5th Prize Rs.1,000/-

2674 4327 4921 7620 8020 6th Prize Rs.500/-

0002 0200 0315 0444 0450 0484 0556 0676 0703 0819 1245 1270 1441 1548 1669 1699 1752 2060 2930 2983 3055 3170 3184 3198 3374 3505 3510 3729 4049 4244 1288 4474 4696 4711 4817 4934 4960 5061 5093 5234 5266 5424 5522 5577 5585 5627 5630 5858 6005 6226 6255 6274 6322 6383 6473 6537 6740 6880 6909 6957 7022 7330 7548 7725 7771 7792 7881 8465 8766 8853 9136 9167 9670 9810 9923

0015 0047 0080 0090 0102 0180 0187 0189 0194 0220

7th Prize Rs.100/-

The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok, Sikkim Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

Trump seeks consensus with France despite differences then and now

PARIS, JUL 13 (AP): President Donald Trump and his French counterpart, Emmanuel Ma-cron, are looking to set aside differences on trade and climate SHIMLA, JUL 13 (PTI): The Special Investigation change and find common ground as they meet today ahead of Bas-Team (SIT) today arrest-ed a 29-year-old man for tille Day celebrations in Paris.

Trump arrived in the French capital after an overnight flight from Washington and hours before his meeting with Macron to tackle potential solutions to the crisis in Syria and broader counterterrorism strategies.

Trump's decision last month to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris climate accord sparked outrage across Europe and anti-Trump protests are planned while he is in Paris.

Macron, a staunch advocate of research to combat global warming, has beckoned "all responsible citizens," including cluding American scientists and researchers, to bring their fight against climate change to

The leaders plan to hold a news conference after their talks, and Trump may face tough questions about emails revealing that his eldest son welcomed the prospect of receiving Russian government support in last



year's presidential campaign against Hillary Clinton.

Trump came to his son's de-fense Wednesday, praising Don-ald Trump Jr.'s performance in an interview on Fox News Channel. Trump tweeted: "He was open, transparent and innocent. This is the greatest Witch Hunt in political history. Sad!" The visit to Paris could offer

Trump a well-timed distraction from the controversy. He will mark the 100th anniversary of America's entry into World War I by visiting US troops. He'll also be the guest of honor at Friday's Bastille Day events a celebration of French national pride.

White House officials are casting it as a celebration of the US-French military alliance both

The leaders and their wives will end a busy day of meetings Thursday with a lavish dinner at Jules Verne at the top of the Eif-

Trump is visiting a city he

has repeatedly disparaged.
When he announced his decision on the climate agreement, Trump said he was "elected to represent the citizens of Pitts-burgh, not Paris." And he's repeatedly said the city has been ruined by the threat of terrorism, which he ties to immigrants.

"Paris isn't Paris any longer," he said in February.
But counterterrorism issues

give Macron and Trump the po-tential for a strong working relationship.

Macron's national security pitch hasn't differed drastically from Trump's. On Syria, he argues for intervention, saying that President Bashar Assad is a threat to Syria and the Islamic

State group is a threat to France. France has been plagued in recent years by extremist attacks. During last year's Bastille Day celebrations, a 19- ton cargo truck deliberately plowed into crowds in Nice, killing more than 80 people.

SBI to cut NEFT, RTGS charges by up to 75% from Sat

New Delhi, July 13 (PTI): In a push to digital payments, state-owned lender SBI will cut charges on electronic transfer of funds through NEFT and RTGS by up to 75 per cent from Saturday, benefiting nearly 5.27 crore customers, a

release said today.

"The reduced charges will be applicable on the transactions done through internet banking (INB) and mobile banking (MB) services offered by the bank," it said while re-leasing the revised NEFT and RTGS charges from July 15. As per the re-vised schedule, the NEFT charges on fund transfer up to Rs 10,000 has been halved to Re 1, and to Rs 2 for up to Rs 1 lakh.

For transfers between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh, the NEFT charge will be reduced to Rs 3 from the existing Rs 12. The charge above Rs 2 lakh has been fixed at Rs 5 as against the current Rs 20. For RTGS transactions, the charges will be Rs 5 for transactions between Rs 2 lakh and Rs 5 lakh, Currently the bank charges Rs 20 for such transaction.

If a customer trans-fers more than Rs 5 lakh through the RTGS channel, he will be charged Rs 10 as against Rs 40 currently.

Anthyesthi Kriya



Anthyesthi Kriya of Late Pushpa Chandra Neopaney who left for heavenly on 02 July falls on 14th July **2017**. Friends, well-wishers and family members are requested to attend the praying ceremony to be held at our residence at Tadong, Gang tok, East Sikkim.

Devka Neopaney [nife], Ajay Neopaney [son], An-jana Neopaney [daughter] & all Neopaney family. Cont: 9932072702, 9933540556

Anthyesthi Kriya



Anthyesthi Kriya of Late JN Sharma who left for heavenly abode on 02 July falls on 14th July 2017. Friends, well-wishers and family members are requested to attend the praying ceremony to be held at our residence at Melli Bazar, near Hospital Melli, South Sikkim.

Tanka Pd Sharma, Ish war Pd. Sharma (sons) Kiran Sharma, Kalyani Sharma, Beena Sharma 🜣 Prabha Sharma (Daughters) Lata Sharma & Indira Sharma (Daughter in law) & All Dhitals Family Cont: 9434164758, 9434209933

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

SINGAM TOPAZ MORNING

Draw time: 11:55 am onwards Draw No:11 DrawDate on:13/07/17 1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 89A 76653 (Including Super Prize Amt)

ons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 76653 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-00668 15703 37610 37897 40466 44039 51666 54766 58864 83098

rd Prize Rs.500/-1116 1386 2562 3106 3585 4307 4610 5234 6313 7272 th Prize Rs.300/

0173 0594 1010 1375 3554 4157 4259 5303 7999 8871 5th Prize Rs.130/-

0285 0288 0351 0433 0650 0666 0747 0749 0771 0796 0896 1160 1416 1501 1586 1591 1664 1732 1815 1835 2406 2445 2697 2744 2757 2871 3258 3317 3392 3465 3742 3751 3780 3781 3827 3858 3942 3987 4051 4203 251 4404 4733 5200 5247 5310 5333 5354 5390 5400 5467 5534 5714 5760 5824 5895 6026 6143 6150 6232 5579 6665 6775 6892 6893 6907 6944 6981 7112 7218 7324 7490 7527 7589 7632 7633 7775 7782 7803 7843 8105 8183 8267 8433 8542 8568 8618 8654 8774 8776 831 8927 9094 9196 9208 9233 9536 9649 9872 9873

Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland.

Results, please visit: www.naga

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FAITHFUL EVENING

Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:116 DrawDate on:13/07/17 1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 84H 92403

(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 92403 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-06140 30095 32399 45787 47929 48631 53764 64405 66037 87167

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-23585 43993 44372 50131 56323

50428 61363 67815 86967 88487 4th Prize Rs.1000/-0745 1914 3069 3218 5357 6264 6642 7885 8422 9995

5th Prize Rs.600/-

0544 3823 4171 5244 5320 5821 6225 6528 7973 9742 6th Prize Rs.250/-

0248 0414 0461 0537 0590 0594 0601 0763 0821 0879 945 1251 1386 1464 1597 1677 1709 1863 1907 1910 1928 1959 2281 2388 2465 2467 2667 2668 2671 2674 2683 2715 2884 2942 3040 3548 3665 3666 3717 3735 3889 3910 4009 4064 4128 4150 4206 4296 4308 4529 4531 4586 4613 4777 4929 4989 5090 5150 5299 5344 5365 5416 5610 5625 5955 5962 6538 6685 6950 7006 7396 7574 7597 7713 7730 7750 7764 7877 7979 8078 8088 8122 8163 8209 8370 8432 8469 8557 8799 8853 8931 8936 8995 9330 9390 9433 9571 9685 9843 9846

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR SUCCESS

Draw No:52 DrawDate on:13/07/17

1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 98B 17266

(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 17266 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

) 3046 10581 13746 16314 25259 43458 60507 85943 91254 95354 3rd Prize Rs.9000/-01247 14520 16182 35345 39073

50762 52170 52964 64885 78537

4th Prize Rs.1000/-0185 1735 2798 3600 4744 5357 6980 7008 9161 9749 5th Prize Rs.600/-

713 2621 3083 3641 3673 3908 5560 5619 5920 8689 6th Prize Rs.250/-0035 0144 0246 0269 0373 0432 0441 0527 0651 1001

1004 1013 1045 1089 1210 1317 1533 1716 1874 1896 2009 2043 2053 2128 2153 2193 2258 2393 2441 2616 2789 2799 2926 3130 3142 3152 3162 3189 3409 3419 2789 2799 2920 3130 3142 3132 3102 3103 3403 3419 3474 3816 3936 3944 3963 4182 4202 4258 4365 4373 4394 4400 4420 4465 4773 4779 4827 4925 4965 5086 5089 5391 5535 5758 5879 5932 6329 6446 6464 6474 6548 6690 6794 6961 7156 7692 7717 7732 7746 7875 7905 8028 8097 8150 8255 8319 8370 8484 8500 8773 8871 8891 8962 9097 9104 9145 9360 9505 9571 9628

The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES DEAR VULTURE MORNING

1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 91E 97843

including Super Prize Amt)
ions. Prize Rs.8,000/- 97843 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) nd Prize Rs.9500/-00190 01074 12219 17870 21506

37509 59933 71828 84143 85303 3rd Prize Rs.9000/-04283 07094 11572 12193 12589

17673 24977 69549 76432 79299 4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0672 1990 2521 2930 3463 5250 7573 7827 8836 8990 th Prize Rs.600/

2069 2618 2717 2869 3277 3703 4122 6033 6294 9254 th Prize Rs.250/-

079 0459 0506 0517 0547 0630 0669 0798 1115 1116 400 1470 1601 1801 1870 1878 1893 1902 1964 2140 2232 2296 2345 2382 2519 2611 2704 2831 2895 2957 3036 3079 3138 3429 3444 3487 3502 3628 3743 3794 3839 3898 4006 4051 4182 4207 4257 4349 4539 4594 1703 4979 5014 5048 5197 5222 5255 5264 5401 5528 5923 6105 6257 6598 6623 6683 6726 6883 6888 6965 7159 7258 7284 7516 7557 7558 7619 7651 7670 7691 8217 8308 8318 8373 8458 8464 8465 8549 8646 8689 8711 8814 9140 9348 9443 9522 9634 9702 9855 9936

The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries, For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries

Inside the Game of Thrones Season 7 Premiere

H BO celebrated the return of its award-winning and record-breaking fantasy series in epic fashion and it's hard to reconcile winter's arrival in the thick heat of summer, but Game of Thrones is nothing if not adept at shat-tering conventional thinking.

Even without a single drop of actual snow in sight, Los Angeles nevertheless played the role of a wintery Westeros on Wednes-day night, hosting HBO's world premiere of the fantasy drama's seventh season. The event, which included red carpet interviews with cast and crew as well as the world's first look at a new episode of Game of Thrones since season six wrapped more than a year ago, was held at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Downtown Los Angeles.

In the weeks and months leading up to the premiere, HBO has touted season seven as the year that House Stark's iconic words become more than just a warning. Winter is no longer coming; it's here, and with it comes the Night King's army of the undead, and the promise of all-out war [to borrow from another show in which zombies are featured] breaking across

The event's red carpet theme reflected the ever looming threat of winter, beginning with the fact that the red carpet was more like a frosted blue. What's more, the villainous Night King loomed over the proceedings, figuratively and literally, in the form of a massive statuette that stood in front of the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Winter's arrival impacted Game of Thrones on more than just a story level this year, too. Production was delayed in order to cap-ture more scenes of winter, which not only led to the season's later-than-usual debut









[Thrones typically airs in the spring; season seven is the first year it airs in the summer], but also unseasonably cold conditions for the cast and crew. With that said, the folks responsible

for Thrones know their way around a blizzard or two at

this point.

Beyond bad weather, season seven promises an accelerated pace thanks to the fact that disparate stories are starting to thread together. For instance, Daenerys Targaryen [Emilia Clarke] and her forces will finally

touchdown in the Seven

Kingdoms this season, an act of war that's guaranteed

to register on Cersei Lannis-

ter's [Lena Headey] radar. With so many characters who have yet to cross paths now existing on the same [admittedly sprawl-ing] continent, fans

SPOILERALERT!!! can expect more and more stories to start colliding, as the words "winter is here take on meaning beyond the

forecast. Given the show's propensity for killing off charac-

ters, many of the actors who walked the red carpet were likely attending their final Game of Thrones premiere as an active member of the cast. But even for those who escape season seven, the final curtain call is on its way. Potential spinoffs are on the way, yes, but the proper Game of Thrones series will end its run next season, making this the penultimate premiere event for the historic

Following the red carpet attendees settled into their seats inside the Walt Disney Concert Hall, where HBO president of programming Casey Bloys spoke a few words before the gathered crowd.

After thanking a litany of members of the HBO family, Bloys introduced produc-ers and showrunners David Benioff and Dan Weiss on stage. Rather than speak-ing about their process or the achievement of reaching seven seasons, the pair instead focused on the efforts of Ramin Djawadi, the show's composer and someone they described as "the nicest guy in the world," and the brain behind "the best music in the world."

With that, Benioff and Weiss brought Djawadi onstage, where he conducted a sprawling symphony of musicians, with footage from Thrones playing in the background. Djawadi began by conducting a live rendition of the Game of Thrones opening sequence, and then sat in front of a keyboard to play "Light of the Seven", the riveting piece that haunts the explosive first act of the season six finale. The live music portion of the night concluded with a third piece, the same that played over the final moments of season six scored against a montage of scenes from the same season.

With music, anecdotes acknowledgements and bathroom humor out of the way, the event turned toward what everyone came for: fire and blood. Presumably, any way. At the request of HBO, absolutely no details about what's contained in the season seven premiere can be revealed at this time.

ARCTIC CIRCLE LET'S MEET AT 6:18.

Will Jon Snow Daenerys cross paths? Will her dragons finally incinerate an army of White Walkers? Will Cersei's reign as queen end after no more than a single episode? Don't bother asking; the gag order placed on the audience may as well have been made from Valyrian steel. Needless to say the massive premiere elicited more than a few dropped

Countless celebrities were spotted at the party, including Lost and The Leftovers creator Damon Linde-lof, Westworld masterminds Jonah Nolan and Lisa Joy, Joe and Nick Jonas, Patton Os-walt and his new fiancé Meredith Salenger, Jimmy Kimmel, Timothy Simons [HBO's Veep] and Alex Karpovsky [HBO's Girls].

Game of Thrones returns July 16.



jaws and uproarious applause before the credits

1789: Storming Fort took place. orating the day France

Fort took place. Commemorating the day France observes Bastille Day on 14th July. The storming of a grand fortress that was infamous for holding political prisoners, during the first moments of the French Revolution 1789 is considered as an important milestone in the History of the entire world.

1791: Owing to a riot Joseph Priestley, an 18th-century English theologian, natural philosopher, chemist, innovative grammarian, multi-subject educator, and liberal political theorist who published over 150 works, and a supporter of the French Revolution, was ousted from Birmingham, England. He is also credited with the discovery of oxygen.

1933: The Nazi eugenics had commenced with the proclamation of the Law for the Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring that called for

Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring that called for the compulsory sterilization of islature of Jammu & Kashmir.



Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY Namchi Govt. College

any citizen who suffered from

any cutzen who suffered from alleged genetic disorders. 1958: In Iraq the monarchy was overthrown by popular forces led by Abd al-Karim Qasim, who became the nation's new leader.

INDIAN HISTORY

INDIAN HISTORY
1636: Aurangzeb, the sixth
Mughal Emperor, was appointed as the Viceroy of
Deccan by his father Emperor Shah Jahan.

1893: Garimella Satyanaraya-1893: Garimella Satyanaraya-na, a poet and freedom fighter of Andhra Pradesh was born. He influenced and mobilised the Andhra people against the British Raj with his patriotic songs and writings, for which he was jailed several times by the British administration. the British administration.

1992: The Lok Sabha passes



"I GET WHERE YOUR MOTHER IS COMING FROM . WANT TO KNOW WHEN SHE'S GOING BACK TI



COUNTDOWN BEGINS! A white walker attends the premiere of HBO's "Game of Thrones" Season 7 at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, California. Winter is almost here!

ARIES: Whatever skills or talents you're using to accomplish your present goals may seem blocked, Aries. This could give rise to a sense of frustration if you let it, but don't fall into this trap. If you can't get motivated, focus on something else, perhaps an activity you've never tried before. This could get your mind going again while allowing your other skills to pick up steam.

TAURUS: You might feel creative, artistic, and full of ideas for new projects. However, Taurus, other responsibilities could keep you from starting on them. At the same time, your mind could be so focused on them that your other work takes longer than it should. Write down your ideas before they es-ARIES: Whatever skills or talents

cape, then concentrate on the tasks at hand. Finish those and then you can pursue what you really want.

GEMINI: Spiritual matters could be

GEMINI: Spiritual matters could be very much on your mind, Gemini. You may want to delve into metaphysical studies and meditation, but work or family responsibilities could interfere with making those desires a reality. Don't let this get you down. Instead, stay focused on the mundane chores and finish them. Then you can move on to the really fascinating matters.

matters.

CANCER: A friend may seem in a dark and gloomy mood and unwilling to talk about it. Don't force the issue. This probably has more to do with your friend's circumstances than with

you, Cancer. It's best if you continue to pursue your cherished goals. Not only could you advance your interests but you might also inspire your friend and bring him or her out of the dumps. Go for the gold.

LEO: Professional interests might LEO: Professional interests might temporarily interfere with your social life, Leo. This might cause a little friction between you and a close friend or romantic partner. Your friend is more apt to want to brood than discuss it with you. Don't worry. This person will come out of the funk and be more understanding. Explain the situation the best you can and then continue with your work.

VIRGO: Responsibilities to work, family, or both could temporarily de-

lay plans for a much-needed vacation. This could be a bit depressing, Virgo, but don't let it get you down. Take care of your responsibilities as quickly as you can and then move ahead with your plans. All signs are that this trip is important to you and should go ahead as scheduled.

LIBRA: Your financial situation should continue to expand now, Libra. Believe in yourself. Don't worry if you hear rumors that make the future seem rather grim. This is probably misinformation coming from unreliable sources. Continue to work toward your goals. Meanwhile, check out the rumors and find the real facts. You will probably discover that all is far better than the gossipers claim.

SCORPIO: Today it may seem like home and family responsibilities are interfering with your social life, Scorpio, including a get-together you really want to attend. Don't worry. All signs are that something unexpected will occur at the last minute that makes it possible for you to proceed with your plans. Try to take care of your duties as efficiently as you can so you can enjoy the evening.

SAGITTARIUS: You may wake up feeling strong and energetic, but as the day wanes, stress could cause you to feel tired and worn out. Be careful, Sagittarius. You could become short-tempered around others. This won't happen if you avoid the tempation to go like a house afire first SCORPIO: Today it may seem like

thing in the morning. Pace yourself and your relations with others should remain excellent throughout the entire CAPRICORN: A temporary lack of

CAPRICORN: A temporary lack of funds might interfere with creative projects or your ability to have fun, Capricorn. You might encounter an apparent coolness from a close friend or romantic partner that you might not understand. Don't make too much of it. This probably relates more to the person's general mood than to anything you've said or done. Your friend should be back to normal in a few days.

AQUARIUS: If you spend the day at home, Aquarius, the walls may seem to close in around you. Squabbles

over nothing could erupt between you over nothing could crupt between you and other household members, and a lack of energy could plague you. This is a good day to get some exercise. Take a walk, ride a bike, or take a cardio class. This should work off your frustrations while creating more physical energy.

ical energy.

PISCES: Today you might be wait-PISCES: Today you might be waiting for a letter or call from a close friend or love partner, Pisces. Its delay could cause a powerful feeling of gloom. Don't let it spoil your day. The communication will come, and if not today, then within a few days. Meanwhile, this is a great time to try your hand at writing or music. Be creative while you wait. You might also call another friend.

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