



Summit **TIMES**

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Election Commissioner takes stock of Panchayat poll arrangements

GANGTOK, 01 Nov [IPR]: In connection with the Election to Zilla and Gram Panchayat in East District, the Commissioner, State Election Commission visited the Control Room set up at Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen and took stock of arrangements made for the upcoming Election. The Observer, Rinzing Chewang Bhutia, was also present and oversaw the arrangements made for the Elections.

The contesting candidates in the upcoming elections have been requested to be present or depute their election agents at 7 a.m. on 02 Nov at Modern SSS where the Strong Room is located. The sealed Strong Room where the prepared Electronic Voting Machines [EVMs] have been kept will be opened and dispatched to the Polling parties on 02 Nov from 9 a.m. after which the Polling parties will reach their respective Polling Stations allotted to them.

Drop boxes have been kept at Modern SSS, Tathangchen where the filled postal ballots can be deposited by the Polling personnel. Those Polling personnel who have not received their Postal Ballots may collect it from their respective departments and cast their votes at the Drop Boxes kept at Modern SSS.

Further, such Officers who have not been assigned any Polling duty or who have been exempted from Polling duty may check from the Control Room at Modern SSS or from their respective departments regarding their Postal Ballots. Such officers who have been issued Postal Ballots shall cast their votes only through Postal Ballots and may not be able to cast their votes at their respective Polling Stations.

A total of 571 Police personnel have been deployed for Polling duty and to ensure law and order during the Election.

The poll day [03 Nov] has been declared as a public holiday throughout the State. The State government offices, educational institutions and public undertakings shall remain closed throughout the State.

Campaigning concludes for Panchayat polls

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 01 Nov: Campaigning for the Panchayat election concluded today at 4 p.m. as ruling and opposition parties along with large number of independent candidates made last

minute appeals to the electorate for votes. On 03 Nov, out of 1,038 Gram Panchayat Wards, voting for 849 Wards including Territorial Zilla Panchayats will be conducted, the remaining having already

gone to the Sikkim Democratic Front uncontested. As of now, 52% of the Ward panchayats have gone uncontested while the remaining 48% are going to poll on 03 Nov. Meanwhile, SDF has managed to get 29 seats out

of the 113 Territorial Zilla Panchayats uncontested and the remaining 84 seats are going to be contested. 2,83,050 voters are exercising their constitutional right to elect their own representatives for grassroots-level government.

Returning Officer, West, Kapil Meena, informed over the phone that the election campaigning went off peacefully and there were no issues of law and order or any violation of model code of conduct till 4 p.m. today.



Former Mr Sikkim to represent India at World C'ship

SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 01 Nov: Two-time Mr Sikkim, Arun Gurung, is all set to flex his muscles in the World Bodybuilding & Fitness Championship to be held from 10-13 Nov at the City of Bistrita, Romania. The international-level open event is being organised by International Federation of Bodybuilding for amateur junior and masters.

Mr Gurung is part of the seven-member Indian team for the championship. He will be participating in two events, Men Physique competition and Classic Bodybuilding competition, in 40 years plus category.

It is informed that he attended the selection trial conducted by Indian Bodybuilding & Fitness Federation in July earlier this year at Mumbai and received his selection letter from the federation recently on 26 Oct.

42-year-old Mr Gurung won Mr Sikkim title in year 2012 and 2014 and has also participated in the national championship three times.

Addressing a press conference here today, he expressed his happiness and excitement on being selected to represent the country in an international event.

"I have been preparing for this since I was 17 years old."



More tournaments could help Sikkim's Basketball dreams

NITESH R PRADHAN GANGTOK, 01 Nov: The recently held interschool invitational girls' basketball tournament was not only successful but also made many take note of some good upcoming basketball players.

Sernya Palmo Chettri of Holy Cross School was the most valuable player this year while Pema Choden Bhutia of PNG was adjudged as the highest scorer. Bharati Sharma of Holy Cross School and Laden Palmo Bhutia of West Point Senior Secondary School performed exceptionally well during their game.

Looking at the popularity and great success of the recently held tournament, Principal, PNG School, Jem Pandi, held that the school will organise a bigger tournament next year for an All Sikkim Championship.

Laden Palmo, a student of West Point SSS, opined that the need of the hour is to have a combined Gangtok team that provides platform for promising players to gain exposure which will further lead to formation of a competitive State team.

With the Basketball Association of Sikkim selecting players for combined team in future, such competitions will also help them to select players for the team.

The two finalists, Holy Cross School and PNG School, have qualified for participation in the All Sikkim Invitational Tournament to be held next year.

In the recently held tournament, Pema Choden's [PNG] total score was 35 points, more than 50% of what PNG scored in its four matches. Her points tally was 22 till the semis and she scored 13 points in the finals. The final score was 25 out of which she scored 13 points.

Sports Teacher-PNG, Tongpang Imchen, said that he is extremely delighted with the final results in favour of PNG and added that his dreams have come true.

"Looking back at the way the team was selected, it sounded like a movie. I believe that every teacher had 10-15 students to select from to assist the teachers to play in Inter-Teachers Basketball tournament," he said.

The criteria for the selection of students in the PNG school

team are academic excellence, discipline, ability to play and commit to the dream of excelling in the game, he added.

He further informed that the school provided full support to the promotion of the game and that parents have been requesting him to train their daughters for selection in the team.

The school now hopes to promote the game by organising friendly matches with National Champions like Eklavya Model Residential School of Gangyap, West Sikkim.

Principal Jem Pandi Targain believes that the PNG team should be exposed to similar tournaments. She is planning to organise another big tournament next year by inviting teams from other districts of Sikkim, Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Kurseong and Nagaland. She also hopes that basketball for girls will really catch up in a big way.

While interacting with some outstanding players from the Holy Cross team, Bharati Sharma stood out as a player of outstanding caliber in all matches she played during this tournament.

She has been a regular member of the Holy Cross School team and has been participating in interschool and State level tournaments. She stressed that she will be pursuing basketball even after Class 12.

She earnestly hopes that the Sports Authority takes up basketball with more realistic and encouraging attitude, especially for girls.

Likewise, Pema Choden Bhutia of PNG, the highest scorer of the tournament, also wants to continue the game after Class 12. Hostel matron of PNG, Indu Thapa, was the person who looked after the players in a training camp held during the Diwali holidays just to prove it to the students that it requires commitment and sacrifice to train oneself for tough battles, be it on the court or life itself.

Similarly, Laden Palmo of West Point suggests that a strong combined Gangtok team should be fielded for a tougher tournament next where teams from all districts of Sikkim and possibly from neighbouring hills can participate.

Laden has been playing in turn to pg02

Feast of Ideas begins deliberating complexities of Representation

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 01 Nov: Delegates from across the world today began deliberations on "Politics of Representation", the mood for the seminar set by Professor Emeritus, Jadavpur University, Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri, who walked the audience through the complexities of the topic as gleaned from meditations ranging from Plato to the more recent approaches of deconstruction and even delving into the patterns of Indian writing in English.

Prof Chaudhuri delivered the keynote address here today to begin

the three-day international seminar organized by the Department of English, Sikkim University, in collaboration with the Human Resource Development Department. The inaugural session also had HRDD Minister RB Subba present as chief guest and was chaired by the officiating Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University, Prof JP Tamang.

Prof Chaudhuri began with how Plato saw representation (in art) as a dialogue between the ideal and the material and its attendant complexities and then segued into the transference of ideas as it moves from medium to medium and of the gaps in

between into which we put our own inferences and meanings.

As he moved into the topic of pastoral romance, he pointed out how with this form the irony of claimed representation came to fore, a complication we see in Indian writing in English in which questions remain about who represents whom, from which angle and for which audience.

He reiterated the complexities of the theme picked for the seminar need to be accepted, and from that position, more meaningful deliberations can be expected in the interdisciplinary approach taken by the organizers to address the theme.

Earlier, the Head of Department, English at SU, Prof Irshad Gulam Ahmad, highlighting the eclectic array of scholars who responded to the Department's call for participation, introduced the seminar as a "feast of ideas... an academic festival" and shared that the moment the topic was finalized, they realized that it would have to be an interdisciplinary event since Representation has "rich resonance which is not confined to any particular discipline".

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Minister Subba provided a brief introduction to Sikkim and shared that when the State Govern-

ment began pursuing the idea of developing Sikkim as an "intellectual hub", the process began with the establishment of Sikkim University.

Through seminars such as this, Sikkim continues to receive the impetus of further progress and growth of ideas and intellectual collaborations, he said.

Accepting that representation has become an increasingly complex concept in the present times, the Minister stressed that a more sophisticated understanding was now required and expressed confidence that seminars such as this would help ignite minds towards that end.

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Polling training wraps up in East Sikkim

GANGTOK, 01 Nov [IPR]: In connection with the upcoming panchayat election, the second and final round of training to the polling personnel was held at the Tourism Department office in Tadong today.

Returning Officer [East], Prabhakar Rao addressed the gathering and emphasized on the responsibilities of the Presiding Officers and Polling Officers in the conduct of free and fair elections. He also gave a brief overview on the poll procedures and urged the polling personnel to perform their duties in a fair manner.

Postal ballots were also issued to all the polling personnel who attended the training and a Drop Box has been installed at Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen where the filled postal ballots can be deposited. Polling personnel who have not received their postal ballots are directed collect them from Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen.

The contesting candidates are directed to submit the application form for appointment of counting agent along with two Passport size photographs by 02 Nov at Modern Senior Secondary School, Tathangchen.

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SDF election campaign wraps up in Phodong

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 01 Nov:

"ALLOWING THE 17th Gyalwang Karmapa Ugyen Trinley Dorje to Sikkim is in the hands of the centre. I have always been in support of the demand and have approached the central government several times in the past. I also highlighted the demand in front of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Sikkim last year," said Sikkim Democratic Front president-cum-Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling, while addressing the public of North Sikkim today during the Panchayat election campaign in Phodong, under Kabi-Lungtsok constituency.

This was SDF's final meeting for the upcoming Panchayat election after completion of the same across West, East and South Sikkim.

"I urge all the monks and people of Sikkim to believe in the truth and not to be misguided by rumors," he appealed.

Speaking on the upcoming Panchayat election, the CM urged party members not to get disappointed if they were not given the party ticket for this election.

On the reservation pattern, he stated that the Election Commission is an inde-



pendent body and despite receiving recommendations and suggestions, it is free to take its own decisions. He urged people not to be disheartened with the reservation pattern.

He also congratulated women of the State on getting 50% reservation in the Panchayat election and for their active participation.

"The party needs to work together to ensure that all its candidates win in the election," he stressed.

Mr Chamling highlighted the achievements of the SDF

government and urged for votes so that the party can continue with its developmental programmes.

Stating that the party has given tickets to candidates of all communities in the State, he said that welfare and safeguard of the Sikkimese populace is the main motto of the party. Out of 1036 and 111 Gram Panchayats and Zilla Panchayats, 52% have been declared uncontested, he added.

Mr Chamling reiterated that independent Panchayat candidates will not be induct-

ed in the party. Here he cited the example of his brother RN Chamling who had won the Assembly elections from of Rangang-Yangyang constituency in 2014 as an Independent candidate.

He informed that the SDF government will focus on construction of one storied building for all and providing Scheduled Tribe status to all the communities of Sikkim next. He reiterated his commitment towards providing reservation for Limboos and Tamangs in the State Assem-

ment which is also in the hands of the central government.

He further mentioned that the SDF party has always worked towards safeguarding Revenue Order No. 1 for the protection of Bhutia-Lepcha communities.

Alleging that opposition parties are only misleading the people of Sikkim, Mr Chamling said that these parties do not have any policies or programmes and hence are leveling baseless allegations against SDF.

He also pointed out that there is a clash of interests within the party and that there are only a few who are interested in the good of the people while those with personal interests are many. On the same, he urged party members to work in the interest of Sikkim and its people and added that even politics should be played in the interest of the State and the people.

Mr Chamling announced a host of health schemes for women including free vaccination for cervical cancer, etc., and increase in old age pension amount. He also announced the construction of junior marketing centre in North Sikkim and urged the people of North Sikkim to get more involved in agriculture,

horticulture and floriculture.

On the same, he announced 1400 vacancies in the Police Department, 1000 for teachers and 600 for others along with trainings for elite services, banking, hospitality, etc., within Sikkim and outside for unemployed youth.

Area MLA, Kabi-Lungtsok constituency, Ugen Nedup Bhutia, highlighted that around Rs 250 crore has been invested so far in the constituency since 2014. He also highlighted about the demands pertaining to community play ground in Phodong, construction of alternate route to Lower Tanek and the land dispute of Kyonglasa and Pangthang area.

Earlier, the welcome speech was presented by SDF Zilla candidate from Rongyon-Tumlong GPU, Gachung Bhutia and ended with the vote of thanks delivered by North District SDF president, Khamsong Lepcha.

The party president was accompanied by Deputy Speaker [SLA]-cum-area MLA, Dzongu, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, MP-Rajya Sabha, Hishey Lachungpa, MLA Lachen-Mangan, Tshering Wangdi Lepcha, MLA Gangtok, Pintsop Chopel Lepcha, former MLAs, Adhyakshas and the general public.

Inter-house Yoga competition at Phalaichadara JHS

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 01 Nov:

An inter-house Yoga competition was held at Phalaichadara Junior High School today as part of regular house activity. State Yoga Coordinator-Human Resource Development Department, Laxman Adhikari, attended the programme as guest-cum-resource person, a press release informs.

Students from different houses presented their yoga demonstration following common yoga protocol used in Yoga Olympiad issued by Ministry of AYUSH. The



participants were judged across 10 parameters including dhyana, asana, pranayama, surya namaskar. With Primary Teach-

er-Lingding JHS, Goma Sharma, on the judges panel, Blue house was declared the winner followed by Red house and

Green house in second and third positions respectively. Anushika Rai from Red house was adjudged as best performer.

Four youth members resign from JAP

SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 01 Nov:

Four youths from Jan Andolan Party collectively resigned from the party today citing ideological differences as the reason for their departure.

Amir Basnet, the general secretary of JAP said that they have been supporting the party since its inception, which is when the district committee was formed.

"From today, i.e. the 1st of November, I

and Amir Basnet (the G.S of JAP) along with, Arpan Gurung-the youth vice president, Sandip Kullung the spokesperson and Pankaj Chettri the bureau chairman, with our personal interest and wish, resign from the party as we did not like the political culture of the party," said Mr Basnet while addressing reporters in a press conference.

They said that they had joined the party expecting creative changes

and hoping for an intellectual movement but none of it materialized which has compelled them to resign from JAP.

Mr Basnet also accused the central committee of denying the youth of the party any say in its functioning.

When asked, if they are interested to join some other party, they said that it would be an individual decision but they have not thought of it yet.



Training for Anganwadi and ASHA workers at Chungthang

SUMMIT REPORT

MANGAN, 01 Nov:

A daylong orientation training for Anganwadi and ASHA workers was

conducted today at the Sub Divisional Magistrate's office hall in Chungthang, North Sikkim, and Singhik Gram Prashasan Kendra, under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme.

During the programme, Medical Officer-Chungthang informed frontline workers about Scrub Typhus, Tuberculosis, proper filling up of birth and death forms, the responsibility given to AWW as certifier and to be vigilant regarding the same.

Child Development Project Officer-Chungthang briefed on BBBP, the schemes of the department and importance of mother and child protection card for availing government schemes.

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

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Temp: 202°C / 08°C
Forecast: Mostly sunny and pleasant.
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FACTUALLY INCORRECT AND ERRONEOUS NEWS ITEM

With reference to news item captioned "Labourer crushed to death dismantling building in Pakyong" on issue dated 29th October 2017.

In this regard, I have been directed to inform you that the news item captioned "Labourer crushed to death dismantling building in Pakyong at Pakyong" is erroneous and factually incorrect.

The demolition work as reported in your news print has not been entrusted and also the funds have not been transferred to the Buildings & Housing Department by the Airport Authority of India. The demolition works are not being implemented by this department. Buildings & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim is in no way responsible for negligence which caused the death of an innocent labourer.

The error on the part your esteemed newspaper in putting the onus on a responsible organisation of the Government without verifying facts is very irresponsible to say the least. Your reporters and your paper should have checked facts before going to print.

This is to request you to kindly put the facts and records straight in print and make good the erroneous reportage made in your paper dated 29th October 2017 immediately.

Thanking you,
Yours Sincerely,
Additional Chief Engineer
Buildings & Housing Department

We stand corrected.
The error is regretted - Editor

SSB Gyalshing observes Rastriya Ekta Diwas

GYALSHING, 01 Nov [IPR]: 36th Bn. SSB Gyalshing, West Sikkim commemorated the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as Rastriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) by taking a pledge today at the premises of Bn Hqr. Yangtey.

Second-in-Command (Officiating Commandant) 36th Bn., Lalit Kumar, administered the Rastriya Ekta pledge and gave a brief biography of Sardar Patel. He spoke on the significance of the day.

He further said that the occasion provides us an opportunity to re-affirm the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand the actual and potential threats to the unity, integrity and security of our Country.

Nomination papers of 2 SRC election candidates accepted after review

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 01 Nov:

Following Tuesday's protest by students against the rejection of nomination papers of three candidates for the post of president of the Students Representative Council of Sikkim Government College, Tadong, a meeting was held today to discuss the matter at the college's staff office.

During the meeting, the nominations filed by all the three candidates were reviewed. The scrutiny committee put forth the grounds on which the nominations were rejected. The students



also defended their case taken by the scrutiny committee for review of the decision.

The scrutiny committee in the presence of Special Secretary & Director, Higher Education, DK Pradhan, OSD, Dr MP Kharel, and Joint Director, T Topgay Bhutia, has approved as well as advised to consider the nomination papers of two candidates, Nishant Subedi [Chettri] of Physics Hons and Sher Hang Subba [B Com]. The rejection of Amresh Luitel's [History Hons] nomination papers has been upheld on grounds of disciplinary charges that have been pressed against him.

The two candidates whose nomination papers have been considered said, "Truth and honesty always wins no matter what. We have realized that whatever circumstances arise, we should not give up and should keep fighting for our rights."

They have extended gratitude to the higher authority for delivering justice to them and their supporters of Tadong College for believing in them.

Students Representative Council elections are scheduled to be held on 09 Nov.

Sikkim Sainik Welfare Board appeals for generous contributions

VISHNU NEOPANEY
GANGTOK, 01 Nov:

Sikkim Sainik Welfare Board has appealed to people across the State to generously contribute for the welfare of soldiers and their families. Fund raising is a part of the Armed Forces Flag Day celebration which falls on 07 Dec.

"The contributions made by the public will be used for the welfare of the soldiers, their families, children and widows of war veterans of the State," informed Secretary-SSWB, Colonel [Retired] DN Bhutia, here at Gangtok today adding that SSWB has paid its veterans and their families better than in other parts of the country.

He added that the fund will help widows, children's education of fallen soldiers and for medical purposes. As of now, Soldiers Board is providing 13 different kinds of welfare schemes to war veterans and their families.

The Armed Forces Flag Day is basically dedicated to remembering fallen soldiers and those who are standing on guard at the borders.

He said that the Flag Day fund raising will continue for two consecutive weeks this year so that the fund for welfare of soldiers can be raised

across the State. Col Bhutia further said that contribution made by the public is accounted by board of officers comprising of serving officers of the Armed Forces along with Secretary of Sainik Board.

As per the records available, Rs 3.16 lakh was received in the year 2014 as contributions from various public, private institutions and general public at large. In 2015 it was Rs 8.89 lakh and in 2016 it has crossed Rs 8.89 lakh.

Governor of Sikkim is the chairperson of the special fund for Sainik Board, it is informed.

Col Bhutia added that over the years, public awareness and their participation and voluntary contribution towards soldiers' welfare board has increased and greatly benefited serving and retired defence personnel and their dependents.

"World War II veterans and their widows are getting Rs 6000 per month as financial assistance from the state government," said Col Bhutia further adding that stipends, hostel fees, medical reimbursement when referred outside the State, spectacle allowances, orphan allowance, etc., have been greatly enhanced since 2011.

Training for Counting Supervisors and Assistants in Gyalshing

GYALSHING, 01 Nov [IPR]:

Training for all Counting Supervisors and Assistants was conducted today by the Returning Officer, Kapil Meena, at the school auditorium of Kyongsa Girls School in Gyalshing, West Sikkim.

The RO-West briefed the teams about the counting procedures which are to be followed by them on the day of counting. He also initiated a briefing meeting with the Sector and Zonal Magistrates in the presence of Additional District Collector, Hondala Gyaltsen, ADC-Development, Rajiv Roka, Senior Superintendent of Police-West, KD Shangderpa, and other officials.

The RO also briefed all the concerned officials regarding the Poll Day reporting which is to be done along with 2 hourly reports containing the poll percentage. He also briefed the officials regarding the commissioning and receiving of the reserve EVMs on the Poll Day.

All arrangements for dis-



patch and reception going to the 305 Polling Stations have been completed along with proper security arrangements provided by Sikkim Police.

The Additional Superintendent of Police-West has been appointed as the overall in-charge of the security of the storage/counting center till the completion of the poll process. An armed guard of 1-4 strength IRBn has been detailed for round the clock security of the

strong room. One/two police personnel have been designated to accompany polling parties in their movement.

The RO has directed all Sector Magistrates to be on the field round the clock for the next two days. Final appointment orders for polling parties with allocated polling stations has been done and will be distributed on 02 Nov at the time of dispatch of the Polling parties. Also the postal ballot for all polling par-

ties will be given from the postal ballot counter which is to be cast by 03 Nov.

Under the RO's stewardship, 03595-250888 is assigned as the number for the District Control Room for the public convenience regarding any violation of the procedures. Also the Police Control room can be contacted at 03595-251074 regarding any unlawful activities in the district during the Elections.

Cooking gas, jet fuel prices hiked

NEW DELHI, Nov 1 (PTI):

Cooking gas (LPG) price was today hiked by Rs 4.50 per cylinder, the 19th increase in rates since July 2016 when the government decided to eliminate subsidy on it by raising prices every month.

Also, jet fuel or ATF price was increased by 2 per cent on firming international rates, the fourth straight increase in rates since August, according to price notification posted by state-owned retailers.

The price of non-subsidised LPG or market priced cooking gas has been hiked by Rs 93 to Rs 742 per bottle. At the last revision on October 1 the rate was hiked by Rs 50 to Rs 649 per bottle.

Subsidised LPG price has been hiked by Rs 4.50 per 14.2-kg cylinder to Rs 495.69.

The government last year had asked state-run oil firms to raise prices every month to eliminate all the subsidies by March next year.

Since the implemen-

tation of the policy of monthly increases from July last year, subsidised LPG rates have gone up by Rs 76.51 per cylinder. A 14.2-kg LPG cylinder was priced at Rs 419.18 in June 2016.

Every household is entitled to 12 cylinders of 14.2-kg each at subsidised rates in a year. Any requirement beyond that is to be purchased at market price.

Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) will now cost Rs 54,143 per kilolitre (kl) in Delhi, Rs 1,098 per

kl more than Rs 53,045 previously, oil companies said.

This is the fourth consecutive monthly hike in ATF price, the last being 6 per cent (Rs 3,025 per kl) on October 1.

State-owned oil firms revise rates of LPG and ATF on 1st of every month based on average oil price and foreign exchange rate in the previous month.

Initially, the hike in LPG rate was Rs 2 per month which was doubled to Rs 3 from May

this year. Today's hike in the LPG price is sixth since the May 30 order of the oil ministry to raise rates by Rs 4 per cylinder every month.

There are as many as 18.11 crore customers of subsidised LPG in the country. These include over 3 crore poor women who were given free connections during the last one year under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna.

There are 2.66 crore users of non-subsidised cooking gas.

Win for Sikkim girls cricket team in U-19 tourney

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 01 Nov:

Sikkim girls scored a win against Meghalaya today in the ongoing Under 19 Cricket Tournament being held at Dhanbad, Jharkhand. Captain of the Sikkim team, Nima Yankee Lepcha took 06 wickets giving only 16 runs in 7.4 overs in the match, informs a press release.

Meghalaya were restricted to 80 runs and were all out in 22.4 overs.

Sikkim's Archana Limboo took 2 wickets and Pretika Chettri took one wicket.

After winning the toss, Sikkim elected to field first. Batting second, Sikkim girls achieved the target in 24.5 overs losing only 5 wickets.

Sikkim girls will now be playing against Nagaland on 03 Nov, Arunachal Pradesh on 05 Nov, Manipur on 07 Nov and Bihar on 09 Nov, the release mentions.

Former Mr Sikkim to represent India at World C'ship

Contd from pg01
ing hard with full dedication since five months for this competition. I will give my best and I hope to win medals for my country and Sikkim with my performance," he said.

He has been sweating it out hard for 6 hours daily in the gym and following a strict diet for the last five months especially for this championship. He is preparing at Ultimate Fitness Gym, Tadong.

"I am in the body-building field for the last 20 years now and as an athlete, it was my dream to represent my country

in international events and to wear my country's flag and sing the national anthem. My first dream has come true and I will give my best to fulfill my second dream for the country," Mr Gurung said.

He is scheduled to leave for Delhi on 07 Nov and the Indian team will leave for the championship on 10 Nov from Delhi.

Sikkim State Body Building Association assistant joint secretary, Rabin Pradhan, has congratulated Mr Gurung for being selected to represent India and extended his best wishes for the championship.

TB survivors' group questions Centre about implementation of proposed scheme

NEW DELHI, Nov 1 (PTI): A group of tuberculosis (TB) survivors has written to Union Health Minister JP Nadda, inquiring about a scheme proposed by the Centre to provide direct economic benefits to TB patients undergoing treatment.

The scheme has been proposed in the latest National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis (2017-2022).

Considering that the disease affects a large number of India's poor due to social, economic and environmental factors, the Survivors Against TB (SATB) has urged the government to extend the benefits under the scheme to all the TB patients, irrespective of whether they seek care from the public or private sector.

"This scheme is a step in the right direc-

tion. Global evidence has shown that poverty and TB are inter-connected.

The poor people frequently come across economic barriers when it comes to healthcare," Deepthi Chavan, a multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB survivor and a member of the SATB, said.

The SATB has sought to know when will the scheme be launched and the first set of payments reach the beneficiaries. It has also requested the government to share a clear implementation plan for the scheme.

The group has suggested key parameters for effective monitoring and evaluation of the scheme, including ease of access, utility of the benefit amount etc.

"We welcome this patient-centric and compassionate policy. However, its impact

must be assessed from the perspective of the recipients, that is the patients," Saurabh Rane, an SATB member and an MDR TB survivor, said.

TB costs India close to USD 24 billion each year. As per the WHO (World Health Organisation) TB Report, the disease kills one Indian every minute.

The scheme, if implemented effectively, can bring about a drastic change in how India addresses and manages the TB related economic impact and poverty.

"For the first time in decades, we have the opportunity to ensure that TB-affected families do not become poorer due to a loss of livelihood or the treatment expenses. We hope the government will address our queries," Chapal Mehra, convenor of the SATB, said.

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More tournaments could...

Contd from pg01
various interschool and State level tournaments for last five years, since she was in Class 5.

The active participation of students along with feisty performanc-

es with an equally good support from their respective schools has not only opened a new avenue for the students but has also encouraged them to dream and pursue their goals.

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Minor Crimes, Major Impact

From stealing clothes to losing future...

A few days ago, this newspaper had reported about a frustrated appeal a student had tagged to the clothesline she dried her clothes on. It was a sarcastic message to the habitual “clothes-lifter” who had been stealing clothes and shoes left out to dry unattended. The message drew the attention of not just a reporter, but also passers-by and after the story came out, gained a kind of infamy which led to the “victim” removing the message since the appeal was attracting too much attention :) This is not a rare incident though. Clothes left out to dry getting stolen and shoes politely left out of doors walking away on stranger’s feet are all too common, especially in localities with a high student population. And this, not because the students are stealing, but more probably because they dress up more fashionably and hence their stolen clothes are easier to fence. But minor crimes like such thefts and petty burglaries and assaults rarely make it to the news and even when they do, they remain drab reprints of police records. It is however time that newspapers in Sikkim started digging deeper into these cases to establish the reasons that are prompting such frequent, albeit minor, criminal transgressions and weigh the potential severity of the incidents with the instigating causes. The results could be shocking.

And it is time that the people were shocked hard enough to realise how the energies of a sizeable portion of the youth are being squandered and their moral compass being thrown askew. Youth have fragile egos, unreasonable expectations, quick tempers and slow comprehension of consequences. That has always been the case. In the past, however, while juvenile delinquency was common, it was only in the very rare occasion that any serious long-term damage was caused. That does not appear to be the case anymore. Things have started getting serious. This is not just an alarmist reaction, it is a warning to address a situation before things really start getting out of hand. The youth have been allowed to wander directionless for too long and those inducted early into the ‘good life’, rarely pushed to work and deliver and already displaying signs of irascibility, could take quickly to violent crimes. Stronger policing is not the answer, increased societal involvement is. The youth need to be inspired and pushed at every stage, inspired and more cared for. Without this egging on and involvement, everyone will pay the price.

Fears have been raised often by the despicably ill-informed, and also perhaps also unhealthily motivated, that if corrective measures are not adopted soon, Sikkim could see the debut of terror outfits. That is unlikely to happen. Extremists are ideological fanatics who turn to violence in pursuit of their ideas of perfection. The youth in Sikkim has been allowed to wander directionless for too long to find their moorings in such pursuits. The situation that could develop is even more precarious because what we are increasingly instilling with our disengagement are asocial or antisocial sentiments. That means a generation which, because it has not experience genuine societal empathy, grows up aloof and with no real sense of social responsibility. That’s a rather sad place to be, especially when a different path can easily be taken by just investing some genuine concern and care.



China's Xi sets his sights on the world

CHARLES BURTON
theconversation.com

When the Chinese Communist Party's 19th Congress drew to a close recently, President Xi Jinping emerged, as intended, with a steely new grip on power.

Having been enshrined in the Party Constitution as the sole legitimate interpreter of Chinese Marxism for the “new era,” Xi’s political authority in China is now absolute. Now he can move on his plans for the rest of the world.

The Congress is held every five years, and a recurring theme this year was China’s historical resentment against, and future redress of, the West. Communist officials chafe at China’s humiliating defeat by the British in the Opium War of 1840, and subsequent Western and Japanese imperialistic incursions. China’s past characterization as “the sick man of Asia” was cited many times during the Congress.

But now Xi has assumed “the mandate of history” to implement the “magnificent plan” realizing the “Chinese dream of glorious Chinese national restoration” by 2050. Proceeding from 2020, this plan is divided into two 15-year parts. By 2035, China will be fully developed and technologically advanced. It will then embark on taking its rightful place as the world’s unassailable economic and cultural leader, playing “an important role in the history of humanity.”

Speaking without compromise, Xi

envisioned a post-2050 new world order he dubs “the community of the common destiny of humankind” (which the People’s Daily newspaper allows is “superior to Western mainstream international relations theory.”)

STATE AUTHORITARIANISM ON THE RISE?

In that world, America’s downward spiral under President Donald Trump continues unabated, and with it the end of Western liberal internationalism based on democracy and values of human rights and citizenship. Indeed, Xi hailed China as a model for “nations that want to speed up their development while preserving their independence.”

State authoritarianism and global power politics are how Beijing sees the rise to dominance playing out. Human rights and multilateral cooperation have no part in it. It seems that clock is already ticking, as China also announced the termination of its senior-level human rights dialogue with Australia.

China craves international affirmation and respect. Night after night, throughout the week-long Congress, Central Chinese TV news played clips of leaders around the world expressing support for the Congress, including a brief and heavily edited interview with Canada’s Jean Chretien.

From conference documents, it is clear that Xi Jinping’s “socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era” means more tightening of political

debate and restriction of foreign influence.

The indications are that China will further close its markets to foreign business in favour of more aggressive championing of “China first,” that “non-Chinese” religions (especially Islam and Christianity) will be further suppressed, and that policies toward China’s non-Han peoples are changing from ethnic accommodation to hard assimilation into the great “China nation.” That’s a tragedy for the great Uighur and Tibetan civilizations already weak and struggling for survival under Beijing’s suppression.

XI WILL HAVE TO TAKE THE BLAME

How sustainable is this grand plan?

The danger in concentrating all power in his own hands is that while Xi is praised to the skies in state media for all China’s successes, he will also be held accountable for anything that goes wrong.

Moreover, the Congress was fully stage-managed, and it remains to be seen if the general population is truly prepared to sacrifice Chinese democracy and social justice for the promise of a Communist elite-led rise to pre-eminent global power in 33 years as a consequence.

The Congress did have some positive outcomes for the Chinese people. The Party promises to eliminate poverty by 2020, making China a beacon of hope for poverty-dogged Third

World nations.

Xi also spoke of doing away with Shuanggui, the brutal interrogation and torture technique reserved for Party officials. Devised in the 1930s to deal with traitors, spies and the ideologically impure, it has more recently come to include anyone who opposes Xi’s dictatorship.

But torture is routine in Chinese police stations and prisons. In most capitals around the world, a main takeaway from Congress is Beijing’s now openly brazen contempt for civil liberties at a time when nations are trying engage China on the very basis of respecting human rights.

For instance, Canada’s Parliament just adopted Bill C-267 — the “Magnitsky Act” — which bars entry by, and forbids Canadians from financially engaging with foreign citizens who are complicit in torture or extrajudicial killings of anyone who defends or promotes human rights and freedoms. That includes the right to a fair trial or democratic elections.

As Canada actively identifies Russians and Venezuelans for the Magnitsky list, there are also many Chinese Communist officials who instantly meet the criteria.

It will be interesting to see if their names are added before or after free trade negotiations between Canada and China.

[The writer is Associate Professor of Political Science, Brock University]

What Martin Luther’s Reformation tells us about history and memory

PETER MARSHALL
theconversation.com

The story we tell of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago is a window on how the past speaks to the present, and how the present imposes itself on the past.

It is a story everyone, more or less, is familiar with. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther, a member of an obscure house of Augustinian friars in Wittenberg, went to the door of the town’s Castle Church and nailed to it a sheet containing 95 Theses. This revolutionary document, attacking corrupt teaching on indulgences and the papal authority lying behind it, was the foundational text of Protestantism. Luther’s bold action in publicising it was the starting pistol for a revolt that threw Germany into turmoil, and which soon permanently divided Europe as a whole.

To this day, Luther’s action has inspired both admiration and emulation. Perhaps the most powerful moment came on July 10 1966, when Martin Luther King Jr. marched to the door of Mayor Daley’s City Hall in Chicago and nailed up a set of demands for social and racial justice. His wife, Coretta King called it: “A magnificent, symbolic gesture that rang down the



centuries from his namesake.”

MYTH AND THE MAN

The posting of the 95 Theses is a key moment in the popular historical consciousness. It is an irresistible meme celebrating liberty of conscience and righteous protest against the abuse of power. It is the symbolic heart of commemorations to mark “the start” of the Reformation, taking place in Germany and across the world this year.

In truth, it probably never happened. The posting of the theses was first recorded in the mid-1540s, by associates of Luther not in Wittenberg in 1517. Luther himself, in a voluminous body of often autobiographical writing, never mentioned it.

We know he sent (“posted” in the alternative sense) the Theses to the Archbishop of Mainz on October 31, 1517. But in that letter – and various others sent over subsequent months – Luther insisted the wide distribution of the Theses was none of his doing. In fact, he said that he had deliberately held back from initiating a public debate to give the authorities a chance to reform the practice of selling indulgences.

Quite possibly, later commentators assumed the Theses were posted because this was the normal procedure for initiating a disputation. It was a regular part of scholarly life, laid down in the Wittenberg University statutes

of 1508. Faculty deans were to ensure that theses (discussion points) were placed in advance on the doors of all city churches. The actual posting was a chore undertaken, not by senior professors like Luther, but by low-ranking officials – most likely using wax or glue rather than nails.

It is conceivable the 95 Theses were posted, perhaps in mid-November – but if so, it was an unremarkable administrative task unlikely to have been undertaken by Luther himself. In effect, it was the 16th-century equivalent of updating a university faculty webpage.

CENTENARY STORY

It took a long time for the image of Luther hammering at the door to

capture the imagination of Europeans. It first came to the fore in 1617, when beleaguered Protestants in Germany fixed on the idea of a Reformation centenary to defy a resurgent Roman Church.

But interest remained patchy: there was no attempt at a realistic visual depiction of the scene before 1697. Only in the 19th century, after the third Reformation centenary of 1817, did the event which Germans called the Thesenanschlag become a regular theme of painting, poetry and novels. It resonated perfectly with “great man” theories of history – and the prevalent notion that the Reformation was more about liberation and enlightenment than doctrinal niceties (few could remember what the 95 Theses actually said).

Historical memory in the 20th century took a darker turn. For patriotic Germans in 1917, the hammer-wielding Luther became a token of wartime struggle and defiance, and in the subsequent generation Nazis appropriated the Thesenanschlag as symbolic of the overthrow of a corrupt old order. A more wholesome, liberal version of the myth has since reassessed itself, though one still sometimes tinged with anti-Catholic stereotypes (as in the commercially suc-

cessful Luther movie of 2003).

LOW ON MEMORY

All this matters because the image of Luther at the door has so much shaped our view not only of when the Reformation started but of what the Reformation was. Of course, we need “events,” periods and concepts (including “the Reformation” itself) to organise our knowledge and understanding of the past. But all too easily they become timetabled stops along the fixed tramlines of historical development.

Luther in 1517 was no “Protestant”. He was a reformist Catholic friar. His theses on indulgences are in some ways surprisingly unradical, articulating the unease many thoughtful churchmen felt about the practice. Only later, through a combination of political circumstances and Luther’s own theological radicalisation, did a breach with Rome become irreparable. At no stage can it be considered “inevitable”.

Anniversaries are by definition commemorative and retrospective occasions. But we should use them to ask searching questions and interrogate old verities, not just to remind ourselves of what we think we already know.

[The writer is Professor of History, University of Warwick]

No land of Assam will be given to any state: Governor

MORIGAON/NAGAON, Nov 1 (PTI): Governor Jagdish Mukhi today allayed apprehensions among people in the state that some portion of Assam's territory will be included in Greater Nagalim with reference to the ongoing peace talks between the NSCN(I-M) and Central Government to resolve the Naga issue.

At a press meet here, replying to a question about the formation of Greater Nagalim and fears of Assam territory being included there, the Governor said, "there should not be any apprehension. No land of Assam will be given to any state".

Mukhi said he had launched interactive programmes with different sections of people of Assam to discuss the problems at the grass root level and he will go to all the districts of the state.

He started the programme from Batradava -- the birth place of Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardev yesterday, he informed.

Mukhi today visited Morigaon district and discussed with top district officials implementation of government schemes.

Visiting neighbouring Nagaon district, the Governor took part in Swachhata Abhiyan in Nagaon town and paid floral tributes to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi calling upon everybody to contribute to maintain a clean environment and exhibit a sense of responsibility for making the state clean and green.

Bar Aadhaar Act's application in Nagaland: NSF

KOHIMA, Nov 1 (PTI): The Naga Students' Federation (NSF) has expressed its apprehension that the imposition of the Aadhaar card or UID number in Nagaland would be a threat to the Naga customary law and identity.

The apex students' body in the north-eastern state, in a memorandum submitted to Chief Minister T R Zeliang

yesterday, said, "Special provisions granted to Nagaland under Article 371A of the Constitution exempt the state from the applicability of the Acts of Parliament in respect of the religious or social practices of the Nagas and their customary law and procedure."

It urged the state government to bar the applicability of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 in the state, pending the final Indo-Naga solution.

The NSF stated that the Nagaland Assembly had a special prerogative to decide whether an Act of Parliament should be made applicable to the state.

"It is thus, the bounden duty of the State Legislative Assembly to defend, protect, uphold and advance the sanctity of this special status conferred by the Constitution of India. The right to self-determination is the inalienable right of the Nagas," it said.

The imposition of the Aadhaar card or UID number would be a big threat to the Naga customary law and identity, the NSF said in the memorandum.

It also said a free enjoyment of social benefits, within the fabric of a collective social identity, was sacred to the Nagas.

"Any denial in the name of identity numerisation is inimical to the social and religious practices of the Nagas," the memorandum said.

"I have not registered for Aadhaar number. I share the same concern with my people. (Our) right to privacy is important in a democracy else the whole idea of democracy is diluted," Mukul told reporters here.

Meghalaya CM says he is yet to enrol for Aadhaar

SHILLONG, Nov 1 (PTI): Meghalaya Chief Minister Mukul Sangma today said he was yet to enrol himself for Aadhaar as he shared the concern of the people over the right to privacy.



"I have not registered for Aadhaar number. I share the same concern with my people. (Our) right to privacy is important in a democracy else the whole idea of democracy is diluted," Mukul told reporters here.

He said, "I and my (Assam) counterpart (Sarbananda) Sonowalji have discussed and written to the Government of India. We both agreed to move in the right direction and our stand remains and we are moving together."

"The issue is that we are in a situation which is different from other states. The kind of problem due to illegal immigration and influx is a common concern of the people of Meghalaya and Assam and the entire North East," he

added. The chief ministers of Meghalaya and Assam had earlier shot off a letter to the Centre seeking exemption from Aadhaar.

"What we are saying is not to make it compulsory and binding for Meghalaya (and Assam)," he said, adding that the registration is going on in the state for the convenience of students who are studying outside the state.

Sangma claimed there were "lots of confusion" with regards to registration for Aadhaar number and "we want complete clarity on the matter".

"Different authorities are giving diverse directions and inter-ministerial engagement is missing, synergy is missing and dialogue is missing," he said.

Assam govt expresses desire to purchase Hazarika's Kolkata house

GUWAHATI, Nov 1 (PTI): Assam Government has expressed its desire to purchase Dada Saheb Hazarika's house in Kolkata and convert it into a cultural centre.

Under the instruction of Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Assam Minister for Cultural Affairs Naba Kumar Doley and Chief Minister's Media Adviser, Hrishikesh Goswami today held negotiations with Sushil Kumar Dangi, the owner of the house at 77 Golf Course Tollygunge, to whom the legendary singer had sold the house.

Doley and Goswami initiated discussion with Dangi at Assam House in Kolkata and conveyed the state government's keen interest in taking the ownership of Bhupen Hazarika's house where the bard of Assam used to live from the middle of 1950 till he shifted his base to Mumbai because of his musical pursuit, a state government release said here.

The discussion was



held in a very congenial atmosphere as the present owner responded positively and assured to look into the matter, the release said.

After the discussion Doley and Goswami visited the house and took stock of its present condition.

Hazarika's house in Kolkata from where he created many of his masterpieces is also associated with the emotions of the people of Assam, informed Doley and Goswami.

Showing respect to the emotions of the people of Assam, the state government under the directions of the Chief Minister has taken initia-

tive to claim the ownership of the house to make it a cultural centre, they said.

Doley and Goswami at the behest of Sonowal had rushed to Odisha and met Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik yesterday for preservation of Assamese litterateur Sahityarathi Lakshminath Bezbaroa's residence in Sambalpur where he spent several years of his life creating his literary works.

Patnaik yesterday assured the Assam delegation that Odisha Government will preserve Bezbaroa's house and committed Rs 50 lakh for preserving the heritage residence.

Rs 200 crore sanctioned by the Centre for NE flood relief

NEW DELHI, Nov 1 (PTI): The Centre has sanctioned Rs 200 crore for reconstruction works in the four flood-affected north-eastern states of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.

Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Jitendra Singh said the amount was sanctioned by the central government as the region has faced massive floods this year.

The north-east had witnessed unprecedented floods as a result of

which the damage was colossal and the relief and rehabilitation operations were disrupted, he said in a statement here.

During his visit to the north-east in August, to review the flood situation in the four states, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced a flood relief package of Rs 2,000 crore.

Singh said a high-level committee had also been constituted to monitor the flood-related operations and plan a future roadmap to avoid such situations.

B. Ed. registered candidates will qualify for TET, WB Govt says

KOLKATA, Nov 1 (PTI): The West Bengal government today said it will ensure that anyone having registered at any B Ed institution will be able to sit for the West Bengal Teacher Eligibility Test 2017-18.

Education Minister Partha Chatterjee said the necessary notification will be issued on November 15 in this regard and the candidates can also apply online.

"Those having already registered their names in B Ed will be able to apply...those studying in first year, everyone can apply. We will give chance to everyone," the minister said.

"We want appointment in a transparent and swift manner without any unnecessary delay which can only hinder the appointment

process," the minister said alleging that some vested interests are at play in delaying the whole process by repeatedly going to court and instigating candidates to do the same.

"Those who want to become teachers must keep in mind that the recruitment of 15,000 people cannot be stalled by 10-12 persons. Let us sit for talks to find out a solution," Chatterjee said.

The minister said the government may move court on its own to ensure the WB TET recruitment and examination process are not delayed any more. "We are consulting our lawyers and will take appropriate action as we deem fit," he said.

Chatterjee, however, refused to spell out the dates for the WB TET ex-

aminations or whether the examinations will take place within this academic session.

The last WB TET was conducted in 2015.

"Let the applications come first," he said. Vacant seats: WB Govt seeks report from Presidency Univ

West Bengal Education Minister Partha Chatterjee today said the government has sought a report from Presidency University on news of several undergraduate seats falling vacant in the prestigious institution.

"We have asked for a report. I have heard the number of vacant seats is not small. We have to find out why this happened for an institution having the stature of Presidency. Let the report come," he told reporters.

Chatterjee was asked to comment on media reports about many undergraduate seats in Presidency University remaining vacant this year.

To a question about the Presidency Alumni Association taking initiative, Chatterjee said, "if the Alumni comes up with good suggestions, we will certainly consider the same."

On the issue of ransacking of a students' hostel of Calcutta University in the Bowbazar area on Monday, the minister said, "some arrests have already been made in connection with the incident and those involved will not go unpunished."

"We won't tolerate any indiscipline whatever influence they (attackers) might wield," he added.

TMC to launch campaign in WB against Black Day, GST

KOLKATA, Nov 1 (PTI): The ruling Trinamool Congress will launch a massive campaign across West Bengal to mark November 8, the first anniversary of demonitisation as 'Black Day' and against the "hurried implementation" of GST in the country, a senior party leader said. Protest rallies and street corner meetings will be organized throughout the week in each and every district of the state covering all the 77,000 booths of West Bengal. TMC's protest programme will

be part of the 'Black Day' campaign by several opposition parties on that day to highlight the ill-effects of demonitization on the economy, he said.

"The adverse impact of hurried implementation of GST in the country will also be highlighted as small traders are facing immense problems," he said adding the TMC leadership has already asked its grassroots leaders to make preparations for the programme.

Trinamool Congress supreme Mamata Banerjee during the

party's extended core committee on October 25 had asked her party leaders to start the 'Black Day' campaign from November 8 in every block and district in the state condemning demonitisation.

The TMC has also decided to use social media as part of the campaign program to reach out to the masses, especially youths.

"We will also use social media as a part of our campaign," Derek O'Brien, chief national spokesperson and leader of TMC Parliamentary Party Rajya Sabha, said.

SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
 DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK.
 Phone No: 03592 207753. Fax : 03592-207753

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited from eligible local candidates for filling up 01 (one) post of Data-Entry Operator for the Mediation Centre, South Sikkim at Namchi on purely temporary basis in the Pay Band and Grade Pay, plus allowances, as admissible under the Rules from to time as mentioned below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Pay Band + Grade Pay	Qualification
1	Data Entry Operator	01	PB 5200-20200 + Rs.2600/-	Senior Secondary (Class XII) passed from a recognized Board possessing a Diploma in Computer Application and also having knowledge of typing with a minimum speed of 35 words per minute.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

- The minimum age limit is 18 years and the maximum age limit is 40 years (in view of the Notification No. M(3)/(55)/GEN/DOP/PT-III dated 03/07/2017).
- Candidates fulfilling the above conditions may apply for the post along with the supporting documents and address proof, duly attested by a gazetted officer, one stamp sized photograph and telephone/mobile number.
- Other Requisites:**
 - Candidates must be in possession of either Sikkim Subject Certificate or Certificate of Identification issued by the Competent Authority under relevant rules of the State Government.
 - Candidates already in Government Service or in Public Sector Undertaking or similar organizations, whether in permanent or temporary capacity or as work-charged employee shall submit their application along with a "No Objection Certificate" from their present employer.
 - Candidates must possess valid Employment Card issued by D.O.P.A.R.T., Government of Sikkim.
 - SC/ST/OBC/MBC Certificate as the case may be.
 - Class XII passed certificate and mark sheet from a recognized Board.
 - Certificate of Diploma in Computer Application from a recognized Centre.
 - Certificate of Typing with a minimum speed of 35 words per minute from a recognized Institute.
- The application along with attested copies of the documents mentioned in paragraph (3) above should reach the office of the Member Secretary, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok on or before **30th November, 2017 (Thursday) between 10:00 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.** No applications will be entertained after 30.11.2017 on any ground.
- Names of the candidates found eligible on preliminary scrutiny of their applications will be displayed on the 'Notice Board' of the Office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on **8th December, 2017 (Friday) between 10:00 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.**
- Candidates found eligible on scrutiny of the applications for the post of Data-Entry Operator will be required to appear for **Technical Test on 15th December 2017 (Friday)** in the morning at 10:00 a.m. followed by the **Viva-Voce** on the same day (afternoon) in the Office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok.
- Admit Card for the candidates eligible to sit for the interview may be collected from the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority on **8th to 14th November, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 04:00 p.m.**
- No separate calling letters will be issued to the eligible candidates.
- Candidates are required to bring all their documents in original when they appear for the technical test and viva-voce. No T.A./D.A. shall be paid for appearing in the interview/Viva-Voce.
- The Sikkim State Legal Services Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application, with or without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
MEMBER SECRETARY,
SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY,
DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK,
EAST SIKKIM.

Hockey clinic by German coach Rozwadowski begins

MUMBAI, Nov 1 (PTI): A hockey clinic organised by India players Yuvraj Walmiki and his brother Devinder Walmiki kicked off today at the Mumbai Hockey Association here.

German coach Fabian Rozwadowski, who currently coaches the men's team in Germany for Alster Club in Hamburg, will be imparting lessons to youth at the training camp, which is set to conclude on November 10.

There are around 40 players in the camp from various categories like sub-juniors, juniors and seniors.

Devinder, an attacking mid-fielder, told PTI it was Fabian who groomed his talent and made him a better player.

"I have played in the German League, Bundesliga. Even my brother (Yuvraj Walmiki) has played in the league. We



wanted to impart the latest generation training to the boys in Maharashtra and so we have got Fabian here to give the lessons to boys," the 25-year-old player said.

He said it was former India hockey player

Dhananjay Mahadik, who first played in the German League and showed them the way how to play in Bundesliga.

According to Devinder, the pace of the game has changed over a period of time and the Ger-

man coach will also impart lessons on it to the players.

"Dhanraj Pillay (Dhanraj Pillay) has backed us throughout and is expected to also guide the players during the clinic," he said.

The clinic will conclude with a friendly match between India stars and the players who attended the camp, sources said, adding that they have planned a grand closing ceremony.

Markets fly to new heights after India's World Bank leap

Mumbai, Nov 1 (PTI): India leaping on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business rankings took stocks to dizzying heights today as the Nifty closed above 10,400 for the first time and the Sensex shot up 387 points to a record.

India improved its rank considerably as it went up 30 notches to the 100th place in the World Bank report, which was released yesterday.

Eight core sectors provided more tailwind, which grew at a six-month high of 5.2 per cent in September. Positive leads from global markets came as a catalyst.

That apart, better-than-estimated earnings by some more companies kept the risk-on sentiment alive.

The buying interest was such that the broader 50-issue Nifty breached the 10,450-level intra-day for the first time.

It closed at 10,440.50, a fresh life high, up 105.20 points -- 1.02 per cent, dismantling its previous record of 10,363.65 reached on October 30.

The beginning of the 30-share BSE index was full of promise as the Sensex hit a new all-time intra-day high of 33,651.52. In the end, it gave in to some profit taking activity and settled at a new closing peak of 33,600.27, up 387.14 points, or 1.17 per cent.

In the process, the barometer went past its previous closing record of 33,266.16, touched on October 30.

Yesterday, the gauge had come off record by losing 53.03 points.

"India's historic climb on World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' rankings and buoyancy in global peers provided tailwind to the domestic indices... Strength in the rupee also amplified

the sharp surge supported by strong sentiment being played around PSU banks, realty, metal and FMCG sectors," said Anand James, Chief Market Strategist, Geojit Financial Services.

"While soft PMI numbers have not dulled the sentiment as yet, activities of FIIs and the dollar's trajectory would be in focus with US tax reforms on the horizon," he added.

The steep rally led to a big jump in investor wealth measured in terms of market capitalisation of BSE listed companies, which stood at Rs 145 lakh crore, up by Rs 1.08 lakh crore.

Reflecting the market's aggressive form, most sectoral indices ended in the green.

Much of the charge came from buying in banking, realty, metal, FMCG and PSU counters. Traders said uninterrupted funds inflows into equities was at work too.

Bharti Airtel led the gainers' pack, jumping over 8 per cent, even as the company logged a drop in earnings for July-September. SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Ltd and Axis Bank lent a hand, rising by up to 4.58 per cent.

Asian and European markets saw a firming trend ahead of the US Federal Reserve decision on interest rate hike.

DIIs dug in by purchasing shares to the tune of Rs 596.92 crore. But foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) turned their back net selling shares worth Rs 531.82 crore yesterday, as per provisional data.

In sectoral play, telecom rallied the most by surging 3.93 per cent, followed by realty, bank and metal.

Broader markets ruled high too, with the small-cap index rising 0.55 per cent and mid-cap 0.35 per cent.

Free train ride for passengers as no one to issue tickets

RAMESWARAM (TN), Nov 1 (PTI): Over 1,000 people from this island town had a free ride on a Madurai-bound train today as there was no staff to issue tickets at the railway station here.

The employee at the ticket counter did not report for duty as he was indisposed following which the passengers boarded the Rameswaram-Madurai passenger train without tickets, a railway official here said.

"As there was no one available at the counter till the train started moving, the passengers had to rush and catch the train at 5.30 am," he said.

A complaint has been sent to the divisional railway manager of Madurai in this connection, the official said.

Madurai is 161 km from Rameswaram.

CONTACT SummitTIMES

REPORTERS

NAMCHI

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SINGTAM

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Conte blasts Chelsea after Roma rout

ROME, Nov 1 (AFP): Antonio Conte blasted Chelsea's lack of hunger after becoming the first English club to lose in the Champions League this season with a ruthless 3-0 rout by AS Roma.

Conte lamented that the English champions -- who would have advanced to the last 16 with a win -- "lacked everything" after a match where they went a goal down after 38 seconds, the first of a Stephan El Shaarawy

double.

El Shaarawy made it 2-0 after 36 minutes when ex-Roma defender Antonio Rudiger failed to control Radja Nainggolan's long ball forward. Argentine Diego Perotti scored the third midway through the second half, before missing a chance for a fourth.

"Roma proved to have more hunger, more desire, more will to fight and to beat us. We lacked

everything," complained Conte. If we think because our name is Chelsea the opponent is fearful, this is not the right way. We must have a great desire in every game."

The former Italy and Juventus boss took over Chelsea in 2016, winning the Premier League title in his first season.

But this campaign they are trailing nine points behind leaders Manchester City.

"What I am most disappointed about is the performance in the second half. I believe in the first half we played well," he continued. We then created many chances but we weren't clinical or ruthless enough to convert them.

"There is great disappointment for our second half, because I didn't see positive things, it was really bad for a team like us."

PSG, Bayern reach last 16 as Man Utd edge closer

PARIS, Nov 1 (AFP): Layvin Kurzawa scored an unlikely hat-trick as Paris Saint-Germain powered into the last 16 of the Champions League on Tuesday with a 5-0 rout of Anderlecht, while Bayern Munich joined them in the knockout stage.

Marco Verratti curled in a terrific opening goal -- his first in Europe since September 2014 -- on the half-hour at the Parc des Princes, with Brazilian superstar Neymar firing in a second before the break.

The world's most expensive player was involved in PSG's third goal as well, as his free-kick was tipped onto the post with France international Kurzawa forcing in the rebound.

The left-back then headed in another from a Dani Alves cross and completed an improbable treble with an angled drive as PSG increased their goals haul to 17 -- with none conceded -- in four Group B matches.

"The hat-trick is thanks to my teammates. I am delighted and the goals will give me confidence," Kurzawa told beIN Sports.

The French giants top their



section with a maximum 12 points, with Bundesliga leaders Bayern progressing alongside them following a 2-1 victory away to Celtic.

Kingsley Coman pounced on hesitant Celtic defending to latch onto a long clearance upfield from goalkeeper Sven Ulreich and round Craig Gordon to slot into an empty net on 22 minutes.

Callum McGregor slotted in a second-half equaliser, but Javi

Martinez's brave towering header -- which left the Spaniard bloodied -- clinched qualification for the Germans in Glasgow.

"I knew that today would be a very difficult, intensive game. We've had a busy schedule recently," said Bayern coach Jupp Heynckes.

"It's important that we have qualified, but it's going to be difficult to finish top of the group be-

cause of our head-to-head record."

Jose Mourinho's Manchester United were made to wait to seal their passage into the next round despite a 2-0 win over Benfica.

Benfica's Mile Svilar, who became the youngest goalkeeper in Champions League history a fortnight ago, suffered more misfortune at Old Trafford as his own goal handed United a 45th-minute lead.

The 18-year-old, at fault for

the 1-0 defeat in Lisbon, atoned for that error by saving an Anthony Martial penalty, but Svilar was helpless when Nemanja Matic's low drive cannoned off the post before hitting him on the arm and squirming over the line.

Daley Blind wrapped up victory from the penalty spot on 78 minutes after a foul on Marcus Rashford.

"We must get that point from the two remaining matches," United manager Mourinho told BT Sport. "I am more than happy."

CSKA Moscow reignited their campaign with a 2-1 victory at Basel in the other Group B fixture. Luca Zuffi's brilliant lob put Basel in front, but CSKA levelled through Alan Dzagoev in the second half before Pontus Wernbloom steered in the winner to leave the Russians level on six points with their Swiss hosts.

Lionel Messi and Barcelona were frustrated in a goalless stalemate with Olympiakos in Greece, while Juventus salvaged a 1-1 draw at Sporting Lisbon after Gonzalo Higuain levelled late on following Bruno Cesar's opener.

Barcelona remain top of Group D with 10 points, three ahead of

last year's runners-up Juve, with Sporting on four.

Chelsea squandered a chance to secure a berth in the knockout stages as Stephan El Shaarawy inspired Roma to a 3-0 success over the Premier League champions in Italy.

El Shaarawy drilled Roma ahead after just 40 seconds at the Stadio Olimpico as he ran onto an Edin Dzeko knockdown to slam home from the edge of the area.

The Italy striker netted a second on 36 minutes with Diego Perotti rifling in a third from 25 yards as Roma replaced Chelsea at the top of Group C with two matches remaining.

Roma are on eight points, one above Chelsea, but Atletico Madrid -- finalists twice in the past four seasons -- are heading for elimination following a 1-1 draw at home to Qarabag.

Journeymen Spaniard Michel headed the Azerbaijani champions in front from a corner, and while Ghana midfielder Thomas Partey hammered in an equaliser, Diego Simeone's side must now beat both Chelsea and Roma and hope other results work in their favour.

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New York
attack:Trump orders
'extreme
vetting'
of foreign
travellers

WASHINGTON, Nov 1 [PTI]: President Donald Trump said today he had ordered more robust "extreme vetting" of travellers coming into the US in the aftermath of the first deadly terror attack in New York since the September 11, 2001 carnage in the city.

At least eight people were killed and 11 others injured in Lower Manhattan today after a gunman in a truck ploughed through a busy bike path, an incident the US termed as an "act of terrorism".

The suspect, 29-year-old Sayfullo Saipov said to be from Uzbekistan, was shot in the stomach before being arrested.

"I have just ordered Homeland Security to step up our already extreme vetting programme. Being politically correct is fine, but not for this!" Trump tweeted.

Trump also changed the banner on his Twitter account to the New York skyline.

His administration announced last week that it would resume accepting refugees after a 120-day ban, though arrivals from 11 "high-risk" countries, most of them home to Muslim majorities, will still be blocked.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of today's terrorist attack in New York City and their families," Trump had said in a statement after the attack.

Earlier, the US president took to Twitter to decry the attack, saying "we must not allow ISIS to return".

"In NYC, looks like another attack by a very sick and deranged person. Law enforcement is following this closely. NOT IN THE U.S.A.!" Trump tweeted.

"We must not allow ISIS to return, or enter our country after defeating them in the Middle East and elsewhere. Enough!" he said in another tweet.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said authorities are treating the incident as a terrorist attack. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said there's no evidence to suggest there's a wider threat or plot, warning that people will still see more security forces out of caution.

N Korea slams 'incurably mentally deranged' Trump

SEOUL, Nov 1 [AFP]: North Korea slammed US President Donald Trump as "incurably mentally deranged" in a personal diatribe ahead of his first visit to Asia as head of state, amid high tensions over Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions.

Trump and the North's leader Kim Jong-Un have traded threats of war and personal insults against each other in recent months, heightening worries about a potential conflict on the divided Korean peninsula.

Trump has warned of "fire and fury" and "calm before the storm", telling the UN General Assembly that Washington would "totally destroy North Korea" if it had to defend itself or its allies.



He dubbed Kim "Rocket Man" in the same speech -- Pyongyang has tested missiles apparently capable of reach-

ing much of the US mainland -- and days later Kim responded with a personal statement calling Trump a "dotard", an

obscure term for a weak or senile old man.

The US president is due in Asia at the weekend and ahead

of his arrival the North's state-run KCNA news agency lashed out at "bellicose and irresponsible rhetoric" by the "master of invective".

"He absolutely needs medicine for curing his psychological disorder," it said.

The US has deployed key military assets including jet fighters and aircraft carriers near the peninsula following the North's sixth nuclear test in September, which also saw the United Nations impose an eighth set of sanctions on the isolated country.

KCNA described the sanctions drive as "desperate efforts" that would prove ineffective and Trump's hostile rhetoric as "hysterical spasmodic symptoms".

Trump, it said late yester-

day, "disclosed his true nature as a nuclear war maniac before the world and was diagnosed as 'incurably mentally deranged'".

Trump's itinerary includes Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam and the Philippines, with all eyes on his message to the North and Kim.

Pyongyang says it needs nuclear weapons to defend itself against possible invasion by the US.

During a November 7-8 visit to the South -- a security ally of Washington that hosts 28,500 US troops -- Trump is due to address Seoul's parliament and visit a US military base, although he will not go to the Demilitarised Zone that divides the Koreas.



A man in a rented pickup truck drove onto a busy bicycle path near the World Trade Centre memorial today, killing at least eight people and injuring several others in what the mayor called "a particularly cowardly act of terror". The 29-year-old driver was shot by police after jumping out of the truck with what turned out to be a fake gun in each hand, officials said. He was taken into custody. His condition was not immediately disclosed.

Pak seeks new US
deal after returning 9
military choppers

ISLAMABAD, Oct 31 [PTI]: Pakistan is seeking a new deal with the US for acquiring an unspecified number of helicopters for anti-narcotics operations after returning nine military choppers it had received in 2002, a media report said today.

Pakistan today returned five of the nine Huey II helicopters it had received almost 15 years ago. The ministry of interior, which was using the aircraft, had returned four of these nine rotary-wing helicopters on October 15.

Pakistan had received a total of 12 aircraft, including three fixed-wing Cessna airplanes, from the US for anti-narcotics operations in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Balochistan, the Dawn reported.

Since the area is also used by militants for carrying out operations along the Pak-Afghan border, the aircraft reported their activities as well, when observed, the daily said.

Primary purpose of the aircraft, however, was to monitor smuggling of narcotics as the region is connected to a major drug-route.

The aircraft were acquired under a renewable agreement and after the expiry of that agreement, Pakistan had the option to either return the aircraft or buy them. Although the US

urged Pakistan to "nationalise" the helicopters after the agreement expired, the ministry of interior decided to return them, instead of buying them for continued use.

The ministry, however, purchased the three Cessna airplanes that came with the choppers.

The Americans, who received the remaining five aircraft yesterday, have already made "re-direction" arrangements selling it to a third party so Pakistan cannot re-buy those helicopters. Instead, Pakistan will have to renegotiate a fresh deal.

Diplomatic sources were quoted as saying by the Dawn that it should not be difficult to do so as both American and Pakistani officials acknowledge a direct link between narcotics and terrorism financing and Washington believes that stopping drug-trade in this region will also help reduce terrorism.

Pakistan renewed its interest in acquiring the choppers after the recent change of leadership in the interior ministry.

The decision to return the helicopters was taken by former interior minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, while the new minister, Ahsan Iqbal, concluded that the ministry needs them to monitor the drug route, which is also used by the militants.

US will not tolerate Pak providing
safe havens to terrorists: Haley

WASHINGTON, Nov 1 [PTI]: The US will not tolerate Pakistan providing safe havens to terrorists, America's envoy to the UN Nikki Haley has said and backed the creation of a strategic alliance with India to fight terrorism and maintain peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Haley, in her keynote address to the 20th annual Legislative Conference of the Indian American Friendship Council, also strongly condemned the terrorist attack in New York that killed eight persons.

She said that the US recently embarked on a new strategy for combating terrorism in Afghanistan and South Asia.

One of the pillars of that strategy is the development of America's strategic partnership with India.

"America's overriding interest in Afghanistan and throughout South Asia are to eliminate the terrorist safe havens that threaten US and to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of terrorists," Haley said.

The US, she said, would use

all of the elements of its national power, economic diplomatic and military to pursue these goals.

"And critically, we will look to our economic and security partnerships with India to help us. We expect India to do more in Afghanistan, particularly in economic and development assistance." The US, she said, is also approaching its relationship with Pakistan differently.

"In many instances Pakistan has been a partner to the United States...But we cannot tolerate its government or any other government giving safe haven to terrorists who target Americans. We will not tolerate it and we're communicating that message to Pakistan more strongly than in the past," Haley said.

The US expects changes, she asserted.

She underscored the importance of India-US relationship



not only the global fight against terrorism, but also in maintaining peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Haley said that the June meeting between US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi was quite successful, as she praised India's responsible role in the international community.

"India has long been a nuclear power. And nobody gives it a second thought. Why is that? Because India is a democracy that threatens no one," she said, adding that more than any other two leaders before them Trump and Modi are committed to building on this partnership of shared values.

"Our goal is to create a new strategic alliance between India and the United States, one that benefits to security and prosperity of both our nations in the world," she said.

Critically, both nations have felt the pain of terrorism, she said.

"We share a commitment to defeating terrorists and the hateful ideology that motivates them," Haley said. Noting that the partnership between India and America is strong and it will keep getting stronger, she said the two countries have a shared vision for global peace security and prosperity.

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Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:14 DrawDate on:01/11/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 84B 88744
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9496/- 88744 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
10082 12620 15007 24569 33256
37363 40666 41559 59455 70111
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0274 0715 0805 1093 3047 3061 7320 7413 8582 9732
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0783 1102 1688 2152 2839 3672 5146 5639 6184 8321
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0163 0247 0316 0337 0440 0445 0580 0612 0671 0729
0750 0963 1094 1131 1331 1502 1679 1689 1772 1993
2089 2241 2314 2544 2583 2944 3211 3312 3340 3345
3389 3397 3593 3655 3811 3828 3851 4310 4337 4367
4383 4469 4601 4630 4788 4838 4999 5017 5044 5318
5324 5335 5406 5535 5717 5733 6087 6095 6148 6181
6251 6273 6276 6294 6508 6773 6837 6937 7200 7357
7426 7440 7451 7468 7487 7516 7697 8026 8182 8307
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DEAR VALUABLE MORNING
Draw No:9 DrawDate on:01/11/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 91L 77548
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9496/- 77548 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
05662 18933 32019 32738 50383
55733 60357 67149 92832 96978
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0998 4465 4856 5844 6629 7882 8112 8354 9608 9709
5th Prize Rs.250/- 0057 0142 1667 3065 4463 5240 5620 5999 8489 9304
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0110 0118 0264 0302 0391 0483 0885 1061 1080 1081
1188 1729 1808 1840 2062 2219 2443 2511 2536 2546
2654 2685 2772 2805 3096 3146 3160 3362 3366 3810
3916 3931 3960 3968 3978 3993 4281 4371 4386 4555
4716 4722 4864 4866 4934 5093 5098 5136 5202 5218
5275 5484 5593 5698 5805 5834 5879 5961 6054 6070
6108 6218 6246 6301 6358 6378 6383 6396 6669 6693
6733 6760 6945 7130 7174 7297 7395 7519 7585 7590
7823 7984 8190 8328 8573 8607 8841 8908 8912 9126
9163 9298 9374 9382 9470 9491 9499 9517 9740 9840

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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FAITHFUL
Draw No:14 DrawDate on:01/11/17

1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 99K 71408
(Including Super Prize Amt)
2nd Prize Rs.9496/- 74108 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
3rd Prize Rs.9,000/-
03644 10143 13805 14029 26252
52304 70777 71408 74937 91084
4th Prize Rs.500/- 0268 0376 2658 4305 5790 5858 6019 6340 8256 9372
5th Prize Rs.250/- 1093 2153 2245 6381 6528 8567 8808 8923 9650 9907
6th Prize Rs.120/-
0074 0161 0354 0487 0538 0595 0596 0608 0609 0690
0750 0981 1191 1315 1427 1463 1690 1778 1827 1988
2001 2075 2078 2236 2371 2639 2758 2828 2882 2912
3077 3094 3228 3353 3382 3556 3630 3693 4117 4388
4407 4423 4655 4678 4915 4979 5063 5080 5287 5306
5310 5369 5570 5610 5629 5838 5904 6098 6126 6172
6747 6564 6765 6777 6793 6991 7122 7233 7355 7358
7375 7517 7541 7595 7761 7898 7928 7931 8016 8101
8118 8236 8408 8411 8413 8517 8542 8550 8656 8834
8835 8867 9094 9164 9204 9327 9516 9629 9840 9949

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

Selena Gomez Honored as Billboard's 2017 Woman of the Year



Billboard has its 2017 Woman of the Year and her name is Selena Gomez.

The award-winning triple threat has been announced as the magazine's annual honoree for 2017, joining a prestigious league of famous women like Beyoncé, Pink, Taylor Swift and Lady Gaga since its debut a decade ago.

"Not only is Selena soaring on the charts, but she continuously inspires young women everywhere to be authentic, give back and to not be afraid to use their voice," John Amato, president of The Hollywood Reporter-Billboard Media Group, said in a statement. "She is never afraid to speak her mind and has used her platform to advocate for the needs of others. We are thrilled to be able to honor her as our Woman of the Year."

The 25-year-old and 2015 Chart-Topper award winner has been nominated for four Billboard Music Awards and has had two albums lead the Billboard 200 at number one.

The lineup of iconic winners named Woman of the Year includes Reba McEntire [2007], Ciara [2008], Beyoncé [2009], Fergie [2010], Taylor Swift [2011], Katy Perry [2012], Pink [2013], Taylor Swift again [2014], Lady Gaga [2015] and Madonna [2016].

In response to the exciting news, Gomez expressed her gratitude. "Thank you @billboard!" she tweeted. The "Wolves" singer will be granted the prestigious honor at the Women in Music dinner and awards gala on Nov. 30.

Go & get your award, Selena! Congratulations!

DHANUSH'S FIRST LOOK FROM HIS HOLLYWOOD DEBUT PROJECT IS HERE!

Wednesday sure had a surprise for us in store. A still from Dhanush's much talked about Hollywood debut - The Extraordinary Journey of the Fakir has been shared online! We finally get to catch a still of the talented actor from his first international project! The actor looks uber stylish in his suited avatar. He looks preoccupied as his co-star, Bérénice Bejo [a french actress] shows

him something! While the still does not give us any hints of the story, there is a lot happening in the still. The Extraordinary Journey of the Fakir also stars Erin Moriarty, Sarah-Jeanne Labrosse among others. We are so excited! Hoping for more stills to come out way.

The film reportedly is based on a novel written by Romain Puertolas. The film has been shot across India, Brussels and Paris and Rome. It will have elements of drama and comedy. As variety reports, it's a story about a man on the look for his estranged father.

Ken Scott who is helming this project expressed his happiness to be working with Dhanush, while speaking with Variety

"What's great is I get to work with a great actor, Dhanush, who is a huge star in India, he's a great actor, but also a great dancer, a great singer, he has a very unique way of dancing and moving, he's just very charming."

Dhanush is clearly on a roll. This year, he also made his directorial debut with Power Paandi, a heartwarming story of a middle aged couple. The story and Dhanush's visual sense was hugely appreciated. The actor was also seen in VIP 2, the sequel to 2014 hit film, Velaiilla Pattadhari 2.

Kajol made a comeback to Tamil cinema with this film. The project was helmed by Soundarya Rajinikanth. Dhanush has two films



coming up, one with Gautham Menon that has been delayed for reasons unknown and

Vada Chennai, his gangsta film in collaboration with Vetrimaaran.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

02TH NOV

WORLD HISTORY

1903: The Daily Mirror is published for the first time.

1917: British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour submits a declaration of intent to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

1932: The march to London by the Hunger Marchers Army is broken up by police in Trafalgar Square and the marchers are dispersed and escorted out of London.

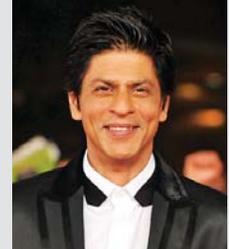
1936: BBC Television Service launches, becoming the world's first regular public television service with a high level of image resolution.

1947: The Hughes Flying Boat - the largest aircraft ever built - is piloted by designer Howard Hughes on its first and only flight.

1960: Penguin Books is acquitted of the charge of publishing obscene material in the case over Lady Chatterley's Lover by DH Lawrence.

1965: A man dies when he sets himself on fire to protest Vietnam War in front of the Pentagon. His widow said he gave his life protesting our government's deep military involvement in Viet Nam.

1973: Vice-president Gerald



R Ford approves the decision to investigate President Nixon for his involvement in the Watergate Scandal. This investigation would determine whether or not the president should be impeached.

1986: David Jacobsen, an American held hostage in Beirut by Muslim fundamentalists, is released after 17 months in captivity.

1995: The former South African defence minister, General Magnus Malan, is arrested and charged with apartheid-related murders.

INDIAN HISTORY

1877: Aga Khan III, first president of the All-India Muslim League, was born.

1941: Arun Shourie, Indian journalist, writer and politician, was born.

1965: Shahrukh Khan, Bollywood superstar, was born.

2012: Kinjarapu Yerran Naidu, Andhra Pradesh politician, died.

Adam Gushes over Blake Shelton & Gwen Stefani's Romance

Adam Levine took to the 'Howard Stern Show' on 31 Oct to openly talk about how in love Gwen Stefani and Blake Shelton are.

Adam Levine, 38, wasn't shy when it came to spilling the beans on the long time romance between fellow The Voice judges, Gwen Stefani, 48, and Blake Shelton, 41, and as expected, they are more in love than ever! "They're so in love it's disgusting," Adam joked during an Oct. 31 appearance on The Howard Stern Show, according to People. "It's so funny.

"Because [their relationship] is in the public eye, a lot of people want to have their own bulls-- opinions about it, but I'm, like, there," Adam continued. "I see it every day. I have a

pretty unique perspective on it, and it's real, man. I'm so affectionate and gross with my wife, but this is a whole other level of vomit. They're so in love. It's really nice."

Although Blake has no children, he is often seen out and about enjoying time with Gwen and her three sons. Whether it's playing guitar with them or going on a fishing trip, he sure looks like doting stepdad material! There has been speculation that Gwen and Blake want to have kids of their own, but only time will tell. We hope these two lovebirds continue to find happiness with each other!



ARIES: Your mind should be especially quick and agile today, and your curiosity will be piqued. Your pursuit of intellectual interests could lead to group activities where you meet others interested in the same subjects. A lot of information could come your way. You'll enjoy discussing it. New friendships and lines to other possible interests could come your way.

TAURUS: You might have a few projects in mind that you'll want to work on today. Your mind is especially quick and agile, and you have a lot of great ideas that can make your efforts turn out the way you want. Conversations with those

close to you may provide even more possibilities. Whatever you choose to work on, you should be pleased with the results.

GEMINI: Your mind may turn toward intellectual pursuits that you have been too busy to investigate. Today your mind is so quick and your curiosity so high that you won't resist even if other things interfere. Books, films, websites, or any information on your subject provide fodder for thought. Conversations with friends also prove intriguing.

CANCER: Legal papers regarding money might need to be executed today. Your mind is especially quick and agile, so you can take care of it effi-

ciently, freeing you up for more enjoyable activities, such as getting together with friends or a partner. Discussions concerning science, psychology, or the occult or metaphysical subjects could dominate your time.

LEO: Social events could put you into touch with intriguing new people who share your interests. This should be a gratifying experience. Your mind is quick and agile and your curiosity high, so you'll gain a lot from conversations. Perhaps you'll even make plans to attend lectures or workshops with your new acquaintances so you can learn more about what interests you all.

VIRGO: Today you might want

to spend some time gardening. In fact, you might have a number of tasks to perform around the house and yard, but you may also have friends waiting. You may get your chores done quickly, and even create new and innovative ways of doing them! Interesting conversations feed your curiosity when you spend time with your friends.

LIBRA: Exploring your intellectual interests might get your curiosity going, although whatever knowledge you gain may bring up more questions than answers! You'll also want to get together with close friends or your partner to discuss this new information. You'll learn

from them and they'll learn from you, so by the end of the day your head should be buzzing.

SCORPIO: A number of young visitors could come to your home with news to pass on and information to share. You'll probably spend most of your day working around the house or yard, which you enjoy very much. Conversations feed your intellect and your curiosity going. You'll feel very positive about whatever you choose to do.

SAGITTARIUS: Your phone may not stop ringing today. Friends and family may have good news and interesting information to share, so you'll want to spend a lot of time

talking with them. You might learn about some newly released books that interest you. A number of errands might also need to be done, but you'll have fun doing them.

CAPRICORN: This is a great day to plan new projects. Your mind may be especially quick and full of ideas. These could prove valuable. Write down ideas that you can't put to immediate use so you won't forget them. Books, magazines, conversations, and the Internet may be rich sources of inspiration.

AQUARIUS: Your mind could be especially active today. Perhaps you'll discover a new talent you didn't know you had, such as writing, drawing or

speaking. Ideas for stories, sketches, or lectures might come thick and fast. Write them down. Computers are particularly useful now. You might have to execute some paperwork concerning money, but this should get accomplished quickly and easily.

PISCES: Your intuition has been especially high for a while now. Today you could decide to put it to practical use. You might consider a class or workshop that increases your ability to communicate. New friends who share this interest could appear on the scene. Whatever ideas or insights come your way may originate from the higher planes. Write them down.

what's TRENDING

LOCKHORNS

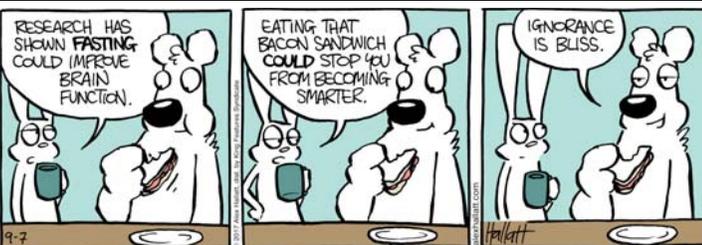
- HOEST & REINER



"REMEMBER WHAT THE MARRIAGE COUNSELOR SAID ... DON'T GO TO BED ANGRY."

ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT

