

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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SDF releases 127-point manifesto for Panchayat elections

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

Sikkim Democratic Front released its election manifesto for the upcoming Zilla and Gram Panchayat Election 2017 in the State here at the party head-office today. The fifty-five page election manifesto of the ruling party starts with the message of the SDF president, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, and enumerates 127 "responsibilities and commitments" to the people on various issues which



will now be shouldered by the panchayats. The party manifesto also highlights numerous

achievements of the SDF party and future targets, work and plan of the SDF government.

The 127-point manifesto begins with the ban on cow slaughter and states that the Panchayats will be responsible for implementing the law in letter and spirit. This is followed by the ban on firecrackers and ban on grazing to be enforced by the Panchayats.

Further, the manifesto promises a minimum of Rs 1,000 as pension for farmers, development of villages as business centres with linkages with the market economy, formation of Gram planning forum and Ward development committee, establishment of Women's club in every Zilla, etc.

Meanwhile, in his message, the party president has assured, "During the ongoing Panchayat Elections, we will become the total holistic voice of the people to empower our people to create people's government and ensure qualitative governance for the people and by the people. We will ensure a model, equity and justice, democratic freedoms, non-communal development and progress, safe, secure, happy and prosperous to pg02



Talwars acquitted by Allahabad HC in Aarushi murder case

ALLAHABAD, OCT 12 (PTI):

The Allahabad High Court today acquitted Nupur and Rajesh Talwar in the 2008 murder of their teenage daughter Aarushi and domestic help Hemraj, saying that neither the circumstances nor the evidence was enough to hold them guilty.

The verdict ends, at least for now, the nine-year ordeal of the Noida couple who were sentenced to life by a Ghaziabad CBI court on November 28, 2013 for the double murder that not only transfigured but also shook the nation with its element of filicide.

The Talwars, who are both dentists, are expected to be freed tomorrow from Ghaziabad's Dasna jail after the completion of paperwork. The CBI did not immediately say if it would appeal the High Court verdict. It said it would study the order and decide the future course of action.

"I am grateful to the judiciary for the verdict," said B G Chitnis, Nupur Talwar's father and a former Group Captain in the Indian Air Force. "They have really suffered. They are emotionally drained. At my age it was very trying to see my daughter behind bars," he told reporters in New Delhi.

"It's been an exhausting journey for us. We are really grateful to the High Court for having acquitted and ending the injustice meted out to them," said Vandana Talwar, an aunt of Aarushi who was 14 when she was killed.

A division bench comprising justices B K Narayana and A K Mishra upheld the Talwars' appeal against the CBI court verdict, holding that the circumstances of the case and the evidence on record did not establish a chain showing their involvement in the murders of Aarushi and Hemraj.

Pronouncing the verdict in a packed courtroom, the bench said that it is a fit case where benefit of doubt can be given to the appellants and set aside the judgement of the CBI court convicting the Talwars who were arrested in May 2008.

The CBI court had relied on circumstantial evidence to convict the couple in the absence of any motive. In his judgement, Additional Sessions Judge Shyam Lal has cited judgements of the Supreme Court to say that the mere fact that the prosecution had failed to "translate that mental disposition of the accused into evidence does not mean that no such mental condition existed in the mind of the assailant."

He said "in a case of circumstantial evidence motive does not have to be proved" *turn to pg02*

Kejriwal's 'aam aadmi' car stolen; AAP leader announces reward

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 (PTI):

A creaky Wagon R, used by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till the 2015 assembly election and which helped cement his position as the "aam aadmi", was today stolen from outside the Delhi Secretariat, police said.

A senior police officer said the incident happened just before noon and was reported to the police around 1 pm. The car was parked on the roadside outside the Delhi Secretariat.

The incident has outraged AAP workers, many of whom posted videos of Kejriwal using the car, especially during the 2014 Republic Day, after he became the chief minister of Delhi for the first time.

AAP's Haryana convener Naveen Jaihind has announced an undisclosed amount as reward for whoever finds the vehicle.

Jaihind had sought the "lucky car" for his campaigning when he contested the 2014 Lok Sabha poll from Rohtak.

"I want this car back. There are a lot of emotions, memories attached to it. Whoever returns the car, I will give him a suitable reward, which will be much more than what he will get from selling the car," Jaihind said.

Like Jaihind, many AAP volunteers recollect the "iconic" car for it witnessed the ups and downs of the Aam Aadmi Party.

The car was witness to two assembly election wins in 2013 and 2015 and also to the party's poor performance in the Lok Sabha polls.

turn to pg03

Partha Chakra last team to enter semis of Governor's Gold Cup



SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

Despite an impressive game, the young squad of Indian Army [Red] went down to Partha Chakra, Kolkata in the last quarter-final match of the ongoing 37th All India Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament 2017 here at Paljor Stadium today. Partha Chakra edged past Indian Army [Red] 4-3 to

secure its berth in the semi-final round of the tournament.

In the 16th minute of the match, the referee offered a penalty kick to Indian Army for a foul by Partha Chakra defender in D-box area. N Suresh Meitei successfully converted the spot kick into a lead for Indian Army. However, the Army team could hold the lead for a long time when Eric PB netted the direct free-

kick in the 21st minute equalizing the score. The first half ended in 1-1 draw.

Soon in the second half, Eric PB completed his brace in the 53rd minute and soon his teammate, Alex Whittemore extended the lead of Partha Chakra to 4-1 with his brace in the 56th and 68th minute.

When Army players were struggling hard to bounce back in the

match, the referee offered them another penalty shot for a foul in Partha Chakra D-box area in the 83rd minute. N Suresh Meitei completed his brace by successfully converting the penalty kick into a second goal for Army. An Army substitute player, Pranay Rai, gave further hope to the team with his beautiful goal in the 86th minute. The young squad of Army played their hearts

out to equalize the score but could not net further goals.

With the final whistle by the referee, Partha Chakra became the last team to enter the semi-final round of the tournament with this 4-3 win.

The first semi-final match of the tournament will be played between Mohun Bagan AC and ONGC Mumbai on 13 Oct at 2:30 p.m.

Omi Gurung in Conde Nast Traveller's 50 Himalayan Heroes list



PALZOR MACHUNGPA

GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

Fashion and Lifestyle columnist and the founder of Sikkim's first eco-friendly boutique, Green Sikkim, Omi Gurung has been inducted in the list of 50 Himalayan Heroes by the travel magazine, Conde Nast Traveller in its 07th anniversary issue alongside Dalai Lama, Sonam Wangchuk, Ani Choying Drolma and others. Gurung is the only person to make it to the list from Sikkim.

Conde Nast Traveller, since its inaugural issue has targeted the travel needs of the sophisticated Indian traveler. Launched in 2010, the magazine aims to be the ultimate luxury travel and lifestyle magazine for the well-heeled global Indian.

Conde Nast, the publishing house of Conde Nast Traveler also publishes Vogue India, GQ India and AD India.

"Conde Nast Traveller turns seven this year and it is a great honor to be listed as

one of the 50 'Himalayan Heroes' #Change-Maker in its 07th anniversary issue," Gurung shared on Facebook.

Gurung has been recognized for his contributions towards environment conservation in Sikkim. Last month Gurung was honored with 'The Telegraph Northeast Excellence Award'. He was among the 10 recipients from Northeast India to be honored with the prestigious award of excellence. He has been chosen for his contribution towards the growth and development of the State and Northeast region.

Born and raised in Sikkim, Omi Gurung is the son of former Secretary of the Department of Mines, Minerals & Geology, RK Gurung.

At 22, he was the editor of Dateline Bangalore and is featured as fashion columnist and editor of several magazines and newspapers of the country.

Omi also runs a social group Oh My India

[OMI]. OMI catalyses change in the lifestyle of people in India by creating awareness to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle domestic waste and helping them to get started. OMI believes in following the 3R concept and going green to protect the environment.

His eco friendly boutique in Sikkim named 'Green Sikkim' houses an array of exciting fashionable green choices in apparel, accessories and artifacts. The products are natural, up-cycled as well as sustainable and fair. It is his noble attempt to promote the green trend and propagate sustainable consumption among urban consumers.

He was chosen as Top Ten Cutest Vegetarian Next Door 2013 by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), India, the Coolest North Easterners 2014 by webzine of North East India 'The Thumb Print' and the Young Naturalist Award in 2016 by Balipara Foundation.

BJP Sikkim meets Panchayat Election candidates

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

Bharatiya Janta Party State president, DB Chauhan, held an interaction programme with the party candidates of South District for Zilla and Gram Panchayat Election at the party zonal office in Singtam. In the programme, the party president addressed four candidates in Zilla Panchayat and nine candidates in Gram Panchayat, informs a BJP press release. The programme was also addressed by East district president, YT Lepcha, and general secretary, SB Karki.

3 fined for defecating in river

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 12 OCT:

Singtam Nagar Panchayat imposed a fine of Rs 500 on three people who were caught defecating near Rongi Chu by police personnel on duty today.

Municipal Inspector, Birendra Rai had previously warned the residents of Singtam against dumping garbage in the river. Stating that such acts will not be tolerated Mr Rai had said that the culprits will have to pay fine and legal action will be taken against them under the Municipal Act.

This is the third case registered at the Municipal Inspector's office.

SDF releases 127-point manifesto for...

Contd from pg01

perous Sikkim through our Panchayats."

Mr Chamling has further assured that SDF was fielding competent candidates for the 185 Gram Panchayat Units, 1,037 Wards and 113 Zillas.

Speaking during the release function today, SDF party spokesperson, Bhim Dahal mentioned that the SDF party has always campaigned for elections on concrete issues and this time too, the party is offering pro-people programmes. Elected Panchayats of the party will seriously follow all programmes mentioned in the manifesto, he added.

Although opposition parties have fielded candidates, they do not have any programme or vision for the people, he alleged.

Another SDF spokesperson, KT Gyaltzen congratulated and expressed best wishes to all candidates of the party. He added that the election manifesto is in the interest of the people of Sikkim and appealed to the people to support SDF candidates.

More than 80% of works mentioned in the last Panchayat Election manifesto of the party in 2012 have been completed, he added.

The manifesto release function was also attended by senior leaders and workers of the party.



Kitam school's SAATHI club organizes parental counseling

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

The SAATHI club of Kitam Senior Secondary School, South Sikkim, organized a day-long parental counseling on drug abuse today at the auditorium hall of Kitam SSS. Resource persons of the day were Psychologist-Namchi District

Hospital, Reshma Subba, Post Graduate-cum-Nodal Teacher of SAATHI, Pratima Subba, and Principal Incharge-Kitam SSS, Suresh K Subba, a press release informs.

Parents were sensitized and made aware about bad affects of drug abuse and symptoms of addiction by Reshma

Subba while PGT-cum-Nodal Teacher, Pratima Subba, talked on the responsibilities to be performed by parents to keep children away from addiction and informed about the dos and don'ts while monitoring children.

Principal, Suresh K Subba, applauded the initiative of

SAATHI in helping to address the drug abuse problem in the state.

The programme was attended by parents, SAATHI Teacher Coordinators and student peer educators.

A theme based quiz competition was also organized for parents during the event.

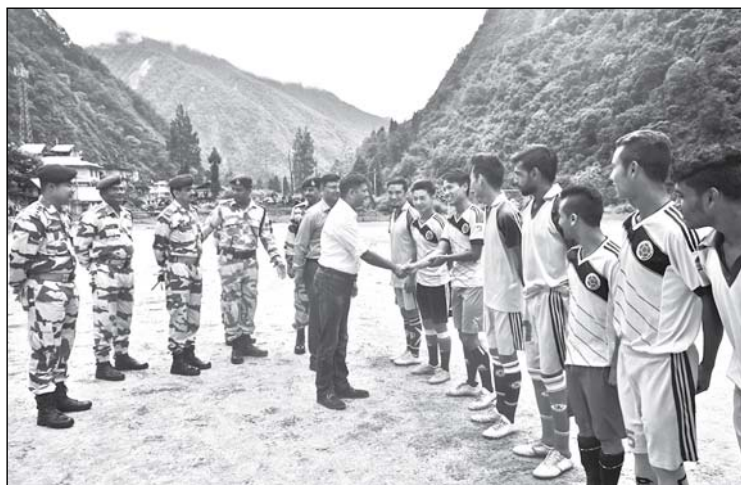
ITBP Chungthang organises Handball tourney

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

The 11th Battalion of Indo Tibetan Border Police, Chungthang, organized a Handball tournament today as part of its Diwali celebration, a press release informs.

The opening ceremony of the competition was conducted in the presence of Commandant-11th Btn, Rajesh Kumar Tomar, who attended the event as chief guest.

The tournament has four par-



ticipating teams with the final of the same scheduled to be held on 15 Oct.

The opening match to-

day was played between Chungthang Bright-Star and Pengong villagers wherein Chungthang

Bright-Star team emerged victorious. The next match will be played on 13 Oct, the release adds.

Career counseling for ICFAI students

Summit Report
Gangtok, 12 Oct:

With the objective to reach out to youngsters across colleges and to inspire them to look at entrepreneurship as a career option, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India in collaboration with 24hours Inspired held a counseling session with the final year students of Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India (ICFAI) University, Gangtok today, a press release informs.

"The objective was to reach out to young minds and to encourage them to become job creators than job seekers in the future. The response was phenomenal and we could tell that there were some students who wanted to take up enterprise as their calling for professional life," said Chief Learning Officer, 24hours Inspired, Dewaker Basnet.



The session had two parts with the first part conducted by Dewaker Basnet which dealt with inspiring the students

through stories and anecdotes on enterprise and the second part had Deputy Director, MSME, KD Bhattacharya speak-

ing to students on the various opportunities that they could avail to foster entrepreneurship for themselves as well as the society.

"It was wonderful to interact with the students of the University

and we at MSME would look forward to students coming up to us to understand more on the various schemes of the Government of India so that we can guide and handhold them," said KD Bhattacharya.

83 Zilla and 630 Ward nominations pass scrutiny in West



GYALSHING, 12 OCT [IPR]: The election officials of West Sikkim today announced the scrutiny results of the district.

Out of 738 nominations filed by the candidates from different BACs, 25 were rejected on official grounds.

Similarly, for the 31 Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies in the district, 85 nominations

were filed by the candidates out of which 83 nominations have been accepted while 02 candidates were rejected due to absence of proper caste certificate.

For the Ward Level out of 653 nominations, 23 were rejected on various official grounds while the remaining 630 nominations have been accepted by the election officials.

Talwars acquitted by Allahabad HC in Aarushi murder case

Contd from pg01

treme significance. In the absence of motive, the conviction based on circumstantial evidence can in principle be made."

Dadhiram Maurya, the jailor of the Dasna prison where the Talwars are lodged, said the couple felt they have got justice.

"After having breakfast they were praying. Their schedule was normal. She said they got justice today and had tears of joy.

"Any person after spending this amount of jail (time) will feel happy to get freedom. So they were happy after they were told about the news," he said.

Lawyer Rebecca John, who was part of Talwars' legal team, said she was relieved by the judgement. She claimed the whole case was based

on "innuendos" and would "not have carried through".

John hoped that the Talwars, who have been in media spotlight for over nine years, will be allowed privacy after their release from the jail.

Aarushi was found dead inside her room in the Talwars' Noida residence with her throat slit in May 2008. The suspicion initially fell on 45-year-old Hemraj, who at the time was missing. But his body was recovered from the terrace of the house a day later.

As the Uttar Pradesh Police drew flak over shoddy investigation into the case which was making national headlines, the then chief minister Mayawati recommended a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

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Forecast: Mostly cloudy and not as warm with a thundershower in parts of the area.
Sunrise: 05:34 AM
Sunset: 05:09 PM

568
nominations
pass scrutiny
in East

GANGTOK, 12 OCT [IPR]: The scrutiny of nomination papers of candidates for the General Election to Zilla Panchayat/Gram Panchayat of East District was conducted by Returning Officer cum District Collector, East on 11 Oct in the presence of Observer, Rinzing Chewang Bhutia, who is also the Special Secretary of Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim.

The scrutiny process commenced at 11 a.m. and the nomination papers of 87 candidates contesting for the Zilla Panchayat Territorial Constituencies and 498 candidates contesting for Gram Panchayat Units were scrutinized. Scrutiny of five nomination papers were adjourned for hearing on 12 Oct as objections were raised in those cases.

At the end of the scrutiny of the nomination papers, total of seven nominations were rejected. Election to six Territorial Constituencies and 146 Gram Panchayat Wards will be uncontested.

The last date for withdrawal of candidature is 13 Oct. The allotment of symbol to the contesting candidates will be done on the same day 3 pm onwards. Following the allotment of symbols to the candidates, a meeting of the contesting candidates to Zilla Panchayat/Gram Panchayat with the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officer, respectively, has been scheduled at 4 pm of 13 Oct at District Administrative Centre in Sichey.

The contesting candidates are also requested to bring two passport size photographs for issuing their identity cards.

CONTACT
Summit TIMES
REPORTERS
NAMCHI
9832048410,
9775736596

SINGTAM
7699771651

MANGAN/
DIKCHU
9832612485/
9434011213

SILIGURI
9609066814
DARJEELING
9434121862
GANGTOK
8016270440,
9832082664,
9832424750,
8768664251



Governor attends three-day Governors’ conference at New Delhi

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 12 OCT: Governor Shrinivas Patil today attended Governors’ conference at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. The three-day conference which started on 11 Oct with an informal meeting of Governors and Lieutenant Governors is being presided over by President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.

A press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs that the formal session of the conference started this morning with the inauguration at Ashoka Hall by the President in the presence of Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Governors and Lieutenant Governors of

all the States and Union Territories, Union Home Minister, Rajnath Singh, Union Ministers for Railway, Road Transport and Shipping, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region along with senior officials of the central government.

In a major shift from the previous conferences, the ongoing conference of Governors stretched over three days is scheduled to have six different sessions namely Infrastructure for New India-2022, Public Services for New India-2022, Higher Education in States and Skill Development and Important Issues of the States.

Addressing the first session on Infrastructure

for New India-2022 today, Governor Shrinivas Patil drew attention of the Union Government to the special developmental needs of rural India specifically in the field of rural housing, rural sanitation, water supply, rural economic hubs, road, rail and tele-connectivity and access to markets for rural produce. He also stressed on the need to bridge the infrastructural gap existing between cities and villages to enhance the quality of life in villages and reduce the dependence on cities.

The Governor while highlighting the surplus Hydro Power produced by Sikkim sought the centre’s attention towards creating Special Economic Zones [SEZs]

in the neighbourhood of Sikkim so that the power it exports would be utilized and also fetches good prices for the surplus electricity produced by the State.

On the rural housing front, the Governor stated, “Our aim must be to allow even the poorest of the poor to live a life of dignity.”

He also mentioned about special rural housing schemes initiated by the State including CM-RHM to achieve the status of ‘Kutch House Free State’ and ‘Housing for All by 2018-19’.

On the subject of connectivity, the Governor reiterated the need to expedite the implementation of rail, road, air and tele-connectivity proj-

ects as these continue to hinder Sikkim’s developmental pursuits.

The Governor also underlined the specific concerns of the Hill States and sought special provisions such as subsidized fares wherever air services are extended. He also called for futuristic and holistic development of urban infrastructures and support services.

“While planning Smart city concepts with reference to hilly states like Sikkim, the idea to construct underground malls and markets in its towns to create larger spaces for urban business hubs must be introduced,” the Governor added.

While mentioning about tourism activities

in the State, the Governor said that Sikkim is the first state to promote the concept of eco-tourism, village tourism and home stay tourism to spread the benefits of tourism evenly across the State. The Governor while highlighting the commitment of the State towards environment and sustainable development, enumerated various green initiatives and their positive impact in the ecology of Sikkim.

Later in the afternoon, Mr Patil also attended the second session of the day on Higher Education in States and Skill Development. While placing his remarks, he mentioned about the Higher Education scenario and special capacity build-

ing measures taken by the State besides central programmes such as the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya-Grameen Kaushal Yojana and the North Eastern Rural Livelihood programme.

The Governor urged the Union Government to take steps to make central programmes aimed at skill development more comprehensive in their reach and scope.

Mentioning about the recently started ‘Chief Minister’s Start-up Scheme’ in the State which provides 25% subsidy with an investment of upto Rs 20.00 lakh, Mr Patil also sought central assistance to promote entrepreneurship among the youth of Sikkim.

LOTAL Talk on Sikkim Succession Act 2008

REBYNA RANA
GANGTOK, 12 OCT: The 2nd edition of LOTAL Talk on a recent ‘High Court Order on the Sikkim Succession Act 2008’ was held today at ICFAI University in Lower Sichey, Gangtok.

It may be mentioned here, LOTAL Talk is an initiative started by Law graduate student, Pramit Chhetri. The objective of the talk is to deliver on complex legal issues in a simple way and also share experiences of speakers.

While addressing the students, Advocate-High Court of Sikkim, Dr Doma Bhutia, who was the re-



source person for the programme, detailed the Sikkim Succession Act and shed light on many aspects of the Supreme Court judgment on Right to Privacy.

Stressing on the Sikkim Succession Act, Dr

Bhutia said that Sikkimese women married to non Sikkimese. She further said that such act is not consistent with the basic feature of the Constitution and added that the freedom to choose one’s spouse and start a family should be respected and they should not be denied their rights.

She further enlightened the students on the judgment which declared the Right to Privacy as a Fundamental Right.

Simultaneously, a talk was also delivered by Dean-cum-Official Registrar, ICFAI University, Sonam Tshering Ven-

chungpa, wherein he said that the privacy laws are rights applicable to both women and men and needs to be sensitive.

Pramit Chhetri who conceived the idea of Lotatalk said that the main motive of this talk is to enlighten Law students on burning issues and to discuss complex legal issues.

The gathering of students was also informed about Sikkim Judicial Museum started by the High Court and requested to visit the museum and reap the wide knowledge in law once it is inaugurated later this year.

Kejriwal’s ‘aam aadmi’ car stolen...

Contd from pg01

It was “donated” to Kejriwal by Kundan Sharma, a software engineer, in January 2013. However, when Kejriwal parted ways with his then party colleagues Prashant Bhushan and Yogendra Yadav, Sharma demanded that the vehicle be returned.

Even after Kejriwal became the chief minister in December 2013, he refused to use an official car and preferred his old Wagon-R.

AAP volunteers recall the blue car which had rust and dents on it, giving

refuge to a sick Kejriwal, suffering from severe cough and cold on a nippy January night in 2014, when he staged a ‘dharna’ outside the Rail Bhawan against the Delhi Police.

The humble hatchback was used by an AAP functionary before it was stolen this afternoon.

“I am just praying, it comes back!!#BlueWagonR,” AAP leader Vandana Singh, who was using the car, tweeted.

“The car was parked outside the Delhi Secretariat. It went missing around 1 pm,” a senior police official said.

State Information Commission observes RTI Act implementation anniversary

NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 12 OCT: The Right to Information Act, 2005 came into force in the country on 12 Oct 2005 and to mark the day, the Sikkim Information Commission organised an event in the Gangtok Municipal Corporation in Deorali with Gangtok Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary, as chief



guest. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Choudhary held that the Act has been use-

ful for the public. However, he also cautioned against using the Act as an obstruction to developmental projects.

Secretary-Sikkim Information Commission, JD Bhutia, while delivering a presentation, explained many aspects of the Act to the audience. He held that the citizen



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CORRIGENDUM

As the Election Code of Conduct due to the ensuing Panchayat Elections remains effective till second week of November 2017 therefore changes in the critical dates for the following works put to e-tender has been rescheduled as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Originally published bid submission end date	Rescheduled bid submission end date & Hard copy submission date	Originally published bid opening date	Rescheduled bid opening date
1	Construction of Police Memorial at Aritar in East Sikkim	26-Oct-2107	13-Nov-2107	27-Oct-2017	15-Nov-2017
2	Construction of Multi-Purpose Auditorium at Tashi Namgyal Academy, Gangtok	No Change in dates		24-Oct-2107	15-Nov-2017

For details visit the e-tender portal of government of Sikkim
www.sikkimtender.gov.in

sd/-
ACE-CUM-NODAL OFFICER E-TENDERING
BUILDINGS & HOUSING DEPARTMENT

R.O. No.: 368/IPR/PUB/Classi/17-18 Dated: 11/10/2017

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Reconciliation, Not Recrimination

See past the false narratives and open uncomfortable conversations

A communal divide is the easiest to cleave and the hardest to bridge. We live in a country which has still not repaired the damage caused by the Partition riots in 1947 and remain infiltrated by agent provocateurs at all levels who are resolute in their mission to paint monsters and fan paranoia, keeping people on edge and distrusting. These are people, leaders and groups perennially suspicious of the other and fearful of losing their privileges even as they imagine slights and denials. They live in a world of imagined persecution even as they project nefarious intentions on others and then marshal the scared and the fearful into pliant foot soldiers carrying forward their insular agendas. It is usually easy to see through their conspiracies and call them out, but the world is now becoming increasingly segregated, whispering fears in their respective echo chambers and consuming information filtered to suit their world view. The diversity of opinions and analysis necessary to “understand” issues is being increasingly sacrificed at the altar of selective information and pre-packaged explanations. Some years ago, this misdirection was seen in the political and communal uproar over botched Census figures which accorded the nation’s Muslims an astronomically high rate of growth. Although it was almost immediately clarified that the Census officials had announced the figures based on wrong calculations, the data, even though wrong, suited the false narratives of the alt-Right in our country and remained in circulation. Unfortunately, technology, which was once expected to deliver as a tool to dispel falsehoods and “fake news”, has ended up reinforcing these problems. It is now widely accepted that technology, like power and money, takes what is already inside you and amplifies it. As a result, the resentful and the easily scared become even more so when they play in the world wide web. Of course, the same is true for the liberal and the tolerant as well, but the problem is that each side ends up becoming more convinced of their respective position because they end up preaching among the converted instead of bridging the divide.

We already live with stories of the horror created by divisions on religious and communal lines and still allow ourselves to drawn in the same direction. This cannot be healthy. And the collective health suffers even more when technology is boosted by power because then begins the mission to homogenise a remarkably diverse people and force independent thought to conform to a narrow ideology. Take for instance the beef ban. As per data collected by the National Sample Survey Office, around 80 million people in our country eat beef. This number, believed to be under-reported in that the actual figures might be higher, suggests that one in every 13 India is a beef eater. What needs to also be borne in mind that of the remaining 12, not everyone has a problem with others eating beef even for they themselves don’t. Most of the beef eaters are Muslims, Scheduled Tribes, OBC and Scheduled Caste. Now, reflect this against the anti-reservation, “anti-appeasement” belligerence and false narratives that have been hammered by a certain group, and the real targets of the Gau-Raksha drama becomes obvious. It thus becomes important for us, as free citizens of a free country, to challenge claims more often and demand better explanations.

There are several issues kept alive in Sikkim as well by those who want to tap into the inherent parochial nature of the people to whip up fear and suspicion in hopes of creating a situation where people start believing every conspiracy theory that is sold to them. This provides these agent provocateurs with a weapon that can be deployed at will to earn them the political clout and mileage that they crave. The people, however should know better. History shows that many crises have been the results of lack of simple reconciliation between parties. The parties involved will never come to the discussion table because their very existence in the public mindset is threatened if touchy issues are resolved and there no enemies to protect against. We use the word “resolved” not solved. Issues which threaten the social fabric cannot be solved by a third party, they have to be resolved by the parties involved so that there are no lingering hard feelings which would bring us back to square one. The approach has to be one of reconciliation, not recrimination, and for that we need to have difficult and uncomfortable conversations with those who do not think like us or believe in what we do. Simply put, to move ahead, we need to step outside our segregated circles.

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

What’s behind the huge increase in breast cancer rates in China?

JIN-LI LUO
theconversation.com

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in China, according to the latest data from China’s national cancer registry. An analysis of the data reveals that the cancer has increased at a rate of around 3.5% a year from 2000 to 2013, compared with a drop of 0.4% a year over the same period in the US.

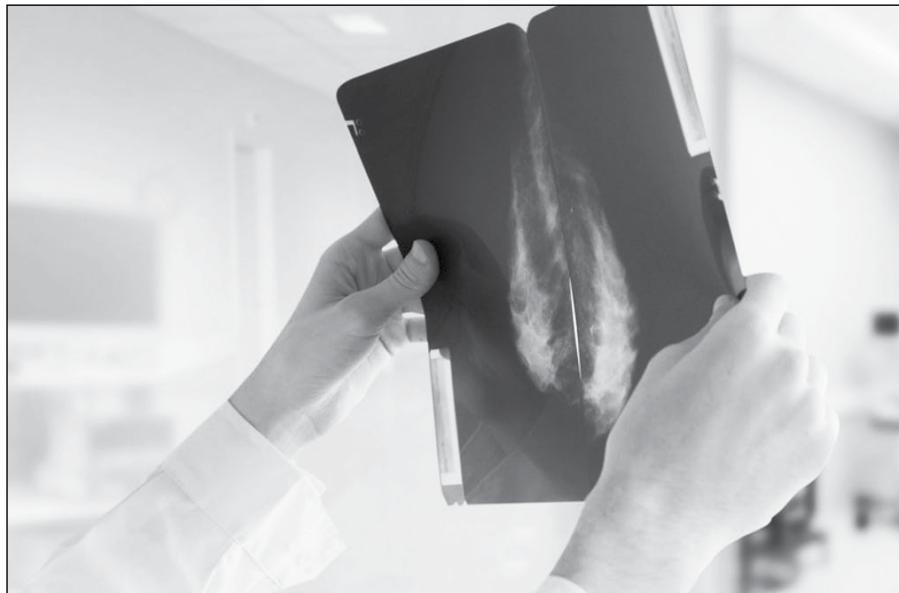
The analysis also reveals that breast cancer rates are higher in urban areas of China than in rural areas. And the higher the population density, the higher the rate. For small cities (population below 500,000), the incidence of breast cancer is 30 per 100,000. For medium-sized cities (population between 500,000 to 1,000,000), it is 40 in 100,000. And for large cities (population above 1m), the incidence rate is 60 per 100,000 women.

With the rapid development of China’s economy, more and more people have moved from rural areas and towns to large cities. As a result, many “megacities” have sprung up. By 2014, China had six megacities with populations above 10m. It is very likely that urbanisation is having a big impact on breast cancer incidence in China.

Here is a list of some of the factors that may be behind the rise in breast cancer incidence in China:

Childbearing: Having more than one child lowers breast-cancer risk. With the one-child policy in place since 1979, most women – especially if they worked in the city – had to strictly follow the policy in order to avoid being fined. Although the one-child policy rule was replaced in 2015 with a two-child policy rule, the possible benefit on breast cancer incidence will probably take 15 to 20 years to show.

Research also shows that the women who have their first child at age 35 or younger tend to have a protective benefit from pregnancy. However, in China, many women have chosen to delay having a child as a result of work pressure and cultural change.



Women are also less likely to breastfeed than previous generations, which may be another contributing factor. Research has shown that both pregnancy and breastfeeding reduce a woman’s risk of developing cancer, because they reduce the lifetime number of menstrual cycles. As a result, women are exposed to less oestrogen. (Oestrogen can stimulate breast cancer cells to grow.) It has also been hypothesised that breast cells need to mature in order to produce milk and mature cells are more resistant to becoming cancer cells.

Researchers in China have found associations between these “reproductive factors” – including oral contraceptives and hormone replacement therapy (HRT) – and the rise in breast cancer incidence in China.

Stress: Stress – which is more likely to be experienced in large cities – has been linked to increased risk of developing cancer. Although stress may not directly cause cancer, it does affect the levels of various hormones and it suppresses the immune system. And, once cancer has developed,

stress is believed to aid its progression.

Lifestyle: In modern China, women are generally less physically active than they were in previous generations. A study published in the International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, shows that levels of physical activity for adults in China fell by nearly half between 1991 and 2011, and they declined more rapidly for women than for men.

An unhealthy diet is also increasingly common in urban China, with a proliferation of fast food outlets. This has resulted in an increase in obesity among Chinese women.

Increased alcohol assumption has long been associated with the increased risk of developing breast cancer and a World Health Organisation bulletin notes that, in China, alcohol consumption is increasing faster than in other parts of the world.

Ageing: Ageing is the biggest risk factor for breast cancer. Women are living longer in China, which is a key factor related to the increased inci-

dence of breast cancer in the country. As people get older, there is more genetic damage and less ability to repair the damages.

SMALL IMPROVEMENTS

Even though the prevalence of breast cancer among women in China is lower than in many developed countries, the rapid increase in incidence of the disease – which is also being witnessed in India – is cause for great concern.

Because of China’s large population, even with a small percentage of improvement on cancer prevention, a sizeable number of women’s lives could be saved. There are many risk factors that can be reduced by raising cancer awareness and having better education on diet, exercise, stress reduction as well as improving breast cancer screening. Public health authorities in China can play a crucial role in developing well-defined strategies to tackle the issue and reduce the breast cancer burden in China.

[the writer is Senior Bioinformatician, University of Leicester]

Evolutionary biology can help us understand how language works

MICHAEL DUNN
theconversation.com

As a linguist I dread the question, “what do you do?”, because when I answer “I’m a linguist” the inevitable follow-up question is: “How many languages do you speak?” That, of course, is not the point. While learning languages is a wonderful thing to do, academic linguistics is the scientific study of language.

What I do in my work is to try to understand how and why languages are the way they are. Why are there so many in some places and so few in others? How did languages develop so many different ways of fulfilling the same kinds of communicative tasks? What is uniquely human about language, and how do the human mind and language shape each other? This is something of a new direction in linguistics. The old-school study of language history was more concerned with language for its own sake: understanding the structure of languages and reconstructing their genealogical relationships.

One of the exciting things happening in linguistics today is that linguists are increasingly connecting with the field of evolutionary biology. Evolutionary biologists ask very similar questions about species to those me and my colleagues want to ask about languages: why they are distributed in a certain way, for example, or looking for explanations for differences and similarities between them.

These similarities in outlook allow us to apply all the modern tools of computational evolutionary biology to linguistic questions, giving us new insights into fundamental questions about the processes of language change, and through that into the nature of language in general.

EVOLVING LANGUAGE

I recently co-authored a new paper with a set of interdisciplinary colleagues. We use methods adapted from evolutionary biology to investigate how a large group of languages had changed over thousands of years.

We chose to concentrate on the Austronesian language family (a huge family of languages mostly distributed along a broad arc from Taiwan to Easter Island) because quite a lot is known about how it spread. With a decent model of the history of a

language family it becomes possible to uncover the processes of change within these languages. This is the same basic logic as when Gregor Mendel inferred the principles of heredity by observing how the patterns of variation in the forms of plants were governed by their ancestry. When we understand how the building blocks of language work, we will be further along the path to understanding the human mind.

Languages are a lot more than just a bundle of words. They also include all the principles for combining those words into meaningful utterances: grammar. And, like words, grammar also changes over time. We wanted to discover whether grammar evolves in the same way as words.

The lexicons of a languages (the set of words each language has) change in two ways over historical time: the sound systems of individual languages change – meaning that their words sound different – and words are replaced by other words through processes including meaning change and borrowing from other languages. Grammars change in similar ways. Gradually, as rules morph into new rules (for example, ways of expression become acceptable which in previous generations were unacceptable – think of the who/whom distinction, which has nearly disappeared from natural speech), and in big jumps, as languages acquire whole new structures through processes like reanalysis or borrowing.

WORDS AND GRAMMAR

But how close are the parallels between the evolution of words and the evolution of grammar? Answering this question will move us along the road to answering the big questions about the nature of linguistic and human diversity. Using tools from evolutionary biology, we developed a computational model for estimating at what pace and in what manner the different languages of this family evolved. In particular, the model discerned whether words and elements of grammar were evolving at a fast, medium or slow pace.

The diagram below shows how the lexical and grammatical elements of the Austronesian languages evolved differently over the history of the family. The redder branches of the tree show where change happened more quickly and the blue

er branches where it happened more slowly. The crosses mark big shifts in the rate of change.

What is clear from these results is that the way in which the words and the grammar of these languages evolved is very different. Interestingly, measurements show that splits on a branch — points in when new languages are formed — are accompanied by a much bigger burst of change in the lexicon than in the grammar.

An important question for further work, then, is to ask what drives the differences in rates of change of different grammatical features. There are hints in the data that grammatical features that speakers are consciously aware of tend to change more quickly, and features which are more abstract and less available to conscious reflection change more slowly.

WHAT NEXT?

As our estimates of the age of humans as a species get older and older, we are realising that human language is not just a recent add-on. Rather, it’s something with deep evolutionary roots in human (and non-human) consciousness. This is important for the science of human cognition in general, with particular significance in psychology and linguistics.

These large scale studies in linguistic diversity have only recently become possible thanks to parallel improvements in the quality of data we have access to and the quality of the methods we have available to analyse them. Many linguists are embracing the movement towards open data and reproducible science. There are massive interdisciplinary efforts underway to publish open and interoperable data sets in many different domains, and computational tools for studying evolution are becoming richer and more flexible.

But as tools and methods improve, world linguistic diversity is decreasing. Nearly half the people in the world today speak at least one of Mandarin, Hindi, Spanish, English or Arabic, and thousands of smaller languages are facing extinction.

Comparative studies of language are therefore becoming more urgent as a window into the diversity of the human mind.

[the writer is Professor in Linguistics and Philology, Uppsala University]

Nepal's Left parties joining hands an internal matter: India

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 (PTI): India today described as "internal developments" the decision of Nepal's three Left parties to form an alliance to take on the Nepali Congress ahead of the provincial and federal elections.

Raveesh Kumar, the spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, said it would not be appropriate for him to comment on Nepal's internal matter.

"It would not be appropriate for me to comment on Nepal's internal matter. India has an abiding interest in peace, stability and economic prosperity of Nepal, within the framework of a democratic and inclusive polity in Nepal," he said.

He was responding to a question on how India views the three Left parties coming together against the ruling Nepali Congress.

Early this month, the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified- Marxist Leninist), the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist- Centre) and the Naya Shakti Party (NSP) agreed to form a Left coalition to contest provincial and federal elections later this year.

"As a close and friendly neighbour of Nepal, India will continue to extend all possible support to Nepal for peace, stability and accelerated economic development in accordance with the priorities of the people and the government of Nepal," Kumar said.

Around 50,000 to gather at All Sikkim Christian Summit 2017 in Nov

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 12 OCT:

The organising committee of All Sikkim Christian Summit 2017 has been working on war-footing basis for the grand success of the event. Around 50,000 Christians from different churches across Sikkim are likely to attend this summit scheduled to be held tentatively on 10 Nov this year at Jorethang playground in South Sikkim.

Addressing a press conference here today, the organising committee publicity secretary, Stephen Karki, stated that for the first time around 50,000 Christians from different churches across the State will be gathering at this event. He added that all churches of the State have come together to organise this event.



He informed that the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling will be the chief guest and will interact with members of different churches of Sikkim during the event. He further added that district committees have also been formed to carry out preparations for the event.

Likewise, the organising committee vice-president, Smile Gurung, informed that earlier the event was scheduled to be held on 03 Nov but it has now been postponed tentatively to 10 Nov due to the upcoming Panchayat Election in the State.

On the occasion, the organising committee

will felicitate the CM for his outstanding and exemplary works and initiatives and for working in the interest of Christians of Sikkim, he informed.

Mr Gurung informed that Pastors and Fathers of different churches of Sikkim will also be felicitated for their dedicated works in the event. The

programme will also feature presentation by a choir of 400 members, 100 singers from each district, and other cultural presentations.

The press conference was also addressed by organising committee East district publicity secretary, Bhupal Basnett.

West Bengal has 40 per cent child brides: Survey in SC

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 (PTI): West Bengal has got the dubious distinction of having the maximum number of married girl children at 40 per cent, a survey considered by the Supreme Court has said.

The apex court, which has delivered a historic verdict declaring sexual intercourse with minor wife as rape, quoted the survey in its order, saying the figure of 40.7 per cent of child brides significantly rises to 47 per cent in rural areas of the populous eastern state.

The report said the lowest percentage of child marriages was recorded in Punjab and Kerala at 7.6 per cent.

According to the National Family Health Survey 2015-16, the states with second and third

highest percentage of brides under 18 years of age were Bihar and Jharkhand with 39 and 38 per cent respectively.

The report was submitted before a Supreme Court bench of Justices M B Lokur and Deepak Gupta, which ruled that sex with a wife who is under 18 years of age is an offence under the Indian Penal Code with an imprisonment of up to 10 years.

As per the data which assumes significance in the light of the apex court's verdict, the national capital of India recorded 13 per cent of the child brides in 2015-16, which has come down from 22.7 per cent in 2005-06.

The states of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat have 35.4, 25 and 24.9 per cent of child brides, the report said.

India end U-17 WC campaign in agony, suffer 0-4 loss to Ghana

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 (PTI): Rank outsiders India ended their maiden FIFA U-17 World Cup campaign in a cry of pain and agony as they were handed a 0-4 thrashing by two-time champions Ghana in their final group match here today.

The Indians played their hearts out in the final Group A game but that was not enough as formidable Ghana outplayed them in all departments.

The scoreline, though, would not tell the exact story.

Captain Eric Ayiah scored twice -- in the

43rd and 52nd minutes -- while second half substitutes Richard Danso (86th) and Emmanuel Toku (87th) struck once each to break the hearts of the 52,614 home supporters at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

The fans had turned up in large numbers, hoping that their players would come up with another inspiring show, like they had done against Colombia in the previous match.

With Colombia beating the USA 3-1 in the other Group A game in Mumbai today, Ghana topped the group. Colombia also qualified in the round of 16 as



they finished second. USA had to be content with the third place.

All the three Ghana, Colombia and USA ended with three points each. But Ghana had the best goal difference of plus four while Colombia and USA had plus two each. As the number of goals scored between USA and Colombia were also the same 5 the ranking was decided on head to head record.

To be fair to the Indians, they had not done too badly in the tournament against the best in the world. Built into a team in around two years through scouting from across the country and being trained together by head coach Luis Norton de Matos for just seven months, it was not expected to even perform like this.

They were also unlucky

not to have added at least a goal each in the match against USA (which they lost 0-3) and against Colombia (which they narrowly lost 1-2).

Vastly superior in physique, speed and skill, the Ghanians totally dominated the match as far as both possession and shots were concerned. Ghana also needed a win to be sure of a top two finish in the group and hence an automatic knock-out berth, prompting them to keep the Indian citadel under siege throughout the match.

It was desperate defending for most part of the match with nine outfield players behind the ball in their own half with only Aniket Jadhav lurking upfront. Even Aniket had to run deep down and help his team-mates

in the wake of the wave of Ghana offensive.

The crowd cheered lustily to spur the home players but it was too much for the Indians to keep on defending all the time against the rampaging Ghana attackers and they wilted under the enormous pressure.

As de Matos had picked his two key players for Ghana, Sadiq Ibrahim and Bismark Owusu -- the left and right wingers respectively -- tormented the Indians time and again with their speed and deft manoeuvres.

In the first 45 minutes, all that India could manage was a 16th minute free-kick at the edge of the box, which Sanjeev Stalin took, only for the Ghanaian goalkeeper Danlad Ibrahim to clear without a fuss.

To be fair to India, Ghana also did not have too many strikes on target. Ghana captain Eric Ayiah had a fierce right-footer in the 35th minute tipped over by goalkeeper Dheeraj Singh. A short while later, Ibrahim Sulley had a shot at the Indian goal, which was again saved by Dheeraj.

It was a matter of time the Ghana goal came and it all started from the right flank. Sadiq Ibrahim cut through the right, sent a low cross, which Dheeraj tried to collect with a dive but spilled over and Ayiah was there to fire home with a bullet right-footed shot.

The second half was not much different as India defended grimly but Ghana ended the hosts' flickering hopes of getting any point from the tournament with Ayiah finding the target once again, in the 52nd minute, for his second goal of the night.

De Matos pulled out captain Amarjit Singh and replaced him with striker Rahim Ali to try and look for at least a goal.

India had two shots at the opposition goal late in the match through Rahim Ali and Lalengmawia, another second half substitute, but they did not trouble the Ghana keeper much.

Then the home side conceded two more goals in the space of one minute with Danso and Toku completing the rout.

Earlier, De Matos brought back Jitendra Singh in place of Namit Deshpande to pair with Anwar Ali at the center of the defence after benching him against Colombia.

Suresh Singh Wangjam also returned at the midfield after missing out on the previous match while Aniket Jadhav and Naorem Nongdamba were named in the starting line-up after coming on as substitutes against Colombia.

Amarjit, who was doubtful with a swollen right ankle till last night, was cleared by the team doctor to take the field, just like Anwar, who also got a few knocks against Colombia.

BIMSTEC nations simulate flood relief drill on Yamuna barrage

NEW DELHI, OCT 12 (PTI): India and other members of the BIMSTEC regional grouping today carried out a mock quick-response exercise in Delhi to "rescue" people stranded by flooding using a helicopter, the Union home ministry said.

The exercise was simulated at the Yamuna barrage.

Rescue teams from various member-countries responded to the situation and demonstrated a quick response using latest gadgets and equipment for rescuing the "marooned people".

The teams conducted highly-synchronised search and rescue operations. A helicopter was used to demonstrate the airborne "rescue of the stranded people", and the teams also exhibited hovering and winching of the "victims by rescuers", a home ministry statement said.

The exercise was part of the first

Bay of Bengal Initiative For Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Corporation (BIMSTEC) Disaster Management Exercise - 2017.

BIMSTEC members - Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal - participated in the exercise.

Relief activities such as providing medical care and distribution of food packets were simultaneously done in a coordinated and professional manner, the statement said.

During the exercise, Yamuna flood situation was presumed to be critical in Delhi and nearby areas due to heavy rainfall. A large number of people were presumed stranded in flood-affected areas.

Considering the huge impact of flooding, BIMSTEC member countries offered assistance to the government of India for the flood relief and evacuation of the needy, it said.

State Information Commission observes RTI Act implementation anniversary

contd from pg03

friendly RTI Act covers all government and government funded organisations barring information only on certain issues that deals with national security and sovereignty, stressing that a letter and a nominal fee is all that is required for citizens to lodge their queries to the concerned departments.

He also explained the various levels of appeals

that citizens can opt for if they do not receive information within a required time frame.

"Citizens can go till the High Court," he said.

Adding that the Information Commission is well prepared to receive queries from the public, he said that there is help provided to those who cannot write an application. He also said that BPL person is exempted from paying even the

nominal fee.

The Right to Information Act has not only empowered citizens on their rights but has also played a leading role in dismantling corruption at various levels of governance.

More awareness drives at grassroot level is the need of the hour.

The programme was attended by Councillors of GMC along with officials from the Sikkim Information Commission.



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
ENERGY AND POWER DEPARTMENT
No. GOS/E&P/NO/E-Tend/01/2014-15/005(iii)
Dated: 10/10/2017**

CORRIGENDUM – I TENDER RESCHEDULE DATE

The tender schedule for the works (1) Up-gradation & Modernisation of the Power Distribution Network of Namchi and its surrounding areas with High Voltage Distribution System (HDVS), NIT reference No. GOS/E&P/NO/E-Tender/01/2014-15/005(i) and Tender-ID-2017_EPDsi-256_1 dated 19/09/2017 and (2) Modernization and Beautification of Ravangla and Sosing Bazaars along with addition of 66/11/KV, 1x5 MVA sub-station at Ravangla under South Sikkim having NIT No. GOS/E&P/NO/E-Tender/01/2014-15/005(ii) and Tender ID-2017_EPDsi_255_1 dated 19/09/2017 of the works published vide R.O. No. 303/IPR/PUB/Classi./17-18 (iii) dated 13/9/2017 is hereby rescheduled in view of the Model Code of Conduct being enforced for the General Zilla/ Gram Panchayat Elections, 2017 from 3rd October 2017 till lifting of the same.

The rescheduled dates and time for submission of mandatory documents, online bid submission end date and technical bid opening of the respective works is available in the website www.sikkim-tender.gov.in.

**Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER (SOUTH)
CONTACT NO: 9434031013
OFFICE: 03592240692.**

R.O. No. 367/iplr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 11.10.17.



**ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
GANGTOK**

Memo No: 214/ND/R&B/2002-03/699 Date: 10.10.2017

Corrigendum to Notice Inviting Tender No: 214/ND/2002-03/668, dated 14.09.2017, R.O. No. 308/IPR/PUB/Classi./17-18, dated: 15.09.2017.

Due to the ensuing General Panchayat Election 2017 and Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct. The time schedule for submission and opening of tender has been rescheduled as follows:-

1	Date and Time for submission of Tender:	
(a)	For Sl.No. 01, 02, 03, 04 & 05	13 th Nov 2017 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)
(b)	For Sl.No. 06, 07, 08, 13, 14 & 15	15 th Nov 2017 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)
2	Date and Time for Opening of Tender:	
(a)	For Sl.No. 01, 02, 03, 04 & 05	14 th Nov 2017 (11.00 am)
(b)	For Sl.No. 06, 07, 08, 13, 14 & 15	16 th Nov 2017 (11.00 am)

**Sd/-
DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (EAST – I)
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
NIRMAN BHAWAN, GANGTOK.
R.O. No. 365/iplr/pub/classi./17-18 dt 11.10.2017**

'Current team is one of the best in Indian football history'

BENGALURU, Oct 12 (PTI): Praising India's qualification for the 2019 AFC Asian Cup, coach Stephen Constantine said the current team is one of the best in country's football history.

"This is one of the best teams in the history of Indian football, if not the best," he told reporters after India beat Macau 4-1 in a qualifier match at Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Wednesday night.

India had thrashed Macau 4-1 in a Group A encounter which helped India to qualify for the Asian Cup for the fourth time.

In 1964, India participated in the tournament for the first time and ended runners up.

In 1984 and 2011, they crashed out in the group stage.

Replying to a query, Constantine said he is extremely proud of the boys who had taken his demands earnestly, during training and practice sessions, before they qualified for the Asian Cup.



sions, before they qualified for the Asian Cup.

"I thank my staff... everybody has been mag-

nificent. It is a huge thing not only an honour for the team, but the whole

country. Right from clubs, coaches everyone has played their part to see the success," he said.

"The team had some ups and downs, though," he added.

Asked whether he would be fielding the bench strength in the remaining group stage matches, Constantine said he cannot say anything for now, but wants India to finish first in the points-table.

"If you want us sitting out for the next two games, I am not going to sit out, for sure," India Captain Sunil Chhetri intervened.

Replying to a query, Constantine said Balwant Singh was a good foil for Chhetri who scored the goal in second half with his help.

"Balwant did what he was asked to do. After he was introduced, Sunil got the room to play with the ball and everyone knows, if he gets the room, he can be really dangerous," he said.



Mamata to host dinner in honour of FIFA president

KOLKATA, Oct 12 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will host a dinner in honour of FIFA president Gianni Infantino, who will be in the city for the U-17 World Cup final to be held at the Salt Lake Stadium on October 28.

Banerjee will host the dinner on October 26.

"He is coming to Kolkata for the final match of the ongoing FIFA U-17 World Cup to be held on October 28 and the chief minister will host a dinner in his honour on October 26," a senior state government officer told PTI.

He said Banerjee was

very happy after receiving compliments from the FIFA for renovating the Salt Lake stadium.

According to Javier Ceppi, the U-17 World Cup Local Organising Committee (LOC) tournament director, the Salt Lake stadium is at par with any world-class venue in the world.

The U-17 World Cup tournament director had thanked the West Bengal government for refurbishing the stadium in two and a half years.

The stadium has already hosted some matches of the FIFA U-17 World Cup and will host the final match as well.

Corporator brings rat to BMC to highlight problem at civic hospital

MUMBAI, Oct 12 (PTI): To draw attention to the menace of rat-bites at a civic hospital in suburban Kandivali, a BJP corporator today brought a captured vermin to a meeting of the general body of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). He captured the rat alive at Dr Ambedkar General Hospital, claimed corporator Kamlesh Yadav.

Mayor Vishwanath Mahadeshwar, who was presiding over the meeting, asked Yadav and his supporters to leave the house.

Speaking to PTI, Yadav said, "This was the only way to shake and wake up the administration which has utterly failed to control the menace of rat-bites at the hospital."

Instead of getting cured of existing ailment, patients and their relatives are required to seek treatment for rat bites which they suffer at the hospital, he said.

Humiliated by Iran, Germany seek knock-out berth

Kochi, Oct 12 (PTI): A 0-4 humiliation by Iran denting their confidence, European powerhouse Germany face African side Guinea in a must-win match of the FIFA U-17 World Cup here tomorrow.

Germany, who have qualified for the FIFA U-17 World Cup as fifth place finisher from Europe via a play-off, began their campaign with an unconvincing 2-1 win over Costa Rica before slumping to an embarrassing 0-4 defeat to Iran.

Any further slip-up against Guinea in their last Group C match tomorrow will see Germany making an early exit from the tournament.

The Christian Wueck-coached German side will need a win tomorrow at the Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium to secure an automatic spot in the Round of 16 as one of the two group toppers.

With six points to their kitty, Iran have already qualified for the knock-outs.

Even a draw may see Germany through to the Round of 16 but they would want a win against Guinea as that will give them some confidence which has been shattered by Iran.

In their previous match against Iran, Germany dominated the ball possession but their forwards were out of sorts as they had just four shots on tar-



get while the Asian team had 12 such efforts, out of which they scored four goals.

If it was not for Germany goalkeeper Luca Plogmann making several important saves, Iran may have won that match in Margao by a bigger margin.

Germany have players of calibre of striker and captain Jann-Fiete Arp who recently made his Bundesliga debut for Hambur, but they will have to quickly forget their humiliation by Iran and brought their campaign back

on track with a win against Guinea tomorrow.

Guinea, on the other hand, have not won a match, having lost to Iran 1-3 in their opening fixture before playing out a 1-1 draw against Costa Rica in their previous game.

For them, it is a do-or-die match with just one point in their kitty. A win tomorrow will give them a spot in the Round of 16 but anything less than that will send them crashing out of the competition.

In their previous match

against Costa Rica in Margao, Guinea paid the price of the profligacy of their goal-shy forwards as they had as many as 42 shots at target as compared to just eight by their opponents.

Having wasted a fine chance to collect full three points in their previous match, Guinea will now have to try and notch up a win against Germany in their final group game tomorrow.

They would take inspiration from Iran's 4-0 thrashing of the European side.



Late Ralli Limboo Memorial football tourney

MANGAN, 12 Oct: The semi-final round of the ongoing Late Ralli Limboo Memorial Open Football Tournament was played between Rongong Youth Club and Gnon Sangdong today at Tibuk Junior high School in Mangshila-Tibuk, North Sikkim. The match was won by Gnon Sang-

dong 5-1.

Government Contractor, Chewang Gyatso Lachungpa who attended the event as the chief guest in his address announced to support the public's demand for the construction of a new road to Tibuk from Zero Point. He also donated Rs 25,000 to the school.

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FTII students write open letter to Kher, flag several issues

PUNE, Oct 12 (PTI): The students of FTII have written an open letter to newly-appointed chairman Anupam Kher, voicing their opposition to the short-term courses started by the acting school and drawing his attention to a slew of issues being faced by them.

The 62-year-old veteran was yesterday appointed chief of the city-based Film & Television Institute of India (FTII), an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The FTII was started to impart learning on different aspects of filmmaking, but it is now slowly being turned into a school that runs short-term crash courses for "generation of funds", said the letter.



The letter has been signed by FTII Students' Association (FSA) president Robin Joy and general secretary Rohit Kumar.

"We sincerely believe the short-term courses being run (by FTII) can't impart knowledge on film-making in such

a short duration," it said.

A government institute that exists to provide education to students from all sec-

tions of the society shouldn't be driven by the agenda of funds generation, which currently seems to be the aim of such short-term courses, the association alleged.

In the letter, the FSA took objection to events like Foundation Day and Open Day started by the institute and stated that over the past one year the administration has spent "large amounts" of money on such events.

"We, students, believe the amount of money being spent on lights, erecting set pieces in front of the campus can be spent on the infrastructure and in buying and repairing equipment which would only help us in finishing our projects on time."

Expressing apprehension about the implementation of the new syllabus, the FSA said there is a confusion among the faculties on the new credit-based semester system (which replaced the earlier annual assessment system).

"Students are being forced to sign undertakings to finish their courses 'on time'. However, the administration is not providing the resources essential to finish their projects on time," said the letter addressed to Kher.

The FSA took strong objection to the exclusion of student representatives from discussion pertaining to issues such as academics, syllabus, discipline, fee structure, staff and faculties in the aca-

ademic council meetings.

"Considering the fact that the students are the primary stakeholders and voting members in the academic council this move to exclude the student representatives is unconstitutional," stated the letter.

"Being aware of Mr Kher's association and activities in the past two to three years, we are asking him some questions through this letter and curious to know his take on them," said Joy.

Yesterday, the students' body, while questioning Kher's appointment as the FTII chairman, alleged there was a "conflict of interest" as the actor ran his own acting school in Mumbai.

N Korea says Trump has ‘lit fuse of war’: TASS

Moscow, Oct 12 (AFP): US President Donald Trump “lit the fuse of war” against North Korea with his provocative comments to the United Nations last month, North Korea’s foreign minister has told the Russian TASS news agency.

Trump has engaged in an escalating war of words with North Korean strongman Kim Jong-un, trading insults amid rising tensions between the two nuclear-armed rivals.

“With his belligerent and mad address to the UN, it can be said that Trump has lit the fuse



of war against us,” Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho told Russia’s state news agency during an interview in Pyongyang yesterday.

“Our dear supreme leader Kim Jong-un had already sternly warned: the US must act in a reasonable manner and cease

attacking us if it does not want to be humiliated in front of the whole world under the weight of our blows,” Ri added.

The minister also lashed out at a tough new package of UN sanctions brought in last month.

“The government of our republic has many times stated that any attempt to strangle us, to choke us in the guise of sanctions is equivalent to an act of war,” he said.

He added that North Korea would not rule out “the use of the most extreme measures in response.”

Trump used his maiden speech to the UN in September to threaten to “destroy” the nuclear-armed nation if Kim did not back down, referring to him as “Rocket Man”.

He said in October that “only one thing will work” in relation to North Korea.

Tensions over North Korea’s weapons programme have soared in recent months, with Pyongyang launching a flurry of missiles and conducting its sixth and most powerful nuclear test last month.

US should not look at CPEC from India’s perspective: Pak

WASHINGTON, Oct 12 (PTI): Dismissing the US’ concern over the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Pakistan’s Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal has said that Washington should not look at the multi-billion project from India’s perspective as it would provide a platform that would benefit all.

The CPEC will provide a platform for bringing together South and Central Asian, Middle Eastern and African countries by physically joining them through an economic corridor,” he said.

“So, I think, the US should not look at CPEC from the Indian perspective, but as a source for peace, stability and prosperity in the region. CPEC can bring the much-needed stability to a region that has suffered from war for the last several decades,” Iqbal added.

“If the US looks at the region from India’s perspective, it will harm the region and US interests too. So, it is necessary that the US should view the situation from an independent perspective, not from someone else’s point of view,” he said.

Viewing Pakistan from someone else’s perspective would create complications and only terrorists would benefit from it, he added.

IS targets Damascus police HQ with suicide bombers

DAMASCUS, Oct 11 (AFP): Three suicide bombers blew themselves up near the main police headquarters in Syria’s capital Damascus today, killing at least two people, the interior ministry said. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement released via the Telegram messaging app.

The assault was the second time in a month that suicide attackers have targeted the capital, which has been insulated from the worst of the violence in the war-torn country. State news agency SANA quoted Interior Minister Mohammad Shaar saying both of those killed were police officers.

Two of the suicide bombers detonated their explosives in front of the police HQ on Khaled Bin al-Walid street in central Damascus, his ministry said in a statement carried by state media.

“The terrorist suicide attackers tried to storm the police command headquarters... The guards opened fire on them, forcing them

to blow themselves up before they entered the building and achieved their goals,” it added.

Police surrounded a third attacker behind the building who also blew himself up, the statement said. The interior ministry said two people had been killed and six wounded in the attack, among them two children.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported five dead, not including the three attackers.

IS in its statement on Telegram said two attackers “entered the headquarters building and fought with those inside... then detonated their explosive vests”.

Damascus police chief Mohammed Khairu Ismail told reporters at the scene in the central neighbourhood of Qanawat that one of the dead was a policeman who tried to stop the bombers.

“One of our forces grabbed one of the suicide bombers and prevented him from entering the building, so he blew himself up, killing the sergeant,” Ismail said.



Sensitive information about Australia’s F-35 stealth fighter and other military hardware was stolen during a cyber attack last year, it has emerged. About 30 gigabytes of data was stolen - including details of the Joint Strike Fighter aircraft and P-8 Poseidon surveillance plane. Australia’s defence industry minister, Christopher Pyne, told: “Fortunately the data that has been taken is commercial data, not military data... it’s not classified information. “I don’t know who did it.”

23 dead in ‘catastrophic’ California wildfires

SANTA ROSA (US), Oct 12 (AFP): More than 200 fire engines and firefighting crews from around the country were being rushed to California to help battle infernos which have left at least 23 people dead and thousands homeless.

“This is a serious, critical, catastrophic event,” California fire chief Ken Pimlott told reporters. “We’re not going to be out of the woods for a great number of days to come.”

Pimlott said that after a respite on Tuesday winds kicked up again on Wednesday and the winds and dry conditions were hampering efforts to contain the blazes.

“We are still impacted by five years of drought,” the director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) said.

“These fires were driven by the critically dry fuel bed,” he added. “We are literally looking at explosive vegetation.”

Pimlott said the death toll from the fires, among the deadliest ever in California, could be expected to go up further. Thirteen of the deaths have occurred in Sonoma County, a wine-producing region which has been particularly hard



hit, while six people have died in Mendocino County. There have been two deaths in Yuba County.

Entire neighborhoods in Santa Rosa, a city of 175,000 which is the county seat of Sonoma County, have been reduced to ashes. Thousands of people have been left homeless and 25,000 people have evacuated their homes in Sonoma County alone, according to officials.

More than 3,500 homes and businesses have been destroyed including several wineries in Sonoma and Napa counties, the heart of the state’s wine production. Six hundred people have been reported missing in Sonoma County, but more than half of them have been located, Sheriff Robert Giordano told reporters.

“There are still 285 on our missing list that we’re looking for,” he said.

Pimlott said firefighters were battling a total of 22 wildfires that have burned over 170,000 acres (68,800 hectares) and that reinforcements had been requested.

He said 170 fire engines had been ordered from the neighbouring states of Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Washington and another 154 engines from elsewhere around the country. In addition, 60 firefighting crews from other states were on their way to California to provide assistance, he said.

“Our primary goal is to get these resources into the fires,” Pimlott said.

He said 73 helicopters, 30 air tankers and nearly 8,000 firefighters were

currently taking part in the effort to extinguish the blazes. President Donald Trump has declared a major disaster in California, freeing up federal funding and resources to help fight the fires. And Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in eight counties.

Bob Nelson, 53, stopped in his black pickup truck at a police roadblock near Santa Rosa, said he fled his home on Sunday and returned on Tuesday.

“There was no damage,” he said. “But then we got evacuated again.

“We don’t know about our house now,” Nelson told AFP.

“I’ve got no idea. It’s in the middle of two fires.”

Michael Desmond, 63, does know, and the news is bad: his home was one of hundreds destroyed by the blaze in the Coffee Park neighborhood of Santa Rosa.

“I feel violated; like a thief came in,” said Desmond, who sobbed as he surveyed the rubble of the house where he grew up.

Much of the damage in Santa Rosa can be seen from US Route 101, the north-south highway which runs from California through Oregon to Washington state.

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Anthyesthi Kriya

The Anthyesthi Kriya of **Late Smt Hari Maya Pradhan**, permanent resident of Rhenock Bazar, presently residing at Arithang, Gangtok, who left for her heavenly abode on October 7, 2017 falls on **October 18, 2017.**

All family, friends and well-wishers are requested to kindly join us for offering of departed soul at **Chokasum Hall, Nam Nang, Gangtok.** We also take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude towards those who has extended their support during the time of the bereavement.

Mingma Bhutia, Nima Bhutia, Dawa Bhutia (Sons), Phuphama Shrestha, Neelam Bhutia, Neelu, Bhutia, Ningmu Bhutia (Daughters), Krishna Chettri, Yankee Bhutia (Daughters-in-law), Bhusan Pradhan, Suraj Kr. Chettri (Sons-in-law), Chung Chung Bhutia (Granddaughter), Daniel Bhutia (Grandson)
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Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:11 DrawDate on:12/10/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 90L 79472
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9,497/- 79472 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
00592 07635 13772 40716 41186
56177 61302 91673 96784 98487
4th Prize Rs.500/- 1668 4529 4750 5310 7056 8456 8465 8919 9416 9536
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0141 0261 0871 1606 1622 5180 5448 5721 8365 8924
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0045 0163 0168 0174 0198 0339 0381 0388 0538 0695
0707 0758 0765 0778 0832 0890 1006 1050 1128 1138
1161 1176 1451 1643 1666 1694 1714 1715 1795 1827
1880 1968 2033 2096 2110 2193 2243 2444 2486 2588
2763 3055 3122 3136 3239 3250 3392 3401 3864 3968
4055 4171 4182 4203 4278 4448 4562 4963 5031 5142
5145 5184 5347 5349 5422 5521 5545 5632 5689 5705
6115 6132 6601 6629 6699 6789 6967 7388 7605 7894
8062 8208 8253 8266 8294 8326 8404 8438 8871 8880
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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR WORTHY MORNING
Draw No:6 DrawDate on:12/10/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 94J 55675
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2nd Prize Rs.9,497/- 55675 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
08975 49904 54961 59037 67001
80862 88049 88391 88853 91877
4th Prize Rs.500/- 1547 2301 5269 6095 6554 8101 8515 8558 9216 9526
5th Prize Rs.250/- 2033 2512 4180 4405 5280 6863 7928 8378 9047 9796
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0126 0437 0456 0485 0623 0831 1085 1280 1366 1370
1433 1469 1584 1625 1747 1832 1872 2002 2046 2148
2154 2188 2202 2231 2258 2357 2465 2617 2698 2723
2796 3025 3089 3159 3160 3361 3459 3563 3927 3947
3965 3987 4127 4159 4270 4279 4407 4434 4495 4664
4720 4852 4974 5037 5060 5123 5137 5196 5425 5428
5454 5663 5766 5910 5963 6025 6048 6221 6317 6416
6552 6796 6886 6956 7136 7162 7208 7930 8103 8112
8122 8176 8345 8637 8810 8880 8917 8945 8989 9021
9252 9298 9367 9370 9619 9671 9677 9718 9847 9875

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR KIND
Draw No:11 DrawDate on:12/10/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 76G 84681
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9,497/- 84681 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
12180 23406 23795 30705 44270
44407 50183 70441 86605 95531
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0201 2048 2317 2967 3667 4523 6039 6917 8373 9604
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0607 1247 3068 5013 5829 5917 6526 7381 7455 8163
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0002 0092 0188 0248 0420 0421 0423 0633 0658 0782
0808 0816 0838 0918 1208 1306 1307 1465 1475 1518
1519 1575 1786 2000 2315 2511 2545 2598 2629 2653
2669 2752 3003 3030 3039 3074 3115 3320 3374 3393
3420 3461 3477 3681 3880 3979 4192 4203 4312 4445
4564 4617 4635 4683 4697 4958 4964 5011 5107 5114
5125 5258 5379 5419 5517 5642 5761 5890 6051 6073
6170 6215 6222 6278 6450 6589 6684 6761 6828 7004
7507 7315 7483 7505 7507 7626 7679 7892 7969 8054
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GLAMOUR GIRL: Freida Pinto spoke onstage during Glamour's The Girl Project in New York City.

CARA DELEIVINGNE SAYS HARVEY WEINSTEIN SEXUALLY HARASSED HER: 'I FELT VERY POWERLESS AND SCARED'

Cara Delevingne is speaking out about Harvey Weinstein and has accused the movie mogul in an Instagram post of sexually harassing her in his hotel room.

"When I first started to work as an actress, I was working on a film and I received a call from Harvey Weinstein asking if I had slept with any of the women I was seen out with in the media," the supermodel, 25, who is openly gay, captioned an Instagram photo of a phrase reading "Don't be ashamed of your story it will inspire others." "It was a very odd and uncomfortable call. I answered none of his questions and hurried off the phone but before I hung up, he said to me that if I was gay or decided to be with a woman especially in public that I'd never get the role of a straight woman or make it as an actress in Hollywood."

The Valerian actress alleged that she later had an uncomfortable encounter the former studio executive, 65. "A year or two later, I went to a meeting with him in the lobby of a hotel with a director about an upcoming film. The director left the meeting and Harvey asked me to stay and chat with him," she wrote. "As soon we were alone he began to brag about all the actresses he had slept with and how he had made their careers and spoke about other inappropriate things of a sexual nature. He then invited me to his room. I quickly declined and asked his assistant if my car was outside. She said it wasn't and wouldn't be for a bit and I should go to his room. At that moment I felt very powerless and scared but didn't want to act that way hoping that I was wrong about the situation."

Delevingne said she walked into Weinstein's room. "When I arrived I was relieved to find another woman inches room and thought immediately I was safe," she continued. "He asked us to kiss and she began some sort of advances upon his direction. I swift got up and asked him if he knew that I could sing. And I began to sing. I thought it would make the situation better, more professional, like an audition. I was so nervous. After singing

I said again that I had to leave. He walked me to the door and stood in front of it and tried to kiss me on the lips. I stopped him and managed to get out of the room. I still got the part for the film and always thought that he gave it to me because of what happened. Since then I felt awful that I did the movie. I felt like I didn't deserve the part."

The Suicide Squad star then explained why she chose not to speak out about the alleged incident. "I was so hesitant about speaking out. I didn't want to hurt his family. I felt guilty as if I did something wrong. I was also terrified that this sort of thing had happened to so many women I know but no one had said anything because of fear."

In another post the same day, Delevingne shared a photo of an inspirational quote that read, "The devil whispered in my ear, 'You're not strong enough to withstand the storm.' Today I whispered in the devil's ear, 'I am the storm.'"

The Paper Towns actress captioned the post: "I want women and girls to know that being harassed or abused or raped is NEVER their fault and not talking about it will always cause more damage than speaking the truth. I am relieved to be able to share this. I actually feel better and I'm proud of the women who are brave enough to speak. This isn't easy but there are strength in numbers."

"As I said, this is only the beginning. In every industry and especially in Hollywood, men abuse their power using fear and get away with it," she said. "This must stop. The more we talk about it, the less power we give them. I urge you all to talk and to the people who defend these men, you are part of the problem."

As previously reported, Weinstein was fired from his own company after The New York Times published a report on Thursday, October 5, detailing decades of alleged sexual harassment by the producer. Since then, many actresses have come forward with claims, including Angelina Jolie, Gwyneth Paltrow, Mira Sorvino and Rosanna Arquette.

CONFESSIONS!!!



KRIS WU TEAMS UP WITH TRAVIS SCOTT FOR 'DESERVE'

Chinese-born Canadian soloist Kris Wu is making waves with the release of his brand new single "Deserve," a smooth track featuring Travis Scott.

Released on Wednesday, "Deserve" offers up sensual, harmonizing vocals and mellow raps from the pair to create trap-laden banger built to be played in clubs around the world. The new single is Wu's first song of the year, aside from "Juice," a tie-in song released as part of the xXx: Return of Xander Cage soundtrack. Upon its release, "Deserve" shot to No. 1 on the U.S. iTunes chart.

In an interview with Beats 1, Wu revealed that he and Scott actually recorded "Deserve" in studio together, despite usually being continents apart. "I'm based out still in China, in Beijing, but I try to fly out every time when I make music," said Wu, after revealing the duo record-



ed the track in Los Angeles.

"I think it's so important that you want to be in the room with these people making music together, because that's what it's all about. Especially hip-hop music, because you have to be vibing."

Wu also revealed in the interview that he plans to drop his debut album in 2018.

After getting his start in the K-pop industry as a member of EXO, Wu became a prominent player in the Chinese entertainment industry

AMITABH BACHCHAN, RANBIR KAPOOR, ALIA BHATT TO EMBARK ON AN ADVENTURE WITH AYAN MUKHERJI'S BRAHMASTRA



Karan Johar has been tantalizing us for quite some time now with his tweets about a huge upcoming project. While many conspiracies were afloat about which film he's going to announce... he lived up to the hype and expectations.

The filmmaker announced one of Dharma Production's most ambitious projects - Brahmastra starring Amitabh Bachchan, Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt. The official announcement of the film reads - We embark on a journey into the realm of a fantasy adventure series which will be a trilogy.

Ever since reports about Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor being roped in for a movie together emerged, fans have been waiting for more details about the project with bated breath. And now, putting all rumours to rest, Karan Johar has revealed the film's title - Brahmastra. Earlier rumored to be titled Dragon, this fantasy adventure, helmed by Ayan Mukerji, will be one of Bollywood's rare trilogies, the first of which will hit the screens next year.

In an interview with PTI, Ayan talked about the film and said, "There is a lot of action in 'Dragon', so there is a lot of training, like gymnastics kind of train-

ing, horse-riding, fighting and lot of physical stuff that Ranbir will have to do. And then there is internal work, like to get the spirit of the character right. Ranbir has to observe the flavor of the film and communicate it with the audience. We are trying to imagine things, this (fantasy) world, and work accordingly." He also added, "In its core, it has romance as an element but it has got a new flavor to it. With every film, I am trying to evolve and grow."

BOLLYBUZZ!!!



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

12TH OCTOBER

1921- New York Giants beat the Yankees in the World series in New York today.

1938- Heavy Chinese reinforcements are being rushed to Watchow to engage the new large Japanese expeditionary force numbering over 35,000. Fighting is intensifying as the Japanese proceed further inland trying to gain control over major transport routes including railway lines.

1943- Italy declared war on Germany, its one-time ally, and was granted the status of a co-belligerent by the United Nations.

1966- New laws passed in white controlled South Africa allow for detention without trial or warrant by a Police Lieutenant Colonel or other high ranking Police Officer anywhere, any person he suspects of

security offences without trial or charge for 28 days.

1977- Four Palestinian hijackers hijack a Lufthansa airliner demanding the release of 11 imprisoned members of Germany's Baader-Meinhof terrorist group, also known as the Red Army Faction.

2012- A car bomb in a market in Darra Adam Khel, Pakistan killed fifteen people and injured another thirty people. The attack had not been claimed officially by any group but the Taliban was being blamed for the blast.

2013- Cyclone Phailin strikes parts of India in the Andhra Pradesh and Orissa states. Eighteen people were reported dead and hundreds of millions of dollars worth of damage was done to homes, fields, and infrastructure in the areas.

LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REIMER



ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT



ARIES: Too much partying could have you feeling a little under the weather. The food and drink may have been great, but today you'd better eat plain but nourishing food. You may not be inclined to exercise, but a brisk walk or yoga class might be just what you need. It will also clear your head. You should be yourself again by midafternoon.

TAURUS: Friends and lovers alike may take unfair advantage of your good nature. Some may want you to do them favors. Others might want to use you as a sounding board for their problems. You won't want to turn them away. If you can't avoid them, you should learn to say, "I'll help you later!" You can only be in

one place at a time, and there are only 24 hours in a day.

GEMINI: Family members might have too much on their minds today and ask you for more help than you're prepared to give. Make sure you stay calm and focused so you can decide which difficulties are most urgent and need to be handled first. Don't be afraid to tell others your decision. When possible, give advice rather than help. Sometimes that's all people really need.

CANCER: Today you might spend time helping a sibling or neighbor prepare for a trip. Or more than one person could ask you for advice on business matters, legal papers, investments, homework, or

other intellectual concerns. Try not to spread yourself too thin or you won't be much use to anybody, least of all you. If it doesn't all get done today, there's always tomorrow.

LEO: Someone may approach you talking about investments. This person may make whatever he's pushing sound like a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Remember the adage, "If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is!" If you're interested in what this person has to say, wait a few days and then check with an unbiased source. It always pays to be cautious!

VIRGO: Today you may feel like you're brimming over with physical energy. You have a lot of energy,

but it isn't a good idea to go climbing mountains, running marathons, or swimming long distances right now. If you don't pace yourself, you could be exhausted by midafternoon. You may be temporarily operating on nervous energy and limited stamina.

LIBRA: Responsibilities may be weighing on your mind today. Perhaps you've promised someone help but don't have the time and energy to come through right now. Don't be afraid to tell the person. Between the two of you, you can work something out that creates a win/win situation so your friend gets the needed help and you don't tire yourself out. A little ingenuity is

all it takes!

SCORPIO: A tremendous burst of creative energy regarding a cherished project could hit today. Inspiration could strike, and you'll want to turn as much of that into physical reality as possible. Don't be disappointed if your insights are exhausted quickly and you hit a roadblock. Don't try to force it. Stop working for now and take it up later. The inspiration will come again!

SAGITTARIUS: Today you could be in the public eye in some way. Perhaps you're teaching a class, giving a lecture, or leading a discussion group. Whatever it is, don't be surprised if you alternate between inspired and free-flowing articula-

tion and total mental block. When the latter happens, ask for questions. That'll give them a chance to speak and get your brain going again.

CAPRICORN: Too many errands to run? Too many calls to make? Don't be surprised if you feel like you're running in circles. You might be trying to juggle career concerns while making plans for a journey of some kind. Take time to relax. Go to a movie and forget everything for a while. It isn't worth making yourself crazy.

AQUARIUS: Unexpected expenses, perhaps for house repairs, might require some budgetary juggling. You might have to rob Peter to pay Paul. This will probably offend your

practicality, but it's only temporary. With your sound financial sense, you'll be able to balance your budget again soon. Your diet over the next few days may include a lot of peanut butter sandwiches.

PISCES: Surliness on the part of a partner could catapult you into a gloomy mood. Your friend isn't communicating very well, and you probably wonder if it's something you said or did. Chances are it's not. All signs indicate that it's business. Don't try to force your partner to share these concerns with you, as this will only cause further retreat. Your friend will talk when the time's right.