



SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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CM directs HRDD for regularisation of Adhoc Asst Lecturers of five years and above

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, MAY 11:

The Chief Minister Pawan Chamling has directed the HRD department to submit a suggestion to the government in context to the on-going impasse of Assistant Lecturer recruitment.

The Chief Minister today held a meeting with some of the departmental heads here in Gangtok.

According to sources, the Chief Minister has asked the Principal Secretary of HRD department to administratively resolve the matter.

It may be noted here that the assistant lecturers are on protest crying injustice in the recruitment.

Earlier a group of aggrieved assistant lecturers who were working in different Colleges of the State on temporary basis and had appeared for the recently held Sikkim Public Service Commission [SPSC] examination for regular appointment to the post had expressed dissatisfaction over the examination process and its results. To register their protest, the group had also announced an indefinite dharna at the District Administrative Centre [East] from Friday.

On behalf of all aggrieved assistant lecturers, Lobzang Chopel Lepcha, Dinesh Adhikari, Sanjay Rai, Sushma Rai, Chuki Bhutia, Karma Choden and Dr Sapna Gurung had expressed their dissatisfaction during a press conference.

The group had raised doubts over the selection process of Assistant Lecturers alleging that there was no transparency in the examination conducted by

SPSC. According to them, after the deadline for applications ended, it was extended for a week in January this year and those who applied during this period have been selected for the post of Assistant Lecturer. They had also alleged that male candidates have been selected under seats reserved for women while OBC seats have also been occupied by candidates of other categories.

"SPSC held viva on Wednesday and announced the results within less than half an hour of the viva

which also raises questions about the entire process," they said. They had demanded an investigation into the entire process of the examination.

"A panel constituted by the state government five years back had appointed us as Assistant Lecturers on the basis of our qualification and other parameters. But now another panel of the government has disqualified us for the post of Assistant Lecturers and cancelled our appointment," they said.

Many of these assistant

lecturers have been working since the past 10 years and students under them have already passed out.

"Even the Chief Minister and others assured us of regularization but we are now shocked with the recent result of the SPSC examination," stating that they had requested the concerned authority not to give appointment orders to the candidates who have cleared the SPSC examination. They had also decided to approach the court if required.

The group further de-

manded that since they have been appointed on the basis of their qualification they should be regularised.

As per the source information, the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling met the administrative heads of a number of departments today at his residence where he directed the HRDD to look into the matter and suggested to start the process of regularisation of all assistant lecturers who are working for the government since 5 years and above, sources informed.

Man sedates and sexually assaults a minor at Singtam

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

A 40-year-old man from Singtam has been accused of sexually assaulting a minor girl. According to police, the accused sedated the victim and made her unconscious before committing the crime.

The victim was reportedly alone when the accused used a sedative to knock her unconscious.

The girl later narrated the incident to her parents. A case under Protection Of Children Against Sexual Offences Act, 2012 has been registered against the accused at Singtam Police Station.

Militant arrested, M16 ammunition seized

DIPHU, MAY 11 (PTI):

The army and Assam police arrested the leader of the militant outfit Karbi Peoples Liberation Tigers (KPLT) and seized a huge quantity of M16 ammunition during a joint operation in Karbi Anglong district, said a senior police official today.

The rebel was identified as Sing Timung alias Binong Timung alias Songriso Tungjang who was the acting chairman of the outfit when its chairman Donri Kramsa was in jail, the district superintendent of police Siva Prasad Ganjala here.

The Army's 12 Gorkha Rifles and police from Dokmoka jointly searched the courtyard of Timung's uncle's house at Belughat yesterday and found 301 bullets of M16 ammunition, Ganjala said. A case has been registered in Dokmoka police station under the Arms Act, the SP said.



RNP allots space for Organic sellers of Rangpo at Mandi Bazaar

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

Rangpo Nagar Panchayat has decided to allot a dedicated space for the Organic growers and sellers of Rangpo, East Sikkim at Mandi Bazaar in Rangpo on a Sunday Haat. Organic grow-

ers and sellers will be provided with sufficient space on both the sides of the road from Dhristi Eye Care building to Yamaha Showroom at Mandi Bazaar to sell their produce on Sundays, a press release informs.

This initiative of Rangpo

Nagar Panchayat will start from 13 May in the presence of Area MLA, Gopal Barailly, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Rangpo, Sub Divisional Police Officer, Rangpo, Deputy Director [Enforcement], Horticulture, Station House Officer, Rangpo Police

Station, Zilla Panchayats, members of NGOs along with the general public.

Police Inspector [Traffic], Singtam Rangpo Range, has also been directed to arrange for the shifting of vehicles on Sunday accordingly at Goli Ground area.



SKM backs dismissed North East Pharma Packaging worker

GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

A team of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party led by general secretary, Labour Front, Prem Goo-rung, and vice-president in-charge [Zone I], Anand Lama, vice-president [HQ & ADM], Uttam Lepcha, youth convener [East], Sabin Subba, along with party executives visited North East Pharma Packaging at Pacheykhani in East Sikkim to enquire about an incident where in one worker was terminated without any

reason. They alleged that the action was taken as per the direction of the Sikkim Democratic Front MLA, an SKM press release informs.

The release adds that the SKM team put its argument with management of Pharma Company and gave strict warning to avoid repeating such misconduct against local labourers. The team also put forward its demand for re-employment of the victim labour within

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Workshop on Sustainable Waste Management Pathways kicks off in Gangtok

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) in collaboration with Rural Management and Development Department, Government of Sikkim and Zero Waste Himalaya kicked off its two-day workshop to discuss the issues of waste in Sikkim and other Himalayan States of the country, a press release informs.

The workshop is being participated by 60 delegates from 12 mountainous States of the country. The workshop is being organised as part of a series of events leading to World Environment Day (WED) which falls on 05 June with the theme 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.

Zilla Adhyaksha, S.S Bokhim and Gangtok Municipal Corporation Mayor, Shakti Singh Chaudhary attended



the kick-off function as the chief guest along with Special Secretary, Anil Raj Rai.

Harshad Barde from Pune shared various provisions of Solid Waste Man-

agement Rules and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 mentioning that while there were many loopholes in the rules, it could surely be used to the advantage

of the mountain States by drafting of city bye laws, and extended producer responsibility. Mr. Barde's also gave a brief presentation on the segregation at source

project being undertaken by Swacch for Pune Municipal Corporation covering over 2 lakh households.

The last session of the day had Member of Parlia-

ment [Lok Sabha], P.D Rai as a speaker who talked about waste in the context of Sustainable Development Goals. He mentioned that zero waste as a vision was achievable.

"We must work to increase our sphere for influence," he added.

The workshop aims to decode the WED theme and introduce participants to plastic free campaigns from across the globe. Subsequently, another highlight of the workshop shall be the growing importance of Zero Waste and its fundamentals, reads the release.

Pan-Himalayan Clean-up is also scheduled to take place on the 26 May where various organizations, schools, NGOs, government bodies and other stakeholders will be involved to clean polluted sites.

Karnataka Polls 2018: As the state votes today

BENGALURU, 11 May: Karnataka has gone through months of massive poll campaigning with BJP, Congress and JD(S) making all efforts to woo voters.

While Congress, which currently rules the state under Siddaramaiah, has tried hard to retain its power; BJP, which rules 22 states either on its own or with an alliance partner, has left no stone unturned to form government in this south Indian state. But the elections are not a two-way contest, as JD(S) has also created a noteworthy third front in Karnataka.

However, now the poll campaign has wrapped up and the state is set to vote on Saturday (May 12). The results will be announced on May 15).

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LINGEE PAIYONG SS OBSERVES NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DAY

GANGTOK, 11 MAY: Science and Mathematics club of Lingi Payong Secondary School today jointly organised a programme on the theme 'Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future' in order to observe National Technology Day. Coordinator of Science Club, Goma Sharma, also conducted a quiz competition, a press release informs. It may be mentioned here, National Technology Day is being observed following the nuclear test Pokhran II on 11 May 1998.

All Sikkim Government Retired Employees Welfare Association meets at Mangan

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 11 MAY
The All Sikkim Government Retired Employees Welfare Association, North District conducted a meeting today at Mangan under the leadership of its President, D.T.Bhutia, and General Secretary Hem Sharma.

The General Secretary highlighted about the demands which are already submitted to Former Chief Secretary and present Chief Administrator, Rinchen Ongmu.

He also said that the association is a purely non-political body and retired centre government employees not entitled to join the Sikkim retired employed welfare association.

We should get equal benefit during fixation and whatever benefits the centre government retired employees are entitled for, the same should be given to state government retired employees should also get, he added.

The President (ASGREWA) in his address urged all the



members to be united and give their time to the association.

The association also congratulated the Chief Minister Pawan

Chamling for being the longest Chief Minister of India.

Did not pay N Koreans for release of prisoners: Trump

WASHINGTON, MAY 11 (PTI): The United States did not pay any money to the North Koreans for the release of its citizens held as prisoners, President Donald Trump said as he slammed the previous Obama administration for paying USD 1.8 billion in cash after the Iranian nuclear deal.

The president was addressing his supporters at a rally in Elkhart, Indiana, yesterday.

"North Korean leader Kim Jong-un did a great service to himself and to his country by doing this. But those hostages came out with respect, we didn't pay for them," he said. "We are going to set the table. We are going to make a great deal, for the world, for North Korea, for South Korea, for Japan, for China," he added.

The Obama administration had paid USD 1.8 billion for hostages, Trump claimed in an apparent reference to a January 2016 deal between the US and Iran in which the United States agreed to pay USD 1.7 billion to settle a case related to the sale of military equipment before the Iranian revolution. Simultaneously, Iran had released five American prisoners.

The then Obama White House strongly refuted reports that it was a ransom. Trump said his meeting with Kim Jong-un would be a great success. "I think it's going to be a very big success. But my attitude is: And if it isn't, it isn't," he told his supporters.

"You have to have that because you don't know. We're not going to walk into an Iran deal," Trump added. The Iran deal was one of the most embarrassing agreements the United States had ever entered into, he said, adding that the US could not allow Iran to have nuclear weapons.

"We have to be able to go into their military bases to see whether or not they're cheating Now, of course, we're all sure they're not cheating, but just in case," he said.

"I'll be meeting with Kim Jong-un to pursue a future of peace and security for the world. For the whole world," the president said.

"So the relationship is good, and hopefully, for all of us, for the world, hopefully something very good is going to happen. And they understand it's very important for them. It's important for everybody," he added.

SKM backs dismissed North East Pharma...

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three days, failure of which will lead strong protest and action against the Pharma management.

"It is much disappointing to see that SDF at one side collects a huge amount of donations from Pharma companies compromising labour dignity and their basic rights. It is also highly unfortunate to witness that the management of these companies work under direct political influence of area MLA where vindictive behavior is practiced as per direction of SDF party. This shows that SDF is totally against the working class as well acts as savior of Labour Contractors, who are taking share of wages from labours in form of Labour Contract System," the party has alleged in the release.

Malaysia king to pardon Anwar, paving way for return to politics

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 11 (AFP): Malaysia's king has agreed to pardon Anwar Ibrahim immediately, the country's newly installed prime minister said today, paving the way for the jailed leader to return to politics and potentially become premier.

It was the latest dramatic development after Mahathir Mohamad's alliance inflicted a shock defeat on the long-ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition, ending the corruption-riddled regime's six-decade stranglehold on power.

Mahathir -- who had retired in 2003 as premier but made a comeback in a bid to oust the coalition he once headed -- was sworn in Thursday, becoming the world's oldest elected leader at 92.

Mahathir, who had ruled with an iron fist for over two decades, cut ties with BN due to allegations that the coalition's leader and his ex-protégé Najib Razak oversaw the pillaging of sovereign wealth fund 1MDB.

The elderly politician joined forces with opposition parties that opposed him while in power and agreed that if elected, he would hand over the premiership to Anwar, his former nemesis and leading member of the People's Justice Party.

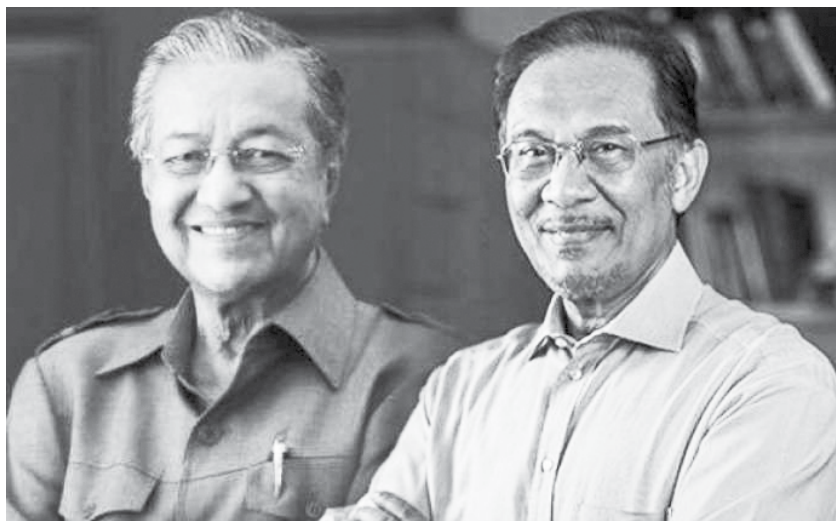
The party is part of the alliance that won power at the hard-fought poll.

Mahathir has previously said he would likely remain prime minister for two to three years, before transferring power to Anwar.

One of Malaysia's most charismatic politicians, Anwar was heir-apparent to the premiership until Mahathir sacked him in 1998 and he was subsequently jailed for sodomy and abuse of power.

Anwar and Mahathir's stormy relationship has loomed large over Malaysia's political landscape for two decades.

But in a remarkable turnaround, the pair reconciled and joined forces as allegations mounted over 1MDB and Najib became increasingly authoritarian,



jailing opponents and introducing laws to stifle dissent.

Anwar, now 70, was jailed again in 2015 during Najib's rule -- after making historic gains as the head of the opposition at the 2013 elections -- and had been due to be released next month.

But Mahathir told a press conference that King Sultan Muhammad V, in a meeting with opposition leaders, had agreed to grant Anwar a royal pardon.

"The (king) has indicated he is willing to pardon Datuk Sri Anwar immediately," Mahathir told a press conference, using a Malay honorific to refer to Anwar.

The royal pardon would mean he could return to

politics straight away. Without it, he would be banned from political life for five years.

"He should be released immediately when he is pardoned," Mahathir added.

Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, president of Anwar's party and his wife, told AFP "steps have already been initiated" for his immediate release.

"We pray it will be as soon as possible." Anwar is currently in hospital for treatment to his shoulder, which was operated on last year.

Mahathir also announced that 10 cabinet positions would be filled on Saturday, including finance, defence and foreign affairs.

Asked about 1MDB, he accused Attorney-General Mohamed Ali Apandi -- who cleared Najib over the scandal -- of having "undermined his own credibility".

"He in fact has hidden evidence of wrongdoing and that is wrong in law," he said. "Our intention is to go for people who have shown a tendency to be corrupt or who had committed known corrupt crimes." In 2016, Apandi said the Saudi royal family was the source of 681 million that mysteriously appeared in Najib's bank accounts, and closed the 1MDB probe.

Apandi came to office after Najib sacked the previous attorney general, who was believed to be aggressively investigating the matter.

Mahathir also said there was widespread fraud during the election campaign, and raised concerns about irregularities in the Borneo state of Sabah, where BN suffered heavy losses.

"In the last two days, for example, there were no speeches made, only money distributed," he said, adding allegations of fraud would be investigated.

His comments might raise eyebrows however. Critics say there was much electoral fraud during Mahathir's time in power, while corruption and cronyism flourished, and his government pushed policies that favoured the Muslim Malay majority and exacerbated racial tensions. Still, analysts say the attempted cheating at Wednesday's poll was worse than anything seen before.

BN was accused of gerrymandering while activists said the coalition hurled cash and gifts at voters and there was a litany of problems with the electoral roll, including dead people appearing on the list.

But voters turned out in droves, determined to push out the government, with the opposition boosted by the presence of standard-bearer Mahathir, who has a huge following among the country's Muslim Malay majority.

Gangtok on Saturday, 12 May

Temp: 26°C /10°C

Forecast: Partly sunny with a shower or thunderstorm around in the afternoon.

Sunrise: 04:49 AM

Sunset: 6:15 PM

Police nabs driver involved in a hit and run case

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

Sadar Police has arrested one taxi driver of a tourist vehicle in connection to a hit and run case wherein one 79-year-old pedestrian was hit by his Taxi Xylo bearing registration no SK01Z0300 near Shiv Mandir at Bojoghari on 07 May.

The driver had allegedly fled from the spot after the accident.

The victim had sustained serious head injuries and was evacuated to CRH Tadong.

The alleged driver has been identified as Surya Bahadur Pradhan [29], a resident of Central Pandam and currently based at Bojoghari, East Sikkim. He was arrested from Bojoghari on 10 May 10.

Manipur, Meghalaya HCs get new chief justices

NEW DELHI, MAY 11 (PTI):

Two judges from the Jammu and Kashmir High Court have been appointed as chief justices of the Meghalaya and the Manipur high courts.

Separate Law Ministry notifications said Justice Ramlingam Sudhakar, who originally belongs to the Madras High Court and is currently functioning as acting chief justice of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, is appointed as the Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court.

Justice Mohammed Yaqoob Mir, also of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, has been appointed as Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

Another notification said Justice Alok Aradhe, senior-most judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court after justices Sudhakar and Mir, is appointed as acting chief justice of that high court following the elevation of his two seniors.

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1st Sikkim Travel Mart kick starts in the capital

ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

Delhi based Travel & Event Management company, Tourism Shelter, organised 1st Sikkim Travel Mart 2018 here at the conference hall of Hotel Rendezvous near Hospital Dara in Gangtok today.

The three-daylong tourism fair was inaugurated by Secretary, Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim, CP Dhakal, in the presence officials from the department.

Addressing the inaugural event, CEO, Tourism Shelter informed that the event is being organized in order to provide information about various tourist destinations of different States.

Chief guest Mr



Dhakal, in his address, said, "This kind of travel mart will help all participating States to promote their tourism throughout the country."

Highlighting various aspects of Sikkim's tourism, he said, "Sikkim is

one of the best tourist destinations." It may be mentioned here, Tourism Shelter has been organising similar events throughout the country, this being its 8th edition.

The tourism fair has participants from six

different States including Sikkim, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Odoland and Telengana.

The organisers have urged all to visit the Mart which will conclude on 13 May.

The inaugural function also had the presence of president of Travel Agents Association of Sikkim, Palzor Lachungpa, and other representatives of various Tours & Travels operators of Gangtok.

Canada Sikh minister asked to remove turban at US airport

TORONTO, MAY 11 (PTI):

A Canadian Sikh minister was asked to take off his turban at a Detroit airport during a security check despite passing through the metal detector without any problem, prompting senior US officials to apologise, media reports have said.

Navdeep Bains, Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, described the incident in an interview with the French-language paper La Presse yesterday.

Bains was returning to Toronto after meetings with Michigan state leaders in April 2017 and had already passed through regular security checks at the Detroit Metro Air-

port, but because he was wearing a turban, a security agent told him that he would have to undergo additional checks, according to La Presse.

"He told me to take off my turban. I asked him why I would have to take off my turban when the metal detector had worked properly," the minister said. The US amended its travel policy in 2007, allowing Sikhs to keep turbans on while passing during the security inspection process.

Bains said that when he travels, he rarely discloses his identity as a cabinet minister, in order to better understand the travel experiences and frustrations of people not afforded similar privileges.



Tapasya band releases MV for their song Antim Aavash

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

Sikkim based Nepali band, Tapasya, released a music video of their song, 'Anthem Aavash', from their album, 'Tapasya-Satra Saal', on 09 May.

Produced by AS Presentations, the video for Anthem Aavash is shot at various locations in Gangtok and features

band members, Ranjit Thapa [frontman], Rachna Sunam [violin], Rakesh Sunwar [bass] and Dependra Thapa [cajon].

The music video was officially released through the hands of coordinator of Humanities & Social Sciences Department, Sikkim Manipal University, Madan Chettri. It is available online at <https://youtu.be/Ec3EKE1GXD0>.



HUMAN RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

Reference No: 898/GoS/HRDD/SW/3 Dated: 10/5/2018

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER NO:

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, the Superintending Engineer [S/W], Human Resource & Development Department, Government of Sikkim, invites e-tendering Bids from the eligible registered contractors of appropriate class for the work listed below:

NAME OF WORK: CONSTRUCTION OF 12/R/S/B/ cum MPH HALL at MIDDLE GYALSHING SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING in WEST SIKKIM.

BID VALUE	Rs. 2,44,99,472.00
DATE IF PUBLISHING IN E-TENDERING PORTAL OF SIKKIM GOVERNMENT [www.sikkimtender.gov.in]	11.05.2018 [11.00 AM onwards]

The intending contractors/ tenderers may visit the e-procurement portal of Government of Sikkim www.sikkimtender.gov.in.

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER [S/W],
HUMAN RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**
R.O. No. 72/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19 Dt. 10/05.18

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URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

EOI NO.02/UD&HD DATED: 09.05.2018

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO:02/UD&HD

On behalf of the Government of Sikkim, the Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim invites the Expression of interest (EOI) for "The Project Regional facility for Solid Waste Treatment and Disposal Project at Shapsu to cater to South & West Sikkim in Sikkim" funded under Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) of NLCPR scheme on a Design, Built and Transfer (DBT) basis from the registered Contractors (Civil) enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department (SPWD) and having experience and expertise for construction of sanitary landfill on a sloping terrain. The interested contractors shall submit their Expression of Interest to the Principal Chief Engineer, Urban Development & Housing Department, Gangtok, East Sikkim on or before 22nd May 2018 along with the requisite documents to fulfil the pre-qualification as per the Eligibility Criteria indicated at section 3.0 below.

The detail in respect of the project overview, bidding and selection processes, guidelines and other conditions are briefed hereunder in the respective sections.

The details of mandatory requirements, general condition, tender guidelines, bid system, selection process, project overview, project completion schedule, tender schedule etc will be uploaded in the department website www.udhdsikkim.org on 11th May 2018.

1.0 Name of the projects:-
Regional facility for Solid Waste Treatment and Disposal Project at Shapsu to cater to South & West Sikkim in Sikkim" funded under Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) of NLCPR Scheme. The cost of Project is Rs.1000.00 Lakhs(Rupees one thousand lakhs) only.

2.0 Eligibility Criteria:-
The Eligibility Criteria to be fulfilled by the intending bidders for pre-qualification are as under:

- The intending bidder shall be the holder of Class-I A enlistment certificate as a civil contractor registered with Sikkim Public Works Department (SPWD), Government of Sikkim. The attested copy of the validated enlistment/ registration of the intending bidder shall be attached with Expression of Interest.
- The intending bidder shall have adequate experience in construction of Solid Waste Treatment Projects with a proven track record of having successfully executed and completed at least one similar nature of project of net worth not less than Rs.8.00 crore in a single work order/job order or at least Rs.5.00 crore in two work order/job orders in the last 10 years. The completion certificate of the client/ client department issued in the name of the bidder for having successfully completed the similar work indicating project cost, location, name/ type of the project or any other relevant information about the project shall be attached with the expression of Interest.
- The annual turnover of the intending bidder shall not be less than Rs.3.00 crore per annum in the past three years or not less than Rs.6.00 crore cumulative in the past two years. The certified copy of the balance sheet of the last three years duly vetted by the registered Chartered Accountants shall be attached with the Expression of Interest.
- The intending bidder shall submit a latest Solvency Certificate from the State Bank of Sikkim or of any other Nationalised Banks operating in Sikkim issued not earlier than 31st March, 2018 for a minimum amount of Rs.4.00 crore with the Expression of Interest.
- Intending bidders under category Class – I A civil contractors enlisted with Sikkim PWD may also in tie up with the company from within and outside the state having expertise in such type of project and submit their requisite documents for pre-qualification as per eligibility criteria under clause (iii) of the Expression of Interest. However, company engaged by the intending bidders shall be no party in the agreement signed between the successful bidder and the department. Successful bidder shall be solely responsible for any breach of contract agreement signed with the department.
- Stock Materials (Cement & Steel) shall be supplied through S.T.C.S. Tadong, Gangtok.

3.0 Additional mandatory requirements:-
The bidders shall submit the attested photo copies of the following documents along with the other supporting documents to fulfil the prequalification as per the eligibility criteria under section 3.0

- GST Registration Clearance Certificate.
- Profit/Loss account statement as on 31st March of the previous financial year.
- The bidder shall provide the valid postal address, mobile number and email address along with the Expression of Interest.

4.0 Submission of Expression of Interest:-
The expression of Interest shall be submitted in computer printed form in a wax sealed envelope along with all the relevant documents mentioned at eligibility criteria under section (iii) and additional mandatory requirements as per section (iv) and sent at the following address or personally delivered to:-

**THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM, GANGTOK.**

R.O. No. 71/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 10.5.2018

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

No Country for Women

They continue to be at risk because the predators continue to get away

Sexual assaults are not a new crime in our country; unfortunately, neither is the complete lack of anything substantive in how this violent crime is addressed. This must be why the victim of one of the more gruesome rapes is now immortalized in our memories as "Nirbhaya". Women need to be "fearless" in our country to get by because we remain distressingly impotent in providing them with them an environment without fear.

For all the Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao sloganeering, we remain a country which has become flawlessly effective in protecting its VIPs but remain clueless about how to keep the women safe. The Kathua and Unnao monstrosities remained unaddressed for a long while and then saw some follow-up in the wake of the public outrage. That news cycle appears to have run its course, and now the follow-up is at risk of being subverted again, even as the dominant politics threatens to divert the discourse and along with it the investigations, which, one must bear in mind, have only just begun and not been completed yet. There is a lot that could be compromised to save the leaders and cohorts of the hypocrisy that is in power.

The two incidents mentioned here have also brought home the fact that is not just the Rape Capital, Delhi, which has too many predators roaming around unchecked, but even the rural parts have more than their share of rapists and criminals. Of course, the crime statistics always suggested this, but it was the Kathua and Unnao horrors which reiterated it for those who live their India in the metros and who have thus far been "shocked" only by crimes in urban areas, having inexplicably bought into the fiction of rural idylls being safe for women. Not even homes or families are safe environments for most women in India, so the sooner we dispel these notions the faster we can begin the process of securing safety and access to justice for women.

It is worrying that so many predators roam without worry in our country. What is even more worrying is that sexually deviant people feel neither fear in roaming the streets for prey nor hesitation in unleashing rape to settle scores or exploit situations. They obviously gather this courage from the fact that policing, investigation and prosecution remain weak and easily compromised except in the rare case that manages to remain in the news. And the Kathua and Unnao cases have established this beyond doubt.

There has to also be something clinically wrong with us that we groom so many rapists in our country, and in the long run, that is a failing we need to address and correct.

In the meanwhile, what we need to do as a country is present a united sense of outrage to demand better of ourselves, our societies and our governments. We have to be better than a society where a woman, even a child, risks rape at every turn in most parts of the country. And they remain at risk because our systems, by and large, continue to fail the victims and survivors. It took nationwide displays of outrage for the accused in the Kathua and Unnao cases to even be booked, and even though some of the suspects are now behind bars, the power of influence and the macabre dance of caste and political ideology which kept them above the law for so long must have encouraged those of their ilk and deviation to continue with their assaults so long as they had a leader on speed-dial or money in their pockets to compromise investigations.

Admittedly, arrests or even convictions are only part of the required commitments the nation needs to make its women. Since we are nowhere close to resolving that collective failing which births so many rapists in the country, we have to find ways and means to ensure that no case of rape remains unsolved and no accused let off. Since we cannot groom our men better, let us at least resolve to bring down the entire weight of law on every perpetrator. A rapist is invariably a person dealing with his inadequacies and uses sexual assault to claim some sense of power by taking possession of a woman's body. They continue to do so because too many of them are allowed to get away with it. One way to beat them is to convince them that something more powerful will slam down hard on them if they rape. And we have to ensure that the Law presents itself as that powerful deterrent.

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

School uniforms: what Australian schools can do to promote acceptance of gender diversity

VICTORIA RAWLINGS, DEBRA HAYES
theconversation

Earlier in the year, the principal of a private girls' school in Sydney's west was criticised by some media for promoting "gender fluidity" and "boasting" that a change in the school's uniform was enabling a "variety of gender expression". The school had given students the option of wearing shorts and long pants.

This criticism was ill informed and potentially harmful to gender diverse young people. Leaders, such as the school's principal should be supported not pilloried.

CONCERNS ABOUT THE FRAGILITY OF GENDER IDENTITY

Underpinning criticisms of changes in the school's uniform policy is the assumption clothing is an essential element of gender identity. For people who hold this view, the uniform worn by girls should be distinctly different from that worn by boys in order to prevent individual and collective notions of gender from being undermined, lest children lose their sense of gender all together.

Claims that our identity as male or female is biologically determined and fixed were expressed forcefully in the lead up to the same-sex marriage survey in 2017. Some people opposed to marriage equality attempted to shift the terms of reference of the public debate by suggesting legalising same-sex marriage would also result in acceptance of gender fluidity and diversity in sport, employment, welfare and violence prevention initiatives.

In essence, changing the marriage laws presented a danger to the stability of gender as a binary concept, and this danger was an increasing acceptance of gender fluidity or variance in Australian society. At the heart of these concerns is a rejection of gender diversity as a legitimate, lived reality. Instead, sex and gender are conflated and viewed as biologically determined. Research conducted at the Gendered Innovations centre for medical research at Stanford University, shows when the difference between sex and gender is ignored the results of research can be incorrect and possibly dangerous.

While sex is biologically determined, gender is a social and cultural construct that shifts and changes across time and place.

Importantly, neither sex nor gender are binary but instead operate along a continuum. People who are transgender or gender diverse are people who don't identify with the sex or gender norms assigned to them due to their physiology. People can experience this in many different ways. While it may sometimes include transitioning by taking medication, hormones or undergoing surgery, this is not always the case.

WHY THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN SEX AND GENDER IS IMPORTANT

Let's be clear, distinguishing between gender and sex is not a radical gender theory. Those researching and investigating gender across a range of disciplines have recognised for decades gender and sex are separate and different constructs, and that they're not always fixed.



The American Psychological Association also provides resources and advice about the difference between sex and gender, as well as the reality of multiple identities across the transgender spectrum. In line with these, the Australian Psychological Association recently produced guidelines to recognise the benefits of affirming transgender identities in mental health settings. This can help to relieve distress and reduce suicidal ideation.

These guidelines would also benefit trans and gender diverse young people within schools and align with the recommendations of a recent study of trans young people and their parents and carers.

These include recommendations to affirm a person's gender, challenge negative attitudes toward gender diversity, and advocate for the support needs of transgender people.

DESPITE YES VOTE, LGBTQI PEOPLE STILL FACE ADVERSITY

Despite the 7.8 million yes-voting Australians, ongoing and vicious attacks on trans and gender diverse young people (and those who advocate for them) have escalated in the media. These attacks suggest to school leaders any attempt to support this group of young people may be heavily and publicly scrutinised.

Even more concerning, these attacks convey to young people (and adults) there is something undesirable or dangerous about gender diversity. This is damaging not only to those who are trans and gender diverse but also those around them. It suggests there's only one correct way to be male or female, and that way is strictly and linearly aligned with fixed ideas of masculinity or femininity.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS ARE NOT SUPPORTIVE

A review of Australian and international literature on bullying shows many school environments are unsupportive, if not prejudicial, towards students

from minority groups in Australia. This is particularly the case for those students who identify or are perceived as being from sexuality or gender minorities. They often experience higher rates of violence, and subsequent emotional, social and physical health inequalities.

A recent study of over 700 sexuality and gender diverse young people found 94% of participants heard homophobic language at school. Some 54% of this happened daily. Almost half of the participants had witnessed school-based physical harassment of classmates that were perceived to be sexuality or gender diverse.

School climates can make a big difference to these young peoples' lives. But escalating policing of gender expression is likely to prevent or limit school leaders from taking action.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAKE SCHOOLS SUPPORTIVE?

Our society needs leaders who will support and defend the right of young people to express their gender as they wish - whether gender diverse or not. The principal at the centre of this recent "crisis" demonstrated this kind of leadership.

The success of the marriage equality survey reminds us we can be a tolerant, accepting, and safe place for all Australians. But it takes constant work.

The safety and well-being of young people should not be compromised. Responsible adults, especially leaders in our community such as principals and politicians, must have the courage to challenge negative attitudes toward gender diversity and support the needs of trans and gender diverse people. Relaxing the rules on school uniforms is a small but positive step in this direction.

[Victoria Rawlings is the Lecturer in Education, Pedagogy and Sexuality, University of Sydney and Debra Hayes is the Professor of Education and Equity, University of Sydney]

Malaysians celebrate the return of Mahathir and hope for a brighter future

JAMES CHIN
theconversation

When Malaysians woke up on May 10, the world looked and felt different. For the first time in years, many Malaysians feel a sense of optimism that was missing in their lives. For the past six decades, Malaysians have been living under the rule of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO).

UMNO had won every election since 1955. In the May 9 general elections, Najib Razak, UMNO's leader and prime minister, was not only confident, he was telling close aides that he was aiming for two-thirds of the seats in the 222-seat parliament. By the time the final vote was counted, UMNO had only 79 seats and lost power.

What happened? This will be the question preoccupying political scientists for years to come.

Suffice to say, Najib lost due to three main reasons.

First, his personal brand had become synonymous with kleptocracy. He was alleged to have received close to US\$1 billion from a Malaysian sovereign fund via complex international transactions. It did not help that Najib's wife, Rosman Mansor, was widely regarded as a spendthrift with a passion for diamonds and designer bags.

Second, Dr Mahathir Mohamad was no ordinary opponent. Mahathir was Malaysia's longest-serving prime minister, from 1981 to 2003, and had



come out of retirement to fight Najib.

Third, and perhaps most important, UMNO was simply seen as an organisation for political patronage, and a purveyor of racism and crony capitalism. It was no longer seen as a Malay nationalist party. In the past few decades, UMNO has been regarded as vehicle for making big money, government corruption and spreading hate towards the Chinese community in Malaysia.

The rural Malays, the mainstay of UMNO political power, could not stomach Najib's toxic reputation as "Mr Kleptocrat". They could see that under continued UMNO rule, their lives would be economically ruined. The GST brought in by the Najib administration was the last straw. Prices of basic necessities went up across the

board despite Najib's insistence that the GST would bring down prices.

There is tremendous goodwill towards Mahathir. Yes, he was dictatorial when he was prime minister the first time around. But most Malaysians I spoke to say this time it will be different. Mahathir is 92, and it is obvious he is a transitional leader.

He has said many times that once his jailed former deputy, Anwar Ibrahim, can get a royal pardon and a seat in parliament, he will hand over power to Anwar. Many Malaysians believe he will keep his word: after all, he cannot be going for re-election when he is 98.

Mahathir will also be constrained by the opposition's organisational structure. His party, Pribumi Bersatu,

has the third-smallest number of MPs of the four parties in Pakatan Harapan (PH) (Alliance of Hope). He is not in a position to bully.

Finally, what will happen to Najib Razak? Will he go to jail for 1MDB and the missing billions? In the short term, the answer is "no". The new government will not immediately arrest Najib, or his wife. It will instead likely establish a committee to look into the 1MDB affair and get a definitive answer as to where the US\$5 billion disappeared to.

If the investigation panel shows Najib is behind the scam, then, yes, Najib will probably end up in jail. But this is a long process. It is more likely that any prosecution against Najib will start outside Malaysia.

Several governments, notably the US, are interested in sorting out the 1MDB issue. Thus far they could not complete their investigations because Najib used his position to stop Malaysian institutions from cooperating with the US Department of Justice probe into 1MDB.

There is a potential new angle to 1MDB, which is related to Australia. The bank account Najib used to launder 1MDB's money is actually part-owned by ANZ Australia. Many believe some of the money from 1MDB passed through the Australian financial system.

[the writer is the Director, Asia Institute Tasmania, University of Tasmania]

Railways working on key project in Manipur amid threat of militant groups

NONEY (MANIPUR), MAY 11 (PTI): The Railways is working on a key project that would provide rail connectivity to the capital of land-locked Manipur despite the threat of several militant outfits operating in the area, officials said today.

As many as 14 cases of shootings, kidnapping and violence targeting supervisors and engineers working on the Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal rail project have been reported in the last 12 months, resulting in delays. The Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal rail line is essential as it will connect the western-most boundary of Manipur, Jiribam, adjoining the Cachar district of Assam, to the state capital, Imphal, which as of now has no rail connectivity.

Delays in the project have also been caused by the difficult terrain.

"Presence of several militant outfits in Manipur is a major security concern to the site engineers in the form of frequent threat calls, attacks, firing and kidnapping for ransom. Engineers and supervisors get threat calls, messages, there is firing in the air.

"Outsiders visiting the area are given armed escorts and advised to move in groups. Just two days ago, an engineer was abducted. It is a real challenge to ensure the safety and security of the work force as well as the assets," said A Saibaba, Chief Engineer Construction, the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), in-charge of the project.

He said that most of those who are kidnapped are staff of the private contractors and not railway officials.

At the project site, around 1,500 security personnel from across security forces, including from Assam Rifles, Manipur Rifles, Indian Reserve Battalion, state police and the Railway Police Force, are present.

The project was sanctioned in 2008 and has a deadline of December 2020 to be operational.

Nepal at top in India's Neighbourhood First policy: Narendra Modi

SHIRISH B PRADHAN

JANAKPUR, MAY 11 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today assured Nepal that it is at the top of India's Neighbourhood First policy as he announced a Rs 100 crore package to develop Janakpur - the sacred city for Hindus - while invoking mythological links between the two countries.

Speaking at a civic reception by the Janakpur Sub-Metropolitan City at Barhabigha ground here, Modi briefly spoke in Nepali and Maithili.

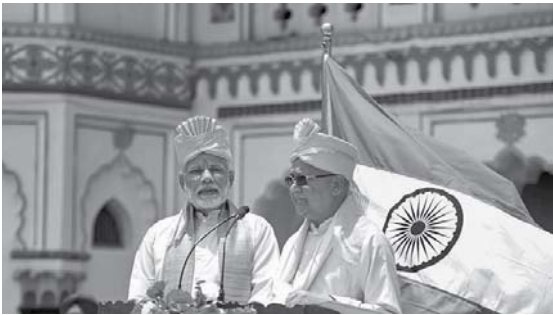
He began his address by chanting "Jay Siya Ram" slogan three times.

In a speech that invoked mythological references and symbolism, Modi said he has come to Janakpur not as the Prime Minister but as the chief pilgrim, amid applause.

Modi, who is on his third visit to Nepal since assuming office in 2014, read out a verse from Ramcharitmanas which says 'one cannot remain isolated from the suffering of a friend and a true friend always helps his friend in the time of suffering.'

"Whenever there has been a problem, India and Nepal have stood together. We have been there for each other in the most difficult of times," said Modi, whose voice appeared hoarse apparently due to his hectic campaign in Karnataka assembly elections.

Modi assured Nepal that it is at the top of India's Neighbourhood First policy. He announced a Rs. 100 crore package for the development of Janakpur and its surrounding areas. The amount will be spent on different development projects forging collaboration between the central government and the local



government of Province No. 2.

Janakpur is known as the birth place of Sita, the wife of Lord Rama.

Modi, who earlier with his Nepalese counterpart K P Sharma Oli jointly inaugurated a direct bus service between Janakpur and Ayodhya - the two sacred cities for Hindus, said he was happy to link Janakpur with Ramayan Circuit.

"This circuit will develop religious tourism. It also will strengthen connectivity between the two nations," Modi said.

He also announced that two other circuits will also be developed for the promotion of the areas related to Buddhism and Jain religion in both Nepal and India, which will be instrumental in generating employment for the youths.

Modi said Nepal and India can benefit if they cooperate and work together for the promotion of five Ts: Tradition, Trade, Tourism, Technology and Transport. He underlined the need for linking Nepal and India through

highway, I-way or Information, Railway, Trans way or electric connectivity, waterway and airway.

"We are also trying our best to connect Nepal with waterways so that Nepal will be able to export Nepali goods abroad. If done so Nepal will be able to reap benefits through international trade," Modi said.

He said his long cherished dream to visit Janakpur has now been fulfilled with the grace of Goddess Sita.

Modi, who earlier offered special prayers at the famed 20th century Janaki temple, invoked mythological King Janak of Mithila and King Dashratha of Ayodhya and said they not only united Janakpur and Ayodhya but also united India and Nepal.

"Nepal and India relations were started during the rule of King Janak in Treta Yuga and the bondage built by Sita during the period is still strong. It is this bondage which attracts people from Rameswaram to Pashupatinath, people from Lumbini to Bodhgaya and I was also attracted with the same bondage," he said.

He said Nepal and India not only share border, aspirations, dreams and destination, but their happiness and challenge are also same.

"Nepal is the land of great sages like Yagavalkya, Astavakra, Gargi, who used to debate

on theology and social issues in the palace of King Janak," he said, adding that Nepal has become the centre of spiritualism and philosophy. Modi said India will build a railway link between Raxaul in Bihar and Kathmandu to facilitate people-to-people contact and movement of goods.

He also thanked Oli and said the honour he received in Janakpur is for the entire people of India.

Defence Minister Ishwor Pokharel welcomed Prime Minister Modi at the function. Modi was wearing a Maithili kurta gifted by Prime Minister Oli. "Nepal and India are tied together by common culture, civilization and history," Pokharel said.

He expressed the confidence that the people to people relations between the two countries are being nurtured on the basis of brotherhood and equality.

Mayor of Janakpur Sub-metropolitan City Lal Kishro Shah read out felicitation letter in honour of Modi. He also handed over the symbolic key of Janakpur to Modi and gifted the picture of Janaki Temple as a token of love to him.

Chief Minister of Province No. 2 Lal Babu Raut offered a huge garland weighing 121 kg to Modi on the occasion.

Welcoming Modi, Chief Minister Raut said the "open borders between Nepal and India have been instrumental in connecting the peoples of the two countries."

He stressed on the need for linking the peoples of the Janakpur and India by establishing connectivity through air route, railway line and roads.

1,904 pigs die of 2 diseases in Mizoram since March

AIZAWL, MAY 11 (PTI):

At least 1,904 pigs and piglets have died in Mizoram since March due to outbreak of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF), a senior official today said.

Joint director of the

state Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department Dr Hmarkunga told PTI that the figure was based on data collected from officials of the department in all the eight districts of the state.

He said that at least 4,064 pigs were found infected with the two

diseases in 91 villages spread across six districts.

Except for southern Mizoram's Lunglei district and Mamit district on the Mizoram-Tripura-Bangladesh border, all the other districts have been affected by the outbreak, he added.

Around 8,000 pigs died of PRRS in the state in 2013 and 2016 and it was suspected to have been propagated by pigs and piglets imported and smuggled from Myanmar where the dreaded disease was reported to have been prevalent.



Serena signs on for WTA in San Jose

LOS ANGELES, MAY 11 (AFP): Former world number one Serena Williams will open her summer hardcourt season at the WTA tournament in San Jose, California, July 30-August 5.

"I am looking forward to opening my summer season at the Mubadala Silicon Valley Classic and competing in the new venue," Williams, a 23-time Grand Slam champion, said in a statement posted on the tournament website.

"This tournament plays an historic role in women's tennis, and as a California native the fans in the Bay Area have always been incredibly supportive."

The tournament formerly known as the Bank of the West Classic and held in Stanford, California, is moving to the campus of San Jose State University this year.

Five-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova and defending champion and US Open finalist Madison Keys have also committed to play in the event that is part of the build up to the US Open.

On Wednesday, the 36-year-old Williams pulled out of next week's Italian Open in Rome, a tournament she has won four times.

That followed her withdrawal from Madrid and raised doubts as to whether she'll be ready for the French Open in Paris May 27-June 10.

The American tennis star made her return to the court in February, six months after giving birth to her daughter Olympia, but has admitted she is struggling to get fully fit.

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Tashiding SSS and Modern SSS still in the running to become champions of U-17 LD Kazi Gold Cup tourney

REBYNA RANA GANGTOK, 11 MAY:

In the third day of the ongoing final phase of the boys' category of U-17 LD Kazi Memorial Gold Cup Inter School Football Tournament at Chakung in West Sikkim, Tashiding Senior Secondary School, West Sikkim and Modern Senior Secondary School, East Sikkim have progressed further in the tournament by securing victories in the respective matches today.

In the first match, Tashiding Senior Sec-



ondary School defeated Ralap Secondary School 3-1 while in the second match of the day, Modern Senior Secondary School defeated Melli Gumpa Senior Secondary School 5-1.

Lacklustre Man Utd seal second with stalemate at West Ham

LONDON, MAY 11 (AFP): Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho refused to criticise his side despite another display lacking inspiration in attacking areas as they sealed second place in the Premier League with a 0-0 draw at West Ham on Thursday.

In a game of precious few clear-cut chances, Luke Shaw hit the post and Paul Pogba headed wide with United's best opening.

A third blank in their last five league games for United means local rivals Manchester City can seal another Premier League record by winning the league by at least 19 points if they win at Southampton on the last day of the season on Sunday.

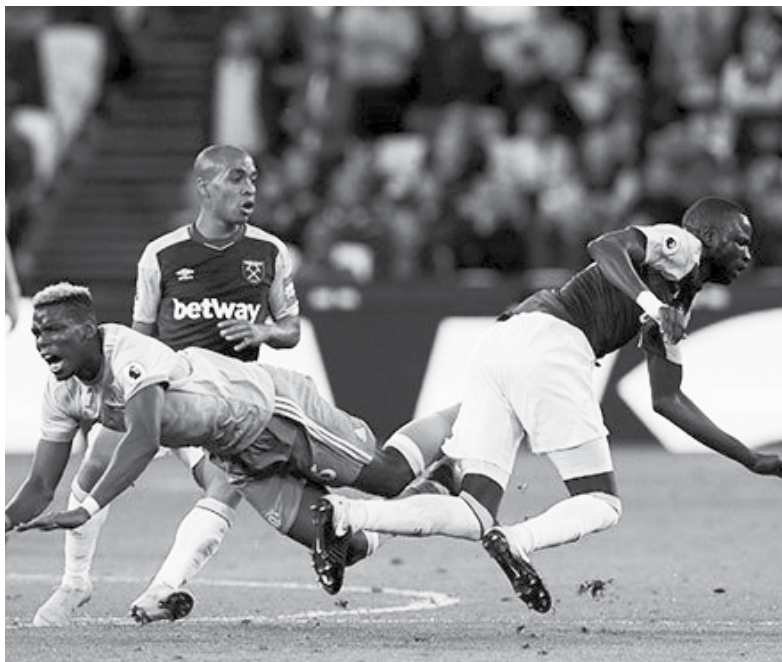
"We are the second best team in the Premier League, a fantastic competition with lots of good teams," said Mourinho.

"We came second. I am not totally happy (because) that is not my nature, but since the moment we felt it was impossible to finish first, we had the target to finish second and it is done today." In United's first game since legendary former manager Alex Ferguson had to have emergency surgery on a brain haemorrhage, the visiting fans showed their support to the 76-year-old Scot with persist chants of "we all love Alex Ferguson".

There was a more subdued atmosphere from the home fans at the end of another deeply frustrating campaign for the Hammers.

Two years ago to the day, West Ham waved goodbye to Upton Park in a thrilling 3-2 win over United on a night of high emotion in East London.

That victory also helped secure European football, but the move to the London Stadium, sold to supporters as West



Ham's chance to compete with the Premier League elite, has so far proved a false dawn.

Survival was only mathematically secured last weekend and West Ham remain in lowly 15th place.

"It's a big achievement for us," insisted West Ham manager David Moyes of keeping his side in the top flight.

"We had to get the players in order a little bit after we came in, and we have done that. This is a big club and there are big expectations from the supporters so they will need to improve."

Mourinho reacted to Friday's meek 1-0 defeat at Brighton by making eight changes with Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial relegated to the bench de-

spite the continued absence of the injured Romelu Lukaku.

However, that failed to provoke an immediate response as West Ham posed the early threat.

Marko Arnautovic's goals have kept Moyes's men up and the Austrian muscled his way into a good shooting position on six minutes but placed his shot too close to David de Gea.

Adrian has been restored in the West Ham goal for the past three games in place of England international Joe Hart, and showed why with a hat-trick of fine saves.

Jesse Lingard was first to be denied with a fiercely struck long-range effort before Adrian showed quick reflexes to

save from Alexis Sanchez and then get back on his feet to turn Shaw's effort onto the post.

A lacklustre United display was reflected in Pogba again failing to take control of the game.

The 89 million midfielder did have the visitors' best chance when he headed wide just after the hour mark from Antonio Valencia's pin-point cross.

The Frenchman came a lot closer moments later with a strike that curled just past the post from a narrow angle.

Pogba's frustration then spilled over when he was lucky to escape with just a yellow card after grappling with West Ham captain Mark Noble as tempers flared in the latter stages.

Indian journalist held in custody in Australia on people smuggling charges

MELBOURNE, MAY 11 (PTI): An Indian journalist charged with an aggravated people smuggling offence by Australian authorities for facilitating the travel of a "fake media contingent" to attend the Commonwealth Games will stay in custody for six more weeks, a media report said today.

Rakesh Kumar Sharma, 46, was detained along with eight others by Australian Border Force (ABF) officers at the Brisbane Airport in March because his companions' accreditations were not genuine.

The Commonwealth Games were held on the Gold Coast south of Brisbane from April 4-15.

The eight, aged between 20 and 37, were allegedly holding temporary activity visas and claiming to be accredited media representatives, Brisbane Times reported.

Sharma is described in court documentation as a journalist. Prosecutors claim his accreditation was genuine but he "facilitated" the group's travel, the report said.

Sharma, who is from Haryana, appeared in Brisbane Magistrates Court and charged with an aggravated people smuggling offence, which carries a minimum five-year sentence if convicted.

The charge applies to anyone accused of smuggling five or more people and carries a maximum sentence of 20 years.

Sharma is also accused of causing "false or forged" documents to be presented on behalf of his eight fellow travellers in relation to a visa application, between December 2017 and March this year.

Legal Aid solicitor Axel Beard used Google Translate to communicate with the accused as he stood in the dock during the first brief

hearing.

Sharma was remanded in custody in Brisbane Magistrates Court on Friday, with his matter adjourned to June 22 at the request of commonwealth prosecutors.

In another blow to his legal cause, he will no longer be represented by private law firm Legal Guru after failing to satisfy the terms of his retainer.

He will instead be represented by Legal Aid.

His case has been delayed as Australian Federal Police continue preparing their brief of evidence, with time being taken to examine a laptop and nine mobile phones. The ABF confirmed the other eight had been taken into immigration detention.

Local authorities had been tipped off by officials in Bangkok that the group might not be genuine, the ABF had said in a statement describing the group as a "fake media contingent". All nine people were found to be carrying 'false or forged' documents.

Australian Border Force Queensland regional commander Terry Price said any attempts to exploit the Commonwealth Games and Australia's visa program would not be tolerated.

"Anyone wishing to enter Australia, including athletes, team officials, spectators and the media, must hold a valid visa and accreditation and must be deemed to be a legitimate visitor," he said in a statement.

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation chairman Peter Beattie had said there was no concern despite the security scare.

"There should be no issue in relation to security at these Commonwealth Games. None at all," he said.

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RCB fight for survival against down and out Delhi

NEW DELHI, MAY 11 (PTI): Struggling to stay in the Play-offs hunt, a below-par Royal Challengers Bangalore will have rise to the occasion when they take on the already-eliminated Delhi Daredevils in the Indian Premier League (IPL), here tomorrow.

RCB, who have just three wins from 10 games, have to win their remaining four games to have any chance of making the play-offs. Given their ordinary run so far in the IPL, RCB don't evoke much hope.

Skipper Virat Kohli had minced no words after their last game against Sunrisers Hyderabad, saying they were simply not good enough and even questioned the character of his team.

Kohli, the team's leading run-scorer with 396 runs at 49.50, was understandably upset after RCB were unable to chase down a modest 147. The batsmen had also



let them down against Chennai Super Kings in the previous game, managing just 127.

The team has always relied heavily on Kohli and AB de Villiers but it is high time the likes of

Mandeep Singh, Quinton de Kock and Brendon McCullum deliver.

All-rounder Washington Sun-

dar has been disappointing so far, taking just four wickets in seven games at an average of 48 and economy rate of 9.60. With the bat too, he has done not much to write home about.

The RCB have done alright with the ball and they would hoping to maintain that at the high-scoring Kotla. Pacers Tim Southee, Umesh Yadav and Mohammad Siraj have impressed in parts.

Kohli looked relaxed ahead of the must-win game as he went out for dinner with teammates in his home city. On the field tomorrow, he will be wanting nothing less than 100 percent from his under-performing unit.

They take on Delhi, a squad that is already down and out after losing to Sunrisers yesterday confirming its early exit from the competition. Even a special effort from Rishabh Pant did not prove to enough for the hosts.

Delhi's bowling coach James Hopes and captain Shreyas Iyer insisted that there is a lot to play for. There is a possibility that Delhi management might give an opportunity to Nepal spinner Sandeep Lamichhane and South African pacer Junior Dala, who both are yet to get a game.

"I think we will be discussing the names of all people in the squad in the next 24 hours. We are out but it is important that we win the remaining three games," said Hopes.

Analysing Delhi's another sorry campaign, Hopes added: "We were just not able to win close games. We threw it away against KXIP the other day. There were other games too which we should have won."

"We had to work with depleted bowling resources (after injury to Kagiso Rabada and Chris Morris) but that is part of the game," he added.

Trump to seek complete irreversible denuclearisation of Korean Peninsula: White House

WASHINGTON, MAY 11 (PTI): President Donald Trump would seek a “complete, irreversible and verifiable” denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula during his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un in Singapore on June 12, the White House has said.

Hours after Trump announced the location and date of what is being billed as the historic US-N Korea summit, the White House cautioned against any new provocative behaviour by Pyongyang. Such a move might force the US to halt the meeting, a presidential spokesman said yesterday.

“Our policy is to ensure the complete, irreversible and verifiable denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. And that’s what he’s going to be seeking,” White House Deputy Press Secretary Raj Shah told reporters aboard the Air Force One travelling to Indiana.

“We have a month and several days. And there are a number of things -- provocative actions, for example, from North Korea would not be re-



ceived well. All I’ll say is that the meeting has been agreed to, but obviously it could be halted for any number of reasons,” Shah said with a note of caution to the North Koreans.

The main issue under discussion at the Trump-Kim summit will be North Korea’s nuclear weapons, which the US is demanding Pyongyang give up.

Shah added that Singapore was selected as the venue for the historic meeting because it had political ties with both the countries.

“Singapore has a relationship with both the United

States and North Korea. They can ensure both the President’s and Kim Jong-un’s security, as well as provide neutrality,” he added.

“Singaporeans have been gracious up until now and also in the past. In fact, on a historical note, the first meeting between the leaders of China and Taiwan took place in Singapore some years back,” Shah noted.

As of now, only one day has been kept for the meeting between Trump and Kim Jong-un, he said, adding that planning was still in progress.

Shah told reporters that

prior to the invitation being accepted, the North Koreans had agreed to halt their ballistic missile testing, their nuclear testing, and not publicly oppose joint US-South Korean military exercises.

“So those were the initial steps that the North Koreans took. We’ll hold them to those steps. And then, obviously, there have been subsequent conversations,” he said.

On being asked if anything else was to happen between now and the summit, Shah replied, “I’m not setting additional pre-conditions. It’s now been set.”

Victoria Coates, Senior Director for International Negotiations at the National Security Council, the White House, told reporters that the meeting could be scuttled if Kim Jong-un did something unacceptable to the US.

It is possible that leaders from South Korea and China could also be present in Singapore at that time, she added.

“If he can end the standoff that has prevailed since the

1950-53 Korean War, he will have won a place in history that may offer redemption in posterity even if his presidency ends in ignominy,” CNN commented.

A new CNN poll shows that after rattling the nation and the world last year by threatening to wipe North Korea off the map, his turn to diplomacy is winning increasing public approval.

Some 53 per cent of Americans approve of his handling of North Korea policy and 77 per cent back his decision to meet Kim at a summit in Singapore next month.

That means Trump’s stewardship of the nuclear crisis is now far more popular than the President himself, the network said.

But it also raises the tantalising possibility that a successful outcome to the summit and a dominant showing abroad could begin to lift the President’s overall approval rating a little ahead of mid-term elections in November, it added.

Swaraj meets Myanmar’s State Counsellor Suu Kyi, discusses bilateral ties

NAY PYI TAW, MAY 11 (PTI): External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj today met Myanmar’s State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations across different sectors.

Swaraj arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit for talks with the country’s top leadership on key bilateral and regional issues, including the Rohingya refugee crisis.

“Neighbourhood First! EAM @SushmaSwaraj met the State Counsellor and Foreign Minister of Myanmar Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd day of her visit to Myanmar. Discussion focused on strengthening our bilateral relations across different sectors,” External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Raveesh



Kumar tweeted.

Yesterday, she called on Myanmar President U Win Myint.

An estimated 7,00,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled Myanmar’s Rakhine State since August last year after large-scale violence following a military crackdown. The exodus of refugees in large numbers has resulted in a major crisis in neighbouring Bangladesh.

Suu Kyi has faced intense international scrutiny for her response to the exodus, which the UN has called “ethnic cleansing.”

According to reports, Swaraj also met the Commander-in-Chief of the Myanmar armed forces General Min Aung Hlaing.



UN chief asks for halt to ‘all hostile acts’ in Middle East

BEIRUT, MAY 11 (AP): UN Secretary-General Guterres is urging an immediate halt to “all hostile acts” to avoid “a new conflagration” in the Middle East after Israeli forces bombed Iranian targets inside Syria.

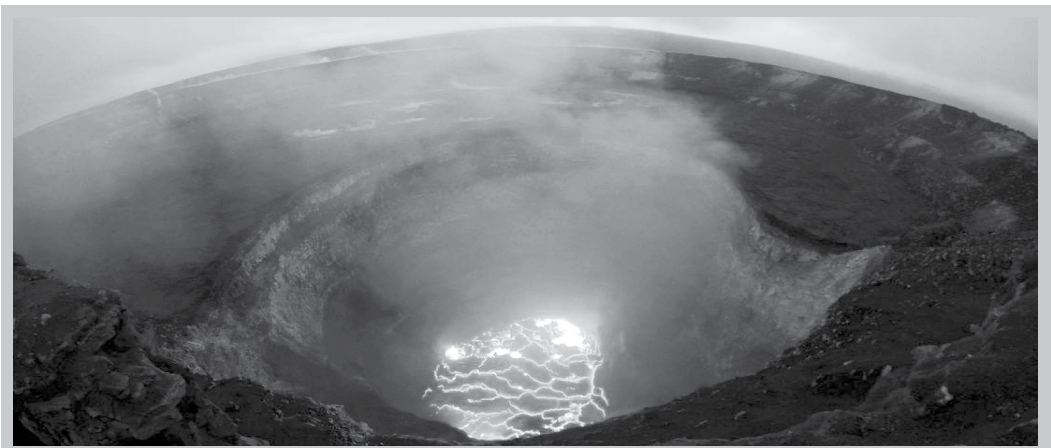
Israel says the strikes were retaliation for an Iranian rocket barrage on its positions in the Golan Heights and has called on the UN Security Council and secretary-general to immediately condemn Iran’s attack.

The Security Council, deeply divided over Syria, is highly unlikely to issue a statement and as of Friday morning no council member has asked for a meeting.

Israel and Iran have long fought each other through proxies, and with the new exchange each seemed to be sending a warning that a direct clash between them could swiftly escalate.

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A volcano in Hawaii that has been oozing lava and steam for days may be building up to a huge eruption, scientists have warned. They are also concerned that the Volcanoes National Park has been closed. It is the newest threat from the Kilauea volcano, which started to erupt eight days ago on the US state’s Big Island, the National Park Service said. Lava levels in the crater are going down, say scientists, which means it may be clogging up before a massive blast. US Geological Survey geophysicist Ingrid Johanson said movement of the molten rock opened space for lava to drain underground which reduced the height of a lava lake at the summit.

Putin, Merkel reaffirm commitment to Iran nuclear deal: Kremlin

MOSCOW, MAY 11 (AFP): Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel in a telephone conversation today reaffirmed their commitment to preserving the Iran nuclear deal after the US pulled out of it, the Kremlin said.

“The situation around the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action following the unilateral withdrawal of the US was discussed. The importance of preserving the deal from a point of view of international and regional stability was highlighted,” the Kremlin said in a statement following the call.

The two leaders also discussed the situation in Syria as well as Merkel’s planned working visit to Russia next week, the Kremlin said.

US President Donald Trump this week defied the wishes of world powers when he announced that Washington would withdraw from the historic nuclear accord and impose new



sanctions on Tehran.

Merkel has previously said Germany and its European partners would “do everything” to ensure Iran remains in the landmark 2015 nuclear deal, while Putin has voiced “deep concern” at the US decision.

The Russian president also

spoke with his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan earlier today, with the pair saying Trump was “wrong” to pull out of the accord, according to a Turkish presidential source.

After long negotiations, Iran agreed in July 2015 to freeze its

nuclear programme in return for the lifting of punishing international sanctions.

The deal had been negotiated between Iran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council -- Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States -- plus Germany.

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

LABHLAXMI LEO

Draw No:14 DrawDate on:11/05/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 6944

2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 6072 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 3087

4th Prize Rs.300/- 6471 5th Prize Rs. 204/- 2120

6th Prize Rs.100/-

1000 1003 1079 1087 1088 1090 1107 1116 1191 1199

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1596 1601 1676 1739 1788 1815 1821 1840 1854 1969

2057 2081 2082 2118 2143 2147 2175 2231 2254 2268

2286 2302 2325 2329 2354 2374 2408 2450 2473 2492

2508 2557 2602 2603 2622 2635 2653 2700 2709 2734

2751 2767 2799 2885 2896 2925 2929 2939 2964 3002

3043 3050 3088 3106 3110 3120 3131 3144 3200 3212

3255 3258 3265 3289 3318 3332 3433 3482 3485 3493

3494 3504 3525 3547 3551 3564 3570 3582 3607 3648

3663 3666 3698 3699 3710 3738 3743 3745 3746 3777

3848 3896 3912 3920 4048 4054 4069 4070 4078 4115

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5991 5993 5995 6000 6020 6076 6131 6160 6174 6191

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MUMBALAXMI SURAJ

Draw No:14 DrawDate on:11/05/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 2325 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 5885

3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 1828 4th Prize Rs. 504/- 5899

5th Prize Rs.200/-

1014 1096 1170 1182 1263 1274 1291 1294 1328 1379

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2159 2163 2171 2293 2503 2549 2581 2673 2687 2749

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3099 3243 3264 3271 3366 3370 3393 3405 3409 3489

3516 3609 3639 3728 3736 3778 4011 4055 4275 4381

4549 4554 4626 4779 4893 4925 4964 4973 5017 5020

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6th Prize Rs.100/-

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1558 1588 1600 1651 1676 1711 1724 1747 1763 1765

1772 1777 1783 1799 1807 1835 1875 1946 1980 1997

2084 2130 2152 2153 2175 2182 2211 2196 2230 2249

2306 2314 2317 2345 2412 2437 2442 2444 2469 2510

2557 2706 2717 2728 2738 2756 2762 2772 2799 2814

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3796 3831 3858 3859 3873 3933 3964 3982 4002 4010

4044 4098 4125 4147 4154 4213 4222 4227 4236 4268

4367 4406 4418 4427 4438 4460 4462 4472 4480 4499

4534 4561 4590 4596 4606 4664 4680 4732 4749 4750

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NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES		
DEAR TENDER MORNING Draw Time : 11:55 am onwards Draw No:23 DrawDate on:11/05/18 1st Prize Rs.26.04 Lakhs/- 99E 28675 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 28675 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 27870 35888 47625 49879 50882 54993 67441 69628 88743 94142 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0862 1500 1517 2062 2716 5112 6638 7102 8549 9188 4th Prize Rs.250/- 1416 2339 4581 4763 5136 6218 6714 6920 7769 9971 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0112 0159 0222 0366 0403 0914 0991 1052 1217 1260 1359 1406 1708 1798 2025 2132 2156 2188 2217 2265 2407 2441 2629 2646 2760 2852 2956 2982 3081 3143 3190 3254 3286 3368 3454 3528 3538 3588 3744 3802 4073 4163 4166 4285 4317 4397 4476 4481 4636 4742 4751 4759 4878 4923 5086 5320 5444 5519 5762 5778 5779 5937 5979 6212 6447 6544 6583 6738 6776 6836 6848 6888 6973 6974 7098 7227 7240 7601 7670 7793 7871 8154 8210 8283 8291 8690 8762 8905 9097 9229 9243 9307 9424 9446 9555 9584 9645 9777 9811 9829	DEAR ADMIRE Draw Time : 04:00 pm onwards Draw No:23 DrawDate on:11/05/18 1st Prize Rs.26.04 Lakhs/- 77H 11909 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 11909 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 12627 31038 31237 56678 56906 57171 67863 89368 92337 94834 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1180 1536 2192 4435 4450 4654 5039 5323 5951 6348 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0699 0759 2542 2848 3167 4512 5902 6385 7995 9195 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0208 0353 0371 0421 0456 0545 0558 0699 0675 0685 0830 0850 1079 1240 1380 2197 2211 2216 2386 2569 2640 2686 2837 3068 3097 3203 3295 3361 3376 3571 3572 3715 3799 3966 4128 4408 4500 4503 4878 4933 4988 4991 5228 5233 5332 5383 5397 5504 5767 5825 5850 6000 6137 6271 6336 6373 6401 6459 6589 6708 6827 6830 6914 6929 7027 7183 7201 7213 7380 7473 7539 7646 7650 7677 7721 7818 7835 7953 8061 8074 8120 8204 8220 8250 8270 8459 8472 8542 8567 8569 8683 9025 9385 9386 9571 9664 9895 9931 9967 9981	DEAR CULTURE EVENING Draw Time : 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:41 DrawDate on:11/05/18 1st Prize Rs.26.04 Lakhs/- 78A 13964 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 13964 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 08138 25141 28973 44475 52017 52278 65007 72876 78169 80591 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0914 1282 2068 2121 3648 4710 4752 6026 8114 9712 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0710 1209 1834 3153 3185 4698 5785 6713 7525 7812 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0071 0099 0125 0168 0193 0315 0423 0489 0546 0576 0717 0876 0972 1366 1384 1614 1655 1810 1850 1888 1935 1951 2137 2283 2475 2487 2675 2683 2738 2771 2830 2952 2985 3021 3137 3205 3209 3269 3292 3313 3427 3653 3739 3769 3898 3936 4199 4229 4241 4477 4501 4621 4622 5018 5042 5298 5303 5397 5401 5420 5686 5793 5943 6058 6115 6214 6256 6502 6510 6641 6678 6684 6799 6901 6938 7023 7050 7144 7367 7425 7717 7838 8038 8102 8411 8458 8540 8733 8819 8858 9012 9121 9163 9230 9482 9578 9628 9652 9730 9985 Issued by : The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com



LOONEY TOONS! Singer and songwriter Zayn Malik looks like a walking piece of art in NYC while decked out in tattoos and a graphic tee.

DEADPOOL 2 MAY HAVE THE BEST POST-CREDITS SCENE EVER

Twentieth Century Fox's *Deadpool 2* screened for audiences and in addition to sharing their early reactions to the *Deadpool* sequel, those in attendance tease that it has the best, most must-watch post-credits scene ever. Post-credits stingers have become a major part of the comic book movie experience, especially in theaters. They were undeniably popularized by Marvel Studios' Marvel Cinematic Universe, being used to tie the sprawling superhero franchise together. However, other comic book films – and other movies in general – have jumped on the end-credits scene trend.

For its part, the first *Deadpool* movie used its post-credits scene to great effect, confirming speculation that fan-favorite mutant Cable would be joining the franchise. Of course, that never would have come to pass if *Deadpool* wasn't such a massive success. But the first film was a success, so it came as little surprise when Fox greenlit *Deadpool 2*. Now that the highly anticipated sequel has screened for members of the press and select fans, we know to expect an especially fun post-credits scene.

Folks who were able to



see an early screening of *Deadpool 2* Early Reactions: An Epic Sequel That Earns Its R-Rating on social media, but some also teased a post-credits scene that is absolutely not to be missed. A few viewers even went as far as to say it was their favorite post-credits scene of all time. Specifics about what the scene entails have not been mentioned – and will no doubt be kept a secret so *Deadpool* fans can experience it for themselves. Especially after star and producer Ryan Reynolds went as far as to post a plea to fans not to spoil the movie for others. Though, of course, that was a blatant joke on behalf of *Avengers: Infinity War* in true *Deadpool* style.

If these reactions and teases are any indication, fans of *Deadpool* will need to stick around through the credits in order to get the full *Deadpool 2* experience. Whether the sequel's end-credits stinger truly is the best of all time will be up for debate. Of course, it's a debate that fans will surely enjoy participating in, especially as there are so many post-credits scenes to which it can be compared.

For their part, Marvel Studios has experimented with their credits scenes. While some, like the *Avengers: Infinity War* end-credits scene, still work mainly to set up future films, others have a bit more fun. *Thor: Ragnarok*

and *Spider-Man: Homecoming* featured non-story related post-credits scenes. In fact, *Homecoming's* stinger even poked fun at fans who stick around through the credits for the sole purpose of waiting for a post-credits scene. Additionally, Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 included five credits scenes, pushing the boundaries of what's expected from comic book movies.

Still, *Deadpool 2* seems to push that boundary once again – not in terms of quantity but what its credits scene entails – and fans will no doubt want to stick around. And they'll be able to do just that once *Deadpool 2* hits theaters next week.

TWO BANDS BECOME ONE: BACKSTREET BOYS DRESS UP AS THE SPICE GIRLS

Two bands became one when the Backstreet Boys spiced up their lives and became the Spice Boys.

The boy band, who have reformed and are set to go on tour, donned fancy dress to mimic the Spice Girls while on board a Backstreet Boys cruise, going from Miami to Grand Turk.

For one night only, Nick Carter played Emma "Baby Spice" Bunton, wearing a pink dress and blonde wig, while AJ McLean wore multiple pieces of leopard print to become Melanie "Scary Spice" Brown.

Brian Littrell played Melanie "Sporty Spice" Chisholm in a crop top and sports trousers, Kevin Richardson dressed as Victoria "Posh Spice" Beckham in a black jumpsuit and Howie Dorough was Geri "Ginger Spice" Halliwell (now Geri Horner), in the classic union flag dress and boots.

They even sang the group's hits, including Wannabe and Spice Up Your Life. It's understood the outfits were part of the cruise's 90s night, called Party Like It's 1993.

In videos shared from the performance, Carter joked that he had the nicest legs in the group while on stage, while Littrell added he had the "skinnest legs".

He said: "I have my daughter's legs, like literally."

They shared a picture of the group on Instagram, with the caption: "Celebrating all of the girl power that's



kept us going for 25 years."

Richardson shared the same picture and added: "Sometimes ya just gotta SPICE things up."

However it may be Carter who won the prize for best outfit, as his pink dress was coveted by Baby Spice herself.

Sharing a picture and asking

Emma Bunton how he did, he got a response from the radio host, who said: "Love it!!!! In fact I want that dress!"



AISHWARYA RAI BACHCHAN IS OFFICIALLY ON INSTAGRAM.

Actor Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has finally made her much-awaited Instagram debut. The diva officially joined the photo-video sharing app on Friday. A source close to Aishwarya earlier revealed it was due to constant requests from her well-wishers and admirers from across the globe that she opted to have an official handle on Instagram to keep her fans abreast of her life, projects, etc. Her Instagram username is aishwaryarai Bachchan_arb.

"Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has always been a private person and her presence on

the social media platform is basically her way of thanking all her well wishers who have been hiving her so much love through the start of her career; a way to directly connect with them," a press release obtained by PTI from the actor's PR team stated.

Meanwhile, the actor has left for the ongoing 71st Cannes Film Festival along with her daughter Aaradhya. On the work front, the actor will be seen in Fanne Khan opposite Anil Kapoor along with Rajkumar Rao in a pivotal role.

ARIES: You don't suffer fools gladly, and superficial fools even less so. You have a mind to teach those around you a lesson. You're uncompromising today, and you can't understand why others don't have your same high standards. But are you truly as honest as you expect others to be? Remember that the quality of an artistic endeavor, in particular, is likely to be judged differently by each person who experiences it.

TAURUS: Here is a day of challenges, Taurus. You're a pro at questioning yourself, as you'll prove today when you take a hard look at your accomplishments. What have you created of a personal nature in the last ten years? Have you followed some-

one else's example because you doubted yourself? Have you been eternally "almost" ready? Have you dared to jump into projects that were still imperfect? These are the questions that need to be addressed.

GEMINI: If you give the impression that you're in a reserved and introspective mood (even if you aren't), you'll succeed in avoiding confrontation. Today there is no such thing as a simple exchange with someone, Gemini. But even in this atmosphere, it is still a great day to evaluate your fundamental objectives a little more closely.

CANCER: A challenging day is in store for you, Cancer. If you're part of a group or team or simply among friends, you may feel

somewhat ill at ease. Could it be that you instill jealousy in others? There's only one way to find out. Clear the air by saying what needs to be said. State it clearly and directly and you'll eliminate any bad feelings among your group.

LEO: Sometimes dreams seem like just that - dreams. Travel, a project, or a new home could be a few of the things you've been trying to accomplish for some time now. Making any one of these dreams come true possibly means jeopardizing relationships. Your dreams could seem particularly unattainable today. Perhaps you must first do some work on your relationships before you can realize your dreams.

VIRGO: You'll go one of two

ways today, Virgo. Either you'll turn inward and meditate in a corner or you'll find a good friend and confide your dissatisfaction. Don't hesitate to let your guard down and express yourself even more honestly than is typical for you. Have no worries that your problems will bore your friend. True friends are happy to help. You'd do the same, wouldn't you?

LIBRA: Today is going to be an excellent day for meeting interesting people, Libra. And there will be nothing superficial about these encounters. On the contrary, the people you are going to meet will touch you profoundly and move you deeply on an emotional level. But don't let yourself be seduced by ideas

alone! Practicality matters, too! **SCORPIO:** You can expect today to be kind of intense, Scorpio. Even if you've made a conscious decision not to let anything get you down, you may still harbor some negative emotions from the last few days. Take advantage of this time to relieve stress. Talk to someone close or go out and whack a tennis ball. An artistic pursuit, such as sketching or photography, will help eliminate some of the negative energy.

SAGITTARIUS: The little fighter that you are makes it very difficult for you to join us in the great communal river that we're all trying to navigate, Sagittarius. You prefer to travel solo, going down your private stream as you see fit. However, these are

opportune days to try joining up with others. Some events may occur to remind you of the benefits of community.

CAPRICORN: Be disciplined about all areas of your body, Capricorn. Take extra care to eat healthful, balanced meals. Make sure you get enough sleep. And even though you gripe about having no time, get out there and exercise. Don't wait for an emergency before you take action. You and you alone control how you feel. Your health is essential to your well-being, not to mention your life!

AQUARIUS: If you've been feeling deep anger, today isn't the day to let it out but rather the day to consider its source. Any large gatherings of family or

friends should be avoided at all costs. No, this doesn't mean you get to take the day off! Just be extra careful about your temper. A little isolation will go a long way toward easing your tension, and may give you some important insights.

PISCES: If by chance you still harbor some resentment toward someone, Pisces, it will probably come out today. You might be uncompromising or even vengeful. Telling that person how you feel will accomplish nothing other than cause you both pain and regret. Vent your anger in a healthy way, such as some form of intense physical activity. Besides, this person really means what they've been saying. That's right, they do care about you.