

Don't need to stand up in movie halls to prove patriotism: SC

NEW DELHI, OCT 23 (PTI):

People do not need to stand up in cinema halls to prove their patriotism and "cannot be forced to carry patriotism on their sleeves", the Supreme Court said today, asking the Centre to consider amending the rules to regulate the playing of the national anthem before a film.

The top court also observed that it cannot be assumed that if a person does not stand up for the national anthem, then he is "less patriotic".

Observing that the society did not need "moral policing", a bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra said the next time, "the government will want people to stop wearing T-shirts and shorts to cinemas saying this would disrespect the national anthem."

It said it will not allow the government to "shoot from its shoulder" and asked it to take a call either way on the issue of regulating the playing of the anthem before a film.

The bench also indicated that it may mod-

SC asks EC to look into plea to bring parties under RTI law

NEW DELHI, OCT 23 (PTI):

The Supreme Court today asked the Election Commission (EC) to examine a representation for bringing political parties under the ambit of the Right to Information (RTI) Act to make them accountable and to curb the use of black money in elections.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud asked the petitioner, Delhi BJP spokesperson and lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay, to first make the representation before the EC regarding the issue.

The petitioner has sought direction to the Centre to take steps to deal with the menace of corruption and communalisation.

"Declare the political parties, registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a 'Public Authority' under Section 2(h) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, to make them transparent and accountable to the people and curb use of black money in elec-

CID to probe into SI's killing in Darjeeling

KOLKATA, OCT 23 (PTI): West Bengal CID will probe into the killing of state police sub-inspector Amitava Malik in a firing allegedly by supporters of Bimal Gurung during a police raid at a forest near Darjeeling in search of the absconding

GJM chief earlier this month. Malik was killed on October 13 at Tukvar forest and four other policemen were injured during the raid when the clash with Gurung's supporters had taken place. Days after it Darjeeling po-

lice had lodged a suo motu FIR against the GJM leader and others in connection with the killing. "We have taken up the case. We will start our investigations into the death of SI Amitava Malik," state CID ADGP Rajesh Kumar told PTI.

Besides Gurung, 19 others named in the FIR were booked on charges including murder and arson, state police said.

"Gurung and his associates have been booked for their alleged involvement in

violence, arson and killing of an on duty sub-inspector," a senior police officer said.

West Bengal Director General of Police Surajit Kar Purkayastha had visited Darjeeling after the incident to monitor the situation.

Gurung has been in hiding since August after cases under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act were registered against him for his alleged involvement in several bomb blasts in Darjeeling and adjoining areas.

State Election Commission details ID proofs required for panchayat poll voters

Summit Report Gangtok, 23 Oct:

The State Election Commission issued an order today directing all electors of Zilla and Gram Panchayats to ideally produce their Electoral Photo Identity Cards issued by the Election Commission of India [ECI] in order to exercise

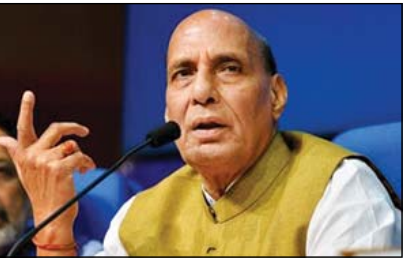
their franchise during the Panchayat Election scheduled to be held on 03 Nov.

The order further states that any elector whose name is registered in the Panchayat Electoral Rolls of 2017 and has not been issued a Electoral Photo Identity Card by the ECI will

be required to produce documentary evidence to establish his/ her identity which may include Passport, Driving License, PAN Card, Service Identity Card issued to employees by Central/State Government offices/public sector undertakings/local bodies/other public limited

company, Passbook of accounts with photograph opened in a scheduled Bank or Post Office, Aadhar Card, Freedom Fighter Identity Card with photograph, SC/ST/OBC Certificate, Certificate of Physical Handicap issued by competent authority, Arms License, Job Cards

with photograph issued under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, pension documents, Health Insurance Scheme Smart Cards, Ration Cards or any other similar documents establishing the identity of the electors to the satisfaction of the Presiding Officer.



Centre appoints former IB director for 'sustained dialogue' in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, OCT 23 (PTI):

In a fresh move for peace in Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre today announced a "sustained dialogue" process with all stakeholders in the Valley and appointed a former Intelligence Bureau director as its special representative.

Dineshwar Sharma would hold talks with all sections of people and organisations, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh said at a hurriedly called press conference here.

The home minister made it clear that Sharma, who would hold the rank of a cabinet secretary, would have complete independence in deciding who to hold talks with. He was replying to a question on whether Sharma would hold discussions with the Hurriyat Conference.

"The Centre has shown conviction and

consistency on Kashmir issue and carrying forward this policy, we have decided to begin a sustained dialogue policy for Jammu and Kashmir.

"And for this we have decided to appoint Dineshwar Sharma as special representative of the Government of India," Singh told reporters.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day address, Singh said the government was sensitive to issues related to Jammu and Kashmir.

The prime minister's Independence Day statement that problems in the state could be solved "neither by bullet, nor by abuses but by embracing the people" clearly underlined the government's policy and intentions, he said.

Singh said the prime minister had held a se-

North trains presiding and polling officers for Panchayat Election 2017

MANGAN, 23 OCT [IPR]: The first round training of Presiding and Polling Officers for Panchayat Elections 2017 of North District was held today at Zilla Bhavan in Mangan. The training was presided over by District Magistrate [North], Karma R Bonpo, who is also the Panchayat Returning Officer for the district.

The training started with a welcome address delivered by Assistant Panchayat Returning Officer-cum- Additional District Collector [North], Tenzing Kaeleon, followed by the keynote speech of Mr Bonpo.

Mr Bonpo stressed that Presiding Officers, being heads of polling booths, held full responsibility and power of the polling booth. Any lacunae within his/her polling booth should be answered by the Presiding Officers, therefore, it was very im-



portant to understand the roles and responsibilities assigned in the trainings.

He also asked the polling personnel to understand the task at hand and to perform

their assignment as per the guidelines of the State Election

SSACS workshop for folk artists on standardizing awareness resources

Summit Report Gangtok, 23 Oct:

Sikkim State AIDS Control Society [SSACS] organized a three-day State Level Workshop of Folk Artists on standardizing scripts, folk performances and developing State & District resources from 15-17 Oct at Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco Tourism [IHCAE] in Chemchey, South Sikkim. An SSACS press release informs that this workshop has been conducted every year by SSACS since 2011.

Nine troupes from all four districts of the State namely Dasharthick Sangh-Gelling, RRC Aarigaon Samaj Kalyan Sangh, Sikkim Lepcha Youth Association, Natya Pratibha Manch Sikkim [South Branch], RRC VCGL Government Senior Secondary School, Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim, Arithang Mahila Kalyankari Sangh, Gandharva Group and Khusboo & Group participated in the workshop.

The troupes were trained and oriented by resource persons from Culture Affairs and Heritage Depart-



ment, Government of Sikkim, Norden Lepcha and Phurba Lepcha, and

technically supported by resource persons from SSACS, Lubhana Rai

and Subash Koirala.

The main objective of the work-

shop was to amalgamate folk media with HIV/AIDS messages and also to encourage Voluntary HIV testing.

The valedictory function on 17 Oct was attended by Director [Health Services]-cum-Project Director [SSACS], Dr Uttam Pradhan, IHCAE Chief Instructor/Incharge, Kunzang Gyatso, and resource persons from Culture Department, Norden Lepcha and Phurba Lepcha.

Dr Pradhan appreciated the efforts of the participating troupes and mentioned that in India majority of HIV cases are registered through rural population. He also stressed that every individual should be tested for HIV and it is an added responsibility of the troupes to encourage the population for testing.

"As in previous years, Mobile ICTC will be attached with the selected troupes for free HIV testing" he added.

He also announced that the selected troupes will be assigned the campaign from Nov onwards, the release informs.

West administration invites parties to EVM commissioning process

GYALSHING, 23 OCT [IPR]: As per information received from the Office of the Returning Officer-West, the Sector Magistrates have been directed by the Returning Officer to inform all the political parties and the

contesting candidates regarding the EVM commissioning process which is scheduled to start from 25 Oct at the Kyong-sa School Auditorium. The RO-West, Kapil Meena, has informed that

while attendance for this process is not compulsory, participation of the office bearers/ candidates/ election agents was always welcomed and appreciated. He further informs that

10 teams have been designated to simultaneously take up their assigned areas for EVM preparations for the polls. Meanwhile, the first lot of around 1,400 postal ballot forms has been sent to the

State Election Commission. Any left out cases including the polling duty vehicle drivers are directed to submit their duly filled postal ballot forms by 23 Oct to get their postal ballot.

BJP Sikkim prez interacts with panchayat candidates

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 23 OCT:

Bharatiya Janta Party's Sikkim-unit president, DB Chauhan, interacted with the party's West Sikkim candidates of Ward and Zilla Panchayats today. Mr Chauhan accused that Sikkim Democratic Front for what he sees as the deplorable condition of Sikkim and further alleged that the people of West Sikkim have been cheated in the name of development. He added that 80% independent and opposition party candidates for the upcoming panchayat elections was a sign of awareness among the people, a BJP press release informs.

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Connectivity critical constraint for Arunachal progress: Niti

ITANAGAR, OCT 23 (PTI): Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar today cited connectivity as the critical constraint for development of Arunachal Pradesh and urged the state to work on it with a proper vision and plan.

Kumar, who is on a visit to the state, held a meeting with the Chief Minister, Council of Ministers and top state government officials headed by the Chief Secretary.

Kumar is accompanied by Jitendra Kumar, Niti Aayog adviser for North East region, an official release said.

"I believe robust connectivity will solve all issues of the state and therefore, the state government with all its machinery, has to singularly focus on this issue together with Niti Aayog for a road forward," Kumar said.

He asked the state government to constitute a Task Force and evolve

a white paper on how to go about dealing with this constraint in a time bound manner.

You need to have a clear-cut vision document and a time bound action plan. We at Niti Aayog will bring all relevant ministries on the table and make a roadmap for Arunachal Pradesh in this direction. Everything will follow once the issue of connectivity is resolved, he said.

Appreciating Chief Minister Pema Khandu's proposal to host a regional conference of the Niti Aayog to be attended by all the North Eastern states, Kumar said it would be a perfect platform for the states to put their respective white papers on their needs, priorities and the action plans to achieve these.

He advised that the white paper or action plan be based on the Prime Minister's New India Mission 2022 program.

You can call it as New Arunachal Mission 2022 that will give a concrete road map and its implementation in a time bound manner. This will sync with the Prime Minister's vision for a new India by 2022 when development will take the shape of a mass movement and not remain confined to elites or governments, Kumar said.

Earlier, Development and Finance Commissioner Ashish Kundra made a power-point presentation detailing the potentials and challenges before the state.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Power Minister Tamiyo Taga, Education Minister Honchun Ngandam, Civil Supplies Minister Kamlung Mossang, Urban Development Minister Nabam Rebia, PHE&WS Minister Bamang Felix and Advisor to CM Tai Tagak, the release added.

Interlocutor lauds Naga tribal grass root organisations

DIMAPUR, OCT 23 (PTI): The interlocutor for Naga peace talks, R N Ravi today lauded the Naga tribal grass-root organisations and civil societies for making it possible for the six Naga National Political Groups (NNGPs), who are now formally party to the peace process, to come together.

"This is a historic development because howsoever comprehensive the Naga issue, we cannot leave anyone out of the peace process. We must strive to the best of the ability to make it happen," Ravi said.

Ravi is here in Nagaland to hold peace talks with the working committee of six NNPGs, which is being held for the first time in the state.

Besides the ongoing Naga political dialogue between the Govt of India and the NSCN-IM, the six NNPGs have also been invited to involve in the peace talks before a final settlement is achieved.

Ravi said the Centre cannot be indifferent to the stake holders repre-

senting the Naga society at the grass root level and the active cooperation shown by them so far will surely reach an "honourable and acceptable solution in the near future".

The interlocutor said Naga issue cannot be fragmented.

"We cannot have too many agreements and solutions. There will be one peace process and one agreement that will be inclusive and comprehensive," he said and urged the NNGPs to continue to maintain unity and work to bring all groups under the peace process.

"We must not waste time but be sincere and honest and sort out the differences," he added.

Leaders of tribal organizations and civil societies have extended their support and cooperation and urged upon the Centre to expedite the peace process by bringing all Naga political groups on board to find an honourable solution to the long protracted Naga issue.

GSI planning blood tests to study lead contamination

KOLKATA, OCT 23 (PTI): Geological Survey of India (GSI) is planning blood tests of the city's denizens after one of its studies revealed that raw food items sold in different markets of Kolkata have alarming levels of lead in them.

The blood tests will be conducted to estimate how many have been affected by the concentration of the heavy metal and to conduct a detailed study on the pattern of contamination in those who have been consuming the food items from these markets, a senior scientist from the GSI told PTI today.

"It's well known that people have lead in their blood but what we need to find out is the magnitude of its concentration. For that we are planning to collect blood samples from the people in the city to conduct the tests," he said.

The blood-collection process for the test is likely to be started from April next year, said the scientist, who is linked to the study that revealed the high level of lead content in raw food items sold in the city markets.

A recent study by GSI scientists said samples of raw food items like polished rice, red lentil (masoor dal), red spinach, chicken, fish (without scales), biscuits, spice (cumin seeds) and even tulsi, a common medicinal herb, collected from 12 markets in the city showed a mean lead concentration between 3.78 and 43.35 mg/kg (average 23.56

mg/kg).

The study also found that about 75 per cent of the lead contamination in the food items sold in Kolkata markets were contributed by atmospheric lead, mainly produced by the combustion of diesel.

As per the American and European standards, the current reference range for acceptable blood lead concentration in a healthy adult who does not have excessive exposure to environmental sources of the element is less than 0.25 mg/L. For children it is less than 0.05 mg/L.

Prolonged exposure of lead, which is highly toxic, can cause permanent damage to the kidneys, liver and haematologic systems.

Children are more at risk because lead exposure can reverse their brain growth and cause irreversible damage to their overall well being.

The scientist said GSI has already collected eight blood samples from in and the surrounding areas of Korba coal field areas in Chhatisgarh to ascertain the heavy metal concentration among people staying there.

"We are trying to understand the heavy metal concentration among the people living in Korba coal field areas. We will analyse the blood samples to find out the magnitude," he said.

GSI has also collected fly ash, soil and other sources of heavy metal which ultimately affect people, mainly the children, he added.

North trains presiding and polling officers...

contd from pg01

Commission and leave no room for any errors. He advised Presiding Officers should report their status to the control room during the day of the poll and take the immediate help in case of any urgency.

Further, Mr Bonpo directed the Sector Magistrate to visit the polling booth and submit the status on the basic minimum facilities so that necessary steps can be taken immediately.

The ADC [Development]-Mangan, Tashi Chopel, who is also the Nodal officer-cum-Master Trainer, imparted training on general duties of the Presiding and Polling Officers wherein he explained in detail about the role and responsibilities of the officers for conducting free and fair election.

Joint Director-Election Department, Gangtok-cum-Master Trainer, TT Bhutia, imparted the Training on Electronic Voting Machine [EVM]

and its technical aspects to the participants.

During the training, the Presiding and Polling officers received hand books along with hands on training on EVM.

The second round training for Presiding and Polling Officer will be held on 27 Oct followed by hands on training on EVMs on 28 Oct for Presiding Officers.

The electors will cast their votes in a total of 76 polling booths in the District on 03 Nov.

Centre appoints former IB director for 'sustained dialogue' in Kashmir

contd from pg01

Sharma, a 1979-batch (retired) officer of the Indian Police Service, served as director of the Intelligence Bureau from December 2014 to 2016.

Asked whether a police officer was capable for holding talks on such a sensitive issue, Singh shot back, "What's wrong in that. He is an apolitical person having no political affiliation which is his greatest advantage. Besides he is well aware about the internal security situation of the country."

Singh also made it clear that there was no time-frame set for him as the issue was sensitive.

Sharma is the fourth interlocutor appointed by the Centre since 2002. The first one was former Union minister KC Pant, the second NN Vohra, the present governor of the state, and the last a three-member panel comprising former bureaucrat MM Ansari, academician Radha Kumar and late journalist Dileep Padgaonkar.

The home minister said the special representative would initiate sustained interactions and dialogue to understand the legitimate aspirations of people, especially the youth, and try to fulfil them, he said.



STTA team at National Ranking TT c'ship in Slg

Gangtok on Tuesday, 24 Oct

Temp: 21°C / 10°C

Forecast: Periods of clouds ad sun with a shower or thunderstorm around.

Sunrise: 05:40 AM

Sunset: 4:59 PM

Burglary at Upper Gurpisey

GANGTOK, 23 OCT: Miscreants are reported to have broken into the residence of Tseten Tashi Kazi at Upper Gurpisey in Namchi, South Sikkim, and made away with gold ornaments, gemstones and other valuables from the house. The family was away at Sindrang in West Sikkim on 20 Oct and discovered the burglary on their return on 22 Oct.



Mamata inaugurates restored house of Sister Nivedita

KOLKATA, OCT 23 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today inaugurated the restored house of Sister Nivedita, a disciple of Swami Vivekananda, in the city where she had stayed and carried out various social work, including setting up a girls' school.

The century-old two-storeyed building at 16-A Bosepara Lane in Bagbazar area was in shambles when the state government acquired it and handed it to Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, a religious monastic order, for renovation.

"It's our prime responsibility to protect buildings of such importance. Our government had acquired this heritage building where Sister Nivedita once stayed and handed it over to Ramakrishna Sarada Mission," Banerjee said inaugurating the building which was declared as a Grade-I heritage building by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation.

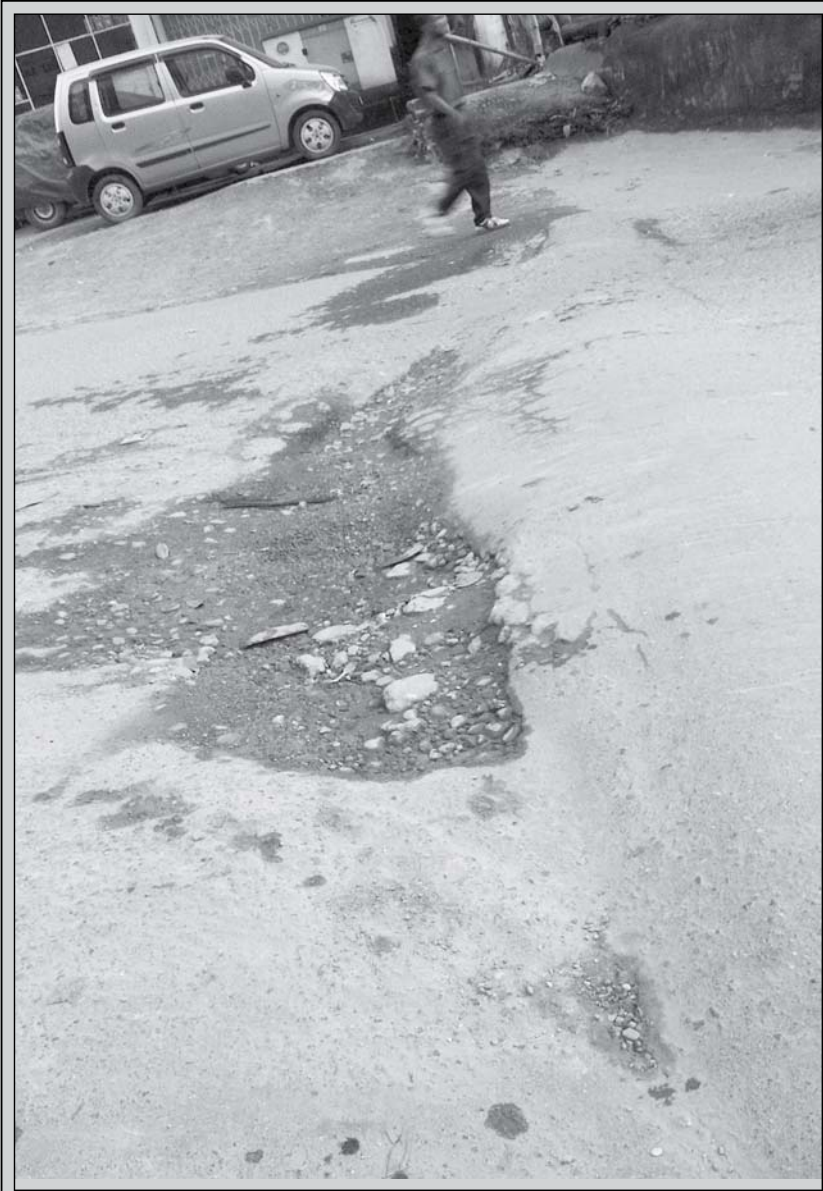


SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 23 OCT: A 14-member team of Sikkim Table Tennis Association is participating in the 11Sports National Ranking Table Tennis Championships 2017 [East Zone] being organized by Table Tennis Federation of India scheduled to be held from 23-28 Oct in Siliguri, West Bengal.

A see-off ceremony for the team and its coach, Norden Bhutia, was organized on 21 Oct at White Hall in Gangtok in the presence of president of STTA, CK Basnet, along with STTA members and parents of the players.

The championship features men's & women's single, junior boys & girls, sub-junior boys & girls, cadet boys & girls and open boys/girls categories.



SINGTAM'S WATER SUPPLY LINES LEAK TOO MUCH

SINGTAM, 23 OCT: Households in and around Singtam Bazaar have been facing water shortage problems for the past few days as the water supply line have been leaking due to low maintenance. The concerned department is yet to take action on the same. The PHE Department releases water two times a day but the water, instead of reaching households, goes to waste forming puddles in Singtam bazaar which in turn also damages the road. "We have taken this issue to the concerned department and staff but they have not come up with any measures till date. The department, however, is always on time when it comes to issuance of water bills," expressed a concerned local of the area. [Yogen Thatal]

Withdraw 'harmful ordinance', Editors Guild tells Raj govt

NEW DELHI, OCT 23 (PTI): The Editors Guild of India has asked the Rajasthan government to "withdraw the harmful ordinance" that bars the media from reporting on accusations against public servants, judges and magistrates without its sanction.

The ordinance is a "pernicious instrument" to harass the media, the Guild said in a statement last night.

"The ordinance promulgated by the state government last month was ostensibly done to protect the judiciary and the bureaucracy against false FIRs.

"But in reality it is a pernicious instrument to harass the media, hide wrongful acts by government servants and drastically curb the freedom of the press guaranteed by the Constitution of India," it said.

The Rajasthan government had last month promulgated The Criminal Laws (Rajasthan Amendment) Ordinance, 2017, that seeks to protect serving and former judges, magistrates and public servants in the state from being investigated for on-duty action, without its prior sanction.

It bars the media from reporting on such accusations till the sanction to proceed with the probe is given by the government.

Rather than taking stern measures to prevent and punish those who indulge in frivolous or false litigations, the Rajasthan government has passed an ordinance that is bent on "bludgeoning the messenger", the Guild said.

While the Guild has always stood for fair, balanced and responsible reporting of FIRs filed in courts of law, it believes that the remedy being employed by the government is "draconian" and gives it "untrammelled power" to even imprison journalists for reporting matters of public interest.

"The Guild requests the Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje to withdraw the harmful ordinance and prevent any Act from being passed that would endanger the freedom of the press," it said.

3 Indians among 6 arrested for smuggling protected animals in Nepal

KATHMANDU, OCT 23 (PTI): Three Indians and a Pakistani were among six people arrested here for allegedly smuggling protected live animals to Nepal from Nigeria, a media report said today.

The Central Investigation Bureau of the Nepal Police arrested three Indians - Mohammad Usman, 34, Mohammad Faim, 35, and Mohammad Sherif Shahid, 35, the Himalayan Times reported.

Two Nepalese -- Sanjeev Bhari, 40, of Kathmandu and Raj Kumar Tiwari, 42, of Bara -- and Jawaid Aslam Khan, 55, of Pakistan were also arrested, police officials said.

Two chimpanzees, eight monkeys, seven golden pheasants, two ringneck pheasants, 38 pigeons and 65 parrots were seized from the accused after a raid at the house of Bhari in Kathmandu on October 18, said Superintendent of Polcie Jeevan Shrestha, the CIB spokesperson.

The final destination of the apes is believed to be India, he said.

"Preliminary investigation suggests the racketeers would smuggle apes to India from Nigeria by making Nepal their transit," Shrestha said.

He said the apes were brought to Nepal from the African country by air, but officials at the Tribhuvan International Airport here failed to intercept the animal species.

The accused have been handed over to the District Forest Office, Kathmandu, where legal action under National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act will be initiated, while the animals and birds rescued alive have been sent to the Central Zoo.

Anyone involved in the trade of protected species may face a jail term of five to 15 years, and also be slapped with a fine of up to Rs 100,000, the report said. Indian national Usman is a repeat offender and was arrested with 109 tortoises and 162 birds of different species from Kathmandu in June last year, it said.

Police had raided a house and recovered the reptiles and birds kept in boxes and cages. Officials said the tortoises, which weigh three to five kg each, and the birds, including several varieties of parrots, were smuggled into Nepal from India.

Don't need to stand up in movie halls to prove patriotism: SC

Contd from pg01

ify its order of November 30, 2016, by which the playing of the anthem was made mandatory in the movie halls before the screening of a film, and may replace the word "shall" with "may".

"People go to cinema halls for undiluted entertainment. Society needs entertainment. We cannot allow you (Centre) to shoot from our shoulders. People do not need to stand up in cinema halls to prove their patriotism," the bench, also comprising Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud, said.

"Desireability is one thing but making it mandatory is another. Citizens cannot be forced to carry patriotism on their sleeves and courts cannot inculcate patriotism among people through its order," the bench said.

The court's strong remarks came on a petition filed by Ko-

undgallur Film Society, Kerala to recall the November order passed on a PIL filed last year by one Shyam Narayan Chouksey seeking directions that the national anthem should be played in all the cinema halls before a film begins.

In contrast to today's remarks, a bench headed by Justice Misra had ordered the theatres across the country in November last year to "mandatorily" play the national anthem before a movie and the audience must stand and show respect, in a bid to "instil committed patriotism and nationalism".

During today's hearing on the PIL, Attorney General K K Venugopal, appearing for the Centre, said India was a diverse country and the national anthem needed to be played in the cinema halls to bring in uniformity.

He said it should be left open to the government to take a call on its own discretion on

whether the anthem should be played in theatres and whether people should stand up for it.

"What is stopping you from amending the Flag Code? You can amend it and say where to play national anthem and where it can't be done. Nowadays, anthem is played during matches, tournaments and even Olympics where half the crowd does not understand its meaning," Justice Chandrachud said.

The bench said "You (Centre) take a call. Government should not show any reservation to the amendment as the court would not allow it to shoot from its shoulders".

Justice Chandrachud said the practice of playing national anthem in theatres was earlier discontinued in Mumbai because people used to move out of the halls when it was played.

"If the court is supposed to enforce respect for the National Anthem on citizens, it should

also enforce the other fundamental duties in Article 51A," Justice Chandrachud said, adding that cultural and social values are inculcated by parents and teachers and not through court orders.

The court then asked the Centre to consider taking a call by January 9, the next date of hearing, on amending the national flag code for regulating the playing of national anthem in cinema halls across the country.

It said the Centre has to take a call uninfluenced by its earlier order on the playing of the anthem in theatres.

The apex court had in its last November order said that "love and respect for the motherland is reflected when one shows respect to the national anthem as well as to the national flag".

It had also barred printing of the anthem or a part of it on any object and displaying it in

a manner at places which may be "disgraceful to its status and tantamount to disrespect".

Passing a slew of directions, the court had then said that fundamental duties in the Constitution "do not allow any different notion or the perception of individual rights that have individual thought, have no space. The idea is constitutionally impermissible".

"The directions are issued, for love and respect for the motherland is reflected when one shows respect to the National Anthem as well as to the National Flag. That apart, it would instil the feeling within one a sense committed patriotism and nationalism," it had then said.

It had also said proper norms and protocol should be fixed regarding its playing and singing at official functions and programmes where those holding constitutional office are present.

SC asks EC to look into plea to bring parties...

Contd from pg01

tions," it has said.

The PIL has sought a direction to the EC to ensure compliance of the RTI Act and other laws related to political parties and deregister them if they fail to abide by them.

"Direct the EC to ensure compliance of the Representation of the People Act, Right to Information Act, Income Tax Act and other election laws and rules so far as they relate to political parties and de-register them if they fail to comply with the election laws and rules," it has said.

Highlighting the instances of corruption and indirect funding to political parties, the petition has said the central and state governments have allotted land/buildings and other accommodation in prime locations to the parties all over the country either free of cost or on concessional rates.

"This amounts to indirect financing of the political parties. Doordarshan allots free airtime to political parties during the elections. This is another instance of indirect financing," it has alleged.

The plea has also said that "a body or entity does not become a political party in the legal sense until the EC under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act registers it. Therefore, this registration lends it the colour of Public Authority."

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

The Grassroots Should Demand More Accountability Now

Allow rural pragmatism to take the lead

Exactly a week for now, the panchayat wards and zilla panchayats which have not already posted an SDF candidate into office will go to polls. At the GPU level, the Sikkim Democratic Front has cornered a majority even before the votes have been cast and it is unlikely that there will be any major surprises in how the zilla panchayats are staffed. Next week, the panchayats would have been elected, through polling in some places and by consensus in most others and hopefully, rural Sikkim will convey clearly what it wants its representatives to deliver. To do so with more coherence than what the manifestos offered, the people will need to make the Panchayats and their political seniors more accountable. Most of the Panchayats will be wearing the ruling party colours and thus it will be for the people to hold the SDF high-command on its assurance of party-based polls providing them more accountable representatives.

Before rural Sikkim submits petitions for development aid, it should send up representations asking only one question – whom to contact in the party or department should their elected by consensus or mandate panchayat representative come up short when it comes to serving the people? The previous panchayat terms had started on very promising notes with the people standing up to the Panchayats and leading delegations to reach complaints to the concerned authorities; even monitoring committees had been formed, but the initiative lost direction somewhere along the way. The new term should begin from where such initiatives were lost the last time. Panchayats, because the nation plans to empower people at the grassroots level, will have more responsibilities and funds devolved to them in the coming years. Their decisions will be more intelligent and their conduct more responsible only if the people remain more involved. This is easily achieved by ensuring better attended [in numbers and debates] Gram Sabhas. This, only the people themselves can ensure, and for all its ugly exchanges, the gram sabhas held recently for the Forest Rights Act in North Sikkim offered a good example of engaged and even confrontational democracy at work in Sikkim. The State needs more of such engagement to reinforce democracy at the grassroots.

This time, the people should also leverage their expressed support for the party in office [by way of allowing a majority of seats to be bagged uncontested] to demand their pound of flesh by asking only for more accountable panchayat representatives in return.

The new Panchayats, with a whole term ahead of them, will hopefully use every power already devolved to them to take the State forward from the grassroots onwards and through their performance, ensure that even more responsibilities are passed on to them. These, of course, will have to be of more consequence than playing gau-rakshaks or enforcing firecracker bans. These representatives are there to serve the people, not police them. Expectedly, there will soon be a whole round of workshops, awareness meets, sensitization programmes and even study tours to keep the Panchayats occupied and ease them into their new roles, and here the panchayats should not allow resource persons to talk down to them and instead take control of the interactions to figure out how to get the people's work done. One hopes that the Panchayats grow more powerful in the coming years and rural Sikkim better informed. This because development plans drafted by city-bred minds in department offices and ministries in Gangtok, or worse still, in Delhi, have not been as inclusive and workable as would have been good for Sikkim. As the Panchayats become more powerful, rural Sikkim will find a stronger voice in dictating affairs of the State and that can only be good. For all their well-meaning, West-inspired and semi-educated interventions, urban folk, even in Sikkim, do not really have the connect with the land and its people to fashion practical solutions for the future. That is something only the people who live in the real Sikkim, in the batis, can deliver. Thus far, rural pragmatism has been over-powered by city-bred ideas of inferred political correctness. The new Panchayats should take up the challenge to give a fighting chance for rural aspirations to come to the fore and get heard. That is the responsibility that the fresh lot of Panchayats carry on their shoulders, a responsibility that we, municipal corporation and nagar palika types, need to assist for once, not direct like always.

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

How media sexism demeans women and fuels abuse by men like Weinstein

VIRGINIA GARCÍA BEAUDOUX
theconversation.com

The sexual abuse scandal currently embroiling media mogul Harvey Weinstein has stunned the United States, with Hollywood and the fashion industry declaring that “this way of treating women ends now.”

As an Argentinean woman who studies gender in the media, I find it hard to be surprised by Weinstein's misdeeds. Machismo remains deeply ingrained in Latin American society, yes, but even female political leaders in supposedly gender-equal paradises like Holland and Sweden have told me that they are criticized more in the press and held to a higher standard than their male counterparts.

How could they not be? Across the world, the film and TV industry – Weinstein's domain – continues to foist outdated gender roles upon viewers.

WOMEN'S WORK

Television commercials are particularly guilty, frequently casting women in subservient domestic roles.

Take this 2015 ad for the Argentine cleaning product Cif, which is still running today. It explains how its concentrated cleaning capsules “made Sleeping Beauty shine.”

In it, a princess eager to receive her prince remembers that – gasp – the floors in her castle tower are a total mess. Thanks to Cif's magic scouring fluid, she has time not only to clean but also to get dolled up for the prince – who, in case you were wondering, has no physical challenges preventing him from helping her tidy up.

But why should he, when it's a woman's job to be both housekeeper and pretty princess?

Somewhat paradoxically, advertisements may also cast men as domestic superheroes. Often, characters like Mr. Muscle will mansplain to women about the best product and how to use it – though they don't actually do any cleaning themselves.

More recently, there's been a shift – perhaps an awkward attempt at political correctness – in which women are still the masters of the home, but their partners are shown “helping out” with the chores. In exchange, the men earn sex object status.

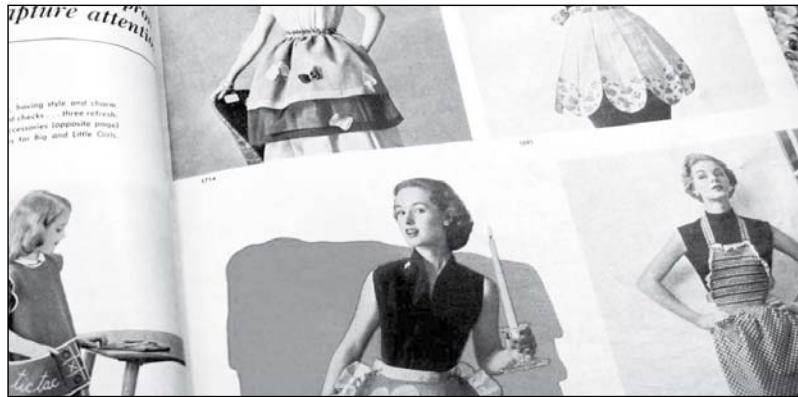
WE'VE COME A LITTLE WAY, BABY

Various studies on gender stereotypes in commercials indicate that although the advertising industry is slowly changing for the better, marketing continues to target specific products to certain customers based on traditional gender roles.

Women are pitched hygiene and cleaning products, whereas men get ads for banks, credit cards, housing, cars and other significant financial investments.

This year, U.N. Women teamed up with Unilever and other industry leaders like Facebook, Google, Mars and Microsoft to launch the Unstereotype Alliance. The aim of this global campaign is to end stereotypical and sexist portrayals of gender in advertising.

As part of the #Unstereotype campaign, Unilever also undertook research on gender in adver-



tising. It found that only 3 percent of advertising shows women as leaders and just 2 percent conveys them as intelligent. In ads, women come off as interesting people just 1 percent of the time.

BRITAIN PAVES A PATH

Even before it was forced to reckon with allegations that Harvey Weinstein had also harassed women in London, the United Kingdom was making political progress on the issue of women's portrayal in the media.

In July, the United Kingdom's Advertising Standards Authority announced that the U.K. will soon prohibit commercials that promote gender stereotypes.

“While advertising is only one of many factors that contribute to unequal gender outcomes,” its press release stated, “tougher advertising standards can play an important role in tackling inequalities and improving outcomes for individuals, the economy and society as a whole.”

As of 2018, the agency says, advertisements in which women are shown as solely responsible for household cleaning or men appear useless around kitchen appliances and unable to handle taking care of their children and dependents will not pass muster in the U.K. Commercials that differentiate between girls' and boys' toys based on gender stereotypes will be banned as well.

STICKY FLOORS

The U.K.'s move is a heartening public recognition that gender stereotypes in the media both reflect and further the very real inequalities women face at home and at work.

Worldwide, the International Labor Organization reports, women still bear the burden of household chores and caretaking responsibilities, which often either excludes them from pay work or leaves them relegated to ill-paid part-time jobs.

In the U.K., men spend on average 16 hours per week on domestic tasks, while women spend 26. The European Union average is worse, with women dedicating an average of 26 weekly hours to men's nine hours on caretaking and household tasks.

In Argentina, my home country, fully 40 percent

of men report doing no household work at all, even if they're unemployed. Among those who do pitch in, it's 24 hours a week on caretaking and domestic chores for men. Argentinean women put in 45 hours.

You can do the math: On average, Argentinean women use up two days of their week and some 100 days annually – nearly one-third of their year – on unpaid household labor.

REAL-WORLD CONSEQUENCES

These inequalities, combined with advertising that reinforces them, generate what's called the “sticky floors” problem. Women – whether would-be investment bankers or, I dare say, aspiring Hollywood stars – don't just face glass ceilings to advancement, they also are also “stuck” to domestic life by endless chores.

The cultural powers that be produce content that represents private spaces as “naturally” imbued with female qualities, gluing women to traditional caregiving roles.

This hampers their professional development and helps keep them at the bottom of the economy pyramid because women must pull off a balancing act between their jobs inside and outside of the domestic sphere. And they must excel at both, all while competing against male colleagues who likely confront no such challenges.

Former U.S. president Barack Obama once pointed out this double standard in homage to his then-competing Hillary Clinton. She, he reminded an audience in 2008, “was doing everything I was doing, but just like Ginger Rogers, it was backwards in heels.”

The sticky floor problem puts women in a position to be exploited by men like Weinstein, who tout their ability to help female aspirants to get unstuck. Until society – and, with it, the media we create – comprehend that neither professional success nor domesticity has a gender, these pernicious powerful dynamics will endure.

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

The hidden connection between obesity, heart disease and trade

RONALD LABONTE
theconversation.com

This week, representatives from most of the world's governments are meeting at a World Health Organization global conference in Uruguay to tackle the global pandemic of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

These NCDs are the chronic diseases — including cancers, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases and diabetes — that now kill around 40 million people each year. They are responsible for 70 per cent of all deaths globally and have a much bigger impact than infectious diseases such as HIV and malaria. Reducing the preventable deaths they cause is one of the key health targets of the new Sustainable Development Goals.

The good news is that the meeting's draft agreement recognizes the need to address conflicts between public health goals and private sector interests in tobacco, unhealthy foods and alcohol products. Alongside physical inactivity, consumption of these products is one of the main drivers of NCDs. The bad news is that the agreement is virtually silent on the role of trade and investment agreements in promoting the global rise in NCDs.

TRADE AGREEMENTS BOOST HEART DISEASE AND OBESITY

There is plenty of research evidence of the impact of trade and investment agreements on NCDs such as heart disease, and on major risk factors such as obesity and tobacco use.

One of our studies, for example, revealed that consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages in Vietnam spiked dramatically after that country opened itself to trade and foreign investment. Soft drink companies

based in the United States increased their market presence even as the World Health Organization identified the rise in consumption of high-sugar content drinks as a major cause of rising youth obesity.

Another study found that consumption of unhealthy foods and sugary drinks increases after implementation of trade agreements, often those with the U.S. There was also a correlation between such trade agreements and higher rates of heart disease and obesity.

Other research has found that when countries opened themselves to trade, cigarette consumption rose; as more cigarettes entered the domestic market, price competition made them more affordable.

LIMITING GOVERNMENT POWER TO PREVENT DISEASE

Trade and investment agreements are not the only cause of these NCD-promoting patterns. Globalization processes more generally are also involved. This includes the way that products such as high-sugar drinks and cigarettes can function as symbols that people in low-income countries have “made it” to the middle class. But as our analysis of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement has found, such agreements can limit the ability of governments to implement laws, policies and regulations aimed at controlling these NCD risk factors.

These agreements require governments to have scientific proof for any new control measure they introduce that could interfere with trade rules. But what if the measure, by being new, has only limited evidence? Agreements also call on governments to prove that their control measure

is “necessary” and that no other less trade-restrictive options might exist, such as mass education campaigns.

Extended patent protection on drugs used to treat NCDs, meanwhile, price them beyond poor peoples' reach. And they drain limited government health budgets.

GOVERNMENT FEAR OF BEING SUED

Many trade agreements also contain rules that allow foreign investors to sue governments over perceived losses due to new regulations. Philip Morris did just that when Australia introduced tobacco plain packaging. Several tobacco-exporting countries launched government-to-government disputes under the World Trade Organization (WTO) system.

These challenges were not successful in the end, although the final WTO ruling has yet to be made public. But the very fact that they were considered possible creates a “regulatory chill” in which governments grow reluctant to enact new public health measures for fear of a future trade or investment dispute. This is especially concerning for low-income countries that lack the financial resources to fight such a regulatory challenge.

Few NCD control measures have actually gone to formal trade or investment dispute. But under the WTO system, there are an increasing number of challenges being raised against government policies on food or alcohol labelling intended to inform consumers of health risks, on marketing restrictions and on tobacco control measures. As a result of these informal challenges, governments in some instances have delayed or backed away from their policies to avoid the

risk of a dispute.

THREE STEPS TO REDUCE PREVENTABLE DEATHS

So what should governments do, especially since much of the liberalized global diffusion of NCD risks has already occurred? Fortunately, there are three simple steps they can take to ensure the “policy coherence” that is the theme of the Uruguay meeting.

First, governments should agree that all future trade and investment agreements contain a full carve-out for any non-discriminatory public health measure aimed at controlling NCD risks (or any other health concern), whether or not there is scientific proof or other less trade-restrictive means available.

Second, since there are already scores of existing agreements potentially tying public health's regulatory hands, governments should commit to not initiating a dispute against another country's non-discriminatory public health measure. Third, governments should refrain from increasing patent protection on drugs used to treat NCDs. These diseases will continue to surge before prevention measures lead to their eventual decline; affordable treatments will be needed.

These three commitments should be written into the final Uruguay agreement. They respect the aim of global trade by ensuring public health measures are not used to discriminate against another country's products or trade interests. They also respect the policy space governments need now, and into the future, to protect the health and well-being of their citizens.

[the writer is Professor and Canada Research Chair, University of Ottawa]

In Mizoram, BJP urges Cong govt to deport illegal immigrants

AIZAWL, Oct 23 (PTI): The state unit of the BJP today urged the Congress government in the state to detect and deport foreigners who have illegally entered the state from neighbouring countries. In a press statement issued here, the BJP said the joint secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Dilip Kumar, had on August 8 instructed the state chief secretary to immediately deport the “undocumented” immigrants.

The state government, however, failed to act on the instructions of the Centre, it said. The BJP also accused the ruling party of taking advantage of the illegal influx for strengthening its vote bank. The BJP would repatriate all illegal immigrants when it comes to power, the statement added.

Tokyo university wants more Super 30 students

PATNA, Oct 23 (PTI): A top official from the University of Tokyo has invited more students from Mathematician Anand Kumar’s Super 30 to come to the varsity for higher studies.

Two students of Super 30 are already pursuing higher education at the Japanese university. “Today, it is the research and innovation that is guiding the world. They make lives easier and make science relevant to modern times,” Hiroshi Yoshino, head of India operation of University of Tokyo said, addressing students of Super 30.

Yoshino said Super 30 is quite popular in Japan due to its pioneering work in the field of education, especially for the bright students from underprivileged sections of the society.

In 2016, Super 30 had sent five secondary and higher secondary students from Bihar to Japan to get a feel of the research work undertaken there, and the way school education is run.

The students had visited universities, technical institutions, schools and research labs.

Super 30 provides free education and food to selected 30 students from backward sections to prepare them to have a crack at the IITs.

Over 400 students of Super 30 have made it to different IITs so far since its establishment in 2002 here.

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U-17 World Cup semifinal shifted from Guwahati to Kolkata

NEW DELHI, Oct 23 (PTI): The FIFA Under-17 World Cup semifinal between Brazil and England was today shifted from Guwahati to Kolkata due to poor pitch conditions in the North-Eastern city, a development which will cause inconvenience to the two teams. The match, which was to be played at the Indira Gandhi stadium at the Assam capital, will be held as scheduled on October 25 but at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata. “Following a thorough assessment of the pitch conditions at Guwahati’s Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium, which has been affected by severe rainfall over the past few days,

FIFA has decided to move the venue of the semi-final between England and Brazil to Kolkata’s Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, where the match will kick off at 17:00hrs,” the FIFA said in a statement. The change of venue will cause some inconvenience to the English and Brazilian teams as they had already landed in Guwahati. The two teams were also scheduled to have training sessions in Guwahati this evening. The pitch at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium was severely affected during the quarterfinal match between Ghana and Mali on Saturday which was played under incessant

rain. The Assam capital has been experiencing rain for the last four days, though it relented a bit today. Rain stopped after light showers in the morning but the ground has been significantly damaged. Ghana coach Samuel Fabian had said that the match should have been postponed and played on another date after his side lost to Mali 1-2. “Despite the great efforts by all involved parties, including the authorities of Guwahati, to preserve the pitch, FIFA has taken this decision following consultations with both teams in order to safeguard

the players’ health and to ensure the best playing conditions,” the FIFA added. The second semi-final on October 25, between Mali and Spain, will still kick off as planned at 2000hrs at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. Fans with a valid ticket for the semi-final originally planned to take place in Guwahati will be entitled for a refund. All purchasable tickets for the rescheduled game in Kolkata will be priced at Rs 100 and made available on a first-come-first-served basis. The original Guwahati ticket-holders would be required to carry online proof of purchase to the

dedicated ticket counter for Guwahati customers, should they travel to Kolkata. These tickets have also been priced at Rs 100. FIFA and the Local Organising Committee said it regretted that the match had to be shifted out of Guwahati. “FIFA and the LOC regret that unforeseen circumstances have led to this decision, which will deprive football fans in Guwahati of this semi-final encounter. Both FIFA and the LOC would like to sincerely thank the city of Guwahati and the state government of Assam for their excellent cooperation throughout the competition.”

Thousands of fish wash ashore Jhelum river in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Oct 22 (PTI): Thousands of fish washed ashore River Jhelum in Srinagar today leading to panic among residents, but the district administration said most of the fish were not dead suggesting the oxygen content in the water could be low. Thousands of fish were seen floating on the surface of the river at several places, officials said. The incident led to panic and wild speculation that the river water could have been poisoned. Nonetheless, many people were seen recording the phenomenon on their mobile phones. The administration has assured people and



urged them not to panic. They have collected water samples and sent them for tests. “We have taken water samples as well as the samples of fish. Most of the fish washed up ashore are not dead suggesting that the oxygen content in the river water could be low,” District Magistrate, Srinagar, Abid Rasheed said. Rasheed in a statement said a technical team has visited the spots and suggested further tests. “The administration is seized of the matter and working to ensure that no untoward incidents occur.”

Khandu’s tip to new civil servants: Don’t give in to politicians’ pressure

ITANAGAR, Oct 23 (PTI): Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu today advised the young crop of Arunachal Pradesh Civil Service officers not to succumb to pressure from politicians if they feel they are being used for wrong reasons while discharging duties. He was addressing the inaugural session of the induction training programme for APSC officers of 2016 batch at Administrative Training Institute here, an official release said. Khandu stressed that boldness must be the character of an officer and they must be able to advise the politicians from committing wrong deeds. Advising the officers not to let their mind get polluted, he said by being blind to politicians’ wrongdoings, the officers also become the facilitator of corruption. Since the government officials are the bridge between the government and the public, the chief min-



ister advised them to become part of the solution and not be the problem. He also advised them to frame rules that will ease the process to serve the public and not create hindrances for them in availing help. Focusing on revenue sector, Khandu sought cooperation of the young officers in harnessing the vast natural resources of the state. He said due to consistent efforts from the officials and the state government, the tourism de-



Youth wing of Liezietsu faction of NPF launches sit-in protest

KOHIMA, Oct 23 (PTI): The central youth wing of the Shurhozelie Liezietsu faction of the Naga People’s Front (NPF) today launched an indefinite sit-in-protest outside the Nagaland secretariat demanding immediate ruling of the state Assembly Speaker on three issues. The faction president and former chief minister Liezietsu also joined the sit-in-protest. Liezietsu said consequent upon the dismissal of his government on July 19 last, his party had moved for disqualification of the 36 NPF MLAs and “appointment” of NPF chief whip and NPF legislature party leader.

The Speaker Imtiwapang Aier was yet to respond to any of the issues, he said. Until the Speaker delivered his judgement on the three issues, the peaceful protest would continue, he said. After swearing in, Chief Minister T R Zeliang had said on July 19 that he would continue to remain NPF leader of the House. Zeliang is also the chief whip of NPF. In the 60-member house, Zeliang has the support of 36 NPF legislators, seven Independents and four BJP MLAs. The Liezietsu camp has 11 legislators and one Independent. One seat remains vacant.

Fresh plea in SC favouring Centre’s stand on Rohingyas

NEW DELHI, Oct 23 (PTI): A fresh plea was today filed in the Supreme Court favouring the Centre’s stand to identify and deport to Myanmar around 40,000 illegal Rohingya Muslims staying in the country. The plea may be heard by a bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra which is already considering various petitions, including the lead PIL filed by two Rohingya Muslim refugees, Mohammad Salimullah and Mohammad Shaqir, challenging their deportation. The apex court has already fixed the earlier pleas for detailed hearing from November 21. The latest plea has been filed by Binay Kumar Singh, a national executive

member of BJP’s Kisan Morcha, T Raja Singh, a BJP MLA from Goshamahal in Telangana and Sunil Kumar, who claims to be an activist. They have sought implementation as parties in the ongoing matter and alleged that the illegal Rohingya immigrants are not refugees but should rather be seen as “aggressors/invasers”. The plea has raised the issue of Rohingyas settled

in Jammu and Kashmir saying Article 370 of the Constitution imposed restrictions on Indians but these people have been allowed to stay there. “If Indians are not allowed to stay in the State of Jammu and Kashmir then even the illegally immigrated Rohingya community cannot be permitted to stay near-by the sensitive Pakistan border,” it said.

Karna bans riding pillion on 2 wheelers below 100 cc capacity

BENGALURU, Oct 23 (PTI): Karnataka government has banned riding pillion on two-wheelers with engine capacity of less than 100 CC, giving effect to a 2015 court order. The transport department also banned registration of such vehicles. “Not only has the registration of such vehicles which have seats for pillion rider been banned, but also riding pillion on two-wheelers below 100 CC is prohibited,” said a govern-

ment order issued by the transport department on October 13 last. The order was issued based on a Karnataka High Court order in a case relating to award of compensation to Hemanth, a minor riding pillion who was crippled for life following a road accident in Mysuru in March, 2009. Hemanth and Nithin, who was riding the two-wheeler without a licence, were both aged around 14 then.

A recklessly driven car had crashed against their vehicle. While Nithin escaped with minor injuries, Hemanth was crippled for life with serious head injuries. In its June 15, 2015 order on a petition related to compensation claim by parents of Hemanth, the court had taken note of violations of rules and issued a slew of directions to the education and transport departments and the police to prevent minors from riding motor vehi-

cles above 50 CC. It had directed that to avoid repetition of similar situation, the transport department should not register vehicles below 100 CC with a pillion seat attached to it and not permit riding pillion on such vehicles (already registered). There should not be any seat for pillion riders in vehicles below 100 CC as mandated under Rule 143(3) of the Karnataka Motor Vehicles Rules - 1989, the court had said.

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
URBAN DEVELOPMENT &
HOUSING DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK, SIKKIM**
**Memo No.: GoS/EC/UD&HD/DE(N)/2017-18
Dated: 18.10.2017 445/GoS/UD&HD/PLG/17**
CORRIGENDUM
With reference to NIT No: 433/GoS/UD&HD/DE(N) dated 20.09.2017 and R.C. No.: 331/ipl/pub/classi/17-18 dated 21.09.2017, the new time schedule shall be as under:

i)	Date of submission of application with Challan for issue of Tender Document (excluding Tender form)	13 th Nov 2017 upto 1500 hrs.
ii)	Date of issue of Tender Forms on submission of Earnest Money in the form of TDR	15 th Nov 2017 upto 1500 hrs.
iii)	Date of submission of Tender	26 th Nov 2017 upto 1200 hrs
iv)	Date and time of opening of Tenders	20 th Nov 2017 at 1300 hrs

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**DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (NORTH & PLG)
UD&HD, DEVELOPMENT AREA
GANGTOK, EAST SIKKIM**
R.O. No: 377/IPR/PUB/Classi/17-18 Dt: 23/10/17

Would be too optimistic to call ourselves dominant force: Gopi

AMIT KUMAR DAS

ODENSE, Oct 23 (PTI): Indian badminton has been on the ascendancy for quite some time now but a pragmatic chief national coach Pullela Gopichand believes that there is still a long way to go before the country can be termed as dominant force in the sport.

In recent past, PV Sindhu have won silver medals at the Olympic Games and World Championship along with multiple Super Series victories. Saina Nehwal has made a successful comeback from injury with a World Championship bronze medal while Kidambi Srikanth has now won three Super series titles in one season.

"I think we are being too optimistic," was Gopichand's instant reply when PTI asked if India have now become world beaters in shuttle sport.



"We as a system are not ready for that sort of a thing (moniker). Unfortunately, there are not many people, who understand world level sport and it is too early to say that.

There is immense potential but the system, I think a lot still needs to be done," Gopichand said during

an exclusive interview.

The coach is happy with the progress though during a year where Indian shuttlers have won six Super Series title. Apart from Srikanth's hat-trick, Sindhu has won two titles and B Sai Praneeth won one.

"Overall it has been a good positive year. We had some very good performances at World Championship, Super series. In all the big events, we have performed well and I think it is a stepping stone for the next 2-3 years, leading upto the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games, Olympic qualification and then the Tokyo Games," Gopichand observed.

A hectic year lies ahead for India as a host of big- ticket events, including Commonwealth Games, Asian games and World Championship lined up.

Asked how he plans to make the players peak at right tournament next year, Gopichand said: "We will have the periodization and planning for next year but it is going to be a challenge because there are too many important tournaments too close (to each other).

"There is All England and Com-

monwealth Games which are close to each other. Similarly, World Championship and Asian Games are close and then there are tons of other tournaments which decide the rankings, so it will be a challenge. It will be a difficult year but hopefully we will manage," the coach looked determined.

Asked if All England Championship is losing its relevance, Gopichand, who won the title in 2001, said: "It is a changing world. All England has the history and lot of older people take it as the World Championship and Olympics kind of a thing. But today's day Olympics and World Championship have taken their place."

He agreed that with advent of Super Series Premier and the kind of money associated, situation is bound to change.

"We are having premier super

series and now next year we will have grand slams and lot more tournaments have more prize money and some of them has same ranking points as the All England. Lot of people will think All England as the first among equals but things are changing."

Saina has recently returned to Hyderabad to train under him after being under the guidance of Vimal Kumar in Bangalore for three years.

Former World No. 1 Saina has recovered from a career- threatening knee injury to win a bronze at World Championship in August.

Asked what would it take for Saina to regain her world no 1 ranking, Gopichand said: "There are lots of areas where she needs to work on. She has a lot of drive and eagerness and I am optimistic that God willing, we will be able to achieve it."

Jitu Rai, Ankur Mittal in focus at ISSF World Cup Finals

NEW DELHI, Oct 23

(PTI): The in-form double trap exponent Ankur Mittal and pistol ace Jitu Rai will spearhead India's challenge in the prestigious ISSF World Cup Finals, which the country is hosting for the first time, from tomorrow onwards.

The tournament is a reflection of India's growing reputation in the Olympic sport, and the top shooters representing the host nation, would certainly want to produce a top-notch performance.

The Indian shooters are expected to face stiff competition at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Ranges as some of the best in the business from across the world will be vying for the top honours.

India will be hosting the annual event for the first time, where the top performers in four editions of the World Cups get selected.

Irrespective of form and past record, the Indians will have their task cut out against the top-ranked shooters in rifle, pistol and shotgun.

As many as nine champions across the 15 events from last year's Rio Olympic games are in the fray, besides three former champions.

Two among them -- Greece's 21-year old Air Pistol champion, Anna Korakaki and Germany's Christian Reitz -- are also among the 11 title-defenders who will be seen in action.

They will all vie for the coveted Crystal Globes, along with the year's top eight World Cup series performers and World Championship medalists, to grab bragging rights as the best shooter of the year.

"It is a great honour for the country and the NRAI, to be hosting the best in the sport of Shooting in such a top class competition. We hope fans enjoy seeing their local stars compete with the very best in the world in flesh and blood," said Raninder Singh, President, National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).

Hosts India have a total of 10 competitors across three disciplines including current World No.1 Ankur Mittal and reigning Asian

Games champion and former world number one Jitu Rai.

Heena Sidhu, a former 2013 ISSF WCF winner in the women's 10M air pistol, will be gunning for an encore, this time in the mixed team air pistol event, partnering Jitu.

Ravi Kumar and Pooja Ghatkar have also qualified in the top draw men's and women's 10M Air Rifle event respectively.

Three World Cup series events have concluded earlier in the year for each discipline along with the ISSF World Championship for Shotgun held in Moscow last month.

A total of 162 athletes from 45 ISSF member federations will be competing in the event. There will be a total of 18 finals across six competition days beginning Tuesday, and concluding on Sunday. For the first time, apart from the 15 Rio Olympic disciplines, three mixed team medal events are also going to be held.

They will be the mixed team 10M air rifle, the mixed team 10M air pistol and the mixed team trap event.

Some top global stars who will be seen in action include three time Olympic Champion skeet shooter Kimberly Rhode of the USA, Vietnam's first ever Olympic champion Xuan Vinh Hoang in men's air pistol, and the USA's 20-year old Virgin-ia Thrasher, who won the women's 10M air rifle gold in Rio on her Olympic debut.

China, with 26 competitors, are the largest squad. Among their top shooters in fray will be Mengxue Zhang, the women's 25M pistol Olympic champion and Zhang Binbin, last year's champion in the women's rifle 3 positions event.

The Indian Squad: Jitu Rai (10M Pistol Men, 50M Pistol Men), Amanpreet Singh (50M Pistol Men), Pooja Ghatkar (10M Air Rifle Women), Ravi Kumar (10M Air Rifle Men), Ankur Mittal (Double Trap Men), Shapath Bharadwaj (Double Trap Men), Sangram Dahiya (Double Trap Men), Heena Sidhu (Mixed Team Air Pistol), Megha- na Sajjanar (Mixed Team Air Rifle), Deepak Kumar (Mixed Team Air Rifle).

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR HAWK EVENING	
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:12 DrawDate on:22/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 92C 01188	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9500/- 01188 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
04234 08317 12403 31147 46322	
46795 49468 63328 66778 73077	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0940 1044 2548 2895 3727 3805 4936 7489 8083 8099	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0233 0505 0651 3123 3674 3942 4620 7588 9061 9997	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0236 0238 0314 0342 0407 0415 0534 0587 0636 0913	
1043 1133 1143 1169 1322 1551 1691 1709 1718 1728	
1777 1969 2021 2070 2149 2170 2709 2747 2752 2855	
2859 2938 2967 3003 3120 3394 3488 3777 3793 3822	
3836 3879 3899 4269 4524 4550 4607 4624 4653 4723	
4809 5103 5107 5116 5335 5391 5418 5777 5812 6082	
6255 6388 6425 6456 6648 6683 6807 6825 6863 6912	
7090 7188 7272 7384 7441 7542 7788 7804 7888 7972	
8169 8315 8375 8439 8582 8621 8688 8984 9007 9162	
9384 9525 9536 9538 9539 9541 9603 9699 9842 9934	
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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR OSTRICH EVENING	
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:12 DrawDate on:21/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 96D 96267	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9499/- 96267 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
02753 10069 16316 21538 32586	
41994 43057 53513 61765 70358	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 1853 3249 3292 4604 5717 6282 7439 7987 8086 9017	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 2093 2675 2775 3242 4579 4737 5402 6223 7379 9196	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0114 0452 0555 0600 0603 0624 0986 1002 1020 1022	
1080 1092 1160 1248 1274 1280 1597 1632 1743 1989	
1992 2131 2356 2466 2730 2935 3040 3084 3134 3284	
3511 3678 3743 3787 3891 3909 3952 3965 4128 4140	
4310 4358 4366 4449 4682 4704 4858 4915 5078 5262	
5314 5354 5355 5542 5605 5648 5661 5829 5844 5881	
5994 6110 6192 6652 6782 6877 7087 7347 7390 7435	
7440 7518 7555 7558 7577 7633 7667 7954 8024 8092	
8125 8341 8458 8468 8625 8647 8798 8851 9008 9049	
9075 9174 9189 9273 9302 9458 9473 9535 9705 9841	
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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR VULTURE EVENING	
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:12 DrawDate on:20/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 97J 43285	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9498/- 43285 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
14838 19168 30940 41341 54800	
59894 61431 85616 90717 97950	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0748 0984 1061 1664 3100 3700 4510 7236 7882 9386	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0146 0246 0877 1462 2812 2876 3521 6684 8776 9743	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0267 0441 0502 0517 0779 0859 0993 1021 1125 1384	
1442 1549 1601 1844 1889 1894 1908 1941 1967 2004	
2077 2107 2195 2221 2259 2499 2638 2644 2847 2872	
2990 3047 3064 3305 3477 3553 3788 3820 3874 3889	
3906 4002 4041 4158 4447 4544 4696 4786 4791 4860	
4867 5018 5127 5142 5304 5315 5458 5766 5774 5816	
6289 6493 6494 6495 6533 6555 6623 6627 6658 6834	
6928 7155 7203 7447 7459 7469 7747 7748 7768 7885	
7893 7958 7962 7968 8334 8553 8579 8863 8891 9000	
9009 9057 9328 9583 9595 9636 9719 9748 9799 9847	
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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR FALCON EVENING	
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:12 DrawDate on:19/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 97E 17608	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9497/- 17608 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
27290 41812 52614 53233 65559	
70687 76065 80596 83830 84781	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 1666 2172 2467 2505 5138 5785 5937 6321 6835 7479	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0121 1137 1686 1714 2908 3721 4583 6880 7762 8397	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0023 0104 0278 0480 0502 0558 0695 0710 0753 0783	
0803 0827 0865 0934 1031 1073 1104 1237 1296 1303	
1489 1676 1728 1828 1835 1900 2131 2390 2513 2522	
2532 2716 2832 2834 2871 2879 3041 3043 3150 3250	
3264 3269 3316 3345 3373 3395 3745 3759 4156 4261	
4288 4436 4528 4639 4780 4872 4881 4952 5140 5308	
5347 5509 5596 5674 5766 5862 5944 6106 6161 6267	
6280 6330 6682 6939 6966 6999 7407 7589 7594 7726	
8189 8230 8266 8489 8706 8728 8784 8802 8922 9067	
9221 9398 9571 9707 9792 9859 9819 9836 9887 9899	
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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR RESPECT MORNING	
Draw No:7 DrawDate on:22/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 88K 67876	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9500/- 67876 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
04250 18540 24997 25175 30054	
41081 56086 59876 82436 97174	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 2396 3834 4185 4272 4927 5854 6504 7353 7912 8596	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 1242 1417 1704 5955 6106 6875 6876 7797 9331 9360	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0070 0218 0267 0274 0349 0452 0524 0568 0744 0800	
0876 0932 1002 1087 1159 1209 1228 1272 1309 1456	
1463 1500 1702 1762 1778 1841 1936 2065 2125 2587	
2739 3094 3274 3307 3310 3339 3383 3428 3501 3904	
3942 3956 3959 4000 4033 4098 4170 4343 4476 4504	
4749 4985 4999 5053 5084 5276 5280 5326 5331 5450	
5681 5720 5946 5996 6223 6371 6381 6392 6435 6467	
6486 6527 6529 6656 6758 6792 6851 6959 7018 7469	
7492 7682 7921 7988 8058 8148 8259 8539 8612 9177	
9202 9205 9369 9471 9475 9536 9558 9715 9878 9981	
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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR PRIZED MORNING	DEAR GENTLE
Draw No:7 Draw Date on:21/10/17	Draw No:12 Draw Date on:21/10/17
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 98J 16584 (Including Super Prize Amt)	1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 94E 07136 (Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9499/- 16584 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	2nd Prize Rs.9499/- 07136 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
06330 08030 24392 24428 39678	04690 08110 36214 41628 51401
51412 63632 82810 93744 97488	63641 63759 80090 94189 98503
4th Prize Rs.500/- 1313 3615 4767 5060 5175 6453 7552 7732 8814 9599	41375 50900/- 0934 1065 1893 3444 4005 4196 4403 9095 9117 9311
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0668 0836 2438 2815 3826 6300 7034 8234 8445 9582	5th Prize Rs.250/- 0146 0160 3148 3700 5670 6924 7696 8056 9216 9707
6th Prize Rs.120/-	6th Prize Rs.120/-
0243 0394 0565 0869 0891 1266 1276 1395 1455 1732	0224 0316 0407 0412 0522 0617 0799 0903 1336 1345
1756 1875 2000 2050 2185 2251 2435 2494 2649 2826	1580 1633 1777 1839 1926 1940 1974 2018 2015 2057
2882 3021 3049 3232 3337 3381 3459 3646 3622 3684	2679 2734 2879 2908 2930 3087 3265 3310 3383 3476
3705 3896 3924 3979 4034 4051 4123 4222 4227 4247	3500 3532 3559 3571 3594 3638 3647 3681 3691 3699
4285 4322 4330 4415 4458 4621 4683 4835 4836 4906	3726 3908 3990 4065 4159 4180 4266 4282 4341 4501
4956 5093 5123 5137 5139 5179 5232 5374 5418 5521	4589 4870 4916 5060 5114 5265 5318 5373 5397 5471
5711 5925 5950 5965 6108 6291 6421 6527 6833 6856	5607 5792 5872 5923 5939 6188 6266 6323 6395 6507
6859 7036 7058 7218 7787 7838 7856 7883 7905 7910	6565 6637 6688 6765 6889 7037 7172 7478 7531 7632
7967 8303 8310 8492 8555 8707 8863 8946 8963 9013	7773 8104 8164 8202 8655 8667 8783 8788 8875 8896
9059 9085 9133 9162 9193 9452 9689 9744 9863 9999	8896 8984 8986 9114 9306 9330 9369 9844 9926 9958
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Diplomats’ safety an obligation: China on threats to its envoy in Pak

BEIJING, OCT 23 (PTI): China today said the safety of the diplomatic personnel and missions is an obligation of the sovereign countries but declined to comment on its reported complaint to Pakistan that its ambassador to Islamabad faced threats from a Xinjiang-based terror group. China reportedly asked Pakistan to step up the security of its newly-appointed ambassador in Islamabad in the wake of threats to his life from the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), according to reports.

The Chinese embassy made the request in a letter written to Pakistan's interior ministry on October 19, saying a member of the ETIM has sneaked into Pakistan to assassinate its ambassador Yao Jing.

The letter, circulated in the local media in Pakistan, was written by the focal person for the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Ping Ying Fi who asked the interior ministry to “enhance the security” of the ambassador and other Chinese working in the country.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang when asked about the report said, “I am not aware of the information mentioned by you. The ETIM is a UN Security Council listed terrorist organisation.

Combating ETIM is an important part of the international counter terrorism efforts, Geng said.

China alleges that the ETIM, an Al-Qaeda linked group fighting for the separation of Uygur Muslim majority Xinjiang province, was responsible for a host of terrorist attacks in the province and the country. Xinjiang borders Pakistan- occupied Kashmir.

Asked whether the Chinese government expressed concern to Pakistan about the safety of the diplomatic personnel, Geng said the safety of the diplomatic personnel and missions is an obligation of the sovereign countries according to the Vienna Convention.

China has appointed Yao, who has served as Chinese Ambassador to Afghanistan, as its new envoy to Pakistan. Yao replaced Sun Weidong, who served as China's Ambassador to Pakistan for three years and recently returned to his country.

Dokalam standoff ‘safely resolved’ after talks: PLA official

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, OCT 22 (PTI): The 73-day-long Dokalam standoff was “safely resolved” after several rounds of talks with India, a top Chinese military official said today on the sidelines of the ongoing Congress of the ruling CPC.

People's Liberation Army (PLA) official Liu Fang spoke about the resolution of the Dokalam standoff citing it as an example of how the Chinese military is trying to resolve issues through dialogue mechanisms with different countries.

“We also conducted a lot of practical cooperation,” she said referring to the Dokalam standoff which began on June 16 when the Chinese military attempted to build a road in the territory claimed by Bhutan close to the Chicken’s Neck area connecting India’s north eastern states with the mainland.

The standoff ended on August 28 with mutual understanding after China halted the construction of the road.

“Of course it is safely resolved right now,” Liu said.

“My colleagues in the military and other ministries worked very closely and held negotiations with the Indian side many times,” while China clearly reiterated its position, she said.



“All of this contributed a lot to the peaceful resolution of China-India cross border dispute,” she said, referring to the standoff.

Observers attach significance to the PLA acknowledging peaceful resolution of the Dokalam standoff, at the CPC Congress which is set to endorse a second term for President Xi Jinping.

The Chinese military is working hard to build up new platforms and measures to improve international cooperation she said, adding, “we already have dialogue mechanisms with 28 organisations”.

Referring to the address of President Xi at the once-in-five-years Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on October 18, Liu said she

is “very very inspired” by the report delivered by him outlining “tremendous progress and achievements”.

In his address, Xi had spoken about plans to turn the PLA into a world class force. Termining the speech as “profound and fundamental,” she said “we totally agree with it”.

Besides being president, Xi also heads the CPC and the country’s mili-

tary as chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), the overall high command of the 2.3 million-strong PLA, the world’s largest army.

Liu said China is playing a larger and greater role in increasing its international influence. China is making efforts in international peace-keeping, maritime cooperation and disaster relief.

“All this shows our responsibility as a big power nation. We keep our voice louder and louder at the international stage,” she said.

The Chinese military is showing its confidence in the international arena and its spokesmen actively interacted with the international media to explain the version of Chinese army and also correct misunderstandings, she said.

“By doing so we want to convey the correct, clear and accurate information about China’s military development,” Liu said.

She along with other young military officials interacted with the media sharing their experiences in the military and their appreciation of Xi’s leadership.

The Chinese military, which has undergone a massive reform drive since Xi took power in 2012, has an annual budget of over USD 141 billion, next only to the US.

Smart City challenge calls for startups with social impact

NEW DELHI, OCT 23 (PTI): A new Smart City challenge has been launched in India which encourages young entrepreneurs to identify local problems and develop innovative solutions which have a lasting social impact and are also successful businesses.

Smart City 4.0, recently launched by the Innovation Acceleration Group at the University of California Berkeley, US, seeks to develop skills for industry, mentor innovators, accelerate technologies and create fundable startups that work towards developing smart cities in India.

As a part of the ongoing initiative, India’s Smart City Co-Innovation Lab will be established in Allahabad, a city that has been identified by the government under its 100 smart cities mission.

“The challenge is that there is so much new technology coming that can have an impact,” said Innovation Acceleration Group executive director Andre Marquis.

But people often think of technology first and then try to look at how it will solve problems, he said.

“At UC Berkeley we look at it differently - you have to get in touch with the customer.

We teach people to get out of the building, understand the customer’s problems and build a viable business model that could help solve those problems - and then go build it,” Marquis told PTI.

Launched in collaboration with the United States India Strategic Partnership Forum and 1M1B, a non-profit body, Smart City 4.0 aims at developing the skills of young innovators, startups and large corporations for solutions that make cities “smart, safe and sustainable”.

The lab will enable large, mid-sized companies and startups to work with citizens and create sustainable solutions together.

The programme will invite young people between the ages of 18 and 29 to co-create smart city solutions after understanding issues that affect the people of a city.

The areas of focus will be artificial intelligence, water, energy, transportation, waste management, healthcare, climate and smart agriculture.

The programme will run on two tracks -- one for students and the other for startups. The top 20 ideas will enter the Smart City Co-Innovation Lab and will be mentored by industry experts.

The final two teams in the students’ category will present their innovations at the Global Social Venture Competition in Milan, Italy, in April 2018, and compete for the top prizes worth USD 80,000 (about Rs 52 lakh).

The top five teams in the startup group will present their ideas to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in October 2018, and work with different government departments to implement their smart city solutions.

“In a year, we are looking at about 15-20 startups to be produced from one lab,” said Manav Subodh, director, International Development, Innovation Acceleration Group.

The initiative is designed to create ‘Make in India’, with local solutions to local problems, and at a larger level, to develop skills among young innovators of India to gear up for the fourth industrial revolution, he said.

The Allahabad Innovation Lab is scheduled to start on January 9, 2018. In the meantime, teams will be shortlisted for the challenge, the organisers said.

UC Berkeley hopes to establish ten more labs across India and is looking for partners to take the model to cities such as Vizag, Bangalore and Pune.

Swaraj opens India’s new chancery complex in Dhaka

DHAKA, OCT 23 (PTI): External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj opened the new chancery complex of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka today on the last day of her Bangladesh visit.

Swaraj lit a candle to mark the opening of the huge complex at Dhaka’s Baridhara diplomatic enclave while the High Commission was previously operating from a house in Gulshan area of the city.

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Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:12 DrawDate on:18/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 81A 50487 (Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9496/- 50487 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
07778 20420 40948 50203 54911	
56495 78146 85993 88714 97063	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 2125 3398 4048 4361 4550 4759 6372 7691 7896 8497	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0384 0508 0993 1941 2131 3511 5075 5434 6860 9340	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0042 0098 0240 0335 0388 0439 0460 0518 0750 0863	
0904 1010 1046 1048 1095 1147 1217 1591 1723 1946	
1998 2042 2062 2248 2362 2433 2510 2524 2983 2990	
3116 3207 3224 3278 3281 3335 3427 3464 3506 3858	
3880 3908 3971 4401 4529 4562 4610 4617 4747 4761	
4841 4896 4896 4920 4982 5018 5088 5094 5182 5220	
5307 5589 5613 5622 5640 5878 5944 6037 6178 6343	
6437 6446 6503 6537 6673 6686 6735 6759 6881 6918	
6957 7018 7074 7091 7302 7348 7579 7638 7697 7758	
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DEAR VALUABLE MORNING	
Draw No:7 DrawDate on:18/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 80C 55395 (Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9496/- 55395 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
02654 18450 22255 48465 49818	
50015 50258 52613 56444 81708	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 2635 2769 3852 3958 5798 5821 6733 7033 7201 8819	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 1713 2362 3045 3663 4103 4870 6117 8238 9187 9563	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0073 0263 0292 0356 0570 0679 0723 0807 0901 0915	
1002 1040 1497 1680 1943 1951 1973 2354 2404 2518	
2709 2744 2750 2979 2986 3007 3031 3268 3323 3390	
3546 3578 3615 3927 4006 4030 4041 4219 4233 4314	
4353 4390 4489 4608 4661 4886 5069 5290 5296 5379	
5453 5571 5582 5651 5777 5848 5900 6059 6132 6368	
6404 6424 6626 6786 6932 7059 7135 7468 7565 7703	
7869 7915 8084 8142 8200 8281 8343 8426 8493 8496	
8595 8560 8738 8801 8810 8833 8955 9027 9093 9133	
9137 9218 9523 9571 9625 9727 9736 9746 9748 9932	
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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR FLAMINGO EVENING	
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards	
Draw No:13 DrawDate on:23/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 76K 26694 (Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9494/- 26694 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
06639 18660 24093 30081 32186	
38288 69332 74987 75283 76817	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0027 2188 2486 5787 5855 6084 6779 7716 8006 9399	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 2140 3246 3247 3763 5541 5670 5882 6695 7854 9354	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0304 0350 0443 0514 0563 0589 0629 0680 0774 0886	
0934 0967 1032 1092 1165 1197 1426 1428 1585 1718	
1898 1965 2031 2035 2160 2196 2385 2466 2697 2876	
3259 3425 3669 3685 3813 3863 4124 4350 4497 4507	
4566 4726 4859 5084 5337 5415 5431 5433 5464 5588	
5695 5696 5714 5786 5801 5837 5869 5962 5980 6019	
6109 6156 6194 6297 6409 6438 6466 6484 6546 6778	
6818 6828 6831 6869 6980 7110 7191 7307 7313 7329	
7571 7822 7859 8017 8162 8179 8240 8233 8444 8597	
8887 9118 9349 9372 9494 9571 9577 9622 9864 9979	
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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR PRECIOUS MORNING	
Draw No:8 DrawDate on:23/10/17	
1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 84L 93626 (Including Super Prize Amt)	
2nd Prize Rs.9494/- 93626 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-	
14323 20029 29355 36126 43606	
64356 74925 77493 82740 86134	
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0599 0935 1268 3771 5289 6461 6741 7310 7519 7608	
5th Prize Rs.250/- 1862 2017 2478 4975 5094 5744 5927 6665 8776 9193	
6th Prize Rs.120/-	
0064 0100 0142 0334 0422 0449 0620 0685 0789 0922	
1080 1172 1257 1285 1358 1455 1496 1654 1773 1807	
2044 2129 2297 2346 2547 2685 2713 2810 2890 2932	
3007 3019 3123 3130 3179 3191 3253 3321 3395 3468	
3494 3500 3634 3731 3739 3745 3797 4106 4123 4195	
4353 4556 4686 4717 4722 4794 5040 5114 5122 5327	
5457 5821 5859 6059 6120 6178 6195 6388 6438 6900	
6916 6979 7084 7135 7436 7573 7587 7599 7667 7809	
7885 8044 8258 8289 8425 8518 8696 8705 8714 8771	
8954 9052 9067 9148 9270 9435 9642 9747 9852 9958	
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THE POWER COUPLE!

Ocean's Eleven star, George Clooney, 56, along with his wife Amal Clooney promoting his new film Suburbicon, which sees Matt Damon and Julianne Moore play leading roles in the satirical drama about a perfect suburban community turned upside down.

It's a Girl for Esha Deol and Bharat Takhtani!



Esha Deol is one of the well-known actresses of Bollywood and the daughter of superstars Hema Malini and Dharmendra. The actress who was pregnant with her first child was always in news throughout her pregnancy.

From flaunting her baby bump to dressing herself at its best, Esha always rocked her maternity look.

And now, finally, the actress had become a yummy mummy of a baby girl. Yes, you read it right.

Esha gave birth to a baby girl on Sunday at Hinduja Hospital in Mumbai. The actress has been quite active on social media and treated her fans with all her beautiful maternity looks.

BOLLYBUZZ!!! And now we are eagerly waiting to see Esha's cute lil angel soon. The couple has not declared the name of the baby, so even that is one more thing which we are awaiting. Many congratulations to the love couple!

Justin Timberlake Is Bringing It Back to the Super Bowl Halftime Show



He's baaaack. In a snappy skit with comedian BFF Jimmy Fallon, Justin Timberlake dropped the news he's got the time to pull off a little gig called the Super Bowl LII halftime show.

It'd been speculated that Timberlake would take the headlining gig for a while, but now that it's finally confirmed, it's time to start speculating what the singer-actor's going to perform. It's been a good fourteen years since he last memorably took the stage, and since then he's

dropped a lot more music, gotten deeper into the acting scene, and also become a father.

But given the fact that his previous stop at the Super Bowl ended up in scandal, when Timberlake revealed Janet Jackson's right nipple during the duo's rendition of "Rock Your Body," it seems obvious that this new performance will reference it, right? Considering that Janet may still be banned from the venue — guess fans will have to tune in to find out.



24TH OCT

WORLD HISTORY

1537: Jane Seymour, the third wife of England's King Henry VIII, dies after giving birth to Prince Edward.

1648: The Holy Roman Empire is effectively destroyed by the Peace of Westphalia that brought an end to the Thirty Years War.

1929: One week before the Wall Street Crash an indication of things to come on 'Black Thursday,' when investors on the New York Stock Exchange dumped 13m shares causing shares to plummet.

1931- The George Washington Bridge is opened to traffic, connecting the states of New York and New Jersey.

1939: New Rules by Nazis require Jews to wear the Star of David.

1985: Wayne Rooney is born.

1992: The Toronto Blue Jays becomes the first non-U.S. team to win the World Series.

1995: New York City declares October 24th Tony Bennett Day.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY
Assistant Professor in History,
Namchi Govt. College

2001: NASA's 2001 Mars Odyssey spacecraft successfully enters orbit around Mars.

2002: U.S. authorities arrest John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo - the Washington snipers.

2005: Civil rights activist Rosa Parks dies at the age of 92.

INDIAN HISTORY

1921: Indian cartoonist R.K. Laxman was born.

1926: Kidar Nath Sahani, Governor of Sikkim and Goa, was born.

1991: Ismat Chughtai, Urdu writer, passed away.

Finn Wolfhard fires agent after sexual assault claims

'STRANGER THINGS' star Finn Wolfhard has fired his agent, Tyler Grasham, after his former client claimed he was sexually abused.

According to the sources, the agent faces a string of allegations of sexual assault and acting inappropriately with young aspiring male actors, including actor-turned-filmmaker Blaise Godbe Lipman.

Grasham, who works for APA, is currently on leave from the company, pending an internal investigation.

"APA takes these allegations extremely seriously and is investigating this matter," an agency spokesperson said.

The allegations were first brought to light as part of the '#MeToo' social media campaign, which looked to provide a platform for stories of sexual assault and harassment.

It is under the hashtag that Lipman first alleged that he had been assaulted by a prominent Hollywood agent, though he initially declined to name Grasham.

After the allegations, Grasham has set his Instagram to private and deleted his Facebook account.

As for Wolfhard, he is yet to sign with a new agency.

'X-MEN' ACTRESS FAMKE JANSSEN CITES HOLLYWOOD'S SEXISM FOR EXIT FROM FRANCHISE

Actress Famke Janssen, who originally essayed the role of Jean Grey in most of the 'X-Men' franchise films, blames Hollywood's

sexism for her exit from the series.

Famke Janssen wants to play Jean Grey again.

"I didn't give up, they gave up on me. There's a big difference," Janssen said. She cited ageism and sexism as the reasons of her exit. "It was their [producers'] decision, you know? It's like what happens in life. You get, well not to me thankfully. But people, just like men trade women in for a younger model version. It's like that," said Janssen.

She was excited for Sophie Turner, who was cast as a young Jean Grey, Janssen wondered why the old Grey couldn't exist alongside the younger one just like they did with Margreto [Jan McKellen and Michael Fassbender] and Professor X [Patrick Stewart and James McAvoy].

"In the 'X-Men' series, they've been doing this for years. Although women, it's interesting because they're replaced, and the older versions - or more mature, whatever the politically correct version of that is - are never to be seen again."

"Whereas, the men are allowed to be both ages. Sexism. I think that I should be back along with my younger version and the way that we've seen it with Magneto and Professor X."

Turner started joining the 'X-Men' franchise in 2016 with 'X-Men: Apocalypse'. Her character is expected to have a bigger role and cross to dark side in the next installment 'X-Men: Dark Phoenix'.

Actress Jennifer Lawrence is back as Mystique, Nicholas Hoult as Beast, Tye Sheridan as Cyclops, Alexandra Shipp as Storm, Kodi Smit-McPhee as Nightcrawler, Evan Peters as Quicksilver, and Olivia Munn as Psylocke.

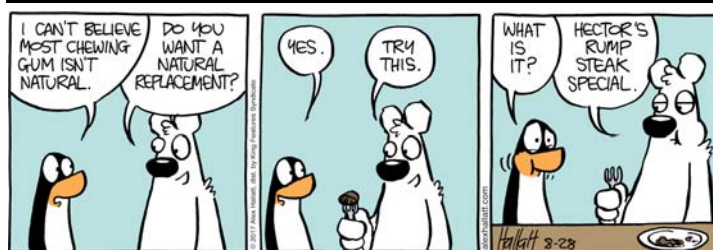
Directed by Simon Kinberg, the film is set to release next month.



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ARCTIC CIRCLE



BABY BLUES



THE DAY AHEAD
ARIES: The more action you take today, the bigger the hole you're apt to dig for yourself. You could be engaged in one of those situations in which you say one thing and then are forced to stretch the truth or outright lie in order to defend your point. You're then put in a very vulnerable position. Try your best to avoid this trap.
TAURUS: Your thinking is right in line with the group dynamic today, and you'll find working with a team to be extremely rewarding. The more you express your thoughts to the group, the more physical support you'll receive for your work. You'll find that your actions are

diplomatic and you're able to see both sides of issues. Your decisions are fair and honest.

GEMINI: No matter how many maps you look at and how many times you stop and ask for directions, you'll still be unsure which road to take. All routes have appeal, and you don't want to miss any sights along the way to your destination. Remember that this isn't the last time that you'll be traveling. You can always try a different route next time.

CANCER: Your well-considered actions will be effective today. There's strength in your mental power. You shouldn't hesitate to

direct others toward avenues that would be good for them. You have the vision to see things that other people might not notice. People may not be able to see something in front of them even if they're about to crash into it!

LEO: Indulge in a day of laughter. Things get much more serious tomorrow, so use today to have some fun before it comes time to get down to business. If you don't join in with the happy-go-lucky attitude, you may get seriously depressed when you feel yourself slipping out of sync with everyone around you who's jolly and bright.

VIRGO: Share your thoughts with

those who can help execute them today. If you have something that needs to be moved, don't try to do it by yourself. Ask around for someone with the vehicle or tools you need to get it to where it needs to go. You have the resources available to you. All you need to do is ask in order to see the gears in motion.

LIBRA: Try not to get too caught up in trying to penetrate to the core of everything today. Enjoy the simple pleasures that are free. Be entertained by a bug walking on your windowsill. See trees as art. See the shapes and colors around you. Don't view things as annoyances. Most of the time the things you

shun are those that can teach you the most.

SCORPIO: There's a fast-paced energy in the air that suggests a dramatic change of some sort in your life. Things may not go so well for you if you fail to notice the opportunities open to you. You may not need to work so hard simply because so many things are going your way. Consider ways in which you can prepare for the future. The good times won't last forever.

SAGITTARIUS: Your mind may be playing tricks on you, so it isn't necessarily in your best interests to trust your perceptions completely. Consider other methods of solv-

ing problems that confront you. If you have fun with a situation, the solution will find its way into your hands easily. You shouldn't have to work especially hard to make things happen for you today.

CAPRICORN: Today may be one of your last chances to say what you want about a certain situation. Take advantage of the opportunity to get your words out. Your thoughts may be quite progressive, so use this forward-thinking attitude to break new ground in your project. You'll be rewarded accordingly for your efforts.

AQUARIUS: You're apt to be drawn to lively and exciting things today. Dramatic and dynamic activ-

ities are the ones that you'll be most comfortable with. If you're in a boring situation, think about ways you can spice it up. Throw a wrench in the conversation to see how people react.

PISCES: You may have to take major action today in order to defend your position. Your current mindset has brought you to a certain point and now you're faced with having to defend that point. It may feel like the school bully is demanding your lunch money. Don't give in without a fight. The bully is just as frightened of you as you are of him.