

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the Indian Team that participated in the FIFA U-17 World Cup. The meeting was held in New Delhi on 10 November, 2017. The Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (I/C) and Information & Broadcasting, Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore is also seen, as is Sikkim's own Komal Thatal in his trademark blonde mop. During the interaction, the players talked about the experience and exposure that they gained during FIFA, both on and off the field. The Prime Minister encouraged the players to not feel disappointed with the outcome of the tournament, but to treat it as a learning opportunity. The Prime Minister said India can achieve a lot in football. He also mentioned that sports helps in developing personality, building confidence, and in overall development. [PIB]

## Sikkim to host All India Seniors Ranking Badminton Championship

**NITESH R PRADHAN  
GANGTOK, 10 Nov:**

The logo of the soon to be held All India Seniors Ranking Badminton championship 2017 was unveiled today in the capital by the Badminton Association of Sikkim (BAS).

BAS also welcomed Badminton Association of India Secretary (tournament), KC Punnaiah Choudhary in the State at the function.

BAS president, C Zangpo while addressing the function said that this is the first time that such a national level badminton tournament is being held in the state.

He also said that Rs 50 lakh has already been sanctioned by the government for the event.

Informing the gathering, he said that the venue of the national competition is Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT).

Sports Secretary, SD Dhakal assured full support from the department for logistics and any other support required for the event.

While responding to queries regarding the badminton court to be built at Paljor Stadium he said that the department is expecting the court to be completed by the end



of this month.

Chief Guest of the function, KC Punnaiah Choudhary congratulated BAS for bringing the biggest event in the North East to the state.

He also expressed satisfaction with the infrastructure present in the state to host national events.

Mr Choudhary said that since this is the last national level tournament of this year, the state is set to witness many international and national level badminton players play in Sikkim.

"The best international players are participating and it is a good opportunity for shuttlers to upgrade their ranking," he stated.

He also strongly advocated the need for an

academy in all States for promotion of the sport.

"Why can't we have an academy with all facilities here," he said.

He assured that BAI is working towards setting up such academies in all states including Sikkim.

The tournament will be held from 04 to 09 Dec in five categories - men's singles, men's doubles, women's singles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

The tournament has prize money of Rs 05 lakh and Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling is the chief patron of the tourney.

The function was attended by Gangtok Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary along with other officials from BAS and Sikkim Olympic Association.

## Tussle in judiciary: CJI bench annuls J Chelameswar's order

**ABHISHEK ANSHU AND  
MANOHAR LAL**

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** The tussle within top judiciary today came to the fore with the Supreme Court overturning the order of a two-judge bench to set up a larger bench to hear a graft case allegedly involving judges, asserting that Chief Justice of India was the "master of the roster".

The showdown was over the

issue of supremacy of constituting a bench in which the authority of Chief Justice Dipak Misra was allegedly undermined by a bench of Justices J Chelameswar and S Abdul Nazeer, which had yesterday set up a five-judge bench to hear a case of alleged bribery of judges in which a retired judge of Orissa High Court, Justice Ishrat Masroor Qudusi, is an accused.

Justice Chelameswar, who is

the senior-most judge after the CJI, had ordered setting up of the five-judge bench of top judges of the apex court as a petition by an NGO and an advocate had claimed there were allegations against Justice Misra.

However, in a dramatic development, the CJI today set up a five-judge bench headed by him and overturned yesterday's order of the two-judge bench, saying the Chief Justice had the

sole prerogative of setting up a bench and allocating matters.

In fast-paced events, the five-judge bench, also comprising Justices R K Agrawal, Arun Mishra, Amitava Roy and A M Khanwilkar, assembled at 3 PM and commenced an urgent hearing on the question as to who can direct the setting up of a bench of specific judges to hear a particular matter.

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## UN expert finds holes in 'Swachh Bharat Mission', gets panned

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pet 'Swachh Bharat' mission today came in for sharp criticism by a top UN expert on sanitation who said it "lacked a holistic human rights approach", drawing swift reproval from the government.

The government also took exception to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation Leo Heller's reference to Mahatma Gandhi's spectacles in the mission's logo, and his "rambling" report containing "inaccuracies, sweeping generalisations and biases".

"In the last two weeks I have visited rural and urban areas, slums and settlement camps where undocumented population is residing... and I have found that these initiatives lack a more human rights approach," he said.

A press release by the office of the High Commissioner, United Nations Human Rights, on the issue, which had a reference to Mahatma Gandhi, drew strong criticism from the government. The release was distributed at the press conference.

"Everywhere I went, I saw the logo of the Clean India Mission-

(Mahatma) Gandhi's glasses. In its third year of implementation, now is a critical time to replace the lens of those glasses with the human rights lens," Heller was quoted as saying in the release.

Taking a strong note of his remarks on the logo of the Clean India Mission, the government is-



sued a statement deploring that it showed "serious insensitivity towards the Father of the Nation".

The statement said the world knows that the Mahatma was the foremost proponent of human rights.

"Instead of taking the human rights approach to sanitation in a holistic way, a piecemeal approach is there," Heller told the press conference, and urged the government at all levels to impart a human rights perspective to its national

programmes on safe drinking water and sanitation.

Heller today concluded his fortnight-long visit to the country during which he met several government officials and visited New Delhi, Kolkata, Imphal, Lucknow and Mumbai where he also visited a few slums.

The expert, charged by the UN Humans Rights Council, to monitor, report and advise on the realisation of the human rights to water and sanitation worldwide, said he also found that in certain areas people belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes faced "discrimination" in accessing toilets.

Eliminating open defecation is not just about building latrines, Heller said.

Heller said he had a "mixed perception" about the mission which was a unique initiative of India and launched by the Prime Minister himself.

"On my last day in India, the website of Clean India Mission showed 53 million toilets built in the last years, in rural areas only, (besides in urban areas). I need to recognise that it is very impressive," he said. He also brought up

turn to pg03

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FEES : 1,45,000  
PLACEMENT ASSIST : MALE/ FEMALE

**COURSE NAME : FLIGHT RADIO OFFICER**

DURATION : 2 MONTHS  
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STUDENT : MALE/FEMALE

**COURSE NAME : GROUND STAFF**

DURATION : 6 MONTHS  
QUALIFICATION : GRADUATION  
FEES : 79000.00  
STUDENT : MALE/FEMALE

**COURSE NAME : PROFESSIONAL MARINE COURSE**

DURATION : 3 MONTHS  
QUALIFICATION : 10<sup>TH</sup> / 12<sup>TH</sup>  
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STUDENT : MALE

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# GST rejig: Tax rate on 178 daily items reduced to 18% from 28%

JOYEETA DEY

**GUWAHATI, Nov 10 (PTI):** In the biggest GST rejig yet, tax rates on over 200 items, ranging from chewing gum to chocolates, to beauty products, wigs and wrist watches, were today cut to provide relief to consumers and businesses amid economic slowdown.

As many as 178 items of daily use were shifted from the top tax bracket of 28 per cent to 18 per cent, while a uniform 5 per cent tax was prescribed for all restaurants and 18 per cent in air-conditioned ones. All these got input tax credit, a facility to set off tax paid on inputs with final tax.

Currently, 12 per cent GST on food bill is levied in non-AC restaurants and 18 per cent in air-conditioned ones. All these got input tax credit, a facility to set off tax paid on inputs with final tax.

Jaitley said the restaurants, however, did not pass on the input tax credit (ITC) to customers and so the ITC facility is being with-

drawn and a uniform 5 per cent tax is levied on all restaurants without the distinction of AC or non-AC.

Restaurants in starred-hotels that charge Rs 7,500 or more per day room tariff will be levied 18 per cent GST but ITC is allowed for them. Those restaurants in hotels charging less than Rs 7,500 room tariff will charge 5 per cent GST but will not get ITC.

The all-powerful GST Council pruned the list of items in the top 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) slab to just 50 from current 228. So, only luxury and sins goods are now only in highest tax bracket and items of daily use are shifted to 18 per cent.

Also, tax on wet grinders and armoured vehicles was cut from 28 per cent to 12 per cent, he said, adding the tax rate on six items was reduced from 18 per cent to 5 per cent, on 8 items from 12 per cent to 5 per cent and on six items from 5 per cent to nil.

Chewing gum, chocolates, cof-

fee, custard powder, marble and granite, dental hygiene products, polishes and creams, sanitary ware, leather clothing, artificial fur, wigs, cookers, stoves, after-shave, deodorant, detergent and washing power, razors and blades, cutlery, storage water heater, batteries, goggles, wrist watches and mattress are among the products on which tax rate has been cut from 28 per cent to 18 per cent.

The top tax rate is now restricted to luxury and demerit goods like pan masala, aerated water and beverages, cigars and cigarettes, tobacco products, cement, paints, perfumes, ACs, dish washing machine, washing machine, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, cars and two-wheelers, aircraft and yacht.

The cut in tax will cost Rs 20,000 crore in revenues annually, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi said.

Launched on July 1, the GST weaved 29 states into a single market with one tax rate but while trad-

ers and small business complained of increased compliance burden, voices of dissent rose on high tax rate on some common use goods.

With economy growing by its slowest pace since Narendra Modi government came to power, the "panic-stricken govt has no option but to concede demands for change" in the tax, former Finance Minister P Chidambaram, said on Twitter today.

In ease compliance burden, the Council relaxed the return filing criteria and also lowered the penalties for late filing.

"As part of efforts to rationalise GST structure, the Council has been reviewing rates from time to time. In the last 3 meetings, we have been systematically looking at 28 per cent tax bracket and rationalising certain items out of that bracket into lesser categories, mostly 18 per cent or even less," Jaitley said.

GST tax slabs of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent were decided going by

the principle of fitting each item into a category most close to cumulative pre-GST taxes.

"Optically, some items should not have been in 28 per cent despite being in old regime. Secondly, some items manufactured by small entities had excise exemption," he said, adding in the last meetings 30-40 items have been taken out of 28 per cent bracket.

Bipin Sapra, Tax Partner, EY India, said, "While the reduction of rates would substantially reduce the prices of a number of commodities; however the government may need to balance the revenue considerations too."

Krishan Arora, Partner, Grant Thornton India LLP said the decision of GST Council on pruning of the 28 slab list would be a welcome move for many industries in mass consumption space.

In certain cases, it is also likely to bring down the total tax impact even lower than earlier regime which would be a big relief to the

industry as well as consumers.

Rationalisation exercise of tax slabs needs to be carried out comprehensively keeping in mind the significance of the industry and the overall tax incidence under earlier regime, Arora said.

Vishal Raheja of Taxmann described the move as "great step" and said, "In future, we may expect that Government will further slash tax rates by moving from 4-tier tax slabs to lesser slabs or even single GST rate".

Abhishek A Rastogi of Khaitan & Co said while it was expected that there will be rate cuts, it was never expected that the list will be trimmed down so significantly.

"With the rate reduction on a plethora of products, the next step of the government should be to ensure that the benefit of the rate reduction goes to the consumers," he said.

"It appears that after this mass rate reduction various anti-profiteering problems may kickoff for businesses which would not pass on the benefit to the consumers."

## EPCH holds another seminar on Export Promotion at Okhrey

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 NOV:

Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi kicked off a two-day seminar on Export Promotion, Marketing and Design Development for Comprehensive Development of North Eastern Handicrafts at Okhrey, West Sikkim today, a press release informs.

Organized by North East Textiles Promotion Schemes (NERTPS) and sponsored by Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) Office under the supervision of Marketing and Service Extension Centre, Gangtok, the seminar has 40 participants taking part in various events under the initiative to create awareness among the artisans of Okhrey on Export Promotion, Marketing and Design Development and use of quality raw material to prepare exportable items, reads the release.

Sikkim Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation



has selected the participants comprising of the passed out trainees from its training centre.

Handicrafts Promotion Officer, Shashikant Gupta and officials from the Sikkim Handicrafts Corporation attended the seminar.

During interactions with the Regional Director (Handicrafts) the artisans expressed their dif-

ficulties regarding production, availability of raw materials and marketing. The Regional Director decided to provide tool kits, materials and design to help them produce items for placement in the coming marketing events to be organized at India Handicrafts Gift Fair, New Delhi by Export Promotion Council for

Handicrafts.

State Director Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, NK Naik expressed his views to empower the youth through handicrafts schemes and different schemes of Ministry.

A similar workshop on Export Promotion was organised by EPCH at Lachen recently.



## SKM thanks party and Ind Panchayat candidates in West Sikkim

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 10 NOV:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha organised the third thanks giving program today for the Independent and party candidates who contested the recent Panchayat elections.

During the function held at the residence of Jit Bdr Chawan at Mangsari Tharpu, West Sikkim, SKM working president, MP Subba thanked all party workers and candidates acknowledging their hard work in the Panchayat elections, informs an SKM release.

"The credit for fighting the Panchayat poll goes to each candidate, party worker and youth wing member as well as the voters who did not compromise on their commitment towards change," said Mr Subba.

He appealed to all independent candidates to join the mission of change envisioned by SKM. Similar programmes

are being held in various constituencies where SKM executives are acknowledging party candidates and Independent candidates supported by the party for their courage in fighting against the ruling party, the release mentions.

A team comprising of working presidnet Navin Karki, vice president Frontal Org, Nuk Tshering Bhutia, vice president (East District Zonal), Anand Lama, Dup Tshering (Coordination East Zonal) met Jas Bahadur Tamang, who had contested the Panchayat election from Chuja Ward, Martam as an Independent candidate. He lost by a narrow margin of 10 votes. The SKM team congratulated him for his participation in the election, the release informs.

The function today was also attended by party executives like CEC member JB Subba, youth president, SR Subba, advisor, NT Tamang, coordinator, SR Tamang and others.

## Govt to table Bill in Parliament to allow NRIs to vote

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** A bill to amend the electoral law to allow Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to vote through postal or e-ballots would be introduced in the upcoming winter session of Parliament, the Centre today informed the Supreme Court.

A bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud considered the submission of the Centre and acceded to its request that the hearing on petitions seeking voting rights for NRIs, be adjourned.

Lawyer P K Dey, appearing for the Centre, sought adjournment for six months on the ground that the Bill would be tabled in the Winter Session. However, the bench deferred the hearing by 12 weeks.

On July 21, Attorney General K K Venugopal had told the court that NRIs could

not be allowed to vote by merely changing the rules made under the Representation of People (RP) Act and a Bill was needed to be introduced in Parliament to amend the Act itself to grant the voting rights.

The court had on July 14 asked the Centre to decide whether it would amend the electoral law or rules to allow NRIs to vote by postal or e-ballots in the polls in the country, taking note of the fact that the Centre and the Election Commission of India (ECI) were agreeable to the report of a panel that NRIs might be allowed to vote.

The poll panel had said the move to allow NRIs to use proxy voting on the lines of defence personnel and e-ballot facility would require changes either in the RP Act or in the rules made under the Act.

The Centre had said that in principle, it was

agreeable to the recommendations made in the report prepared by a 12-member committee led by the deputy election commissioner Vinod Zutshi to explore the feasibility of alternative options for voting by overseas electors.

Former attorney general Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for one of the petitioners, had said that NRIs could be given the right to vote by making changes in the rules only and there was no need to amend the provisions of the RP Act.

The bench was hearing a batch of petitions filed by Nagender Chindam, the chairman of London-based Pravasi Bharat organisation and other NRIs including Shamsher V P. Earlier, the Centre had said that the draft legislation to provide voting rights to NRIs through postal ballots would be further revised before it is tabled in Parliament.

## Tussle in judiciary: CJI bench annuls J Chelameswar's order

contd from pg01

"There cannot be a command or an order directing the CJI to constitute a bench of specific strength," the bench said while making it clear that neither a two-judge, nor a three-judge bench can direct the CJI to constitute a specific bench.

"Needless to emphasize that no judge can take up a matter on its own unless allocated by the CJI as the CJI is master of the court," the bench said and annulled the decision of the two-judge bench, in the hearing which witnessed heated exchange of words between the judges and advocate Prashant Bhushan, representing the petitioners.

"Any order passed contrary to this order (by the constitution bench) should not hold the field and shall be treated to be annulled," the CJI said in hard-hitting remarks while refusing the request of a lawyer to bar the media from reporting the case, saying he believed in "freedom of speech, freedom of expression and freedom of press".

The bench said if the principle of law,

judicial discipline and decorum of the court was not followed, there would be "anarchy" and "chaos" in the administration of justice as well as the functioning of the institution.

Perturbed by yesterday's order, the CJI, without taking names of the concerned judges, said there were hundreds of matters listed in the court daily and if the orders were passed like this, then the court cannot function.

Members of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), including its President R S Suri, vice-president Ajit Sinha, Secretary Gaurav Bhatia and several senior advocates including Ashok Bhan, Aman Sinha and others strongly countered the allegations levelled in the petitions and said strong action should be taken against any attempt to "browbeat" the judges.

"Getting orders by terrorism should not be tolerated by this court. Strong action needs to be taken against any such attempt," SCBA members said while requesting the bench to initiate contempt

proceedings in the matter.

The hearing in the jam-packed courtroom saw allegations flying thick and fast with Bhushan even raising his pitch while asking the CJI to recuse himself from hearing the matter as his name has allegedly figured in the CBI's FIR.

The CJI retorted by asking Bhushan, who was accompanied by advocate Kamini Jaiswal, one of the petitioners, to read the contents of the FIR and warned against losing his temper.

"We have been giving you indulgence and you cannot deny that, despite you levelling wild allegations against me. You can afford to lose your temper but we cannot," the CJI said.

Bhushan, who was representing an NGO 'Campaign for Judicial Accountability' and Jaiswal, seeking constitution of an SIT to probe the corruption case allegedly involving judges, said the CJI's name features in it.

"What FIR against me? It is nonsense. There is not a word in the FIR naming me. Read our orders first. I feel sorry. You are

liable for contempt now," the CJI said.

Bhushan dared the bench to issue a contempt notice to him and said the hearing cannot be conducted in this manner without allowing him to speak.

The activist advocate was also rebuked by Justice Arun Mishra, who observed that FIR cannot be lodged against sitting judicial officer of lower courts, judges of the higher judiciary, the Vice President of India or the President of India because they have immunity.

He said the contents of the petition filed before it was per se contemptuous.

Bhushan left the court in a huff midway during the hearing, alleging that he was not being allowed to speak while the court has heard "all and sundry". He was seen apparently being pushed and jostled while he was leaving the courtroom.

The CJI also said he had set up the five-judge constitution bench as a two-judge bench comprising Justices A K Sikri and Ashok Bhushan, while hearing a separate plea with similar allegations of bribery earlier in the day, had said that the matter

should be placed before the CJI for passing an appropriate order.

At the fag end of the hearing, one of the bar members requested the bench to pass an order gagging the media from reporting the case, claiming it would tarnish the image of the institution which is a "temple of justice".

The CJI refused to accept the oral submission, saying "I believe in freedom of speech, freedom of expression and freedom of press".

"Prime facie, I am always of the view that freedom of speech and expression should be respected. I am not going to pass any order restraining the press," CJI Misra said.

The constitution bench also made it clear that the pleas regarding alleged bribes taken in the names of judges would be taken up by an appropriate bench after two weeks.

The CBI, in its FIR, has named several persons, including former Orissa High Court judge Ishrat Masroor Qudusi, as accused in the alleged corruption case.

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**Gangtok on Saturday, 11 Nov**  
**Temp:** 23°C /09°C  
**Forecast:** Pleasant with a full day of sunshine.  
**Sunrise:** 05:52 AM  
**Sunset:** 4:46 PM

Dense smog continues in Delhi

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** Dense smog continued to hung over Delhi and the National Capital Region for the fourth day today, leaving people gasping for breath during the morning hours.

According to the MeT department, the visibility remained at 1,000 metres at 5.30 am, but it dropped to 400 metres at 8.30 am.

The minimum temperature settled at 13 degrees Celsius, one notch below the season's average. The humidity level recorded at 8.30 am was 93 per cent.

The department said there was a possibility of light winds later in the day, which may clear the smog choking the region.

"The maximum temperature is expected to settle at 30 degrees Celsius," an official said.

A choking blanket of smog enveloped the national capital this week, prompting authorities to announce the Odd-Even policy from November 13 for five days, closure of schools till Sunday and a four-fold hike in parking fee for vehicles.

The policy mandates private vehicles to ply on the basis of the last digit on their number plates - odd-numbered cars on odd dates and even-numbered cars on even dates.

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Daffodils Home celebrates Parents' Day

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 10 NOV:** Daffodils Home celebrated Parents' Day with a series of cultural presentations and events at Manan Kendra in the capital today.

With the motto 'strive for justice' the school has produced many bright luminaries.

Gangtok MLA, Pintso Chopel Lepcha and Principal and Founder

of the School, Bimla Diyalı attended the function along with the parents, students and other officials of the school. The program had dances, skits, instrumentals and drama.



Toddlers of Jack & Jill Kids, a kindergarten school in Gangtok, treat parents to an annual day programme here at Manan Bhavan on Friday, 10 November. Children from the playgroup, Nursery, LKG and Grade-1 were in performance for indulgent parents and grandparents today. The school is located at Lower Arithang, Gangtok.

Odisha, WB to hold first-ever joint coastal security exercise

**BHUBANESWAR, Nov 10 (PTI):** The governments of Odisha and neighbouring West Bengal will soon organise a joint security exercise named as Sagar Kavach to further tighten the existing coastal security mechanism along the 630 km long coastline.

This was informed by Odisha's Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Asit Tripathy after attending a meeting here.

Sagar Kavach security exercise is a realistic drill to check the efficacy of the security parameters and preparedness of various security forces like the Indian Navy, Marine police force, Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Forest Department, Fisheries and district administration," Tripathy told reporters.

Stating that Odisha for the first time will have a joint security drill along with West Bengal, Tripathy said, "We are going to organise a simulated terror attack named red force at a random place along Odisha or West Bengal coast and check how effective our marine policing is. The exercise will be held over two days within a week," he said.



2018 IS ALMOST HERE!!

**GANGTOK, 09 Nov:** 40-year-old Ranjan Kumar is a Nepali calendar seller in Gangtok and this year he is two months early. Walking through the moving crowd at Lal Bazaar flyover he stops a police man and shows him the calendar hoping that he will buy it. This year he is hoping to sell as many calendars as possible for a happy holiday season. [Rebyna Rana]

to book advertisements in Summit-Times call 03592-208698 9734152541 9647102692 advertise@summit-times.com

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM HEALTH CARE HUMAN SERVICES & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT GANGTOK**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The HC, HS&FW Department invites e-tender from Class –I A enlisted contractors (SPWD) for participating in the tender for the work "Construction of new 100 bedded District Hospital Building at Mangan in North Sikkim". For further details, kindly visit the website [sikkimtenders.gov.in](http://sikkimtenders.gov.in). Date of uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal will be on 14/11/2017.

Sd/- **ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, HC, HS & FW DEPARTMENT.**  
R.O. No. 398/opr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 9.11.2017

UN expert finds holes in 'Swachh Bharat Mission', gets panned

*contd from pg01*

the issue of the human rights of manual scavengers.

"The government's emphasis on building toilets should not involuntarily contribute to violating the fundamental rights of others, such as those specific caste groups engaged in manual scavenging, or those who are marginalised such as ethnic minorities living in remote rural areas," he said.

The government dismissed his preliminary findings as a "rambling report" and said it contained "inaccuracies, sweeping generalisations and biases".

"The report has been produced after only a two-week visit with fleeting trips to a few states and including some anecdotal reference," the government said, asserting its "highest commitment" to human rights in general and water supply and sanitation in particular.

The UN expert, who visited India at the invitation of the government will submit a full report on his findings with recommendations at the 39th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2018.

Heller was also critical of the certification mechanism being followed while declaring a particular area open-defecation free (ODF).

"The certification procedure is not very straightforward.

According to responsible ministries, the protocol to certify an ODF area is not the same for rural and urban areas. I also learned that in some places, ODF certified areas are not de facto open defecation free," he said.

Heller said the information, education and communication (IEC) mechanism used for the mission lacked proper methodology. He said just a few workshops and events were not enough for effective implementation of the mission and that sustained efforts needed to be made.

"Just dedicating funds is not enough. It is good the government has earmarked dedicated funds for the mission, but proper implementation through IEC is needed," he added.

The UN expert also said both sanitation and provision of safe drinking water should be accorded equal priority.

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**NOTICE**

**SUBJECT- SIX WEEKS DURATION SHORT TERM INTENSIVE COURSE IN BUDDHIST STUDIES**

The Namgyal Institute of Tibetology will be conducting 6 (six) weeks duration Short Term Intensive courses in English on the following subject matters:

a) Tibetan/Himalayan Buddhist Art and Architecture – Resource person : Mr. Pranshu Samdarshi With effect from 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 (day class)

b) Shaytrin (Nagarjuna's letter to a friend) – Resource Person : Khenpo Chowang With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018 from 4.30 – 6.00 pm.

All those interested candidates who are registered college students or graduates in any discipline may submit their application to the Joint Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology on or before 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 duly indicating the subject of their choice and paying the requisite registration fee of Rs.700/-. The application must be accompanied by authentic documents to prove their qualification for the course. Online application will also be accepted subject to submission of scanned copies of their qualification certificates and on payment of registration fee in the office of the Joint Director prior to taking admission.

For syllabus content and application form, kindly check on the NIT website- [www.tibetology.net](http://www.tibetology.net).

Sd/- **JOINT DIRECTOR, NAMGYAL INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY, GANGTOK – SIKKIM (INDIA)**  
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**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM HEALTH CARE HUMAN SERVICES AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT GANGTOK – 737101**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

MEMO NO. 157/NCD/HC,HS & FW DATE: 8.11.2017

On behalf of the Health Care, Human Services and Family Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, sealed tender bids are invited from eligible service providers for providing dialysis services at Namchi District Hospital, South Sikkim, in Public Private Partnership mode as per the detailed scope of work and terms & conditions of the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT).

The details of the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) may be obtained from the website Sikkim NHM: [https:// www.nrhm.sikkim.org](https://www.nrhm.sikkim.org) and Government of Sikkim: [https:// www.sikkim.gov.in](https://www.sikkim.gov.in).

Sd/- **ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR, NCD**  
R.O. No. 395/opr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 9.11.2017.

**MISSING**

Name: Miss Kalpana Adhibasi (Pradhan)  
Aged: 20 yrs.  
Height: 5 feet approx.  
Complexion: Black  
Body: Fat  
Wearing: Maroon Colour Sweater & Grey Pant with sleeper during the time of missing.  
Missing since: 29.10.2017 at morning hours from Lingding, Sichey, Gangtok. East Sikkim.  
Missing report registered at Sadar Thana vide dairy no. 1045 dt. 31.10.17.



## Let the Young Explore

### *Sikkim needs to allow the young to dream and aim big*

Take a look around, and you will be forced to notice that more and more of the young are beginning to think out of the box and explore options beyond the straitjacketed dictates of security that we would impose on them if we had the way. Maybe more of them are still hemmed down by the timidity that we project, but a brave number of them are stepping out, and that is welcome. This change reflects in the nature of people being felicitated by Sikkim. Where earlier generations had achievers from the established and secure professions, without taking anything away from their struggles and successes, one needs to remark that the younger achievers are from more off-the-beaten-path disciplines. The recent felicitation of achievers from among the Nepali speakers in Gangtok for instance featured young success stories from the creative fields and celebrated brave decisions. Take Megha Nidhi Dahal for instance. When the then 28-year-old Megha Nidhi, who was already “settled” and “secure” as a software engineer in the software capital of India at Bangalore, discovered his passion for public service and decided to pursue his real calling, he reaffirmed the faith Sikkim needs to have in its youth. He may be the first Sikkimese to crack the UPSC exams in the general category, but his success is bound to inspire many more youth to many more successes in many more fields. He took a brave decision to switch tracks and pursue his passion. His family backed his decision and he has made all of the State proud. A similar respect and support is palpable in the stories of all other young “achievers” felicitated recently and that is the approach that Sikkim needs to take. Sikkim needs to ensure an environment which inspires more of its young to pursue more divergent dreams.

Every generation wants to leave its mark. They do not always know how when they are young, but what they are instinctively passionate about is their pursuit for excellence, a pursuit which the elder generation needs to learn to allow to breathe. Unfortunately, despite an astoundingly high percentage of Sikkim made up of the young in their most productive age-bracket, there does not appear to be a genuine environment which encourages youthful exuberance to take flight. The policy initiatives are in place, but the societal attitudes are still regressive.

Disenchantment, pessimism and opportunism are behavioural traits that one normally associates with those who have been around for slightly more time. It will be wrong on our part to infect the young with it before it is their time to be so practical. But we try, sucking them into our mechanizations of entitlement and contacts and are not satisfied until we have given them a jaded outlook as well. This is unfortunate. Take a look around, at the community level, what has the elder generation really done to either get noticed or make a difference. An entire generation was smothered by elders who extended privileges when they should have provided challenges. An entire section has matured with a worrying sense of entitlement and no sense of service. This age-group needs to be convinced to allow the next their own futures and not the one imposed by us.

Slightly over a quarter of Sikkim's population is in the age-group with the most potential. As per the Census 2011 data, 22% of Sikkim's population was aged between 15 to 24 six years ago. Although learning is a process which begins with birth and continues till death, it is this slot from 15 to 24 which can benefit the most from opportunities. This one-fourth of Sikkim's population should be indulged by the remaining 78% with the best of opportunities and the most of resources. If this section excels, they will ensure a better future for the larger majority in coming years. Indulging this section should not be too difficult a task because when expanded, the age-group from 15 to 59, recognised as the “working age group” constitutes 65% of the population. What is more, a staggering 70% of Sikkim's population is made up of adults – those aged above 18 years. This means that the percentage of dependents – the very young and very aged – is very low in Sikkim, hence, supporting the dreams and aspirations of the 15 to 24 year olds should not be an impossible burden for the State to bear. Given how much easier Sikkim has it compared to the statistics and ground realities of the other states, the working age section has no excuses to deny the age-group on the verge of finding itself even its most ambitious.

The young have more than proven that they are willing to experiment and explore. Now it is upon us to let them.

**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

# Hate Globalisation? Try localism, not nationalism

KEVIN ALBERTSON  
theconversation.com

It hardly needs saying, but there are changes afoot in the political economy of the world. Where there is globalisation, there are globalisation protestors. This is nothing new, but it is becoming mainstream.

The antithesis of globalisation, nationalism, and the pursuit of your own country's interests over those of everyone else, has bubbled back up in Europe. And it's not just Europe, of course. In the US, president Donald Trump is (among other initiatives) rethinking the American commitment to free trade.

In the rest of the world, the experience of globalisation shows it creates some winners and some losers. This varies geographically and in different economic fields, and is shown in different aspects of our lives.

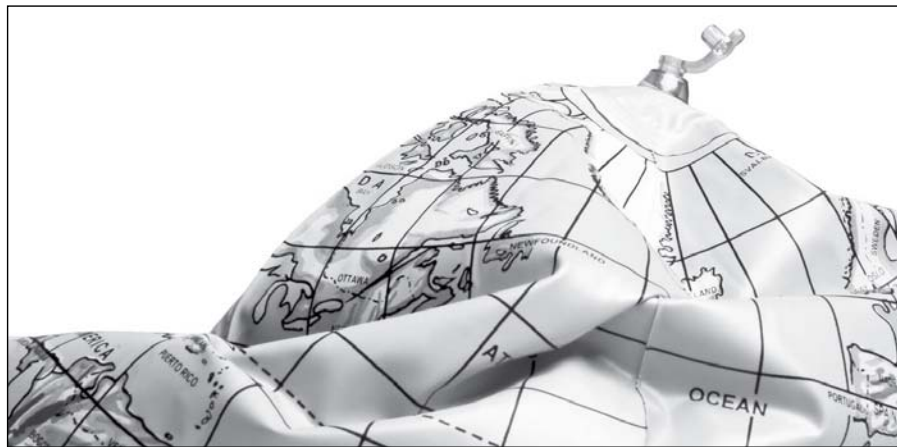
And so, someone in London might find their house is worth more. As foreign capital flows in to buy up large swaths of the capital it increases their wealth, while others might be priced out of the market. In some sectors of the market, wages might be declining as a result of global competition, migration, casualisation or automation. In the final analysis, however, it is not a matter of whether globalisation causes these changes, it is rather more that people feel that it does.

#### WALLS AND WAILS

Globalisation is not, however, merely a matter of trade, migration and foreign outsourcing. To many it seems Britain itself is for sale as an increasing proportion of UK businesses and assets answer to foreign owners.

Economic theory suggests, therefore, the nation will increasingly be run for the benefit of foreign capital, rather than the citizens. On top of this, there is the danger that inflows of foreign capital will cause the exchange rate to appreciate, making it more difficult to export, reducing manufacturing output and reducing employment in those sectors affected.

To protect them from forces beyond their control, citizens across the world are increasingly looking to the nation state for protection, hence the



rise of what is often called nationalism. As Abraham Lincoln noted:

“The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all, or cannot so well do, for themselves – in their separate, and individual capacities.”

It is clear, no individual or community can stand against the forces of global capital, and Western governments appear averse to giving the workforce the means to protect itself, through, for example, increasing employment rights and unionisation. However, in their search for a strong government to protect them, citizens are in danger of giving the state too much power over their lives.

It is by no means assured that the policies which suit a strong domestic government will be better than those which suit foreign owned multi-national corporations. Also, history indicates the fear of global capital may be co-opted by unscrupulous politicians into a fear of other nations or fear of other peoples.

#### THINK LOCALLY

Rather than nationalism, therefore, we might turn to localism. In the UK context, this might be devolution with real (financial) localised power, and that power realised through local government and local business.

An economy of big businesses

(operated for the benefit of global owners) is less than ideal for the individual and society. In contrast, a society of many small local businesses is more resilient, more empowering and more in keeping with the spirit of capitalism and of the market. We must also bear in mind that increasing business concentration (fewer, but larger firms) is a driver of increasing inequality. If a business is too big to (be allowed to) fail, then the government has failed in its duty to keep business small.

Economic theory indicates that those with no stake in a community other than profit extraction avoid suffering from localised ill effects such as unemployment, poverty, want and homelessness. It follows those who live and work in a community have a greater stake in its prosperity.

The government might likewise consider how we might prevent those who do not even live in the country from driving up house prices.

Local protection from exploitation by global interests requires the right mix of global and local policies. And local government policies require adequate financing. By local financial power, I don't mean local taxes. That has the potential to fragment the nation, as it has, to some extent, in the EU (whether perceived rightly or wrongly).

If we fund education or social care out of local taxes, for example, there will tend to be a race to the bottom as local authorities will be motivated to underperform to encourage vulnerable families to go and live elsewhere. It follows taxes should be collected nationally, and shared proportionally (on the basis of demographic profile) to the devolved authorities.

There is no space here to discuss in detail other possible localism policies here, but there are many ways to promote local ownership and local empowerment. That could include local currencies, boosts to council housing, local authority ownership of utilities or support for locally-owned high street shops. However, it is not a policy mix I suggest, rather it is an emphasis.

Ultimately, the only viable alternative to the choice currently on offer, the choice of Big State or Big Business, is Small State and Small Business, or more appropriately Local Government and Local Business. To pursue localism will require a systemic shift in how the national government goes about shaping society, but I suggest it is possible to promote social justice in a capitalist context in no other way.

[the writer is Professor of Economics, Manchester Metropolitan University]

## Priti Patel, Ancient Rome and Moral Leadership

DANIEL HOUGH  
theconversation.com

Priti Patel's ignominious departure from the UK cabinet after it emerged that she had held undeclared meetings with Israeli officials during a personal holiday exposes many flaws in her conduct. The commentariat tells us she showed a lack of judgement, a lack of awareness of due process and a willingness to conduct what, in effect, was her own foreign policy.

One word that hasn't come up so frequently is “corruption”. That's in many ways understandable. Corruption is generally understood in transactional terms with four key parts. An act is understood as corrupt if there is a (i) deliberate attempt (ii) to abuse (iii) entrusted power (iv) for some sort of private gain. Corruption is normally regarded as a process rather than an outcome and acts that tick all of those boxes are subsequently judged as such. That all of those terms can and do require some sort of external judgement to be made ensures that we can't talk about objective realities. We do, however, have a decent starting point for making sense of a complex world.

This understanding of corruption is, however, relatively new. Indeed, it's only in the past few decades that corruption has been understood in this form. Yet corruption has, of course, been around for as long as humans have sought to organise themselves. Aristotle, for example, argued corruption is a symbol of the dysfunctionality of states that have moved away from their “pure” state of being. For Aristotle and a number of his contemporaries, corruption has a clear moral dimension and that moral core is the very essence of corruption, leading inevitably to decay, degradation and ultimately state failure.

#### WHY ROME FELL

A similar logic has been used by historians such as Ramsay McMullen when they argue that the ever-deepening problem of corruption is the primary reason the Roman Empire fell.

MacMullen's thesis is straightforward and well documented: corruption led successive governments to concentrate more on the need to generate private gains (of whatever sort) for themselves and their supporters, and less on the demands of running a large and complex empire. The moral core that characterised much of the thinking of Rome's founders had withered away over time; subsequent Roman leaders not only lost control of the government, but the government lost sight of what



it existed to do. Even when it became apparent that corruption was at the core of the administration's work, attempts at reform came too late. Like a cancer, corruption had penetrated too many parts of the public ethos.

The fall of Rome was also pivotal in Montesquieu's thinking on corruption (and state failure). He explained in detail how the virtuous thinking of Rome's founders helped it become an empire, but how the corruption of Rome's moral fibre ultimately brought the empire down. For Montesquieu and MacMullen, as well as many others, corruption was at the very core of Rome's descent into dissolution.

#### A QUESTION OF MORALS

Corruption, no matter how it is defined, certainly has a moral dimension to it. That remains so regardless of the fact that many would prefer to couch their analysis, and, indeed, their prescriptions, in the language of rationality, interests, costs and benefits.

Much of the recent work on corruption – produced largely by those with the economist's mindset – has purposefully avoided the moral minefield and instead aspired to embrace some sort of objective understanding of corruption. That's ultimately unlikely to be a fruitful way forward in terms of actually fighting corruption in practice; morals drive understandings of what's appropriate and ignoring them doesn't mean that they simply go away.

Bringing issues of morality back into our analysis subsequently helps us comprehend much more about what we understand corruption to be as well as how (and, indeed, whether) we go about tackling it. The moral dimension to the corruption challenge, therefore, cannot be an optional extra.

It's with that in mind that the behaviour of Priti Patel is so interesting. There is little evidence to suggest that she might be guilty of corruption in the modern understanding of the term, but she certainly did do things that corruption analysts of yesteryear would recognise as falling in to that category. At a push one could certainly argue she broke the ministerial code and that's clearly a process violation. But it is really by looking at broader normative issues of what's right, why it's right and how we can recognise it as such do we really see why behaviour such as Patel's can be so corrosive.

Rome ultimately didn't fall because of the specific acts of one person. Rome's problems escalated over time as the moral core that characterised the thinking of Rome's founders ceased to shape their decision-making. Theresa May is hardly Romulus Augustus, but a government that neglects the importance of moral leadership is in dangerous waters. If nothing else, Priti Patel's resignation should give us reason to ponder the ramifications of that.

[the writer is Professor of Politics, University of Sussex]



Mamata remembers ‘martyrs’ on Nandigram Divas

KOLKATA, NOV 10 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today remembered those who had died because of what she said the “violent politics of the CPI(M)”.

On ‘Nandigram Divas’ today, she charged the CPI(M) with unleashing ‘barbaric attacks’ on the people of Nandigram in East Midnapore district in 2007.

“Today is Nandigram Divas. The memories of the barbaric attacks unleashed by the CPI(M) in Nandigram are still fresh in my mind,” Banerjee wrote on her Twitter handle.

Since 2012, the Trinamool Congress observes the day as “Nandigram Divas” every year.

“Today I remember those martyrs of Nandigram, Singur, Netai, Nanur, Keshpur and those who became vic-



tims of the violent politics of the CPI(M),” she tweeted.

In January 2007, farmers in Nandigram erupted in protest led by Banerjee’s TMC, against a special economic zone (SEZ) proposed by the Left Front government.

Later that year, the then Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee sent 2,500 policemen to “recapture” Nandigram to acquire farmland for a petrochemical hub.

As per official re-

cords, 14 farmers had died in the firing, but over 100 were declared “missing”.

The Trinamool Congress also observes March 14, which witnessed the killing of 14 farmers at Nandigram, as ‘Krishak Divas’ each year.

The farmer-unrest in Nandigram followed by another one at Singur in Hooghly district that helped Banerjee topple the 34-year-old Left Front rule in the state.

No odd-even unless you justify its necessity: NGT

NEW DELHI, NOV 10 (PTI): Uncertainty prevailed over the implementation of the odd-even car rationing scheme as the National Green Tribunal today questioned the rationale behind Delhi government’s decision to roll it out for five days next week, saying the scheme “cannot be imposed like this”.

The NGT questioned the basis for the AAP government’s decision pointing out that the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) have found that the levels of PM10 and PM2.5 were cumulatively higher when the scheme was implemented twice earlier.

“Odd-Even formula can’t be imposed like this. You can’t have a shock treatment like this. By this scheme, you are only encouraging people to buy more vehicles and allowing more inter-state traffic. We will not allow odd-even vehicle rationalisation scheme until you prove that it’s not counter-productive,” the bench said.

The NGT termed the plan a “farce” and asked the Delhi government to give an undertaking that it will roll out the scheme only when the particulate matter (PM) 2.5 was over 300.

“You are getting the tag of the worst capital in the world. The SC and NGT have suggested 100 measures to curb pollution, but you always opt for odd-even. Nothing has been done by the Delhi government in the past one year,” a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar said.

It also quizzed the city government over its decision to introduce 500 buses during the odd-even week and directed it to clearly state how many of these vehicles ran on diesel.

The prevailing level of PM2.5 in the capital was hovering around 433 microgrammes per cubic metre, while PM10 stood at around 617, as per the latest CPCB data.

The bench also directed the city government to submit the comparative ratio of emission caused by diesel and petrol vehicles and asked it to clearly enumerate the contribution of small petrol cars in pollution.

It also questioned the justification of exempting two-wheelers and wom-

en drivers during the odd-even scheme despite knowing that two-wheelers caused 46 per cent pollution, as per an IIT Kanpur report.

“We don’t want to stop your programme. It is indeed a laudable project taken in the interest of the environment.

But the manner in which it is being implemented is unscientific and inefficient,” it said.

Following a plea by the AAP government, the green panel however allowed the industries engaged in essential services to operate in the Delhi-NCR on the condition that they would not pollute and cause emissions.

The hearing remained inconclusive and will continue tomorrow.

During the hearing, the Delhi government counsel told the bench that they were introducing the odd-even scheme in pursuance to the directions of the apex court-appointed EPCA.

But the tribunal rapped him over this submission and said the Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) had issued several suggestions and odd-even scheme was just one of them.

“The Supreme Court has never said that you implement the odd-even scheme. It was only one of the directions given by EPCA. You have not followed 99 directions and introduced the odd-even scheme and treating it as a picnic,” the bench said.

“If the recommendation of Graded Response Action Plan were being followed (which requires that upon the parameter reaching 500 for PM10 and 300 for PM2.5 odd-even will be implemented), which were the days in the last three months when the pollution levels were found to be below the said limit and odd-even was not implemented,” the bench asked.

The panel directed the Delhi government to be ready with all the answers and said it would hear the matter tomorrow, which is normally a holiday for NGT.

The AAP government had yesterday announced introduction of the odd-even scheme as part of a Graded Response Plan to tackle the alarming pollution levels in the capital.



SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

observes the

“NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES DAY” ON 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017  
“NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES WEEK” - 9<sup>TH</sup> TO 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017

Rededicating to ensure equal opportunities and equal justice to all through legal aid services from the State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authorities and Taluk Legal Services Committees.

Persons eligible to receive free legal services u/s 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987	What is the nature of legal services provided?	Legal aid is not available for the following;
Any person who is either:- ➤ A member of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe; or  ➤ A victim of trafficking in human beings or ‘begar’ as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution; or ➤ A woman or child; or ➤ A person with disability as defined in clause (i) of Section 2 of the persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995; or ➤ A victim of mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake, or industrial disaster; or earthquake and industrial workman; or ➤ In custody, including that of a protective home, juvenile home psychiatric hospital, psychiatric nursing home; or ➤ Having an annual income upto Rs.1,00,000/- per annum.	➤ Legal Services include the rendering of service in conducting of a case or legal proceeding before any Court/Authority/Tribunal and the giving of legal advice.  These are provided as under:-  ➤ Providing Advocates at State expense; ➤ Paying Court fee on behalf of the eligible persons; ➤ Bearing expense regarding preparation of documents; ➤ Paying expense for the summoning of witnesses; Drafting of legal documents, special leave petition etc. ➤ Paying other incidental expenses connected with litigation.	➤ Defamation; ➤ Malicious prosecution; ➤ A person charged with contempt of court proceedings or perjury; ➤ Proceedings relating to any election; ➤ Proceedings in respect of economic offences and offences against social laws, such as Protection of Civil Rights,1955, and the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.  Where a person seeking legal aid:- ➤ is concerned with the proceeding only in a respect of official capacity or ➤ is concerned with a proceeding jointly with some other person or persons whose interests are identical with his and such person or any of such persons is adequately represented in the proceedings or ➤ is a formal party to the proceedings, not materially concerned in the outcome of proceedings and his interests are not likely to be prejudiced on account of the absence of proper representation.

When can legal services be withdrawn?
➤ Where the aided person is possessed of sufficient means. ➤ Where the aided person obtains legal services by misrepresentation or fraud. ➤ Where the aided person does not cooperate with the Legal Services Authority/Committee or with the Legal Services Advocate. ➤ Where the person engages a legal practitioner other than the one assigned by the Legal Services Authority/Committee. ➤ In the event of death of an aided person except in the case of civil proceedings where the right or liability survives. ➤ Where the application for the legal services of the matter in question is found to be an abuse of the process of law or of legal service.

For obtaining free legal services, a person may contact:-			
1) Office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim. Helpline No.: 03592-205377 Phone No. 03592 207752/207753 E-mail: Sikkim_slisa@live.com Website: www.sikkimslsa.nic.in	(2) District Legal Services Authority (East) District Courts Complex, Sichey, Gangtok, East Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 284462	(3) District Legal Services Authority (North) Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate (North), Pentok, Mangan, North Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 234501	(4) District Legal Services Authority (South), District Courts Complex, Namchi, South Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 264356
(5) District Legal Services Authority (West) District Court Kyongsa, West Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 250189.	(1) Taluk Legal Services Committee (East), District Courts Complex, Sichey, Gangtok, East Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 284131	2) Taluk Legal Services Committee (North), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate (North), Pentok, Mangan, North Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 234383/234514	(3) Taluk Legal Services Committee (South), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate (South), South Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 263145
(4) Taluk Legal Services Committee (West), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate (West), Gyalshing, West Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 250779	(5) Taluk Legal Services Committee Soreng, Sub-Division, West, Sikkim.	(6) Taluk Legal Services Committee. Chungthang, Sub-Division, North Sikkim.	

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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT  
DEORALI, GANGTOK – 737102  
EAST SIKKIM

No. 01/ADM/FEWMD

Dated: 07.11.2017

NOTICE

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Chairperson and Member Secretary of State Pollution Control Board of Sikkim with headquarters at Gangtok. For details of requirements, please visit www.sikenvis.nic.in and www.sikkimforest.gov.in. The last date for receiving applications in the Office of the Principal Secretary-cum-PCCF, Gangtok, is 15.12.2017.

Sd/-

Additional Secretary,  
Forest, Env. & Wildlife Management Department.

R.O. NO. 386/lpr/pub/classi/17-18dt. 6.11.2017





## Gulzar pens poem on climate change

**MUMBAI, Nov 10 (PTI):** Veteran lyricist and filmmaker Gulzar has penned a poem for the upcoming film "Kadvi Hawa".

The poem, titled "Mausam Beghar Hone Lage Hai", is based on the theme of climate change, which is also the central point of the film.

It is narrated from the perspective of nature which is detailing its torture at the hands of mankind. The poem talks about how mankind is hellbent on destroying each and every bit of nature just to satiate its lust for advancement.

Gulzar liked the movie and its idea and therefore penned a poem on the climate issue, which has become the talking point of late after a thick smog engulfed the Delhi-NCR.

The film, directed by Nila Madhab Panda and produced by Drishyam Films, stars Sanjay Mishra, Ranvir Shorey and Tilotama Shome.

Kadvi Hawa will release countrywide on November 24.

## Protests delay trains on Sealdah main section

**KOLKATA, Nov 10 (PTI):** At least seven pairs of local trains in the Sealdah main section of Eastern Railway were cancelled today owing to a rail roko agitation by a group of people protesting enhancement of ladies compartments.

Train services on the Sealdah-Ranaghat main line section were affected owing to obstruction at Kanchrapara and Halisahar stations from 8.16 am and 9.10 am respectively in protest against enhancement of ladies compartments in EMU local trains, Eastern Railway spokesman R N Mahapatra said. The protests led to cancellation of seven pairs of local trains, while several other local trains were delayed.

Thousands of commuters were affected owing to the agitation during the peak office hours. Normal services could be restored only after the obstruction was lifted at 12.03 pm, Mahapatra said. Train movements were, however, maintained between Sealdah and Naihati stations in the section during the period of obstruction, he added.

"Enhancement of ladies compartments were made on the basis of demand of the passengers and in consultation with Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee (DRUCC) and other passengers' associations," he said.



## Lalith Babu crowned national chess champion

**PATNA, Nov 10 (PTI):** PSPB Grandmaster Lalith Babu was crowned the undisputed champion after Odisha GM Debashis Das defeated challenger Aravindh Chithambaram of Tamil Nadu in the National Premier Chess Championship here today.

Babu scored nine points in the tournament organised by All Bihar Chess Association.

Aravindh scored 8.5 points

to finish second.

Defending champion Karthikeyan could muster only the third position with 7.5 points.

Debashis and S L Narayanan of Kerala were placed fourth and fifth with same number of points.

Aravindh's preferred Kings Indian defence was not beneficial to him, as Debashis attained a good positional advantage on

the 12th move itself.

To add to the woes, Aravindh's bad move of Ne5 on 18th move, for which he consumed just 18 seconds, gifted a winning position to his opponent.

When Debashis' c6-pawn attacked Aravindh's bishop, the latter's ploy of attacking the queen not only failed miserably, but also proved to be fatal. Debashis demolished Aravindh in just 28

moves.

In an equal position arising out of the Catalan opening, Babu surprised everyone by allowing GM Swapnil Dhopade to repeat the moves and get away with a draw claim in just 14 moves, shortest in terms of both moves and time.

Later, a relieved Babu admitted that the pressure on him was too much and he boldly took the risk of splitting the point.

## Fit body makes me feel invincible: Mary Kom

**GURUGRAM, Nov 9 (PTI):** Fresh from her fifth Asian Championships gold medal, Indian boxing star M C Mary Kom today said her fit body helps her feel invincible despite close to two decades in a contact sport.

Mary Kom returned to the country after claiming the 48kg category gold medal in the continental showpiece held in the Vietnamese city of Ho Chi Minh.

"As long as I am training hard and my body is fit, I can beat anyone, bring it on. If I maintain the fitness levels, nobody can touch me," she said laughingly at a press conference here.

The five-time world champion and Olympic bronze-medallist returned to her preferred 48kg category after more than five years in the 51kg division, which was



made an Olympic category in 2010.

"It would be great if 48kg becomes an Olympic category. It really works very well for me," said the Manipuri, who would be

leaving tonight for an IOC athletes forum in Lausanne where she will represent the International Boxing Association (AIBA).

Asked about her next target, Mary Kom said it

would be the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games for now.

"let me get through that and will take a call after that," she said.

On whether she feels

any pressure competing given the spotlight she is in," Mary Kom said, "I always enjoy myself. I don't stress, it is pointless. This helps me in performing well."

## BCCI rejects NADA demand to test Indian cricketers

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** In a stern response to India's anti-doping body NADA, the BCCI has said that government body has no jurisdiction to conduct dope tests on Indian cricketers.

In a letter written on November 8 to NADA chief Navin Agarwal, BCCI CEO Rahul Johri made it clear that there is no requirement for NADA to tests its cricketers since the board is not a National Sports Federation (NSF) and its present anti-doping system is robust enough.

"It is relevant to mention here that BCCI is not a National Sports Federation. Accordingly, NADA does not have jurisdiction to conduct dope testing of Indian cricketers in any domestic or international event organised or under the aegis of BCCI," Johri wrote in the letter.

"In light of the aforesaid, there is no requirement for any BCCI official to co-ordinate with NADA for dope testing of Indian cricketers either during competitions or out of completions."

The BCCI response was pre-



pared with instructions from Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators.

Besides responding to the NADA chief, Johri also wrote back to the sports secretary, who had approached the BCCI in October to cooperate with NADA.

The Ministry had stated that lack of co-operation from BCCI on the subject may run the risk of NADA not complying with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code.

Johri said BCCI's existing anti-doping mechanism is robust enough.

"The BCCI already has a robust dope testing mechanism which is employed for both during competitions and out-of-competitions and the testing of samples by IDTM is already being done at WADA accredited laboratory (NDTL) under aegis of the Sports Ministry."

He further claimed that the BCCI is compliant with the WADA Code.

## May appoint footballer as AIFF ombudsman along with ex-CEC: SC

**NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI):** The Supreme Court today said it could appoint an eminent footballer as an ombudsman, besides former Chief Election Commissioner S Y Quraishi, to implement the Delhi High Court order for reforming the constitution of All India Football Federation (AIFF).

A bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud also said it would pass an order on the plea filed by the AIFF challenging the High Court verdict setting aside the election of NCP leader Praful Patel as the president of the sports body.

The bench said it has already asked BCCI to cooperate in the framing of its constitution and like the cricket body, AIFF can also be asked to frame an amended constitution incorporating the suggestions of the Delhi High Court.

"We can appoint an eminent footballer as ombudsman along with the former Chief Election Commissioner," the bench said.

The bench also asked lawyer Rahul Mehra, who had filed the plea in the High Court, to give suggestions so that the status of Indian football gets a boost.

Mehra said the lack of infrastructure at grass-root level and interest shown by the sports authorities to popularise the sport, had pushed India to 105th position in the world.

The apex court had agreed to hear the appeal of AIFF challenging the

Delhi High Court verdict setting aside the election of Patel as its president.

The High Court, on October 31, had also appointed former CEC Quraishi as the administrator-cum-returning officer to conduct fresh polls to the sport body.

AIFF had sought urgent hearing of its plea saying that the bid for hosting the FIFA Under-20 World Cup was coming up and the last date for its submission was November 14.

It had alleged "the High Court in midst of the upcoming Football season comprising of the Indian Super league and the I-League both starting in the month of November, 2017 and the bidding process for the Fifa Under-20 World Cup 2019 which is to be completed by 14th November 2017, has wrongly ousted the Executive Committee and stopped the smooth functioning of the Petitioner Federation (AIFF)."

The AIFF also sought interim stay of the High Court verdict.

Patel, a former minister of civil aviation and heavy industries, was elected for a four-year term in December last year along with the Executive Committee for 2017-2020, after the high court had, as an interim measure, vacated the stay on the polls on the ground that the result would be subject to the final outcome of the issue pending before it.

The high court had earlier directed that fresh elections should be held in accordance with the model guidelines.



## Statue of Bhupen Hazarika erected in Arunachal

**ITANAGAR, Nov 10 (PTI):** The Arunachal Pradesh government has erected a statue of legendary music composer and singer Bhupen Hazarika at Bolung village in Dibang Valley district of the state.

The ten feet bronze statue, sculpted by Biren Singh of Guwahati, was erected in the village this year. It would be formally unveiled tentatively in the early part of 2018, an official told PTI.

"The state government had allocated Rs 30 lakh for the statue in 2015 as a tribute to the legendary singer who contributed a lot for the state in the cultural field. Bhupen da is more an Arunachalee than an Assamese," Director of Research Department Batem Pertin said.

The Bolung village is adjacent to Assam's Sadiya area where his parents lived. He often carried to the village by elders. Later as a boy he also moved around the village frequently, an official said.

Pertin said that the government in 2016-17

also allocated 70 lakh for erection of two statues of Hazarika at Yazali in Lower Subansiri district and Itanagar.

Pertin, who is also the general secretary of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS), said that due to persuasion of the society, the government approved the Bolung project.

"The land for erecting the statue was donated by the sons of former MLA of Arunachal Pradesh Provisional Legislative Assembly Gora Pertin as a tribute to Hazarika," Pertin said.

"Bhupen da through his songs tried to unite the entire north eastern states in a single string. He not only composed songs for Assam but for all the NE states, he said.

Interesting anecdote of Hazarika's childhood is that as an infant he was once lost by his parents and he spent a couple of days in a tribal family at Bolung village. He was later returned to his parents by a young girl of the Adi tribe.



# India, China likely to hold border talks next month

**BEIJING, Nov 10 (PTI):** India and China are expected to hold the next round of talks on border issues as well as on other bilateral topics next month, the first between the two countries after Chinese President Xi Jinping began his second term as the chief of the ruling Communist party.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said here today that the 20th round of the India-China Special Representatives border talks as well as the Russia, India and China (RIC) Foreign Ministers meeting will be held in "due course".

She declined to give a schedule of both the meetings. Officials, however, say both the border talks and the RIC meeting were expected to be held next month in New Delhi.

The 20th round of border talks will be the first after the recent 73-day long Doklam standoff between the two countries.

The border talks will be held between National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and China's State Councillor Yang Jiechi, who are the designated Special Representatives. The two high-ranking officials also has the mandate to hold talks covering all the issues concerning the bilateral relations.

Yang, who currently holds the rank of the State Councillor which is few notches higher than the foreign minister, has now been elected to the powerful 25-member Politburo of the ruling Communist Party of China at its recent once-in-a-five-year Congress.

He is formally expected to relinquish his current post after March next year. Foreign Minister, Wang Yi is large-



ly tipped to take over as the State Councillor. Hua, however, said Yang continues to be the Special Representative for the India-China boundary talks.

"I have not heard about any changes in the Special Representative on the Chinese side," she said.

Both the Chinese and Indian leaders attach great importance to the boundary issue and we have made efforts for many years to resolve this issue, she said.

"In the previous meeting the Special Representatives had exchanged views and made positive progress. Now this mechanism is operating very well. The two sides will decide the date and time for this year's meeting in due course," she said.

Officials say the two sides achieved steady progress in manging the differences over the border due to the border dialogue mechanism though an agreement is yet to be reached.

Commenting on the forthcoming

talks, Chinese experts said managing a crisis from a potential border conflict will top the agenda of the border talks.

The news on the highest-level border talks between China and India is a very positive sign that the two countries are committed to resolving problems through dialogue instead of confrontation, Qian Feng, an expert at the Chinese Association for South Asian Studies, told state-run Global Times today.

"Resolving the border disputes has stagnated and the Doklam standoff has led to a rethinking on the ties of the two countries, which will be reflected in the talks," Qian said.

The talks, coming months after the Doklam standoff, will put managing a crisis on the top agenda as future disputes remain possible, and both sides need to manage the disputes and avoid confrontation, Qian added.

Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua also hinted that the next round of the RIC meeting will also be held soon.

"We highly value this mechanism. According to my information the three parties are in communication to this specific issue. We support India in holding this meeting," she said.

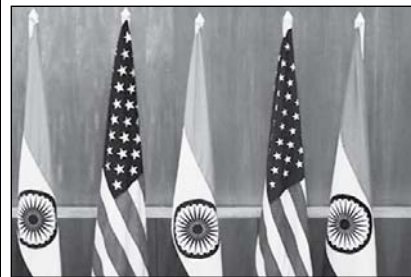
Earlier Chinese officials told PTI that the RIC meeting will be held in Delhi in December in which Wang will take part. The talks will be the first round of dialogue after the CPC endorsed a second five-year term for Xi, with renewed powers.

Besides Doklam, a host of issue including differences between the two countries over the USD 50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are expected to figure in the talks. The CPEC is a part of China's multi-billion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India objected to the CPEC as it goes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Also the talks will be held in the backdrop of the new South Asia policy announced by US President Donald Trump ramping up pressure on Pakistan to crackdown on terror havens. Trump held extensive talks with Xi during his three-day trip here which ended today.

Hua yesterday said both Trump and Xi discussed anti-terrorism issues related to South Asia and reached a consensus to uphold peace in the region. In her briefing, Hua did not confirm any meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi at the East Asia Summit, being held in the Philippines.

"So far I have no specific information to offer. Various parties can keep communication, if they would like to meet," she said.



## Pentagon asked to develop enduring defence ties with India

**LALIT K JHA**

**WASHINGTON, Nov 10 (PTI):** The Pentagon has been asked by US Congressional leaders to develop a "forward-looking" strategy to form an enduring defence relationship with India.

Congressional leaders reconciling the differences between the House and Senate versions of the National Defense Authorisation Act (NDA-2018) also asked the US and India to work closely in Afghanistan.

The new version of the NDA-2018 require the Secretary of Defence to "develop a forward-looking strategy that would build upon current objectives and goals, underlining a mutual desire to develop an enduring defence relationship with India".

According to it, the US and India "should work closely with Afghanistan" to promote stability in the region to include targeted infrastructure development and economic investment, means to address capability gaps in country, and improved humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

The US Congress in its last NDA-2017 had

designated India as a 'Major Defence Partner'.

In its latest conference report, the Congressional leaders on Thursday said that the designation of 'Major Defence Partner' is unique to India, and institutionalises the progress made to facilitate defence trade and technology cooperation between the United States and India to a level commensurate with the closest allies and partners of America.

"The designation promotes joint exercises, defence strategy and policy coordination, military exchanges, and port calls in support of defence cooperation between the United States and India," it said.

Reconciled version of the NDA-2018 now heads to the House and Senate floor for formal approval, before it is sent to the White House for US President Donald Trump to sign it into a law.

Among other things, it asked Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and the Defence Secretary Jim Mattis to develop a strategy for advancing defence cooperation between the United States and India.

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## Man arrested in Indian, Pakistani restaurant war murder in UK

**LONDON, Nov 10 (PTI):** A 51-year-old man, believed to be of Indian-origin, has been arrested in Germany in connection with a murder following a restaurant war between Indian and Pakistani eateries in Scotland over 24 years ago.

Police Scotland said the man, who cannot be named at this stage, was arrested over the murder of Pakistani-origin Ansar Shah in the seaside town of Ayr in Ayrshire on October 4, 1993, and will now be returned to Scottish jurisdiction.

"It is anticipated that proceedings to return the man to Scottish jurisdiction will take place in due course," a Police Scotland statement said.

The arrested man is believed to be Indian-origin Avtar Singh, who was arrested as he landed in Frankfurt from a flight from Delhi.

Singh was a waiter of an Indian restaurant in Ayrshire at the time of the murder and had disappeared after the murder, which local media reports at the time described as a restaurant war between rival Indian and Pakistani restaurants over migrant staff employed by them.

Shah, the owner of Armaan Brasserie which has since been renamed as Ayr India, was stabbed to death outside the eatery when a group of Pakistanis clashed with Indians, the 'Ayrshire Post' had reported at the time.

Two other men had been severely injured in the attack and treated in hospital. A nationwide manhunt was launched for Singh, also known as Tony and Dari, who had worked as a waiter

in the Jewel in the Crown restaurant in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire.

The unsolved murder case was being re-examined by specialist cold case detectives in the UK since May this year.

Detective Chief Inspector Mark Bell of Police Scotland Homicide Governance Review said, "Police Scotland is committed to pursuing those persons who are allegedly responsible for the gravest of crimes.

"Time and location is no barrier to the efforts and determination of our staff and partners to pursue justice for victims and their loved ones."

The arrest follows a joint operation coordinated from the Scottish Crime Campus, and led by Police Scotland s Homicide Governance and Review Team, involving participation with Police Scotland s International Assistance Unit, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Law Enforcement partners across Europe including Europol, French and German authorities, and the UK National Crime Agency (NCA).

The arrested man could accept the terms of the arrest warrant and agree to being flown to Scotland or fight it through the German courts.

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Donald Trump hit out at "chronic trade abuses" as he warned world leaders he will not let the US "be taken advantage of anymore". During a speech at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, the President urged foreign leaders to approach trade relationships with the US "in the principles of fairness and reciprocity" and "follow the rules just like we do". Mr Trump also attacked the World Trade Organisation, which sets global trade rules, for failing to clamp down on alleged abuses such as currency manipulation, product dumping and government subsidisation of goods. In his blunt address - a marked change from his friendly overtures in China on Thursday - Mr Trump warned the neglect of World Trade Organisation rules "hurt many people" in the US. The President did not single out China by name, but all of the allegations raised in his speech have been lodged against Beijing by the US in the past.

### Kutse Shegu

The 49<sup>th</sup> day Kutse Shegu of **Late Tenzing Bhutia** of Penlong, East Sikkim who passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 falls on **11<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**. All well wishers, relatives, friends are invited to join us in the prayer ceremony at our residence in **Penlong** on the above mentioned date. We, the family members would also like to thank all those who stood by us during the time of our bereavement.

Mrs. Zeykim Bhutia (Mother), Mrs. Karma Doma Kaleon (wife), Mr. Puljor Thendup Bhutia (brother) and the family members.

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Draw No:15 DrawDate on:10/11/17

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(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9498/- 46826 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

00196 01700 10562 49398 53851

58719 61015 68642 70500 72139

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0845 1710 3087 4152 5467 8652 9154 9517 9569 9590

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0107 1216 1254 2045 2966 4217 4350 5935 6833 9142

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0205 0297 0521 0547 0648 0800 0862 1053 1199 1256

1330 1374 1378 1446 1618 1625 1631 1661 1840 1999

2031 2103 2238 2262 2289 2294 2370 2520 2568 2578

2803 2807 2890 2892 2925 2992 3028 3064 3139 3249

3387 3440 3455 3611 3741 4118 4203 4343 4454 4681

4725 4742 4858 4880 4980 5036 5042 5085 5384 5532

5650 5743 5797 5798 5965 5982 6264 6279 6313 6472

6508 6584 6749 6828 6846 7033 7134 7219 7321 7384

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Draw No:10 DrawDate on:10/11/17

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(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9498/- 72606 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

04231 07288 17136 23262 55335

63371 64738 68190 74657 83074

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0666 0711 1570 3133 5835 6623 6883 7385 7752 9942

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0071 0793 0945 2932 3200 4106 4154 4598 5682 7455

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0085 0098 0291 0388 0503 0525 0627 0657 0763 0827

0943 0985 1009 1096 1101 1174 1280 1525 1526 1624

1630 1653 1663 2046 2073 2199 2375 2418 2470 2763

3020 3046 3226 3244 3280 3317 3415 3529 3612 3799

3827 3832 4093 4215 4346 4483 4757 4818 4975 4992

5065 5085 5098 5155 5301 5422 5668 5742 5753 5934

6095 6210 6366 6460 6530 6604 6653 6705 6772 7088

7108 7242 7432 7437 7577 7884 7911 8157 8187 8205

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**DROGO, THE AQUAMAN:** Jason Momoa, who plays Aquaman in the upcoming 'Justice League' film, shows off his trident while filming 'The Graham Norton Show' in London.

## TAYLOR SWIFT DROPS REPUTATION- AND SHARES A HEARTFELT LETTER WITH HER SWIFTIES

Three years after releasing her record-breaking album 1989, Taylor Swift is finally giving her fans what they've been begging for — a ton of new tunes.

The 10 time Grammy winner, 27, dropped her new album Reputation shortly before midnight on Thursday, and it appears to be everything her Swifties have been hoping for.

While many of the songs reveal intimate details about her secret relationship with boyfriend Joe Alwyn, Swift — who spent most of 2016 in hiding — also tells her side of the story on her past relationships and feud with Kanye West and Kim Kardashian West. On the biting track "This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things," Swift sounds off on being "stabbed" in the back by a former friend (probably West).

"Friends don't try to trick you / Get you on the phone and mind-twist you," she sings about the infamous edited call leaked by Kardashian West.

She also wrote a heartfelt letter to fans in Reputation's album booklet. "Here's something I've learned about people," she starts off. "We think we know someone, but the truth is that we only know the version of them they have chosen to show us."

"We are never just good or just bad. We are mosaics of our worst selves and our best selves, our deepest secrets and our favorite stories to tell at a dinner party, existing somewhere between our well-lit profile photo and our drivers license shot," she continues.



"I've been in the public eye since I was 15 years old. On the beautiful, lovely side of that, I've been so lucky to make music for a living and look out into crowds of loving, vibrant people. On the other side of the coin, my mistakes have been used against me, my heartbreaks have been used as entertainment, and my songwriting has been trivialized as 'oversharing,'" adds Swift.

"Let me say it louder again, louder for those in the back... We think we know someone, but the truth is that we only know the version of them they have chosen to show us. There will be no further explanation. There will just be reputation," she concludes.

### what's TRENDING

In sexy tracks like "Delicate" and "Dress," she seemingly opens up about her intense connection with Alwyn, 26.

"Do the girls back home touch you like I do / Long night with your hands up in my hair / Stay here honey I don't wanna share / 'Cause I like you," she sings on "Delicate."

After surprising her fans with the album 30 minutes before it was set to drop, Swift's loyal legion of followers freaked out on social media.

Swift is set to appear on Saturday Night Live this weekend as its musical guest, and she will also be performing an intimate set at SiriusXM on Friday.

## ANIL KAPOOR TO STAR IN SALMAN KHAN STARRER RACE 3?

Race 3 stars Salman Khan and Jacqueline Fernandez but the rest of the cast is yet to be finalised. While Race 1 and Race 2 had different set of actors and so does Race 3, there's one permanent name in the Race franchise.

After replacing Abbas-Mustan with Remo D'Souza as the Race 3 director, the makers of the film have now given thoughts of roping in Anil Kapoor in the film. Anil incidentally has been a part of both Race and Race 2.

A source close to the makers of the film was quoted thus in a leading tabloid, "Anil had played Robert D'Costa aka RD, a private detective, who acts stupid but is very sharp, resourceful and quick. Anil's character was liked immensely by the audience. The first movie had Sameera Reddy playing his assistant, while the second film saw Ameesha Patel in the role."

The source further added, "If Anil comes on board, he will be the only cast member to be a part of all three films of the Race series. Also, this will be the actor's first film with choreographer-turned-director Remo."



## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

11<sup>th</sup> November

**1918-** Germany - - Armistice Agreement: Germany facing invasion from the allies and with poor supplies of food and weapons signs armistice agreement with the allies bringing to end World War I.

**1954-** U.S.A. - - Veteran's Day: This is the first time ever that the Veteran's Day was declared a national celebration.

**1965-** Rhodesia - - Independence: Mr Smith has made a Unilateral Declaration of Independence from Great Britain stating he is not willing to agree to the terms offered by Harold Wilson which included of giving the black majority population a fair share of power.

**1973-** Middle East - - Peace Treaty: After quite a lengthy series of debate, Israel and Egypt finally signed a peace treaty. This particular document required cease-fire with the Suez Canal war zone. This was the first agreement signed between Israel and



Arabs in 24 years.

**1985-** U.S.A. - - Plane Crash: Two private planes collided into New York suburb homes. Five residential buildings started on fire and at least five people were killed.

**2008-** Europe and America - 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War: Ceremonies are being held to mark the ninetieth anniversary of the end of World War I. The service in Verdun was attended by President Sarkozy, who paid tribute to the millions who died. Verdun was the longest battle of a war. In the US, politicians took part in the Veterans Day ceremony at Arlington cemetery. Vice-President Dick Cheney and Defence Secretary Robert Gates participated in the wreath-laying ceremony at the national cemetery's Tomb of the Unknowns.

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**ARIES:** Romance might take a front seat in your thoughts today. You could have some unusual dreams tonight. They might be romantic or they could prove artistically inspiring, or both. Write them down, for they may reveal new facts about you that could make a difference. Your thoughts about money could sway between confidence and panic. Don't lose sight of the facts!

**TAURUS:** Today your mind may be on romance. If you're married, you'll grow closer to your partner. If you're single but involved, the relationship could move to the next level of commitment. If you aren't involved, expect to meet someone new and

exciting. Warm feelings of unity and intimacy could fill your heart. See and accept your partner as he or she is.

**GEMINI:** You feel wonderful and you're looking great. Expect to draw some admiring glances! The only downside to this is that you feel stronger than you are. If you try to get too much done today, you might tire yourself out and feel exhausted tomorrow. Eat right, get enough rest, and pace yourself. You'll still accomplish everything you need to do.

**CANCER:** A romantic haze surrounds love relationships. You could be thinking that your romantic partner has stepped out of a fairy tale. Yet even storybook heroes

and heroines have flaws - but flaws can be endearing! Your creative energy should be very high. Artistic projects may have an otherworldly quality about them that boosts their quality and impact. Go for it!

**LEO:** You might host a group meeting or other social event. Your guests may be artistically or spiritually inclined. The evening should be a social success and an inspiring experience. Before they come, make sure everything's in place and working, from light bulbs to kitchen equipment. You don't want minor malfunctions to put a damper on the evening.

**VIRGO:** If you've been thinking about writing, this is the day to get

started. Your mind is particularly sharp and your imagination rich. Unusual developments, mostly positive, could take place in your neighborhood. You might not know the facts about exactly what's going on, and a lot of unfounded rumors could be circulating. Reserve any opinion until you know the truth.

**LIBRA:** Money matters continue to go well, though you don't feel as secure about them as you should. A previously unsung talent, perhaps for the arts, healing, working with technology, or all three could come to light. You could look into ways to train it. You might want to explore different options. Your decision might surprise you.

**SCORPIO:** Today you should feel especially idealistic, imaginative, intuitive, and spiritually inclined. You project an otherworldly aura that attracts more attention, such as admiring glances, than you're used to. Love matters should be going well now, as a fairytale atmosphere permeates your life. Enjoy it while you can. You'll be back to reality in a few days!

**SAGITTARIUS:** You might walk around in a romantic, imaginative, spiritual fog with your head in the clouds. Everything may seem perfect and wonderful - perhaps too wonderful to be true. Working with equipment of some kind, perhaps computers or other electronics could help you hang on to

reality. You might take this opportunity to train in computer graphics or sound engineering.

**CAPRICORN:** Romantic notions about friends seem to be the energy driving you today. You might see a longtime friend in a new light as a possible romantic partner. A group could seem to be the answer to all your problems. You could suddenly be convinced that you have the most wonderful friends in the world. An outlook like this can be good as long as you don't start thinking everyone's perfect!

**AQUARIUS:** Because your working life is going well, you might indulge in daydreams in which you're at the top of the heap, perhaps

even famous! This is a good place to start on your path to advancement, but don't stay there. Use your practicality to map out a workable course of action. Dreams don't come true by themselves. They manifest through planning and hard work.

**PISCES:** Your mind may be on spiritual or philosophical subjects and considering fascinating new ideas. Some of these may come from faraway lands, which might have you considering travel. Friends or groups may bring these ideas your way or you could present the concepts to them. Take a walk before going to bed or you'll never get to sleep with all these ideas buzzing through your mind!