

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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## Pawan Chamling beats Jyoti Basu's record as longest serving CM



NITESH R PRADHAN  
GANGTOK, 27 APR:

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling will set a new record as the longest serving Chief Minister of the country on Saturday beating former West Bengal Chief Minister, Jyoti Basu's record [1977-2000]. In the last 24 years, Mr Chamling has led his Sikkim Democratic Front party from the periphery

to now the centre of Sikkimese politics.

He has been elected to the State Legislative Assembly seven times and ruled the State as its Chief Minister for five consecutive terms. Pawan Chamling was first elected the Chief Minister of Sikkim on 12 Dec, 1994 and has since continued to win elections silencing critics and

detractors.

Now 68 years old, Mr Chamling was born on 22 Sept, 1950, at Yangang, South Sikkim to Asha Rani Chamling and Late Aash Bahadur.

Mr Chamling's Sikkim Democratic Front has successfully combated anti-incumbency and the 'Parivartan' (change) cry of the opposition by harping on peace and sustain-

### ON COMPLETION OF PAWAN CHAMLING'S 24<sup>TH</sup> YEAR AS THE CHIEF MINISTER OF SIKKIM, HERE ARE SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

1. He is the fifth Chief Minister of Sikkim and has also worked as a first class contractor. Later at the age of 22, in 1973, he actively participated in the politics which heralded a new era of democracy in Sikkim with its merger with the Indian Union. In 1975, he became the block President of Youth Congress and was elected as Secretary of Prajantantra Congress in 1978 and in 1983 he became an elected President of Yangang Gram Panchayat Unit unopposed.
2. Pawan Chamling became a primary member of Sikkim Sangram Parishad Party led by the former Chief Minister, N.B. Bhandari in the year 1985. In the year 1985, Pawan Chamling became the member of Sikkim Legislative Assembly and was appointed as Chairman of Sikkim Distilleries Ltd.
3. He was re-elected to Sikkim Legislative Assembly in 1989 from Damthang constituency with the highest vote share of 97% and was inducted as Minister of Information and Public Relation and Industries.
4. Pawan Chamling went underground from 19 June to 22 September, 1993 and conducted political activities from there.
5. On 04 Mar, 1993, Pawan Chamling formed the Sikkim Democratic Front Party and since then he has been unanimously elected as the President till today.
6. The Organic Mission of Sikkim was started by Pawan Chamling in the year 2003 and the State was declared as the first Organic State of India on 18 Jan, 2016 by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi. [Compiled by Yougain Tamang]

able development.

Sikkim adopting sustainable development goal has been highlighted by many as one of the hallmarks of his government.

"To create a new record of being the longest serving Chief Minister is historic. It is a proud moment for all Sikkimese. Hearty congratulations to CM Chamling," says journalist, Yougain Tamang.

Former president, Sikkim University's Student Association (SUSA), Patrush Lepcha, echoed similar sentiments and said that CM Chamling gave Sikkim its identity as Organic and Clean State.

"I do appreciate some steps taken by him towards the conservation of nature like green mission, plastic ban and other

measures which have helped increase forest areas in the State. He really is a good and visionary leader," says Patrush.

The Chief Minister's brave front against the West Bengal Government during the recent Gorkhaland agitation in Darjeeling hills have been appreciated by the Nepali speaking people

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## Kalimpong land owners submit memo to DM against land tax notices

### SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 27 APR:

Around 100 people from the Darjeeling Improvement Fund area and Development Area yesterday submitted a memorandum to DM Kalimpong, Dr Viswanath, highlighting the various problems and issues faced by them.

A joint action committee of DIF and Development Area Land Owners Association, led by senior advocate CK Kumai, and comprising of Lawyer PT Bhutia, SK Sinha, John Poudhyal and Sonam Dolma first

protested about the high taxation and then alleged that every measure taken by DIF was illegal.

The District administration has been working of late on updating the database of DIF lands and has been sending notices to residents about taxes which have triggered panic in both the areas.

All this despite a judgment issued by the West Bengal Land Reform Tribunal in 2006 on a case filed by the Raiyats Welfare Association against West Bengal Government, which was clearly in favor of the Association in stating that the provisions of Estate Acquisition Act (EA Act) and Land Reform Act would prevail over the Fund Rules (i.e. DIF Rules) in areas covered by the Fund Rules.

Mr Kumai informed that no action has been taken by authorities to implement the judgment.

The bone of contention in the current matter is that until 2010, residents of these areas had to pay Rs 5 per 100 square feet as tax, but an order of the Jalpaiguri Divisional Commissioner raised this to Rs 3.68 per square foot.

The administration has been sending notices

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**LIVING CLEAN LIKE BAPU WOULD HAVE WANTED:** While shoppers and tourist throng the busy pedestrian mall of MG Marg, workers clean the most frequently visited Gandhi spot in the capital. [Pic: Nitesh R Pradhan]

## Rahul mocks Modi on China visit, asks where his '56 inch' chest has gone

**BANTWAL (KARNATAKA), APR 27 (PTI):** Taking a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his China visit, Congress president Rahul Gandhi said today he would remain silent on the Doklam issue during his talks with President Xi Jinping, and wondered where his '56 inch chest' has gone.

He also slammed Modi over his "silence" on alleged corruption by BJP leaders, including its chief Amit Shah's son and for



declaring B S Yeddyurappa, who ministerial candidate. had "gone to jail" as its chief "I have heard that he (Modi)

is visiting China. You just see, take it in writing from me. China's army is sitting in Doklam and he will not utter a word on Doklam in China, you just watch."

"He (Modi) won't utter a word, this is 56 inch chest.

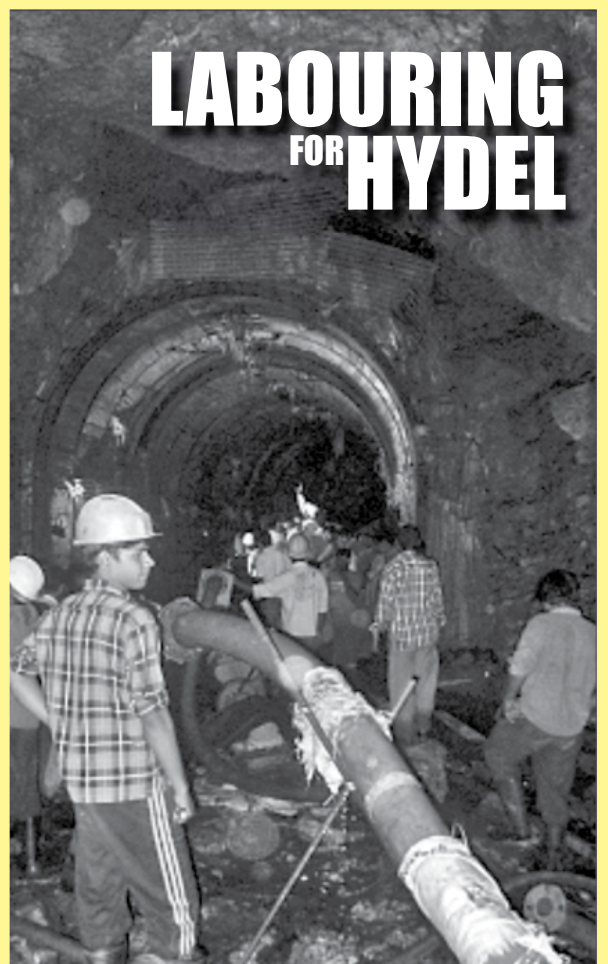
Only hollow words, false promises," Gandhi, who is on a two day election campaign tour of Karnataka, told a public rally here.

The Congress president spoke of how Modi had hosted

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On pg 05

## LABOURING FOR HYDEL



**spotlight**  
STORIES THAT MATTER  
Features on Hydropower and Climate Change Issues

Their stories are only told when an incident - more like a calamity - occurs. Their sweat makes hydel possible, but their travails rarely make headlines. Inside, some stories which illustrate what these anonymous workers have gone through to reach "development" to a region where they arrive as outsiders and exit the same way, unappreciated and unwelcome...



## Pawan Chamling beats Jyoti Basu's record as longest...

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across India.

Nanda Kirati Dewan, an Assam based journalist and an observer/activist for Indian Nepali community says that quick resolution passed by the Sikkim Assembly for the creation of Gorkhaland, raising tribal demands for 11 left out Indian Nepali communities at the Centre has made the Sikkim CM a tall leader amongst the Indian Nepali community.

Seconding the opinion, Reshu Pradhan, vice-president, Sikkim Newar Guthi states that 24 glorious years of development with so many changes in the State is a great feat.

"Of course success does not come without criticism and our CM has faced them too. But to ignore them and move ahead undeterred is what I believe has made this possible for the Chief Minister. Coming from a humble background he is an inspiration for youngsters to dream big," she adds.

However, there has been constant criticism of his government in various fronts, the main opposition, Sikkim Krantikari Morcha's Bikash Basnet says that nothing big has been achieved by the State under his leadership.

"This is no big achievement but a fulfillment of personal ambition of Pawan Kumar Chamling but the ground reality is that Sikkim is reeling under bad governance since two and a half decades," he says.

Adding further, he says that the SDF party has won all elections only with money and muscle power and there were no elections won by SDF on the basis of ideologies and fair politics.

"In addition, this is not an achievement but shows the inability of SDF to create leaders within the party, a pure form of despotism," he adds.

In the 2019 elections, Pawan Kumar Chamling and his party will be put to test again and it remains to be seen if the leader will be able to silence his critics once more and come to office for the sixth consecutive time.



## Two Sikkimese women conferred Vasundhara NE Women Entrepreneur award

YOUGAN TAMANG  
GANGTOK, 27 APR:

Two women entrepreneurs from Sikkim, Smita Rai and Chimi Ongmu Bhutia received the Vasundhara NE Women Entrepreneur of the year award for 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively at an award function held

at New Delhi on 26 Apr.

The Vasundhara NE Woman Entrepreneur of the year award is considered a benchmark for women entrepreneurs in Northeast India who have reached quantifiable levels of success and excellence by hard work and perseverance.

Smita Rai was selected for the year 2015-16 and Chimi Ongmu Bhutia for 2016-17.

The award was presented to them by Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jitendra Singh.

The two Sikkimese women entrepreneurs

made it to the list of 17 women entrepreneurs to win the Vasundhara NE Women Entrepreneur of the year award this year. The award was presented to 17 women entrepreneurs of Northeast India.

Smita Rai hails from Namchi, South Sikkim and is the founder of

'Namchi Designer Candles'. Ms Rai currently has more than 20 women engaged in the venture.

Chimi Ongmu Bhutia is from Gangtok and is a handcraft artisan-entrepreneur. Both of them have participated in various State and National level exhibitions.

## SDF has no right to celebrate Labour Day: SKM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 27 APR:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has said that the ruling Sikkim Democratic Front party has no right to celebrate Labour Day as it has failed to work in the interest of Sikkimese workers.

The party alleges that SDF has taken donations from different industrial units in the State thereby compromising its efforts work in favor of Sikkimese workers.

Addressing the press conference, SKM's labour front general secretary, Prem Raj Gurung informed that the contribution reports filed by SDF to the Election Commission from the year 2010-11 to 2015-16 shows that the ruling party has received donations in crores from different industrial units and individuals.

The state government has collected more than Rs 76 crore from 2010 to 2017 from different industrial units in the State, he alleged.

Mr Gurung questioned the government regarding the 'unexplained donations' and their silence in protecting local workers in different industrial units in the State. He also questioned the increase in the donation



graph during elections in the State.

He added that due to the silence of the state government, private companies are terminating local employees without any notice.

"The collected money should be used for the welfare of workers as per the law but

the government is spending it on constructing government offices and buildings," Mr Gurung alleged.

Mr Gurung further said that the State Labour Department does not have proper records and details of workers employed in different units in the State. He also demanded that

the government immediately abolish labour contractor system in the interest of Sikkimese workers.

SKM is scheduled to celebrate Labour Day at Maney Bhanjyang in South Sikkim on 01 May. It is informed that people from across the State are set to attend the celebration.

## DC West chairs inter-departmental and monsoon preparedness meet

GYALSHING, 27 APR [IPR]: Monsoon preparedness cum inter-departmental coordination meeting was held at West District Zilla Panchayat Assembly today.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of District Magistrate [West], AB Karki.

Presiding over the consultations, the DC chalked out roles of each department and the arrangements to be made to meet emergencies.

A booklet of all phone numbers of officials is soon to be made available to all departments to facilitate coordination, the DC informed.

He further directed all departments to submit Disaster Management Plan by 10 May and advised to prepare three pages of District Development Reports of all departments, constituency

development report, Gram Panchayat Unit development report and Block Development Office development report annually to be published in the form of a booklet.

He further announced that once in a month the District Administration will set up office at Yuksam, Dentam and Soreng respectively to take stock of the problems faced by the people. He directed all departments to provide their contact numbers publicly for further assistance.

The meeting was attended by Superintendent of Police [West], Tenzing Loday Lepcha, Sub Divisional Magistrate [Gyalshing], Tushar K Gajanan, District Project Officer, Pempa Sherpa, Additional District Collector, Karma Lepcha, department officials, zilla panchayats and department heads.



## SSACS conducts sensitization progs on HIV AIDS in West

GANGTOK, 27 APR [PIB]: Sikkim State AIDS Control Society (SSACS) conducted a series of sensitization programs for the Self Help Group members of Gitang, Karmataar, Dentam, Chumung, Soreng, Omchung, Gyalshing, Lungchok, Salangdang, Daramdin from 21 to 25 Apr.

SSACS assistant director, Namrata

Sharma conducted sessions on HIV AIDS, its prevention and modes of transmission.

She informed the SHG members about HIV screening at Integrated Counseling and Testing Centres [ICTCs] in district hospitals, STNM, Central Referral Hospital in Tadong and Primary Health Centers in the State.

## Kalimpong land owners submit memo to DM against land tax notices

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to land owners who are peeved at this ex parte exorbitant hike in the land taxes imposed by the authorities.

Mr Kumari highlighted that when there is a standing order of the Tribunal about DIF, every exercise being done in contravention was illegal.

Meanwhile, the Kalimpong DM said that the matter was under con-

sideration and that there was no need to panic or be afraid. "We have public friendly administration," he stressed.

Meanwhile, Rajya Sabha MP Shanta Chhetri, who was in Kalimpong today, said that most of the land in Kalimpong comes under DIF and Development Area and that she would take up the matter with the Chief Minister.

## Rahul mocks Modi on China visit, asks where his...

Contd from pg01

Xi in his home state Gujarat and the Chinese troops made an incursion into Indian territory.

"In Gujarat, on the banks of a river, Narendra Modi ji sits on a swing with the Chinese president. Chinese president goes back home and puts Chinese army in Doklam. I don't know where his (Modi's) 56-inch chest had gone, Narendra Modi ji did not utter a word," he said.

Chinese soldiers had intruded into Indian territory in Chumar area of Ladakh in September 2014 during Xi's India visit.

The Congress chief, who released the party's election manifesto for the Assembly polls in Mangaluru earlier in the day, said, "Modiji, wherever he goes, speaks his 'mann ki baat, but our manifesto is 'not our mann ki baat... it is the mann ki baat of Karnataka's youth, women and poor'.

He said the manifesto was not prepared by two or three Congress leaders in a closed room, and that people of ev-

ery district and region were consulted.

Gandhi also said, "Modi ji folds his hands in front of (12th century social reformer) Basavanna's statue, garlands it, and then he gives eight tickets to Reddy brothers."

"He says he stands against corruption... but then he stands with Yeddyurappa (the BJP's chief ministerial nominee), who has spent time in jail, on one side, and four MLAs who have savoured jail food on the other," he added.

Taking a jibe at the Prime Minister over BJP allotting party tickets to the Reddy brothers and their supporters, he said, "Modi ji likes changing names. Earlier it was 'Planning Commission. He changed it to NITI Aayog.

Now he has changed the CBI's name to Central Bureau of Illegal mining."

The influential Reddy brothers of Ballari were accused of involvement in illegal iron ore mining in several states, and two of them have been fielded by the BJP in the polls.

"It (CBI) is an agency that gives clean chit to Reddy brothers, it does whatever Modiji asks it to do. If you want theft to happen from Karnataka, Modi ji will get it done. Amit Shah and Modi ji will give them (Reddy brothers and their men) eight tickets and then they will give speeches that they are against corruption," he said.

He alleged the Reddy brothers had looted Rs 33,000 crore from Karnataka by way of the mining scam.

The Congress president also accused the prime minister of keeping quiet over atrocities against women.

"Narendra Modi gave the slogan 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.' Now the slogan has changed, wherever you see parents in India are trying to save their daughters from BJP leaders," he said.

Referring to the alleged involvement of an Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA in a rape case, he said "The new slogan is 'only 'Beti Bachao, Beti Bachao' (save your daughters) from BJP leaders.

Narendra Modi, the country's chowkidar, did not utter a word on their MLA indulging in rape."

Gandhi said when a rape incident happened in Jammu and Kashmir, the prime minister only said there should be no atrocities against women.

"Modi ji, we know, but you do something about this, the whole country is burning, there are atrocities against Dalits, minorities are being attacked, women are being attacked, and you are just watching," he said.

Addressing a public meeting at Goniokoppal in Kodagu district, Gandhi, without making any specific reference, said Modi was told at a conference abroad that he and his government were not working towards protecting women and said "it is a shameful thing."

He questioned how Modi could speak about corruption when BJP had projected a 'tainted' person like Yeddyurappa, who had been in jail, as the Chief Ministerial candidate.

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# Two-day educational fair on 29 and 30 Apr

## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 27 APR:**

Gangtok based B&B Event Management is organizing the Sikkim Educational Fair 2018 on 29 and 30 Apr at Chintan Bhawan.

The two-day educational fair is scheduled to be attended by 40 premier colleges from different parts of the Country.

The fair is being organised by B&B Event Management in association with Krupanidhi Group of Institutions, Bengaluru.

B&B Event Management proprietors, Binay Chettri and Bishal Chettri, addressing a press conference here today informed that this is for the third



time that they are conducting the educational fair in the State.

"Our main objective to conduct the fair is to show our stu-

dents ample opportunities and to help them choose the course of their interest," they said.

They added that the fair is targeted at students who have recently appeared for their class XII examinations.

It is informed that the fair will have career counseling by experts, spot admission, information on various scholarships and other details. The organizers have also invited representatives from different banks to inform about various educational loans and schemes for students. They have also arranged free bus services to bring students from different parts of the State.

**Gangtok on Saturday, 28 Apr**

**Temp:** 24°C / 11°C  
**Forecast:** Some sun, then turning cloudy with a shower or thunderstorm in the area.  
**Sunrise:** 05:00 AM  
**Sunset:** 6:07 PM



## Amazon to publish next 6 books of Chetan Bhagat

**NEW DELHI, APR 27 (PTI):**

In a mega deal, Amazon Publishing today announced that it would bring out the next six books by popular author Chetan Bhagat.

Rupa has published all of Bhagat's nine books since his debut in 2004.

The first book of the new deal will be published in October. Westland, an Amazon company, will distribute these six books - three fiction and as many nonfiction titles - in India.

The books will be published globally in print, eBook and audio formats and also be available in multiple Indian language versions.

"Amazon Publishing is excited to work with Chetan and publish his books to a wider audience including readers both in India and abroad," says Jeff Belle, vice president of Amazon Publishing.

"I am delighted to partner with Amazon Publishing as my publisher for my upcoming books," says Bhagat.

"My new fiction novel will be my first book in both eBook and print formats with Amazon Publishing and it will be something different from what I have done before," he adds.

Amazon acquired Westland Publications Pvt Ltd, a leading trade books publisher, in January 2017.

"Chetan's work resonates across India - we're delighted to now be able to bring his work to cities and towns of all sizes throughout the country," says Westland CEO Gautam Padmanabhan.

Bhagat's has written seven novels "Five Point Someone" (2004), "One Night @ the Call Center" (2005), "The 3 Mistakes of My Life" (2008), "2 States" (2009), "Revolution 2020" (2011), "Half Girlfriend" (2014) and "One Indian Girl" (2016) and two non-fiction titles "What Young India Wants" (2012) and "Making India Awesome" (2015).

## Govt to hold detailed probe into Rahul plane snag incident: Prabhu

**NEW DELHI, APR 27 (PTI):**

The government today ordered a detailed inquiry into the plane incident involving Congress President Rahul Gandhi and said appropriate action would be taken in case anything was "found wanting".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi telephoned Congress President Rahul Gandhi just before leaving for China yesterday to enquire about his safety after an aircraft with the Congress leader on board developed a snag before landing at the Hubballi airport in poll-bound Karnataka, a senior party leader said.

Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu said, "As soon as I heard about this issue, I directed the DGCA to conduct a detailed inquiry and to find out the cause of it."

"If there is anything found wanting and whoever is responsible for it, we will take appropriate action," he said.

Aviation regulator DGCA has set up a two-member committee to probe the technical snag in the chartered plane.

Congress communications in-charge Randeep Surjewala described the failure of the auto-pilot mode in the aircraft as "horrific" and "serious" and demanded a probe to find out if there was any "foul play".

AICC general secretary Ashok Gehlot termed the incident as "shocking" and "worrisome" and urged the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to investigate the matter thoroughly.

"It is a very serious incident for us, but only time will tell if the complaint is taken seriously by the government as

well," he told PTI.

Surjewala said a complaint was submitted to the director general of police in Karnataka, urging him to look into all aspects of the "serious, horrific incident", including foul play, if any.

He said that an aircraft carrying a Special Protection Group (SPG) protectee developing such a snag was unprecedented.

During the incident, the Congress chief had maintained his composure and even tried to calm the co-passengers down, Surjewala said.

Another complaint was filed with the DGCA, demanding a thorough inquiry into the incident, he added.

"The operator has reported the incident to us. According to the report, it was a snag in the auto-pilot mode. The pilot shifted to the manual (mode) and (the aircraft) landed safely," a senior DGCA official said.

"Shutdown of the auto-pilot (mode) is not uncommon. For a VIP flight, the DGCA examines it thoroughly. We shall do that in this case as well," the official told PTI.

The Congress has demanded a probe into the "suspicious and faulty performance" of the aircraft before it landed at the Hubballi airport.

The state police has said they have registered a complaint in this regard.

The plane had suddenly tilted heavily on the left side and its altitude had dipped steeply with a violent shudder at 10.45 AM, Kaushal Vidyarthi, a close aide of Gandhi, told Karnataka DGP Neelmani N Raju in a letter.

## Govt Law College conducts sensitization prog on SC/ST Act



### SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 27 APR:**

Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk, today conducted a day-long awareness programme on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 at its college premises, a

press release informs.

The programme was organised by SC/ST cell of Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk.

Advocate, High Court of Sikkim, Tashi Raptan Barfungpa highlighted the controversies surrounding the guidelines issued by the Supreme

Court in its recent judgment dealing with SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Assistant Professor, Dr Dilip Pandey introduced the Act and also highlighted the basic guidelines issued by the Apex Court.

## Braille version of Mamata Banerjee's autobiography released

**KOLKATA, APR 27 (PTI):**

A braille version of the autobiography of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was released here today.

"Jiban Sangram", Banerjee's autobiography, depicts the trials and tribulations in the life of the Trinamool Congress supremo.

The book's braille version was released by Banerjee herself at the state secretariat.

It was an initiative of



NGO Turnstone Global and direct selling company Amway India.

**HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?**

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news@summittimes.com

## Project to revive orange cultivation in Darjeeling launched

### SUMMIT REPORT

**KALIMPONG, 27 APR:**

I CAR, Regional Station, Kalimpong, today initiated the much needed revival of orange cultivation in Sitong-I project with financial assistance from NABARD.

The project PI, Dr. Sujit Sarkar, speaking at the inaugural ceremony, informed that under the project, orange growers will be provided all the necessary technological support (healthy planting materials, rootstocks, nuclear seedlings, improved vegetable seed for intercropping, training support etc.).

A nursery will be established to meet future planting demands.

The DDM, NABARD, Dr R Hasda, thanked the farmers of Sitong for supporting and participating in this new initiative of resuscitating the old glory of Darjeeling oranges and for their interest in removing the old infected orchards and replacing them with healthy planting materials in a community-based approach.

This is a lesson for other farmers of Darjeeling district as the disease from old orchards

spreads to nearby new and healthy orchards.

He also called on the farmers to undertake marketing linkage through producer groups for better price and income from Darjeeling oranges. The Horticulture officer, Dr. Mahadev Chetri [CDRS, Kalimpong] appreciated the initiative for reviving orange cultivation in the belt and participation of farmers in this initiative.

Under the project, vegetable seed was distributed for intercropping in mandarin orchard to act as alternate income source. The farmers' representatives, PB Khawas and BT Chetri from Sitong I expressed their happiness on the support extended through the project. They are planning to form a committee for successful implementation of the project.

Dr. Sujit Sarkar remarked that this is the beginning of a new journey towards revival of orange cultivation in Darjeeling and expressed hope that this kind of farmer-scientist participatory project will identify the problem of decline in orange cultivation in the district.

## Indu Malhotra takes oath as SC judge, shares bench with CJI

**NEW DELHI, APR 27 (PTI):**

Senior advocate Indu Malhotra, who was today administered the oath of office as a Supreme Court judge, shared the bench with Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra and heard matters, including Kathua gangrape and murder case and several PILs.

Justice Malhotra, who became the first woman lawyer to enter the top judiciary directly, was part of the bench which stayed the trial in the sensational Kathua case.

Along with the CJI, she was part of the bench that also comprised Justice D Y Chandrachud.

Besides the Kathua case, this bench also

heard mentioning of matters for urgent listing, including Cauvery water dispute and pleas seeking to strike down section 377 of the IPC which criminalises unnatural sex, including carnal intercourse, between consenting adults of same gender.

In the morning, Justice Malhotra was administered the oath of office and secrecy by the CJI during the swearing-in ceremony held in court number one of the apex court.

With Justice Malhotra joining the bench, the strength of the Supreme Court is now 25 as against the sanctioned strength of 31, including the CJI.



### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT

No: 109/GOS/R&B(SD-IV)/17-18/24/12

Dated:26.04.2018

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Additional Chief Engineer (N/E), Roads and Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim invites item rate bids through e-procurement. The bids should be submitted online through the website [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in) for the work as listed below.

PACKAGE NO.	NAME OF WORKS	BID SECURITY 2.5% OF THE BID VALUE (RS. IN LAKHS)	BID VALUE (RS. IN LAKHS)	COST OF TENDER/ BID FORM (RS. IN LAKHS)	COMPLETION PERIOD
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of approach road from Marchak Tumlabong Road to Alley Busty, Samlick (1.26 Km)	2.96	118.29	0.30	12 months

The date and time of pre-bid meeting, submission of completed bid document is as under:-

i)	Publishing of Online Tender in e-procurement portal	:	14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2018
ii)	Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal	:	15 <sup>th</sup> May, 2018.
iii)	Last date & Time for seeking clarification regarding bids	:	11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018 at 1500 Hrs.
iv)	Last date for online Submission of completed bids	:	18 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018 upto 1600 Hrs.
v)	Date of opening of bids	:	19 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018 at 1100 Hrs.

For all details on the bid visit [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in)

Sd/-  
**ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (N/E)  
ROADS AND BRIDGES DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM.**

R.O. No. 52/lpr/Pub/Classi/18-19 DT. 27.04.2018

### Kutshe Shegu

The 49th day Kutshe Shegu of **Late Norbu Tshering Lepcha** who left for his heavenly abode on 15 March 2018 falls **02 May 2018**. All friends, well-wishers and relatives are requested to join us in offering prayer for the departed soul at our residence, Chamkong Lee (Ruvong, Hee-Gyathang, Dzongu, North Sikkim. We would also like to extend our gratitude to all those who stood by us during our time of bereavement and regret our inability to thank them individually.

Pemtu Tsh Lepcha (eldest son) 9734365676, Songmit Lepcha (eldest daughter) 9593822460, Dr. Sonam Rinchen Lepcha (younger brother) 9647884804, Dathup Lepcha (younger brother) 7407015920



### KUTSE SHEGU

The 49th day Kutse Shegu of **Late Rinzing Lepcha** S/O Late Loday Gyatso Lepcha who left for heavenly abode on 15th Mar 2018 falls on **2nd May 2018**. All the relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to join us for offering prayers for the departed soul at our resident below

**Karthok Gumpa, Pakyong, East Sikkim.** We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in the time of our bereavement.

**Norzing Lepcha (Elder Sister), Kinzong Lepcha and Dupchen Bhutia (Sister and Brother-in-Law), P.T. Lepcha and Jamuna Subba ( Brother and Sister-in-Law), Palzor Tsh. Lepcha and Tshering Doma Bhutia ( Son and Daughter-in-law)**  
**Contact: 7872976439, 8016788758, 9593783168, 9832875540**



# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## For Labour

*Because not enough is being said on their behalf*

We see them around often, but don't always notice them. They labour on tasks which are necessary, but would not have been carried out had it not been for the privations which draw them away from home at worksites across the country. They power development with their sweat, they plod away, are often humiliated, and yet they persevere. Had it not been for them, the planners who chart grand developmental plans would have seen their projections stuck to the drawing boards and never on delivered on ground. Take a look around- the sewage line does not get laid only because there is a budget for it, but because there are stomachs desperate enough to work through cold, wet nights to lay them. Cardamom is not a cash crop just because Sikkim has progressive farmers, but because there are backs willing to take the load by the maund after they have harvested a crop which, let's accept it, few here have any actual understanding of. Gangtok's highways would not be neatly parted of their overnight sludge, had an entire army of labourers not been at hand to begin clearing the debris at the break of dawn. Trekking is possible not only because Sikkim is pretty, but because realities are quite ugly for some and have them carry loads wearing slippers and plastic shoes up trails where even the tougher trekkers slip despite their better shod feet.

And still, they do not figure anywhere in the pecking order and in most cases, don't even get to enjoy the infrastructure they build. Unfortunately, they also make easy targets, often denied even their due remunerations. We read reports of Indians stuck in the Middle East, not paid their back wages and unable even to afford an air ticket home, and we offer them the wrong response – clucking our tongues in sympathy when we should have been raging against the systems which allow such denials. Sikkim got a taste of such inhumanity in the wake of the 18 Sept earthquake when choppers evacuated the management and officers, but labourers at hydel and other construction sites had to foot it across dangerous terrain. Many of them complained of not having received their dues and only few of them had any plans of returning. They fled with their lives, leaving behind their earnings. It is unlikely that anyone even attempted to trace them down and settle their dues. They are probably being exploited somewhere else now.

The anonymity in which the labour force works and fades away is an unfortunate reality, and one that needs to be addressed. Not just because they deserve better, but also because we need to be better ourselves. The maltreatment is not just a governmental failing, but more a societal shortcoming. It is because we, as consumers, do not pay enough heed to basic human rights that the labour, as a class, gets denied. The West now has the luxury to pay attention to such issues which the developing world still looks at as distractions. When we celebrate laws banning bonded labour and child labour in India, we should perhaps thank buyers in the West who put pressure on manufacturers to behave more humane. But the pressure for better protections and more genuine safeguards have to come from the lay people, who themselves have to deliver better as well. The government fixes the minimum wage, but apart from government employ, how many other workplaces offer it? How many domestic servants, even discounting meals, are volunteered such remuneration? And yet there are people willing to work for less, willing to look the other way despite a law [of minimum wage] being broken. The labour force does not require just a more compassionate government, it also requires fellow citizens who notice them, listen to them, respect them and when the situation demands, speaks for 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](mailto:letters@summittimes.com)

# Melting Arctic sends a message: Climate change is here in a big way

MARK SERREZE  
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Scientists have known for a long time that as climate change started to heat up the Earth, its effects would be most pronounced in the Arctic. This has many reasons, but climate feedbacks are key. As the Arctic warms, snow and ice melt, and the surface absorbs more of the sun's energy instead of reflecting it back into space. This makes it even warmer, which causes more melting, and so on.

This expectation has become a reality that I describe in my new book "Brave New Arctic." It's a visually compelling story: The effects of warming are evident in shrinking ice caps and glaciers and in Alaskan roads buckling as permafrost beneath them thaws.

But for many people the Arctic seems like a faraway place, and stories of what is happening there seem irrelevant to their lives. It can also be hard to accept that the globe is warming up while you are shoveling out from the latest snowstorm.

Since I have spent more than 35 years studying snow, ice and cold places, people often are surprised when I tell them I once was skeptical that human activities were playing a role in climate change. My book traces my own career as a climate scientist and the evolving views of many scientists I have worked with. When I first started working in the Arctic, scientists understood it as a region defined by its snow and ice, with a varying but generally constant climate. In the 1990s, we realized that it was changing, but it took us years to figure out why. Now scientists are trying to understand what the Arctic's ongoing transformation means for the rest of the planet, and whether the Arctic



of old will ever be seen again.

### EVIDENCE PILES UP

Evidence that the Arctic is warming rapidly extends far beyond shrinking ice caps and buckling roads. It also includes a melting Greenland ice sheet; a rapid decline in the extent of the Arctic's floating sea ice cover in summer; warming and thawing of permafrost; shrubs taking over areas of tundra that formerly were dominated by sedges, grasses, mosses and lichens; and a rise in temperature twice as large as that for the globe as a whole. This outsized warming even has a name: Arctic amplification.

The Arctic began to stir in the early 1990s. The first signs of change were a slight warming of the ocean and an apparent decline in sea ice. By the end of the decade, it was abundantly clear that something was afoot. But to me, it looked like natural climate variability. As I saw it, shifts in wind patterns could explain a lot of the warming, as well as loss of sea ice. There didn't seem to be much need to invoke the specter of rising greenhouse gas levels.

In 2000 I teamed up with a number of leading researchers in different fields of Arctic science to undertake a comprehensive analysis of all

evidence of change that we had seen and how to interpret it. We concluded that while some changes, such as loss of sea ice, were consistent with what climate models were predicting, others were not.

To be clear, we were not asking whether the impacts of rising greenhouse gas concentrations would appear first in the Arctic, as we expected. The science supporting this projection was solid. The issue was whether those impacts had yet emerged. Eventually they did – and in a big way. Sometime around 2003, I accepted the overwhelming evidence of human-induced warming, and started warning the public about what the Arctic was telling us.

### SEEING IS BELIEVING

Climate change really hit home for me when when I found out that two little ice caps in the Canadian Arctic I had studied back in 1982 and 1983 as a young graduate student had essentially disappeared.

Bruce Raup, a colleague at the National Snow and Ice Data Center, has been using high-resolution satellite data to map all of the world's glaciers and ice caps. It's a moving target, because most of them are melting and shrinking – which contributes to sea

level rise.

One day in 2016, as I walked past Bruce's office and saw him hunched over his computer monitor, I asked if we could check out those two ice caps. When I worked on them in the early 1980s, the larger one was perhaps a mile and a half across. Over the course of two summers of field work, I had gotten to know pretty much every square inch of them.

When Bruce found the ice caps and zoomed in, we were agast to see that they had shrunk to the size of a few

football fields. They are even smaller today – just patches of ice that are sure to disappear in just a few years.

Today it seems increasingly likely that what is happening in the Arctic will reverberate around the globe. Arctic warming may already be influencing weather patterns in the middle latitudes. Meltdown of the Greenland ice sheet is having an increasing impact on sea level rise. As permafrost thaws, it may start to release carbon dioxide and methane to the atmosphere, further warming the climate.

I often find myself wondering whether the remains of those two little ice caps I studied back in the early 1980s will survive another summer. Scientists are trained to be skeptics, but for those of us who study the Arctic, it is clear that a radical transformation is underway. My two ice caps are just a small part of that story. Indeed, the question is no longer whether the Arctic is warming, but how drastically it will change – and what those changes mean for the planet.

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# Beyond our oceans: Microplastics pollute rivers and lakes too

KENNEDY BUCCI & CHELSEA ROCHMAN  
*theconversation.com*

When you think of microplastic pollution, plastic debris less than five millimetres in size, you likely envision the ocean — probably because ocean gyres gained notoriety for being a microplastic soup.

But what about our lakes, rivers, forests and fields? They can be just as contaminated with microplastic debris as the oceans.

Until recently, these environments were described as conduits — ways for plastics to get to the oceans. But now we're seeing rivers, lakes and soil in a different light, as reservoirs for plastic particles.

We now know that agricultural land, surface waters, freshwater lakes and river sediments are also contaminated.

In the past five years, researchers have started to study the sources, fates and effects of microplastics in freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, but only a handful of studies have been done so far.

### MICROPLASTICS IN OUR GREAT LAKES

Here in North America, when we think of freshwater, we often think of the Laurentian Great Lakes. They hold more than one fifth of the world's freshwater, are the basis of billions of dollars in economic activity and are a point of pride for those living

on their shorelines.

For the Indigenous peoples of Canada, the Great Lakes hold even more importance. There are more than 75 First Nations communities in the Great Lakes watershed, all of whom fish the waters for food or sport.

It is no secret, however, that the Great Lakes have had their share of ecological problems. Most have been caused by us, including the ongoing issues of nutrient-loading, invasive species like zebra and quagga mussels, tributary dams and reduced ice cover. Recent research now shows the Great Lakes also contain microplastic pollution, with the highest concentrations in heavily urbanized areas, like Toronto and Detroit.

Another study found that a litre of sediment from the St. Lawrence River contained up to 1,000 spherical microplastics — on par with the world's most polluted marine sediments.

Microplastics are now globally distributed in freshwater lakes and rivers. They've been found in North America, Europe and Asia.

### CONTAMINATED HABITATS, CONTAMINATED WILDLIFE

Microplastics fill the digestive tracts of the wildlife that inhabit freshwater ecosystems.

In a Texas river basin, for example, 45 per cent

of captured sunfish had reportedly consumed microplastics. Another study found that 12 per cent of gudgeons, a small bottom-dwelling fish, caught in a French stream had microplastics in their guts.

Closer to home, our lab has found that fish from the Great Lakes can have up to 40 microplastics in their digestive tracts. Many of these are microfibres—small strands of synthetic textiles, some of which come from our clothing.

In marine animals, microplastics can alter gene expression, cause inflammation in tissues and affect reproductive success. But we know much less about the effects in freshwater wildlife, which may be different than in marine animals. For example, marine fish drink water, whereas freshwater fish absorb water through their gills and skin; this may lead to different exposure concentrations of microplastics.

Although some studies have examined population- and community-level effects, most have focused on the effects on individual animals. As a result, evidence regarding the effects of microplastics on populations of animals are scarce. We need to ask how these pollutants affect survival, reproduction and the interactions between species in a community.

Our lab is beginning to do just that. For example, an ongoing study is comparing the effects of a range of microplastics found in Lake Ontario, and measuring their effects on freshwater fish survival, development and reproduction.

### CALLING ALL SCIENTISTS

The oceans cover more than 70 per cent of our globe. Still, the biodiversity on land and in freshwater is more than five times that in the oceans. In addition, the global population relies on freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems for food, water and recreation. As such, microplastic research must include all ecosystems.

We are using plastic products at an unprecedented rate, and have already generated an estimated 6,300 metric tons of plastic waste. Although some of this is recycled, about 79 per cent is accumulating in landfills or the environment.

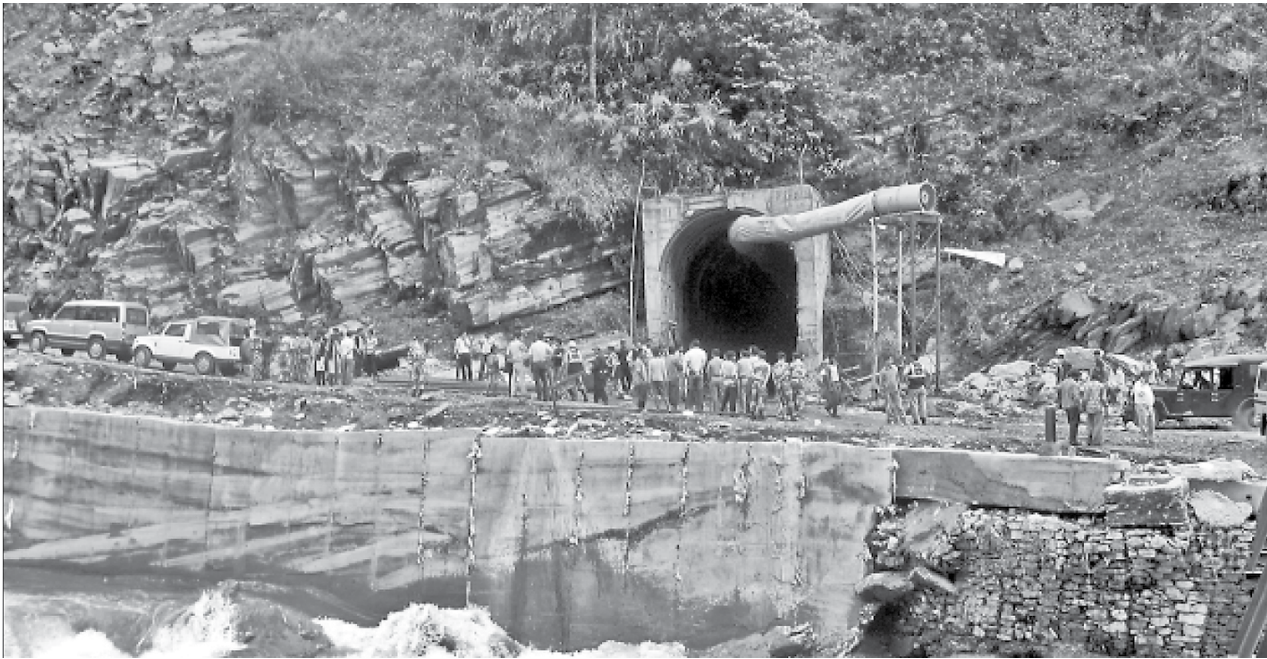
Moving forward, we must invest in gathering more scientific evidence about the sources, fate and effects of microplastics in terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems. At the same time, we know enough about plastic pollution to act.

As Canada takes presidency of the G7 this year, we applaud our government, which has committed to take leadership in preventing further contamination of the planet by plastic pollution.

*[Kennedy Bucci is Graduate Student, University of Toronto; Chelsea Rochman is Assistant Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto]*







**THE DAY AFTER:** The mouth of the Adit-III tunnel (right) which was inundated by a wall of water carried by a flash flood in the Rangpo Khola fatally trapping 10 labourers at work about a kilometre deeper on the night of 16 April 2009. And above, coworkers of the drowned labourers monitoring the water pump so that they can retrieve the dead bodies.

# LABOURING FOR HYDEL

They have toiled in the thousands at hydel project sites across Sikkim, often camped in squalor and sometimes also shortchanged. They have also died in the hundreds. They make their wages, but don't always get treated fairly. Their contribution is never recognized and their welfare receives only token attention...

PEMA WANGCHUK DORJEE

Ten labourers working about a kilometer deep inside the Lamaten hill in the Eastern periphery of Sikkim near Rongli were caught unawares on the night of 16 April 2009 when a flash-flood on the Rangpo Chu tore into the Adit-III tunnel they had used to access the headrace tunnel of the under construction 99MW Chu-jachen hydel project.

It is still unclear what caused the flash-flood. It is speculated that a cloud-burst higher up in the catchment area could have caused it, but it is unlikely that a cloud-burst alone could have sent down a flashflood 21 metres high on a stream during what is technically still a lean season. At the time, it was also speculated that a natural reservoir created by a landslide upstream might have burst causing the sudden inundation. It is also possible that a combination of the two events – a cloud burst and the collapse of a landslide reservoir – caused the mayhem which ended up claiming the lives of the ten labourers. There are no records offering an official explanation for the flashflood, and it is this general disinterest that underlines how the affairs of those who toil in the thousands to put together dams, dig out tunnels and struggle to tame mountain streams are attended to.

In the Chujachen HEP incident, the tenth body was recovered from its watery grave a full six

**SWINGING TO WORK:** A fileFoto of a hydel labourer going to work in a wrought iron basket swinging from a used 12 mm iron wire



days later. Agreed, the location was remote, but it still had roads which carried heavy machinery to the area. Yes, the terrain had taken a battering, but that was something the project developers and the officials knew all along and should have been better prepared for. And maybe the disaster preparedness was there on paper, but on location, it was obvious that there were no emergency facilities in place. There were no emergency exits even though it would have been an obvious inclusion given that these tunnels become buckets if water was to rush in. On the first day of rescue operations, even the pump being used to evacuate water from the water-logged deeper tunnel was woefully inadequate for the task, and while these were supplemented with more machines and pumps later, it still took six days for the last body to be recovered.

State officials were clearly disturbed by the lack of precautionary measures of any semblance or advance warning systems in place and promptly registered a case of culpable homicide. A day later, the site-in charge of the company engaged in the tunneling work was taken into custody. Ten lives were lost on the day, but apart from the Rs One lakh or so compensation which might have been made out to the surviving families, nothing else came of it. There were no convictions; not even for negligence.

Even lay observers had commented that if there was indeed a natural reservoir created by a landslide upstream, someone should have been monitoring it. Even a 10 minute head-start might have been enough for the labourers to escape.

Meanwhile, four years later, in May 2013, the project began commercial operations. It is unlikely that the ten labourers were remembered on that day or even a token plaque installed at the accident site to record their "sacrifice" at the altar of development.

Media reports at the time, while they followed the rescue operations and reported on the working conditions on site, ironically, did not even record the ten names, perhaps because no one else bothered with the names either. In fact, a day after the incident, it was even unclear as to how many labourers could have been caught in the flashflood. A roll-call, one would surmise, could have easily established that. Eventually, only after the muck had been sifted through and ten bodies recovered was the number of dead fixed at 10. Before that, it was feared that 11 lives

might have been lost.

One could speculate that the general lack of follow-up or interest among the people about the fate of the labourers or who they were was because they were "non-locals", trucked in from Bihar and West Bengal. Also, hydel projects see a complicated list of contractors, sub-contractors and labour contractors and fixing clear accountability becomes difficult. Then the workforce keeps changing and their numbers fluctuate and record-keeping and over-watch suffer as a result.

One got a sense of how low the labourers sit in the priority list of those who employ them and agencies which are supposed to look out for them in the wake of 18 September 2011 earthquake which rattled Sikkim. There were no helicopter sorties or even vehicles arranged to assist their flight and thousands walked their way out of North Sikkim, through the litter of landslides, abandoning their pending salaries in the confusion and it is possible that many never even returned to collect their dues. Most of the labourers that one came across at the North district headquarter town of Mangan, from where vehicles could be taken to leave Sikkim, complained and shared their grief and just about everyone said they were relieved to be alive and would not return.

The timing of the earthquake worked in their favour because it came a day after Bishwakarma Puja, that one day when worksites see no work and most labourers are away from the worksites the next morning, busy with the immersion (bisarjan) rituals. It was also propitiously a Sunday. One shudders to think of what the casualty list would have read like if work was underway at all the hydel project sites when the earthquake struck. Most projects in the State were at the peak of construction work at the time with thousands of labourers engaged at numerous sites. At the end, 63 lives were lost in the earthquake all over the State with around 20 of them employed with hydel projects here. How long would it have taken the labour contractors and the authorities to tabulate the number of lives lost had the earthquake occurred on a working day?

While fewer lives were lost, there were still severe travails that visited the hydel workers, with most of them engaged at the Teesta Stage-III HEP in North Sikkim on the wrong side of cut-off Sikkim.

Mangan, which soon became accessible, was crowded with families rushing there in search of their next of kin engaged at the projects and a steady march of labourers walking their way down, most without any money and carrying only the hope of hitch-hiking their way home. Several workers informed that they had not collected their wages for the past 4-5 months, a common practice since they preferred to collect their dues in lump-sum when they finished their contract and had something substantial to take home. In the confusion after the earthquake, they could not get in touch with their pay-masters and were not willing to wait around for too

long. Powerful aftershocks were still rattling the State and most were unnerved by the experience. So they fled, abandoning their wages and most never returning.

Official records make no mention of any attempts being made to contact these workers later or of any efforts made to settle their dues.

Although it was claimed at the time that project authorities were making arrangements to evacuate the thousands stranded at Chungthang - the nerve-centre of project works, the earthquake impact and gathering point for people fleeing the district - the testimony of the many who had trekked down unescorted, painted a different picture. There were seven relief camps set up in Chungthang, populated mostly by fleeing labourers.

Claims were made later by project developers about assistance provided to its workers and the assurances made to them. But the numbers did not always add up, the network of project developers, their sub-contractors and then the labour contractors stretching out a paper trail so complicated that the exact number of hydel labourers in Sikkim at the time of the earthquake will never be exactly known. Nor has anyone bothered to follow up on what happened to the lost wages or the PTSD they must have carried home with them.

There is little that one can do in the face of natural events like flash-floods or earthquakes, but it is in the wake of such calamities that the short-cuts taken at the cost of the welfare of labourers gets exposed. While the two instances cited above speak about the big incidents that made the headlines, everyone involved should have woken up earlier to clear indications all along that hydel workers are exposed to more risks than should be their share.

In the year 2001, there was a cholera outbreak in the labour camps of Teesta Stage-V. NHPHC had not foreseen the possibility of such outbreaks at labour camps where workers reside cheek-by-jowl with only very rudimentary facilities. It did not have enough medicines and had to borrow supplies from the Sikkim Government Primary Health Centre at Dikchu.

Soon thereafter, the PHC at Dikchu, where the dam for Stage-V is located, started receiving NHPHC labourers in the hundreds every day. A PHC is appointed to attend to much fewer patients, no more than a dozen locals on a busy day, but they were inundated by labourers who felt more comfortable with doctors who could understand them, literally. Most of the labour force was Nepali-speaking and the NHPHC doctors did not speak the language. Something as basic as communication was ignored when appointing doctors for workers.

Surprised by the high number of diarrhea, dysentery and viral fever cases that were being reported from the labour camps, one of the doctors from the PHC even visited the labour camps and returned shocked by the living conditions. Sanitation was absent and there was no provision for potable water.

And that was only one part of the problem. The number of STD cases being reported were also climbing.

contd on pg06

**SPOTLIGHT - Stories that matter**

SummitTimes presents a month-long series focusing on hydel projects and climate change in Sikkim and West Bengal.

The series has been made possible with support from Wageningen University, NWO and UK Department for International Development (DFID) under Conflict and Cooperation in the Management of Climate Change research project 'Enhancing mediascapes for sustainability and justice in the Eastern Himalaya' coordinated by DLR Prerna, a Darjeeling-based NGO.

We will be featuring two articles every week.



## Tejaswini misses final by a point in ISSF World Cup



**CHANGWON (KOREA), APR 27 (PTI):** Seasoned Indian shooter Tejaswini Sawant missed out on qualifying for the women's 50m rifle 3 positions final by a point as China and Russia continued their dominance in the ISSF World Cup in Changwon on Friday.

Tejaswini, a gold medallist at the recently concluded Commonwealth Games, finished 12th after shooting 1167 in qualification.

Anna Ilana of Ukraine, who grabbed the eighth and final qualifying spot with a score of 1168, had 57 inner 10s against her name to Tejaswini's 61.

China won the gold in the event to go top of the medals tally with a total of four yellow metals.

China and Russia continued to dominate the competition, accounting for seven of the 13 gold medals won so far with the remaining six being distributed equally among hosts Korea, Australia, Italy, Slovakia, Finland and Belarus.

Of the 39 total medals, Russia and China have won a total of 12 among them and will look to increase that tally with two finals left to play over the two remaining days of competition.

India remains in 10th place with Shahzar Rizvi winning a silver in the men's 10m air pistol earlier in the competition.

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## Sikkim Police marches into finals of Mahendra Karki Football Tournament

**SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 27 APR:**

Apex Football Club, Kalimpong lost to Sikkim Police 4-0 in the first semi-final match of the ongoing 02nd Mahendra Karki Memorial Invitational Football Tournament 2018 here at Paljor Stadium today.

With this win, Sikkim Police has secured its berth in the final round of the tournament.

Sikkim Police ended the first half with 1-0 lead with Bhim Tamang securing a goal in the 11th minute. Apex FC players did their best but were unsuccessful in their quest for goals.

While Kalimpong players put their best efforts to equalize the score in the second half, Bir Bahadur Pradhan extended the lead of Sikkim Police to 2-0 in the 75th minute. Then, Yogen Rai scored the third goal for Sikkim Police in the 80th minute and soon completed his brace in the

83rd minute to extend the lead to 4-0. With the final whistle by the referee, Sikkim Police became the first team to secure its berth in the finals of the tournament.

Sikkim Himalayan SC will take on United Brothers, Kalimpong in the second semi-final on Saturday.

## Barcelona on brink of 25th La Liga triumph

**MADRID, APR 27 (AFP):**

Barcelona need only a point against Deportivo La Coruna on Sunday to confirm a domestic double and win La Liga for the third time in four years.

Andres Iniesta will be at the centre of any celebrations, with the Spaniard expected to announce his Barca departure in the coming days.

The Spaniard made an emotional exit from the victorious Copa del Rey final last weekend, bleary-eyed as he was substituted in the second half, and it will be a nostalgic occasion again when he hoists his final trophy with the club.

"The love and respect that people have for me is something I feel deep inside," Iniesta said.

"My aim now is to try to add the league to the Cup."

It would be Iniesta's ninth league title won with Barca, 13 years after his first, and his last might yet prove his finest, given Barca also stand five unbeaten games from becoming La Liga's only ever invinci-



ble team.

Real Madrid could yet intervene when the 'clásico' comes to the Camp Nou next weekend but Deportivo would appear unlikely spoilers, sitting 18th, nine points adrift of Levante with four games left to play.

Some have suggested Clarence Seedorf's side would even prefer to have their fate settled against Barcelona than at the home of their fiercest rivals Celta Vigo, whom they visit six days later.

"We are going to play

to death to win it," Deportivo striker Adrian Lopez said.

"We know that we face a Barca that are practically champions and I hope they come a little calmer than usual. I hope they have their heads on the World Cup."

That may prove wishful thinking given Barca arrive on the back of arguably their best performance of the season against Sevilla and are still trying to make a statement following their Champions League loss

to Roma.

Liverpool's emphatic 5-2 win over the Italians on Tuesday has only underlined the carelessness of that defeat, while Real beating Bayern Munich to edge closer to a third consecutive European triumph makes their absence all the more galling. Adding a 25th league crown to the Copa del Rey would go some way to softening the disappointment.

"We have been pursuing the league since the beginning of the season,"

Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde said.

"It's something that is very hard to achieve, it's the title that gives you most satisfaction." With the title, relegation and Champions League spots all-but settled, La Liga's climax is likely to be found in the race for the Europa League where at least six teams are fighting it out for three places.

Real Betis look secure, five points clear in fifth, but only six points separate Villarreal in sixth and Celta Vigo in 10th. In between sit Sevilla, Getafe and Girona.

Sevilla will be hoping to bounce back from their hammering by Barca with a win at struggling Levante on Friday while their rivals are guaranteed to drop points, with Villarreal hosting Celta on Saturday and Getafe at home to Girona on Sunday.

"We have to work harder," Sevilla coach Vincenzo Montella said. "We have to be even more focused now to finish the league well and fight to qualify for Europe."

Betis entertain bottom-club Malaga on Monday.

## Saina sails to semis; Sindhu, Srikanth sink at Asia Badminton C'ship



**WUHAN (CHINA), APR 27 (PTI):** Two-time Commonwealth Games gold medallist Saina Nehwal continued her impressive run, progressing into the women's singles semi-finals with a straight-game win over unseeded Korean Lee Jang Mi at the Asia Badminton Championship here on Friday.

Former world No 1 Saina showed her class as she dumped Lee Jang 21-15 21-13 in a 43-minute clash. She will face either world no 1 Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei or Chinese eighth seed He Bingjiao.

However, Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu and top seed Kidambi Srikanth bowed out of the tournament after suffering straight game losses.

While Sindhu, who had won a silver at the recent Commonwealth Games, lost 19-21 10-21 to seventh seeded Korean Sung Ji Hyun, Srikanth once again went down 12-21 15-21 to legendary Malaysian Lee Chong Wei, who showed he is not on the wane despite his spate of recent losses.

Brimming with confidence after winning the gold medal at the Gold Coast, in-form Saina showed great temperament as she bounced back from 3-8 and 9-13 deficits respectively, to first turn the tables at 14-13 and then walked away with the opening game.

The world no 15 Korean simply failed to put up a fight in the second game as Saina stamped her authority with a 8-1 lead.

Lee Jang reduced the gap to 8-12 but the Indian quickly made upward movements to seal the contest without much ado.

Sindhu, meanwhile, failed to get across 2015 World Championships bronze medallist Sung Ji, an opponent she has played 11 times, winning seven of those encounters.

The 22-year-old Indian, who had recovered from an ankle sprain midway through the Commonwealth Games, squandered a 16-12 advantage to allow Sung Ji pocket the opening game. Sindhu simply wasn't good enough in the second game as the Korean jumped to a 5-1 lead and kept her nose ahead at 11-9 during the interval. The world no 9 reeled off seven straight points to double her lead and soon shut the doors on the Indian.

A lot was expected from Srikanth after his win over Chong Wei en route to India's maiden gold in mixed team event at CWG but the Malaysian today came out with all cylinders blazing, moving to a massive 13-4 lead in the opening game and closing the opening game without breaking a sweat.

Chong Wei, who had defeated Srikanth for the individual gold at Gold Coast, kept his distance from the Indian in the second game as well after moving to a 10-8 lead. Despite Srikanth's best efforts, Chong Wei walked away with the game and the match.

## LABOURING FOR HYDEL

Contd from pg06

These are basic health issues that are required to be looked into by any project developer. But the squalid conditions of the labour camps have consistently told a different story. The workers are often accused of disrupting the socio-cultural balance of the remote areas where such projects usually come up, but scant interest has been paid to the squalor they have to survive for their wages.

There are labour laws and rules in place to provide for better living and working conditions, but these remain easily bypassed and conveniently overlooked.

Protests at hydel worksites have been reported often, but only occasionally do they sustain unless it involves "locals". One such episode, and there have been many, was reported at the Dikchu HEP site in June 2011 when labourers abandoned work because the conditions were more hazardous than even they could handle.

After a makeshift bridge to access the worksite at the tailrace tunnel of the project was washed away on 01 May 2011, the workers were made to make it across on a flimsy wrought-iron contraption swinging from a used 12 mm iron wire without any security harnesses to protect against a mishap. They continued this way for a month, but as the monsoon arrived and the river below swelled, they decided they had taken enough and suspended work.

Ironically, the local panchayat tried to mediate and attempted to convince the workers to "bear with the company till a new Bailey bridge was constructed". Eventually, the workers returned to work after a more robust "ropeway" was promised. At the worksite across the river though there remained no toilet facilities and no drinking water supply.

Such situations have surfaced more often than is possible to record here, and there have also

been instances of projects shutting down without any communication to the workers. Employees have also been arbitrarily dismissed from service. The point being made, however, remains the same – those who labour the most for hydel are also the ones who are exposed to the most risk, receive the least support and are left to fend for themselves even when they are the most vulnerable. Also, because most of them are "non-locals" they lack the societal support or even interest or the resources to get themselves heard and their woes addressed. Now, with most of the hydel projects completed or nearing completion, there are already much fewer hydel labourers left in Sikkim, most having returned to their homes or other worksites, carrying with them their own horror stories and may be, just maybe, also some pleasant memories of their work in Sikkim.

□

## Chelsea aim to put pressure on Spurs in top four chase

**SWANSEA (UK), APR 27 (AFP):** Chelsea have a golden opportunity to pile pressure on Tottenham in the race to qualify for the Champions League when the Blues face struggling Swansea tomorrow.

Antonio Conte's side travel to the Liberty Stadium boosted by clinching a place in the FA Cup final against Manchester United after beating Southampton last weekend.

Fourth placed Tottenham stand between fifth placed Chelsea and a return to the Champions League next season, making victory in south Wales essential for the depressed champions.

Chelsea are five points behind Tottenham, but their north London rivals don't play until Monday's clash with Watford, so the Blues have a chance to cut the gap to two points at least for 48 hours.

Winning the FA Cup and finishing in the Premier League's top



four would be a satisfactory end to a turbulent season for Chelsea.

But it might not be enough to keep Conte in his job amid widespread reports that Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich is willing to part ways with the Italian after he repeatedly feuded with the club's hierarchy over their failure to back

his transfer plans.

Conte has looked increasingly unhappy with life in west London in recent months, and has constantly moaned about a lack of decisive spending in the transfer market -- the one thing that never used to be a problem in Abramovich's early years at the helm.





## Vijay Mallya back in UK court for extradition hearing

**LONDON, APR 27 (PTI):** Embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya was back in a UK court today for a hearing in his ongoing extradition trial.

The 62-year-old, who is wanted in India to face charges of fraud and money laundering amounting to around Rs 9,000 crore, is currently on a 650,000 pounds bail since his arrest on an extradition warrant by Scotland Yard in April last year.

"It's another day in court", Mallya told reporters outside the Westminster Magistrates' Court here.

Chief Magistrate Emma Arbuthnot is set to consider some additional material sought from the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), arguing on behalf of the Indian government, hear closing arguments, and set a timeline for a verdict in the case which is expected by next month.

At the last hearing in the case on March 16, the judge had noted that it was "blindingly obvious" that rules were being broken by Indian banks which sanctioned some of the loans to the erstwhile Kingfisher Airlines owned by Mallya.

"There are clear signs that the banks seem to have gone against their own guidelines (in sanctioning some of the loans)," she said, "inviting" the Indian authorities to explain the case against some of the bank officials involved because that relates to the "conspiracy" allegations against Mallya.

At the end of that hearing, the judge had indicated her decision on the admissibility of evidence would go in favour of admitting some material and excluding some affidavits, which she said did not pertain to the prima facie case of fraud.

Mallya's counsel, Clare Montgomery, had also argued that evidence which was claimed as a "blueprint of dishonesty" by the CPS was in fact a privileged interaction between Mallya and his lawyer about "legal advice in clear contemplation of litigation" and hence should be inadmissible.

The judge said she was still "on the fence" about admitting that correspondence. Today's hearing comes days after the Indian government's High Court appeal against a previous Westminster Magistrates' Court extradition ruling that had been denied.

UK-based Sanjeev Kumar Chawla, wanted in India as a key accused in the cricket match-fixing scandal involving former South African captain Hanse Cronje in 2000, had been discharged in October last year on human rights grounds over severe conditions in Delhi's Tihar Jail, where the accused was to be held on being extradited.

# Modi, Xi meet in Wuhan for 'heart-to-heart' summit

**K J M VARMA**

**WUHAN, APR 27 (PTI):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping today exchanged views on "solidifying" the India-China relationship as they began an unprecedented two-day informal summit here during which they will have a series of one-on-one conversations focussing on bilateral, global and regional issues.

Prime Minister Modi who arrived here in the central Chinese city early today for the informal summit began talks soon after President Xi hosted a grand welcoming ceremony for him.

The summit in Wuhan - the favourite holiday spot of revolutionary Chinese leader Mao Zedong - is being seen as an effort by India and China to rebuild trust and improve ties that were hit by the 73-day-long Dokalam standoff last year.

"And the much awaited Informal Summit gets underway! PM @narendramodi warmly welcomed by Chinese President Xi on his arrival at Hubei Provincial Museum in Wuhan. The two leaders had a one-on-one meeting during which they exchanged views on solidifying our bilateral relationship,".

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

Kumar said they will review the developments in the bilateral relations from a strategic and long-term perspective during their meetings.

Modi and Xi shook hands and posed for photographs before witnessing a cultural programme at Hubei Provincial Museum in Wuhan.



"PM @narendramodi was welcomed at the Hubei Provincial Museum with an impressive cultural performance. India and China cultural connect go back many centuries and is reflected in present times through the popularity of Bollywood, Yoga and other aspects of Indian culture," Kumar tweeted.

During their one-on-one conversation, Modi told Xi that when he was the Gujarat chief minister, he had an opportunity to visit Hubei Province on a study tour to learn about the Three Gorges Dam.

"The speed with which you constructed this dam and its scale inspired me. So I came on a study tour and spent a day at dam," Modi said.

As the world's largest hydropower project, the Three Gorges project is a multifunctional water control system on the mighty Yangtze river. It comprises a dam stretching 2,309 me-

ters long and 185 meters high, 32 hydropower turbo-generators, a five-tier ship lock and ship lift system.

The two leaders later visited an exhibition of Marquis Yi of Zeng Cultural Relics & Treasure at the Hubei Provincial Museum.

"Spending time together! In a special gesture, Chinese President Xi took PM @narendramodi on a tour of the exhibition of Marquis Yi of Zeng Cultural Relics and Treasure displayed at the Hubei Provincial Museum," Kumar tweeted.

The museum has a large number of state-level historic and cultural relics.

Officials said Modi and Xi would focus on global, regional and bilateral issues.

The two leaders will later hold delegation-level talks accompanied by six top officials from each side. The two leaders will have one-on-one dinner at a state guest house by

the famous East Lake.

They will resume their one-on-one interaction tomorrow at 10 a.m. (local time) with walks by the lake side, boat ride and wind up their talks over lunch, official sources here said.

The two leaders began their informal meetings way back in 2014 when Xi was hosted by Modi at the Sabarmati Ashram of Mahatma Gandhi in Gujarat. They have met and interacted with each other in about a dozen international meetings since then.

But this will be their "heart-to-heart" informal summit. There will be no agreement signed or a joint statement issued.

It is a summit, according to the officials, to forge consensus to resolve the issues with follow up actions by officials than announcing any agreements. This is something the leaders of the two countries have never tried so far, they said.

This is fourth visit of Modi to China after he came to power in 2014. He is again due to visit China to take part in the SCO summit to be held at Qingdao city on June 9-10.

China's state media said the informal Xi-Modi meeting heralds new chapter in Sino-Indian relations, an article in the state-run Global Times said.

"The Xi-Modi meeting in 2018 following the 2017 Dokalam standoff will without doubt promote mutual trust and reciprocity between the two countries, and will be a cornerstone of a stable long-term relationship between China and India," the article said.



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has pledged a "new history" with South Korea as he met his counterpart south of the border, President Moon Jae-in. It is the first time in 65 years that the leaders from the North and South have come face-to-face, making it a rare moment in history and a potential turning point as the pair hold a summit with denuclearisation at the top of the agenda. Mr Kim stepped over the border to greet his rival, and in an unchoreographed move, Mr Kim then invited Mr Moon to cross briefly North with him before they returned to the South for talks on Pyongyang's nuclear weapons.

## Trump admin ends special protections for 9,000 Nepalese immigrants

**LALIT K JHA**

**WASHINGTON, APR 27 (PTI):** The Trump administration has decided to terminate the temporary protection status for nearly 9,000 Nepalese immigrants with authorities asking them to leave or find another way to stay in the US to allow for an orderly transition. Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a designation afforded to nationals of countries experiencing humanitarian crisis such as violent conflict, environmental disasters, earthquake or epidemics that would prevent nationals from returning safely.

This decision affects 8,950 people, 85 per cent of whom live in New York.

All of these people from Nepal would have to go back to Nepal or face deportation.

However, to allow for an orderly transition, Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen M Nielsen has determined to delay the termination for 12 months.



The designation will now terminate on June 24, 2019, the Department of Homeland Security said.

The decision to terminate TPS for Nepal was made after a review of the environmen-

tal disaster-related conditions upon which the country's original designation was based and an assessment of whether those originating conditions continue to exist as required by statute.

## NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR KIND MORNING	DEAR WORTHY	DEAR FALCON EVENING
Draw Time : 11:55 am onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 80A 08994 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 08994 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Draw Time : 04:00 pm onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 90B 62501 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 62501 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Draw Time : 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:39 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 95C 31491 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 31491 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 01816 04554 11594 13682 18509 34470 36962 62041 76068 89913 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1395 2162 2451 2806 4958 5611 5787 5940 6216 9176 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0115 0480 0840 2784 5712 5793 5910 6057 7352 8194 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0092 0204 0391 0407 0436 0439 0582 0591 0860 0958 0997 1163 1173 1201 1341 1502 1526 1621 1647 1778 1791 2242 2367 2388 2390 2633 2757 2985 3075 3179 3331 3552 3606 3755 3802 3856 3972 4021 4282 4380 4445 4534 4537 4574 4608 4722 4851 5035 5166 5392 5436 5561 5585 5590 5627 5676 5897 5927 6120 6137 6192 6207 6222 6237 6244 6400 6502 6856 6977 7099 7227 7290 7296 7394 7556 7616 7693 7885 8174 8306 8420 8447 8561 8575 8596 8676 8730 8751 8935 9036 9069 9195 9261 9307 9472 9533 9640 9673 9879 9811	2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 21729 22064 39148 45659 49017 77098 78640 84042 86984 99499 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0705 1389 3855 3931 5685 5954 7200 7338 8380 9799 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0179 0800 2084 2998 3511 3532 3591 7820 7983 9037 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0012 0080 0217 0318 0449 0451 0512 0765 0974 1149 1202 1222 1402 1423 1618 1635 1808 1873 1954 1972 2240 2436 2667 2774 2935 3309 3475 3580 3583 3959 4103 4371 4432 4473 4793 4863 4884 4959 5007 5083 5109 5185 5212 5399 5436 5524 5561 5698 5716 5869 6159 6216 6242 6251 6371 6416 6582 6610 6802 6836 6876 6894 7103 7117 7226 7234 7248 7377 7455 7547 7602 7641 7740 7749 7807 8039 8053 8108 8129 8197 8200 8259 8272 8439 8587 8607 8647 8697 8755 8756 8895 8898 9009 9419 9435 9549 9592 9630 9643 9880	2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 02637 06171 29133 31056 41900 42836 49811 69339 79072 79109 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1537 2987 3651 4620 5254 5383 5557 6423 7316 9053 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0782 2309 4043 4062 4750 5335 6281 8833 9591 9856 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0025 0147 0192 0196 0246 0359 0382 0636 0687 0710 0801 0949 0999 1136 1257 1285 1298 1330 1756 2283 2440 2547 2549 2556 2559 2571 2606 2621 2624 3177 3204 3205 3248 3255 3309 3480 3485 3578 3581 3778 3922 4145 4159 4366 4383 4559 4615 4852 4936 4999 5220 5304 5388 5443 5521 5797 5877 5992 6046 6125 6216 6254 6327 6427 6474 6700 6774 6864 6921 6934 7088 7315 7405 7451 7508 7650 7737 7777 7944 7953 8188 8224 8229 8381 8511 8604 8691 8724 8878 9033 9174 9205 9330 9615 9616 9675 9678 9683 9832 9839 Issued by: The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Result, Please Visit : <a href="http://www.nagalandlotteries.com">www.nagalandlotteries.com</a>

## MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

**LABHLAXMI LEO**

Draw No:12 DrawDate on:27/04/18  
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5760  
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 4104 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 6012  
4th Prize Rs.300/- 6595 5th Prize Rs. 204/- 5391  
6th Prize Rs.100/-  
1032 1047 1106 1118 1124 1149 1168 1211 1219 1220  
1261 1290 1318 1386 1393 1404 1432 1472 1474 1489  
1593 1604 1618 1625 1633 1663 1681 1692 1704 1711  
1715 1777 1816 1869 1885 1887 1908 1937 1943 1965  
2008 2027 2034 2050 2095 2113 2114 2128 2144 2153  
2157 2169 2182 2241 2257 2287 2299 2311 2341 2371  
2388 2398 2422 2458 2474 2506 2555 2591 2605 2606  
2611 2634 2645 2723 2739 2763 2814 2822 2835 2838  
2886 2924 2996 3005 3069 3081 3101 3122 3126 3133  
3138 3190 3201 3227 3247 3280 3305 3310 3316 3338  
3378 3404 3456 3498 3501 3519 3549 3569 3571 3593  
3635 3639 3640 3653 3659 3720 3742 3764 3766 3791  
3838 3893 3898 3899 3901 3922 3934 4007 4028 4079  
4087 4112 4163 4168 4233 4297 4316 4322 4340 4358  
4369 4371 4395 4485 4522 4530 4564 4652 4660 4681  
4685 4688 4698 4730 4751 4769 4796 4801 4838 4840  
4910 4928 4985 4991 5011 5055 5078 5129 5171 5203  
5275 5290 5291 5316 5334 5344 5394 5424 5428 5446  
5448 5468 5495 5506 5543 5630 5634 5653 5681 5682  
5722 5746 5767 5794 5804 5808 5870 5959 5961 6018  
6022 6063 6067 6079 6084 6122 6159 6169 6204 6208  
6268 6294 6314 6355 6382 6393 6397 6403 6426 6444  
6500 6540 6562 6679 6729 6740 6741 6753 6754 6755  
6776 6785 6793 6817 6842 6922 6943 6956 6966 6988

Issued by:

The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries,

For result please visit: [www.mizoramlotteries.com](http://www.mizoramlotteries.com)

## ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES

**MUMBALAXMI SURAJ**

Draw No:12 DrawDate on:27/04/18  
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5539 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 1186  
3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 3818 4th Prize Rs. 504/- 2854  
5th Prize Rs.200/-  
1002 1038 1093 1098 1106 1161 1239 1335 1358 1386  
1442 1445 1453 1457 1496 1530 1552 1555 1662 1671  
1696 1712 1796 1908 1921 1926 2144 2295 2371 2628  
2686 2703 2769 2870 2882 2887 2899 2913 2915 2930  
2944 2952 2986 3064 3099 3129 3213 3342 3374 3431  
3600 3620 3697 3710 3816 3893 3972 3999 4102 4115  
4123 4145 4290 4350 4360 4406 4462 4606 4626 4688  
4724 4759 4786 4794 4858 4889 4953 5090 5104 5189  
5242 5321 5324 5337 5364 5366 5457 5567 5685 5715  
5729 5751 5758 5788 5854 5867 5905 5907 5957 5970  
6th Prize Rs.100/-  
1003 1008 1057 1064 1121 1153 1158 1237 1266 1267  
1287 1310 1325 1330 1337 1351 1430 1448 1484 1527  
1531 1550 1602 1619 1628 1646 1676 1683 1737 1761  
1777 1844 1861 1869 1886 1893 1948 1970 1981 2012  
2025 2064 2093 2094 2143 2178 2194 2219 2227 2241  
2245 2257 2270 2272 2288 2317 2368 2373 2383 2455  
2466 2484 2503 2513 2572 2583 2596 2613 2617 2626  
2665 2719 2723 2740 2774 2838 2867 2869 2894 2971  
2997 3056 3137 3148 3189 3206 3267 3275 3277 3305  
3357 3391 3397 3425 3432 3452 3492 3493 3545 3564  
3580 3623 3651 3659 3663 3680 3733 3753 3782 3802  
3827 3838 3938 3940 3944 3946 3993 4032 4048 4094  
4105 4128 4182 4207 4211 4213 4220 4221 4242 4243  
4270 4313 4405 4409 4429 4467 4483 4505 4537 4540  
4585 4615 4670 4749 4793 4817 4828 4831 4841 4850  
4851 4863 4870 4914 4922 4924 5011 5088 5089 5149  
5163 5339 5357 5381 5387 5477 5504 5511 5531 5558  
5563 5589 5606 5631 5650 5660 5676 5703 5735 5739  
5753 5803 5808 5812 5816 5826 5836 5850 5882 5884  
5890 5897 5908 5910 5915 5922 5924 5925 5971 5999

Issued by:

The Commissioner,

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES, ITANAGAR.





ACTOR TOM CRUISE GIVES A TALK ONSTAGE DURING CINEMACon IN LAS VEGAS.

## FAMILY OF DJ AVICII WHO DIED AGED 28 SAY 'HE COULD NOT GO ON ANY LONGER'

The family of superstar DJ Avicii, who died last week aged 28, said he "could not go on any longer" and had been struggling with his thoughts.

The Swedish music producer, whose real name was Tim Bergling, was found dead in Oman's capital Muscat on 20 April.

In a statement, his family said he was an "over-achieving perfectionist" who worked at a pace that led to "extreme stress".

"He really struggled with thoughts about meaning, life, happiness," they said.

"He could not go on any longer.

"He wanted to find peace."

The family said Avicii was "not made for the business



machine he found himself in", adding that he was a "sensitive guy who loved his fans but shunned the spotlight".

"Tim, you will forever be loved and sadly missed," they said.

"The person you were and your music will keep your memory alive. We love you."

A police source in Oman said there was no criminal suspicion in Avicii's death.

The DJ's family had previously released a statement on Monday thanking fans for paying tribute to him.

Avicii was best known for

his singles Wake Me Up, Hey Brother and Levels.

He scored two UK number one hits and had collaborated with artists including Madonna and Coldplay.

He was also considered a pioneer of contemporary electronic dance music and a rare DJ capable of a worldwide arena tour.

Avicii had suffered with acute pancreatitis, which was partly blamed on excessive drinking.

After having his gallbladder and appendix removed in 2014, he cancelled a series of shows in an attempt to recover.

He quit touring for health reasons in 2016 but continued making music in the studio.

**ARIES:** A member of your household could be going through some rough times, Aries, and as a result might become overly dependent on your moral and emotional support. This is flattering, but it could also be a drain on your energy. Carefully consider what you really need to say to your friend. Sometimes you have to hit a person over the head with the truth (figuratively speaking) in order to wake them up.

**TAURUS:** Some blatantly untrue gossip could reach you today, Taurus. When you think about it, you'll see that what you heard defies all logic and is actually rather ludicrous. However, the person who reports it to you could be so dynamic and persuasive that you believe it for a little

while. Remember to check the facts in such situations. You'll stay grounded in reality rather than get caught up in fantasy.

**GEMINI:** Gemini, today you could feel the need to work on your finances - pay bills, make deposits, and plan a budget for next month - but your heart won't be in it. Your mind is probably on more interesting projects. If you try to force it, you'll be unable to concentrate, so it could be a waste of time. It won't hurt if you wait a few days. You should be in a more practical space by then. **CANCER:** Usually, Cancer, you have pretty good powers of focus and concentration. However, today you might find that these powers are flagging. Working could be difficult, and you could

even find yourself dwelling on disappointments from your past. You might want to stop and try to figure out why these memories are coming up now. Releasing them could reset your concentration back to normal.

**LEO:** A strange person promoting him- or herself as a mind-reader of sorts could come onto the scene today, Leo. This person, however, is more mixed up than mindful. Therefore, take any predictions with a grain of salt, if not the whole shaker. Chances are good that none of them have any basis in reality. Trust your intuition. Your insights should be far more dependable than those of the so-called psychic.

**VIRGO:** Your financial goals

could seem vague and uncertain at this time, Virgo. Perhaps you face a crossroads in your life as far as income goes, and you might not be sure which way to go. Or else you could be planning to make some purchases and have a hard time deciding which are most important. This probably isn't the day to try to make any kind of decision. Wait a day or two.

**LIBRA:** A colleague's motives could seem rather sinister today, Libra. This person has a definite agenda of his or her own that may not take into account the needs or feelings of anyone who could conceivably stand in the way. This person isn't to be trusted. Don't excuse his or her behavior. The best course of action now is to stay out of the way

and protect yourself on all levels. **SCORPIO:** Today doubts may crop up for you concerning certain spiritual concepts that you've embraced for a long time, Scorpio. Don't let this cause a crisis. It could just be a normal part of your inner growth. Instead, go back and read the old books that got you started, and then read some new ones and try to view the ideas from your current perspective. You could find they aren't so doubtful after all. **SAGITTARIUS:** Some disturbing dreams could bring up doubts you may have about the motives of someone you consider a friend, Sagittarius. This person might have been acting strangely, and you could be wondering about the future of your friendship. It's

important to look at the symbols in the dreams and try to analyze what they're telling you. They might be indicating your friend, you, or both. Think about it!

**CAPRICORN:** Some underhanded and not altogether honest machinations could be happening at the workplace, Capricorn. You could be offended by it, and you could also worry if it threatens your job. Then you might also consider what you're doing there, if it's that sort of organization. These inner conflicts could signify the need to focus on the realities and discern exactly what you want to do. Then go for it.

**AQUARIUS:** Today you might feel a little out of sorts, Aquarius, and your concentration could be diminished. You might even have

a little trouble focusing on your work. Don't worry about it. It's more mental than anything else, and it will pass. You might feel the need to drink coffee all day to stay alert. Try to exercise some restraint on this, since it could be counterproductive. Hang in there. **PISCES:** Today doubts, uncertainties, and insecurities could plague a love relationship, Pisces. Does your beloved share your passion? Is your friend being honest and open with you? Does this relationship have a future? The only way to get past this inner turmoil is to take one step at a time and take a good long look at the results of each step. Only in this way will your doubts be resolved one way or the other.

## BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY TRAILER SCREENS AT CINEMACon

Twentieth Century Fox rocked CinemaCon in Las Vegas Thursday with the release of two new photos from the Freddie Mercury/Queen biopic *Bohemian Rhapsody*, along with a trailer that has yet to appear online. After working on the film for the past 10 years, producer Graham King is in the final stages of preparing *Bohemian Rhapsody* for the masses with a look at Queen from 1970 through the operatic rock band's legendary set at Live Aid in London in 1985.

Even while filming *Bohemian Rhapsody* still continued to suffer setbacks, including the firing of director Bryan Singer from the production in December. The foundation remained firmly intact, however, with Mr. Robot star Rami Malek starring as Mercury, along with Gwilym Lee (*The Tourist*) as guitarist Brian May, Ben Har-



dy (*X-Men: Apocalypse*) as drummer Roger Taylor, and Joe Mazzello (*Jurassic Park*) as bassist John Deacon. Eddie the Eagle director Dexter Fletcher was brought aboard to the helm the picture shortly after Singer and 20th Century Fox parted ways; and apparently the studio seems so confident in the film that it pushed up its release date from Christmas Day to November 2.

Malek took the stage to present the footage at CinemaCon, noting the pressure that came with Mercury by saying, "When I got this role, I thought, 'Oh my God, this could be a career-defining performance.' And then two minutes later I thought, 'This could be a career killer.'" Apparently Malek has little to worry about, however, relating how he got an email from May after he screened *Bohe-*

mian *Rhapsody*, telling the actor that the film brought him to tears and how Mercury would be "proud" of it if he were alive. Mercury died of complications from AIDS in 1991 at age 45.

From all indications, so far, it looks like Queen fans are in for something spectacular with *Bohemian Rhapsody* when it hits theaters in late fall, especially since Fox's confidence to move up the release date speaks volumes. Perhaps most exciting is that Malek not only looks like Mercury, the release of an early set video showed how he nailed the late singer's mannerisms as well. The moment of truth, however, will come when audiences get to judge how good Malek sounds as Mercury, since the film reportedly will feature a combination of the actor's voice, recordings of Mercury, and fill-ins of soundalikes.

## B-TOWN STARS OPEN UP ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN INDIAN CINEMA IN BBC DOCUMENTARY

While Hollywood has witnessed a watershed moment with the post-Harvey Weinstein outing of sexual harassers in and the coming together of the women and men to out sexual abusers through the #MeToo movement, Bollywood, notorious for demanding sexual favours in exchange for work, termed as the 'casting couch', has remained tight-lipped about their own.

BBC News recently released a clip online, Is Bollywood ready for #MeToo?, from its documentary Bollywood's Dark Secret, which has revealed some shocking details about the issue, with Radhika Apte, Usha Jadav and a struggling actress who wished to keep her identity anonymous, speaking up about the rampant sexual harassment in Bollywood.

"Some people are regarded as Gods. They are so powerful that people just don't think that my voice is going to matter, or people think that if I speak,

probably my career is going to get ruined. The way the women, and the men, of course, came together and decided that as a team we are not going to let this happen, I wish that could happen here," said Radhika Apte in the video, who is the only Bollywood actress who has been outspoken about the issue for sometime now.

The anonymous actress, who has recounted her experiences in the clip, said, "He started telling me, for an actress you should be happy to have sex. He touched me wherever he wanted, he kissed me wherever he wanted and

fully it will change, and it will change I guess with women speaking up, some amount of shaming happening will put some fear in people's hearts."

However, Bollywood remains miles away from acknowledging its seedy underbelly, where powerful men often ruin careers of female cast and crew if they reject their advances. "Sleep with me if you want to do this part. I need sexual relation with you. I said no. He said if you are saying no, then I am not going to cast you in the film," said Usha Jadav in the BBC News video.



## DISNEY DEBUTS RAINBOW MICKEY MOUSE EARS IN TIME FOR GAY PRIDE MONTH

Disneyland has given us yet another excuse to visit their parks, and this time it's not just for their churros.

The amusement park recently began to sell rainbow-colored Micky Mouse ears in stores at both Walt Disney World in Florida and in the original Disneyland park in California, just weeks shy of Gay Pride Month, which occurs in June.

The colorful, striped ears with a red cap, which are officially named, "Rainbow Love," are an "in-park exclusive" and at the Emporium, Fantasy Faire and the Chapeau Hat Shoppe in the Walt Disney World Park in Orlando.

The sale of these LGBTQ-themed ears is one of Disneyland's many items of merchandise that can be worn when visiting the parks, and is especially perfect for those unofficial "Gay Days," which draw thousands of visitors annually for a Pride-themed celebration.

Other recent releases from the amusement park include their rose gold Minnie Mouse ears and a yummy Dole Whip Donut, sold for a limited time at the OG Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif.

Unfortunately, the cute ears do not seem to have made their way onto Disney's online stores yet, but it's a great excuse to visit the parks and celebrate Pride!

