

JANHVI KAPOOR WRITES A NOTE ON LOSING MOM SRIDEVI ON HER BIRTHDAY

SummitTIMES

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CBSE class 10, 12 exams to begin Monday

New DELHI, MAR 4 (PTI): More than 28 lakh candidates will appear for class 10 and 12 ex-aminations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education from tomorrow, a CBSE official said today.

A total of 16,38,428 candidates have registered for class X examination, while 11,86,306 can-didates have registered for class XII examination.

The class X board examination has been reintroduced from this year after the government decided to do away with the Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation (CCE) adopted earlier.

The exam will be conducted at 4,453 centres across India and 78 centres outside India. Similarly, for class XII, the exam will be held at 4,138 centres in India and 71 centres abroad.

"The board has made appropriate arrangements with state authorities and local police to ensure trouble free examinations throughout the country," the CBSE official said.

Candidates suffering from diabetes are allowed to carry eatables inside the examination centres. From this year, CBSE is also allowing candidates with special needs to write their exams using laptops but their device will have to undergo an inspection by the computer teacher at the exam centre and no Internet access will be

A total of 4,510 and 2,846 differently-abled candidates have registered for class X and XII examinations respectively.

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SDF CELEBRATES 26TH FOUNDATION DAY

Chamling goes over achievements, shares plans for future

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

RANGPO, 04 MAR:

Cikkim Democratic Front S(SDF) today celebrated its 26th foundation day at Rang-po Mining Ground amidst thousands of supporters from all the four districts along with party president, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, Cabinet Ministers and senior party leaders among others.

Mr Chamling, while ad-

dressing the function, under-lined that the State has developed in all aspects since the party formed the government.
"Sikkim had hardly any

buildings in rural areas until the formation of the SDF par-ty and later its government," he highlighted, stressing that the SDF ensured that prosperity and democracy reached all parts of the State

Highlighting Sikkim's Organic State status, he urged the farmers to engage ag-gressively in organic farming and help the State become independent in terms of pro-viding sufficient vegetables to its people from 31 March



to be banned].

He also announced to

provide Rs 1,000 per month honorarium to farmers aged

above 50 years producing organic produce and Rs One

Crore to the best performing organic farmer of the State

Terming farmers as the 'Gods of foodgrains,' he assured to prioritize the needs of the farming community. He also announced the

construction of old age homes in every district with full fledged medical facilities and

free medicines.

"I want Sikkim to be a disease and tension-free State where peace and tranquility abound," he said.

He added that Sikkim has become one of the best per-forming States in the country, citing examples of the growth in educational institutes, low criminal activity and improved transportation facili-

ties here. "SDF has made Sikkim the best and most exemplary State of the Country," he said.

Comparing the increase in roads and highways to con-nect some of the more remote parts of the State to the rest of the world, Mr Chamling in-formed that the present State Government has built 7,000 turn to pg02

Sliding Bridge' across Mantam Lake is up and running

DZONGU, 04 MAR:

The construction of the sliding suspension bridge across Mantam Lake in Upper Dzongu has been completed and opened for vehicular traffic now.

The District Administration had decided to construct the bridge across the Lake and it took four months to complete. This work was taken up on a war-footing and the connectivity is now restored permanently.

The bridge was inspected yesterday by the area MLA, Deputy Speaker Sonam Gyatso Lepcha.

Mr Lepccha extended his gratitude to the Land Revenue and Road & Bridge Departments for the construction of the bridge over Rongyong Chu.

It may be recalled that the Mantam Lake which was formed due to a landslide in 2016 had cut off 11 villages of Upper Dzongu from vehicular access. Thus far, there was only a bamboo bridge for pedestrian cross-overs at the site. Now vehicles can ply.





TMC Youth Wing to take out bike rally in Slg

SMRITA KHAWAS Siliguri, 04 Mar:

he youth wing of the The youth wing of the Trinamol Congress has announced plans to take out a motorbike rally from Khoribari (which is situated 42 kms from Siliguri at the border with Nepal) till Bhagaja-

tin Park here on Monday. Tourism Minister Gautam Dev said, "Main motive behind organiz-ing this rally is to make the youth wing of their party stronger and also to motivate them to do good for a better future.

BJP win in Tripura due to influence of power at the Centre: CPM

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. MAR (PTI): Terming its drubbing in the Tripura assembly polls as temporary, the ruling CPI(M) in Kerala today alleged that BJP's victory in that state was due to the 'influence of

their power at the Centre.'
CPI(M) state secretary Kodeyeri
Balakrishnan said at Kannur that there would be victory and defeat in elections in a democracy.

The CPI(M) was not a party that would "over celebrate" an electoral victory or plunge into despair during a loss, the polit bureau member said and expressed confidence that the Left party would make a comeback in that state.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said BJP's win in Tripura was a setback not only to the Left, but also to the secular and democratic forces in the country as a whole. In a Facebook post, he said reasons for the party's setback would be examined

and necessary steps taken. Vijayan said BJP managed the

victory using the "influence of their power at the Centre and pumping money." The saffron party also made

unholy nexus with separatists.

It was also to be noted that the Congress that captured 36.5 per cent

votes during the last polls had gone to BJP this time, Vijayan said.

He pointed out that CPI(M) secured 42.7 per cent votes by overcoming all types of 'political machinations' of BJP in that state. BJP had unleashed violence against Left cadres in Tripura after its victory, he alleged.

Former Chief Minister and veteran party leader V S Achuthanandan said that the party's defeat in the Tripura should be viewed with utmost

The CPI(M)'s setback in Tripura should be viewed with utmost seriousness" and urged the party leader-ship to join hands with secular forc-

es to fight the sangh parivar.

The country was facing serious challenges. The Congress, which had ruled for decades in the post-in-

dependence period, had become "weaker now," the 94-year-old Marxist veteran said in a statement here.

The Left parties, which ruled West Bengal and Tripura, were also weak," Achutanandan, who supported the party General Secretary Sitaram Yechury's line of having an understanding with Congress to fight the BJP, said.

As the Left parties had no strength now to fight and defeat the sangh parivar forces on its own, a tactical move with secular forces was necessary, he said.

Senior party leader and state Minister A K Balan alleged that the saffron party had "misused" money and power at the Centre for their vic-tory in the north eastern state, which had been considered as the fortress of the Left party.

BJP's win was a challenge to de mocracy and the national integrity, Balan told reporters at Kasaragod

"BJP's victory in Tripura was the

What happened there was not the people's mandate," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP president Amit Shah and union ministers had camped in the small state before elections, he said, add-ing, that the saffron party had even joined hands with "separatists" for

the poll victory.

Senior CPI(M) leader M V Ja-yarajan said in a Facebook post that BJP's win in Tripura was the result of money power and the "unholy alliance with terror groups." Jayarajan, also the private secretary of Vijayan, alleged that Congress leaders and its

cadres had moved towards BIP. He also said that the poll result of Tripura should not be viewed lightly and all patriots have the responsibility to check and isolate any effort of the 'communal forces' gaining strength in the country.

Senior polit bureau member M A Baby told PTI that the defeat of the party was "unexpected" but "we respect the verdict of the people.

However, he said though the 25 years-old Left government had been defeated, "we still have over 35 per cent vote share, which is a substantial section of Tripura voters."

"However, there is a decline of 6-7 per cent vote share of the Left front. It is a concern...how the erosion has taken place and why this happened will be dispassionately examined by the party in Tripura and

the national leadership," he said.

Baby, a former state minister, said most of the votes of Congress

and its allies had shifted to BJP.

He said the failure of Congress to hold on their influence was a primary reason for BJP's victory. However this did not belittle the setbacks suffered by the Left, he said.

BJP and its state ally, the Indige-nous People's Front of Tripura, are set to form the next government in Tripura, after securing a majority in the 60-member assembly in the February 18 election.

Delhi Assembly panel accuses chief secy of lying before HC

NEW DELHI, MAR 4 (PTI): A committee of the Delhi Assembly today accused Chief Secretary Anshu Prakash of "lying" before the Delhi High Court with regard to a breach of privilege notice issued to him for allegedskipping a meeting

called by the panel.

Members of the Question and Reference Committee said that they would also initiate "forgery proceedings" against Prakash for misinform-

ing the court.
The panel had on February 21 recommended privilege proceedings against the chief secretary (CS) for contempt of House after he skipped the meeting called by the committee

"We have learnt that the CS has moved the High Court challenging the breach of privilege notice served to him by accusing us of arm-twist-ing him in a matter related to alleged attack on him, but he is hiding the fact that the meeting was related to rising NPAs." AAP MLA Saurabh Bha-radwaj, a member of the committee, said.

"This issue is going on for over a year. An MLA filed a complaint with the Question and Refer-ence Committee when he was not given a satisfactory answer in the Delhi Assembly for a question related to rising NPAs and bank loans based on fraudulent papers in Delhi Nagrik Sarkari Bank," he said, adding that despite summoning the CS, present and former Registrar Cooperative Societies (RCS), they did not turn up for the meet-ing for three consecutive

days.
"Whoever is lying in
the affidavit before the
Delhi High Court, forgery proceedings should be initiated against him. We shall do the same,"

Bhardwaj said.

"The committee members challenge the CS to stick to the contents of his affidavit and not alter these contents. The chief secretary is clearly trying to shield those involved in the multi-crore scam, which appears to be on the lines of the Punjab National Bank scam," the committee said in a statement.

TMC Youth Wing to take out bike rally in Slg

Contd from pg01

It is also to tell the BJP government at the Centre to stop its communal

politics."

The party is expectcome out in support of the rally which is scheduled to conclude with a public meeting at Bhaga-jati Park.

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We have always supported Darjeeling but never interfered: Chamling

SUMMIT REPORT

Addressing accu-sations leveled by Gorkha Territorial Administration leader, Binay Tamang, earlier this year where he had accused Sikkim Chief Minister of interfering in the politics of the Darjeeling Hills, SDF president, Chief Min-ister Pawan Chaming, today retorted, "Sikkim

has never interfered in the politics of Darjeeling Hills and does not want Darjeeling to interfere here either."

Mr Chamling made

these comments while addressing the SDF foundation day rally at Rang-

po today.

In fact, even the West
Bengal CM had alleged that Sikkim fanned trou-ble in Darjeeling so tourism here would benefit.

"We have nothing against the people of Sikkim. We share very close ties, but we have a problem with the government there. A government should act like a government but they are interfering in the politics of Darjeeling, Terai and the Dooars," Mr Tamang had contended while addressing a rally at Sukna in West Bengal earlier in January.

the allegations coming in from GTA and the WR Govt, this is the first time that Mr Chamling has ad-

dressed the issue.

In his appeal today, he called on the leader of the neighboring Hills to sustain the cordial relationship among the people on either side.
"We have always sup-

ported Darjeeling in ev-

He further said that Sikkim has always maintained cordial relationships with West Bengal and that he respects the federal structure of Indian democracy.

"Sikkim has always stood by the people of Darjeeling and has taken a firm stand in support of the long-pending de-mands there," he said.

ITBP hosts friendly volleyball match against Army team



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

The 11th Indo-Tibetan Border Police orga-nized a friendly volleyball match between ITBP and Army at Pegong to-day, a press release informs.

Commandant Rajest Kumar Tomar informs that the match was organized as a relation-build-ing exercise between the two organizations. Jawans and officers from both the organization participated in the match.

ITBP team The emerged victorious 3-2. After the match Mr Tomar handed over prizes and appreciated the players for their sportsmanship.

In his address, he highlighted the importance of the game and also explained the impor-tance to maintain good relation with the sister organization.



SKM welcomes former SDF supporters into party

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 04 MAR:

Thirteen Sikkim Democratic

Thirteen Sikkim Democracian Front party supporters from Martam Rumtek constituency officially joined its Party Headquarters here in Gangtok today, a press release informs.

The new SKM members were welcomed by acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, secretary general, Arun Upreti, vice-president [East Zone], Anand Lama, vice-president (Social Wing), Chewang Dadul Bhutia and other party

members. Ex-panchayat, Deepa Khatri

and SDF party members Phurba Lepcha and Phurba Bhutia were among the new members who have joined SKM party, the release informs.

Addressing the function, the SKM acting president said that the former SDF party sup-porters have expressed deep disappointment with what they see as the "anti-people policy of the party and the Government" and wants SKM to lead them towards positive change for the people and

Mr Lencha assured full cooperation to the new members saying that everyone is an asset to the party.

IPFT demands respectable representation in Tripura govt

Agartala, Mar 4 (PTI): The Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) today demanded a respectable representation of its MLAs in the new state government, a day after the party and its ally BJP swept the Assembly polls.

IPFT president N C

Debbarma also asked the BJP to select the chief minister from among the tribal MLAs.

The tribal party won eight of the nine seats it had contested. The BJP won 35 seats on its own, giving it a majority in the 60-member Tripura Assembly.

"We demand a re-

spectable representation of IPFT MLAs in the new Cabinet," Debbarma told a press conference.

He, however, did not clarify what he meant by

"respectable position".

"We think it would be a justice for the indigenous people if one indigenous MLA is named as the chief minister. It is also the tradition in the northeast," he said.

The BJP-IPFT com-bine won 17 out of the 20 seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the February 18 elections.

Asked what will hap-pen if the chief minis-ter is not selected from among the tribal MLAs, Debbarma said, "I only said about the tradition.

There is no force."

The IPFT came into being in late 1990s and campaigned for a sepa-rate state by carving out the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council, which constitute two third of the state's territory.

However, it forged

an alliance with the BIP on the basis of common minimum agenda and the saffrong party made it clear it was opposed to the demand for a separate state.

Chamling goes over achievements, shares plans for future

KMS of roads in the State which will now be carpeted

and refined in phases.

He said that SDF was the 'people's party' and the State Government is 'people's government run by the people'.

He also announced to visit every constituencies of the State and undertake spot sanction of the pending

further announced that a Rs 1,400 crore railway project would be coming to the State and shared the State Government's plans to construct parking plazas in all bazaars of Sikkim, ropeways, permanent solutions to drinking water supply problems and increasing the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the

Clarifying the negative responses the State Government's decision to harness the river and natural resources of the State and its focus on hydroelectric projects, the CM said that with the current generation of 3,000 MW, Sikkim has become one of the highest hydro-power generating States of the country second only to Himachal Pradesh

"We have not sold our resources but are harnessing it for revenue generation," he contended.

He also hoped that the State's tourism sector would now focus more on sustainable employment generation, saying that 90% of the tour-ism businesses in the State were being handled by out-

siders with many hotels and travel agencies still being run by companies based outside the State

Speaking on gender equality, the CM stressed that Sikkimese women should work together with the men and help Sikkim become an example to the rest of the world.

"It is time for women to lead the society and prepare the coming generation," he

He also took a dig at the opposition parties and threw an open challenge to them to take him to Court if he they had real evidence of corrup

He said that Sikkim is one of the fastest develop-ing States in the country and added that development and corruption cannot go hand in

Countering the opposition parties without taking names, Mr Chamling said that to level allegations without any evidence exposed the vendetta that his opponents were pur-suing. In doing so, they were not only defaming him per-sonally, but the entire state, he said.

"We should do creative and innovative politics like the First World," he said.

He maintained that SDF stands for communal harmony and condemns all the acts which endanger the social fabric of Sikkim.

In the horticulture sector, he said that apart from milch cows, the government will also be distributing buffaloes

and further announced plans to develop an underground complex in Gangtok and the construction of a Lepcha

Study Centre in Dzongu He also announced plans to transform all bazaars of Sikkim based on the smart city theme. Also on the anvil are underground complexes wherever possible in bazaar

Many resolutions were proposed and passed during the function by different party workers. These resolutions included safeguarding of Article 371 F, seat reservation for Limboo and Tamang commu-nities, ST status for 11 left out communities, allowing the Gyalwang Karmapa Orgyen Trinley Dorje to visit Sikkim, Income Tax exemption for the

One of the resolutions passes today also sought ensure that Sikkim remained a State free from any form of terrorism and also condemned proposals seeking Darjeeling's merger with Sik-

Earlier, the function was addressed by former minister, D.B Thapa.

Books and CDs related to the party were also released

The party president was also offered bouquet and gar-land by Sikkim Muslim Women Association and Sikkim Bihari Jagaran Manch.

Senior members of the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha and independent panchayats were also present for the function.

Gangtok on Monday, 05 Mar

Temp: 22°C /08°C Forecast: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain and a thunderstorm in the afternoon. **Sunrise:** 05:56AM Sunset: 5:38 PM

Haryana CM announces plans to enact law to punish abandoning cows

CHANDIGARH, MAR 4 (PTI): The Harvana government will soon enact a stringent law to punish those found guilty of abandoning their cows, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said here today.

Khattar said his gov-ernment had already enacted the 'Gauvansh Sanrakshan and Gausamvardhan' Act to protect

Similarly, tagging of cattle kept by people in their houses would be carried out so that these are not abandoned any situation. A fine of Rs 5,000 would be imposed on those found abandoning their cattle," he told reporters here.
The chief minister ap-

pealed to the people not to abandon their cattle and keep them in their houses, saying it was not easy for the government alone to protect them.

Earlier in March 2015,

for "protection and up-keep" of cows, Haryana enacted a law which clamps a complete ban on cow slaughter in the state and provides for a rigorimprisonment ranging from three to 10 years for killing the animal.



CapitalTIMES

WOMEN 'RAID' ILLEGAL LIQUOR SHOP IN SLG

SILIGURI 04 MAR: An illegal liquor shop was raided by the local women at ward number 40 here today. When several warnings went unheeded, the women raided the liquor shop today and vandalized it before the Police arrived and sealed the shop.

PNB scam: CBI arrests 4 officials of Nirav Modi, Mehul Choksi's companies

New Delhi, Mar 4 (PTI): The CBI today made four arrests in connection with the alleged Rs 12,636-crore fraud at Punjab National Bank perpetrated by billion-aire jewellers Nirav Modi and his uncle Mehul

Choksi, officials said.

The agency has arrested two employees and an auditor of the Nirav Modi group of companies, while a director of the Gitanjali group of companies owned by Choksi has also been tak-

en into custody, they said.
Manish K Bosamiya,
the then AGM (operations) of Firestarter International Ltd owned by Nirav Modi, and then Finance Manager Miten Anil Pandya were arrested for their alleged role in the preparation of apLetters of Undertakings submitted to Punjab National Bank, they said.

Auditor Sanjay Ram-

bhia, partner in the Chartered Accountancy firm Sampat and Mehta, Mumbai, has also been arrested in connection with the ongoing investigation, the officials said.

The CBI has also ar-rested the then Director of Mehul Choksi's company Gili India, Aniyath Shiv Raman Nair, in connection with the case.

It was alleged that besides being one of the directors of the Gitaniali group of companies, he was the authorized signatory for the applica-tions submitted to PNB for issuance of purported LOUs and Foreign Letters

Choksi and Modi got is-sued LoUs and FLCs of Rs 12,636 crore in favour of foreign branches of Indian banks based on fraudulent claims.

The accused officials of PNB did not enter the instructions for these LoUs and FLCs in their internal software to

avoid scrutiny.

They were sent through an international messaging system for banking called SWIFT, which is used to pass instructions among banks globally to transfer funds.

An LoU is a guarantee which is given by an issu-ing bank to Indian banks having branches abroad to grant a short-term credit to the applicant.

In case of default, the

to pay the liability to the credit giving bank along with accruing interest.

The PNB officials al-legedly sent these messages to Indian banks --Canara Bank, State Bank of India, Bank of India, Axis Bank, Allahabad bank -- located in Ant-werp, Hong Kong, Bahrain, Mauritius, Frankfurt without making entries in the banking software about the LoUs.

Upon receiving the messages from PNB under SWIFT, the banks abroad transferred these amounts into NOSTRO account of PNB with

them.

Nostro account is an account that a bank holds in a foreign currency in another bank to enable foreign trade by its

SU seminar on 'Nuances of Social Relations'



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK. 04 MAR:

Sikkim University's Department of Sociology, in collaboration with the Research Committee on 'Sociology of Everyday Life' of the Indian Socio-

national seminar on "Nuances of Social Relations" at Barad Sadan in Tadong here on 02 and 03 March, a press release informs.

The seminar was attended by the SU acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Jyoti Prakash

Tamang, Sanjoy Roy from North Bengal University, University, Professor Mitra from Burdawan University and other dignitaries from different

universities of India, the

NDTV's Uma Sudhir gets 2017 Chameli Devi Jain award

New Delhi, Mar 4 NDTV bagged the prestigious Chameli Devi Jain award for the year 2017.

Sudhir, executive editor of NDTV (South), was chosen for the recognition for her impressive body of work covering vital issues relating to politics, children, wom-en, human rights, agriculture, rural distress and minority issues.

The Media Foundation, which gives the award, said in a statement, "Her incisive and analytical reports help create awareness of ground realities in various states. The jurors were impressed with the amount of work put into



her stories through trav elling, talking to people, examining underlying examining underlying issues and finally conveving the stories with a humane touch".

The jury also recom-

mended journalist Surak-sha P of the New Indian Express with an honourable mention for her series on leprosy patients with no access to social henefit schemes. She reported that the biometric details of such patients could not be captured as they had lost their fingerprints due to the disease. This year's jury comprised three senior journalists namely, Rajdeep Sardesai, Ritu Sarin and Lalita Panicker.

The award will be presented on March 9 at the India International Centre in the national capital. It will be followed by the B G Verghese Memorial Lec-ture, to be delivered by Justice Ajit Prakash Shah on the topic 'Chief Justice: First Among Equal'. Named after Chame-

li Devi Jain, a freedom fighter and home maker, the award has been recognising women journal-ists for the past 38 years for upholding standards of excellence through a sustained body of work.

Meet Biplab Deb, the CM frontrunner in Tripura

(PTI): Tripura BJP President Biplab Deb, considered a frontrunner for the chief minister's post following his party's victory in the state, had humble beginnings. Born in a middle class

family at Raidhar Nagar village in Gomati district on November 25, 1971, Biplab Deb completed his graduation from Udaipur College in the state in 1999.

His father Haradhan Deb was a local leader of the Jan Sangh.

Biplab Deb left for

Delhi soon after his graduation to join the RSS. The 48-year-old leader served the right-wing organization for around



16 years, under the guidance of Gobinda Acharya and Krishnagopal Sharma, two prominent Sangh leaders.
In 2015, he returned

to Tripura and assumed the charge of Central Jan Sampark Pramukh for the BJP.

Biplab Deb was declared the state presi-dent of the BJP on January 6, 2016. He replaced Sudhindra Dasgupta, the longest-serving chief of the party in Tripura.

His wife Niti is an officer at State Bank of India. The couple has a son and

a daughter.

On a few media reports about him being a gym instructor be-fore taking the political plunge, Biplab Deb told PTI: "During a television interview, I said I used to visit gym for exercise, but now I do

not get any time for exnot get any time for ex-ercise. I am surprised how media reported that I was once a gym instructor."

Biplab Deb had yes-

terday said he was ready for the top job.
"I am ready to take

the responsibility. I will not run away from taking any responsibility," he had told reporters in New Delhi and had added that it was up to the party leadership to take a final call.

The BJP demolished the Left citadel in Tripu-ra yesterday, winning a two-third majority with ally IPFT, and ending 25 years of uninterrupted rule of the CPI(M)-led

Danish history comes alive in restored tavern

KOLKATA, MAR 4 (PTI): A part of Danish history has come alive in West Bengal, with the restoration of the Denmark Tavern and Hotel, an over 200-year-old pub along the river Hooghly in Serampore.

The restoration work was completed by the National Museum of Denmark (NMD) and the Cultural Ministry of the Scandinavian nation. The tavern was opened for the public on February 28.

Project head of the resto-

ration drive, 'Serampore Initia-tive', Bente Wolff said, "When we had visited the place in 2010, given way and a small portion of the first floor remained. It was in a state of total decay."

When the Danish team had first visited the place, no one could recall the original name of the ruined building, but after historians checked the state archive here and flipped through other official documents, they realised it was the Denmark Tay ern and Hotel, Simon Rasten of NMD said.

"The Denmark Tayern and Hotel, which came up in 1786, was located at the place in Ser-

where the Danes kept their articles," Rasten said.

The tavern was restored with traditional materials like lime and molasses, and a conventional roof-thumping method was used to make it waterproof by a group of skilled masons from Murshidabad and South 24 Parganas districts, conservationist Manish Chakraborti, who had overseen the project, said.

A Danish trust 'Realdania',

supporting philanthropic projects in the fields of architecture and planning, and Department

of Tourism, government of West Bengal, funded the renovation at

a cost of Rs five crore.

NMD architect Flemming
Aalund assisted Chakraborti in

the task, which began in 2016.

The Danish Tavern will now function as a coffee house, with some rooms rented out by the West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation.

Chakraborti said this was the econd Danish-backed conservation project after the nearby St Olav's Church project in Serampore, which was restored in

STATE POLLUTION CONTROL **BOARD SIKKIM DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM DEORALI-737102**

F. No.../SPCB/...

Dated: 28 02 2018

NOTICE

This is for the information that, the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change, GOI has notified the Bio-Medical Waste [Management and Handling] Rules, 2016 which came into effect on 28th March, 2016 and as per the Rule 2 (1), the provision of the Bio-Medical Waste [Management and Handling] Rules, 2016, is applicable to all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose, or handle bio medical waste in any form including hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, dispensaries, veterinary institutions, animal house, pathological laboratories, blood banks, ayush hospitals, clinical establishments, research or educational institutions, health camps, medical or surgical camps, vaccination camps, blood donation camps, first aid rooms of schools, forensic laboratories and research labs are need to obtain authorization from State Pollution Control Board under Rule 10 of the said Rules.

All Bio-medical wastes need to be managed/ treated as per Schedule I and Schedule II of the said rules. Therefore all concerned are hereby informed to comply with the Bio-Medical Waste [Management and Handling] Rules 2016.

For further details contact State Pollution Control Board, Forests Environment and Wildlife Management, Government of Sikkim, Deorali, East Sikkim.

Contact No. 03592- 281015/ 281913

MEMBER SECRETARY, STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD- SIKKIM,
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, ENVIRON-MENT & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM, DEORALI-GANGTOK.

SummitTIMES

Water!

To meet the challenge, engage the young

It is not clear whether the thunder showers that the region has received over the past week have been the Nor'westers or not. Maybe they were Westerly Disturbances bringing down some violent moisture. Irrespective of what they were, the showers have been working wonders for farms parched by the extremely dry Winter that Sikkim experienced this time. A similarly dry spell had also set over most of North India and even the North-East was hard hit since what it received from a late and barely normal monsoon coursed away with the floods, and the dry winter scorched the fields and brought its many hydel projects to sput-tering stops. Of course the fall in demand can also be blamed for some of the sputtering and one needs to only look at the sliver that the Teesta has become to realize the amounts that the reservoirs are holding back thumbing their collective noses at the fiction of "run of the river" model. And this after a normal mon-soon because the Winter stayed without its drizzle right until the end of the season. It goes without saying that if the main rivers [on which hydel projects are developed] are running low, the feeder streams and jhoras and springs on which mountain people rely for drinking and agricultural water supply must also be drying out. The region is thus facing an irrigation and drinking water shortfall along with a power crisis. And all this because the Winter had been so dry that the watersheds replenished by the monsoons could not tide over the dry spell. In that sense, the recent rains have been welcome.

The situation has not been as dire for Sikkim al-

though fields which rely on rains for irrigation have suffered. A possible reason why Sikkim fared better than the rest of the similarly parched regions is perhaps because it retains a better forest cover in comparison to what has happened elsewhere. The nation requires 33 per cent of its land mass to be under forest cover. At present, this cover in the country stands at 23.68%. When one speaks of the Indian landmass, the 10% shortfall in forest cover presents a monumental task, especially when not much is being done to meet this target. Given the national average and targets, some might say that Sikkim need not have undertaken the State Green Mission given the fact that nearly 46% of the State is already under forests. And yet it did and should the Green Mission sustain, the State will be all the richer from the initiative. It is after all the green cover which keeps the watersheds replenished and wet even if the winters are dry. Gangtok, for example, has not suffered a water supply problem. Taps run dry here because of distribution problems, not be-cause the source at Ratey Chu does not have enough water. Few regions are as well naturally provided and sustained as Gangtok and most other parts of Sikkim. The areas which have a supply problem have inherited a traditional challenge or have messed up the sources with poorly planned 'development' projects like roads which have choked up springs with debris or runaway construction which has not planned for supply.

It is possible that readers will notice a surge in

water-related events in the State as the World Water Day [22 March] draws closer, and it would apt to begin discussing water issues now. The timing is perfect as March sits in the cusp of acute shortage [winter] and the problem of plenty [monsoons]. The policy-makers or event managers will be well advised to engage the young in more meaningful discussions on water. Saving them from indoor speeches and taking them out to where water is sourced from would be a good place to begin. That will establish a connection which can be complemented with sessions on how watersheds need to be nurtured and conservation returned as an instinctive habit. This engagement is necessary because if such issues are to be addressed and resolved in the long run, the young need to be involved. And unless the young re-establish a more organic connection with nature, the involvement will not move beyond participating in awareness programmes.

For instance, how many youngsters in Gangtok know where the town gets its water from? Most of those who think they know will say Selep [which is the reservoir, not the source] and only very few of those who know the source to be Ratey Chu would have actually seen it. But take them up to Ratey Chu on an excursion and most of them will return with a clearer appreciation of the need to conserve. More earnest commitments to lifestyle changes to support conservation will then follow..

WRITE US: Readers are invited to comment on, criticise, run down, even appreciate if they like something in this paper. Letters carrying abusive/ indecorous language and personal attacks, except when against people responsible in this newspaper (who are fairgame), 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

The Syrian 'hell on earth' is a tangle of power plays unlikely to end soon

Once again, unfortunate civilians are trapped in the "hell on earth" that the Syrian civil war has become. This time it is the turn of the 400,000 residents of Eastern Ghouta, ten kilometres east of the capital Damascus. Latest reports put civilian casualties at 520 and thousands wounded under the heavy assault launched by President Bashar al-Assad's ground forces supported by Russian air

strikes.
It seems conditions in Syria are getting worse, and there is no end to the conflict.

The end to any violent conflict comes when ei-ther the warring sides realise the devastation they cause and make peace; outside intervention sways the warring parties to end the conflict; or there are clear winners delivering a crushing defeat to their

None of the warring factions seem to care about the devastation of the seven-year civil war. Almost the entire country is rubble – more than 400,000 people have died, there are 5 million Syrian refu-gees and more than 6 million displaced. Unfortu-

and flow that of minior displaced. Onlother nately, the peace option seems highly unlikely.

There had been international intervention through peace initiatives since 2013, when the then US secretary of state, John Kerry, lamented that Syria "heads closer to an abyss, if not over the abyss and into chaos". It was a chemical attack in the state of the sta Eastern Ghouta that prompted the United Nations to pass a resolution in 2013 demanding the destruction of chemical stockpiles and giving impetus to peace talks in Geneva. All efforts to make prog-ress on these talks were continually stalled. The parties failed to meet even as late as 2017, painful-

ye expediting Kerry's apocalyptic prediction.

The Geneva talks were paralleled by a Russian-led peace initiative in Kazakhstan and later in Sochi. These talks could not have been expected to succeed, given that Russia's unconditional and active support of the Assad regime hampered any attempt at brokering a peace deal.

Apart from the vested interests and insincerity,

the biggest stumbling block has been disagreement over who to include in the peace process. The US does not want Assad or Iran involved; Turkey does not want the Kurdish People's Defence Unit (YPG); and Russia does not want any of the jihadist rebel

The sheer number of rebel groups is another issue. In the relatively small area of Eastern Ghou-ta alone, there are three rebel groups, which often bicker with one another.

Since the conflict began in 2011, nearly 200 separate rebel groups have sporadically emerged. Although most of these later merged into larger entities, there are still too many groups. Their inclusion in any peace process has been problematic, because it is unclear who actually represents the Syrian opposition, not to mention the groups' refusal to sit at the same table.

Then there is the thorny issue of ideological and religious differences. Shiite Syrians and a segment of secular Sunni Muslims support the Assad regime, whereas the largest chunk of the rebel groups are Salafi jihadists. The exceptions are the Kurdish YPG and the largely weakened Free Syrian Army.

All along, Assad's regime has been claiming it is fighting IS, Al-Qaeda and other Salafi jihadist groups to keep Syria a modern secular state. Putin is pushing Assad to wipe out these groups, spurred by the deep fear they could mobilise radical Muslim groups within Russia's borders.

The US and Europe are in the cognitive dissonance of wanting neither Assad nor jihadist groups to gain control in Syria. They don't want Assad, but they like his argument of protecting a modern sec-ular Syria. The unspoken preference is for Assad over any Jihadi rebel group

So, the lack of an effective peace intervention and the impossibility of parties sitting down to negotiate leaves only the option of fighting it out until clear victors emerge.

This leaves the Assad regime with a free run

to assert itself as the only feasible and legitimate government in Syria, a possibility that may indeed

This is the strategic line the Assad regime has drawn thick on the ground. It explains why Assad forces have ignored the UN's 30-day ceasefire resolution. Putin's disregard for the resolution, by reducing it to a farcical five-hour window, shows that neither Assad nor Putin wants the rebels to regroup and gain strength. They want a quick and absolute victory, even if it is a bloodbath.

Just as it is almost certain that the rebels o Eastern Ghouta will fall, it is equally certain Assad forces will next intensify the siege of Idlib, a north-eastern city held by the Salafi jihadist rebel group Tahrir al-Sham (HTS). This pattern will continue until all rebel groups are wiped out.

It is unlikely there will be any fighting between

Assad forces and the Kurdish YPG, as that would mean an open confrontation between Russia and the US. After the US supported the YPG, it successfully ended Islamic State's presence in eastern Syria. The US has made it clear it is there to stay, establishing a 30,000-strong border security force as a deterrent against IS regrouping, but more impor-tantly to stop Assad attacking Kurdish regions once he clears the ground of rebel groups in his territory.

The wild card in Syria is Turkey's unpredictable president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. He aims to establish Turkey in northeastern Syria as a third major player along with Russia and the US, by fighting alongside elements of the Free Syrian Army to capture the Kurdish-controlled district of Afrin.

Whether Russia and the US will allow Erdogan to realise his objectives remains to be seen. He may find he is out of his league when things get tough on the ground, forcing him out of Syria.

The Syrian conflict will end only if the Russian-supported Assad regime wipes out all Salafi jihadist rebel groups and regains control of west-ern Syria and its most important cities. This may be before the end of 2018. In the meantime, the international community should be prepared to lament more civilian casualties.

Ithe writer is Associate Professor in Islamic Studies, Director of The Centre for Islamic Studies and Civilisation and Executive Member of Public and Contextu-al Theology, Charles Sturt University]



RUSSELL BONDURIANSKY

theconversation.com

Vouldn't it be wonderful if we could bring back a deceased loved one? Such ideas used to be pure science fiction, but recent advances in biotechnology seem to have brought this possibility within reach (at least for the wealthy).

When American singer-actress Barbra Streisand lost her beloved dog Sammie last year, she decided to have her cloned. She's now raising Miss Scarlet and Miss Violet, both of whom are exact genetic replicas of Sammie. (You'll be glad to know that any pet owner can do the same: for a mere US\$100,000 or so, you too could have a genetic replica of your favourite cat or dog.)

But Miss Scarlett and Miss Violet

almost certainly won't turn out to be identical, mini versions of Sammie.

WELL HELLO DOLLY

Research on cloning started in the 1960s, when British biologist John Gurdon showed that a frog egg's nucleus (which contains the DNA) could be swapped for another nucleus extracted from an intestinal cell, and that such eggs could develop into tad-poles. This technique makes it pos-sible to create individuals that share every single one of the thousands of genes in the original genome. By comparison, you share only about 50% of your genes with your mother.

The same nucleus-swapping technique can be used with mammals. In 1996, Dolly the sheep became the first cloned mammal, and today the technology is available to clone a hu-man being – if we wanted to. But what does it actually mean

to be cloned? And can it bring back

Sammie? Popular culture is permeated by



the belief that the features of a plant or animal (including a human being) are fully determined by its genes. Newspaper articles regularly announce the (often dubious) discovery of a "gene for" some physical feature or personality trait. So it's hardly surprising that the production of exact genetic replicas through cloning is seen as a way to recreate individuals with all their features intact. That's certainly how it works in the movies.

The reality is far more

mplicated.

In a recent interview with Variety, Streisand noted that Miss Scarlet and Miss Violet "have different personalities" and "I'm waiting for them to get older so I can see if they have {Sammie's} brown eyes and her seriousness". Streisand's observations are con-

sistent with evidence that human identical twins (who also share all their genes) often diverge markedly in personality, health and even phys-

SAME GENES, BUT DIFFERENT

How could genetically identical individuals have different features?

The answer is that genes are not the whole story. Scientists have long been aware that environmental factors also play an important role in shaping an individual's development and adult traits. Such developmental plasticity.

Over the past two decades, biologists have learned a great deal about how plasticity works at the molecular and cellular level. It turns out that many features are shaped by epigenetic factors – molecules that are associated with the DNA (examples include methyl-groups and small RNAs), and structural features of chromosomes (such as how tightly the DNA is bound up).

Epigenetic factors function like on/off (or dimmer) switches for genes throughout the genome. Environmental factors, such as diet, stress and even social interactions, can flip those switches.

Some of these environmental ef-

fects can occur in the womb, which is why maternal malnutrition, smok-ing and drinking can have such dire consequences for children. Of course. development after birth is also affected by factors such as diet and interactions with parents, siblings or other

individuals. WE STILL DON'T KNOW A LOT

Intriguingly, there is now a great deal of evidence that some epigenetic factors, and other factors that are also influenced by the environment, can be passed down to children, and sometimes grandchildren and beyond. In other words, some of your traits may be determined by environmental switches that were flipped in your parents' eggs or sperm even before you were conceived, or even flipped in your more remote ancestors. Such nongenetic inheritance is becoming an important area of research in the health sciences as well

as evolutionary ecology.

What this means is that Miss Scarlet and Miss Violet will surely differ from Sammie in many traits, despite having a genome identical to hers. They developed from different eggs (which brings a range of differing factors), were carried inside a different womb to the one Sammie grew in, and were raised by a different moth-er. They had different experiences and social interactions. Their per-sonalities and physical features bear the imprint of all these prenatal and postnatal factors.

So, sad to say, cloning will not bring back Sammie, nor your own beloved pet. But, on the bright side, this also means that all of us, identical twins included, are truly unique and irreproducible individuals.

[the writer is Evolutionary Biologist, UNSW]



Rio has majority, should form govt: Nagaland Guv

KOHIMA, MAR 4 (PTI): Neiphiu Rio has the majority and should form the government, Naga-land Governor P B Acharya said today after a meeting with the NDPP leader, who claimed he has the support of 32 MLAs in the 60-member Assembly.

Acharya said he has asked Rio to submit signatures of all the 32 MLAs supporting him by tomorrow.

A senior leader of

the Nationalist Demo-cratic Progressive Party (NDPP), an ally of the BJP, said Rio, in his meet-ing with the Governor, staked claim to form the government in Nagaland saying he has the support of 32 MLAs.

Rio has the majority and should form the government, Acharya said

after the meeting.

The NDPP and the BIP have won 18 and 12 seats respectively while the lone JD(U) MLA G Kaito Aye and Indepen-dent legislator Tongpang Ozukum were backing the alliance, NDPP secre tary general Abu Metha

Rio met the governor along with NDPP pres-ident Chingwang Konyak, BJP state president Visasolie Lhoungu, the JD(U) MLA and the Inndent legislator, he

Rio is a three-time chief minister of the

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BJP, ally confident of forming govt in Nagaland

The BJP and its pre-poll ally in Nagaland, the Na-tionalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP), today exuded confidence that they would be able to form a stable government in the state as the num-bers were on their side.

BJP general secretary Ram Madhav said the pre-poll allies have got a near simple majority" in the 60-member assembly while NDPP leader and three-time chief minister Neiphiu Rio said he was confident that their alli-



ance will form the next government in Nagaland.

'We are in a comfortable position to form the next government. The NDPP-BJP alliance has secured near simple majority in Nagaland. We

have the support of one independent and one JD(U) MLAs which takes us to 32 seats," Madhav told reporters here.

The BJP leader said

the NDPP-BJP alliance

the government in next few days. Rio said the alliance is

in a comfortable position to form the government. Highlighting the alli-

ances' priorities when it forms the government, Rio said they have two top pri-orities -- resolution of the Naga political issue as soon as possible and all-round development of Nagaland.

"We want a solution to the Naga political issue as early as possible and the second is the development aspect like road,

In the 60-member as sembly, the NDPP bagged 16 seats, the BJP 11 and leading in one seat, the National People's Party got two seats, the JD-U and

Independent one each.
The Naga Peoples
Front (NPF), which was a BJP ally but parted ways before the assembly elec-tions, bagged 27 seats. NPF leader and out-

ing Chief Minister TR Zeliang, however, has expressed interest in join-ing hands with the BJP to form the government.

Now, even Zeliang stakes claim to form govt in Nagaland

KOHIMA, MAR 4 (PTI): The issue of government formation in Nagaland took a new turn today with both NDPP leader Neiphiu Rio and outgoing Chief Minister TR Zeliang of the NPF staking claim to form the government with the support of a ma-jority of the MLAs in the 60-member Assembly.

State Governor Acharya gave both the leaders 48 hours time to submit the signatures of the MLAs supporting

Earlier in the day, the vernor said the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) leader Rio, who claimed the support of 32 MLAs, had the majority and should form the government.

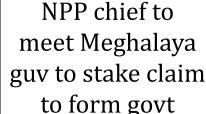
After meeting Zeliang, Acharya told reporters that Rio and Zeliang have claimed to have majority support, but "I have not invited anyone to form the government as of now. I have given them 48 hours time to submit the signatures of the elected members supporting them".

"As the constitutional head, my duty is to see who has the majority and call him to form the new government. Whoever government. Whoever brings the signatures of more than 30 elected members I will accept," he said as the political situation in the state became fluid.

Acharya had earlier said he asked Rio to sub-mit signatures of all the 32 MLAs supporting him

by tomorrow.

The NDPP and the
BJP won 18 and 12 seats respectively while the lone JD(U) MLA G Kaito Aye and Independent legislator Tongpang Ozukum were backing the alliance, NDPP secretary general Abu Metha said.



SHILLONG, MAR 4 (PTI): National People's Party (NPP) president Conrad K Sangma will meet Governor Ganga Prasad this evening to stake claim to form a coalition government in Megha-laya, a UDP leader said.

The coalition -Regional Democratic Alliance (RDA) --comprises the NPP, the United Democratic Party (UDP), Hill State People's Democratic Party (HSPDP) and the BJP.

UDP president and RDA chairman Donk-upar Roy told reporters here that his party has agreed to lend support to the NPP, which secured 19 seats in the Assembly polls, on the condition that Conrad Sangma will be the chief minister once the NPP-led alliance

forms the government. "Conrad Sangma has agreed to the condition and we will form a stable government.

The BJP will be a part of the government here," Roy told reporters after a party meeting. The alliance has the

upport of 29 MLAs 19 of the NPP, six of the UDP, two of the HSPDP and BJP's two, he said.

The RDA with 29 MLAs is quite a good number in the House. We will meet the governor to stake claim to form the government," he said.

The UDP chief said that Mukul Sangma also met him and offered

sis between his party and the Congress.
"We have reject-

ed this proposal and decided to form a non-Congress government instead," he said.

Meghalaya threw up a fractured mandate vesterday with the ruling Congress emerging as the largest party, marginally ahead of its rival, the NPP, an ally of the BJP at the Centre and in Manipur.

The Congress bagged 21 seats in the 60-mem-ber Assembly, eight less than the last elections.

The BJP, which drew a blank in the last elections, got two seats. The UDP won six seats while its alliance partner the HSPDP won two seats.

The People's Democratic Front (PDF) bagged four seats, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Khun Hynniewtrep National Awakening Movement (KHNAM) and three Independents got one seat each

Polling for the 59 seats of the 60-member Assembly in Meghalaya was held on February 27. A Nationalist Congress Party candidate was killed in an IED blast, which resulted in countermanding of polls in one seat.

Outgoing Chief Minister Mukul Sangma had contested and won the elections from two seats.

Cong leaders meet Meghalaya guv, stake claim to form govt

emerging as the single largest party in Meghalaya, the Congress staked a claim to form a government in the state at a meeting with Governor Ganga Prasad, officials and party leaders said today.

A delegation of three Congress leaders -- Kamal Nath, Ahmed Patel and CP Joshi -- met the governor at 7 pm last night, they said.
"We met the Governor and

sought his invitation to the single largest party to be called first to form the government as per convention," former Union minister Nath told PTI.

The Congress won 21 seats out the 59 that went to polls last month. The party is 10 seats short of a simple majority.

After heavy losses in Tripura and Nagaland, Nath, Patel and Joshi reached Meghalaya from Delhi in a bid to form a government, party sources said.

The Congress has been in pow



er in the state for the last 10 years

Meghalaya Congress work-ing president Vincent H Pala expressed confidence that regional parties such as the United Demo-cratic Party, which won six seats, and the People's Democratic Front. which bagged four, will join the

"We are in talks. We hope that they will join us," Pala said.

The National People's Party

in Manipur, the BJP, together won 21 seats, though they contested independently. The BIP has also sent its lead-

from Assam, HB Sarma, to the Meghalaya capital to help the ally form a government.

We can only help the NPP and encourage the regional parties to form a government," Sarma told reporters yesterday.



Manik Sarkar resigns as Tripura CM

AGARTALA, MAR 4 (PTI): Outgoing Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar submitted his resignation to Governor Tathagata Roy here today, a day after the CPI(M)-led Left Front was dethroned by the BJP-IPFT coalition after nearly 25 years in power.

The governor advised Sarkar,

who was chief minister since 1998, to continue until the new chief minister takes oath.

Coming out of the Raj Bhavan,

Sarkar told reporters that he and his ministers would not have been able to run the government for so many years unless the people and the employees extended their cooperation to them.

He expressed gratitude to the people of the state and the staff members of the state administra-

The BJP-IPFT combine scripted history yesterday by winning the Tripura Assembly polls with a twothird majority, ending 25 years of uninterrupted rule of the CPI(M)led Left Front in the northeastern

The BIP and the Indigenous People s Front of Tripura (IPFT) won 43 seats and the CPI(M) won

Election on 59 seats of the 60-member assembly was held on February 18. Polling was countermanded in one seat due to death of a CPI(M) candidate.

BJP continues to expand footprints across India



With the BJP toppling the Left in Tripura and likely to be a part of ruling alliances in Nagaland and Meghalaya, the party is set to lead or be a partner in 21 of India's 31 state governments, underlin-ing a saffron dominance of the national political map like no What is more telling is that

the main opposition party, the Congress, is in power in only four states - its lowest-ever tally - and that include Mizoram and Puducherry.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah had yesterday picked Karnataka - the only Congress-ruled state which sends 20 or more MPs to the Lok Sabha - as their next target, with Modi asserting that the opposition party will not be in power following elections there, likely in April-

May.

The BJP has had a specmoder Modi and tacular rise under Modi and Shah in the last four years as the tally of states ruled by it before it stormed to power at the Centre in May 2014 has risen from seven to 21. It will have 17 chief ministers after elected legislature party leader takes oath in Tripura.

The states ruled alone or in alliance by the BJP include Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana,

Rajasthan, Gujarat, Bihar, Goa and Maharashtra.

With the next Lok Sabha

elections barely a year away, BJP leaders have underlined the significance of its performance in the three northeast states, with Shah claiming that it is an indication of the verdict expected not only in Kar-nataka Assembly but also the next parliamentary polls.

The timing of its unprecedented performance in of Tripura, where it will form its maiden government, and Nagaland, where it has for the first time won 12 seats, has also come handy for it at a time when opposition parties have sought to corner it over a host of issues, including bank ing scams and perceived farm

BIP sources said the energy and motivation which the Congress might have drawn from its strong fight against their party in Gujarat and its win in recent bypolls will dissipate and the message to its cadre and the masses is that people continue to back Modi and his party.

Shah had yesterday pointed out that in three recent state polls, including Gujaarat, Himachal Pradesh and Tripura, his party has received close to 50 per cent of votes which underscored its popular ap-



Removal of two-term limit for Xi important to uphold CPC unity: China

BEIJING, MAR 4 (PTI): China today defended its move to remove the two term limit for President Xi Jinping, saving it is important to uphold the au-thority of the ruling Communist Party and unity of

the state leadership.
The Communist Party of China's Central Committee has proposed to remove the two-term limit for the post of president and vice president through a constitutional amendment.

The proposal sparked off concern and speculation at home and abroad that Xi, heading the CPC and military besides the presidency, who recent-ly began his second fiveyear term would continue for an unprecedented third term and beyond, wielding unquestionable power exercised by the party founder, Mao Zedong, in the heydays of

China's revolution.

Explaining for the first time why the CPC opted for such a move, spokesman of the National People's Congress Zhang Yesui told media here that the president has the term-limit while there was no term limits for head of the party and the military.

Well according to the constitution of the CPC there is no such provision that there shall be no more than two successive terms for the General Secretary or Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) in the constitution of the China.

The CMC is the overall high command of the 2.3 million strong Chinese military.

Rizvi wins gold; bronze for Jitu, Mehuli in India's strong showing

New Delhi, Mar 4 (PTI Unheralded Indian shoots Shahzar Rizvi clinched the gold medal with a world record score in a memorable maiden ISSF World Cup appearance, while Jitu Rai and Mehuli Ghosh bagged a bronze each in Guadalajara, Mexico. The Meerut-based Rizvi

shot a world record 242.3 in the 10m air pistol event's final to beat reigning Olympic champion Christian Reitz of Germany, 239.7, to win the top prize.

Pistol ace Rai won the bronze in the event with a score of 219, as three Indians made it to the finals of the season's first World Cup.

Om Prakash Mitharval, the other Indian shooter in the event, finished at creditable fourth position with a score of

198.4 points.

Mehuli, also a senior
World Cup debutant, added to India's medal tally as she shot a world junior record 228.4 to win bronze in the women's 10m air rifle event.
In this women's event too,

three Indian shooters progressed to the final.

Anjum Moudgil finished at fourth position with 208.6



points, while Apurvi Chandela seventh in the standings with 144.1 points.

India had a fruitful opening day in the competition as they won three medals - a gold and two bronze.

Shahzar finished second in the qualifying, behind Reitz, shooting 579 to the German's 588 after 60-shots.

was one behind with 578, while 0m Prakash shot 576 to qualify in fourth place

While Jitu and Om Prakash maintained their positions at the end of the finals, Shahzar turned the tables on Reitz in style, staying ahead of the classy German throughout the length of the 24-shot final.

In the women s 10m air rifle final, Mehuli and Anjum were in medal contention from the beginning, and after a sea-saw battle between the two a 9.9 on the 17th shot position with a score of 208.6.

Mehuli won bronze while China s Hong Xu won silver with 251.0.

Romania s Laura Georgeta Coman, who won gold in the Munich World Cup last year and a silver at the World Cup Finals, came up with a classy display, leading throughout to win the gold medal with 251.5.

National Rifle Association of India (NIRAL) precident Page 1

of India (NRAI) president Ra-ninder Singh lauded the efforts of his shooters.

"I am thrilled that our faith in youngsters are giving results. This was a stupendous performance particularly from Shahzar as not only did he win gold in his first senior World Cup, but did so with a world record score.

'Mehuli also needs to be equally nodded as she is still a junior and to come up with a junior world record and a medal on debut at a senior World Cup is no mean feat," Raninder said.

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

South Korea to send envoys to North on Monday

SEOUL, MAR 4 (AFP): South Korean President Moon Jae-in will send a team of special envoys -- including Seoul's spy chief -- to the North to-morrow to push for talks Washington and Pyongyang on nucle-

ar weapons. The delegation, announced by Moon's office on Sunday, is the latest chapter in a remarkable Olympics-driven detente

between the two Koreas.

An intense rap-prochement saw the two foes march together at the South's Pyeongchang Winter Olympics that ended February 25, with the North's leader Kim Jong Un sending his sister as a special envoy to the event.

Kim Yo Jong's appearance at the Games' opening ceremony made glob-al headlines, marking the first visit to the South by a member of the Kim family since the end of



Moon has sought to Pyeongchang Games to open dialogue between the US and the North in the hopes of easing a nuclear standoff that has heightened fears over global security.

He chose five top officials -- including top national security advisor Chung Eui-yong and spy chief Suh Hoon -- to visit Pyongyang on Monday, Moon's spokesman said.

"The special delegates will have extensive discussions over issues including creating conditions for North-US talks to denuclearise the Korean peninsutold reporters.

group -- five top delegates and five support-ing officials -- would fly to the North's capital Pyongyang tomorrow af-ternoon before returning on Tuesday. Yoon said.

The delegation will then fly to the US to explain the result of the talks to officials in Washington, he added. Suh is a veteran in

dealings with the North. He is known to have been deeply involved in negotiations to arrange two previous inter-Korea summits in 2000 and

erished North staged its most powerful nuclear test and test-fired multi-ple missiles last year, including some capable of hitting the US mainland, in defiance of UN sanctions.

The North's leader Kim and US President Donald Trump have also traded threats of war and personal insults, sending tensions soaring.

Moon, who advocates dialogue with the nucle ar-armed regime, said last week that Washing-ton needs to "lower the threshold for talks" with Pyongyang.
But the US has ruled

out any possibility of talks before the North takes steps towards denuclearisation, and imposed what Trump hailed as the "toughest ever" sanctions on Kim's

regime late last month. On Saturday, a foreign ministry spokesman in Pyongyang called on the US drop any preconditions for talks.

Hope to do well in All England Championships, CWG: Sindhu

(PTI): Badminton ace PV Sindhu today said that she aimed for the top spot in the sport and expressed hope that she would do well in the Forthcoming All England Badminton Champion-ships and the Commonwealth Games.

"The upcoming tour-nament is the All England Championships. So, I hope I do well. There are many tour-naments, So I just hope that I give my best and play my game," the Rio Olympic silver medallist told PTI here. The All England Bad-

minton Championships start on March 14.

Replying to a query on the Commonwealth Games, Sindhu said, "It's not going to be easy. I definitely should work hard for it and I hope I just give my best. Be-



have to play each and every match and give a 100 The Commonwealth

Games begin in Austra-lia's Gold Coast from April 4. Sindhu had won a bronze in the previous edition held in Glasgow, Scotland.

She said that her preparations were going on well and the plan was to take it "one tourna-ment at a time". "Preparation-wise ev-

It is just one tournament at a time. Next is the All England Championships so I hope to do well," the

22-year-old said. Sindhu, who had achieved a career-high global ranking of num-ber 2, had last week said that her dream was to reach the top spot. "Now World No.1 and definitely it's in progress. I want to see myself there," she

Shubhankar on brink of history at WGC, leads star-studded field

MEXICO CITY, MAR 4 (PTI): Shubhankar Sharma upstaged the biggest names in golf by bravely maintaining his overnight two-shot lead following the third round of the USD 10 million World Golf Championships here, venturing into a territory hitherto unknown to In-

dian golfers.

The 21-year-old became the first Indian to hold a 54-hole lead in a World Golf Championship, as he added a grinding two-under 69 to move to 13-under.

Shubhankar, with three birdies against one bogey on the front nine, was four shots clear at one stage. He later had two each of birdies and bogeys but made some great saves, including one on 18th.

He is two ahead of some of the biggest names in contemporary golf on a crowded leaderboard.

The top-10 after three rounds are separated by four shots and they include four Major winners
-- Phil Mickelson (65) and Sergio Garcia (69) at T-2, Dustin Johnson (68) at T-6 and at Tied-10th is Justin Thomas, who was on fire with a record-breaking 9-under 62 at the

Club de Golf Chapultepec. In the morning five-time Majo winner and Hall of famer, Mickelson, initially mistook him for a fan or a journalist and waved Shub hankar off at the practice green



before the start of the third round, thinking he was a member of the

Mickleson soon realised his error, apologised and wished as he went to the first tee for the start of

The best position for an Indian at a WGC was Tied-1st for Jeev Milkha Singh after the first round at WGC at Doral in 2009 and at the same event, Jeev was T-9 after second round, T-3 after three rounds and eventually finished T-4, the best-ever for an Indian. The winner was Mickelson.

Arjun Atwal, in 2010, carried 3-shot lead into the final round of the Wyndham Championships, which he won by one shot, and more recently Anirban Lahiri carried a four-shot lead into the final round of the 2016 CIMB Classic, but dropped to Tied-third at the

While Shubhankar at 21 years and seven months is the youngest in the field, Mickelson stands at at 41 years and eight months. It is

not just Mickelson who is in hot pursuit, but a whole lot of others.

On his brief encounter with

Mickelson before the round, Shubhankar said, "To be honest, me and my caddie Baaz, we both went up to him. He thought we were media and he said, 'Not right now, after the round'.

"Then he just realised and said. 'So sorry, I thought you were me-dia', and he said 'hi', I said hi. Then he made a few putts and he came back to me and said, 'Have a good day'. It was nice.'

Shubhankar, who was born five years after Mickelson turned pro, has been enjoying himself in the company of super stars. He said, "For me, it's actually

almost like watching TV. I was telling to Baaz, who's on my bag there, watching all of these guys on the range, it just seems like there's a TV in front of me and I'm watching them through the TV.

"Obviously the broadcasts these days are so clear in high definition, it just feels so unreal just watching them right in front of you. It just feels like there's a TV in front of me and I'm actually watching it through a TV.

"But yeah, it's great just to

see the way some of the guys like Dustin strike the ball. I think it just pushes guys like me to play even

He added that he remembered all Majors and finishes because he had watched them on TV in the middle of the night in India

"Yeah (we watched till) , 4:00 or 5:00, 6:00 sometimes. Mostly (it was with) my dad. Mom as well. But yeah, dad and me are very passionate about it. I remember all the majors pretty much by heart and pretty much all the shots, and I remember Phil winning in 2013 and the shot on the 13th was just "The best I think was when Rory won the U.S. Open. It went on until 6:00 in the morning back home. I remember I was so in-spired that I didn't sleep, I just went straight to the range and hit balls for two hours."

Keeping calm, a trait he picked from his father, Col M L Sharma, an Army man, who gave him all his time in the growing years, Shubhankar showed little emotion even while chatting with his caddie, Gurbaaz, on the course.

But the 11-12 footer on the 18th for par did see him heave a sigh of relief and a fist pump.

"It was very important. Obviously Rafa had a birdie putt and could have been a two-shot swing. I think I got a bit unlucky on the second shot. Right before my shot we checked the wind and it was still."

In Mexico players have to adjust for the higher altitude which makes ball travel almost 15 percent more and then there is distance to be adjusted for uphill layout.

Shubhankar could potentially have a career-changing win with the winner's cheque worth USD 1.7 million, an exemption onto the PGA TOUR through the 2020-21 season, 550 FedExCup points and starts in almost every major cham-pionship including THE PLAYERS Championship this season.

Man fatally shoots himself near White House

WASHINGTON. MAR 4 (PTI): A white man fatally shot himself in the head on the crowded pedestrian directly in front of the White House, the Secret Service said today, sparking panic and send-ing the parts of the US capital into lockdown.

President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump were in Florida at the time of the incident which took place yesterday when the man, standing in a crowd of more than 100 people near the White House, shot himself.

The man approached the fence line, removed a concealed handgun and fired several rounds, none of which appear to have been aimed at the White House, a Secret Service said. spokesperson

The shooter shot his phone before shooting himself. No suicide note was found, but incoherent sentences were found in a book recovered on

the scene, CNN reported.
"None of these shots appear to have been directed towards the White House," the Secret Service said.

The Secret Service also tweeted that pe-destrian and vehicular traffic around the White House was affected by the incident.

No other persons were injured.

The Washington DC

Metropolitan Police De-partment is the lead investigative organisation for this shooting. supported by the Secre Service Washington Field Office and other law enforcement organisations

Italy votes in uncertain election stalked by populism

Rome, Mar 4 (AFP): Italians began voting today in one of the country's most uncertain elections ever, with far-right and populist parties expected to make major gains and Silvio Berlusconi set to play a leading role.

Clashes between farright and anti-fascist activists have marred a gloomy campaign dominated by fears about immigration and economic malaise.

"It's been a very negative campaign," said Domenico Coricelli, a 28-year-old in Florence.

Many Italians are cyni-cal about election promises made by the country's many squabbling parties and confused about what the outcome might be.

"We hope something will change because until now things have been very bad," said Enzo Gallo, an elderly shopper at a street market in Milan.

"The middle class no longer exists, the poor are becoming poorer, the rich are becoming richer and there is no social justice," he told AFP.

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China 'won't sit idly by' if US harms trade: official

BEIJING, MAR 4 (PTI): China will not "sit idly by if the US tries to hurt its economic interests, a top official said today, after President Donald Trump sparked trade tensions between the world's two economies announcing plans to impose hefty tariffs on steel and aluminium imports.

Zhang Yesui, spokesman of China's Parlia ment, the National Peos Congress (NPC), said China does not want a trade war with the US but would take necessary measures if America's move impacts its economic interests.

His comments came amid growing China-US discord over Trump's announcement of in-creasing tariffs over US imports of steel and alu-

Trump said the hefty tariffs aim to protect do-mestic industry as well as to counter persistent threats posed by Chinese

'China does not want a trade war with the US but if the US takes actions that hurts China's interests then China will



not sit idly and take necessary measures," Zhang said.

China has the lion's share of over USD 580 billion in bilateral trade with the US. The trade deficit for the US amounted to over USD

370 billion last year. Since he took over power, Trump has been pressuring China to step up measures to reduce trade deficit and expand US exports and invest-ments. China signed ments. China signed trade deals worth about USD 250 billion, including buying 300 planes from Boeing, during Trump's visit here last

China also opened its

markets to import sova beans, beef and oil from

Early this week, Beijing rushed its top diplo-mat Yang Jiechi followed by Chinese President Xi Jinping's economic advisor Liu He to the US to pacify the Trump administration to avert a "trade war" between the two countries.

Referring to the ongo-ing talks, Zhang said for the past couple of days, China and the US had consultations over the trade issues and agreed to hold the talks in Beijing to deepen the bilateral cooperation.
"China-US relations is

one the most important

bilateral relationships in the world. A stable and growing relationship will not only serve the fundamental interests of both the peoples and it is also the what the international community wants to see," Zhang, a former

He said the right approach to address the trade issue is to open the market to each other and work together to find solutions acceptable through talks.

Chinese Ambassador to

US, said.

Stating that the US-China ties in the last 39 years benefited both the countries, Zhang said China and the US have different political systems, history and development stage.

"So we don't see eve to eye on every issue a that is only natural. such differences need not necessarily lead to confor mation between that two

countries," he said.

It is important for both sides to perceive each other's strategic intentions correctly and with a fair mind and keep to the right direction of the China US relations, he said.

"Policies informed by misjudgement or wrong presumption will hurt the relations and bring about the consequences neither side want to see." he cautioned. China stands ready

to work with the US to follow through on the consensus of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Trump during the US President's visit to Beijing last year and work with mutual respect and increase strategic mutual trust, avoid strategic misjudgement and focus mu-tual beneficial cooperation and propel handle differences so as to keep China us ties on the right track, he said.

Lanka missing persons office under fire from oppn party

COLOMBO, MAR 4 (PTI): Sri Lanka's office of missing persons has come under fire from the nationalist party backed by former President Mahin-da Rajapaksa, alleging that some of its members have campaigned in fa-vour of the LTTE.

The Office of Missing Persons (OMP) aims to bring in reparations to the victims of the nearly three-decade long armed conflict in the country.
"This is nothing but

a mechanism to try war heroes (soldiers who defeated the LTTE)," Udaya Gammanpila, a leading Joint Opposition sup-porter said today.

He said that President Maithripala Sirisena who pledged not to go ahead with the OMP had buckled under pressure from the West and the UN Human Rights Commissioner Zeid Raad Al Hussein.

Last week, Sirisena appointed seven mem-bers to a special office set up for determining the status of all persons who went "missing" during the decade-long civil war against the LTTE.

Under the Chairmanship of Saliya Peiris, a leading legal luminary, the Commissioners comprise of two members from the Tamil minority and a Muslim.

"Look at their names, they are all charac-ters from the dubious non-governmental ganisations who have never raised their voices against the LTTE terror-Sarath Weerasekera, a former legislator said

campaigned for the LTTE against the state," Weer-

asekera added.

The OMP is expected to bring solace to the tens of thousands of relative of the missing due to armed conflicts both in the south and the north of the country.

The government leg-islator Ajith Mannapperuma rubbished the accusation that OMP would lead to persecuting the members of the military.



Polls have opened in Italy for a national election that is as hard to predict as it is important, with up to 10 million voters said still to be undecided. In a fractured and polarised political landscape, Italians will choose from numerous political parties; some centrist, some anti-establishment, some extreme and with a new, untested electoral system.

Hindu woman elected to Pak's senate in historic first: report

KARACHI, MAR 4 (PTI): Kirshna Kumari Kolhi from Pakistan's Sindh province has become the first-ever Hindu Dal-it woman Senator in the Muslim-majority country, the Pakistan People's Party has said.

Kolhi, 39, from Thar is a member of Bilawal Bhu-tto Zardari-led Pakistan People s Party (PPP).

She was elected Sen-

ator on a minority seat from Sindh. The PPP awarded her the Senate ticket, it said.

Her election represents a major milestone for women and minority rights in Pakistan.



Earlier, PPP had elect-Hindu named Ratna Bhagwandas Chawla as a senator.

Kolhi belongs to a remote village in Nagarparkar district of Thar in Sindh province.

Born to a poor peasant, Jugno Kolhi, in February 1979, Kolhi and her family members spent nearly three years NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

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in a private jail owned by landlord of Kunri of Umerkot district. She was a grade 3 student at the time when held captive.

She was married to Lalchand at the age of 16, when she was studying in 9th grade. However, she pursued her studies and in 2013 she did masters in sociology from the

Sindh University.

She had joined the PPP as a social activist along with her brother, who was later elected as Chairman of Union Council Berano

Kolhi also actively participated and worked for the rights of downtrodden people of marginalised communities living in Thar and other areas.

She is from the family of the valiant freedom fighter Rooplo Kolhi, who had waged a war against the invading British colonialist forces when they had attacked Sindh from Nagarparkar side in 1857. Subsequently, he was arrested and hanged by the Britishers on August 22, 1858.

Pakistan's ruling PML-N of ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif yesterday won 15 seats in Senate and became the largest party in the upper house of Parliament, according to the provisional results.

Provincial and federal lawmakers voted to elect 52 Senators in the Senate elections, according to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

Twelve seats each from Punjab and Sindh, 11 each from Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, four from tribal region and two from federal capital territory were up for grab due to retirement of 52 senators this month.

More than 130 candidates, including those nominated by political parties and independent candidates were in the

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Gigi Hadid and Bella Hadid look like they've stepped out of an Austin Powers film with their

PHARRELL WILLIAMS **CELEBRATES FIRST HOLI IN INDIA** WITH RANVEER SINGH



conic American musician Pharrell Williams conic American musician Pharteil Williams celebrated his first ever Holi, along with Bollywood superstar Ranveer Singh on Friday in Mumbai. The party was organised by the sportswear company Adidas, whereas Pharrell visited the city to unveil the Adidas Originals this Holi' collection special range of powder-dyed apparel and sneakers in pastel shades.

All the guests and host played with dry colours and flower petals on the open ground of Taj Land Ends, located in Bandra. Many pretty

faces like UJ Anusha Dandekar, Celebrity chef Sarah Todd, Mini Mathur along with her two kids among others were present at the party. Dressed in the white kurta and animal printed pants and white sports shoes, the multi Grammy Award winner Pharrell reportedly had a great time with the host Ranveer as they danced on many Bollywood songs and Punjabi dance numbers including "Malh-aria, "Dil Dhaddakne Do", "Subha Hone Na De", "Mundian To Bach Ke", "Khalibali", "Ainvayi Ainvayi" among many others.

TAURUS: As the world economy TAURUS: As the world economy continues to boom, Taurus, don't be surprised if you're surrounded by new work possibilities. More than one chance to increase your income could come your way today. The problem will be wading through all these opportunities and trying to decide which is the most appealing and workable for

avenues to explore today. New friends could come your way, and your romantic situation should your romantic situation should intensify. Expect some exciting discussions and the opportunity to learn more about the professions and personalities of the people around you.

CANCER: One or more exciting new people could come into your life today, perhaps through friends or group activities of some kind. They might actually visit

you in your home. Expect to be

of errands in your neighborhood, visits. A lot of letters and phone

could be tempted to take them all on. Think about this carefully all on. Think about this carefully before you commit, Virgo. You're feeling energetic today, but that could flag on future days. Con-sider the situation honestly and objectively before making any firm decisions. You don't want to repret it later.

Dec 2017.

SCORPIO: Today, Scorpio, a sub-ject that particularly interests you could cause you to delve into obscure sources to shed more light on it. Your intuition should help, but today you're more inclined to search for solid evidence. You might find what you seek in an unusual place and in an unconventional way. You might want to carry a notebook and pen with you today, even if

ward cherished career and other goals. Love matters may come to the forefront, Sagittarius. If you're currently involved, unexpected events could bring you that much closer to your partner. If you aren't involved, you could meet someone exciting, perhaps

through some kind of group activ-

through some kind of group activities. Also, a longtime friend could suddenly appear to you in a new light. Whichever it is, expect some interesting developments.

CAPRICORN: A lot of effort, energy, and enthusiasm that you've put into various business or personal projects in the past could finally pay off today. Don't be surprised if you receive some unsurprised if you receive some unexpected praise or acknowledgement for your work. Friends and your special someone are likely your special someone are likely to be very proud of you for this, Capricorn, so don't be surprised if you receive a lot of compliments and congratulations. Go out and celebrate tonight!

AQUARIUS: Unexpected communications from people far away could open up new opportunities regarding career, education, travel, or other broadening ex-

a mother or a wife. She was the ultimate and the best in all these roles. It mattered a great deal to her to give love and to get love. For people to be good and gracious and kind. She didn't understand frustration or malice or jealousy. So let's be that. Let's be full of only good and give only love. That would make her happy, to know that even in death, she gave you all something. The courage and inspiration to fill yourselves with nothing but love and rid yourselves of bitterness in any way and form. That's what she stood for. Dignity, strength and innocence. Thank you for the love and support everyone has shown us in the past couple

would mean the world not only to my mother but also to a man who's entire being revolved around her, and

her two children who are all that remains of their love.

Me and Khushi have lost our mother but papa has lost his "Jaan". She was so much

more than just an actor or

of days. It's given us hope and strength and we can't thank you all enough."

JANHVI KAPOOR WRITES A NOTE ON LOSING MOM SRIDEVI ON HER BIRTHDAY

It was just last week when Bollywood lost one of its biggest superstars of all time

- Sridevi. The actress passed away in Dubai on February 24 due to accidental drowning in a bathtub. As the nation mourns the death of the superstar, it's her daughter Janhvi Kapoor who for the first time has spoken about her mother's untimely demise and wrote an emotional note for her. Janhvi was known to be extremely close to Sridevi. In her last interview with Filmfare, Sridevi even mentioned that Janhvi is closer to her and her other daughter Khushi is close to husband Boney Kapoor. Remembering her mom,

Janhvi wrote, "There's is a gnawing hollowness in my chest that I know I'll have to learn how to live with. Even with all this emptiness, I still feel your love. I feel you are protecting me from sadness and pain. Every time I close my eyes, I only have good things to remember." She further added, "On my birthday, the only thing I ask of all of you is that you love your parents. Cherish

SHAH RUKH KHAN BECOMES

THE SECOND MOST SEARCHED

STAR ON WIKIPEDIA



them and devote yourself to making them feel that love. They have made you. And I ask that you remember my mother fondly, pray for her soul to rest in peace. Let the love and adulation you'll showered on her continue and please know that the biggest part of my moth-er was the love she shared

with papa. And their love is immortal because there was nothing like it in the whole world. Nothing as joyful and pure and no two people as devoted to one another as they were. Please respect that because it hurts to think anyone would ever try to tarnish it. Preserving the sanctity of what they had



KYLIE JENNER SHARES FIRST PHOTO OF **BABY STORMI'S FACE**

Kylie Jenner posted on her Snapchat on Saturday a video showing a close-up of her baby girl Stormi Webster, marking the clearest image of the child's face ever seen publicly. In the clip, the infant sports dark brown hair and eyes, sucks on a purple pacifi-er and wears a white top with mittens and a furry hood. Kylie adorned her head with a fire emoji filter and wrote, "My pretty girl."

The 20-year-old Keeping
With the Kardashians and social media star gave birth to her daughter, her Travis Scott's first child, last month.

The rapper posted a screenshot of Kylie's video of the baby on his Instagram page on Saturday, writing, "Our little rager!!!!"

Earlier on Instagram Sto-

baby Adidas tracksuits the company had sent over as gifts for Stormi.Over the past few weeks, Kylie has posted a few pics of the child and also said that Stormi "looks just like me when I was a baby."

Five days after giving birth, Kylie revealed her baby's name via an Instagram photo, which shows part of the child's face, which is not in focus.

Last weekend, the reality star posted her first image of Stormi on Snapchat: a closeup video showing her hold-ing the baby's foot.

This past Thursday, Kylie posted on Instagram a photo of her holding her daughter, whose face is seen from the side and is whose head is partially covered by a hood

periences. As a result, Aquarius, new friendships could develop, as well as new ideas and possibly as well as new ideas and possibly exciting new goals. Modern tech-nology could play a major role in this development. A trip by air could be on the horizon, proba-bly to a place you've never been

PISCES: Career and business continue to play a powerful role in your life now, as new ideas, new people, and considerations as mundane as modern equip-ment open up new doors for you, Pisces. In addition, roman-tic involvements could intensify. tic involvements could intensify. If you're currently committed to someone, expect to grow closer. If you're involved but not exclusive, a proposal could be on the horizon. If you aren't involved, don't be surprised if you meet someone new and exciting. someone new and exciting

ARIES: Sudden changes in your romantic situation could occur toromantic situation could occur to-day, Aries. If you're currently com-mitted to someone, expect some surprising propositions from your partner. If you're involved but not committed, a marriage proposal might be in the picture. If you ar-en't currently involved, you could meet someone new and exciting under unusual circumstances. Make sure you look your best to-Make sure you look your best today, even if you're only running n to the supermarket!

you. List your options and outline the pros and cons of each. Writing things down can sometimes make them clearer.

them clearer.

GEMINI: You should be feeling especially creative at this time. Social events could put you in touch with some exciting new people, Gemini. Contact with those in interesting professions could open up new personal and intellectual avenues to explore today. New

you in your home. Expect to be inspired and motivated by your contact with these people and others, Cancer, and to have a lot of new possibilities for your future running through your head. You might also begin to contemplate a move. Enjoy your day.

LEO: Today is likely to prove very busy, Leo, and full of interesting, unusual developments. You might find yourself having to run a lot of errands in your neighborhood,

perhaps also making a few short intensify. Expect some exciting visits. A lot of letters and phone discussions and the opportunity calls, some with intriguing news, to learn more about the professions and personalities of the people around you.

CANCER: One or more exciting new people could come into your life today, perhaps through friends or group activities of some kind. They might actually visit visits. A lot of letters and phone wists. A lot of letters and phone discussions wists. A lot of letters and phone wists. A lot of letters and wists. A lot of lett

might be more than one, and you

Who's currently busy shooting for Aanand L Rai's

knows how to win hearts and those oh so good looks have given him another great spot. The 52-year-old actor has

now officially become the

second most searched celeb-

rity on Wikipedia beating in-

ternational star - Tom Cruise.

The first position is held by

Kim Kardashian. Meanwhile,

speaking of Zero, the film

regret it later. **LIBRA:** Paperwork regarding financial matters may need to be executed at some point today, Libra. You're in the mood for some bra. You're in the mood for some adventure, perhaps physical or romantic. You might be tempted to participate in challenging sports, such as river rafting or downhill skiing, or you might decide to attend a group meeting and see what opportunities for contacts - not to mention romantic partners! - come your way. tic partners! - come your way. Take care! Have fun, but move ahead with caution. **SCORPIO:** Today, Scorpio, a sub-

also features Anushka Shar-

ma and Katrina Kaif in pivot-al roles. The film is slated to

hit the theatres on December

21 this year which marks the New Year weekend. He beat names like Ange-

lina Jolie and Tom Cruise to

become the most searched

celeb on Wikipedia from 2007 to 2017.Shah Rukh Khan's fan club SRK Universe

shared the information, along with the tweet, "Shah Rukh Khan's Wikipedia

page becomes the 2nd most

viewed wiki page for actors worldwide from Dec 2007 -

an unconventional way. You

it's just to the corner store! SAGITTARIUS: Today should find you continuing to work to-ward cherished career and other

travel, or other broadening ex-

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