

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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## CM lays foundation stone of Gangtok's first planned residential complex

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR (IPR):** Chief Minister Pawan Chamling laid the foundation stone of the first planned residential complex of Gangtok which will have 200 flats covering 2.2 acres of land at Lumsey, 05th Mile here today.

Minister Urban Development and Housing Department, NK Subba who is also the chairperson of Sikkim Housing and Development Board (SH&DB) along with Minister for Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Tulsi Devi Rai, Gangtok Municipal Corporation Mayor, Shakti Singh, UD&HD Secretary, LP Chhetri, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department Secretary, Sarala Rai and other officials of various departments were present on the occasion.

The phase-I housing project is helmed by Sikkim Housing and Development Board



(SH&DB) JMC and Kuber World as the developers of the ambitious project.

The housing will be de-

signed in an eco-friendly manner along with geo-tagging studies and soil stability reports. The 200 units re-

idential complex will have 2BHK, 3BHK and 4BHK with space allotted for social activities and basis amenities like

children park, car parking, gym walking track, sewage treatment plant, solid waste treatment plant, lift, other infrastructure elements and gangways from one unit to other unit for the convenient of residents.

In order to make it more eco-friendly, installation of solar panel roof structure to reduce consumption of electricity and rain water harvesting system will be set up to maximize natural resources with the principle of reduce, reuse and recycle.

JMC proprietor, Joydeep Majumdar said that the designing of the project will be completed within a month.

Social Welfare Secretary, Sarala Rai informed that till date more than 500 applications have been received by Sikkim Housing and Development Board for the proposed residential complex.



## SSB requisitioned during July protests leaves Kpg

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**KALIMPONG, 09 MARCH:** Following the permission of Supreme Court, the SSB company deployed in Kalimpong moved out today. They were stationed in the Town Hall area and had been requisitioned

when trouble broke out here during last year's Gorkhaland aandola. With this, the process initiated by the Central Government in October last year to withdraw the extra Central Armed Police Force from the hills has been completed.

## SMIT to host Manipal Students Research Colloquium next week

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:** Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology will be hosting the second Manipal Students Research Colloquium 2018 [MSRC-18] on 15-16 Mar at its campus in Majhitar.

The first MSRC-17 was hosted by Manipal University in Jaipur on 17-18 Mar in 2017. Students and research scholars from all Manipal Group of Institutions are expected to attend the colloquium.

An SMU press release informs that the Manipal Education System Vice Chancellors' Conclave had recommended for the organisation of annual MSRC for students and research scholars from all Manipal Group of Institutions across the country as well as overseas in order to "inspire, incubate, integrate and strengthen" interdisciplinary and innovative research among the students.

The main objective of MSRC is to provide an intellectual forum for exchange of knowledge and information and to provide a single platform to all students of the Manipal group to share their research activities.

The colloquium will feature research being carried out in various domains like Health Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Management & Commerce, Humanities,

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## No dilution of Revenue Order No 1 says CM during Budget Session

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR [IPR]:** The 4th Day of the Seventh Session of the Ninth Assembly [Budget Session 2018-19] of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly saw passing of separate demands for grants under Ministers-In-Charge of various departments.

During the question hour, Chief Minister and Leader of the House, Pawan Chamling, who is also the Minister-In-Charge of Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department, while replying to a question raised by MLA, RN Chamling explained the procedure for allotting land to private companies to run their business in the State.

He informed that the Commerce & Industries Department issues the consent letter for establishment of industries in the State to the companies after examining the documents and NOCs issued by various line departments and authorities. The private companies then enter into negotiations with the land owners and draw up the lease deed for taking the land on lease for establishing their factories.



It is then sent to the District Collector followed by final scrutiny by the Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department for final approval which is accorded

by a high-level Committee.

While explaining the steps taken by the government to protect the old law - Revenue Order No 1 for allowing the establish-

ment of such companies, the Leader of the House informed that private companies from outside the State are not allowed to purchase any land in the State for establishing their factories/units. They have to take land on lease from private land owners on mutually agreed terms and conditions, which is limited to thirty three years only at a time to protect the interests of the land owners. Further, he stated that since outright purchase of land by the companies through execution of Sale Deed is not permitted in the State, there is no dilution of the provisions of Revenue Order No. 1 of 1917.

Replying to questions put forth by MLA, Kunga Nima Lepcha, Minister-in-Charge for Tourism & Civil Aviation, Ugen T Gyatso Bhutia, shared the expenditure incurred during the Sikkim Red Panda Winter Carnival 2017-18. He stated that the mega events such as the Carnival help in promoting tourism in the lean season, identification of local talents, providing bigger

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## Workshop held on e-waste management for schools

**SAGAR CHETTRI**

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:** A workshop on Karo Sambhav School Programme - Shaping and Enabling Behavioural Change was held here at Forest Department conference hall on Friday. The workshop was organised by Rongjeng Technologies, Guwahati mainly to create awareness on the management and proper disposal of electronic waste [e-waste]. The workshop was attended by teachers from 32 schools from different parts of the State.

During the workshop, teachers were introduced to the curriculum designed for the students by Karo Sambhav consisting of various exercises related to e-waste management which they have to undertake with the students of their respective schools.

Rongjeng Technologies State Coordinator, Miraz Ahmed mentioned that as an executing agency under Karo Sambhav programme, Rongjeng Technologies has the task of acting as a bridge between the various stakeholders such as schools, government departments and consumers and creating awareness on the harmful impacts of e-waste on the environment and the health of the people and also to educate them on the proper means and methods.

State Pollution Control Board Senior Scientist, Gopal Pradhan expressed his concern on the excessive dependency on electronic gadgets and appliances of the present generation and mentioned that it has led to an increase in the

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## VBDAS celebrates 10th anniversary



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**NAMCHI, 09 MAR:** Voluntary Blood Donors Association of Sikkim (VBDAS) celebrated its decadal year on 08 March here at Namchi, South Sikkim. In the programme organized here at the community hall, Chairperson, Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation (STDC), RN Rai was present as the chief guest. The programme also celebrated International Women's Day.

While addressing the occasion, chief guest, Mr. Rai congratulated VBDAS for successfully completing 10 years of journey donating

lives to many. He further said that in this selfish world where most of the people are worried only for their dear ones the association is doing exemplary work by serving the needy people in every corner of the country. The youth associated with VBDAS is not only doing noble cause of saving lives but are also leading the coming generation to the path of humanity, he said.

District Collector (South), Raj Yadav was felicitated by VBDAS on the occasion for providing all necessary help to the association and also for his effort in making the

entire district best in the state. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Yadav said that to complete ten years without any financial help neither from government nor from any NGO is a tremendous job that VBDAS has done.

If today the blood banks of government hospitals especially Blood Bank, Namchi is successful in providing blood to patients during emergency, the credit should be given to VBDAS, he stated.

He said that the public would normally blame the government or hospital if there was shortage of

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## Man booked under SADA in Jorethang

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

A 29-year-old man from Jorethang, South Sikkim was arrested under Sikkim Anti Drugs Act, 2006 by Jorethang Police on 08 Mar. The accused was reportedly intercepted along the banks of River Rangit at Majhigaon by the police. Upon searching his belongings, the police recovered 142 Spasmo-proxyvon capsules and 95 N-10 tablets after which he was formally arrested.

## Man accused of molesting minor girl

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

A 53-year-old man from Rhenock, East Sikkim has been accused of molesting a 15-year-old minor girl on 08 Mar, reports Rhenock Police Station. According to the victim's parents, the accused was a family friend and used to frequently visit their home. However on 08 Mar, the accused reportedly took advantage of their absence and molested their daughter when she was doing her homework. A case under Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 has been filed against the accused at Rhenock Police Station. After proper investigations the accused has reportedly been brought under police custody.

## SMIT to host Manipal Students Research Colloquium next week

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Social Sciences & Law, Basic & Applied Sciences, Journalism & Mass Communication, Architecture, Planning & Design, etc.

Selected papers from MSRC-18 will be published in UGC approved journals, it is further informed.



## International Women's Day observed at Aritar GPU

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

International Women's Day was celebrated by Aritar GPU, East Sikkim at Aritar Village Administrative Center on 08 Mar with Chujachen constituency's SDF Cheli Morcha convenor, Meena Gurung, as chief guest and Additional District Collector [Development], Pakyong,

Urbasi Poudyal, as guest of honour, a press release informs.

During the programme, Panchayat Inspector, Sunil Pradhan, highlighted on Swachh Bharat Mission while ADC Pakyong, Ms Poudyal, spoke on Open Defecation and MGNREGA works.

Similarly, Panchayat vice president, Diki

Doma Bhutia, spoke on the importance of Women's Day.

On the occasion, retired teachers, Meena Bhutia and Indu Sharma, Health ANM of Aritar Primary Health Sub Center, Mitra Bindhya Pradhan, along with voluntary 4th grade employee of the GPK, Munna Pradhan, were felicitated by Aritar

Gram Panchayat Unit.

Also present for the event were Panchayat president, Hem Chandra Pradhan, Panchayat members, L Prasad Sharma, Tulasi Pradhan and Reeta Pradhan, former Panchayat, Dhiren Gurung, Senior Village Administrative Assistant, Madhu Sudan Sharma, and others.

## ATMA conducts training on maize cultivation in North Sikkim



**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**MANGAN, 09 MAR:**

Agriculture Technology Management Agency [ATMA], Food Security & Agriculture Development Department, North conducted training on mobilization/capacity building to Farmer Interest Groups on maize at Pentong, Saffo-Liching, Ruklu-Kayem and Laven in North Sikkim on 05 Feb.

Village Level Worker, Namgyal Lepcha, who was the resource person, highlighted on crop insurance and importance of agricultural crops. He also stated that maize is one of the most important food crops with wide adaptability under different agro-climatic conditions. He also elaborated on maize farming techniques like land preparation, sowing

time, spacing, seed rate, seed treatment, nutrient management, pests & diseases management and harvesting.

Block Technology Manager, Passingdang, Kursongmit Lepcha, briefed on ATMA and its various activities and encouraged the farmers towards being more productive and efficient for upliftment of self and society.

## SCA forms new executive body

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

Sikkim Cricket Association [SCA] constituted a new executive body led by Lobzang G Tenzing as president.

The Annual General Meeting of the association, which was held here in the last week of Feb, had discussions on the future of cricket in Sikkim and unanimously elected Mr Tenzing as the president and empowered him to appoint other executive members of the Association.

An SCA press release informs, that using the power conferred upon him at the AGM, the president has formed the new body. The new body of the association has Aswin Oberoi, Gopal Sharma, Namgyal Kazi and Karma Gelek as vice-presidents, Sonam Palden Bhutia as general secretary, Nayan Tshering and Rinzing Namgyal as joint secretaries, Naresh Kumar Agarwal as treasurer and Barap Namgyal Bhutia as Public Relations Officer.

## Talk on menstrual hygiene at Neil Tara Academy



**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

Marwari Yuva Manch Prerna Branch, Gangtok organised a talk session with Professor of Microbiology, Sikkim Manipal University, Dr Luna Adhikari, on menstrual hygiene for the students and teachers of Neil Tara Academy in Gangtok today.

A press release informs that during the session, students cleared their doubts regarding hygienic steps needed to be taken. Dr Adhikari gave them suggestions about sanitary napkins and necessary precautions to be taken.

Marwari Yuva Manch Prerna Branch also dis-

tributed sanitary napkins to the students and teachers.

It may be mentioned here, the programme today in Gangtok was organised under the month-long Narichetna Mission implemented by Paschim Bengal Sikkim Prantiya Marwadi Yuva Manch.

## VBDAS celebrates 10th anniversary

**Contd from pg01**

blood in the blood banks but due to the continuous effort of VBDAS that has never happened. Appreciating the work of the association the DC announced a grant of Rs 1 lakh to VBDAS from South District Administration.

Earlier, general secretary of VBDAS, Deepak Rai while presenting the annual report of the association said that Voluntary Blood Donors Association was started by some likeminded youth of Namchi on 08 March 2008. The very next day the then Governor of Sikkim, Sudarshan Agarwal called the founder members to Raj Bhawan and appreciated the step taken by them. Since then, the association has received appreciation

from District Hospital Namchi, SSACS, Gangtok, Sikkim Police, and Federation of Indian Blood Donors Organization (FIBDO).

Here he informed that when VBDAS was formed in 2008 the percentage of voluntary blood donation in Sikkim was 6% and now after 10 years the percentage is as high as 98%. The association has organized more than 500 motivational camps in different parts of the state. 167 voluntary blood donation camps were organized in these ten years where around 7500 units of blood were collected. Starting with around 20 volunteers today VBDAS has more than 3000-registered voluntary blood donors, he added. Mr. Rai who is also the central executive member of FIBDO from

Sikkim further said that VBDAS has set connections with the various voluntary blood donors associations of India which in request of VBDAS are providing blood to the patients of Sikkim in various corners of the country whenever and wherever they are in need.

Representing the felicitated dignitaries, former DYC NYK, Puran Chhetri also addressed the gathering.

During this decadal celebration VBDAS felicitated a number of personalities for their support towards the association. Along with DC South, others felicitated were Dr. Bimal Rai [Director NHM], Puran Chhetri [Former DYC, NYK], Robindra Rai [Zilla Panchayat], Palden Lepcha [En-

trepreneur], Sushma Chetti [MD, Step Dance Sensation Academy], Dr. Kamal Paudyal [Assistant Professor Namchi Government College], Sant Nirankari Sangh, and Bishnu Chhetri (AB negative) rare blood group donor, Pabitra Thapa, (started donating at the age of 55), Melli.

The main attraction of the celebration was the conferring of Gold and Silver medals to 50 and 25 times voluntary blood donors of Sikkim. The gold medals were conferred to Dadiram Dhakal of Gangtok and Che-wang Pinto Takapa of Namchi while recipients of Silver Medals were Yogesh Bhandari, Lingee Payong (39 times), Bhuwan Sharma, Jorpokhari (39 times), Kunzang N Lepcha, Gangtok (25

times) and Tshanda Rai, Mick-hola Namchi (25 times).

The other attractions of the programme were poetry and essay competitions. In poetry competition Alina Lepcha of Namchi Girls Sr. Sec. School was adjudged the winner while Amit Tamang of New Secondary School, Namchi and Sujata Pradhan of Namthang SSS stood second and third respectively. Dik Mith Lepcha of Loyola College of Education, Namchi won the essay competition while Barsa Sharma of New Secondary School, Namchi and Jyoti Sharma of Namchi Girls SSS were adjudged second and third respectively. The artists from Sanskriti dot com and Step Dance Sensation Academy also performed on the occasion.

## No dilution of Revenue Order No 1 says CM during Budget Session

**Contd from pg01**

platform to the local budding artists, promotion of traditional art and architecture, local handloom and handicrafts, promotion of local cuisines, organic food, etc.

Replying to a question by MLA, RN Chamling, the Leader of the House who is also the Minister-In-Charge of Finance Revenue & Expenditure Department, Pawan Chamling, informed that the repayment of loan from various Financial Institutions and Ministries are being made from the consolidated fund of the State as per the repayment schedule fixed by each Financial Institution. He further informed that the government has been paying the interest on loans and other liabilities regularly.

While replying to questions put forth by MLA, RN Chamling regarding creation of urban infrastructure in sub-towns like Singtam and Yangang to de-congest public spaces, Minister NK Subba apprised the House that the department will soon implement the construction of foot-bridge connecting Singtam Hospital to Singtam Bazaar. Similarly, he informed that the department has already sanctioned work for construction

of multi-purpose car park at Yangang with cafeteria, wash room, and shopping complex.

Replying to a suggestion by the MLA to relocate the proposed car parking facility which is adjoining Yangang School complex, the Minister stated that the department will consider transferring the land or the built-up infrastructure to the school if a suitable alternate land is identified in future. He also informed the House that the multi-purpose shopping complex in Singtam is ready and will soon be inaugurated.

On the question raised by the MLA about shortage in the availability of edible items like sugar, kerosene through public distribution system, the Minister clarified that there is shortage of sugar in the market as the Government of India has removed the total subsidy of this item. He, however, added that only families/beneficiaries under Antodaya Anna Yojana [AAY] will continue to receive 1 kg sugar per month under the scheme. About the point raised about discrepancy in the pricing tam by the wholesalers, the Minister informed that the government is in the process of introducing online

monitoring of transactions which will ensure transparency.

Replying to suggestions made by MLA, KN Lepcha regarding creation of multi-purpose car park facilities in areas like Syari and Tathangchen, the Minister stated that the government's focus under the smart-city project has been on using the existing space and creating new space for multi-purpose car parking facilities within the inner city to solve the problem of traffic congestion.

Responding to the question raised by MLA, Hemendra Adhikari about the status of the upgradation and beautification work of Rhenock Bazaar, the Minister informed that the project has been delayed so far because of a land dispute. He apprised the House that the dispute has now been solved and the work will resume at the earliest. Responding to the demand by the MLA for a community hall in Rhenock, the Minister said that the government will look into it.

Replying to suggestions by MLA, Shyam Pradhan about the need to extend housing schemes to the urban poor on the lines of CMRHM or other existing housing schemes for rural areas, the Minister said

that the department will carry out required survey, and make proposals under schemes like 'housing for all' and 'Smart City'. He informed that the State Housing Board has lands in Sichey, Bypass, Ranipool, Jorethang and Gyalshing which can be developed into housing flats for the urban poor in future. He iterated that the department is working towards making the vision of the Government of 'Slum-free Sikkim' into a reality.

Responding to the suggestion of MLA, Shyam Pradhan to utilize the space available near Fire Station Building in Syari to build a multi-layer car park with integrated facility for indoor sports cum recreation hall, organic vegetable marketing centre, and a community hall, the Minister stated that the department will correspond with the Building & Housing Department and acquire the property to create these facilities. On the suggestion of the MLA to construct an alternate bye-pass road connecting the road below Palzor Stadium with Indira Bypass in order to de-congest the place, the Minister welcomed the suggestion and stated that the department will look into the possibility under the

Smart City Project.

Mr Subba also highlighted some of the major initiatives taken by the UD&HD in terms of creating infrastructures and public amenities in the urban areas of Sikkim. He shared some of the innovative initiatives planned by the Government under the Smart City Project.

During the discussion, while replying to a question by MLA Sonam Lama, Mr Lepcha said that a Committee has been constituted under the Forest Conservation Act which settles disputes within forest area.

On a question raised by MLA, KN Lepcha about possibility of rock-bolting and other procedures in areas under Zone 4 which are susceptible to landslides, the Minister stated that the department has used these techniques wherever necessary.

Replying to the queries put forward by MLA, RN Chamling, Minister Ugen T Gyatso Bhutia said that the state government is doing its best to put Sikkim on the global map. He further stated that it was due to festivals such as Red Panda, Winter Carnival and with AR Rahman being declared as the Brand Ambassador of the State, Sikkim saw a whopping 15 lakh tourists

till Dec 2017.

Replying to queries put forth by MLA, Kunga Nima Lepcha, the Minister said that 32 roads have been sanctioned for carpeting and that the government is doing its best possible to upgrade its roads.

Mr Gurung also stressed on the fact that the department was doing its best to complete all the pending works by 31 Mar, 2018. He talked on the need to frame a Road Policy for the State and also said that to avoid the inconvenience posed by e-tender, normal tender can be done for all works upto Rs 2 crore in the Sub-Division level and normal tender till Rs 50 lakh for co-operatives.

Replying to the question put forth by MLA, RN Chamling about the strength of transformers due to overloading and the left out villages to be connected with electricity, the Minister said that Rs. 8.8 crore has been sanctioned for upgradation of transformers.

During the Legislative Business, the Sikkim National Law University Bill, Bill No. 5 of 2018, tabled in the House by Minister-In-Charge of Human Resource Development Department, RB Subba, on 07 Mar was passed by the House.



**Gangtok on Saturday, 10 Mar**

**Temp:** 22°C / 07°C

**Forecast:** Intervals of clouds and sunshine with a shower or thunderstorm around in the afternoon.

**Sunrise:** 05:51AM

**Sunset:** 5:41 PM

## SSC requests Governor for inquiry on non locals in govt service

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 08 MAR:**

Sikkim Subject's Committee has submitted a memorandum to the Governor, Shrinivas Patil with the request to uphold Rule 4(4) of the Sikkim Government Establishment Rule, 1974 today. The memorandum requests the Governor to inquire or set up an Inquiry Committee to know how many non locals [non Sikkim Subject Certificate/Certificate of Identification] have been recruited in state government.

Addressing a press conference here today, SSC vice convener, Nawin Kiran Pradhan said, "Although we have no records but the SSC has been getting information that non-locals have been getting employment in the government."

He stated that all Old Laws of Sikkim have been protected by Article 371F of the Constitution and Sikkim Government Establishment Rule, 1974 is one of the old laws. He added that Rule 4(4) of the Sikkim Government Establishment Rule, 1974 deals with the Appointment of Service for the Government of Sikkim and gives preference to locals bearing Certificate of Identification or the Sikkim Subject. He added that the rule further states that non Sikkimese may be appointed only when suitably qualified and experienced Sikkimese are not available.

## Workshop held on e-waste...

**Contd from pg01**

amount of e-waste globally. He stressed upon the need for all stakeholders, agencies and general public to work in coordination to address this issue. He also appreciated the initiative of Karo Sambhav and of Rong-jeng Technologies.

The programme was conducted by the State Coordinator, Purna Bahadur Rai.

## In conversation with filmmaker Angel Tshering Lhamu...

**NITESH R PRADHAN**

Angel Tshering Lhamu, a resident of Gangtok, is an example of sheer hard work and dedication whose iron resolve to live and work in the movies has made her one of the first woman filmmakers from the Himalayan State. Her short film "Kitaabein" has been selected for distribution in the entertainment hub of the country, Mumbai.

**ST- How was your first visit to Mumbai?**

A- I shifted to Mumbai along with my husband in the mid of August 2015 right after two months of getting married. When people were planning their married life, I was busy planning for my career in Mumbai.

**ST- Why did you shift to Mumbai?**

A- I have had the opportunity and experience of tasting different levels of career back home in Sikkim. I was working with Multi National Companies, in hospitality sector and many other fields. Later, I realized that my forte is completely different and I wasn't meant to do what I had been doing all this while. I started my film career with a music video called "Aama" where I had penned down the lyrics as well as the script. Later I started acting in few short films and documentaries that were telecast on Doordarshan channel. I was convinced by then that this is where I belonged. I got the opportunity of working with some of the finest and experienced actors and directors in Sikkim. Having a keen interest in writing since my childhood days, it soon became my obsession and that led me here in Mumbai.

**ST- Did you face any difficulties while moving to a new city?**

A- Shifting to Mumbai wasn't an easy task. The struggle is real, especially when you are newly married and the responsibilities are doubled. However, I got all the support I needed from my husband, in-laws and my family members. I was thoroughly encouraged to make Mumbai as my career point. It was also a very crucial decision because Mumbai is the only place where you can grow and compete in this field. It never deceives or betrays you and as long as you have the patience and the passion to win, Mumbai treats you well. Opportunities in Mumbai are wider, hence shifting became important.



**ST- How did Mumbai treat you?**

A- Well! Mumbai is great! When it comes to support and help, I have made a lot of good friends here in Mumbai and most of them are real gems. They helped us during our bad days. They've been a pillar to us and it really motivated me to move forward. My husband is my biggest support and I can proudly state that.

Most people tend to forget their roots and then ignorance and arrogance layers their thoughts or maybe they are all busy with their daily chores. I got good set of friends and well wishers in Sikkim as well. Even though I was in Mumbai, I got a lot of support from my friends from Sikkim. I heartily thank them all for their love and surely when a day comes to repay, I will not step back.

**ST- Could you give us a sneak peek into your new short film "Kitaabein"?**

A- Kitaabein is one of the short films I perceived a long time ago and I finally ended up writing. The story came up something like this. One day, when I was coming back from my Film School, I happened to see street children draped in dirt. They were selling books, begging on the street and some even pick pocketing. I thought, wouldn't they love to go to school? Don't they have the right to education? I felt it's the duty of every individual to help these children go to school and nurture their dreams. Hence, I thought why not make a short musical film on this and make people aware. I had a fantastic team with me for Kitaabein. My husband, Raaz, took the responsibility of background score and sound designing and a good friend of mine, Shivam, helped me with capturing scenes and editing the same. With limited cast, Shailendra who is also a good friend of mine and Riya, we were able to complete the film.

**ST- Any message for the youngsters?**

A- I would like to convey a message to the younger generation who plan to come to Mumbai to accomplish their dreams. Please do have the patience and work hard. Do not worry or bother about the result because you learn from failure. Never be afraid to fail. Rather use it as an inspiration.

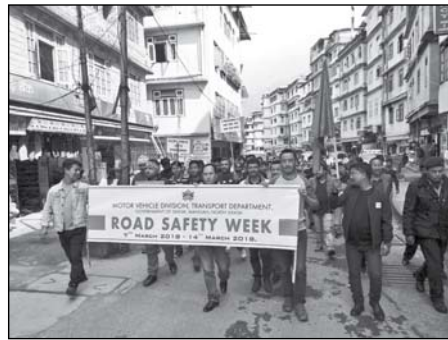
## Motor Vehicles Dept observes 29th Road Safety Week

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA**  
**MANGAN, 09 MAR:**

Motor Vehicles Department, North Sikkim observed 29th Road Safety Week here at Mangan in North Sikkim today with Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mangan, PW Lepcha, as chief guest.

Also present were Senior Regional Transport Officer, KS Gurung, Senior Superintendent of Police [North], Karma T Bhutia, and Assistant Superintendent of Police [North], Eden Subba, along with members of Truck Drivers' Association, Mainline Taxi Drivers' Association and other officials.

Senior RTO, Mr Gurung, talked about road safety measures and urged all to be careful and practical. Enforce-



ment, engineering and licensing are the common factors that should be focused on to avoid road accidents, he added.

He also urged drivers to approach the department in case of any grievance. He added that drivers are responsible for the lives of many.

The RTO further appealed to all the stakeholders to maintain valid

documents and proper fitness of the vehicles.

Senior SP [North], Mr Bhutia, encouraged the department to organize the weeklong awareness camp annually and urged the drivers to be disciplined.

Likewise, Additional SP, Ms Subba, informed that vehicles are being challaned if the documents are found incom-

plete which is for the safety of everyone. She further stressed that TAAS and travel agents should monitor the condition of the vehicles before sending tourists for tours.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mangan, in his address, said that drivers should be very cautious while driving and should avoid using cell phones and tape recorders while on the wheel.

During an interaction session, the representative of Drivers' Association requested for installation of zebra crossing in different spots at Mangan Bazaar for commuters and school students.

A rally was also conducted from Mangan Nagar Panchayat Bhawan to Bus Dara in Mangan.

## State level quiz comptt on Sanitation & Solid Liquid Resource Management

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR [IPR]:** Swachh Bharat Mission [Gramin] cell of Rural Management & Development Department in partnership with 24Hrs Inspired celebrated International Women's Day on 08 Mar at Janata Bhawan in Gangtok by organising State level quiz competition on Sanitation and Solid Liquid Resource Management, "The Sanitation Quotient", for female teachers of Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools across Sikkim.

The competition had the active participation

of 37 schools from across all four districts of the State. Each school had sent a team of two female teachers.

Namthang Government Senior Secondary School, South Sikkim bagged the 1st position while the 2nd position was bagged by St Xavier's School, Pakyong. Tadong Government Senior Secondary School, East Sikkim secured the 3rd position with Dikchu Government Senior Secondary School, East Sikkim taking the 4th place.

Special Secretary, turn to pg05

## Sikkimey Aama Ko Choras complete relay prostration from Rangpo to Gangtok

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR:** As announced earlier, the 'Aama Chora Relay Prostration Campaign' concluded today upon reaching its final destination here at Zero Point this evening.

Under the banner, Sikkimey Aama Ko Chora, Kunga Bhutia, Dawa Gurung and DS Limboo undertook this initiative from Rangpo to Zero Point in Gangtok to commemorate the International Women's Day. Along the way, they were

joined by other people as well from place to place.

The main objective of the rally was to spread the message of love and respect to Mother Earth and also to register concern on the increasing rate of suicides and addiction and other social issues in the State.

The rally had started from Rangpo on 07 March and after prostrating and walking along the route, had halted at 9th Mile yesterday and resumed from there today.

## Workshop on RTI Act held at Kyongsa

**GYALSHING, 09 MAR [IPR]:** A workshop on Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005 was organised here at Bhanu Salig, Conference hall, Kyongsa by Administrative Training Institute, Department of Personnel, Administrative Reforms and Training and Public Grievances, Government of Sikkim under Ministry of Personnel, PG & Pensions, Government of India for officials and civil society of West District today.

The programme was chaired by District Magistrate, West, Kapil Meena and attended by Additional Director HRDD, Bhim Thatal, Director ATI, Prabhakar Rai, SDMs, BDOs, Departmental Heads and represen-

tatives of civil society.

Mr. Thatal, who was present as the resource person, delivered keynote address on the RTI Act and provided detailed information about it. He said that RTI Act was made to ease the public work and to bring transparency in government works. He also spoke about various clauses and provisions of the Act.

He suggested the maintenance of detailed information of the work from the beginning without creating any confusion in a transparent way.

SDM -I Gyalshing welcomed the audience while SDM-II proposed a vote of thanks marking the conclusion of a very fruitful workshop.

## Women's Day celebrated at Kitam with felicitations

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 08MAR:**

International Women's Day 2018 with broad theme - "Time is now, urban & rural activists transforming women's lives" and popular theme - #PressForProgress was organised jointly by Kitam Senior Secondary School and VAC Kitam-Manpur Gram Panchayat being supported by SIRD&PR, RM&DD, Karfatar at Munal Hall Kitam, informs a press release. The programme was presided over by Chairperson, Sikkim Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd, Sumitra Subba.

Highlighting the significance of the day, Panchayat President of Kitam-Manpur GPU, Savitri Chettri, stressed on women's empowerment through social justice and equality and drew attention to hardships faced by the womenfolk. She also in-

formed about the initiative of Gram Panchayat to offer scholarship to married women to continue education through Open Schooling on priority basis. This scholarship was offered to 4 women last year who are currently pursuing and preparing for Class X examination and undergoing various skilled based trainings.

The highlight of the programme was the felicitation of Women Achievers and Role Models of South district in various fields. Among the felicitated personalities were Basanti Sharma from literary background, Linda Palmu [Additional Superintendent of Police, South] for pioneering Mission Jyoti to combat child abuse, Captain Juhie Palmu Chettri for being the first Woman Commercial Pilot from Sikkim, Maria Priyadarshini Subba

of Kitam for being crowned Miss Mega North-East and continuing her career in glamour world, Roshnila Gurung [District Child Protection Officer, South] for her contribution towards educating womenfolk and rendering service to victims of violence and abuse, Vidhyawati Rai [player & coach of Muay-Thai Kick-Boxing] for practicing and promoting Muay-thai self-defence art amongst girls, Aarati Ghalay of Goam as local women entrepreneur who has started her career in building construction.

They were presented with token of felicitation and bouquet. All the recipients also shared their journey so far and highlighted their initiatives for the betterment of womenfolk, the release mentions.

The programme also felicitated Lower Gom Primary

School for producing students who were amongst the top ten students selected for CM's Meritorious Scholarship 2017-18.

Principal Sanjoy Acharyya spoke on women's empowerment while chief guest, Mrs Subba in her speech appreciated the collective effort of Kitam School, Gram Panchayat and SMC in organising such a state level programme. She also highlighted various schemes and initiatives of SDF Government to empower women in social, economic and political areas.

The programme also witnessed theme-based cultural presentation by students of Kitam and Mangalbaria Sr. Sec. School, Skit by Kitam SSS, Muay-Thai demonstration by female trainees of Kitam and Magic show by the students of Mangalbaria SSS.



# पोलियोको दुई थोपा खाउनुहोस् र पोलियो विरुद्धको विजय कायम राख्नुहोस्

**1st round on 28th January 2018**  
**2nd round on 11th March 2018**

अधिक जानकारीको निम्ति ए.एन.एम.  
या आशा सित सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस् ।

स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा, मानव सेवा अनि परिवार कल्याण विभाग  
सिक्किम सरकार



# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## The Uprising Sustains

*In spite of everything*

Earlier this month, the Dalai Lama gave a short teaching on the Jataka Tales as part of the annual Chotrul Monlam prayers at Tsuglakhang, McLeod Ganj in Himachal Pradesh. He underlined destructive emotions such as fear, anger and suspicion, and delved on how these emotions can be tackled through love and compassion. As much as he was drawing out the morals from Jataka Tales, he was also speaking from experience, having witnessed how “fear, anger and suspicion” have affected his land and his people and how they continue to be hounded by the insecurities of others. His teachings on the day have to be received in light of the present that the Tibetans find themselves in and the upcoming anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising Day when emotions are bound to be running high in the community. 59 years have passed since the Tibetans rose up against China, and a sizeable number of them have remained refugees since then. The Dalai Lama clearly sensed the doubts that must be creeping into many minds and also made a clear call for unity among the Tibetan people. He even admitted that in the past, even monasteries in Tibeta fought each other based on sectarian divisions. “However, now we are in the 21st century. Such sectarian violence and attitude is outdated and backward,” the Dalai Lama said.

His call for unity, his flagging of aggressive emotions as a worry and his effort to continue speaking to his people are not new; in fact, these have been a consistent part of his world view and belief structure ever since he became a public figure. But as mentioned earlier, his people find themselves at a significant juncture, Saturday marking the 60th Uprising Day, and could use some comfort from the icon who has held them together in exile for six decades now.

The Tibetan rose up against Chinese occupation on 10 March, 1959. That was a long time ago... even the generation that was born immediately after the first group of Tibetans followed the Dalai Lama into exile are now past their youth and have become senior citizens watching the Tibetan issue get sidelined, compromised and subverted - never by the Tibetans, but often even by their friends and hosts. Through the years, the Berlin Wall has fallen, USSR has disintegrated and even Communist China has embraced capitalism and globalisation, but things have not improved for Tibetans inside Tibet under Chinese occupation. If anything, the situation has consistently turned worse.

As for Tibetan tenacity itself, six decades of Chinese attempts at placating and subjugating, shutting out and opening, swamping and cajoling, have failed to quell the proud nationalism of Tibet. Communist China has managed to change the demography of Tibet and engineered infrastructure which remains impossible to consider anywhere else in the world, but it has still remained unsuccessful in erasing Tibetan identity. Even though the Tibetans receive what can only be called token support from governments around the world, its people persevere and their cause sustains. Meanwhile, the world has so much at stake in China that it is unlikely that international pressure on it to resolve the Tibet issue will be meaningfully exerted in the near future. In that sense, the Tibetans have not only suffered in the hands of China, but have also suffered deception by friends.

Six decades of such denial would have broken the back of any movement, but Tibetans keep optimism alive by still reiterating belief in the middle-path approach laid out by the Dalai Lama. By doing so they remind the world that nothing sustains like hope. Through the haze of defeatism and negativity that pervades our times, a silver lining streaks with the Dalai Lama's commitment to Tibet and Tibetans and the now proven resilience of the Tibetans themselves to nurture and cultivate their faith, culture and traditions in exile even as it gets diluted and erased at home. He continues to remain optimistic about the chances of returning with self-respect and also knows that age is catching up with him. He is also obviously aware that China is only playing the waiting game hoping that the Tibetan unity that he has crafted with so much hard work will disintegrate after he is no longer around to hold the strands. To defend against this, he has introduced democracy to his people and nurtured a second line of leaders.

What he is nurturing are a People who will stand strong in the future as well as they have thus far under his guidance. The Dalai Lama is a man of faith and that perhaps explains his tremendous reserves of patience and ability to let go and trust people. And when he leads by example, he radiates hope and the Tibetans in exile, and even those at home, continue to draw inspiration from him. The community has reciprocated well because even though they remain refugees, the Tibetans can congratulate themselves for having achieved much more than many democracies and independent nations around them. It is this sentiment and confidence that they should celebrate when they mark their Uprising Day, not the delays and the changing faces of people and organizations they saw as friends.

# Why is sarcasm so difficult to detect in texts and emails?

SARA PETERS  
*theconversation.com*

This sentence begins the best article you will ever read.

Chances are you thought that last statement might be sarcasm. Sarcasm, as linguist Robert Gibbs noted, includes “words used to express something other than and especially the opposite of the literal meaning of a sentence.” A form of irony, it also tends to be directed toward a specific individual.

However, it's not always easy to figure out if a writer is being sarcastic – particularly as we march ahead in a digital age that has transformed the way we communicate, with texting, emailing and online commentary replacing face-to-face chats or phone conversations.

In writing, the signal of sarcasm can be muddled. For example, say you're texting with a friend about meeting at the movies:

Friend: I'm waiting at the front. Movie starts in 5.

You: I'm on my way now. Should be there in 10.

Friend: I'm glad you were watching the clock today.

Was the friend being sarcastic or sincere? The later you are, the more upset they'll likely be, and the higher the probability their response is a sarcastic jab. But if your friend knows you're usually much later, they could be sincere.

So there's one thing to look for: How well does the attitude the writer is conveying agree with the situation and the person?

Nonetheless, the struggle to interpret written sarcasm is real.

Studies have shown that people realize that they have a tough time interpreting sarcasm in writing. Studying the use of email, researchers found writers who think they're being obviously sarcastic still confuse readers.

Sarcasm thrives in ambiguous situations – and that's the main issue.

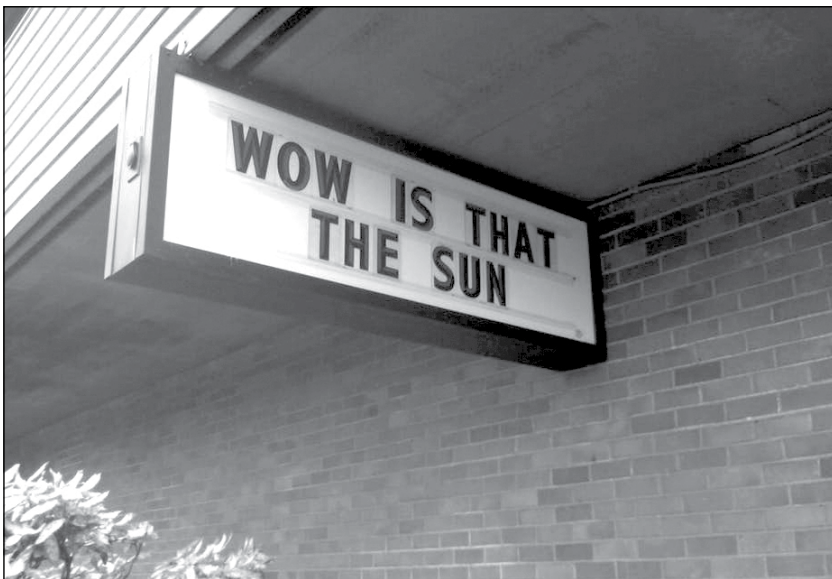
When delivered in person, sarcasm tends to assume a cutting, bitter tone. But written messages don't always get that attitude across or give you much else to go on. We still need more information.

Signals that go missing in texts

Studies have examined the use of sarcasm in a variety of everyday situations, whether it's at work to give criticism or praise, or in situations where social norms get violated. (Be on time to movies, people!)

The problem is that a lot of previous studies of sarcasm have been done on spoken sarcasm, which tends to give listeners cues.

When you have a conversation with someone face-to-face (or FaceTime-to-FaceTime) and they say something sarcastic, you'll see their facial expression, and they may look slightly bemused or tense. Equally or more helpful, the tone of their voice will likely change, too – they may sound more



intense or draw out certain phrases.

You'll also be firmly grounded in the real-time context of the situation, so when they say, “Man, nice job ironing your clothes,” you can look down – and see your wrinkled shirt.

All of these cues have been researched, and we know enough about them that we have the ability to artificially make a sincerely spoken statement sound sarcastic.

And yet when we text, a lot of that information goes missing.

There are no facial cues, no vocal tones and maybe even a delayed response if a person can't text you back immediately. And if you don't know the person all that well, there goes your last potential cue: history.

Emojis to the rescue?

So after what you thought was an unexceptional first date – exactly how do you interpret the following flurry of texts?

Date: I had a great time. (12:03 a.m.)

Date: That was the most fun I've had in years. (12:05 a.m.)

Date: Really, it could not have gone better. (12:30 a.m.)

Was the date really that good? Did they really seem like they had that much fun? Or are they just a jerk lamenting the wasted time? All valid questions. And the recipient could come to a lot of conclusions.

Fear not. The digital age has developed some ways to mitigate some of the tortuous ambiguity. You can probably include an emoji to make it clearer to a reader something was meant sarcastically.

Date: I had a great time. (12:03 a.m.)

Date: That was the most fun I've had in years. (12:05 a.m.)

Date: It really, could not have gone better. :-/ (12:30 a.m.)

Ambiguity reduced, and facial expression taken care of. Probably not headed for date #2.

If we're talking about email, we also have modifications that that can be made to text. We can italicize or bold words to change the way that a reader interprets the message.

Lastly, social media platforms like Twitter have given writers even more tools to allow people to communicate their intent. A study that included sarcastic tweets found that tweeters who include the hashtag #sarcasm tend to use more interjections (wow!) and positive wording for negative situations in their sarcastic tweets.

Algorithms have actually been built to determine the presence of sarcasm and rudeness in tweets, user reviews and online conversations. The formulas were able to identify language that's outright rude pretty easily. But in order to correctly detect sarcasm, researchers found that algorithms need both linguistic (language) and semantic (meaning) information built in.

In other words, sarcasm's subtlety means that the algorithms require more specification in their coding – unless you #sarcasm, of course.

With so many options to choose from, it's time to make sure that text you send at 2:30 a.m. really gets your point across ;-).

*[The writer is Assistant Professor of Psychology, Newberry College]*

# Yes, too much sugar is bad for our health—here's what the science says

KIERON ROONEY  
*theconversation.com*

The World Health Organisation recommends limiting “free sugars” to less than 10% of our total energy intake. This equates to around 12 teaspoons a day for an average adult.

But more than half of Australian adults exceed this limit, often without knowing. “Free sugars” don't just come from us sweetening coffees and teas or home-cooked dinners; they are added by manufacturers during processing.

It's often a surprise to learn just how many teaspoons of sugar are added to popular foods and drinks:

Most of the concern about excess sugar consumption has been focused on weight gain, and rightly so. Our livers can turn sugar into fat. Too much sugar – and too much soft drink, in particular – can cause fat to be deposited on our waist. This is known as visceral fat.

Visceral fat is especially harmful because it increases the risk of heart disease and type 2 diabetes, even when blood sugar levels are higher than normal.

But what does the science say about sugar and the raft of other conditions we see in the headlines every other week? Let's look at two examples: dementia and cancer.

### DEMENTIA

Dementia is an umbrella term for brain disorders that cause memory loss, confusion and personality change. It's the greatest cause of disability among older Australians and

the third-biggest killer. Alzheimer's disease is one type of dementia.

The research does not show that sugar causes dementia. But there is emerging research that suggests high-sugar diets may increase the risk of developing the disease. What we can say is that there is a link between high-sugar diets and dementia, but we don't have evidence to show that one causes the other.

A 2016 New Zealand study of post mortems on human brains assessed seven different regions of the brain. The researchers found that the areas of greatest damage had significantly elevated levels of glucose (sugar). Healthy cells don't usually have elevated levels of glucose.

This was also found in a separate analysis of post-mortem brain and blood samples from Baltimore in 2017. Using blood samples collected from the patients over a 19-year period before they died, the brain glucose concentration at death was found to be highest in those with Alzheimer's disease. What's more, this glucose level had been slowly increasing for years.

The levels of blood glucose were not indicative of diabetes. So otherwise healthy people could have rising levels of glucose in the brain well before any obvious signs of disease prompt any action.

Together, these studies tell us that the brains of people with Alzheimer's disease struggle to metabolise sugar for energy. The changes in the brain seem to be linked to persistent increases in blood glucose over a long period of time. And the damage to brain cells is

occurring well before overt symptoms of Alzheimer's appear.

We don't know if simply consuming high amounts of sugar results in the build-up of glucose in the brain. But other research also supports this theory.

A recent analysis of more than 3,000 people found that those who drink sugary beverages were more likely to have smaller brains and perform worse on a series of memory tests.

The researchers calculated that consuming one to two or more sugary drinks per day could be equivalent to up to 13 years of additional brain ageing. And a separate analysis of soft drink versus fruit juice reported similar affects.

### CANCER

Cancer is a condition in which the cells in the body mutate and rapidly multiply. It's Australia's second biggest killer and will affect half of Australians if they live to 85.

There is no evidence that sugar causes cancer, but there are at least two ways in which they are linked.

First, if you are overweight or obese, you have an increased risk of developing 11 different types of cancer. Consuming too much sugar (and too many kilojoules overall) leads to weight gain, which increases the risk of cancer.

A second, more direct pathway linking sugar to cancer is the capacity for sugar to stimulate insulin secretion. This is a potent hormone signal for cell growth. Cancer cells also rely on sugar for energy to fuel their continual growth.

This suggests that independent of any change in your weight, consuming too much sugar may increase your risk of developing cancer.

But we need to be cautious about the quality of data available directly linking cancer to sugar consumption.

A recent study of 35,000 people, for instance, reported a link between higher obesity-related cancer risks and heavy consumption of soft drink. But the authors point out that it was impossible to specifically separate drinking soft drinks from other unhealthy behaviours, such as smoking or lower levels of physical activity.

### WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Much of the current discussion about sugar focuses on the effects of excess energy intake and weight gain, and the subsequent risk of diabetes, heart disease, cancer and some forms of dementia.

But while being overweight or obese increases your risk of these diseases, excess weight is not a prerequisite.

While the development of diseases are no doubt also based on genes and lifestyle factors other than diet, the evidence of the potential harms of high-sugar diets is accumulating. It's certainly compelling enough for many to consider limiting how much sugar we eat and drink.

Whether or not the sugar itself is the culprit, sugary foods are linked to health problems – and that should be reason enough to cut down.

*[The writer is Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry and Exercise Physiology, University of Sydney]*



## PLA bomb expert held in Manipur

**IMPHAL, MAR 9 (PTI):** A bomb expert belonging to the proscribed outfit People's Liberation Army (PLA) was caught by security forces from Kamjong district in Manipur, an Assam Rifles statement said today.

The man was arrested while he was trying to contact an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) courier last night. The courier smuggled an explosive consignment from neighbouring Myanmar, it said.

The man, held by a combined team of Assam Rifles and state police commandos, is an expert in handling IEDs, it said.

He has been working for the outfit since 2002 and "is a close aide of many self styled commanders of the proscribed group," it said.

Preliminary investigation revealed that he had confessed to his involvement in preparing IEDs for targeting security forces four times in the past, the statement said.

# South DC conducts Friday Field visit to Nagi Karek

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

Under the Each Friday, Field Day initiative, a team led by District Collector [South] consisting of Block Development Officer [Namthang], Child Development Project Officer [Namchi], Deputy Director [Human Resource Development Department] and other field officials visited Nagi Karek Gram Panchayat Unit today, a press release from DC [South] informs.

The team first visited Ruchung Primary School where the students were tested with mathematical questions by the visiting team. The DC requested the Headmaster of the school to continue with the remedial classes. The school had excess furniture which the DC said should be put to good use.

The team also inspected the Mid Day Meal kitchen which was found in 'dilapidated condition'. The DC directed the District Level Relief Com-



mittee [DLRC] in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act [MGNREGA] to take up the repair work of the kitchen along with the school ground protection work. The team then instructed the kitchen in charge to set up a menu board in the kitchen. The team found out that the path leading to the school was constructed by the local residents which the DC appreciated.

The team next visited Nagi Palitam Primary School where the students were tested with questions and impromptu reading session. The visiting team applauded the students and said that they were very bright.

It has been informed by BDO Namthang that public foot path would be constructed under the Rurban (rural-urban) mission. The DC has directed the old school structure to be dismantled and repair the assembly ground to DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA. The DC also directed the HM to install menu board in the MDM kitchen of the school.

At Nagi Karek Gram

Prasashan Kendra, the DC requested the Panchayats to take stock of the ongoing works in the area.

Continuing the inspection, the team visited Kabrey Secondary School where the construction of Mid Day Meal kitchen was sanctioned in convergence with MGNREGA. The DC further requested the HM to carry out beautification works in the school premises. The quality of education in the school was also found to be satisfying. Repair and restoration of the footpath leading to school was also sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA. The DC has also requested for cleanliness drive in the school.

The team also visited Rubdi Tori Bari Primary School where the quality of education was found to be good. Repair and restoration of weak areas of the school was sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

The team then visited Integrated Child Development Scheme [ICDS] center in Upper Karek where the team made necessary sanctions like GCI sheets and repair

works of weak areas. CDPO [Namchi] distributed stationeries to the children. Record keeping of the ICDS center was also found to be 'very good and highly commendable'.

The team directed the DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA to take up the repair work of the road leading to Lower Kabrey ICDS. CDPO [Namchi] distributed stationeries and reading materials to the children.

The team then visited Tangey Borbotey Primary School which was found to be in 'dilapidated condition' and 'dangerous to children'. Repair work of the school was sanctioned by the DC to DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA. Temporary restoration of water supply to the school was also directed to be done by the responsible authorities by the team. School ground extension work was found to be undergoing under Rurban (rural-urban) mission. Repair work of MDM Kitchen was also sanctioned through DLRC in convergence with MGNREGA.

The team next visited Samardung ICDS which is currently functioning

from a rented house. CDPO [Namchi] distributed books and other stationeries to the children.

On the last leg of the tour the team visited Jogidara Primary School, Lower Karek ICDS center, Jogidara Primary School and Kaijaley Junior High School.

CDPO [Namchi] informed the ICDS members that the state government has started a new scheme called the 'Proud Mother Scheme' envisioned by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling wherein the mother would be eligible to avail Rs 7000 for first child and Rs 10,000 for second. For mothers to avail the benefits she should not be a regular government employee.

CDPO also informed the members about Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana in which the government will provide partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentives so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first child for improved health seeking behavior amongst the Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM).

## Chamling congratulates new Nagaland CM

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling yesterday congratulated the new Chief Minister of Nagaland, Neiphiu Rio, and has expressed 'immense joy' on being invited to the swearing in ceremony at Nagaland yesterday. His engagements with the Assembly proceedings here kept him away from the swearing-in ceremony, hence the best

wishes conveyed through the letter.

In a letter addressed to the Nagaland Chief Minister, Mr Chamling has extended 'heartiest felicitations and greetings' from him as well as all the Sikkimese people.

"I am very confident that your tenure as the Chief minister will witness and bring forth prosperity, peace and happiness to the people of Nagaland," the letter reads.

## Training prog on OBC certificate issuance held at Namchi

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 09 MAR:**

Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes, Government of Sikkim organized a training programme on issuance of Other Backward Classes [OBC] certificates at South District Officer's Club on 08 Mar, a press release informs.

The training was conducted for the councilors of Namchi Municipal Council, Sub Divisional Magistrates, Block Development Officers and their staff and the staff members of Social Justice Empowerment and Welfare Department.

Secretary, Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes, HK Sharma was

the resource person for the training programme, reads the release.

Mr Sharma explained the process of issuance of Other Backward Classes certificates with reference to the existing laws of the state and many distinct cases as examples. He also talked about the 'creamy layer' concept.

An interactive session was also held in which questions from the participants were addressed by the Secretary, District Collector (South), RK Yadav, Joint Director [Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department], DK Rai and Sub Divisional Magistrate [Jorethang], Bimal Chandra Rai.

## PIB Gangtok organizes workshop for media persons

**GANGTOK, 09 MAR [PIB]:** Press Information Bureau, Gangtok organized daylong media workshop 'Vartalap' for the first time in the State capital at Janta Bhavan auditorium in Gangtok today. The workshop was attended by journalists from not only Gangtok but from other parts of

the State including Rangpo, Singtam and other areas. The workshop was inaugurated by Senior Journalists of Sikkim like Mala Rana Patro, Bijay Bantawa, Padam Chhetri and others.

Veteran news persons including Mr Bantawa and Mr Chhetri

**turn to pg07**

# Arunachal legislators demand speedy enquiry into Pinch's death



**ITANAGAR, MAR 09 (PTI):** The majority of the members of the Arunachal Pradesh Assembly today demanded speedy investigation into the mysterious death of former MLA Ngurang Pinch and asked the government to consider handing over the case to the CBI.

The body of Pinch was found at the Hatimatha river in Papum Pare district on November 18 last year.

Pinch, who was the chairman of Arunachal Pradesh Agriculture Marketing Board (APAMB), was on a rafting expedition along with

eight others the previous day and stayed on the river bank near the confluence of the Popum and the Poma rivers.

Pinch was found missing in the morning of November 18 and on search his body was found floating in the Hatimatha river between Basar Nallo and Rana Ghat on Assam side.

The family members of Pinch suspected it as a case of well planned murder and demanded the state government for a proper investigation by a competent authority.

Taking part in obituary reference in respect to former Home Minister Tako Dabi, Pinch and other two former legislators Jobom Basar and Lokam Tado, Urban Development Minister Nabam Rebia said that the state government should consider handing over the case to the CBI.

Stating that a Special Investigating Team (SIT) of the state police has been investigating the case, Rebia who represents Doimukh constituency, asked the agency to speed up the investigation.

Education Minister Honchun Ngandam, Tourism Minister Jarkar Gamlin, Home Parliamentary Secretary Pani Taram, former Chief Minister Nabam Tuki and many other legislators while endorsing the suggestion of Rebia, asked the state government to speed up the investigation in order to provide justice to the bereaved family members.

Taking part in the discussion, Chief Minister Pema Khandu admitted that the investigation by the SIT was not in the fast track.

As per the directives of the High Court, the state government has already constituted a Special Investigation Team with two superintendents of police as investigating officers under an officer of DIG rank and the investigation will be completed within two months, the chief minister said and assured to provide a copy of the investigation report to Pinch's family members.

Later the Assembly observed two-minute silence as a mark of respect to the departed souls.



# NATIONAL DEWORMING DAY

## 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018

### LET US MAKE CHILDREN FREE FROM WORM INFESTATION BY DEWORMING IN SCHOOL AND IN AGANWADI CENTRE ON THE 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018

### MOP UP DAY ON 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & FAMILY WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM



www.pawanchamling.in



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**  
**ROADS AND BRIDGES DEPARTMENT**  
**NAMCHI DIVISION, SOUTH SIKKIM**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**N.I.T No:- 100/R&B/Nam-Div/2017-18**

**Dated: 05/03/2018**

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Divisional Engineer, Roads and Bridges Department, Namchi Division, invites sealed tenders under single bid system from the eligible contractors of class IV grade enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department vide notification No. 373/R&B/Secy. Dated 1/5/2017, through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat / Urban local bodies where the work is to be executed. The works are listed as under:-

SL. NO.	NAME OF WORK	VALUE PUT TO TENDER (RS)	COMPLETION TIME, (IN MONTHS)	AMOUNT OF BANK RECEIPT FOR COST OF TENDER DOCUMENTS (RS)	AMOUNT OF EARNEST MONEY @2.5% FOR ISSUE OF TENDER FORM (RS)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Diversion of Namchi Vok Sikkim Road at Kamrang college (0.00-480.00mtr) under Namchi Sub Division in South Sikkim.	83,42,732.00	12 months.	15000	2,08,568.00

**TIME SCHEDULE:-**

- Date of submission of application with bank receipt for issue of Tender Documents (excluding Tender Form):- **4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (From 10.00 am to 4.00pm).**
- Date of issue of Tender Form on submission of TDR (as Earnest Money): **5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (From 10.00 am to 4.00 pm).**
- Last Date and Time of submission of Tender: **6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (From 10.00 am to 12.00 noon)**
- Date and Time of Opening of Bid: **6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (At 1.30pm).**

**1. CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT:-**

- Tender is open only to the eligible Contractors/Firms of appropriate Class /Area.
- The intending tenders/contractors should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application would invariably be signed by the contractor himself/herself. The tender document will not be issued to any person other than the INTENDING TENDER. The application shall be submitted initially for each work listed above with all required documents.
- The applicants should enclose attested copies of the Validated/Updated Contractor Enlistment Certificate. It is mandatory to produce the Original validated /Updated Enlistment Certificate during sale/ issue of the Tender Document for verification.
- The prescribed Non-Transferable Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) can be obtained during the period specified in (As above from the office of the Divisional Engineer, Roads and Bridges Department, Namchi Division, on production of requisite Bank receipt of the state of Sikkim towards the cost of Tender Documents (non-refundable) under the receipt Head "0059-80-800" cost of Tender Form (Roads & Bridges).
- Earnest money deposit @ 2.5% in State Bank of Sikkim shall be in the form of Deposit Receipt of Schedule Bank which includes deposits in the form of temporary deposit receipts to fixed deposits receipts in favour of the Sr. Accounts Officer, Roads & Bridges, Namchi. Tender form shall be issued only on production of the deposited receipts to that contractors/firm who has obtained the tender documents, on production of toward deposit receipts of 2.5% earnest money.
- The Tender Documents, including the Tender Form with quoted offer should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of the tenderers and the name of the work superscripted on it, Supporting documents listed at Sl.No. (a), (b) and (c) above should be enclosed with the offer.
- Sealed tenders may be deposited in the Tender box in the office of the Divisional Engineer, Roads and Bridges Department, Namchi Division, on the date and within the time indicated above.
- Tenders will be opened by a Tender Opening Committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderness on the date and time indicated above.
- The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as Acceptance of the general Direction and Conditions of the Contract and other laid down norms. The rate quoted should be both in figures and words and should be inclusive of Value Added Tax and all other Taxes and Levies. Over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/ Conditional tenders shall be rejected forthwith.
- In case of any discrepancy in rate(s) printed in the Schedule of Rates and Quantities issued with the tender documents, rates as per approved Schedule of Rates will be taken as correct. For items outside the SOR, the rates shall be as per the technically checked estimate/analysis. Decision of the Principal Chief Engineer cum Secretary/ Head of the Department will be final in this regard.
- The work value, scope and quantum of work are subject to change, the contractor shall execute the work as per the directives of the Department. No claim on this

account shall be entertained whatsoever. If any claim is made, it shall be as per the agreement rates.

- The Department reserves the rights to with hold payments to the contractor unless test certificates are not produced by the contractor when called upon to do so.
- Avoidable damages due to negligence of the contractor shall be at his own risk and cost. The Department shall not be liable for payment of such damages (if any), including accidents to labourer at site.
- The offer shall remain valid for a period of 90 days. The work should commence within 15 days from the issue of work order.
- All the conditions as mentioned in the NIT shall be deemed to a part of the agreement to be entered with the contractor. Security deposit shall be collected by deductions from the running bills of the contractor @5% of the value of work done.
- The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders with assigning any reason thereof.
- The contractors are required to register themselves under GST, or they must be registered Companies/Firms registered under the Companies Act. 1956, having valid Pan Card and Tan. The contractors are also required to submit PAN No. as per provision of Indian Income Tax Act, wherever applicable.
- The recoveries of Income Tax, Value Added Tax and Royalties on Forest produces shall be as per rates notified by the Government from time to time and applicable on the date of payment. In no case, claim of any contractor for deduction as per rates incorporated in Analysis of Rates or Schedule of Rates on the date of tender shall be acceptable.
- In case of carriage of non-stock materials, if these materials are available at site or are actually transported from a lesser distance than indicated in the schedules, the department shall pay the carriage as per actual proof of carriage supported by permits issued by Forest Department indicating the quarries which is required to be submitted by contractor with bill not exceeding the rates as incorporated in these schedules. The contractors are required to submit necessary document to fulfil the claim of payment for carriage of non-stock Materials.
- Subletting of contract work is against the norms and if it comes to the notice, the original contract shall be cancelled and appropriate action shall be initiated as per the rules.
- In case of the man powers employed by the contractors are from outside the State or neighbouring countries, it shall be the responsibility of the contractors to get them registered with the labour department, Government of Sikkim as per the relevant Labour Laws.
- The Department also reserves the right to increase, decrease, alter or modify the item or works as indicated in the NIT without assigning any reason thereof.
- Use of explosives shall be regulated as under:-
  - Transportation, Handling, storage and use of Explosives (if necessary) shall be in accordance with the provisions of the India Explosive Act and General Guidelines, Circulars issued by the department and other competent authorities on the subject from time to time.
  - The rules and regulations issued by the Sikkim Public Works Department or any other competent authority shall strictly be adhered to with regard to transportation, storage; handling and use of explosives shall be maintained by the contractor.
- The contractor shall also make arrangements to have photographs of the works taken at least at three stages of the construction period. i.e. beginning, middle and completion stage.
- Quarrying of stones shall be allowed only from designated approved quarries. Where work of Water bound Macadam is involved, binding materials shall strictly be in accordance with the specifications, both in quality and quantity. Works such as compaction, consolidation and stabilization etc., will be required to be done on trail stretches to ensure that materials, procedure and equipments are producing the desired result.
- Damage to properties in and around the work site must be avoided at all cost. The contractor shall be held responsible for any acts of negligence and shall be made to make good the damages.
- Expenditure involved for material testing, cube strength of concrete, crushing strength of road metals etc., at site or in laboratories shall be borne by the contractor. The contractor shall make necessary arrangements accordingly as and when instructed to do so.
- It is accepted to the tenderer to have inspected the site before submitting his bid. There may be possible site difficulties for which the tenderer should have their own correct assessment before submitting the bid.
- The contractor will have to pay all taxes and duties as applicable and notified by the State/Central Government and no claim shall be entertained in this regard whatsoever.
- The cost of stock materials and bridges parts supplied from the Department store will be deducted from the contractors' bills as per rules.
- Defect liability period for the pavement work shall be for a period of five years which shall not cover the damages due to natural calamities, formation sinking, landslides etc.
- The payment of the executed work shall be done after obtaining financial sanction from NABARD-NIDA and no claim whatsoever, shall be entertained prior to that.
- The bidders shall produce a Certificate of Residence from the concerned Gram Panchayat Unit where the work is to be executed.

Sd/-

**DIVISIONAL ENGINEER – I**  
**ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT, NAMCHI DIVISION,**  
**SOUTH SIKKIM.**

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# SELENA GOMEZ SUFFERED NEAR-FATAL COMPLICATION AFTER KIDNEY TRANSPLANT, FRANCIA RAISA SAYS



Selena Gomez's best friend and kidney donor Francia Raisa says the pop singer narrowly escaped death following the procedure.

In a new interview with a magazine, Raisa discussed the serious health complication Gomez suffered during her kidney transplant last summer, saying she "could have died."

"Recovery was hard," she recalled. "I didn't want to eat; I didn't want to drink anything. Selena did have a complication, too. A few hours after our surgery, I woke up and had a text from her that said, 'I'm really scared.' My kidney was very active, and when it turned I broke an artery. They had to take her into emergency surgery and get

a vein from her leg and build a new artery to keep my kidney in place. She could have died."

Gomez previously detailed the six-hour surgery that doctors had to perform because of the "flipped" kidney.

"I'm very grateful that there are people who know what to do in that situation," Selena said in a sit-down interview, explaining that a normal kidney transplant surgery takes two hours.

Francia, 29, also told she let Gomez make the call on when to disclose the transplant publicly. She shared, "We didn't want to tell anybody because recovery was very hard for us, and we went through a depression at the time. We kind of just wanted to

be normal and not have that attention on us."

"I really left it up to her," the actress continued. "I've never had anything personal come out about me before. I've dated very famous people, and no one knows because I'm very private. I was like, 'Did you have to be famous?'"

Now like Selena, Francia (who stars on *Grown-ish*) is fully recovered and living life to the fullest.

"2018 I am just enjoying," she added. "The show is a hit. My health is good. I have a new home, I have an amazing new boyfriend that I met on set. I went back to dance class for the first time last week. Now I'm more motivated and inspired than ever."

## RUMOR HAS IT

## ZOYA AKHTAR PLANNING A SEQUEL TO ZINDAGI NA MILEGI DOBARA?



Zoya Akhtar is currently directing her upcoming film *Gully Boy*, starring Alia Bhatt and Ranveer Singh. The film is about the underground music industry in Mumbai and Ranveer Singh will be seen playing a rapper in it. After the final cut of *Gully Boy* has been made, sources close to the director claim that she will start working on the sequel of *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*. The film will bring back all the main leads, comprising Hrithik Roshan, Farhan Akhtar and Abhay Deol and Kalki Koechlin and Katrina Kaif.

A source close Zoya told an entertainment portal,

"Zoya feels that the audience would be keen to know what the characters are up to in today's time. The sequel will retain all the characters and the story will take a 10-year leap."

Talking about when the film will start rolling, the source claimed, "It is too early to talk about the same. Although the basic premise has been locked, Zoya will start working on the screenplay by end of this year once the final cut of *Gully Boys* is ready. If all goes as planned, the film would go on floors in the second half of 2019." We sure are looking forward to this one with bated breath.

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**CITY SMILES!** Reese Witherspoon looks radiant at Good Morning America in The Big Apple.

## AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR SCREENWRITER CONFIRMS MAJOR CHARACTER DEATHS



"It's safe to say we will say farewell to people"

Avengers: Infinity War won't be an easy ride.

The one thing we all feared has officially been confirmed: superheroes will die. Superheroes you like, even. Marvel Studios and its head visionary Kevin Feige have been serious about treating the third and fourth Avengers films as a kind of finale (only one in which the MCU will still continue until at least 2022).

"The notion of an ending, the notion of a finale, became very intriguing to us, in large part because you don't see it that often in this particular genre," Feige told in an interview.

Though Infinity War may not herald the end of the MCU at large, it certainly heralds the end of an age; the passing of the torch from the original Avengers to a new generation - such as Black Panther, Spider-Man, and Captain Marvel.

That said, some of our favourite Avengers will get lucky and presumably saunter off to a quiet retirement, others not so much. "It's safe to say we will say farewell to people," screenwriter Stephen McFeely confirmed.

"We're going to pull out the stops, and stop exploring conventions, and look to do stuff where we go, 'Oh, but if we do that, that's very, very definitive.' Well, great, let's get definitive for a change!" Robert Downey Jr. [Iron Man] added.

"We're like a family now. Ten years later, we're hanging out and having lunch, and kind of wondering when the draft is going to come in. Which one of us bites it and when?"

Could Iron Man meet an untimely fate? It's worth pointing out that the film's first trailer seems to find the

original Marvel hero looking particularly distraught.

One character who could very well be on the chopping block is Paul Bettany's Vision, who has the minor problem of having an Infinity Stone embedded in his forehead, the same precious gem that Thanos (Josh Brolin) has been rampaging across the universe to collect all six in order to help gain him ultimate power.

The film's climactic Wakanda battle previewed in the trailer was also hinted at, as Captain America takes Vision to the T'Challa's homeland in an attempt to protect him from Thanos' army. The unconquered land has finally opened its doors to the world, and already it's about to face its greatest challenge yet.

Black Panther himself, Chadwick Boseman, said: "It's never been conquered, but that doesn't mean it hasn't been challenged."

It was previously teased that one Infinity War scene would feature 40 superheroes, and it makes sense to guess the Wakanda battle would be it.

The film will see Iron Man (Robert Downey, Jr.), Thor (Chris Hemsworth), Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) and company on-screen alongside the Guardians of the Galaxy - led by Chris Pratt and Zoe Saldana - for the first time.

The remainder of the confirmed ensemble includes Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Tom Hiddleston, Paul Bettany, Elizabeth Olsen, Jeremy Renner, Chadwick Boseman, Sebastian Stan, Don Cheadle, Pom Klementieff, Benedict Cumberbatch, Benedict Wong, Sean Gunn and Paul Rudd.

Avengers: Infinity War hits cinemas 26 April.

**ARIES:** You're being called upon to take action in many areas today. People may be tugging at you to be with them and participate in their world of fun and excitement. It could also be that there are many projects that catch your attention today, and you're conflicted about which ones to put your energy into. Friction may arise as you find yourself tearing away from one situation to participate in another.

**TAURUS:** Take action to create a fanciful dream world today, Taurus. Indeed, many of the activities of the day will be touched with an air of otherworldliness. Even though you generally like to keep your feet on the ground, realize that once in a while it's essential to let go and experience other

realms of thought in order to gain new perspective. Let your hair down and go wild tonight.

**GEMINI:** A strong desire to bring more of the fantasy realm into your own reality spurs your actions today, Gemini. You could discover that there is an intense desire to bring a sense of the obscure to the normal, everyday realm. You want to show people that life really is just one big comedy act. Encourage others to not take life so seriously. Be creative in your approach to helping people lighten up.

**CANCER:** This is an intense day for you during which the disharmony in different realms of your life crops up and spurs you on to action, Cancer. Others may be ridiculously stubborn today,

causing tension and frustration wherever you turn. Fun is the key to balancing out the equation. A jovial frame of mind and playful attitude will help remedy any situation that comes your way. Have a good time today.

**LEO:** You may find it difficult to take action on any practical matter today, Leo. If you find this is the case, don't bother pressuring yourself into making it happen. Today you're more concerned with the fanciful side of life. Daydreams can be a wonderful escape for you today. Do something that will take you out of your current frame of mind. Go see a movie or play this evening.

**VIRGO:** Take action on well-laid plans today, Virgo. Stay level-headed, and seek pleasure by

taking things steadily one step at a time. Watch out for a forceful, willful, fanciful mindset that will somehow cause conflict with your plans unless you consciously make an effort to keep the daydreaming to a minimum. The lines of reality may be blurred. Make sure you find the lines of distinction before you proceed.

**LIBRA:** Action is the key word for you today, Libra, so put on some comfortable shoes and have a good time. Infuse a bit of non-sequitur playfulness in your dealings with others. Find ways to escape reality for a little while. Take the original scenario and add a twist of the bizarre. Opinions will be especially strong today and conflict may arise, but realize that playfulness and lightheart-

edness will help any situation.

**SCORPIO:** Live your creative fantasies today, Scorpio, but watch out for the reality police at the border. You may experience a bit of conflict with a stubborn person or in a situation that isn't very well planned. Think things through before taking action or else you may be lost in a world of daydreams without any escape route. Set your mind on the positive aspects of the situation and you'll succeed.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Today is one of those days in which you might be kicking yourself for not telling the truth on an earlier occasion, Sagittarius. The words that seemed so harmless then may come back to haunt you now. Today is a very action-oriented day. Conflict could

arise because what was thought to be true then now turns out to be false and counter to the action being taken at this time.

**CAPRICORN:** Today is a very high-energy day in which you have the physical stamina to accomplish quite a bit, Capricorn. Take care, however, that you have all the necessary facts before you venture out for your day's activities. It could be that there is a hidden force working, perhaps within your own mind, to blur the lines of reality about a certain issue. Check your sources and proceed with caution.

**AQUARIUS:** Plan your moves carefully today, Aquarius, and have patience with the people around you. If you're working with others, be sure they're on

the same page with your goals and aims and that they aren't somehow working counter to your purposes. It could be that someone is acting, or reacting, on misinformation that is creating conflict with your thoughts and feelings. Do a reality check before walking out the door.

**PISCES:** Your actions may be touched by a very fanciful frame of mind today, Pisces. Be careful about indulging in recreational substances that take you out of reality for a while. Your tendency will be to escape into the cosmos, but sooner or later you'll have to come down. Deal with your issues now before your thinking becomes even more clouded than before. Take action with a clear and sober mind.