

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Four suicides in one day

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

Four suicides were reported on a single day in the State on 15 Jun.

A 63-year-old woman in South Regu, East Sikkim, a 32-year-old man in Kabirthing, West Sikkim, a 38-year-old woman in Suiram Tanzi in South Sikkim and a 12-year-old girl in Soreng, West Sikkim committed suicide on 15 Jun.

On 14 Jun, a 19-year-old girl committed suicide in Upper Chalamthang, East Sikkim.

Man charged with murder

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

One 40-year-old man, Mani Kumar Rai, has been arrested on charges of murdering 30-year-old, Krishna Prasad Rai at Upper Wok, South Sikkim on 15 Jun.

The dead body of the deceased was found in a forest area at Upper Wok on 16 June with injuries on the neck.

During police investigation, the father of the deceased revealed that some days back, the accused had warned of a possible mishap affecting the family.

The accused was then rounded up by the police and during interrogation, he admitted to killing Krishna Prasad Rai with a machete.

The deceased was a petty contractor who had dismissed the accused, a labourer, from work recently.

One booked under POCSO Act

GANGTOK, 17 JUN: A 31-year-old man from Pakyong was arrested and booked under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 on 16 Jun by Singtam police.

The man has been accused of sexually assaulting a 05-year-old minor girl.

According to the report filed at Singtam Police Station, the accused was a family friend and used to baby sit when the minor's parents had to run some errands or attend work.

When the minor victim told her parents about what had happened, they registered a case at Singtam Police Station after which the accused was brought under police custody.

The minor is a kindergarten student.

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Battleground Darjeeling reports its first fatalities

SUMMIT REPORT
DARJEELING, 17 JUN:

Darjeeling turned into a battlefield with security forces and the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha supporters locking horns and fighting pitched battles on the streets. The army later brought the situation under control. GJM claimed that three of its supporters died in "police firing". Many security personnel, officials claiming 35, were also injured with IRB Assistant Commandant Kiran Tamang's condition being critical.

Situation got out of hand when security forces were trapped in between three rallies. State Security forces along with central police forces were deployed at Singamari and barricades were put up. Three rallies came in from Lebong, Patleybush and the Chowk Bazaar and converged there.

At around 11:30 a.m., amidst the slogan-shouting, things suddenly turned violent with clashes ensuing.

While GJM supporters rained bricks, stones



and bottles and let loose slingshots, the security forces retaliated with baton charging and tear gas shellings. Security forces were clearly outnumbered and were forced to retreat.

Many journalists were trapped in between the security forces and the GJM supporters and had to take refuge in the house of locals. Police vehicles were torched as the security forces retreated. The Singamari town police outpost was vandalised and the police vehicles parked there torched.

Many security personnel were injured. IRB Assistant Commandant Kiran Tamang suffered grievous injuries from a sharp weapon believed to be a khukuri. He was rushed to Siliguri for treatment. The GJM supporters had the clear advantage of the topography they were familiar with. With the situation going out of hand, the army was called in.

The army managed to diffuse

A rally in Kalimpong, and a police vehicle torched at Jaldhaka



Tense Kpg sees stray incidents of arson but avoids clashes

SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG, 17 JUN:

Some cases of arson were reported in Kalimpong district today while a massive rally was organized by Gorkha Janmukti Morcha supporters here in town. The rally encircled the town and proceeded towards the DM's office where the police stopped the rally. The GJM supporters then sat on a dharna later moving on towards Damber Chowk where the rally turned into a meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Samuel Gurung of the GJM said that the state's atrocities will not be tolerated. If farming equipments are arms then we will surrender the so called arms to the police very soon, he added.

Arun Ghatani, of Communist Party of Revolutionary Marxists, which had also joined the rally, addressing the gathering said, "We are

being termed as terrorists by Mamta Banerjee who herself is creating a terror-soaked situation in Darjeeling through her police."

As for the cases of arson in district, at around 3 a.m. today, Kumai GP office under Jaldhaka Thana was set ablaze. The fire was brought under control by the police.

Later in the day, as news of the police firing in Darjeeling spread in Kalimpong, GJM supporters started raising anti-Bengal slogans.

A pick-up van belonging to the Electricity Department was set on fire at around 4:30 p.m at Sombarey Bazaar in Gorubathan. Two fire tenders were rushed from Mal Bazaar to control the fire.

Meanwhile, around 500 Morcha supporters gathered at Jaldhaka Police Station to submit a memorandum to the

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Sikkimese film 'Darjeeling Mail' screened in Sydney



ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

Nepali feature film from Sikkim, 'Darjeeling Mail', produced by Khinu Maya Pradhan and directed by Dilip Rai, was screened at the Civic Theatre in Sydney, Australia on 10 Jun. The screening received a good response and due to huge demand from the local residents there, the film will be screened again in Sydney on 24 Jun.

The screening of the Sikkimese movie was organised by the Gorkha Nepalese Community of



Australia, led by Arun Pradhan and Rajendra Thapa.

The first Sikkimese movie to be ever screened in Australia, 'Darjeeling Mail' is based on relations between the people of Darjeeling

and Sikkim.

Produced under the banner of Diksha Films Sikkim, the film'd cast includes actors from Sikkim and Darjeeling and popular co-

turn to pg02

Bengal writes to Centre for more forces for Darjeeling

KOLKATA, JUN 17 (PTI):

The West Bengal government wrote to the Centre today seeking more forces to contain the current unrest in Darjeeling hills even as Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee termed the requisition as "routine."

"We have asked for more forces from the Centre. We have sent another request today," a senior official in the state home department told PTI today on condition of anonymity.

The Centre had held back yesterday additional paramilitary personnel meant for Darjeeling until the West Bengal government sent a report on the situation there.

Asked whether the state government was ready with its report for the Centre on the situation in the hills, the official said, "It has been taken care of and it would be sent soon to the Centre. Going by the situation it was realised that current strength of forces in Darjeeling are not enough and we need more."

Incidentally, West

turn to pg02

8 injured in Darj brought to Namchi for treatment

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

A senior police official confirmed this evening that eight persons

2 Sikkim vehicles vandalized on National Highway

GANGTOK, 17 JUN: Two Sikkim vehicles were reportedly vandalised at Tarkhola, near Rangpo today. One private Bolero and one taxi vehicle were pelted with stones while there was also an attempt to set fire to the Bolero. The driver of the vehicle escaped with minor burn injuries. Both the vehicles have been damaged.

injured in lathi-charge and police firing in Darjeeling were brought to Namchi hospital today for treatment. All injured hail from Bijanbari, West Bengal and are currently undergoing treatment at Namchi.

And now, people have died. Someone please mediate, soon

SUDIPTA CHANDA
SILIGURI, 17 JUN:

The worst fears are confirmed. Three persons, including a security personnel, reportedly died in the violence that escalated anew in the Darjeeling hills on Saturday.

While the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) claimed two of its supporters died in police firing in Darjeeling, the State government rejected the allegation. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who briefed the media in Kolkata on the day, refused to corroborate the GJM claim.

Saturday witnessed renewed violence in the hills. The situation was akin to June 8 or worse. Nine days have passed since the first stone was hurled at the security forces, vehicles and other property torched and the police lathi-charged and lobbed tear gas shells to disperse the agit-

ing GJM activists.

The situation has turned worse since.

While the GJM with moral support from several other hill-based parties on the Gorkhaland agenda has intensified the stir and put the hills to a veritable siege, the state government has increased administrative pressure on the agitators to unlock the doors of peace, although how force and peace can juxtapose is puzzling.

Mamata Banerjee on Saturday indicated her government was not averse to talks (with GJM) on the Darjeeling situation, but included a rider: "First the bandh will have to be withdrawn and the violence will have to end. Talks are always possible in a democratic system."

However, Mamata also indicated involvement of terrorist organizations

from the Northeast in the Darjeeling imbroglio and also alleged involvement of foreign nations in the same without naming any country in particular. The dual allegations give the



impression of a sinister move in the making vis a vis the Darjeeling hills.

When the state government seems to have missed the trick on how to put a lid on the Darjeeling

situation, it is time for the BJP-led Centre to intervene and bring the warring factions to the table. But, the BJP at this point seems too engrossed with the forthcoming Presidential election to pay attention to the fuming hills, or displease the Trinamool for fear of upsetting a possible consensus on its Presidential candidate.

It is absolutely necessary to first identify whether the Darjeeling upheaval is a law and order problem or a political issue. The state government and the Centre should come clean on it. If it is a law and order problem, the state government has primacy to deal with it since law and order is a state subject.

But, if the situation is identified as a political issue related to identity crisis, the Centre should intervene,

which it can, for the Centre is a signatory to the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA). The dithering is costing both in kind and cash, which the people of the region will have to compensate through their collective nose in future.

The WB chief minister on Saturday also had a meeting with officials of the 15 community development boards she has set up across the hills in the past two years. The officials have been entrusted with the tremendous responsibility of brokering peace in the hills.

That indicates the government may not be interested to pursue the hard option any further, but enter negotiations albeit in a roundabout way through the community development boards.

So be it. Peace is the need of the hour, whichever way possible.

Governor addresses international students' convocation at Symbiosis Intl Univ

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

Governor, Shrinivas Patil, attended the International Students' Convocation Ceremony at Symbiosis International University in Pune today, informs a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan.

Addressing the overseas graduates from various universities and institutions across India as chief guest on the occasion, the Governor termed the convocation as a unique assembly of cultures and minds.

"It is a celebration of diversity and at the same time, a fusion of common goals and the will to learn and improvise for the good of mankind," he said.

The Governor also appreciated the unique initiative of Symbiosis University of holding Convocation of International Students studying in various Universities and Institutions and hailed it as the appropriate step forward to-



wards fulfilling the spirit and vision of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'the world is one family' that we as Indians have been propagating since time

immemorial.

It may be mentioned here that students from Africa, Asia, the Middle-East, the Gulf among others studying in vari-

ous universities in India participated in the convocation.

In his convocation address, the Governor said, "At a time when our world is divided by

physical, economic and social barriers and those of the mind resulting in wars, conflicts, hunger, poverty, global warming, economic uncertainty, prejudice and discrimination, the assemblage of international students from universities across India to celebrate their achievements has given us hope and positivity...a hope that the world can be shrunk, where human ties speak of friendships, of trust, of respect, of togetherness.

It reinforces the resilience, the care, the humanity that is within each of us. Regardless of our faith, our beliefs, our family ties, our affiliations, it strengthens the view that we can sit together in one space to share a defining moment."

He urged the graduating students to be ambassadors of international peace and friendship and work for a better world when they return to their respective countries.

PCS condemns arrest of journo in Darj

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

local cable TVs from tele-casting local news.

The Press Club of Sikkim has condemned the arrest of Darjeeling-based journalist, Vikram Rai, by the West Bengal police. Arrested from his home shortly after midnight, Mr Rai was released later this morning on personal bond.

PCS has expressed concern over the arrest and termed it an attempt to "throttle freedom of information in this tumultuous situation in Darjeeling".

The PCS has appealed to all, including law enforcing agencies, to display restraint and ensure the safety and security of journalists in the line of their duty in the Darjeeling hills.

The club has taken exception to the ban on

on the democratic right of speech and expression of the journalists and media houses operating in the Darjeeling hills. We stand with the oppressed journalist community of Darjeeling hills to uphold the right of the media in a democratic environment," the PCS statement issued by its president, Bhim Rawat, states.

The Club has also decided to write to the Union Home Minister, Press Council of India and Indian Journalists Union apprising them on the situation in Darjeeling, and seeking their intervention to restore media freedom, security and peace in the neighbouring Darjeeling region, Mr Rawat further informs.

Golay convenes exec meeting, wants supporters to prep for 2019 elections

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

An executive committee meeting of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha was held at the residence of the SKM party president, PS Tamang [Golay], at Soreng-Singling in West Sikkim today.

The interactive meeting discussed various future programmes and strategies of the party, informs an SKM press release issued by its publicity secretary, Arun Uprety.

The release informs that the SKM president urged the party workers and members to prepare for the 2019 elections in the state.

He also alleged that the Janta Melas of the State Government were obviously be held with an eye on the upcoming Panchayat elections and would once again fool the people with empty promises.

The release adds that the meeting was attended by senior leaders and workers and conveners of various frontal organisations and party members from all districts.

Enrolment campaign for new electors in West Sikkim next month

GYALSHING, 17 JUN

[IPR]: The Election Commission of India has launched a special campaign for enrolment of eligible voters giving focus on registering first-time electors who have turned 18. This campaign in the West District will run from 01-31 July.

Addressing a press conference here today, Additional District Collector-West, Hondala Gyaltsen, and Sub Divisional Magistrate, Hem Chettri, informed that a special drive will be held in each polling station on 09 July and 23 July where a Booth Level Officer will be available with information and forms.

The campaign will also cover all Government Senior Secondary Schools and Colleges of the District.

Photography workshop for KVK personnel

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

A two-day photography workshop for Krishi Vigyan Kendra personnel, organized by KVK-South Sikkim, concluded today.

The workshop was attended by Programme Coordinator, Tilak Gajmer, Subject Matter Specialists and other technical staff of KVK-South Sikkim. The resource person for the programme was Akash-deep Gajmer.

A press release informs that during the workshop, basic photography techniques viz., handling the camera, theory of lenses, ISO and light control, aperture and shutter speed was



given by the resource person along with practical session on photography in addition to interactive session where the participants showed a lot of enthusiasm and zeal.

The workshop gave the KVK professionals an opportunity to realize that it takes more than a good camera to be a good photographer and hone their photography skills

in addition to enabling them to make their presentations better in future, adds the release.

The programme concluded with an interaction session wherein Mr

Gajmer suggested that in photography, one needs to first know the rules and then break the rules in order to express one's creativity to the maximum in the field of photography.

GJM rules out talks with Bengal govt

DARJEELING (WB), JUN 17 (PTI): The GJM today ruled out any discussion with West Bengal government but said it is "comfortable" in holding talks with the BJP-led government at the Centre.

The BJP is an ally of the Gorkha Janamukti Morcha (GJM) and party MP SS Ahluwalia had won the 2014 Lok Sabha elections from Darjeeling with its help.

"We are not ready for talks with West Bengal government.

Mamata Banerjee has insulted us, she has called us terrorists," GJM leader Binay Tamang said.

"We are fighting for our right and freedom. We will talk only with the

central government. We are not interested in talks with Mamata Banerjee and her TMC government," he said.

Tamang's comment comes in the backdrop Banerjee's claim of

"deep-rooted conspiracy" in Darjeeling Hills supported by insurgent groups of the NE for helping the GJM in its demand for a separate Gorkhaland.

Banerjee said she is ready for talks but not under the current situation.

GJM supremo Bimal Gurung has accused the state police of letting lose atrocities on the people of the hills and said the time has come for an all out fight for Gorkhaland.



Bengal writes to Centre for more forces...

Contd from pg01

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee described the request for more forces as a "routine matter."

"It's a routine matter. They (Centre) will send the forces at the appropriate time. There is no problem," Banerjee said.

Asked whether police would continue with its raids in the hills tonight, the official hinted at more arrests.

"Raids will continue. In fact, there will be raids tonight itself which will be on the basis of our intelligence inputs," he said adding anybody flouting the law and order in the hills would face "tough handling" by the police.

Sikkimese film 'Darjeeling Mail' screened in Sydney

Contd from pg01

medians from Darjeeling namely Mahendra Bagdas and Lalit Golay [Bhanu ra Pala] and Deoraj Sherpa [Sun ko Aauthi] in the lead role.

The movie highlights the scenic natural beauty and tourist destinations of Darjeeling and Sikkim.

Speaking to Summit-Times, Director Dilip Rai said it is a great moment for him and his team for to have the film screened on an international level. He added that this love that they are receiving from the people is needed by all artists to inspire them to keep entertaining the masses.

He expressed satisfaction on being able to showcase the scenic beauty of Sikkim and Darjeeling as well as local talents at an international level.

"I am happy that peo-

ple love our film. There is a lot of demand from other countries for the screening of the movie for the Indian community living in different parts of the world. This movie is our initiative to express the bond between the two neighbours," said Mr Rai.

Producer Khinu Maya Pradhan added that the screening of 'Darjeeling Mail' internationally will make the film as well as the state of Sikkim popular.

'Darjeeling Mail' was released last year and had been screened nationally and internationally as well.

The movie was recently screened in Hong Kong and arrangements have already been made for the screening of 'Darjeeling Mail' in the United Kingdom and the United States of America in the near future.

Jorethang begins preparing for Bhanu Jayanti

JORETHANG, 17 JUN (IPR): A daylong coordination meeting to discuss the upcoming Bhanu Jayanti celebrations was held at Green Lung Park here today.

The meeting, chaired by area MLA, Health Minister AK Ghatani, was convened to organize, facilitate and coordinate the 203rd birth anniversary celebrations of Adikavi Bhanu Bhakta Acharya.

The meeting was attended by Sub Divisional Magistrate (Jorethang), Bimal C Rai, Deputy Chairperson of Nayabazar Jorethang Municipal Council, Pema Tamang, NJMC councillors, senior citizens, and representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations and the business community of Jorethang.

The second coordination meeting is scheduled for 23 Jun.

Tense Kpg sees stray incidents of arson but avoids clashes

Contd from pg01

PS in-charge. While the representative went to submit the memo, some people set ablaze two police vehicles outside the police station.

Even as this report was being filed, word arrived that a Forest Beat Office at Kumani here

was set on fire at around 8 p.m.

All shops, schools and offices remained shut today while NBSTC buses helped passengers reach Siliguri in the morning but in the afternoon many passengers remained stranded.

executive Vikram Rai

was picked up by the police from his residence in Darjeeling. He was however released later during the day. Police also raided the house of GJM Assistant Secretary, Binay Tamang located at Dali, 3 km from Darjeeling town. Family members alleged that as Mr Tamang was not in the house, security forces vandalised the house before leaving.

Some GJM supporters were also rounded up in connection with the attack on security forces on Saturday evening.

Bimal Gurung, in a video clip from an undisclosed location, appealed to the Hill people to stand up strongly against police excesses. Dubbing it the final battle for Gorkhaland he asked all to come out in support.

In the wee hours of Saturday, GTA media cell

Battleground Darjeeling reports its first fatalities

Contd from pg01

the situation and took control of the area. Using the public address system the army personnel asked local residents not to come out on the streets.

Six columns (around 250 personnel) of the army are reportedly deployed in the district.

A similar situation prevailed at Ghoom, around 8 km from Darjeeling town where Mor-

cha supporters had taken to the streets. Here too security forces were outnumbered and were forced to retreat with stones, bottles and bricks thrown by GJM supporters. Later however the army came in and drove the GJM supporters back, taking control of the area.

Binay Tamang, GJM Assistant Secretary claimed that three GJM supporters were killed in police firing.

"Bimal Sashanker of Gok Basti; Sunil Rai of Kainjaley and Mahesh Gurung of Relling died from police firing. We demand a judicial enquiry," demanded Mr Tamang.

The GJM has called a 12-hour Dooars bandh for Sunday.

CM Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata on Saturday had stated that she had no problems sitting with the Morcha for talks provided they lifted the in-

definite bandh.

Reacting to this, Mr Tamang stated, "We will not sit with Bengal and Mamata Banerjee for talks. We will only sit with the Centre and we demand Centre's immediate intervention."

Anuj Sharma, ADG (Law and Order) refuting allegations of police firing, stated, "There was no firing from the side of security forces. On the other hand there was fir-

ing from the GJM side. We have more than 35 security personnel who were injured on Saturday."

About the casualty, media reports have quoted the ADG as saying, "We are waiting for the postmortem report, but it seems that the man died of gunshot wound."

"We are trying to identify the person, but going by the preliminary investigation it seems that he is a local."

Gangtok on Sunday, 18 June

Temp: 25°C / 17°C
Forecast: Mostly cloudy with showers or thunderstorms.
Sunrise: 04:40 AM
Sunset: 06:32 PM

Accelerator mag organizes excursion for Sikkim students

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

The 5th Accelerator Education Excursion to Delhi, Chandigarh and Shimla which had commenced from 01-11 Jun had the participation of 45 students from all the four districts of Sikkim. The excursion was an initiative of the Northeast Career Guide Magazine, The Accelerator, to provide constructive exposure to the students who are on the threshold of pursuing higher studies, a press release informs.

The programme aims to demonstrate the academic and administrative facilities of a University which will give them an idea on planning their careers.

Executed by Co-Founder & Creative Head of The Accelerator, Pragna Satpathy, and her team, the participants visited Rayat-bahra University in Chandigarh and Bahra University in Shimla this year.

The highlights of the programme were sessions by academicians Dr OP Midha. Other important dignitaries who gave their expert insight on career to the students from Sikkim were Joint Managing Director-Rayat Bahra, Dr Sandeep Kaur, and Technical Advisor-Siemens, Ajay Verma, adds the release.

Kutse Shegu

The 49th day Kutse Shegu of Late **Lhamu Gurung** who left for his heavenly abode on 03 May 2017 falls on **20 June 2017**.

All relatives, friends, and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayer for the departed soul at our residence at Dhan Subba Building near AHR quarters, Arithang in Gangtok.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in our time of bereavement and regret our inability to thank them individually.

Anup Gurung [son]
- 7908527160/
Ansu Gurung [daughter]
- 8509159752

SDMA convenes monsoon preparedness meeting, compares notes

GANGTOK, 17 JUN [IPR]: A monsoon preparedness meeting convened by Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority, Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim, was held today at the conference hall of Manan Kendra in Gangtok.

The meeting was chaired by Secretary-LRDM cum State Relief Commissioner, Tsegayal Tashi, and was attended by officers from various line departments and Central/State Government agencies/organisations, military and paramilitary forces.

In the meeting, various agendas regarding monsoon preparedness were

discussed wherein inputs, viable decisions and steps to tackle the challenges of monsoon were chalked out. The members of the various departments provided valuable inputs on how their individual departments can handle and avoid perilous situations during the monsoon seasons.

The Relief Commissioner directed individual departments concerning their area of expertise to work swiftly and promptly in order to be prepared before time and hence avoid monsoon disasters. He further took note on various aspects which need prompt action like communications, food supply, power and medical needs.

He also lauded the efforts of the Military and Paramilitary forces for their continuous support to the state in times of need. He advised each department to prepare their own Departmental Disaster Management Plan according to the guidelines provided by the SSDMA. He further highlighted on the drainage conditions of Gangtok and how speedy clearing are mandatory for avoiding clogging of drains along the streets of Gangtok which are to be looked after by Gangtok Municipal Corporation.

Major concern during the meeting was shown regarding the situation of Mantam Lake in Dzongu and proper supply



of food grains and other necessary items to be made available for the residents on the other side of the lake by making a makeshift store house which is to be handled by the Food & Civil Supplies Department at

the earliest.

The SSDMA stated that they would extend their full fledged support to the various departments for averting any disaster in the state.

The meeting had the presence and active

participation of Secretary-Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, C Zangpo, officers of LRDMD and SSDMA, and officers from all concerned departments along with the Army, Sashastra Seema Bal, Indo Tibetan

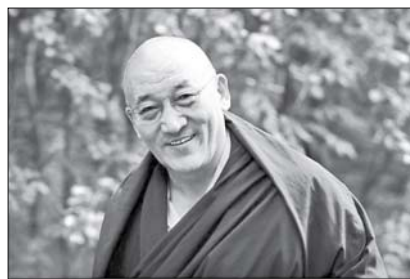
Border Police, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Central Water Commission, Indian Meteorological Department, Power projects, Civil Defence NGOs, and National Disaster Response Force.

Choeje Ayang Rinpoche in Sikkim to give Phowa Teachings

GANGTOK, 17 JUN [IPR]: Sikkim is blessed and fortunate to be hosting ten days phowa teachings by Choeje Ayang Rinpoche at Tharpa Manilhakhang in Tathangchen from 18-27 Jun, 2017.

Choeje Ayang Rinpoche is a Phowa master highly recognised by many well known Tibetan lamas. Motivated to benefit all beings, Rinpoche extensively travels the world teaching Phowa.

The Rinpoche introduces practitioners to both Nyingma and Drikung Kagyu Phowa practices that will prepare one to face death with



confidence. It is the best way to be free from final suffering of death. It is the easiest way to reach Buddha Amitabha's Pure Land, and from there, the quickest way to reach enlightenment.

The Phowa teachings will begin with Buddha

Amitabha Empowerment (Wang) at 1 p.m. on 18 Jun. Thereafter, from 19 Jun onwards the teachings will start from 8 a.m. everyday. It will also include Milarepa Tsog Offering on 25 Jun and Buddha Amitabha Tsog offering on 27 Jun.

Training on Appreciation of Local Laws for Revenue Officers, Exec Magistrates and BDOs



GANGTOK, 17 JUN [IPR]: Sikkim Judicial Academy organized a training programme on 'Appreciation of Local Laws' for Revenue Officers, Executive Magistrates and Block Development Officers on 16-17 Jun at the Sikkim Ju-

dicial Academy, High Court premises, in Gangtok.

Former Judge-High Court of Sikkim, Justice AP Subba, Senior Advocate, Narendra Rai, and Advocate, UP Sharma, were the Resource Persons.

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Ashram Residential School bids farewell to 1st batch of Class X students

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

Ashram Residential School located in the remote area of Jhusingthang, West Sikkim, under Rinchenphong Constituency celebrated its maiden farewell party for its first batch of students who recently completed the Class 10 examination.

As per a press release from the school, 51 students had appeared for the board examination (AISSE CBSE 2017) out of which only one student got compartment.

Ashram Residential School was established in April 2012 under a scheme initiated by Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The scheme was launched by the central government in the year 1990 for students belonging to the weaker section of the tribal society.

This co-education school provides completely free tuition and residential facilities for the tribal students from class VI and above.

As per the guidelines of the scheme, Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides



100% finance for the construction of infrastructure (only). Other expenses such as salaries of staff, mess fee of students, stationeries etc. have to be provided by the state government.

Since the school is very new, permanent

school structure is 50% complete. The school could not upgrade to senior secondary level due to insufficient space in present temporary structure, the release informs.

DC West, Kapil Meena who was present as chief guest along with

Principal, Phurba T. Tsechutharpa and other officials inspected the ongoing construction of the school's main building. It is anticipated that the construction shall be completed before the next academic session i.e 2018-2019.

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Reputation is Everything

Handle the budget tourists with more care

The past few tourist seasons have been “bumper” for Sikkim. Everyone associated with the sector has kept long hours and raked in handsome earnings. But it has not all been good. Reports about about tourists not only being charged usurious amounts for their holidays, but also being stood up by cabbies who landed still higher rates or hotels which over-booked and extended only miserly hospitality. In the rare case, the reasons were genuine, stemming from infrastructural limitations and impossible to resolve logistics. Unfortunately, in most of the cases, it was sheer greed. Travellers realise that arriving in a new place and jacked up on endorphins from the experience leaves them vulnerable to the occasional cheating. In fact, these even form part of the whole touristy experience, but when this becomes the dominant memory, the negativity becomes palpable and the word of mouth can prove damaging. No one will blame the destination or its people for flights missed due to landslides or traffic jams, but if a holiday is spoiled by stakeholders driven purely by profit margins, the word will spread.

Harrowing tales of tourists ill-treated and unattended are not rare aberrations any more. Tourists, especially those travelling on a tight budget, are snared in cons with embarrassing regularity and this is not something that the State should take lightly. For all its hopes of roping in the dollar tourists, fact remains that tourism in Sikkim is sustained by those who love Sikkim so much that they scrimp and save to get here. They may be loud, they may drive a hard bargain, but they are the ones who come to Sikkim in the largest numbers and who pay higher fares and sit through a bumpy five-hour ride [one way] to get their half an hour with Tsomgo. They are the backbone of the tourism industry here. They are the bird in the hand for Sikkim Tourism while other prospects are still in the bush.

They need to be handled with greater care. It is all too easy to dismiss reports of their harassment as one meted out by agents in their own backyards and hotels being operated on lease by their ‘own’ people. Fact remains that it is Sikkim’s image that takes a beating. Reputation is everything in this business. The best example can be seen in neighbouring Darjeeling. In the wake of its two Aandolans, tourism had reduced to a trickle. It had just about resuscitated, that the current Aandolan 3.0 has arrived and will derail some future seasons. Although Darjeeling still attracted more tourists than Gangtok, the numbers have fallen and peak season days reduced. Even through the lull, tourists avoided the neighbouring hills if they could because of the reputation it has earned. Sikkim, which is just about finding its feet as far as tourism is considered, cannot afford such blacklisting.

The industry has to remember that for every tourist complaint filed, there are at least ten that go unreported to the authorities. It is another matter that many find release in social media which, let’s accept it, can do as much for promotion as it can do for ruining carefully cultivated images. Every complaint should thus be taken seriously and some examples set to convince tourists and those in the tourism business that Sikkim is serious about proving itself to be a tourist-friendly destination. Tourism is a thrust sector of the Sikkimese economy and yet it is allowed to wander about unregulated. There appears to be yawning gap between the industry, its players and its policy makers. Policies are framed with a particular audience in mind while the ground realities on tourist arrivals are different. Associations are granted many privileges and yet internal monitoring of services remains muddled. For a State so particular about local protection, it is ironic how a significant portion of the hospitality industry [especially those catering to the budget tourists] operates on lease. This ambiguity has to be done away with so that regulation of the industry becomes more meaningful. Every time a tourist is duped in Sikkim, it is not the establishment that suffers, it is Sikkim’s reputation that takes a beating. And, as mentioned earlier, reputation is everything in this business.

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

Fanon on Soccer: Radically anti-capitalist, anti-commercial and and anti-bourgeois

NIGEL GIBSON
theconversation.com

Like a lot of kids, the great Martinican/ Algerian revolutionary Frantz Fanon loved playing soccer as a youngster. Returning to Martinique in 1945 after fighting in Europe and North Africa in World War II, Fanon continued to play soccer on a local team.

Soccer was always part of Fanon’s life. Nearly a decade after the war, he attempted to create a therapeutic community at Blida-Joinville Psychiatric Hospital in Algeria. He organised a soccer team in the institution and arranged for matches with other teams in the community.

In “The Wretched of the Earth”, perhaps Fanon’s most famous book which was written in 1961, he reflects on the anti-colonial struggles in Africa and warns of upcoming challenges. The book was prescient and still remains relevant. But Fanon’s remarks on sport, which come in the central chapter “Pitfalls of National Consciousness”, have been little discussed.

Fanon writes, “The youth of Africa should not be oriented toward the stadiums but toward the fields, the fields and the schools. The stadium is not an urban showpiece but a rural space that is cleared, worked, and offered to the nation. The capitalist notion of sports is fundamentally different from that which should exist in an underdeveloped country.”

The context and framing of Fanon’s remarks is important. Remember, this was a period of epochal transformation. The end of formal colonial rule marked by independence.

Imagine the possibility of building solidarity and sociality in the midst of such turmoil? The idea that all are equal and the future is possible only together was one of Fanon’s guiding principles.

FOUR BILLION FOLLOWERS

One can only imagine what Fanon would have made of soccer today, especially that it has become so incredibly popular and so driven by money.

Soccer has four billion followers worldwide. According to the sport’s controlling body, FIFA, 270 million people (4% of the world’s population) are actively involved in the game.

Where it comes to professional soccer, obscene amounts of money are made. English Premier League team, Manchester United, rated as the most valuable team in the world, is worth \$3.69 billion.

In the pyramid of global soccer, with its players owned and managed by agents, third parties, management companies and so on, local football leagues are often very small cogs in hierarchical system. In Europe the English Premier League, Spain’s La Liga, the Bundesliga in Germany, followed by Serie A and Ligue 1, in Italy and France respectively, vie for the best players.

The European war of the clubs is played out in the highly mediated Champions League. Fans support clubs which use all sorts of illegal and semi-legal means to extract players from the global South

often through systems that mirrors the move from periphery to semi-periphery to centre (from Brazil to Portugal to Spain, or from West Africa to France and England and so on).

Everyone is aware of the transfer sagas. They include the valuations of humans, with transfer fees having already exceeded \$110 million for some top players (and likely to go even higher now with transfer season open again), the scouting for young talent, the clubs’ rhetoric of “war chests”, the endless TV sport shows speculation about signings, and the school yard banter “we’ve got ...” and “you’ve got f... all”.

LAYING OF WREATHS

The culture industry was wonderfully reproduced at Wembley Stadium in May when Arsenal won the FA Cup, beating Chelsea 2-1. The event was introduced not only by the national anthem, standard fare at these things, but also a minute’s silence for the victims of the bombing in Manchester, the laying of wreaths, black armbands, and “I love MCR”



signs which were shown multiple times on TV.

The mythology of nation is recreated in this “traditional” sporting event as an act of nostalgia and modernity. Here, globally networked, televised for a fee based international viewership, is “England”.

After they won, Arsenal played The Clash’s 1979 punk-rock anthem, “London Calling”, to celebrate the “Emirates Cup” win at Wembley. The iconic English cup, branded as the oldest association football competition in the world, is now named after an airline.

One element of Premiership football is its international cast of star players. Only a minority of English players play in the “Premier League” – the most branded, most watched league in the world. The Emirates (Arsenal’s branded stadium), whose name also evokes the shining lights of Abu Dhabi neoliberal turbo-capitalism and the super-rich, was opened by the royal right-winger Prince Phillip.

Sepp Blatter, formerly the head-crook at the sports controlling body FIFA, ranked the Queen of England as having more football knowledge than former Italian Prime Minister, AC Milan owner and fraudster, Silvio Berlusconi.

All in all, these are the types of nasty people who own the clubs and run a game. Everyone is

aware of this hyper-capitalist story but the outrage is usually directed elsewhere. Fans want rich owners and often turn a blind eye to how they’ve got these riches.

It is all about money, of course.

Sport is also bigger than politics; people talk and argue about sports minutiae all the time. It is a space where ordinary people are allowed to be passionate and knowledgeable. Politics is elitist, technocratic and its discourse is typically opaque. Soccer — very often couched in masculine terms — is populist.

CHALLENGING THE ALIENATION

Soccer is a social game, a team game. And we can imagine how Fanon considered it therapeutic with everything centred on his “patients” taking charge from creating the pitch and fielding a team, to finding “opponents” and developing schedules. All this was part of the social therapy that Fanon envisaged would help break down institutional hierarchies in the psychiatric hospital and foster social relations and challenging the alienation that was part of the institution.

When Fanon writes of sport “expanding minds” and the task of “humanising” he is concerned with a mental and psychological liberation, namely freeing the mind from the nervous conditions induced by colonialism and war and the unthinkingly reproduction that Europe be looked to for models.

Fanon here sounds a bit school-masterly telling the youth what they should do. But the larger question in these days of corporate global football dominated by European leagues and its teams, with each a “brand” most likely owned by multinational capital, is how can this model possibly be followed in the global south?

Fanon answer is unequivocal:

“Comrade, the European game is finally over.”

Instead,

“The African politician should not be concerned with producing professional sportspeople, but conscious individuals who also practice sports.”

But today, one would be hard pressed to find an African politician who would advocate this perspective. Politics is a dirty and corrupt game for personal game. The pragmatic African politician dismisses Fanon’s notions as Utopian. They are not concerned with social transformation but adaption to becoming cogs in the machine of global capital by any means.

What can we make of Fanon’s notion of what sport could be?

He offers a wholly different conception and imagination of sport, decolonisation, and the nation.

Can we imagine a different notion of sport? Not necessarily non-competitive but competitive in a different way: A decolonised notion that is radically anti-capitalist, radically anti-commercial and anti-bourgeois. This is what Fanon is asking us to think about.

[the writer is Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Emerson College]

India’s wells are running dry, fast

ASIT K. BISWAS, CECILIA TORTAJADA & UDISHA SAKLANI
theconversation.com

Over the past three years, the monsoon – the rainy season that runs from June through September, depending on the region – has been weak or delayed across much of India, causing widespread water shortages.

With the onset of summer this year, southern India, particularly Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu states, are already wilting under a blistering sun and repeated heatwaves. Drought is expected to affect at least eight states in 2017, which is a devastating possibility in a country where agriculture accounted for 17.5% of GDP in 2015 and provides the livelihood for nearly half the population.

Across rural India, water bodies, including man-made lakes and reservoirs, are fast disappearing after decades of neglect and pollution.

“They have drained out the water and converted the land into a plot for schools, dispensaries, and other construction activities,” Manoj Misra of the NGO Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan warned in The Hindu newspaper as far back as 2012.

NOT A DROP TO DRINK

It wasn’t always this way. For the past 2,500 years, India has managed its water needs by increasing supply.

Prior to industrialisation and the accompanying global “green revolution” in the 1960s, which saw the development of high-yield variety crops using new technologies, India’s water availability was plentiful. Households, industries and farmers freely extracted

groundwater and dumped untreated waste into waterways without a second thought.

But such practices are now increasingly untenable in this rapidly growing country. Per capita availability of water has been steadily falling for over a decade, dropping from 1,816 cubic metres per person in 2001 to 1,545 cubic metres in 2011.

The decline is projected to deepen in coming years as the population grows. India, which currently has 1.3 billion people, is set to overtake China by 2022 and reach 1.7 billion in 2050.

Water scarcity is also exacerbated by a growth in water-intensive industries, such as thermal power production, extraction and mining, as India seeks to feed and power its growing population. In addition to affecting biodiversity, these activities also alter

natural water systems.

Still, successive governments have pursued the same old supply-centric policies, paying little heed to the country’s waning clean water supplies.

For nearly 50 years, a misguided groundwater policy has sucked India dry; water tables have declined by an average of one metre every three years in some parts of the Indus basin, turning it into the second most over-stressed aquifer in the world, according to NASA.

Across nearly the whole country, basic sewage management is also lacking. According to the Third World Centre for Water Management, only about 10% of waste water in the country is collected and properly treated. As a result, all water bodies in and around urban centres are seriously polluted.

Today, the country is struggling to provide safe drinking water to every

citizen.

WHAT CONSERVATION?

Even so, residents of New Delhi or Kolkata today use more than twice as much water, on average, than people in Singapore, Leipzig, Barcelona or Zaragoza, according to data compiled by the Third World Research Centre.

The water use in Delhi is 220 litres per capita per day (lpcd), while some European cities boast figures of 95 to 120 lpcd.

Excess consumption is attributable in part to citizen indifference about conserving water after so many years of plentiful supply. Since large swaths of many Indian megacities lack piped supply of clean water, leaks and theft are common. Cities in India lose 40% to 50% due to leakages and non-authorised connections.

At this point, the only viable option for India would seem to be managing demand and using water more efficiently.

The country is making tentative steps in that direction. The 2016 new National Water Framework, passed emphasises the need for conservation and more efficient water use.

But under India’s Constitution, states are responsible for managing water, so central policies have little resonance. Neither the 1987 and 2012 National Water Policy documents, which contained similar recommendations to the 2016 policy, had any real impact on water use.

And after millennia of exclusive focus on expanding the water supply, the idea of curbing water consumption and increase reuse remains a mostly alien concept in India.

turn to pg05



SBI to have lead bank responsibility of Kalimpong dist

Mumbai, Jun 16 (PTI): State Bank of India has been assigned the 'lead bank responsibility' of the newly carved-out 'Kalimpong' district in West Bengal.

The West Bengal vide Gazette Notification dated February 7, 2017 had notified the creation of 'Kalimpong' by redefining the limits of Darjeeling district.

"It has been decided to assign the lead bank responsibility of this new district to SBI," the Reserve Bank said in a notification.

Central Bank of India will have the lead bank responsibility of Darjeeling district, it said.

The lead bank scheme aims at coordinating the activities of banks and other developmental agencies through various fora to enhance flow of bank finance to priority sector and promote banks' role in overall development of rural sector.

For coordinating the activities in the district, a particular bank is assigned the lead bank responsibility of the district.

The lead bank is expected to assume leadership role for coordinating the efforts of the credit institutions and the government.

Centre declines permission to Sikh delegation to visit Pak

CHANDIGARH, JUN 17 (PTI): The central government has declined permission to a Sikh delegation to visit Pakistan on the occasion of death anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, an official of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) said today.

"The Centre has declined permission due to security reasons," SGPC secretary Harcharan Singh told PTI over the phone.

He, however, said that the Centre had told the SGPC that "if anyone wants to visit Pakistan then the Sikh religious body should give an undertaking that he or she is going on its own risk".

"We are yet to decide on it (whether to send the delegation)," he said.

A 251-member Sikh delegation is scheduled to go to Pakistan from June 21 to 29. The SGPC, the Sikh religious body, is facilitating the trip.

SU staff and students condemn police firing in Darjeeling

SAGAR CHHETRI
GANGTOK, 17 JUN:

Condemnations have been pouring in from different parts of the country on the killing of Gorkhaland supporters in Police firing in Darjeeling today.

The teaching and non-teaching staffs and students from Darjeeling hills who are presently in Sikkim University have also registered their strong condemnation of today's incident and also condemned the imposition of Bangla language in the Darjeeling hills.

Addressing a press conference this evening, SU faculty member, Sudarshan Tamang strongly condemned the killing of unarmed Gorkhaland supporters by West Bengal Police. He stressed that it was unacceptable in a democratic country like India.

It is alleged that West Bengal government has been resorting to violence against the people of Darjeeling hills from 08 Jun onwards.

"Under such circumstances, the presence of the para-military forces in the region has not only contributed to the escalation of atrocities



and violence on the people, but also forced young students to live under the shadow of fear. We strongly urge the Government of India to intervene and to withdraw the paramilitary forces from the region," said Mr Tamang.

He also strongly condemned the imposition of Bangla language in the hills. He added that although the

West Bengal government has denied the imposition but the statement of the Chief Minister shows the will of the State. He added that the statement violates the basic rights of the people and it is imperative to reverse the situation by issuing a notification stating that such imposition will not prevail in the region. He stressed that linguistic rights of the Indian

Gorkhas have to be honoured in other regions of West Bengal and in other States of India.

"We strongly support the aspiration of the people of the region for self-determination through nonviolent, democratic mass movement for creation for a separate state of Gorkhaland within the framework of the Constitution of India. We strongly support the demand of

Gorkhaland," he said.

Another faculty member, Kavita Lama criticised the firing on Gorkhaland supporters by the police. She expressed her strong objection to Gorkhaland supporters being termed as terrorists. While calling it undemocratic and unconstitutional, she has asked the West Bengal government to first clarify the

definition of terrorist.

"We have been condemning the injustice and incidents happening in Darjeeling through our writings on different mediums. We have also decided to create a platform to conduct various activities in support of the people of Darjeeling," she said. She also shared plans to submit a memorandum to the Centre on the same.

She criticised and condemned the misinterpretation of the Gorkhaland issue by various media.

Likewise, other members also appealed to political parties in Darjeeling to come together on the issue and not to fight with each other. They have urged the Sikkim Government to support this present movement and take it up with the Central government.

They accused the West Bengal government of attacking the freedom of media in Darjeeling and condemned false reports by a section of the media on incidents taking place in Darjeeling.

The group further mentioned that they plan to spread this movement to other universities of the country to seek support for the Gorkhaland demand.

Nepal Madhesis' meeting with PM ends inconclusively

SHIRISH B PRADHAN
KATHMANDU, JUN 17 (PTI):

A meeting between Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and a key Madhesi party over the current crisis today failed to yield any results as the minority party insisted on amending the Constitution before the local body polls on June 28.

Deuba had invited leaders of the Rastriya Janata Party Nepal (RJP-N) to his residence in Budhanilkantha, 10 kms from Kathmandu, for informal consultation on the current crisis, according to sources close to the Prime Minister.

During the talks, the Prime Minister sought co-operation from the agitating Madhesi leaders for the smooth conduct of the second phase of elections.

"The people of the southern plains also want local level elections for the development of the region and it would help implement the constitution," the Prime Minister said.

Deuba also reiterated the government's stance that once the second phase of elections are held the Constitution

would be amended to address the key demands of the agitating parties.

Madhesi leaders, however, told the Prime Minister that they will not take part in the second phase of elections until the Constitution is amended and urged government to fulfil their demands at the earliest.

The government has decided to defer the local body polls in the Province 2, the disputed Madhesi-stronghold, to September 18.

The RJP-N will hold rallies in all district headquarters of the Terai region as part of its pre-announced protest programmes to disrupt the elections process.

Some Madhes-centric parties have opposed the elections until the Constitution is amended to accommodate their demands like more representation in parliament and redrawing of provincial boundaries.

Madhesis, mostly of Indian-origin, launched a prolonged agitation between September 2015 and February last year against the implementation of the new Constitution.

Mamata accuses Modi govt of backing Gorkhaland stir, Shah hits back

MUMBAI/KOLKATA, JUN 17 (PTI): Amid the fresh agitation for Gorkhaland in the Darjeeling hills, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today accused the Modi government of encouraging the stir and claimed there was a "deep-rooted conspiracy" behind it.

She, however, did not directly blame the BJP for the violent agitation, which she claimed was supported by insurgent groups of the northeast and some foreign countries.

Her remarks drew a derisive response from BJP chief Amit Shah, who said she saw "conspiracy in everything".

Banerjee said the kind of "hooliganism and

vandalism," being seen during the unrest in the hills, can only be done if there is a "terrorist brain" behind it, and the Centre should extend full help to the state to contain it.

"What is happening today is a deep-rooted conspiracy.

So many bombs and arms cannot be gathered in a day... These have been gathered for a long time.

"From where are they (GJM) are getting their support? Their advantage is it (Darjeeling) is a hill area and there are borders with other states and international borders.

"They are using the national flag for vandalism, which they cannot do. I will request the

Central government not to encourage them to behave like this. If anything happens to any foreigner (tourist) it will bring bad name to the country," Banerjee said.

"There is a terrorist brain behind this hooliganism and vandalism. Only a terrorist and not a common man can do this. We have got clues that this has terrorist connections.

They (GJM) have connections with underground insurgent groups of the northeast ... I request them (insurgent groups) not to extend any support to the GJM," Banerjee told reporters in Kolkata.

She said the GJM was being helped by some other countries too but

did not elaborate.

Responding to the charge, BJP chief Amit Shah took potshots at Banerjee in Mumbai, saying she smelt "conspiracy in everything".

"Mamata sees conspiracy in everything. She had made similar allegations against the Indian Army as well," Shah told a press conference when asked about Banerjee dubbing the ongoing agitation in Darjeeling "a deep-rooted conspiracy".

Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), which controls the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) is an ally of BJP whose S S Ahluwalia represents Darjeeling in the Lok Sabha.

When asked about Ahluwalia backing the

agitation and whether BJP supported it, Shah said, "It is true that we are in favour of small states. Once we decide something about it, we will announce it." He, however, did not say if the party wanted a separate state of Gorkhaland carved out of West Bengal.

Shah's comment about smaller states comes ahead of his meeting with Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray tomorrow.

Thackeray has been consistently opposing the demand for formation of a separate Vidarbha state carved out of Maharashtra. The current Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis had also backed it when his party was in the opposition.

Rajnath speaks to Mamata, discusses Darj situation

NEW DELHI, JUN 17 (PTI): Amidst continuing violence in Darjeeling, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh today called up West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and discussed with her the situation prevailing there.

During the telephonic conversation, the chief

minister briefed the Union home minister about the steps taken by the state government to maintain law and order and restore normalcy in the hill district, official sources said.

Singh asked Banerjee to take all possible steps so that peace is restored in the picturesque hill station where people are protesting against "imposition" of Bengali in schools by making the language mandatory.

The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha, which is in power in the semi-autonomous Gorkhaland Ter-

ritorial Administration, has started an agitation demanding a separate state -- Gorkhaland.

On the boil for the past 10 days over a separate state demand, Darjeeling today witnessed widespread clashes between GJM activists and the police in which one person was killed and 35 security personnel were injured, including an India Reserve Battalion (IRB) officer seriously.

In Kolkata, Chief Minister Banerjee said, "What is happening today is a deep-rooted conspiracy. So many bombs

and arms cannot be gathered in a day."

"I am ready to sacrifice my life, but I will not allow Bengal to be divided," she told reporters.

She claimed the GJM has connections with insurgent groups in the Northeast and some foreign countries. She, however, did not name any insurgent group or foreign country.

"There is a terrorist brain behind this hooliganism. We have got clues that they have connections with underground insurgent groups in the Northeast. There

are some other countries also helping," Banerjee said.

Army contingents were deployed to control the situation and they staged flag marches in several areas of the violence-hit hill district, where the indefinite shutdown to press for a separate Gorkhaland entered the third day.

The home ministry had yesterday put on hold sending additional paramilitary personnel to Darjeeling as no report on the ground situation had come from the West Bengal government.

India's wells are running dry, fast

Contd from pg04

WATER WARS

Consistent supply-centric thinking has also resulted in competition for water as states negotiate the allocation of river water based on local needs.

The century-long conflict over the Cauvery River, for example, involves Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka – three major south Indian states. With each state demanding ever more water, the river simply cannot keep up.

In Karnataka, where agricultural policies are heavily skewed towards water-guzzling commercial crops, such as sugarcane, mismanaged ground and surface water are dying a slow death. Still the state continues to petition the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal for an increase in its share.

Water scarcity in Karnataka is aggravated by non-existent water quality management. Its rivers are choked with toxic pollutants, and

oil-suffused lakes in Bengaluru, the capital, are reportedly catching fire.

Meanwhile, in the northern part of the country, the Ravi-Beas River is causing conflict between Punjab and Haryana states.

In India's water wars, rivers are a resource to be harnessed and extracted for each riparian party's maximum benefit. Very little emphasis has been placed on conserving and protecting existing water sources. And not one inter-state negotiation has prioritised pollution abatement or demand management.

Even policies from the national government, which claims to target water conservation and demand management, remain reliant on supply-side solutions. Big infrastructure programs, such as the Indian river-linking plan, envision large-scale water transfer from one river basin to another, again seeking to augment supply rather than conserve water and reduce consumption.

For inspiration on managing de-

mand, India could look to Berlin in Germany, Singapore and California, all of which have designed and implemented such policies in recent years. Successful measures include raising public awareness, recycling water, fixing leaks, preventing theft and implementing conservation measures such as water harvesting and stormwater management.

Between rapidly disappearing fresh water, unchecked pollution and so many thirsty citizens, India is facing an impending water crisis unlike anything prior generations have seen. If the nation does not begin aggressively conserving water, the faucets will run soon dry. There is simply no more supply to misuse. [Asit K. Biswas is Distinguished Visiting Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; Cecilia Tortajada is Senior Research Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; Udiha Saklani is Independent Policy Researcher]

NEW DELHI, JUN 17 (PTI): Bhutan today assured India that it will not allow its territory to be used for any activity inimical to the interests of its neighbour, as the two sides discussed issues related to border security in Thimpu.

A delegation of Indian officials, led by Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Director General (DG) Archana Ramasundaram, met

Bhutanese home minister Lyonpo Dawa Gyeltshen and other senior officials from the security establishment of the neighbouring country.

The DG, a senior SSB official said, gave a presentation to the Bhutanese side as she stated that owing to the open and porous nature of the Indo-Bhutan border "most of the border guarding operations had

to be based on prompt sharing of inputs and good intelligence."

Ramasundaram also thanked their counterparts--Royal Bhutan Force--for their cooperation on the border.

"The home minister of Bhutan appreciated the role played by the SSB, especially the action taken by it in recent years that resulted in ending the kidnapping of Bhutanese

nationals for ransom.

"The Bhutanese side assured its commitment for not allowing its territory to be used for activities inimical to the interests of India," the SSB said in a statement.

A senior official from the Indian embassy in Thimpu and other senior Bhutanese officials were present during the meeting.



Srikanth enters final of Indo-nesia Open

JAKARTA, JUNE 17 (PTI): Indian shuttler K Srikanth dished out a gritty performance to stun world No.1 Korean Son Wan Ho to reach the finals of the USD 1,000,000 Indonesia Super Series Premier here today.

The 24-year-old from Guntur fought like a man possessed to outclass Son 21-15 18-21 24-22 in an energy-sapping men's singles match that lasted an hour and 12 minutes here.

Srikanth had a 2-4 head-to-head record against Son, having lost to the Korean four times in the last four meetings but all that didn't matter today as he survived a battle of attrition at the Jakarta Convention Center (JCC).

World No.22 Srikanth will next face Japanese qualifier Kazumasa Sakai in the finals tomorrow.

This is the fourth Super Series final for Srikanth, who had reached the summit clash in Singapore in April and won the 2014 China Open and 2015 India Open.

Earlier, giant-killer H S Prannoy played his heart out but eventually ran out of steam against Japanese Kazumasa Sakai to go down narrowly in the other semifinal.

The World No. 25, who had shocked Olympic silver- medalist Lee Chong Wei and gold-medallist Chen Long in the last two days, got to the match point five times but he could not convert to eventually go down 21-17, 26-28, 18-21 in a 77-minute men's singles match.

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Final Frontier: Consistent India take on confident Pakistan

KUSHAN SARKAR

LONDON, JUN 17 (PTI):

India's remarkable consistency will be up against Pakistan's legendary volatility when the fierce rivals clash in what is expected to be an exciting finale to the ICC Champions Trophy, here tomorrow.

The often tense political relations between the neighbouring nations add colour to the bitter yet intense rivalry, which has nowadays been confined only to global events due to the Indian government's refusal to allow bilateral contests.

Defending champions India had got the better of the rivals in the league stage of the ongoing tournament. And captain Virat Kohli has already declared that nothing extra is needed to get the same result despite the turnaround by Sarfraz Ahmed's men since then.

It is nonetheless a battle of attrition, where one needs to hold the nerve till the very end.

The last ball six hit by Javed Mian-dad off Chetan Sharma haunted a generation of Indian fans till Sachin Tendulkar returned the favour during that epic knock at the Centurion.

In between, Ajay Jadeja, Venkatesh Prasad, Hrishikesh Kanitkar or Joginder Sharma have all played their bit roles in winning big matches thereby overcoming the Sharjah Syndrome that affected the Indian teams of mid 80's and early 90's.

Whether it's New Delhi or Islamabad, Karachi or Kolkata, this is one match that fans would hate to see their team lose.

For the 22 players in question, it's just a game of cricket. But for millions following them, it's way beyond that and is fuelled more by comments from former stars like Virender Sehwag or Rashid Latif.

There could be unabashed love and unwarranted criticism in equal measures depending on which side one ends up.

Even skipper Virat Kohli would



tell one and all that they are "not here to make statements".

On pure cricketing logic, Pakistan are no match for Virat Kohli's men, who have some of the best exponents of limited overs cricket.

But just like in life, at times sporting realities defy logic which is exactly the reason why Sarfraz Ahmed's team can't be ruled out on a big day.

A lopsided opening round contest, which India won by 124 runs made many feel that Indo-Pak contests are fast losing their sheen due to lack of quality in Pakistani ranks.

An Azhar Ali is no match for Rohit Sharma in ODIs and Ahmed Shahzad doesn't have the consistency that Shikhar Dhawan has shown. Babar Azam is a new kid on the block while Virat Kohli, with 8000 plus ODI runs, is destined for greatness.

But Pakistan cricket swings like a pendulum, hovering between brilliant and ordinary, making a mockery of any kind of definitive analysis.

And the pace attack of Mohammed Amir, tournament's leading wicket-taker Hasan Ali, Junaid Khan and Rumman Raees have the ability to rewrite history.

And this despite a dismal 2-13 record against India in various ICC tournaments (World Cup, Champions Trophy and World T20), which makes the 'Men In Blue' firm favourites.

India's batting line-up, as expected, has fired big time in this Champions Trophy with Shikhar Dhawan (317 runs) and Rohit Sharma (304 runs) topping the run charts.

Skipper Kohli, with 253 runs, makes it three Indians in top-5.

Kohli is confident that his mid-

dle-order comprising Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Kedar Jadhav and Hardik Pandya, that has gone untested so far, will come good if 'Law of Averages' catches up with them.

"I am sure when Kedar and Hardik will put their hand up when situation arises. I don't think middle order not being tested is something to worry about," the skipper, who himself has been in sublime form had said earlier.

With two quality pacers in Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Jasprit Bumrah, both of whom have maintained less than five runs per over economy rate on flat decks, India have their bases covered.

Ravindra Jadeja's all-round prowess and the balance that Hardik and Kedar bring with their multiple skills, make it a complete side.

Defending the Champions Trophy will also be important as the on-field

supremacy could also help India regain some lost ground off the field when the ICC Annual Conference starts a day after the final.

In all, a lot to play for.

SQUADS

India: Virat Kohli (captain), Shikhar Dhawan, Rohit Sharma, Yuvraj Singh, MS Dhoni (wk), Kedar Jadhav, Hardik Pandya, Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Dinesh Karthik, Mohammed Shami, Ajinkya Rahane, Umesh Yadav.

Pakistan: Sarfraz Ahmed (captain), Ahmed Shahzad, Azhar Ali, Babar Azam, Mohammed Hafeez, Shoaib Malik, Hasan Ali, Mohammed Amir, Rumman Raees, Junaid Khan, Imad Wasim, Faheem Ashraf, Shadab Khan, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Sohail.

Match Starts: 3 pm IST.

Prannoy's fight ends in agony in Indonesia Open

JAKARTA, JUN 17 (PTI):

Giant-killer HS Prannoy played his heart out but eventually ran out of steam against Japanese Kazumasa Sakai to go down narrowly in the semifinals of the Indonesia Super Series Premier badminton tournament here today.

The World No. 25, who had shocked Olympic silver- medalist Lee Chong Wei and gold-medallist Chen Long in the last two days, got to the match point five times but he could not convert to eventually go down 21-17, 26-28, 18-21 in a 77-minute men's singles match.

Prannoy, who had lost to the same opponent during the 2013 edition, mostly matched Sakai stroke for stroke but failed to complete the rallies. The Japanese, a bundle of energy, showed better control over the shuttle to emerge victorious.

In the first game, Prannoy and Sakai were locked 2-2 early on but the Indian soon moved ahead to first make it 4-2 before entering the break with a



healthy 11-6 lead.

He moved to a 19-15 lead and soon grabbed the game point.

Prannoy hit wide and then sent the shuttle out as the Japanese saved two game points but his smash went to the nets next as Prannoy earned the bragging rights.

The second game was a roller-coaster ride as Sakai opened up a 5-1 lead after dominating the rallies early on. The Indian narrowed the gap to 4-5 with the help of his smashes.

But he was finding it difficult to control the shuttle and a lot of his shots went wide as Sakai

moved to 11-5 at the interval when Prannoy's return went to the nets.

The duo engaged in long rallies but Prannoy couldn't close them, unforced errors being the culprit.

Prannoy produced some scintillating down-the-line smashes and kept breathing down his rival's

neck at 15-17 and soon clawed back at 18-18.

Sakai hit the shuttle long next as the Indian moved to 19-18 and he grabbed his first match point at 20-19 due to a lucky net chord point.

The duo faltered at the net once each as it was 21-20. Sakai then produced

a superb down-the-line smash to once again claw back and grabbed a game point when Prannoy dived only to send his rival's return out of the court.

At 21-22, another towering cross-court smash brought Prannoy at level par but he failed to reach for a shot at the forecourt next.

Fortunes continued to fluctuate as Prannoy failed to negotiate another return from Sakai as the lead finally swung back to the Japanese at 27-26 and he sealed it this time when Prannoy's miscued smash went to the net.

In the third game, Sakai moved to a 6-4 lead early on and soon had a four-point advantage. Lagging 5-9, Prannoy tried to change the pace of the rallies. He narrowed it to 7-9 before Sakai headed into the break with a slender 11-9 lead.

After the change of sides, Sakai extended his lead to 15-11. Errors continued from Prannoy but he managed to narrow the margin to 17-18. But eventually, it was the Japanese who had the last laugh.

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LOST: The original Class X pass certificate (ICSE board) belonging Sanjana Gurung bearing Index No. T/1868/032, passed from St. Joseph's School, Rhenock Kingstone, East Sikkim has been lost. If found contact: 7872095323

IIT-Guwahati's Technothon to offer winners free tour to NASA

GUWAHATI, JUN 17 (PTI): The winners of Technothon - the international school championship, organised by the student fraternity of IIT Guwahati, will visit NASA's campus in California.

"The winners will be awarded a guided tour to NASA's AMES research centre in California, USA,

a release issued by Technothon said.

Technothon is an international school championship conducted by the students of IIT Guwahati. The competition will be held in two phases - prelims and mains.

The prelims will test the logic, analytical ability and practical observa-

tions of the students, the release said.

The prelims, scheduled for July 16, will be conducted at more than 400 centres across the country, the release said, adding that the top teams will be invited for the final round which will held at IIT Guwahati campus on 31 august.

BJP to protest against egg attacks on ministers in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR, JUN 17 (PTI): BJP today said it would undertake a silent protest across Odisha tomorrow against egg attacks on several union ministers during their visits to the state recently.

Besides protesting the egg attack allegedly by BJD activists on the vehicle of Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram in Kendrapara on June 14,

the party activists would also seek proper probe in the gang rape and killing of a widow in Dhenkanal district recently.

Announcing the programme at a press meet here, BJP Odisha unit's Vice President Samir Mohanty said the silent protest would be held in areas under all the municipalities, Notified Area Councils (NACs)

and Zilla Parishad Zones of the state.

"The decision to hold silent protest in a peaceful manner was taken to counter violent methods being adopted by the ruling BJD in the state," Mohanty said, referring to the egg attack on Oram's vehicle during his Kendrapara visit.

The party activists would also protest the

egg attack earlier on Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh's vehicle in Bhubaneswar, he said.

Stating that violence has no place in a democratic set-up, the BJP leader said the frequent attacks on central ministers by "BJD goons with the cooperation of police" had posed a serious threat to the democracy.

Saudi king strips crown prince of prosecution oversight

RIYADH, JUN 17 (AP): Saudi Arabia's King Salman has issued a royal decree that restructures the country's system for prosecutions, essentially stripping the crown prince of longstanding powers overseeing criminal investigations.

The king's decree issued today renames the Bureau of Investigation and Prosecution as the office of Public Prosecution and orders that a newly appointed public prosecutor report directly to the monarch.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, who also serves as Interior Minister, had overseen the BIP and had been tasked with nominating its chairman. Rather than being a part of the Ministry of Justice, the bureau has been attached to the Ministry of Interior, which oversees police and other security forces.

Its broad range of duties included investigating crimes, filing cases, prosecuting individuals, appealing court judgments and supervising the execution of criminal sentences.

Mobile data consumption rose 142% in last 3 yrs: Kant

NEW DELHI, JUN 17 (PTI): Mobile data consumption per subscriber in India has risen by 142 per cent in the last three years, NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant today said. "Significant progress in digital access: During 2014-17, India has seen a 142 per cent year-on-year increase in mobile data consumption per subscriber," Kant said in a tweet.

He further said, "during 2014-17, India has seen a 17X increase in online banking transactions per internet user & a 200X increase in digital wallet transaction.

FLAT FOR RENT: 2BHK including toilet-bathroom, located above Accountant General's quarters, Development Area. Contact 9734764711 for details.

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON/MIAM, JUN 17 (PTI):

Chipping away at Barack Obama's legacy, US President Donald Trump cancelled his predecessor's "one-sided" Cuba deal and put the two Cold War-era rivals on collision course again by vowing to not allow dollars to prop up Raul Castro's "military monopoly".

Obama had announced in December 2014 that he and Castro were restoring ties and less than a year later, the US Embassy in Havana was re-opened with the then US president making a historic visit to the Communist country in 2016.

Reversing the policy of pursuing a historic detente, Trump said, "Effective immediately, I am cancelling the last administration's completely one-sided deal with Cuba.

I am announcing today a new policy just as I promised during the campaign."

"Our policy will seek a much better deal for the Cuban people and for the United States of America. We do not want US dollars to prop up a military monopoly that exploits and abuses the citizens of Cuba. Our new policy begins with strictly enforcing US law," he told a cheering crowd in Miami's Little Havana, the spiritual home of the Cuban-American community.

In Havana, Cuba's government criticised the new restrictions on ties with the US that were announced by Trump, but reiterated its willingness to hold a "respectful dialogue" with Washington.

Trump's speech, which came as the president signed a directive outlining his posture toward Cuba, is the latest attempt by

the Trump administration to chip away at Obama's legacy, of which the Cuba policy of starting a historic detente was a major part.

Obama had pushed for expanding commerce and travel between the two countries. However, Trump, in a complete reversal, asserted that he will not lift sanctions on Cuba unless it releases all political prisoners and respects freedoms.

"We will not lift sanctions on the Cuban regime until all political prisoners are freed, freedoms of assembly and expression are respected, all political parties are legalised and free and internationally supervised elections are scheduled elections," Trump said.

"We will very strongly restrict American dollars flowing to the military, security, and intelligence services that are the core of the Castro regime. They

will be restricted. We will enforce the ban on tourism. We will enforce the embargo," the US president said.

Trump asserted that the US will take concrete steps to ensure that investments flow directly to the people so they can open private businesses and begin to build their country's "great, great future, a country of great potential."

Trump said his actions bypassed the military and the government to help the Cuban people form businesses and pursue much better lives.

"We will keep in place the safeguards to prevent Cubans from risking their lives to unlawful travel to the United States. They are in such danger the way they have to come to this country. And we are going to be safeguarding those people," he said.

Trump said his ad-

ministration will expose the crimes of the Castro regime and stand with the Cuban people in their struggle for freedom.

"Because we know it is best for America to have freedom in our hemisphere, whether in Cuba or Venezuela, and to have a future where the people of each country can live out their own dreams," he said.

He alleged that for nearly six decades, the Cuban people had suffered under the Communist domination.

To this day, Cuba is ruled by the same people who killed tens of thousands of their own citizens, who sought to spread their repressive and failed ideology throughout our hemisphere and who once tried to host enemy nuclear weapons 90 miles from our shores, Trump said.

"The Castro regime has shipped arms to North

Korea and fuelled chaos in Venezuela. While imprisoning innocents, it has harboured car killers, hijackers and terrorists. It has supported human trafficking, forced labour and exploitation all around the globe," Trump alleged.

"This is the simple truth of the Castro regime. My administration will not hide from it, excuse it or glamourise it. And we will never, ever be blind to it. We know what's going on and we remember what happened," he said.



Seven US Navy sailors are missing after their destroyer collided with a container ship near Japan. At least three compartments of the USS Fitzgerald are reported to have flooded after the collision with the Philippine vessel ACX Crystal 56 miles southwest of Yokosuka. Commander Bryce Benson, Fitzgerald's commanding officer, was evacuated from the ship and taken to US Naval Hospital in Yokosuka where he is in a stable condition. Two more sailors have also been taken by helicopter to hospital for what the US 7th Fleet said were "lacerations and bruises".

Al-Jazeera Twitter account 'suspended'

DOHA, JUN 17 (AFP): Qatar-based broadcaster Al-Jazeera said the Twitter account for its main Arabic-language channel had been suspended today, in the latest "conspiracy" to hit the station.

Yasser Abuhilalah, managing director of Al-Jazeera Arabic, confirmed the suspension on social media.

The suspension comes at a time of diplomatic crisis in the Gulf after Qatar was cut off by neighbouring countries including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

"The main Al-Jazeera Twitter account has been suspended, and work is ongoing to solve the problem," Abuhilalah tweeted.

"Other secondary accounts remain active. Disruption (by others) will not stop because the truth triumphs. We'll be back."

In another tweet, he said that no other "channel in the world... faces the same amount of conspiracy".

Other Twitter accounts belonging to the channel were still working and one claimed that the sus-

pension was due to "what seems to be an organised campaign".

The television channel has long been a target for criticism by other Middle East countries, with Al-Jazeera banned on several occasions.

There has been speculation that its closure could help end the diplomatic crisis which erupted last month between Qatar and its neighbours in the Gulf over Doha's alleged support of extremists.

Earlier this month, Al-Jazeera said it was combatting a large-scale cyber attack.

Puducherry Assembly passes resolution seeking to curb L-G's powers

PUDUCHERRY, JUN 16 (PTI): The Puducherry Assembly today passed a resolution for absolute powers to the elected government led by Chief Minister V Narayanasamy to check the style of functioning of Lt Governor Kiran Bedi.

The passage of the resolution, which in effect seeks to curb the powers of the Lt Governor, was preceded by noisy protests by two opposition AINRC members who came to the defence of Bedi and were later suspended for disrupting the proceedings.

Narayanasamy took strong exception to Bedi making field visits, calling meetings of officials at the Raj Nivas, holding meetings through video conferencing and sending communications through the social media.

Claiming that the Lt Governor had no powers to take any decision arbitrarily, the chief minister said

she should act in "consultation and concurrence" of the elected ministry.

Bedi, who assumed office in May last year, has been involved in tussles with the Congress government on a host of issues. She has been asserting that being the administrator of the UT, she had the powers over administrative matters.

Last year, the former IPS officer had even threatened to quit her post and leave the Union Territory over non-cooperation by officials.

The resolution urged the Centre to bring amendments to the Government of Union Territories Act 1963 so that only the elected government in the UT was vested with full powers on administrative matters so that it could look after the welfare of the people.

Initially moved as a Private Member resolution by AIADMK AMMA MLA A Anbalagan, it was

later converted as government sponsored one and declared passed unanimously by Speaker V Vaithilingam.

Pressing for absolute powers to the UT government, Narayanasamy referred to the provisions in the Constitution and also the various legislations relating to administration and conduct of business in Puducherry.

He said Puducherry was different from other Union Territories like Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep as it has an elected legislature.

Earlier, tabling the resolution, Anbalagan said the tug of war between the Lt Governor and the government was affecting implementation of various welfare schemes.

Ruling Congress member R K R Anandaraman accused Bedi of making "unnecessary and objectionable intervention" in the daily administration.

"Bedi seems to be functioning more autocratically than Hitler had done," he said and charged her with functioning with an "ulterior motive to tarnish the image of the Congress government."

At this stage, AINRC members Ashok Anand and NSJ Jayabal, who literally barged into the House, rebutted the criticism against Bedi.

Raising the issue of post-graduate medical admission, in which Bedi had recently intervened, they pointed to today's Madras High Court order which was favourable to students.

Anand attacked the government for "letting down" the students in the admission issue, a charge denied by the chief minister later.

As the Speaker ordered his mike to be switched off, Anand rushed out, returned with a megaphone and continued his criticism of the

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Draw time: 11:55 am onwards	Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:7 DrawDate on:17/06/17	Draw No:112 DrawDate on:17/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 97E 64019	1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 92H 65336
(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 64019 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 65336 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-	2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
15973 30525 44671 50995 61009	01363 04768 15621 38114 44156
63900 73255 73547 86292 98584	50859 59604 63437 67716 89837
3rd Prize Rs.500/-	3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
0697 0726 0738 4473 4899 5485 5562 6713 7666 7887	05090 20483 26159 28825 32387
4th Prize Rs.300/-	43293 46248 60384 63511 76623
0933 2717 2771 4085 4383 5220 5409 8790 8804 9819	4th Prize Rs.1000/-
5th Prize Rs.130/-	2558 3508 4845 5362 5381 6184 6264 9590 9654 9823
0057 0103 0318 0331 0443 0503 0710 0913 0991 1127	5th Prize Rs.600/-
1302 1394 1412 1584 1634 1646 1681 1774 1836 1857	1310 3041 3304 3529 3776 4324 5324 5757 8632 9936
1969 2028 2056 2145 2744 2777 3084 3177 3410 3446	6th Prize Rs.250/-
3593 3761 3840 3992 4022 4123 4149 4167 4232 4401	0029 0056 0149 0218 0218 0270 0403 0462 0517 0522
4451 4503 4680 4718 4808 5112 5120 5146 5154 5257	0699 0724 0840 0863 0934 0966 1198 1400 1404 1431
5303 5384 5405 5417 5516 5532 5556 5557 5612 5688	1435 1490 1567 1782 1789 1907 1937 1980 2099 2322
5710 5724 5755 5798 6040 6220 6232 6258 6363 6399	2425 2444 2538 2620 2679 2690 2708 2811 2835 2879
6790 6921 6937 6961 6987 7491 7536 7538 7553 7591	3001 3111 3130 3189 3431 3438 3582 3618 3788 4229
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For Results, please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com	8837 8960 8973 9016 9203 9571 9623 9737 9759 9838

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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR HONOUR	SINGAM TOUGH EVENING
Draw No:48 DrawDate on:17/06/17	Draw No:19 DrawDate on:17/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 70E 96099	1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 92H 38368
(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 96099 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 38368 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
01507 19061 24453 35532 44116	31308 32711 53670 57663 75946
45334 56033 68219 73952 77222	77311 77836 80021 95602 95774
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	3rd Prize Rs.500/-
04540 06105 09477 14629 15292	0143 0273 0751 1054 3747 6817 7736 7903 9202 9381
18167 24481 59170 71577 91068	4th Prize Rs.300/-
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	0568 0794 2311 2810 2992 3639 4091 5215 9871 9958
2263 2915 2917 6155 6157 7490 8384 8950 9954 9976	5th Prize Rs.130/-
5th Prize Rs.600/-	0101 0116 0133 0241 0322 0345 0741 0992 1052 1077
1597 1879 1883 2537 2957 3327 4061 7025 8654 9965	0115 1174 1218 1289 1384 1628 1738 1714 1688 1772
6th Prize Rs.250/-	1968 2137 2207 2796 2884 2988 3041 3045 3104 3143
0166 0239 0271 0466 0552 0692 0748 0923 1133 1135	3353 3556 3638 3679 3688 3690 3693 3740 3719 3910
1289 1355 1363 1370 1423 1448 1476 1595 1639 1652	3911 3987 4160 4233 4251 4377 4403 4495 4578 4607
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2755 2859 3025 3193 3456 3466 3603 4027 4321 4398	6021 6238 6335 6482 6519 6625 6650 6720 6854 6977
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9103 9168 9345 9425 9439 9587 9715 9739 9756 9917	Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES	ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
MAHA GANAPATHY	KUMBHA RASI
Draw No:94 DrawDate on:17/06/17	Draw No:94 DrawDate on:17/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 02654	1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 07295
2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-	2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-
0633 1557 4006 4327 6216 6658 6945 7943 9109 9910	2128 2631 2836 2904 3316 6646 7917 8709 9338 9848
3rd Prize Rs.500/-	3rd Prize Rs.500/-
1760 2328 5173 5356 6392 6697 6734 6796 8888 9956	0144 2963 3830 4848 5082 5981 6512 7876 8084 9835
4th Prize Rs.250/-	4th Prize Rs.250/-
1373 2001 2149 3100 4937 5120 5285 6210 6233 6671	0510 2133 3249 3304 3572 5571 7354 8111 8683 9849
5th Prize Rs.100/-	5th Prize Rs.100/-
2188 2617 2625 3993 4126 4146 4980 5013 9102 9837	0468 1063 1576 1640 4858 6952 7688 7832 9008 9999
6th Prize Rs.50/-	6th Prize Rs.50/-
0117 0732 1946 2681 4052 5109 6681 7340 8325 9025	0000 1164 1939 3121 3955 4651 5527 6728 8045 8813
0143 0993 1999 3017 4093 5656 6720 7383 8336 9168	0214 1200 2159 3136 4018 4665 5601 7014 8083 8871
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0381 1050 2031 3343 4308 5773 6762 7404 8410 9265	0406 1325 2390 3388 4143 4834 5753 7313 8423 9190
0485 1056 2058 3400 4348 5836 6802 7449 8535 9366	0442 1378 2468 3402 4225 4851 5822 7347 8448 9197
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0594 1282 2633 3816 4423 6286 7096 8003 8892 9644	0937 1669 2845 3702 4582 5191 6259 7702 8554 9653
0622 1294 2668 3894 4514 6438 7127 8198 8959 9777	1060 1727 2869 3818 4609 5208 6554 7737 8635 9790
0701 1759 2675 4022 5037 6665 7275 8218 9014 9797	1135 1826 2914 3869 4612 5329 6589 7990 8646 9828
Issued by:	1135 1826 2914 3869 4612 5329 6589 7990 8646 9828
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Katy Perry becomes first to reach 100 Million Twitter followers

RISING TO THE TOP!

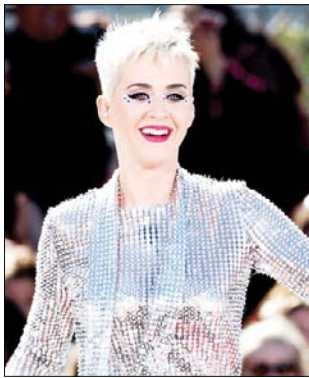
Katy Perry beat her own 2016 record of 90 million followers by reaching 100 million Twitter followers on Friday, June 16.

Twitter honored the "Swish Swish" singer, 32, with a celebratory post. "Today, we #WITNESS history. Congratulations @katyperry, the first to reach 100 million followers! #LoveKaty," the official Twitter account wrote.

"Thank you, @Twitter, for always giving me an opportunity to have a voice! #LoveKaty," the songstress responded.

Perry, who joined Twitter in 2009 while touring in Germany, rose to fame after releasing her 2008 single "I Kissed a Girl."

"Just got into Berlin... feeling better thank you, have my vicks inhaler by my



side... and P.S. I TWITTER! GAH. Such a fol-

lower!" Perry's first tweet, posted on February 20, 2009, read. Over the years, the songwriter has graced the social media platform with sweet — and sassy! — tweets.

In 2014, Perry took to Twitter to share her excitement over seeing Beyonce and Jay Z's daughter, Blue Ivy Carter.

"OMG BLUE IVY JUST PERSONALLY WAVED AT ME," she gushed. "MY LIFE IS OVER."

While at Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival that same year, the "Roar" singer tweeted her disapproval of the season's trend. "If I see a flower garland in your hair this weekend our friendship is over #Coachella," she wrote.

Perry may lead the Twitter charge for now, but Justin Bieber comes in a close second with 96.7 million devotees.

THE FIDGET SPINNER



If you have noticed lately people on the internet are obsessed with the fidget-spinner craze that is gripping young people's attention.

Spinning their way into children's hearts and hands across the world, the toy has been lauded as a way for young people to manage anxiety and ADHD (although this has been disputed by experts).

What is the fidget spinner? The fidget spinner is a small device that fits in your hand. It is usually made up of two parts – a central bearing that you grip with your index finger and thumb, and a three-pronged rotational blade (resembling a rounded Chinese throwing star) that spins around it once you give it a flick with your free hand.

While other crazes have relied on collectability or competition, the fidget-spinner craze has taken off due to the toy's immediately addictive nature. The sensation that comes from holding a fast-spinning contraption is a large part of its appeal. As you tilt it back and forth while it whirrs, you can feel the various spinning forces undulate in your hand.

What do people do with them?

The real fun comes from trying to pull off various tricks and stunts with a spinner as these forces take hold. As it spins it can be balanced on top of fingers, toes, and if you're really daring, your nose or forehead. If you have more than one you can stack them on top of one another, and create a spinning tower that plays with your eyes.

If you're interested in getting into the fidget spinner craze or just fancy seeing what all the fuss is about, then you'll be interested to know they're not just sold to kids. There are spinners for adults too, and they come in a variety of dif-

ferent colors and shapes. The aesthetics of fidget spinners are also widely celebrated online, particularly on Instagram. Special designs and materials

can transform this simple toy into a thing of wonder, while others can make fun cultural references to other toys and devices, like the PlayStation.

18TH JUNE

WORLD HISTORY

1812: Ivan Goncharov, Russian novelist of the Russian realism school of thought, was born. He is best known for his book "Oblomov."

1815: Napoleon Bonaparte got defeated at the hands of England in the battle of Waterloo. The English troops were under the command of Field Marshall Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington.

1900: Empress Dowager Zhu Zhi ordered I-Ho-Chuan, the leader of the Boxer movement to kill all foreigners and native Christians.

1940: During World War Two, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill urged his countrymen to conduct themselves in a manner that would prompt future generations to say, "This was their finest hour."

1953: Egypt was declared a republic, and the monarchy was abolished, ending the rule of Muhammad Ali's dynasty.

INDIAN HISTORY
1658: Aurangzeb captured the Agra Fort.

1858: While fighting against

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY

Assistant Professor in History, Namchi Govt. College

British troops in Gwalior, Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi took her last breath.

1940: The Forward Bloc of the Indian National Congress by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was established.

1946: Dr Ram Manohar Lohia headed a demonstration in London, Goa and called for direct action against the Portuguese.

1956: The Hindu Succession Act of the Parliament of India was passed on this day. The law was about the uniform system of inheritance.

1978: The Karakoram Highway opened today. The 1,300 km highway is named "Karakoram" as it passes through the Karakoram mountain range.



WHAT A PRIZE: Rihanna hugged the winner of the Young Fashion Designer LVMH Prize 2017 in Paris recently.

RIHANNA STEALS THE SHOW ON DJ KHALED'S NEW SUMMER ANTHEM WILD THOUGHTS

DJ Khaled just dropped a brand new single called Wild Thoughts, featuring Rihanna and singer Bryson Tiller, and the beat's super catchy because you've heard it somewhere else before.

That's right, if you were thinking why does this song sound so familiar it's because it's a sample of Santana's 1999 hit single, Maria Maria. The producer released Wild Thoughts which follows his number one hit single, I'm The One and it's a tune that's gonna have you moving your hips while wishing that you were on holiday somewhere nice and hot in South America.

The song is off DJ Khaled's upcoming album Grateful- an album executive produced by his eight month old son and best friend, Asahd and the toddler makes an appearance in the video.

Riri loves the kids and couldn't resist a picture with the young star in the making as she nuzzles his little cheeks as he stares into the camera. This little guy is going to have the best throwback pictures to show off to



his friends when he's older.

Yes, the song is DJ Khaled's, however Rihanna stole the show because everything she touches literally turns to gold

and after listening to this song you're going to have 'na na na' in your head. Oh, and you're going to have some serious style envy too.

Rihanna's been too busy shining on her haters and being as fabulous as ever after trolls tried to body shame her for 'putting on weight.'

ARIES: You may have spent the past few weeks exploring other horizons, Aries, meeting new people, going out more frequently, or taking short trips. But there's a significant change of rhythm in the air. You will settle down and bask in the comfort of your home. You will find that you have just the incentive you need to stabilize yourself for a while. Expect some pleasurable moments in the domestic realm.

TAURUS: You're likely to enjoy a change in the rhythm and quality of life, beginning right now, Taurus. Do you feel a need to take your friendships beyond superficiality? Perhaps you should reestablish contact with some past

friends. After a hiatus, you may have some bonds to repair. You can expect another period devoted to sweeping the cobwebs out of your emotional life and letting in light and promise.

GEMINI: Today you can expect to be more enterprising in your human relationships, Gemini. You may find new friends or enjoy quality time with old ones. It's likely that your love life will intensify. The next few weeks provide excellent resources for improving your emotional well-being. Take advantage of it.

CANCER: The past month has allowed you to affirm yourself, Cancer, and cement some aspects

of your personality. You're now entering a period of consolidation. It's like you conceived a product, created it, and are now finally ready to put it on the market. The current period indicates that you will receive all of the rewards that your hard work has earned.

LEO: Today heralds the beginning of a very agreeable period. You will be especially happy, Leo! You will project confidence, clarity, and charisma wherever you go. You used up a lot of your reserves during the last few months. You've made it to this stage just in time. Certainly you'll agree that this is something to be celebrated!

VIRGO: Virgo, this would be a

good moment to get rid of anything that still stands between you and achieving your goals. A certain obstacle might be sparking the impulse you have to blend into the background. Don't forget that you're an individual. This isn't something to be overcome. It should be celebrated!

LIBRA: The signs say that you can expect a very profitable few weeks ahead, Libra. You've worked hard lately, and it's only natural that you have finally arrived at this stage. You're going to be able to measure the distance you've come and evaluate your power. Whatever you do, don't think small!

SCORPIO: The cosmos will ask

you to make more of an effort, Scorpio. To do so means you will have to come back down to Earth and join the rest of us mere mortals. You may be cultivating your independence a bit too much. You seem to be pulling away from people. You should try to mix more and get involved in a cause that's bigger than you. Accept working with others as a necessary component of your life.

SAGITTARIUS: A quest is in store for you, Sagittarius. You're likely to engage in a search for physical or intellectual space. You may be asking yourself philosophical questions. Or perhaps you're thinking of taking a long trip.

Which will it be? Will you read philosophy or go to China? At this point, only the stars know.

CAPRICORN: In navigating your emotional life, Capricorn, you may feel you've made a great effort in the past month. You've been available and conciliatory, and done your best to maintain harmony. Your efforts have paid off. Now you feel a yen for more spontaneity. It seems that the enterprising and reckless you has returned! Go ahead - you deserve this release after all of your disciplined effort.

AQUARIUS: Aquarius, the cosmic signs indicate that your emotional universe will once again glow with positive energy.

You will meet more people, and your encounters are likely to be profoundly gratifying, emotionally and intellectually. All told, the coming month is wonderfully promising for you. Two key things to anticipate are pleasure and sensuality.

PISCES: For you, Pisces, the next few weeks portend a period of timidity. You will probably go out less, introduce yourself to fewer new people, and be less prone to showing off. But any relationships you do form will be much more intense than usual. The month ahead is quite promising, though you may have to readjust some of your attitudes.

LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



ARCTIC CIRCLE - HALLATT



BABY BLUES - KIRKMAN & SCOTT

