# SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 109 | Gangtok | Frday | 27 April 2018

Pages 8 | ₹ **5** 

# Hamro Sikkim Party launch marks Bhaichung's entry into Sikkim politics

REBYNA RANA New Delhi, 26 Apr:

Bhaichung Bhutia to-day announced his formal entry into Sikkim politics with the unveil-ing of his political party, 'Hamro Sikkim Party,' at a press conference convened here at the Press Club of India.

Mr Bhutia was joined at the announcement event by fellow founding-members, Dilip Rai, Indra Hang Subba, MN Dahal, Dr Bina Basnett, DS Limboo and Yogen

Announcing the name of the party, Dilip Rai said that one of the main objectives of the party is to fight for the rights of



people and deliver the messages of

right places at the Centre. Mr Rai further in-formed that the party

will be officially launched in Sikkim within two

member. DN Dahal while

dia said that HSP is a party for the youth of Sikkim.

"Our vision and plans are to safeguard the upcoming generations of youth in Sikkim. We want our youth to decide and build what kind of State they want to live in," Mr Dahal added.

Speaking on the 2019 State Assembly Elections, Mr Dahal said that at the moment the party's main focus is to 'seek justice for the people of Sikkim'.

"Election is second-ary," he said.

Talking about whether Bhaichung Bhutia will lead the party, Mr Dahal clarified that although

# DC West announces Rs 50,000 for first Drugs Free GPU and Alcohol Free GPU

GYALSHING, 26 APR [IPR]: A coordination meeting cum workshop with Zilla Adhyaksha, Upa-Adhyaksha, District Collector, Zilla Pancha-yats and Panchayat Pres-idents of West district on Tuberculosis elimination, Comprehensive Annual and Total Checkup for Healthy Sikkim [CATCH], Human Pap-illomavirus [HPV] Vaccines, NITI Aayog, Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee [VHSNC] and functioning of PHCs was organised by District Health Society, Gyalshing at the conference hall of West District Zilla Panchayat in Kyong-

sa, West Sikkim today.

The meeting commenced under the chairmanship of Zilla Adhyak-sha, West, Devika Subba.

Addressing the gathering, Ms Subba stressed on the elimination of TB in the State by 2022. She informed that the Health Department of West has been constantly working on it and has achieved impressive results till date. She urged Zilla members, Gram Pancha-yats and the local gentry to support and contrib-ute towards the mission.

"The policies and schemes of the state gov-

ernment are considered as one of the best in the country but we func-tionaries are lacking in their implementation. I request all to contribute, participate and coordi-nate for eliminating TB from the State," said Ms

District Collector, AB

Karki, in his address, assured to provide ev-ery possible help from the administration. He informed that the state government has pro-posed prize amount of Rs 10 lakh and Rs 5 lakh for the first TB Free Zilla Territorial Constituency and Gram Panchayat Unit respectively. He urged for smart and collaborative work to be successful in the mission.

In addition, in order to boost their morale, the DC announced cash prizes of Rs 50,000 for the first Drugs Free GPU and

Alcohol Free GPU.

He suggested that all Panchayats prepare a power point presenta-tion of their respective GPUs.

"No Objection Certifi-cates from the concerned Panchayat is mandatory for all governmental con-struction in the GPUs for monitoring and effective results. Migrant labour should have work permits from the concerned Panchayat to work under GPUs along with their identity proof which will give us the information of every migrant labour in the district easily," he

Under his guidance, the house took the pledge to eliminate TB by 2022.

The meeting also had the attendance of Upa-Ad-hyaksha, Ashok Pradhan, Medical Officer Chief [West], Dr Thinlay Wong-yal, District Project Officer [Zilla], Saran Pradhan, DRCHO [West], Dr Tsheten Namgyal, and DTO [West], Bikash Pradhan.

### Bengal panchayat polls rescheduled to May 14

KOLKATA, APR 26 (PTI): The West Bengal panchayat election will be held in a single-phase on May 14, instead of the threephase polling, scheduled for May 1, 3 and 5 earlier, the State Election Commission announced it

here today. "The panchayat election will be held in one phase on May 14. Any re-poll, if needed, will be held on May 16. The date of counting will be noti-fied later," SEC Secretary Nilanjan Shandilya told reporters

Asked if a foolproof Asked if a fooiproof security arrangements would be possible in case of a single-phase poll schedule, Shandilya said the poll panel has requested the state government to make sufficient security arrangements to ensure a free and fair poll.

The SEC secretary,

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# Tilu Gurung is Best Performing Legislator of 2017

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Overnor Shriniwas Patil today felicitated member of Sikkim Legislative Assembly elected from Namthang-Ratey-pani [South], Tilu Gurung, with the "Best Performing Legislator" award for the year 2017 in an award ceremony held at Chintan

Bhawan in Gangtok today.

The award presentation took place on the sidelines of an exhibition on 'Parliament of India' organized by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in collaboration with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, Kolkata, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, as per a PIB press release.

The date of the presentation of the award was commensurate with the Referendum held in 1975 which resulted in the merger with the Indian Union. Conferring the title of Best

Performing Legislator on Ms Gurung, the Governor said, "It has been more than four decades since the people of Sikkim chose to write their own destiny and embrace one of the most vibrant



Parliamentary Democracies of the world. It was a historic and far-sighted decision of the people of Sikkim to join hands and let Sikkim become the 27th State of the Indian Union. As a result, Sikkim today has emerged as one of the most progressive states of the Union of India complete with peace, security, communal harmony and political stability through the decades. This has helped the people of Sikkim to reap the benefits of democracy in the form of accelerated growth in all the areas of

social activity."

It may be mentioned here, the Best Performing Legislator Award recognizes the Legisla-tor's overall performance and contribution in upholding the dignity and decorum of the assembly.

Ms Gurung was adjudged the Best Performing Legislator by the award committee on the basis of her performance in de-bates in the assembly, punctuali-ty and attendance during the assembly sessions and her overall conduct as a representative of her constituency.

On the occasion, winners of the inter-college debate comturn to pg03

CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF BIRTH ANNIV OF LITTERATEUR SHIVA KUMAR RAI AT RHENOCK

# Statue of Shiva Kumar Rai to come up at Rhenock

SIKKIMESE WOMEN MARRIED TO NON SIKKIMESE CAN PURCHASE LAND: CM

RHENOCK, 26 APR (IPR): Rhenock will have a statue of literary legend Late Shiva Kumar Rai, along with two State heritage centres as a tribute to the legend, who was born in Rhenock on 26 April, 1919. This was announced by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, present as the chief guest, at the Centenary Celebration function of the birth anniversary of the literary figure at Rhenock Bazaar today.

The Chief Minister was

sponding to suggestions made by Chairperson, Gorkhaland Territorial Administration, Binay Tamang during his address. Mr Tamang



attended the function as the guest of honour on the invitation of the Celebration Committee.

function was jointly or-The ganised by Nepali Sahitya Parish-ad Sikkim and Shiva Kumar Rai

(Shiva Kumar Rai Birth Centenary Celebration Committee), Kurseong and Sikkim. The programme was presided over by MLA, Rhenock constituency, Hemendra Adhikari, who also addressed the gathering.

At the outset, the year-long centenary celebration was de-clared open by the Chief Minister. It was informed that similar programmes to mark this important day were being held simultaneously in different parts of the country where Indian Nepalese reside.

While addressing the gather-

ing, Mr Chamling said that it was a fulfilling day for Nepali literature as it marked the beginning of the Centenary Celebration of the birth anniversary of the doyen of Nepali literature. He stated that it was most befitting for this programme

birth place of the legend.

"Shiya Kumar Rai was born in mark in the Nepali literary world," he added.

"I pay my rich tribute to Shiva Kumar Rai and pray that his work will continue to inspire genera-tions," he stated. He further shared that Shiva Kumar Rai was known for being a multi-faceted individual and a humanitarian.

Speaking about Gorkha identity, the Chief Minister said that it is time now to move out of the limited identity of Gorkhas as brave warriors and introspect how we can best use the experience of the past in the present and strengthen our future. He suggested that time has come to exhibit our prowess in today's science and knowl-

edge-driven age.
"Today out battlefield has changed, we have to be abreast with the latest developments to be at par with the rest of the world," he added.

He further said that Gorkhas have always fought battles for others and that it is time we start-ed fighting battles for ourselves. Terming it as 'battle of life' or 'ji-wan yuddha', the Chief Minister stated that Gorkhas have to start believing in themselves, realize their democratic rights and privi-leges and free themselves from the clutches of dependency.

Speaking on Sikkim-Darjeeling ties, the CM maintained that the people of Sikkim have immense respect, care and concern for the people of Darjeeling hills. He as-

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# SMU climbs higher at NIRF India Rankings this year

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 26 APR:
In the National Institute
Ranking Framework
[NIRF] India Rankings
2018 conducted by the 2018 conducted by the Ministry of Human Re-source Development, Government of Sikkim Manipal Univer-sity has found a place in Rank-band: 101-150 India University Rankings for 2018, out of 296 eligible Universities in the country ranked by NIRF. Vice Chancellor, SMU,

Lieutenant General [Dr] MD Venkatesh, congrat-ulated SMU for having secured better NIRF ranking.

"I am happy to note that SMU has not only consolidated its position but also improved overall ranking among the academic institutions by improving upon various parameters of evaluation and assessment," said Dr Venkatesh.

"We are committed to providing requisite resources for the continued pursuit of academic excellence in the institution." he added, while crediting the faculty and students of the institute for this achievement.

He said that overall progress in research and development, teaching and institute develop-ment led to this achievement. He also praised the students for bringing awards and recognition to the institute by pio-neering in the field of re-search and development.

### **Three** minors drown in Teesta

YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 26 APR: Three children [two girls, one boy] hailing from Aadarsh Gaon in South Sikkim were swept away by strong currents of the Teesta river near Singtam on 25 Apr.

The body of one 12-year-old Ganga Sunar was recovered near Bhotey Bhir in West Bengal while the bodies of the two other children are still missing.



# **SMIT Samman Awards for** housekeeping staff

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 26 APR:
Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology [SMIT] felicitated three of its housekeeping emplovees with "Samman' Award in recognition of their special contributions towards the organization, a press release issued by Sikkim Manipal University [SMU] informs.

In a ceremony held at SMIT campus today, Director, SMIT, Profes-sor [Dr] Ashis Sharma, felicitated Bir Bahadur Rai for working during difficult weather conditions to clear roads and reinstall power lines that had been damaged due to fallen trees. Damber Bahadur Bhattarai and his team was felicitated for cleaning 2500 hostel rooms in the month of Feb with 13

staff members at an av-

erage of 192 rooms per

ba and her team was felicitated for clean-ing 1434 rooms in the month of March with eight staff members on an average of 179 rooms

# National Panchayati Raj Diwas observed at Mangshila Tibuk GPU



WANGCHUK BHUTIA MANGAN, 26 APR:

Mangshila-Tibuk Gram Panchayat Unit observed National Panchayati Raj Diwas cum Gram Swaraj Abhivan here at Village Administrative Centre in Mangshila, North Sikkim, on 24 Apr in the presence

of Panchayat President, Meena Maya Limboo, as

chief guest.
Four former Panchavat members of Mangshila-Tibuk GPU namely Dhan Maya Limboo, Deepa Biswakama, Kumar Limboo and Ball Kumari Limboo were felicitated during the function.

The GPU also awarded free electricity connection to five houses football jerseys to Mangshila Senior Secondary School and free LPG con-nection to three BPL families alongside provision of training on production of organic pesticides for

# Sam Higginbottom University students visit ICAR-NRC for Orchids in Pakyong

**GANGTOK, 26 APR** [PIB]: Fifteen students from Sam Higginbottom University of A University of Agriculture, Technology & Science, Allahabad [Uttar Pradesh] along with two faculty members visited ICAR-National Research Centre for Orchids in Pakyong, East Sikkim, as a part of their three-day

During the farm visit, Senior Field /

Farm Assistant, Ajay Bhusal, coordinated the students and explained the diversity of orchids in Sikkim from temperate tropical region various techniques of orchid cultivation, preparation of potting media, pollination of orchids, pests & disease management, back-bulb propagation and its commercial, social and

He also demonstrated the techniques of "Orchid Based Farming System" in which one can grow two or more vegetable crops along with Orchid

cultivation.
Principal [Horticulture], Dr LC De, explained the cultivation of various flower crops including orchids, its commercial value and marketing through pow-

# SKM press & publicity team holds meeting at Marchak

GANGTOK, 26 APR:
The press & publicity team of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party held its meeting with Constituency Level Committee Executives of Martam Rumtek Constituency at Marchak in East Sikkim today, an SKM press re-lease informs.

The meet was attended by party's senior members, Birendra Tamling, Anand Lama, Navraj Gurung, Chwang Dadul Bhutia, Pawan Parsain, Neelu Chettri, Sheetal Sotang, Ranjana Prad-



han, and Avishek Sharma along with CLC members.

During the meeting, the youth of the area teer for participation in the media wing. They expressed their desire to bring forward different ple of constituency Meanwhile, from youths Democratic Front joined

# Tourism fest begins at Lungchok Kamarey

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Minister for Social Justice Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, Area MLA [Sumbuk], Tulshi Devi inaugurated the tourism fest organized by Lungchok Kamarey Gram Panchayat Unit today, a press release informs.

Ms Rai handed over

mountain bikes and tents to 13 unemployed youth of the area to set them off on a career in tourism.

In her address, the

Minister urged the youth to take advantage of the distributed items and work honestly.

She further empha-sized the youths to become entrepreneurs.

### MoS MSME calls on Guy, speaks on boosting entrepreneurship in Sikkim SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Union Minister of State
[In-charge] for Small and Medium Enterprises, Giriraj Singh, called on Governor Shriniwas Patil at Raj Bhavan late in the evening on 25 Apr. It was a courtesy call by the Union Minister who is on a three-day visit to Sikkim, a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs.

During the interac-tion with the Governor, Mr Singh gave a brief in-sight into the purpose of his maiden Sikkim visit and the initiatives his Ministry is taking up to promote entrepreneur-ship among the youth in rural areas.

The Union Minister also showed keen interest ship among the Sikkimese



youth in the sectors of organic farming, spices and agro forestry. He further stated that Sikkim has tremendous potential in the herbal and aromatplants production if planned and executed through scientific method of farming. He called for more enterprising approach and initiative from the youth to reap benefits from the schemes and projects launched by Min-istry of Small and Mediment of India.

The Governor urged the Union Minister facilitate more youths of Sikkim into entrepreneurship Ministry so that the Sikkimese youth choose en-trepreneurship as their first career choice. He also requested him to provide Organic Produce Testing Lab to Sikkim through his Ministry.

# Man-elephant conflicts in Meghalaya claimed 25 lives in 5 yrs

SHILLONG, APR 26 (PTI): Nearly 10,000 cases of conflicts between humans and elephants have been reported from Meghalaya in the past five years, claiming the lives of 25 people and causing widespread damage to crops, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has

The state is home to around 1,800 elephants and the Garo Hills region itself accounts for approxi-mately two-thirds of such conflicts, said the CAG report for the year ended March 31, 2017, recently tabled by Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma in the Assembly. "Over 9,622 cases of human-elephant conflicts (HEC) were registered with the forest department, resulting in death of 25 persons, injury to 22 persons and damage of crops in about 4,009 ha (hectare) area,"

The CAG report, covering the period between 2012 and 2017, stated that over 6,500 cases were registered in the Garo Hills region,

Around 2,500 cases were re-

ported from the Khasi Hills region. An amount of Rs 4.41 crore was paid as ex-gratia payment to villagers for loss of life, damage to properties and agricultural crops,

To minimise these conflicts, an area of close to 3,500 sq km in South Garo Hills district was notified as Elephant Reserve (ER) under 'Project Elephant' in 2001.

A proposal to establish another Elephant Reserve in Khasi Hills and Ri Bhoi Districts (1,331 sq km) was accorded in-principle approval in June 2008, but was not finalised till the CAG report was compiled, it said.

The Meghalaya Forest Depart-

ment has put in "little efforts" to communicate that an ER does not change the legal status of ownership of land, the report said, adding, this led to lack of consent from the owners in the Khasi Hills

Owing to this delay, the state missed out on additional funds from the Centre to mitigate human-elephant conflicts planned manner, it said.

The CAG has also rapped the

Meghalaya government for "destruction" of wildlife habitats in the Shallang region, an area frequented by the tuskers.

"Construction activities, heaps of coal stocks, and deforestation could be noticed all along the area. Fresh coal stock was found lying/ dumped in these forest areas. All these have reduced the food and water availability for wildlife," the

The CAG report added that out of the 88 elephant corridors in the country, six were in Meghalaya.

The corridors in the state are usually more than five km in length and human settlements in the stretch make it "highly suscep-tible" to conflicts with the pachyderms, the report said.

# U'khand Cabinet gives nod to use of dry pine leaves for generating power

DEHRADUN, APR 26 (PTI): The Uttarakhand Cabinet today gave its nod to a policy, permitting commercial use of dry pine leaves, considered the main factor behind forest fires in the state, for generating electricity.

The cabinet's clearance to the policy will pave the way for gen-eration of 100 MW of electricity from dry pine leaves, besides setting up of briquetting and bio-oil plants, Urban Development minister Madan Kaushik, who is also the state government's spokesperson said after the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat.

Apart from boosting alternative energy production in the state, it will also generate large scale employment opportunities at the local level, Kaushik said, adding that it will also reduce frequency of forest fires which cause great damage to wildlife and forest wealth.

Under this policy, 10 and 25

KVA power generating units will be set up in Uttarakhand through state-based voluntary organisations, firms, industrial units co-operative societies and communi-ty-based organisations, the minister said.

Around six thousand such units can be established under the policy which can give direct and indirect employment to around 60,000 peo-ple and help stop migration of locals in search of work, Kaushik said.

### Gangtok on Friday, 27 Apr

Temp: 21°C /10°C Forecast: A bit of rain in the morning; otherwise, times of sun and clouds Sunrise: 05:01 AM Sunset: 6:06 PM

### Tilu Gurung is Best **Performing** Legislator of 2017

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petition, recently hosted by the Sikkim Legislative Assembly [SLA] on 18 Apr, were also presented

prizes by the Governor.

The debate on "Climate Change – A Challenge for Legislators" was held among 20 students chosen from amongst a huge number of par-ticipants from colleges across Sikkim. The first prize was awarded to Dew Kumar Chettri [6th semester. BA.LLB.1 of Sikkim Government College, Burtuk while Bijay Rai of Namchi Government College and Neha Gupta of Sikkim Government College secured the second and third positions respectively.

Two consolation prizes were awarded to Kusum Chettri of Government College, Rhenock and Rahul Rai of Sikkim Government College,

Tadong.
The Governor also released a Compendium of the Second SLA on the occasion. A documentary titled "Our Constitution" produced by the Films Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, was also screened for the audience comprising officials of the state government bodies and college students.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion included former Chief Minister of Sikkim, San-chaman Limboo, Speaker, SLA, KN Rai, Deputy Speaker, SLA, Sonam Speaker, SLA, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, former Sneakers SLA Kalavati Subba and KT Gyaltsen, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Dr D K

# **Trinity College & Remanti Sangeet Academy** organize Rock & Pop Music workshop

SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Academic Consultant for Trinity College London-India, Sidharth Kadadi, interacted with Sikkim musicians at a workshop on Rock & Pop Music held here today. The workshop was or-ganised by Trinity College London in association with Remanti San-geet Academy, Gangtok.

The workshop was attended by musicians along with students of various music institutes and their parents.

Mr Kadadi, who is



from Mumbai and attended the event as re-Academic Consultant for

Rock & Pop and Plectrum Guitar for Western India.

geles and G.C.
Trinity Rock & Pop.

Melody Academy.
Speaking to media
persons, Mr Kadadi mentioned that it was a first of its kind workshop in the State that explained the syllabus, examination pattern and other related

details of Trinity College to musicians of Sikkim.

He further added that the workshop was mainly focused on the newly re-vised syllabus of rock and

The programme had

the presence of Cabinet Minsters, RB Subba, DT

Lepcha, AK Ghatani, MLA

Bikram Pradhan, Pancha-

nent musician from Dar-

jeeling, Jiwan Pradhan, who is the coordinator

of Trinity College in the North-Eastern Region and Director of ELIM

Trinity College has been revising its syllabus and oth-er procedures as per the convenience of students with maximum flexibility. Mr Kadadi added that

he will return soon with the entire team to hold another workshop in the State. He mentioned that there were lots of musi-cians in the north-eastern region, adding that the bridging of classical and western music will create better musicians.

Likewise, Remanti Sangeet Academy found-

dhyakshas, and noted Ne-

pali literary figures from Darjeeling, Kurseong, Dooars, Siliguri, Kalim-

pong and Sikkim.

er and director, Remanti Rai, mentioned that the main objective of the workshop was to encour-age children to complete their education in music and to make a career in it.

She stated that teachers and parents of stu-dents of music schools were also invited to the workshop to convince them to send their chil-dren for formal training in music. She assured to organise more such workshops in the near future to give the best to young upcoming musicians of the State.

# Statue of Shiva Kumar Rai to come up at...

Contd from pa01

sured that there would be no misunderstanding from Sikkim's side and anybody trying to instigate fear and insecurity on either side would be taken to task.

Sikkim and Darjeeling have historical, emotional, social and geographical relation with each other, he added. Sikkim and Darjeeling should work together in areas like tourism, floriculture and share each other's strengths. The rich natural resources of both the regions can help strengthen both regions, he added. He apprised that Sikkim and Darieeling will work closely in future and an officer-level meeting would be held soon to discuss further areas of cooperation.

The Chief Minister reiterated that National Highway 10, the only lifeline for Sikkim, should be kept free of any disturbances and safety of passengers travelling to and from Sikkim should be ensured at all times. He added that every State should respect the federal system and the rights and privileges pre-scribed thereof by the Indian Constitution and carry out our duties. Law and order comes under the purview of the State Government and should be so ascertained, he added.

also made a new announcement during the function. A Sikkimese woman who is a COI holder and is married to someone outside the State is still entitled to purchase land within Sikkim. Likewise, a woman COI holder, married to a person outside the State, and employed in the State Government in a temporary capacity will get regularized in due course of time.

Earlier, GTA Chairperson, Binay Tamang in his address stated that Sikkim has made a huge contribution to the Nepali literary world in the form of Shiva Kumar Rai, who was born in Sikkim and later moved to Dar-jeeling and Kurseong. He gave a brief account of the life and notable achievements of Late Shi va Kumar Rai. He shared that all the schools in Darjeeling hills observed two minutes silence and shared valuable information about the litterateur in their respective schools this morning as a mark of respect to the legend.

Binay Tamang made suggestion that both kkim and Darjeeling Sikkim should come together on a common platform to organize a literary programme where distin-guished Nepali literary figures from across the

parts of the world are felicitated. He shared similar initiatives taken by the GTA in the past.

He further informed that the GTA has decided to hold the first Swargiva Shiv Kumar Rai Award this year and shared that noted litterateur Krishna Singh Moktan has been chosen for the same. He also extended an invitation to the Chief Minis-ter and informed that he would also invite Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamta Banerjee to attend the programme.

Binay Tamang also informed the gathering that he has requested West Bengal Chief Min-ister, Mamta Banerjee to speak about Shiva Kumar Rai in the upcoming State Assembly Session.

The GTA Chairperson also read out the mes-sage from Mamta Banerjee on the occasion

On Darjeeling-Sikkim relations, Binay Tamang stated that Darjeeling hills has been declared a strike-free zone and a helpline would also be operational very soon to ensure total security of passengers trav-elling along the NH-10 and within the GTA. He further informed that the GTA has granted the No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the Railway line from Sevoke to Rangpo. He expressed hope

complete by the stipulated deadline of 2022.

"I am highly hon-

oured to be sharing stage with Shri Pawan Cham-ling who will become the longest serving Chief Minister in the country.

May he continue to lead the State of Sikkim and guide the future of the Sikkimese people," concluded Mr Tamang.

Earlier, the pro-gramme began with welcome address by Chief Coordinator, Shiva Kumar Rai Janma Satavarshiki Samaroh Samiti, RK Pradhan.

The programme was also addressed by president, Gorkha Jana Pustakalaya, Kurseong, Tilak Sharma.

Dr. Jas Yonjan Pyasi, eminent litterateur from Kurseong gave a brief ac-count of the contribution of Late Shiva Kumar Rai in Nepali literature

President, Nepali Sa-hitya Parishad Sikkim, Rudra Poudyal highlight-ed the contribution of the literary legend in the context of Sikkim

The program also saw cultural presentations by students of Government Junior High School Rhenock Bazaar and Government Secondary School Tarpin.

The Chief Minister was also felicitated by the Panchayats of Rhenock Gram Panchayat

# Bengal panchayat polls...

Contd from pg01

however, evaded a question on how will the state police be able to provide ecurity if the election is held in a single phase in 58,467 polling booths spread across the state.

The state will look into the security arrangements," he said, while de-clining to take questions on the opposition parties demand for deployment of central forces in the state for free and fair

Asked why the SEC scheduled a single-phase polling, Shandilya said there are many reasons including the month of

Various Muslim organisations yesterday had met the SEC and urged it not to hold the polls during the month of Ramzan beginning May 16/17, as Muslims might find it difficult to take part in the polling pro-cess amid the day-long fasting.

# ITBPintroduces computer course at Pegong SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Indo-Tibetan Border
Police unit stationed at Pegong near Chungthang in North Sikkim has in-troduced a computer course at its computer literacy centre for stu-dents of ITBP Public School and local residents of the area, a press release informs. Commandant Tomar in his inaugural address, talked about the importance of technology and urged the students and other interested persons to take advantage of the course

### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE SEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT KRISHI-BHAWAN, TADONG

No 443/FS&ADD

### **EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**

Applications are invited from local candidates (Sikkim Subject/Holders) for the following posts on contractual basis for 2 years under SAMETI & ATMA, an autonomous agency under FS&AD Department, Gangtok:

SL. NO.	POST	NO OF POSTS	QUALIFI- CATION	AGE	SUGGEST- ED EXPE- RIENCE	CONSOLI- DATED PAY/ MONTH
1.	State Co-ordi- nator	01	Doctor- ate/Post Graduate in Business Adminis- tration with Tally & Computer friendly	25 & above	3 years experience in Accounts/ Finance service	Rs.50,000/-
2	Gender Co-ordi- nator	01	Doctor- ate/Post Graduate in Home Science & Sociology	25 & above	2 years experience in gender related work	Rs.40,000/-
3.	Block Technolo- gy Manag- er (BTM)	02	Post Grad- uate in Agriculture & Allied Sector	18-35	2 years of experience in Agricul- ture & allied Sector with computer skill	Rs.25,000/-
4	Computer Program- mer	01	M.C.A/B. Tech	18-35	1 year experience	Rs.16,000/-
5	Accoun- tant	01	M.Com with Computer Knowledge	25 & above	3 years experience in Finance/ Acctt. Ser- vice	Rs.15,000/-

funding by the Government of India. Candidates may apply with the following copies of documents. The applicant should submit their application to the Joint Secretary (Adm), FS&ADD, Room No. 306, Krishi-Bhawan, Tadong, latest by 10<sup>th</sup>

- o. Sikkim Subject / C.O.I. Educational Qualification Certificate. Valid Employment Card.
- Date of Birth Certificate/Age Certificate
- Experience Certificate

 Resume (with contact No.)
 The interview will be held on 15th May 2018 in the Conference Hall of Krishi-Bhawan, Tadong from 10.30 am. No TA/DA shall be paid for attending the interview. Original documents should be produced on the above date.

JOINT SECRETARY F.S & AD DEPARTMENT

# Hamro Sikkim Party launch marks Bhaichung's...

Contd from pg01

Bhaichung Bhutia is a 'key men ber' of the party, HSP is not Bhaichung's party.

Dr Bina Basnett, another

founding member and former medical officer said that she quit her job in New Delhi and joined the party three months ago.

"We complain about the system but we do not want to change it. We need to come forward and be the change that we want. I urge all youth and women to join politics and be the agents of change," Dr Basnett

Founding member and research scholar, Indra Hang Sub-ba said, "We have been dragged into politics due to the prevail-ing situation in Sikkim. Youth are now coming into politics as there are many unresolved issues in the State."

He spoke about the short-

comings in higher education sector in Sikkim especially the delay in completion of the permanent campus of Sikkim University.

Addressing the media, Bhai-chung Bhutia reiterated Mr Dahal's statement and said that the es not belong to him.

'HSP belongs to the people of Sikkim. I have no personal ambi-

tions in this party and I don't see myself as the president of this party or the Chief Minister candidate. I just want to work for

the people of Sikkim," he said.
"It took me 20 years to build a name for myself. I promise I will not sacrifice that for politics," he added.

Mr Bhutia also said that the party will focus on unemployment, high suicide rate, drug abuse and disproportionate development in the state.

"While we have a fragile en-

vironment what is the need to 29-30 hydel power projects? On the other hand, despite having so many power projects, uninterrupted power supply has still not reached a large part of the state. And while we vouch for organic farming, agricultural lands are being taken away by pharmaceutical companies. We need development but a sustainable one. Even today, a tarred road has not reached my village," he added.

He also informed the media about the founding members' decision to launch the party in New Delhi.

Mr Bhutia said that lot of issues in the State needs direct attention from the Central Gov-

ernment. He said that the party will have 'clean persons' who will bring various issues from Sikkim to Delhi and speak firmly with the Centre to come up with solutions.

"We wanted to reach out to the leaders here in Delhi through this press conference. We want Delhi to hear about our problems," he added.

Highlighting the alleged corruption in the State. Mr Bhutia urged the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling to lift the ban on entry of Central Bureau of Investiga tion [CBI] in Sikkim.

"Let those accused of corruption be proven innocent through CBI investigations," he said. Mr Bhutia said that an HSP

member will be allowed to enjoy a certain position only twice, be it that of Chief Minister, party president or even MLA.

He further criticized the

state government on its failure regarding Limboo-Tamang Assembly seat reservation. He added that the party will work for the Nepali communities and fight for reservation of Assembly seats.

"HSP has got qualified and promising youth of Sikkim as members. The youth have realized that they have to come into politics due to the prevailing conditions in Sikkim. If we do not speak up now, the coming generation in Sikkim will be in big trouble," he said. Bhaichung further informed

that there are many youths of Sikkim who want to come and join the movement of HSP.

We will be reaching out to the people and come up with our manifesto dedicated to the people of Sikkim. This is not my party; this is our party and a party of the people of Sikkim,"

On raising funds for the nartv. Mr Bhutia said it is a big challenge and they hope to raise funds through crowd funding.

The coming elections in Sik-kim will be 'clean money' versus 'black money', he said. When asked who will be the

president and Chief Ministerial candidate of HSP, Mr Bhutia said that the party president will be a great and deserving person. "We will announce our presi-

dent when we launch our party," he informed. Asked if he will contest the elections, Mr Bhutia said, "If my party wants, I will contest the

R.O. No. 46/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 25.4.18

# **SummitTIMES**

# Social Deficit on Suicides

How come suicides do not shock as much as they should?

with the practice of holding students back. This policy is now in the process of being revoked, but its genesis was in the societal engagement which forced the policy makers to take action. More recently, the coaching class capital of country, Kota, where the most driven parents enroll their forced-into-ambition children into coaching classes for competitive exams, started installing fans which would stretch when pulled with more than around 40kgs of weight. The reason – to ensure that desperate students did not commit suicide by hanging in the rooms. This has been supported by an extensive counseling environment in the city which seeks to make students as emotionally strong as they are academically ambitious.

Meanwhile, in Sikkim, suicides continue to claim lives across all age spectrums, and apart from one paragraph reports in newspapers, they continue to receive no more attention. May be it is time that the media started sensationalizing suicides on a daily basis to rattle the cage into which the society appears to have mothballed its empathy. This might actually be required because at the national level, when farmer deaths and students suicides attract big headlines and a slew of opinion pieces, that nation appears to listen. When a social issue makes news, NGOs working on social issues start refocusing on the situation and when it comes to suicides, begin work to reach psychiatric assistance to more people at risk and the entire civil society starts deliberating on the disturbing trend. It is not as if this approach has not been tried in Sikkim (we mean the media sensationalism approach). Here, however, none of these responses followed. NGOs continue organizing plantation drives, swachhta bhiyans, orientation and AIDS awareness camps not so much because these are issues that they feel strongly about, but because these are initiatives that have a funding programme in place. The State has been embarrassed by its suicide rate at the national level, and there were moments when the State Government flagged the rising number of suicides as a matter of concern, but is it only the government's lookout to do something about it? What contribution are the various quasi governmental organizations and NGOs and social organizations going to make to real concerns of the State?

Let us predict the future here. The moment the powers- that-be, distressed by the somnolence in the concerned departments to the disturbing trend, crack the whip and order action, the unimaginative officials will organize a workshop, may be even announce a helpline. Social workers will paradrop into Sikkim, read out general findings on suicides and its causes to an audience of 'volunteers' who, if the project has funding, will go to the villages and conduct more awareness drives. None of them will make any sense because they will be using a template prepared for different situations and solutions worked out for dissimilar causes. For example, what will an imported analysis on suicides among the young reveal. No matter how they word it, the experts will offer competition, peer pressure, stress and pressure as the reasons that contribute to suicides among the young. How accurately would these contributing reasons fit in Sikkim's case? Peer pressure might be there, but how much pressure to perform and stress can be there in the rural areas where a sizeable number of suicides are being report-

While accepting that it is not always possible to notice suicidal tendencies and reach help to a victim, what is agonizing in Sikkim is that the social involvement required to do something to reduce the numbers is completely lacking. Here, even the intelligentsia has failed the State because no concerted study has been initiated into studying why so many people are ending their lives in Sikkim. It is not even clear whether the numbers are actually rising or whether this has always been the trend here. Local experts need to study suicides in greater detail in the Sikkim context before any plan can work out to curb the trend. But before that, some semblance of social awareness, and thereby societal responsibility, has to come about. People need to care more.

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

# The dark possible motive of the Toronto van attacker

Like other Canadians, I was horrified upon learning of a van attack along Toronto's famed Yonge Street this week. Struggling to make sense of it, my first question was: "Why?"

As it turns out, the attack was possibly a dis-

**Opinion** 

turbing reprise of a similar massacre, targeting mostly women and perceptively "sexually active" men in the California community of Isla Vista in May 2014.

Facebook has confirmed that a final pre-attack post of the suspect in Toronto's van attack is real, and was a salute to Elliot Rodger. The deranged American misogynist published his manifesto be-moaning his involuntary celibacy prior to his Isla

Vista shooting and driving spree that killed six.

I wrote about that case and the earlier, lesser-known case of George Sodini in Pennsylvania in 2009 in my recent book, Murder in Plain English, and the signs that were missed about Rodger in

Rodger has apparently now become, in a disturbing twist, the martyr for a larger "incel" (short for involuntary celibacy) subculture. He shot and killed himself in his BMW after colliding with a parked car during his rampage.

The Toronto case, as we know, ended different-

ly. Const. Ken Lam was captured on cellphone video arresting the van attack suspect and doing so without firing a shot.

This despite having his service weapon drawn, while the suspect pantomimed having a pistol of

In fact, the suspect also announced he had a gun while engaging in what appeared to be a well-rehearsed quick draw involving a mobile device made to look like a handgun, all in a bid to have the officer shoot and kill him.

It's what is often called "suicide by cop" and it's a preferred ending among some of the odious and cowardly offenders out there, including lone-wolf terrorists.

### FOCUSING ON THE MOTIVE

But Lam's remarkable restraint has instead allowed the media to focus on the real subtext of this horrific rampage — the motive no one saw coming, but one with a series of disturbing antecedents that

ve all need to pay attention to.

While there has been a movement of late in the media to omit any reference to the name or image of mass murderers when reporting on these events, "incel" requires a conversation because it represents only the latest online movement cater-

ing to the disordered and the disaffected.
Incel has now claimed the suspect in the Toron to van attack, Alek Minassian, as its own.

The devotees to this movement include those suffering from what is known as schizoid personality disorder. The biographical details emerging about the Toronto van attack suspect may fit some symptoms of this disorder.

While it sounds like schizophrenia, it's not, In fact, unlike schizophrenia, schizoids know exactly what they're doing. It might be best described as the closest thing to clinical misanthropy — a visceral hatred of people — as you can get.

It's also a personality disorder, not an illness

per se; in fact, it's very rare in clinical settings, or among populations suffering from mental illness. SCHIZOID RED FLAGS

As the latest edition of the DSM-5, the definitive text on personality disorders, reveals, along with a review of the literature on schizoids involved in school shootings, some of the disorder's hallmarks and red flags:

Disinterested in group or social activities.

—Solitary by nature, in part due to an overriding arrogance, anger at the world and sense of entitle-

—Takes pleasure in few activities, generally solemn and inactive.

—A dull, cold affect, coupled with indifference to

praise or criticism.

—Late onset of of formative life experiences or

rites of passage, such as education, obtaining a driver's licence or job and intimacy.

But while the schizoid is generally averse to

sexual activity, we see a preoccupation with sex in a number of noteworthy cases. The objectification of women, an inability to distinguish between sex and real intimacy and a fixation on fantasy in the absence of real-life experiences can all prove to be a dangerous cocktail that fuels new and more vioThis is especially the case when, for reasons no fully understood, the schizoid also exhibits psycho pathic tendencies.

Many schizoids end up relegated to their parents' basements and nurture their angry oeuvre as YouTube trolls — the same trolls who, in some unconscious manner, might have at least in part influenced Const. Lam's decision not to pull the trigger in an otherwise justifiable shooting that day. Others take their anger into the real world.

DARK CORNER OF THE INTERNET

With Elliot Rodger's last will and testament published to YouTube before his massacre as a call to action, and his earlier manifesto, My Twisted World, as its script, it seems the incel is only the latest dark corner of the internet.

If ISIL has its soldiers of the calpiphate, we are possibly seeing the next iteration of deadly lone-wolf emissaries in the case of incel.

Const. Lam's cool and measured apprehension of the Toronto van attack suspect may certainly mark the first occasion on record where a mass murderer purportedly armed with a deadly weap-

on was taken down with a night stick.

But Lam did more than simply refrain from shooting and using his expandable baton in order to bring about the arrest as he continuously assessed and reassessed the situation.

If the incel speculation about the accused Toronto attacker is true, the constable has left us with a living, breathing suspect who may help us to deepen our understanding of his heinous motives
— and perhaps even prevent future such crimes.

[the writer is Associate Professor of Crimi-

nology & English Literature, Western University]

# How the alt-right uses milk to promote white supremacy

### ISELIN GAMBERT & TOBIAS LINNÉ conversation.com

You've been drinking the fascist, white supremacist, white neo-Nazi milk ... To be a successful antifa sol-

dier, you have to become a soy boy, In one of his satirical YouTube videos, alt-right commentator James Allsup suggests that what epitomises the anti-fascist, feminist, politically correct people he lambasts is that

they drink soy instead of dairy milk.
Allsup is one of many members of the so-called alt-right, many of whom use social media and ironic humour to promote racist, sexist, antisemitic and other offensive views. Allsup himself attended last summer's in-famous Unite the Right gathering of neo-Nazis and white supremacists. His Twitter account was suspended last December on the grounds that his political views violated the company's terms of use.

Allsup's video is part of a viral

flurry of tweets, memes, and videos depicting the battle between dairy and soy milk and all they represent.

The #MilkTwitter hashtag went viral after an incident that's since been dubbed the "milk party", in which a large gathering of white men descended on an anti-Trump art installation a few weeks after Trump's in the party of the stallation and the stallation are weeks after Trump's art in the stallation and the stallation are weeks after Trump's art in the stallation and the stallation are stallation as the stallation and the stallation are stallation as the s inauguration. The men carried cartons of milk and voiced everything from off-colour taunts to explicitly racist, sexist, anti-Semitic and ho mophobic rants. After taking a swig of milk from his carton, one bare-chested man approached the camera and sneered. "An ice cold glass of pure racism," he growled into the lens



After that night, milk quickly went viral, joining the ranks of Pepe the Frog and the "okay" emoji as symbols of 21st century, post-Obama white supremacy. Pro-Trump supporters began carrying cartons of it to rallies and Richard Spencer and other prominent figures of the "alt-right" move-ment added milk-bottle emojis to their Twitter profiles. The #SoyBoy hashtag followed a few months later, going viral in the spring of 2017 and

For members of the alt-right, dairy milk symbolises strength of body and society; drinking it reinforces notions of white superiority and idealised visions of masculinity. Soy milk represents weakness, emasculation, and all things politically cor-rect. The hashtags #MilkTwitter and #SoyBoy celebrate traditional gender norms and the "good old days" of white-dominated patriarchy, while

# ridiculing diversity and feminism. **ALT-RIGHT RHETORIC**

But #MilkTwitter and #SoyBoy don't exist in a vacuum: milk has long been used as a symbol for and tool of op-pression and exploitation. Even the verb "to milk" means "to exploit".

There's a long history of association between dairy milk and white supremacy, as legal scholar Andrea Freeman explores. Freeman traces the link back a century, with official US government documents from the 1920s suggesting a link between white people, milk-drinking and a superior intellect.

Similarly, sociologist Melanie Du-Puis has described how milk was central to the construction of the modern Western nation state. The nutrition-ally "perfect" white drink was symbolically linked to the white-skinned bodies that were better able to digest it due to a genetic mutation known as

lactase persistence. Early 20th century milk advertisements perpetuated this trope, often juxtaposing images of healthy-looking, light-skinned people with sickly-looking, darker-skinned ones. "By declaring milk perfect," says DuPuis, "white north-ern Europeans announced their own perfection".

Where dairy has symbolised white superiority, soy has long represented notions of weakness, nonwhiteness, and emasculation. Feminist and animal rights advocate Carol Adams has discussed how 19th century scholars justified British colonialism in part by dividing the world into "intellectually superior meat eaters and inferior plant eaters". Asian cultures heavy in soy and rice consumption occupied

the latter category.

In contemporary discussions, scientific studies linking phytoestrogens in soybeans to lower sperm count have been used – by alt-right trolls and mainstream media alike - to create a narrative that soy emasculates men who consume it.

"This is gonna fill you full of estrogen, this is gonna block all your testosterone," Allsup pronounces on YouTube, holding up a carton of soy milk. "We're gonna be drinking only soy milk, and it's gonna flush all that testosterone - which is a word that means white supremacy – out of your body." While Allsup obviously intends his video to be funny, screen shots from a Men's Health article about soy's potential to "undermine everything it means to be male" suggests he nevertheless takes the threat of

# Post-poll violence on Opp parties still on in Tripura: CPI(M)

AGARTALA, APR 26 (PTI): The Tripura CPI(M) today alleged that post-poll attacks on Op-position party workers and its offices continued despite assurance from Chief Minister Binlah Kumar Deb on containing such activities, and stringent action against those involved

CPI(M) state secretary Bijan Dhar claimed that 438 party offices have been attacked, since the Tripura election results were announced on March 3.

"A five-member delega-tion of the Left Front met the chief minister on April 14 and sought his intervention to stop alleged attacks on Opposition party and trade union offices

in the state.

"He had assured us to look into the matter and would take all steps to maintain law and order, but there has been no improvement of the situation," Dhar told reporters.

The Left Front leaders sub

mitted three lists of alleged post-election violence by the BJP and IPFT supporters in Tripura, which claimed that 438

party offices were attacked.
"Out of the 438 offices, 93 were gutted, 230 ransacked, 52



locked and 63 captured since March 3. Over 1,700 houses of Left supporters and leaders

were also attacked," he said.

Dhar also claimed that two party members were killed folwing the declaration of the poll results.

He criticised the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) for "misguiding" youths of the state in the name forming a sep-

arate 'Twipraland'. The IPFT has been campaigning for 'Twipraland' for Tripura's tribal communities, which form one-third of the

state's population. Dhar said it was an "implausible dream" of such political elements that wanted to divide

the state.

On the recently-concluded
22nd party Congress at Hyder-

abad, Dhar said the CPI(M) has taken a resolution to strengthen the Left and democratic front to fight the RSS and the BJP.

"The party has fixed its po litical line for the next three years--there would be no al-liance with the Congress, but inside the Parliament, we will fight against the BJP with all secular and democratic forces,"

# accused in Sakyong arms haul arrested

SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG, 26 APR:
Royal Rai (32), of Sakyo-

ng, Pedong, wanted in an arms case for a long time, was arrested from Sakyong by the Kalimpong Police today. This, in continuation of the frequent police raids in the area since the 2017 agitation. The accused is want-

ed in connection with the recovery of four 12mm weapons, 1 country-made gun, 400 gms of gel used for explosives along with an electronic detonator, khukuris and other equipment on 13 October 2017 in the area.

He has been booked under Explosive Substance Act, Arms Act and

Several other suspects were assumed to have been involved in the case with Royal Rai as the prime suspect who had been absconding since the raid.

The accused was forwarded to Kalimpong Dis-trict Court today and sent to 10 days police remand.

# **SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES**

DERBY MEET THURSDAY

Draw No:14 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.11 Lakhs/- 71A 3214

(Including Super Prize Amt)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-1384 3066 4694 5783 9571 3rd Prize Rs.3,000/-

1146 1192 1247 1843 2223 2411 5735 6505 8534 8597

4th Prize Rs.1000/-0606 1083 2027 2308 2771 3925 4138 5469 7194 9494 5th Prize Rs.500/

0219 1023 2748 3765 4305 5804 6581 7845 8155 9288

0019 1023 2748 3703 4303 3804 0381 7843 8133 9288 6th Prize Rs.100/-0010 0029 0118 0145 0146 0175 0187 0195 0211 0215

Issued by: The Director,Sikkim State Lotteries,

vernment Of Sikkim,Deorali - 737102,Sikkim ase: Visit :www.sikkimlotteries.com

### **KUTSE SHEGU**



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

ed to join us for offering prayers for the departed soul at our resident below Karthok Gumpa, Pakyong, East Sikkim. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in the time of our hearencement.

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

# HC lawyers' ceasework extended again

KOLKATA, APR 26 (PTI): The ceasework by lawyers' associations that has crippled the Calcutta High Court for over a record two months, will continue till May 11 over demands for appointment of judges, the Bar Association said

The Bar Association, which commands the affiliation of the majority of lawyers practising at the high court, has decided in a general body meeting that the ceasework will continue till May 11 and the decision will be reviewed on May 14, its general secretary Amol Mukherjee said.
"The ceasework will, however,

automatically stand withdrawn if appointment of new judges is no-tified in the meantime," Mukherjee

The Bar Library Club, which is also participating in the ceasework,

its course of action with regard to continuation of the agitation. "Our members will hold a meeting on Monday to take an in-

dependent decision with regard to extension of the ceasework," Bar Library Club president Jayanta Mi-

The previous longest strike was of 2 months in 2002 in protest against hike in stamp duty by the West Bengal government. It was observed across all courts in the state including Calcutta High Court. Though a miniscule percentage of petitioners have moved the high court in-person during the ceasework, which began on February 19, most of the cases pending before the court could not be heard as lawyers have not par-

ticipated in proceedings.

The associations have also de-

justice to the high court, which has been headed by acting chief justices for over three years with the exception of only three months.

The high court at present has 33 judges, while the sanctioned strength is that of 72 judges.

Thousands of litigants, whose petitions are pending before the high court, are at their wits' end as to when their cases would be disposed of given the uncertainty over when the ceasework would

Till the end of March, 2,23,921 cases are pending before the high court, according to official data.

Very few new petitions have been filed since February 19 owing to the ceasework by lawyers, thus landing those who have urgent matters to be moved before the court in a soup.

# How the alt-right uses milk to...

Contd from pg04

### oy seriously. TAKING ALT-RIGHT IRONY SERIOUSLY

Many dismiss the racist, sexist, anti-Semitic and homophobic rants on #MilkTwitter and #Soy-Boy as being nothing more than ironic antics targeting politically cor rect "normies" who can't take a joke. But irony and ambiguity are worth taking seriously: they are established strategies of alt-right trolls who seek to exploit Poe's Law, the notion that it's virtually impossible to distinguish between satire and sincerity online. Irony al-lows for extremist views to hide in plain sight - in the words of prominent neo-Nazi Andrew Anglin, "non-ironic Nazism masquerading as ironic

Nazism". The danger of Poe's Law, explained by Jason Wilson in an article for The Guardian about altright tactics, isn't that satire may be mistaken for sincerity, but that

"every 'ironic' repetition of far-right ideals con-tributes to a climate in which racism, misogyny, or Islamophobia is nor-malised". Because of that, says Angela Nagle, who studies the alt-right's online culture wars, "the best response is to stub-bornly take the 'alt-right'

### at their word". VEGAN VS. DAIRY MASCULINITIES

The strategy of those using #MilkTwitter and #SoyBoy is to mix a carefully constructed view of history and cher-ry-picked science to reinforce sexist and racist beliefs, while fostering a fear of contemporary shifts in power away from white males and towards women, people of colour, and those occupying space outside the cultural mainstream.

Vegans are often the vegans are often the target of #MilkTwitter and #SoyBoy taunts, with "the vegan agenda" being code for all things weak, effeminate and politically correct. Veg-

ans, after all, drink soy (or other plant milk) in-stead of dairy, typically for ethical reasons related to caring about ani-mals' welfare – another female-coded trait.

The irony of #Milk-Twitter and #SoyBoy casting vegan men as less masculine is that it is hard to imagine a feminine-coded substance than estro-gen-filled animal milk, coming from the breasts

of female mammals. But the identity politics the alt-right, linking dairy milk to white sudairy milk to white su-premacy, such complex-ities are taken lightly. After all, they are only joking, right? [Iselin Gambert is

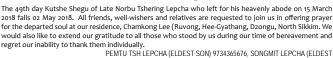
Visiting Research Fel-w + Professor of Legal Writing, Lund University: Tobias Linné is Assistant Professor in Communication and Media, Lund University)

### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

I, Rebecca Gurung (President) along with Ny-indo Lepcha, Suren Limbu, Hishey Palmu Sherpa, Kabita Gurung, Bikash Bhattari & Karan Luitel, have decided to change the name or our Association from decided to change the hame of our Association functions and the state of the state do nereby agree and undertake to indemning to any individual or association towards anything that they have towards Sikkim Unemployed Agriculture/Horticulture Graduates Association as on date.

REBECCA GURUNG DEPONENT.

### Kutshe Shegu



DAUGHTER) 9593822460, DR. SONAM RINCHEN LEPCHA (YOUNGER BROTH-ER) 9647884804, DATHUP LEPCHA (YOUNGER BROTHER) 7407015920



# SHSC wins tiebreaker against United Sikkim FC, enters semi finals

GANGTOK, 26 APR:

Cikkim Himalayan

Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club has also entered the semi-final round of the ongoing 2nd Mahendra Karki Memorial Invitational Football Tournament 2018 here at Paljor Stadium. In a contesting last quar-ter-final match played today, Sikkim Himalayan FC has defeated United Sikkim Football Club in a tie-breaker.

United Sikkim FC made a good start by taking the early lead within 15 minutes of the match. Lhendup Bhutia scored an early lead for Sikkim United in the 6th minute and his teammate Tshering Zangpo extended the lead to 2-0 in the 15th minute. Sikkim Hima-layan SC players played their hearts out but could not score any goal in the first half.

Soon in the second half, Pelsang Lama further extended the lead of



United Sikkim FC to 3-0 in the 48th minute. Nikesh Gurung gave some relief to Sikkim Himalavan SC with his brace in the 69th and 70th minute of the match. Just when it looked like the match was going to end with the scoreline of 3-2 in faSuraj Subba scored the equaliser for Sikkim Himalayan SC in the dying seconds of injury time of the match.

In a tie-breaker through penalty shootout, Sikkim Himalayan SC players converted four shots into goals while

managed to score just

With this win, Sik-kim Himalayan SC has become the last team to secure its berth in the semi-final round of the tournament.

Sikkim Himalayan SC will take on United Brothond semi-final on 28 Apr. Nikesh Gurung of Sikkim Himalayan SC was adjudged man of the match.

The first semi-final of the tournament will be played between Sikkim Police and Apex Football Club, Kalimpong on 27



# Real in pole position after Asensio scores winner at Bayern

MUNICH, APR 26 (AFP): Real Madrid moved a step closer to a third straight Champions League title after substitute Marco Asensio hit the winner in a 2-1 semi-final, first-leg victory at Bayern Munich.
The 22-year-old came off the

bench to finish a counter-attack and complete the holders' comeback win, giving Real the advantage for the return game in Madrid next Tuesday.

"We knew what to expect,

we did well and put in a good performance," said Real captain Sergio Ramos.

"There is still the return to come, but we'll be very focused and we defended well, that was the main thing."

Bayern took the lead at the

sold-out Allianz Arena through Joshua Kimmich, but Marcelo equalised just before the break

and Asensio put Real ahead.

"In the middle of the first half, we were playing well, but we lacked the killer instinct," said Bayern skipper Thomas Mueller. "Everything is still possible, but we did ourselves no

Despite Bayern dominating possession and creating twice as many chances as Real, Madrid claimed a sixth straight win, dating back to 2012, over the Bavarians in the Champions League knockout stage.

"We didn't put our chances away, while Real took their two chances," said Kimmich.
"We were naive in front of

goal, they are favourites now to go through, but we will give it our all in the return." Real coach Zinedine Zidane pulled a surprise before kick-off by leaving both Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema out of the starting line-

Isco, who was replaced by Asensio at half-time, and Lucas Vazquez played either side of Cristiano Ronaldo, who had a subdued night up front in Mu-

The Portuguese failed to add to his tally of 15 Champions League goals this season, being denied a second-half strike by an offside flag, which would have made it 3-1.

James Rodriguez, who is on a two-year loan deal from Real, shone in Bayern's midfield and found plenty of cracks in the Ma-

However, this just was not Bayern's night.
Both Mueller and Robert

Lewandowski went agonisingly close with a string of chances The hosts suffered a blow with barely five minutes gone when Arjen Robben limped off to be replaced by Thiago Alcantara.

Bayern changed their system with right-back Joshua Kimmich moving up to plug the space on the right wing, which sparked

the opening goal.

When Bayern goalkeeper
Sven Ulreich played the ball
down the flank, James released Kimmich with a perfectly-timed pass in the 28th minute.

The Germany international raced clear and caught out Keylor Navas at his near post to stun

Bayern suffered their second early injury blow when Jerome Boateng was replaced by Niklas Suele on 34 minutes -- which is also bad news for Germany with

the World Cup looming.
Real had a left-off when Ribery went one-on-one with Navas but stumbled at the crucial moment.

Then from nothing, Marcelo conjured the equaliser on 44

When Dani Carvajal headed the ball across the edge of the box, it landed at Marcelo's feet and was in Bayern's net moments later after a fierce left-footed shot.

It was the Brazilian's third Champions League goal this season after also scoring in the knock-out rounds against Paris Saint-Germain and Juventus.

Real escaped again when Navas failed to hold a Lewandowski header just before the half-time whistle and the ball bobbled away to safety. It shows how far Bale and

Benzema have dropped out of Zidane's favour that Isco was replaced on the left wing by Asensio for the second half, but the move paid off.

Rafinha lost the ball in midfield after a Bayern attack, and Vazquez sprinted clear and put Asensio into space to curl past Ulreich on 57 minutes. With 25 minutes left, Zidane

threw on an extra attacker, as Benzema came on for injured right-back Carvajal.

Moments later Bayern came within inches of an equaliser when Navas denied Mueller with a reflex save.

In the final five minutes, Le wandowski beat Navas, but his floated shot flew just wide of the post to add to Bayern's misery.



# **Bhaker, Mitharval finish 4th after** shooting qualification world record

CHANGWON (SOUTH KOREA), APR 26 (PTI): The Indian duo of Manu Bhaker and Om Prakash Mitharwal missed out on a medal and finished fourth in the 10m mixed team air pistol event after shooting a qualification world record in the ongoing ISSF World Cup here today. This was India's fourth fourth-place

finish in the World Cup stage 2. The pair had earlier shot a qualifica tion world record in the event, shooting a combined 778 to claim the record by a point from the German couple Christian and Sandra Reitz, who won silver after qualifying in fifth place.

The Chinese pair of Xiaojing Ji and

Jiayu Wu won gold with a world record score of 487.7 in the finals. Serbia's Damir Mikec and Zorana Arunovic won

Eight Indians have so far reached seven finals at the Changwon International Shooting centre, including in two team events, but so far only Shahzar Rizvi has won a medal -- in the men's 10m air pistol.

This will be the same range where the World Championships, the first quota competition for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, will be held in four month's

In the first medal event of the day, India's Sanjeev Rajput made it to the fi-nals of the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event to finish eighth eventually

He was never in the groove and was the first to bow out of the 45-shot medal round won by Rio Olympics silver medallist Sergey Kamenskiy of Russia.

Sanjeev had earlier shot a solid 1178 to qualify in sixth place among eight finalists.

Two other Indians in the men's 3P among the 76 strong qualification round line-up -- youngsters Akhil Sheo-ran and Swapnil Kusale -- shot 1172 and 1171 to finish 17th and 24th re spectively.

Also, in the mixed team pistol, the Indian pair of Heena Sidhu and Rizvi finished 19th in qualification with a

# At Argentina football club, Maradona is God. Messi is Adam

BUENOS AIRES, APR 26 (AFP): There is no question that football is a sort

of religion in Argentina.

And one of the football-mad country's country's brightest stars, Diego Maradona, is known for his infamous "Hand of God" goal against England in the 1986 World Cup.

Now, on the ceiling of one club in Buenos Aires, in a painting modelled af-ter Michelangelo's work in the Sistine Chapel, Maradona is God, extending his hand to Adam -- Lio nel Messi.

Argentina-born Pope Francis, an avowed foot-ball fan, would certainly smile at the grand ges-ture made by the club Sportivo Pereyra, located in the Barracas district of the capital, where football and other team

sports are played.

"For us, this pitch is our temple -- a sacred temple of football, and a fresco on the ceiling

that is worthy of a tem-

"The Sistine Chanel has God and Adam, and

Messi and Maradona' In this version of Mi-

The players are clad in the classic blue and white striped jersey of national

children play, is located in the southern part of Buenos Aires, not far

coach Ricardo Elsegood told AFP.

the chapel of football has

chelangelo's "Creation of Adam," instead of the angels surrounding God, other football stars are featured: Juan Riquelme, Gabriel Batistuta, Mario Kempes, Sergio Aguero, Claudio Caniggia, Ricardo Bochini and Ariel Ortega.

Argentina's

from the stadium of the Boca Juniors, Argentina's most successful club.

"It's as if Maradona had bestowed upon Messi the gift of continued good football," explains the art-ist who painted the work, Santiago Barbeito.

For Elsegood, it was a simple decision.
"We realized the ceil-

ing was rather dark. We thought at first of painting it blue with white clouds. But one day, the artist came and said it would be better to do it with Messi and Mara-dona," he said.

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# BCCI recommends Dravid for Dronacharya, Kohli for Khel Ratna, Gavaskar for Dhyan Chand



KOLKATA, APR 26 (PTI): The BCCI has recommended former India captain Rahul Dravid for the prestigious Dronacharya award and once again nomi-nated Virat Kohli for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna honour. Legendary opener Sunil Ga-

vaskar's name has been recomnended for Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award.

CoA chief Vinod Rai confirmed Dravid's nomination for the Dronacharya award.

"Yes, we have sent a number of ominations in various categories to the government. Rahul is the

BCCI nominee for the Dronacharya award," Rai told PTI.

Dravid has been nominated for successfully guiding the India U-19 team to World Cup title early this year. Under his guidance, the Colts batch of 2016 played the finals. He has worked with India A team also and is the bridge between international and junior cricket.

BCCI had stopped sending nominations for Dronacharya awards due to multiple coaches at times claiming credit for a yer's success.
"It happened when a former

India opener had signed two nominations where coaches claimed that the player worked under them. From then, we had stopped sending nominations," a senior BCCI official said.

"However when Rajku-mar Sharma (Kohli coach) got Raiku-Dronacharya award, it was a personal nomination. He was not BCCI nominee. For someone of Rahul's stature, we have decided to depart from convention," the official added.

As per Kohli's nomination for atna, it has been learnt that BCCI has nominated the Indian

captain him for the second time

Kohli's name was sent in 2016 but being the Olympic year, the three stars of Rio, PV Sindhu, Sakshi Malik and Deepa Karmakar were conferred with the award. As far as Gavaskar is concerned, his contribution in Indian cricket as a player and then as a critique has been unquestionable. Normally, the convention for

Dhyan Chand award is to confer those who have not got Arjuna award during their playing days. However Gavaskar is an Arjuna awardee.

### Indians feel that US is no longer immigrantfriendly: Krishnamoorthi

WASHINGTON, APR 26 (PTI): Indians now feel that the US is no longer immigrant-friendly country, a top Indian-American Congressman has said, amidst a series of controversial immigration policies by the Trump administration.

Donald President Trump has been push-ing for the merit-based immigration system to reduce overall immigra-tion to the US and serve the country's national

interest.

A merit-based immigration system, the Trump administration feels would admit the best and the brightest around the world while making it harder for people to come to the country illegally.

One issue that certainly came up and is something that we all have to be mindful of is there's a sense in India that America is no longer immigrant- friendly, Indian-American gressman Raja Krishnamoorthi told PTI.

Democratic lawmaker from Illinois, Krishnamoorthi recently visited India as part of a Congressional delegation.

"Whether you are going to America as a tourist, as a business visitor or whether you're coming here on an H-1B visa or whether you already are here and are seeking permanent resi-dency, it's just a different place in the current landscape," Krishnamoorthi said, adding that this is the general sense about America in India now

The White House has said the current immigration system jeopardises the US' national security, reiterating its call to end the chain migration and visa lottery system.

"So, we as lawmakers have to make sure that we live up to the fundamental principles that made America a special place, namely, we welcome immigrants, we treat them with dignity, and we don't scapegoat any individual or group of people for any challenges that we may have economically. You have to pull together and grow forward in the same direction," he said in response to a question.

"I think so. I think that there's a little bit more of that," he said when asked if people in India, based on his visit, think that US is now more of an anti-immigrant nation.

"America's image is largely positive in India. The polling data and other evidence would indicate that. However, we have to be concerned when a young Indian no longer looked at America as the only place where you would go to start a business or pursue your graduate studies and build a more prosperous future for yourself and your family," he said. There are other alter-

natives that have been merged and those places have taken advantage of the changes that have happened in the US. "We have to be concerned because we want the best and the brightest to continue to come to America," he said.

# Modi-Xi to have 'heart-to-heart' summit tomorrow to charter new course for Sino-India ties

K J M VARMA WUHAN, APR 26 (PTI): After their first informal meeting at the Sabarmati Ashram of Mahatma Gandhi in Gujarat in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping will have a two-day "heart-to-heart" summit from tomorrow at Wuhan, a favourite holiday spot of revolutionary leader Mao Zedong.

Xi will be hosting Modi for an in-

formal summit where officials say the two leaders would spend most of time interacting with each other with one-on-one conversations focussing on global, regional and bilateral issues.

The famous East Lake in the city where the two leaders would spend most of the time was a favourite holiday spot for Mao. The picturesque garden adjacent to the mighty Yangtze river is also where Mao used to enjoy

his favourite pastime swimming.

The place has iconic holiday villa of Mao, which is now a memorial where Xi is expected to take Modi

At the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad and its surroundings, Modi was Xi's guide to introduce the essence of Gandhian thought,



including his iconic Charkha when the Chinese leader, who has emerged as the powerful leader of the coun try with an unlimited tenure, tried his hand to operate Gandhiji's most cherished symbol. It is now Xi's turn at Wuhan

The details of the informal summit was not disclosed but officials said it included walks by the two leaders in the East Lake where they will have a boat ride and take walks just accompanied by their translators.

Modi, who arrives late this evening, will have relaxed meetings with Xi tomorrow and the day after, which officials say could become

e-changer if they manage to reach consensus on finding the solution to the problems, including the way forward to resolve the boundary dispute and other vexed issues that bedevilled the ties.

Ahead of the summit, China said the arrangements being made for Modi's stay in Wuhan would go beyond the expectations of the Indian side and the informal summit could

be a new starting point.
Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou told the media this week that Modi will stay in a most comfortable place in Wuhan, without revealing the location citing se-

curity reasons. "The two leaders will spend two days in Wuhan. In these two days. they will engage with each other on various forums. What I can tell you is that they will spend a lot of time together one-on-one," he said.
"This kind of one-on-one is not

often seen in other countries," he added. The upcoming summit will be an informal one, different from formal visits. The summit will be relaxed and friendly with rich format, he had said.

The two leaders will have strategic communication on the major changes in the international landscape unseen in more than 100 years, aid in an apparent reference to major changes taking place following US President Donald Trump's aggres-sive 'America First' policy threatening to undermine the process of globalisation under which India and China are the biggest beneficiaries.

They will have in-depth exchange of views on the issues of overarching long-term and strategic importance in the bilateral relations, Kong said.

Officials on both sides played down speculation of any agreement to be reached between the two leaders saying that no such thing was on the table.

Modi and Xi will try to work out a general framework for relations to move ahead without much of great expectations about the outcome. In-

dian officials said.

Conceived on the lines of the 1988 ice-breaking visit to China undertaken by the then prime minister Rajiv Gandhi and his far-reaching talks with China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping setting a new tone for the relations post-1962 war, Xi-Modi dialogue at Wuhan was aimed at working a new paradigm for the bilateral relations for the next 15

years, they said.

The talks will focus on adhering to the principle that both countries should be sensitive to each other's concerns and aspirations, the sourc-

It is a leadership driven summit providing a leadership driven direction and a way forward to more sta-ble bilateral ties, they added. This will be fourth visit of Modi

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



 ${f F}$  rench President Emmanuel Macron has called on America to reject policies of isolationism if values of democracy and freedom are to be saved. Speaking to Congress on Wednesday, Mr Macron used words of flattery and friendship to cushion his insistence that the US should dump Donald Trump's "America First" agenda. Beginning and ending with the lasting historic friendship enjoyed between France and America, Mr Macron recalled how the US and France have fought "shoulder to shoulder in many battles" over the years. He said the two countries have a shared common vision of the "universal ideals of liberty, tolerance and equal rights" for centuries. However, the bulk of Mr Macron's speech pushed against the US President's messages of isolationism and nationalism. He called on the US not to "close the door to the world".

### Pak foreign minister disqualified by court for holding UAE work permit

ISLAMABAD, APR 26 (PTI): Pakistan's For-(PTI): Pakistan's Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif was today disqualified as a member of the parliament by the high court here for concealing details of his UAE work permit while contesting elections in 2013.

three-member special bench of the Islamabad High Court an-nounced the verdict on a petition filed by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Usman Dar, seek ing disqualification of the foreign minister under Article 62 and 63 of the Constitution for holding an Iqama (work permit) of the UAE.

Dar, who lost election against Asif in 2013, had



challenged the qualification of Asif, 68, as the member of parliament for not declaring his job and salary while contesting the polls.

bench

mously ruled that Asif was not truthful and honest. Asif will be unable to hold public or party office after the verdict.

The PTI leader had urged the court to dis-

qualify Asif, stating that the Supreme Court has already disqualified alreadv Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif last year for having an 'Igama' of working in the company of his sons and not declaring his "receivable salary".

The petitioner al-leged that Asif had Unlimited Term Employ-ment Contract with International Mechan-ical and Electrical Co (IMECO). He was hired as full-time employee in July, 2011 and held vari-

ous positions.

He claimed that Asif under the contract was to receive a monthly ba-sic salary of AED 35,000 along with a monthly allowance of AED 15,000, During the hearing, Asif had submitted a letter from the compa-ny that he was not full time employee and only worked as a consultant whose presence was not needed in the UAE, where

which he did not declare

the company is based.

The bench, compris ing Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Aamer Fa-rooq and Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, had re-served the verdict on April 10.

Asif is one of top leaders of ruling Pakistan Muslims League-Nawaz and his disqualification is considered a huge blow to the party ahead of election scheduled to be held after June.

### **MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES**

LABHLAXMI CANCER

Draw No:12 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs 10 000/- 1494

2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 4581 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 4211 4th Prize Rs.300/- 1683 5th Prize Rs. 203/- 5822 6th Prize Rs.100/-

The Director ,Mizoram State Lotteries, For result please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

### ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES MUMBAILAXMI CHAND

Draw No:12 DrawDate on:26/04/18

1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 1081 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 1607 3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/- 3188 4th Prize Rs. 503/- 3639 5th Prize Rs.200/

1090 1108 1115 1120 1212 1275 1322 1411 1442 1466 1654 1679 1698 1699 1777 1844 1851 1870 2006 2032 2145 2200 2217 2262 2357 2375 2424 2427 2451 2484 2568 2586 2607 2612 2776 2787 2843 2850 2870 2900 2919 2927 2959 3088 3156 3171 3206 3224 3227 3301 3307 3323 3332 3400 3418 3442 3482 3633 3670 3694 3733 3742 3829 3836 3864 3915 3921 4170 4171 4179 4185 4280 4297 4449 4495 4512 4518 4606 4612 4716 4734 4825 4900 4903 5049 5089 5121 5160 5271 5550

5817 5823 5835 5890 5909 5915 5924 5967 5968 5974

ne Commissioner, RUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES,ITANAGAR.

# NAGALAND STATELOTTERIES

Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 80A 08994 ize Rs.9500/- 08994 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

E RS.9000/-4554 11594 13682 18509

DEAR KIND MORNING

092 0204 0391 0407 0436 0439 0582 0591 0868 0588 997 1163 1173 1201 1341 1502 1526 1621 1647 1778 8791 2242 2367 2388 2390 2633 2757 2985 3075 3179 333 3552 3606 3755 3802 3856 3972 4021 4282 4380 4445 4534 4537 4574 4608 4722 4851 5035 5166 5392 436 5561 5588 5590 5627 5676 5897 5927 6120 6137 192 6207 6222 6237 6244 6400 6502 6856 6977 7099 0.192 0207 0222 0227 0244 0410 0510 0510 0530 0577 7059 7227 7290 7296 7394 7556 7616 7693 7885 8174 8306 8420 8447 8561 8575 8596 8676 8730 8751 8935 9036 9069 9195 9261 9307 9472 9533 9640 9673 9879 9911

Draw Time : 04:00 pm onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:26/04/ 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 908 625 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 62501 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

### DEAR FALCON EVENING

Draw Time : 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:39 DrawDate on:26/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.03 Lakhs/- 95C 31491 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 31491 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

Rs.9000/-171 29133 31056 41900

# JOHN WICK 3 TEASER POSTER & OFFICIAL SYNOPSIS RELEASED

At CinemaCon, Lionsgate re-classed a teaser poster and offi-cial synopsis for highly anticipated t CinemaCon, Lionsgate reaction sequel John Wick: Chapter 3. For an actor who often gets so much flack about his lack of range, Keanu Reeves has sure played a lot of memorable characters over the years. Reeves will probably forever be most associated with playing unlikely savior Neo in The Matrix

with his two outings as time-traveling slacker Ted "Theodore" Logan in the Bill & Ted franchise running a close second.
In 2014 though, Reeves began play-

ing his latest iconic character; put-upon assassin John Wick, in the film of the same name. Wick begins the franchise as a retired contract killer, living a quiet life with his beloved puppy, a gift from his late wife. When the son of a mafia boss makes the fatal mistake of crossing Wick – stealing his car and killing his dog – the sleeping giant awakes, sending perhaps the world's most dangerous man on a quest for vengeance. That vengeance attained, Wick planned to resume his retirement, but the world would have other plans.

Wick was soon summoned back into the assassin fray in 2017's John Wick: Chapter 2, which saw an old associate of John's come back to call in a debt, one that not even the nearly mythical Wick



could refuse. After being betraved, Wick ended up breaking an unbreakable rule: he killed a man claiming refuge inside the neutral territory of The Continental Hotel. Now, John Wick must fight his way out of a New York City where every assassin wants his head. John Wick: Chanter 3 arrives in 2019, and at CinemaCon, Lionsgate released the first teaser poster and an official synopsis (via Collider) for the sure to be thrilling sequel.

John Wick (Keanu Reeves) is on the run for two reasons... he's being hunt-ed for a global \$14 million dollar open contract on his life, and for breaking a central rule: taking a life on Continental Hotel grounds. The victim was a member of the High Table who ordered the open contract. John should have already been executed, except the Continental's manager, Winston, has given him a one-hour ger, whistor, has given film a one-hour race period before he's "Excommunica-o" – membership revoked, banned from all services and cut off from other members. John uses the service industry to stay alive as he fights and kills his way out of New York City.

While John Wick: Chapter 2 saw the reluctant hitman set on a course that took him to several different countries, it looks like Chapter 3 will take place primarily in New York City, at least going

by the above synopsis. Whether this means that prior reports of Chapter 3's production heading to locales like Russia, Canada, Japan and Spain were incorrect or not is unclear, as even if most of the sequel takes place in NYC, that doesn't mean that it will all take place there.

Much like how Chapter 2 began

quickly after the ending of the original John Wick, it looks like Chapter 3 will resume the story almost immediately. John ended Chapter 2 being given a one-hour grace period by Winston to get as far as he can, but after that, the rest is up to him. An almost "real time" look at Wick's quest to escape New York City is an idea with tons of potential, and would be fitting with the prior films, which rarely let up on the brakes to let audiences catch their breath once the action started. John Wick may want to retire, but if his movies keep being this good, fans may never be willing to

### **AMITABH BACHCHAN** BELIEVES **RANBIR KAPOOR** IS GOD **GIFTED**



Ranbir Kapoor took the country by storm after the teaser for Sanju was dropped two days ago in which he looked like a spitting image of Sanjay Dutt. Reportedly, megastar Amitabh Bachchan was one of the first people to have seen Ranbir's look from the film and he was left impressed too.

Recently in an interview with a daily, Amitabh Bach-chan was asked to comment about his Brahmastra co-star Ranbir Kapoor to which he replied, "I haven't shot with Ranbir yet for Brahmastra. But, I've worked with him when he was an AD (assistant director) on Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Black (2005). He was the one who trained the little girl Ayesha Kapur (she played a differently-abled child). In between shots, I'd see him train her: it was impressive. Ranbir is an exceptional artiste. He doesn't do anything, yet he does a lot. I keep telling him that he's God-gifted. I'm his admirer. I am happy that I've got an op-portunity to work with both father and son in the same year, it's a blessing for me."

# KANYE WEST AND DONALD TRUMP REKINDLE THEIR BROMANCE IN TWITTER LOVE-IN

 ${f T}$ he US President fully endorsed the rapper's flurry of complimentary tweets, describing his praise as "very cool".

It is apparently "dragon energy" fuelling the relation-ship between Mr Trump and West, who posted a series of complimentary messages on Twitter on Wednesday night.

Kanye West remained defiant Wednesday amid mounting backlash from fans over the rapper's positive words about President Donald Trump, tweeting a picture of himself wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat and criticizing former President Barack Obama.
"Obama was in office for

eight years and nothing in Chicago changed," he tweet-ed on Wednesday.

Obama publicly called West a "jackass" in 2009 af-ter the rapper interrupted Taylor Swift's speech at the

You don't have to agree with trump but the mob can't make me not love him," West tweeted earlier Wednesday. "We are both dragon energy. He is my brother. I love everyone. I don't agree with everything anyone does. That's

what makes us individuals. And we have the right to independent thought.

Mr Trump - who met est when he was President-elect in December 2016 was keen to share the praise with his own followers, telling the star the comments

were "very cool".

Following his exchange with Mr Trump, West went on to address a range of top-ics; from the amount of money he makes from shoes compared with basketball legend Michael Jordan, to his ping pong skills.

"I'm nice at ping pong," he claimed.

Не also fuelled speculation that he had split with his manager Scooter Braun, tweeting, "I can't be

West's wife - Kim Kardashian West, with whom he has three children - later defended her husband on Twitfans for praising Mr Trump.

She wrote: "Kanye will ever run in the race of popular opinion and we know that and that's why I love him and respect him and in a few years when someone else says the same exact thing but they aren't labelled the way he is and you will all praise them! Kanye is years ahead of his time.

The rapper has "always been expressive", she added, but went on to suggest she may not be a fan of the President, writing "most people (including myself) have very different feelings & opinions



# 'Dragons rule Westeros' in New GAME OF THRONES PREQUEL

ame Of Thrones fans will be able to "return to Westeros this year" after author George RR Martin announced a prequel to his series of nov-

It is set "300 years before A Game Of Thrones", when

"dragons ruled Westeros".
On his blog, Martin said he was "thrilled" that a "monumental history of the Tar-garyen kings of Westeros' would be published on 20 November.
Called Fire And Blood, it

is a "hefty book, almost 1,000 manuscript pages" and "illustrated throughout".

He added, playfully, that he had "seen the archmae-ster's manuscript".

Martin wrote: "Since it was handwritten on vellum with a guill pen, he required my help in transcribing the

text to a more modern format: WordStar 4.0. on a DOS computer."

The blog also contains

news that fans may find disappointing: the long-awaited sixth volume in the Game Of Thrones series, The Winds Of Winter, will not be arriving this year.

"No. winter is not coming... not in 2018, at least," Martin said. The fifth volume, A Dance With Dragons, was released in 2011.

The new book, which Martin describes as an "imaginary history" and "not a novel", will enable readers to "return to Westeros this

Blogging about the prequel, Martin said: "This first volume covers all the Tar garven kings from Aegon I (the Conquerer) to the regen-

cy of Aegon III (the Dragonbane), along with their wives. wars, siblings, children, friends, rivals, laws, travels, and sundry other matters.

"For those not up on your Westerosi history, that's Aegon I, Aenys, Maegor the Cru-el, Jaehaerys I (the Concilia-tor), Viserys I, Aegon II (and Rhaenyra), and Aegon III (the regency).
"Oh, and there are drag-

ons too. Lots of dragons."

There had to be a second volume, Martin said, because "the story doesn't end with the regents of Aegon III. There is a lot more history to come."

He ends his blog post by saying: "Archmaester Gyl-dayn is hanging up his quill for a while.

"As for me, I'm returning

once again to THE WINDS OF WINTER"

ARIES: Don't be surprised if you have a desire to redecorate. The celestial energies have put you in the mood to rearrange your house a bit. Take care to not go overboard, Aries. You have a tendency to turn little projects into big ones. For now, content yourself with buying some flowering plants and perhaps new area rugs and throw pillows. Leave the kitchen and bath renova-

tions for later. TAURUS: Be sure to answer all phone calls and open all letters and emails today, Taurus. You're likely to receive some interesting news. You might get word from a former boss that you'd be perfect for a new position opening up in his or her office. Or perhaps an old lover makes tentative inquiries about re-

newing old bonds. Your eyebrows will rise in surprise at least once during this day. Expect the unexpected!

GEMINI: Just as a watched pot

BEAUTIFUL BEY! Beyonce is spotted in an

LBD after an event in West Hollywood

never boils, so, too, do anxiously awaited checks or letters refuse to arrive in the mail, Gemini. Beyond double-checking that the person or company has your correct address, there isn't much you can do but continue to wait. Trust that it will arrive shortly, and then your financial difficulties will be behind you. CANCER: No doubt you're feeling attractive and passionate today, Cancer. Don't be surprised if a former lover gets in touch with you to try and rekindle the old flame. The attention is flattering, to be sure, but you're unlikely to have any

desire to pursue the relationship. You're happy with what you have right now. And as they say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

LEO: As you get older, you're drawn more and more to spiritual matters, Leo. It isn't so much that you're embracing any particular religion, more that you're quite curious about the supernatural and some of the ancient arts. Take some time today to visit the library or bookstore and do some reading on the subject. You might want to form a study group with other like-minded individuals.

Inke-minded individuals.

VIRGO: Don't hesitate to try something new today, Virgo. If you've thought about joining a book club or taking a class, do it today! You're likely to meet some

interesting people and enter a new social world. You might be ten-tative at first, but you'll find the group warm, friendly, and eager for your input. You'll talk like old friends by the end of the second meeting. This is just the infusion n you need!

LIBRA: You're likely to feel oplife today, Libra. You might also feel especially sexy, a feeling you should definitely take advantage of! Why not plan a romantic evening with your loved one? Don't hesitate to talk about your travel dreams over dinner. You never know, he or she just might share your dream. Before you know it, the two of you could be winging

SCORPIO: Today is full of possibilities, Scorpio. You could fall in love at first sight, or at least meet someone who captures your interest! You should be feeling especially loving, passionate, and ea-ger to devote yourself to a worthy cause or creative activity. Don't expect everything to fall into place right away. You could hit a few obstacles, but the ultimate result will be worth the bumps along the way.

SAGITTARIUS: You're looking beautiful and feeling passionate, Sagittarius. If only your passionac, Sagittarius. If only your passions could be reciprocated! Even though there may not be anyone special in your life right now, that's no reason to not treat yourself well. Go out for a nice m better yet, order take-out and dine at home, complete with music, candles, and your finest china. You should appreciate yourself even if no one else does at the moment. CAPRICORN: This could be

a frustrating day in the romance department, Capricorn. Commu-nication is blocked at all levels. You're anxious to speak with your loved one, but simply can't reach him or her. Perhaps the phone system is malfunctioning or email is acting up. You feel as though the Universe is conspiring against you. Take heart. Your part ner will contact you soon enough, and your eunion will be electric!

AQUARIUS: You have certainly felt better than you do today, Aquarius. We'll pause here while you go and fetch the aspirin. The stomachache and headache are simply the result of recent overin-dulgence. Don't worry - you'll be fit as a fiddle by tomorrow morning. Next time someone offers you multiple helpings of food or drink, however, you might want to con-sider politely declining! PISCES: You could be feeling

playful today, Pisces. Your romantic partner will certainly appreciate your fun-loving mood.
Why not plan a fun day together to the plant of the pla er doing something other than your usual routine? Rather than dinner and a movie, how about lunch and a visit to a museum or art gallery? You have both been working very hard lately. Your relationship will benefit from an injection of spontaneity.

Owner, Printer, Publisher Dr. ROMA KANTI ALLEY, Printed at M/S. Baba Offset Press Works Pvt. Ltd., Tadong Bazaar, East Sikkim, Gangtok, Pin: 737102 and Published from Santa Bhawan Complex, Near Diesel Power House, Gangtok, East Sikkim-737101, District- East, Gangtok, State- Sikkim Editor: PURAN TAMANG. Phone- [03592] 208698 E-mail- news@summittimes.com ~ letters@summittimes.com