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on pg08  
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TIMEPASS**

# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

## HC pulls up hydel developers for not complying with court orders on safety measures

### SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** The High Court of Sikkim has pulled up hydro-power projects operating in Sikkim for not complying with court orders on abiding by guidelines, safety rules and procedural norms for operation of hydel projects in the State.

The division bench of the High Court comprising of Chief Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri and Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan, while hearing a PIL today, pulled up the state's biggest hydel project developer, Teesta Urja (of the 1200 MW Teesta Stage III at Chungthang) for flouting guidelines despite the District Collector, North pointing out several deficiencies from time to time.



Shed being erected at JNV-Pipaley by Dans Energy to provide temporary relief to hostellers displaced by rising reservoir of the 96 MW Jorethang Loop hydel project

While issuing a show notice, the bench directed the project developer to explain as to why the project not closed for want of com-

pliance of the necessary guidelines.

The Project Head of Teesta Stage III Power Project at Chungthang has been asked to be present in the Court on the next date of hearing slated for 14 Sept.

In the last week of July, the bench had issued a direction to the District Collectors to serve a notice to the hydro power projects informing them about the next date of hearing to enable the respondents to take necessary steps and also directed to serve notice to them through District Collectors.

Despite the notices being served through the District Collectors, no representation was made on behalf of Teesta Stage III Power Project.

Meanwhile, the North District Administration, in its affidavit filed in the Court, stated that several deficiencies were pointed out from time to time by the District Administration and that Teesta Urja has failed to comply with the administration's directives.

There were no power and communication lines installed over the dam by the project developer (power supply at the dam is through Energy and Power Department supply lines) while proper beacon lights with siren were also not installed. No contact number in case of emergencies is made available either, the Court was informed.

It was further found that an 8-seater inflatable rescue boat has been

turn to pg03



The final handing over of the Dharmastal at Gurudongmar by the Army to Lachen Dzumsa in April 2001.

## No Gurudwara evicted, no disrespect shown, Lachen Dzumsa clarifies

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA MANGAN, 21 AUG:**

The Lachen Dzumsa has clarified that the recent "spin" given to developments in North Sikkim vis a vis the "Dharmastal" on the shores of Gurudongmar and the Chungthang Gurudwara were ill-informed interpretations of what actually transpired there on 16 August. There has been no eviction or disrespectful removal of Sikh religious items from anywhere, they insist, stressing that any misrepresentation of facts was mischievous and condemnable for the ill-will it could cause.

At the root of the confusion is a video being circulated online which claims to show the religious items of a Gurudwara being evicted and kept on the road.

The Lachen Dzumsa today clarified that this was in fact the handing over of Sikh religious items left behind at the Dharmastal at Gurudongmar which had been "respectfully" packed, tied in khadas and brought to the Chungthang Gurudwara for safe-keeping.

The Dharmastal, it is informed is being renovated and the Buddhist items housed there have also been similarly taken and kept at the Lachen Monastery.

To suggest that any eviction has taken place from any Gurudwara or

any disrespect shown to any faith or to items held in reverence by them is wrong, Dzumsa members said while speaking to SummitTimes today.

As for the Dharmastal itself, a press communiqué from the Lachen Dzumsa, which includes the relevant government documents, informs that the Dharmastal/ Shrine had been handed over by the Indian army to the Dzumsa back in July 2001. The question of eviction hence does not arise, they add.

Since then, the Dzumsa and the Lachen public have been planning to renovate the complex, a project which is now being initiated in earnest and for which the complex was to be emptied for the designers and engineers to begin their work.

Accordingly, after prayers performed there by monks from Lachen, the entire complex was emptied and all the Sikh religious items still there, along with Buddhist religious items, were packed with reverence, wrapped in khadas and taken away. The Sikh items were handed over to the Chungthang Gurudwara on 16 Aug, they inform.

Lachen Dzumsa has reiterated that the question of forceful removal does not arise as the handing and taking over from the Army was completed on 06 July 2001,

turn to pg05

## Darjeeling, Kurseong, Kalimpong students can be allowed in ICSE schools in plains

**KOLKATA, AUG 21 (PTI):** The Association of ICSE Schools in West Bengal today said around 2,500 students from schools in the Darjeeling Hills can be allowed to attend classes in ICSE-affiliated schools in south Bengal, Association Secretary Nabarun De said.

"The move is essential as students who will appear for their board examinations have to finish the syllabus and Class 9 students have to complete their board registration by September 10," De said in view of the indefinite shutdown in the hills which entered its 68th day today.

"We have written to the Association Secretary, North Bengal Region, that around 150 ICSE-affiliated schools in the plains will be ready to allow students of class 9 from over 30 schools in Darjeeling, Kurseong and Kalimpong," De told PTI here.

Asked if the students will be allowed to choose their respective institutions, De said, "Absolutely." "They will be given the option to study in the institution of their choice. They will be given the option of boarding facilities or they can also stay at their own accommodation or rented house," De said. "While the students will not have to undergo elaborate formal admission procedures, they will be allowed to attend classes after the Associ-

turn to pg03

## GJM calls on WB govt, Centre for peace talks in hills

**DARJEELING (WB), AUG 21 (PTI):** The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) today called on the Centre and the Bengal government to initiate talks at the earliest to restore peace in Darjeeling where an indefinite strike has entered its 68th day.

This was the first time that the GJM, spearheading an agitation for a separate Gorkhaland, expressed its willingness to hold talks with the state government along with the Centre.

"The responsibility of ensuring peace in the Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars is not only that of the people who live here, but also that of the central government and the West Bengal government. We, therefore, request both the governments to initiate talks at the earliest so that peace and normalcy can be restored," GJM joint secretary Binay Tamang said.

The change in the party's stand came in the wake of GJM chief Bimal Gurung being booked under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in connection with twin blasts that rocked Darjeeling on Saturday.

The GJM, during the two-month long agitation, has repeatedly declined to sit for talks with the state government and



A police patrolling party in Kalimpong

had accused it of letting loose a 'reign of terror' in the hills.

Reacting to the GJM's appeal, Darjeeling District Magistrate Joyoshi Das Gupta asked the party to withdraw the shutdown first.

"It is for them to restore normalcy as it was the GJM which has called the shutdown and has forcibly imposed it on the masses. Let them withdraw the bandh first," she said.

Echoing the DM's view, senior TMC leader and minister Gautam Deb said, "We had earlier called an all-party meeting but GJM did not attend it."

Tamang reiterated that the GJM believed in democratic

forms of protest and condemned the blasts in the hills.

"We condemn the blasts which took place in Darjeeling town and Kalimpong and we have already demanded a probe by NIA into the blasts on Saturday last," Tamang said.

A hand grenade was hurled at the Kalimpong police station on Saturday night, killing a civic volunteer and injuring two other people.

In another incident, a high-intensity explosion rocked the Chowkbazar area of Darjeeling town in the early hours of Saturday.

Tamang refuted reports of

the GJM having an understanding with the Maoists and the insurgent groups in the North East.

"We condemn these acts of unfounded rumour mongering by the media. We once again reiterate that we do not have any link with any insurgent groups in the North East or anywhere else in India or abroad," he said.

The police and the security forces today conducted raids in various parts of the hills including areas which are considered to be GJM strongholds, the police said.

Security forces also conducted area domination marches in several parts of the hills. All the police stations in the hills have been kept on high alert since Saturday night.

"We are monitoring each and every entry and exit points in the hills. We are keeping a track of the situation," a senior police officer said.

The GJM and other hill parties during the day organised rallies in various parts of the hills demanding a separate Gorkhaland state.

They also demanded restoration of internet services, which have been cut off in the hills since June 18, besides immediate withdrawal of security forces.

## At times, backing off takes greater courage

### SUDIPTA CHANDA

**GANGTOK, 21 AUG:**

The current phase of the Gorkhaland movement seems to have entered its last leg. When the movement for a democratic demand threatens to turn ugly on the arms line, the indication is clear - the advocates have nothing more to negotiate logically.

It is in circumstances such as these that people's movements lose course and transform into festering problems often labeled as seditious by the authorities. And then, the approach to tackle such problems grows hard. A look at the Northeast, Jammu & Kashmir

or the radical Left infested areas should tell the story.

Confirming the worst fears that the Gorkhaland movement was entering a blind alley, which could lead to an armed struggle, improvised explosive devices (IED) were set off in Darjeeling and Kalimpong the past weekend.

It was probably the perpetrators' way of stating that truce with the state government was not acceptable at this stage.

But, in their eagerness to explosively underline their view with nitroglycerine based devices, the perpetrators gave at least two vital games away

First, it is a confirmation that a major section in the hills is inclined for talks with the state government which the hawks want to discourage.

And second, dangerous chemical compounds that only trained people can use with devastating effect have made their way to the hills. Rest assured, the intelligence men would henceforth dedicate all its assets in ferreting out who the trained persons are.

The grim message has gone out alright, but those behind the blasts seem to have forgotten the cardinal truth that no movement - democratic or armed, can succeed

without the locals' support.

Already at their tether's end suffering a two-month plus protracted bandh, the people of the hills are all, but game for a bout of armed conflict with the state hereafter. That such a trend would not get popular support in the hills is abundantly clear. By now the common people have realized war against the state would not fetch any clear gain.

While the use of possible nitroglycerine explosives has sent a new wave of alert among the security and Intelligence agencies, which would now manifest in multiple arrests and some on ground hard rules

inconveniencing the people further, it conversely makes the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha's (GJM) task that much harder.

The GJM leadership now has the unenviable task of dodging the law on one hand for its top leaders have been booked in connection with the Darjeeling and Kalimpong explosions, and weed out the hardliners and put them on a hobble. The movement it has spearheaded so far may otherwise come back to haunt it.

A wider conflict from here on runs the risk of heavy political loss for the hill outfits and that tilts the conditions in favour of diplomacy, talks to be

exact, despite the acrimony.

The GJM and by extension the Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee (GMCC), the all-hill-party platform formed to give the statehood movement direction has precious little to show in terms of achievement the past two months.

With their political calendars crammed for elbow room given the sensitive stage the movement has entered now and limited political space offered to the hill parties by the Centre and West Bengal government, ratcheting up the movement any further could prove suicidal.



## Yuksam resident in Limca Book of Records

SUMMIT REPORT

YUKSAM, 21 AUG:

32-year-old Nawang Gyatsho Bhutia of Yuksam, West Sikkim has recorded his name in the Limca Book of Records for managing to get 95 different species of butterflies to perch on his fingers.

Nawang is also the president of Butterflies and Moths of Sikkim [BAMOS] and has been conducting research on butterflies since the past seven years.

While speaking to SummitTimes, Nawang said, "This record and achievement has added more energy and positivity towards my love for butterflies. I will continue to give more knowledge about butterflies to the world. Research on butterflies and butterfly watching will also act as a booster for tourism in the State of Sikkim. We are focusing on tourism and want butterfly watching to be another tourism activity in the State."

## CONTACT SummitTIMES

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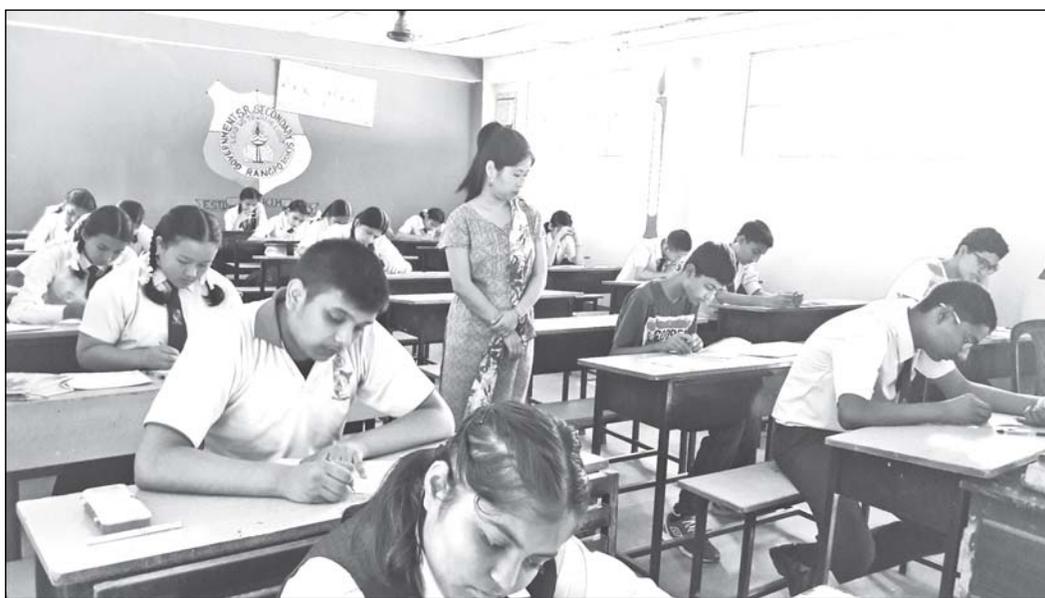
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## Pre-Regional Mathematical Olympiad conducted at Rangpo school

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 21 AUG:

Pre-Regional Mathematical Olympiad [PRMO] was conducted at Rangpo Senior Secondary School in East Sikkim on 20 Aug, a press release informs.

According to the Principal of the school, Dr Hannah Yonzan, that 47 candidates had registered for PRMO with 36 candidates from Rangpo

SSS [East], 09 from Tharpu SSS [West], 01 from Tashi Namgyal Academy, Gangtok and 01 from East Point School, Singtam.

Rangpo SSS had been approved as an Exam Centre on request.

It may be mentioned here, Rangpo SSS is the first Government school to take this initiative to conduct a PRMO. It is the only Government school of Sikkim to get regis-

tered online to Central Board of Secondary Education for PRMO.

The Central Board of Secondary Education has been conducting the Group Mathematical Olympiad every year with an aim to strengthen the knowledge of the students, enhance their innate problem solving skills and to identify talent at a young age. The National Board for Higher

Mathematics [NBHM] is in charge of the Mathematical Olympiad Activities in India. From this year, the NBHM has taken a decision to conduct a Pre-Regional Mathematical Olympiad [PRMO] exam to ensure uniformity as the first entry stage for the Mathematics Olympiads.

It is now essential for all students to pass the PRMO examination to be eligible to appear

in Group Mathematical Olympiad. The participation in PRMO and the GMO is purely voluntary.

School Coordinator for PRMO, Shyam K Pradhan [Post Graduate Teacher-Physics] and Observer, Kshittiz Chhetri [Assistant Professor-Department of Mathematics, Tadong Government College] reported that the examination was conducted smoothly and successfully.

## 119 students take part in SAATHI offsite camp

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 21 AUG:

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India [SAATHI] conducted their 6th offsite training camp for the year 2016-2017 with the participation of 119 students from the Government Senior Secondary Schools of Ranka, Middle Camp, Machong and Mangalbaria from 17-19 Aug.

A SAATHI press release informs that as an ongoing endeavor to curb drug abuse issues amongst school children, SAATHI conducts these residential camps at the Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism [IHCAE] in Chemchey, South Sikkim. The students are accompanied by the Teacher Coordinators of the respective schools and also the SAATHI Project Team.

Over the two and a half days of the camp, various motivational and



technical sessions on drugs along with learning based fun and physical activities are conducted with the students.

The session on the medical aspects of drugs was undertaken by SAATHI Teacher Coordinator from Rangpo Senior Secondary School, Pranit Mangar, while the

inspirational and life skills session was facilitated by instructor from IHCAE and a mountaineer from Sikkim, Shanti Rai, followed by an experience sharing session by Counselor and a motivational speaker, Prashant Sharma.

The newly launched SAATHI App was pre-

sented and demonstrated to the students by the SAATHI Project Team. The other activities included team building sessions, planning sessions, meditation, nature walk/physical training and talent hunt.

The camp saw a positive response from the students as most of

them pledged to be peer educators and help the greater cause of fighting against drugs in the State.

The next off site training camp will be held from 24-26 Aug at IHCAE in Chemchey, the release adds.

## State Govt should officially clear stand on Sikkim-Darjeeling merger: SKM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 21 AUG:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has demanded that the state government pass a resolution stating that it is totally against the merger of Sikkim with Darjeeling during the upcoming Assembly session. The government needs to officially clear its stand on the merger issue in order to put to rest any doubts among the people, the party has said.

Addressing a press conference here today, SKM acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, stated that the Sikkim-Darjeeling merger talk could be more than just rumours. He stated that the statement of a senior RSS leader, Ashok Chaurasia, a BJP central committee member, Padam Sharma and senior Congress leader, Jairam Ramesh, on the merger issue shows that there is something going on at the Centre.

He also stated that the recent statements made by the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and GJM chief Bimal Gurung about the talks of merger being just rumours raises

further doubts.

Mr Lepcha has demanded that both the Sikkim CM and GJM chief officially make their stands clear on the issue.

"SKM is clear on the issue. It has always supported the demand for a separate State of Gorkhaland but is totally against the merger of Sikkim and Darjeeling," he said.

It is informed that SKM is also sending a high level delegation to the Centre to understand the facts better.

SKM working president, Navin Karki, alleged that Gorkha Rashtriya Congress, which has been advocating the unification of Sikkim and Darjeeling, has always played around with the map of Sikkim in its calendar.

On the same, he has questioned why the State government has never objected or taken any action against them.

He has further questioned the CMO accepting a memorandum of GRC on the Sikkim-Darjeeling unification on 26 May 2016 and why no statement to condemn the memorandum even if it was accepted was issued.



## Training on Rajmash cultivation at Bokrong

GANGTOK, 21 AUG:

A day-long training-cum-input distribution programme was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra-South Sikkim today at Upper Bokrong in South Sikkim, a press release received from KVK South informs.

Subject Matter Specialist [Agronomy], Dr Nation Chamling, informed the farmers about organic package of practices of Rajmash crop. He urged the farmers to take up organic seed production to become self reliant.

Soil Science SMS, Wilson Rai, informed about

proper soil sampling collection technique and maintenance of soil health through organic nutrient management.

Extension SMS, Meena Pradhan, briefed the farmers about Crop Insurance and importance of farm planning while Animal Science SMS, Dr Cheung Norbu Bhutia, highlighted about Dairy Care and Management.

The programme also featured the seed distribution of Rajmash. Farmers of Bokrong village expressed their gratitude towards KVK South Sikkim for reaching out to them.

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Every Saturday & Sunday

MIM

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# SummitTIMES

BY TOP OF THE BEST

informed, inquisitive, relevant

**Gangtok on Tuesday, 22 Aug**

**Temp:** 26°C / 17°C  
**Forecast:** A morning shower or thunderstorm around; otherwise, mostly cloudy.  
**Sunrise:** 05:09 AM  
**Sunset:** 06:07 PM

**ICFAI-Sikkim announces seminar on GST**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** ICFAI University Sikkim has announced plans to organise a national seminar titled, 'Goods & Services Tax (GST): Economic, Legal & Technological Dimensions' on 09 Sept.

An ICFAI Sikkim press release informs that this seminar is an attempt to provide a platform to thinkers of every persuasion to put forth their opinions in the realm of ideas regarding GST.

To make the gathering more inclusive and multi-disciplinary sub-themes namely GST and Economy: Efficiency versus Effectiveness, GST and Commerce: Challenges of Unlearning, GST and Services: Impetus & Impediments, GST and Law: Power Relations of Centre and Periphery and GST and Technology: GSTN and its Challenges are appended to the overarching theme, the release adds

**Darjeeling...**

**Contd from pg01** ation Secretry of North Bengal responds in writing and the CISCE gives the nod," De, himself attached with a reputed English medium institution in the city, said.

The over 30 schools in the Hills may write to CISCE Secretary and CEO Gerry Arathoon, mentioning the names of the interested candidates.

Students of the boarding schools came down to Siliguri on June 23 when the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha gave them a 12-hour travel window.

**to book advertisements in SummitTimes, call 03592-208698 9734152541**



**Sensitization programme on POCSO Act and Juvenile Justice Act linkages**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** Sikkim Judicial Academy organized a sensitization programme on linkages between Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act,

2012 and Juvenile Justice [Care & Protection of Children] Act, 2015 on 20 Aug at the High Court auditorium in Gangtok.

An SJA press release informs that the event was organized for Judges

dealing with POCSO Act cases/Fast Track Court cases, Principal Magistrates and members of Juvenile Justice Boards, Public Prosecutors, Special Juvenile Police Units, Child Protection Officers,

Probation Officers, Advocates under the panel of Sikkim SLSA and members of Child Welfare Commission.

Advocate from Delhi, Michelle Mendonca, was the resource person.



**Induction Training Programme for RMSA Secondary teachers concludes**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** The valedictory function of Induction Training Programme for Secondary teachers appointed under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan [RMSA] for 2017-18 was held today in the Sikkim State Teachers Recruitment Board [SSTRB] Hall at Syari in Gangtok, a press release received from Human Resource Development Department informs.

The function was attended by Advisor-HRDD, OT Lepcha, as chief guest and Additional Chief Secretary-HRDD, GP Upadhyaya, as guest of honour. Also present were Special Secretary-cum-State Project Director, RMSA, MT Sherpa, Director [Languages/MDM], Ugyen Lepcha, Joint Director-RMSA, KC Gyatso, Joint Director [SE], K Inbaraj, and other officers from the State Project Office, RMSA and HRDD.

Fifty-seven RMSA teachers and five Special Educators, IEDSS participated in the training programme that was conducted from 17 Aug by Resource Persons namely President-SPACE, Dr Sunam Gyamtsho, former Additional Di-

rector-SCERT, Indira Joshi, Senior Resource Persons from SCERT, Teach for India, SIBIN, IEDSS Cell, Yoga Cell, etc.

While delivering the welcome address for the valedictory session, Special Secretary-cum-State Project Director, RMSA, Mr Sherpa, stated that the programme has proved to be highly beneficial for new teachers who are at the initial stage of their career which will provide huge support for them for coping with the classroom environment. He also appreciated the high degree of enthusiasm and zeal displayed by the teachers during the training programme.

In their feedback, participating teachers, Bishnu Chettri [Graduate Teacher, Phodong SSS] and Yukit Lepcha [GT-Science, Dentam SSS] expressed their delight on having been given the platform for undergoing such training.

In his key note address, ACS-HRDD, Mr Upadhyaya, urged the participants to spend more of their free time reading about other States that are doing well in education. Speaking about SHAGUN portal and the website of Ministry of Human

Resource Development, Government of India, he advised the participants to access these websites that hosts a variety of information including best practices under SSA and RMSA of all states and progress on implementation of the various components. He also urged the teachers to explore the learning outcomes notified by NCERT.

Advisor-HRDD, OT Lepcha, spoke about the importance of such training programmes and congratulated all participants. Appreciating the noble work being done by Teachers, he spoke about the positive step taken up the Government by proposing hike in salaries of Adhoc Teachers and other employees.

He also urged the teachers to take up Yoga that will help in keeping fit both physically and mentally. He also reminded the teachers of their responsibilities in the society and need for discharging the same with utmost care and diligence.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Deputy Director-RMSA, Kabita Moktan, wherein she, as Programme Director presented a brief overview of the whole programme.

**Freedom from Open Defecation Week concludes at Sikkim**



**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** The closing ceremony of Freedom from Open Defecation Week was organised at the conference hall of Block Administrative Centre in Sikkim, South Sikkim today.

The programme was attended by Zilla Panchayat, Additional District Collector [Development]-Ravangla, Block Development Officer-Sikkim, Assistant Education Officer, Panchayats, Rural Development Assistants,

Self Help Groups, heads of schools and students.

A press release from BDO-Sikkim's office informs that a painting competition was conducted wherein Mangbrue School was adjudged the winner. They were presented with certificates and trophies.

Further, Lamaten Tingmoo GPU was selected as Swachh Gram [Clean GPU] while Lingyong Junior High School and CM Rai Secondary School were se-

lected for the title 'Swachh School'. The 'Ek Kadam Swachata Ki Ore' was given to Indra Kamal SHG of Sanganath GPU during the programme.

A series of programmes including a rally, distribution of pamphlets to passenger vehicles and a three-day Zero Waste Management training to SHGs was also conducted in different GPUs as a part of Freedom from Open Defecation Week, the release adds.



**WORK RESUMES**

**SINGTAM, 21 AUG:** The construction work of the flyover connecting to District Hospital Singtam resumed today. The project had come to a halt after workers who had left Sikkim for Eid celebrations had been stranded back at their places due to the ongoing unrest in neighbouring Darjeeling Hills. [Yogen Thatal]

**HC pulls up hydel developers for not complying with court orders on safety measures**

**Contd from pg01** procured and one more boat is under progress for procurement.

The bench also pulled up Dans Energy Pvt Ltd, power developers of the 96 MW Jorethang Loop hydel project, directing it to make good the deficiencies as noted by the District Collector (West), before the next date of hearing.

The reservoir of the project had risen dangerously close to the campus of Jawahar Navodaya Vidhyalaya at Pipaley, a residential school run by Ministry of Human Resource Development, so much so that a portion of the boundary wall had collapsed and a wing of the boys' hostel had to be evacuated fearing

threat from the rising water.

After the District Administration's (West) intervention, Dans Energy is constructing two temporary sheds for students which are expected to be completed by 22 Aug, informed DC West, Kapil Meena.

The school in the meanwhile has been closed for ten days in light of the threat posed by the reservoir. The school is scheduled to reopen on 23 August, by when alternate accommodation for the displaced hostellers and adequate protective works were expected to be in place.

Ajay Rathi, the counsel appearing for Dans Energy Pvt Ltd on instruction of Asstt. Manager,

Chunku Bhutia, has sought time to file a report indicating the steps taken by the developer and also why the nearby JNV Pipaley School was fully imperilled on account of the rising reservoir of the project.

Mr Rathi, who is also the counsel for Shiga Energy Pvt. Ltd, a sister concern of Dans Energy, submitted that all necessary steps have been taken and since the project is yet to be operational, it will be ensured that all the requisite guidelines are complied with before the project is commissioned.

NHPC and Chujachen HEP, meanwhile, sought time to file their reports detailing steps taken by the project authorities.

**ACCELERATOR ACADEMY**  
 INVITES APPLICANTS FOR  
**LDC COACHING**

GENERAL ENGLISH 85M	GENERAL AWARENESS 35M	BASIC COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE 15M	VIVA 15M
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COMPLETE PACKAGE - CLASSES STARTS FROM 10TH JULY, 2017  
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## Accident Prone

*Sikkim needs to study why its roads see so many accidents and its hospitals sign so many referrals*

There is an enquiry underway on what caused the Mangan bus mishap which claimed three lives and left 40 injured. Hopefully, the enquiry will do a thorough enough job to ensure that lessons are learned and corrective measures undertaken to avoid a repeat. To its credit, the SNT bus service is among the most reliable modes of travelling in Sikkim and the latest mishap was after an eleven year gap. That said, there is always room for improvement and only a proper investigation by professionals will establish whether the accident was caused by human error, engine failure or road conditions. And once the cause is established, amends can be made road travel made even more secure. It might not be out of place here to suggest that a proper appraisal is made of the reliability of roads in State. The monsoon has not been kind on road surfaces and repairs have been too piecemeal for too long to inspire much confidence. A proper check-up to verify the load-bearing capacities of roads across the state appears to be in order.

And while the experts deploy their expertise to address the issues flagged above, a parallel soul-searching should look into the preparedness of healthcare infrastructure for situations like the one which visited the district hospital at Mangan on the day of the accident. Except one injured passenger, the remaining 39 were referred to Gangtok. While there can be no challenging the fact that injured patients should receive the best of treatment, including referrals if so required, one is also bound to wonder how a district hospital found itself equipped enough to handle only one of the 40 injured accident victims. Staffing does not appear to be the issue and neither can be the efficacy of doctors and nurses, but what even the collective experience of the health workers cannot cover up for is the lack of equipment. Was that the reason behind a district hospital being forced to perform like a first-aid centre? If so, then clearly an upgrade is required because North Sikkim is prone not only to road mishaps, but also natural disasters which can cause large-scale injuries. The district hospital up North should hence be equipped with the best possible personnel and equipment to handle trauma cases. Even to a non-medical mind, referrals appear ill advised when it comes to accident victims because not only do the patients have to be left without a doctor watching over them (for the duration of the road journey), but also because they have to travel over road surfaces which do not lend themselves too well to travel for those with possible internal, or for that matter any, injuries.

The concerned authorities should now resolve to carry out a detailed appraisal of roads and their stability and also check the road-worthiness of the fleets pressed into passenger service here. They should then confer with nurses at the PHSC level to doctors at PHCs, CHCs and district hospitals and specialists at STNM Hospital and invite them to draw up a wish-list of support staff and equipment required by them to deliver the best possible care for the level of complications they are expected to handle at their level. Once this list is secured, arrange for the funds and make their wishes come true and draw up a checks-and-balances system to discourage excessive referrals. If this happens, a giant leap would have been taken towards ensuring improved healthcare in Sikkim like governments are fond of saying, right at the doorsteps of the people.

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A VOICE FROM BHUTAN PUTS THE DOKLAM STAND-OFF IN PERSPECTIVE - BHUTANESE PERSPECTIVE

## Doklam Plateau and the Shifting Tri-Junction Points

YESHEY DORJI

As much as I try to desist from writing on the issue of Doklam that has prompted a hoard of ill-informed and poorly educated people around the world to hurl derogatory terms such as "puppet", "vassal", "protectorate" etc. at Bhutan and the Bhutanese people, I am unable to contain myself, simply because what is being put out is so much falsehood and misinformation and treachery and dishonesty.

The stand-off between India and China, from what is clearly obvious, is not based on their necessity for that piece of land, or on their legal or historical right of ownership over that land, but because, by their own admission, that land will give one of them strategic dominance over the other. If contemplation of war is at the core of their act of belligerence, all that one can say of these two countries is that they suffer from paucity of morality and human decency.

It is Bhutan's misfortune that we are centered between these two debauched nations.

It is rather odd that the world is being misled into believing that these two nations need, of all things, a desolately located Himalayan plateau, called Doklam Plateau, to give them military dominance over the other.

How many of us will buy that logic?

If wars are to be fought and won, it will not be won from atop a frigid plateau located deep inside the Himalayan ranges. Each of these two nations has impressive military power, with nuclear capability. Thus, if war is their intention, they can simply activate a switch sitting in Beijing or New Delhi and annihilate each other from the face of this earth. Thus, their argument that Doklam Plateau is critical to their national security is not tenable.

Even if that were true, it is still not good enough or valid enough reason for any country to trample on the sovereignty of a small and peaceful country such as Bhutan, which is, after all, the only country that has the moral authority and historical legitimacy to give credence to the claims and counter

claims being made by these two countries who are shamelessly engaged in irrelevant verbosity.

The world would have noticed that the one country that, by right, should be at the center of this brouhaha is conspicuously silent over the whole matter - other than a half-hearted Demarche issued in June of this year.

Doklam Plateau is at the Tri-junction of Bhutan, Sikkim and Tibet. Of these three countries, Bhutan is the only one that is still standing. China and India may have selectively annexed Sikkim and Tibet, but their overlord status in these nation states does not empower them to speak with knowledge and authority. Their relevance begins in 1950 in the case of China, and 1975 in the case of India. As opposed to that, the knowledge base of the people of Bhutan, Sikkim and Tibet on the matter goes back many centuries.

While India was buckling under the successive colonial yoke of the British Raj, the French and the Portuguese, the Bhutanese and the Tibetans were happily grazing their yaks in the Doklam Plateau areas - fully cognizant and respectful of their respective boundaries. There was no confusion.

Similarly, while the Manchus and the Mongols and the Japanese were one after the other subjugating the Chinese, the Bhutanese and the Tibetans were quite merrily trading and exchanging merchandise across their borders and living in harmony.

Something that the world must consider very seriously, even if the Chinese and the Indians won't, is this: there was never any disagreement between Bhutan and Tibet concerning their territorial boundaries. The Bhutanese and the Tibetans made their annual migrations to the pasture lands in the Doklam areas to graze their yaks in peace and harmony. They both knew and respected the exact locations of their respective boundaries.

So then, why is there a dispute now?

How can two Johnnies-come-lately start disagreeing on the physical boundaries that have been in place for centuries - perhaps even pre-dat-

ing their respective civilizations? Has there been some tectonic shift in the Eastern Himalayas that have caused some drastic geographical alterations in the Doklam areas causing traditional boundaries to go for a spin?

Four years to the month (August 2013), I had written that the issue of Doklam is dangerous and that we should resolve it without delay. Four years since, we are still engaged in the same useless cock and bull story that cannot contribute to solving the problem that needs solving. We all know that without the backing of truth behind what we do, whatever we do will be doomed to failure. Let us not postpone that which is inevitable - the dispute needs to be resolved - it cannot be postponed forever. Doing so thus far has already complicated the issues as can be seen from the following:

- To begin with, the disputed area between Bhutan and China was supposed to be at the Doklam Plateau areas, located on the West-South of Haa.

- The most recent claims emerging as a result of the stand-off between China and India indicate that the Tri-junction is now centered at a place called Gy-mochen, further down south of Batang-La which was earlier taken as the Tri-junction point.

- Consequent upon relocation of the Tri-junction point to Gy-mochen further down south, China now claims additional land.

Bhutan should settle the issue of the Northern borders with China, without further delay. It would be stupid to assume that we can stall the matter indefinitely - a day will dawn on us when we have to make the settlement - we all know that. Thus, it is better that we do it sooner than later. If 24 rounds of border talks with China haven't brought us any closer to arriving at a settlement, I do not know what will help.

Certainly not audacity!

*[the writer is a photographer by profession and based in Thimpu, Bhutan. He blogs at [yeshyedorji.blogspot.in](http://yeshyedorji.blogspot.in). This article was originally posted on his blog on 20 August, 2017 and is reproduced here by permission from the writer]*

## Resilience has become a way of life in Sierra Leone, now mourning hundreds lost in mudslide

DAVID WINTER  
*theconversation.com*

Nation "once again... gripped by Agrief". This was how Ernest Bai Koroma, president of Sierra Leone, described the effects of the mudslide that devastated Regent, on the outskirts of the country's capital, Freetown in the early hours of August 14 2017. At least 400 people were killed, hundreds more are still missing, and thousands have been rendered homeless. The vice president, Victor Foh, said that: "The disaster is so serious that I myself feel broken."

Few countries can have exceeded Sierra Leone's share of recent misfortune. In its brutal 11-year civil war, beginning in 1991, tens of thousands of people lost their lives, countless more suffered mutilation or rape and more than a third of the population was displaced.

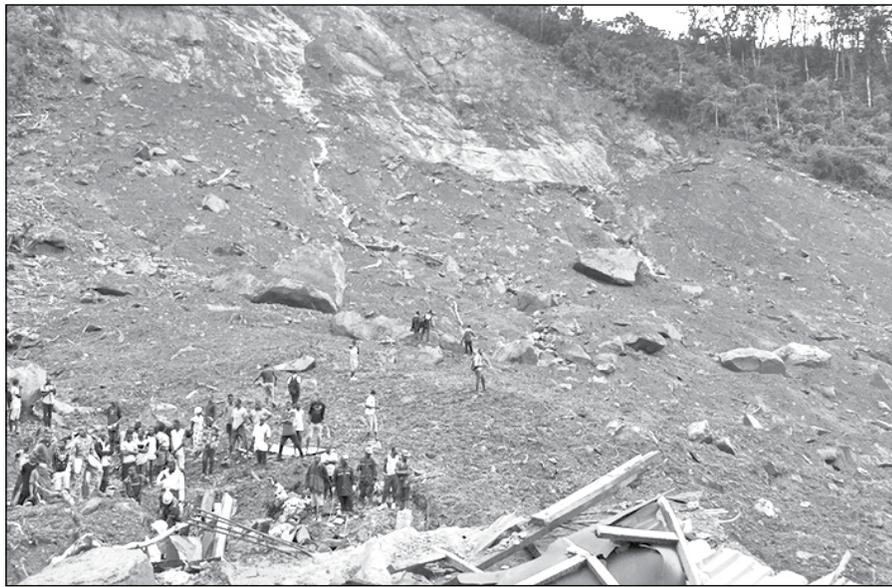
Then, in 2014, the country was ravaged by the largest ever Ebola epidemic, which killed at least 4,000 people in Sierra Leone. Such peaks of trauma occurred against a backdrop of extreme poverty and high mortality rates, including one of the highest in the world for women during pregnancy or childbirth.

Research I've conducted in Sierra Leone over the past few years provides some understanding of how those currently gripped by grief following the mudslide might respond in the longer term, and what help they might need in addition to very practical resources.

One of my recent studies focused upon people affected by the Ebola epidemic, including a group who had courageously volunteered to be burial workers. They exposed themselves to the risks of infection, but also of violence from people prevented from carrying out their normal burial rituals, and of ostracism following the epidemic. Nevertheless, they were able to see themselves as being prepared to "stand very tall to fight for our country".

Another study concerned former child soldiers. Thousands of boys and girls, in some cases with ages not even in double figures, fought in the civil war. Most were forcibly conscripted, with initiations that often involved having to mutilate or murder family members.

They were typically plied with



The hillside near Regent, outside Freetown, hit by a mudslide

drugs before battle, and many were used as sex slaves. It might be expected that such experiences would have a severe impact on these young people, but surprisingly those who participated in the research viewed themselves more favourably than did young people who had not fought in the war, and as better people now than ever before. Some of them developed a Community Theatre Agency to help the reintegration of former child soldiers into the community.

Another of my studies concerned a group of people who had lost limbs in the war, mostly as victims of the rebels' favourite form of terror: amputation. They lost not only their limbs but also their hopes and dreams. However, one of them had an idea:

"You guys, never mind we lost our legs, some of us lost our hands, we're not anything in the sight of God ... let's come together and ... play football."

They formed a football team, which paradoxically provided opportunities, for example for foreign travel, which would not have been available had they not suffered amputation. It was clear that football played a major role in the recovery of their

self-esteem.

### MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

Following the civil war, a very high prevalence of mental health problems was reported in Sierra Leone, where treatment facilities are very limited. In the country's one psychiatric hospital, 75% of its patients were kept in chains when I first visited it in 2007 (with a delegation from Barnet, Enfield, and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust) - and virtually the only treatment consisted of very heavy doses of major tranquillizers.

Interviews with the in-patients indicated most felt they needed practical help, for example involving finance, housing, or employment. When those on one of the wards were asked what they would like, their virtually unanimous request was for music. When music cassettes were duly played, most of them spontaneously started dancing, in many cases while still chained until the staff were persuaded to unchain - and dance with - them. During subsequent visits by the delegation over six years, the number of patients kept in chains reduced to about 20%.

HELPING THOSE

### GRIPPED BY GRIEF

These examples demonstrate the considerable resilience of the people of Sierra Leone - and of people in general - when faced with major tragedies. Although such disasters tend to attract armies of international "trauma chasers", such as experts on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), it should not be forgotten that PTSD is a relatively uncommon response to trauma, as compared to resilience, recovery and growth.

The appropriateness of such Western concepts such as PTSD may also be questioned in a country in which, to quote from the Salonean author Aminata Forna: "You call it a disorder my friend, we call it life."

Approaches based on listening to, and taking seriously, the views of those affected, or which encourage these people's own creative initiatives, may be more relevant and effective than Western treatment methods. Some of these, which involve rapid psychological intervention after trauma, have been found to be at best counter-productive, and possibly harmful.

*[the writer is Professor Emeritus of Clinical Psychology, University of Hertfordshire]*

**Arunachal adopts national policy for Tibetans in exile**

**DHARAMSHALA, AUG 21 (PTI):** Arunachal Pradesh has adopted a rehabilitation policy which deals with matters concerning land lease, extending Central and state benefits to Tibetans residing in the state.

In a letter to Lobsang Sangay, the president of Central Tibetan administration (CTA) in Dharamshala, which is the global headquarters for the 1,50,000 Tibetans living across 40 countries of the world, the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Peman Khandu expressed his happiness for making the decision.

Khandu had said in the letter that at the cabinet meeting convened by him on August 12, 2017, a decision was made to adopt and extend the Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy 2014 in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, the PRO said. The chief minister had further mentioned that Arunachal Pradesh houses the fourth largest number of Tibetans in India.

It has four Tibetan settlements -- Tezu, Miao, Tuting and Tenzingang.

Sangay expressed happiness at the move.

"I thank my dear friend Shri Pema Khandu who is an ardent follower of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and lifelong friend of the Tibetan people. The state of Arunachal Pradesh shares an unshakeable and historic bond with the Tibetan people. This gesture will further strengthen this bond of friendship and affinity between the two," said Sangay.

The guideline states that Tibetans may be allowed to undertake any economic activity and to that extent, relevant papers/trade license/permit may be issued to them and also permitted to take jobs in any field for which they are professionally qualified.

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**152 dead, 1.5 crore people hit by flood in WB, says WB CM**

**MALDA (WB), AUG 21 (PTI):** Floods in West Bengal have claimed 152 lives so far and affected around 1.5 crore people, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said today.

The state has suffered a loss of around Rs 14,000 crore due to the deluge, she said.

The state government, Banerjee said, would send a report on the flood situation to the Centre and hoped that it would get its "justified dues".

"I heard that the Centre has provided financial assistance of Rs 2,000 crore to Assam and also to Gujarat. I do not have any problem in that. I want that every state must get aid," she said.

"The damage caused in West Bengal is no less than what happened in Gujarat and Assam. We will send a total report on the flood to the Centre and hope that we will get



what we deserve," the chief minister said.

She said around 152 people have lost their lives in the recent floods in West Bengal

and 1.5 crore people have been affected.

The CM held a monitoring meeting in which state Chief Secretary Malay De, Home

Secretary Atri Bhattacharya, DGP Surajit Purkayastha, disaster management secretary and DMs of the six affected districts were present.

Banerjee, who visited the three flood-hit districts of Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur to take stock of the situation there, said that around 45,000 people have been affected in the three districts.

The chief minister said the state government's primary task was to help those affected in the floods.

"Our primary object is to rescue and provide relief and then start restoration of the damaged houses. We have to disinfect the tubewells, schools, health centres, hospitals," she said.

The administration has been instructed to take proper precautionary measures and supply medicines keeping in mind the possibility of the outbreak of several water-borne diseases in the aftermath of floods, Banerjee said.

"There has been massive rainfall in this season but the flood was caused mainly because of overflowing river water.

This is a natural phenomenon, but I think the Centre must look into this," she said.

They Centre must conduct dredging. Dredging was not done in the Farakka barrage), barrages in Durgapur and the DVC. Water from the Sankosh river inundated West Bengal, she said.

"During summer, we face water scarcity because river water is stopped at different dams and during monsoon the dams release water which inundate areas in West Bengal," the CM said.

"We must keep in mind that states have their boundaries and we must maintain good relations with each other," she said.

**In a year, no more physical police verification for passports: Home Secy**

**NEW DELHI, AUG 21 (PTI):** The physical police verification for getting a passport will soon be a thing of the past as the government plans to connect the service with a robust national database of crimes and criminals that will check the antecedents of applicants at the click of a mouse.

Union Home Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi said the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems Project (CCTNS) is expected to link with the passport service of the Ministry of External Affairs and it will replace physical police verification for passport applicants with online verification in a year.

"Police in some states are already using CCTNS for passport credentials. Police will be given hand held devices to go to an applicant's address and his or her details will be uploaded with the network. It will minimise

contact with police and reduce time," he told reporters here.

Mehrishi was speaking after Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched a digital police portal under the CCTNS project, which aims to create a national database of crimes and criminals and connect country's all 15,398 police stations with it.

He said with the port, mandate of the CCTNS has been expanded by incorporating citizen centric services tenant verification, which could be done with the consent of the person being verified, quick registration of FIR in any crime and connecting the network with criminal justice delivery system.

Asked about the safety of the database, the home secretary said possibility of hacking was always there but enough safeguards have been put in place and the National Critical Information In-

frastructure Protection Centre has been roped in for the task.

The home minister said the digital police portal will provide citizens, facility for online complaint registration and request for antecedent verification.

"The police portal will provide 11 searches and 46 reports from the national database for state police and central investigation agencies. Central investigating and research agencies have also been provided logins to the digital police database to access crime statistics," he said after launching the portal.

Singh said the CCTNS has enabled 13,775 out of 15,398 police stations to enter 100 per cent data into the software.

He said as of now the CCTNS national database has around 7 crore data records pertaining to past and current criminal cases.



**DENZ 93 DONATES ESSENTIAL MATERIALS TO KINGSTONE ORPHANAGE**

**GANGTOK, 21 AUG:** An organisation called DENZ 93 has provided essential materials to an orphanage at Kingstone under Chujachen constituency in East Sikkim on 20 Aug. A team from the organization presented blankets, pillow covers, shoes, clothes, school bags, water filter, buckets, carom board, ludo, chess and other playing kits for the children of the home, a press release informs. It is informed that the orphanage is run by Akhil Sikkim Asahay Kalyan Samiti and has 40 children.

On the occasion, children of the orphanage also performed dances and other cultural presentations and members of DENZ 93 spoke on various issues related to girl children of the home. Akhil Sikkim Asahay Kalyan Samiti also felicitated DENZ 93.

**Nepal Parliament fails to endorse Constitution amendment bill**

**KATHMANDU, AUG 21 (PTI):** Nepal's parliament today failed

to endorse the much-awaited Constitution amendment bill to address the issues of Madhesis as the ruling coalition could not garner a two-thirds majority required for its passage.

In the 592-member House, 395 votes were required to get the amendment bill through.

During the voting, 347 lawmakers voted in favour of the bill while 206 lawmakers voted against it. Of the total 592 lawmakers, 553 lawmakers were present during the voting.

The main opposition, CPN

UML, voted against the bill.

Rastriya Prajatantra Party led by Kamal Thapa, a pro-Hindu group, had also voted against the bill.

The voting process commenced after the 50 proposals to amend the bill registered by various political parties were rejected by a majority.

Earlier, a total of 54 lawmakers took part in the deliberations of the bill that was forwarded to address demands raised by the agitating Madhes-centric parties who have

been opposing the local elections on the ground that the new Constitution be amended to accommodate their views.

They want more representation in the Parliament and redrawing of provincial boundaries.

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

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**No Gurudwara evicted, no disrespect shown, Lachen Dzumsa clarifies**

**contd from pg01**

fifteen years ago. The process of handing over the Dharmastal to Lachen Monastery had begun on 12 December 2000 in the presence of the tehn Deputy Speaker and Sangha MLA, Palden Lachungpa, Minister of Power Department and MLA, Hishey Lachungpa, Minister of Land Revenue & Tourism, KT Gyaltsen, Pachayat Adhakshya and Deputy Adhakshya [North], representative of Lachen Monastery and public of Lachen and Army Commanding Officer In-charge of the area.

It has not helped matters that there was also some confusion over the Gurudwara construction at Chungthang, but even this issue was resolved and the residents of Chungthang highlight it as further evidence of the fact that no ill-will is intended against the Sikh faith.

Some confusion had arisen there when the Chungthang Monastery committee and the public were stopped by people from the Gurudwara from carrying out demarcation of their boundaries. The matter was brought to the Sub Divisional Magistrate Chungthang and when Land parchas of the Chungthang Monastery was produced, it appeared that a portion of its land had been encroached in the Gurudwara construction. A new Gurudwara was constructed at the site of the older one in 2012.

Despite this situation, and after encroachment was officially established, the locals, including the monastery, have not insisted on any demolitions or penalties since a place of worship has already been constructed, they point out.

"In spite of tribal land being illegally occupied, we have not been taken them to court," they share.

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## Tripura to have world-class cricket stadium

**AGARTALA, AUG 21 (PTI):** Tripura Cricket Association will build a world-class cricket stadium, with a seating capacity of 25,000, in collaboration with BCCI at Narsinggarh near here.

"It is a Rs 200 crore project of which 50 per cent would be borne by BCCI and the rest by TCA," TCA secretary Tapas Dey told reporters today.

It will be a modern stadium having all facilities and will be capable of holding all types of international matches, he said.

Chief Minister Manik Sarkar yesterday laid the foundation stone of the stadium, which will be the second largest cricket stadium in the north-east after the stadium in Guwahati.

Sarkar said, "It is a good initiative by the TCA and will provide further opportunity to young cricket players in the state."

"We have no dearth of sports talent in the state but we need to train them properly," Sarkar said.

The club house will be a seven-storied building and will have good lifts, modern gymnasium and electronic score boards.



## Pooja Bhatt completes eight months of sobriety

**MUMBAI, AUG 21 (PTI):** Pooja Bhatt has successfully completed eight months of sobriety and the actor-director is ecstatic about it.

The 45-year-old filmmaker took to Twitter to announce the news.

"Oh and today is eight months of sobriety for me! Have come a pretty long way baby! Here's to the rest of the journey! #onedayatime," wrote Pooja, alongside a selfie.

The "Jism 2" director decided to quit drinking on Christmas last year.

"I quit drinking because I thought somewhere I had fallen in that trap of addiction myself and the only way to get out of it was to acknowledge it to myself.

"We here try to brush things under the carpet. People put up this facade that they are under control by saying things like 'Its socially acceptable, I am not that drunk,' Pooja had shared at an event early this year.

# Neymar slams Barca bosses after PSG home debut

**Paris, Aug 21 (AFP):** Paris Saint-Germain's world record signing Neymar launched a scathing attack on his former club's directors, saying "Barca deserve much better".

The people in charge at the Catalan giants "are not the people who should be there, for the direction of Barca," Neymar told reporters after scoring twice on his home debut as PSG thumped Toulouse 6-2 in Ligue 1 yesterday.

"I want to speak the truth, I'm very sad with them," said the Brazilian star who cost the Paris club a world record 222 million euros (261 million) to prise from Barcelona.

"I spent four years there and I was very happy. At the start, I was happy. I spent four beautiful years there and I parted happy. But with them (the club's directors), no.

"For me, they are not the peo-



ple who should be there, for the direction of Barca," said Neymar.

"Barca deserve much better and the whole world knows it." Despite securing the massive fee for Neymar, Barcelona are struggling to replace him before the transfer window closes.

The club have had bids in excess of 100 million euros for Liv-

erpool's Philippe Coutinho and Dortmund's Ousmane Dembele turned down.

And the club have been criticised for splashing out 40 million euros (47 million) for Brazil midfielder Paulinho, who has spent two years at Chinese Super League champions Guangzhou Evergrande.

But Neymar said he could not comment on what the club were doing before the transfer window closes at the end of the month.

"I cannot speak now I am in another team. I don't know what's going on there, but I see my old teammates sad, and it's that which makes me sad because I have a lot of friends there," he said.

"I hope that things will improve for Barca and that they will become a team that can rival others."

However, former Tottenham flop Paulinho's arrival has not been warmly received by Barca fanatical supporters at the Camp Nou.

Over 80 per cent of fans urged the club not to pay more than 20 million euros for Paulinho in a survey conducted by Barcelona sports daily Mundo Deportivo.

## FC Pune City snap ISL golden boot winner Marcelinho

**PUNE, AUG 21 (PTI):** Indian Super League side FC Pune City today announced the roping in of the last edition golden boot winner Marcelo Pereira for the upcoming season.

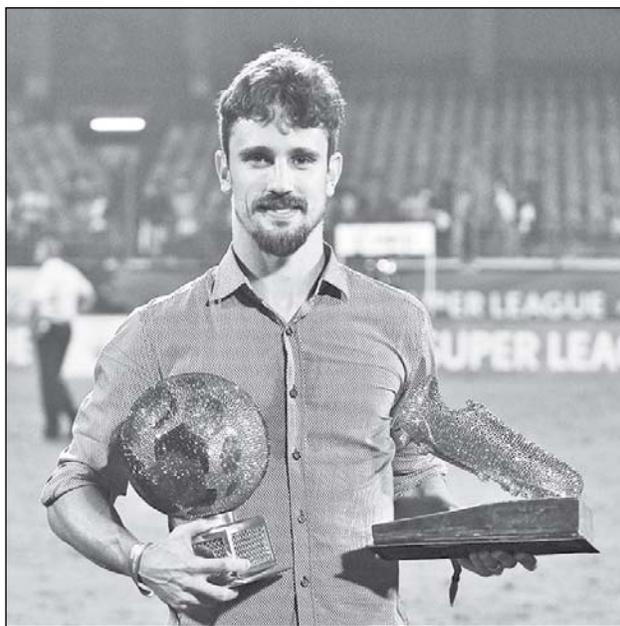
The Brazilian winger, who has plied his trade in Spain, Greece and Italy, represented Delhi Dynamos FC last season.

In his 15 appearances, Marcelinho scored 10 goals and made five assists.

FC Pune City CEO Gaurav Modwel was excited on the new addition to his team.

"Marcelinho has a great appetite for scoring and caused some serious damage to other teams' defence in ISL last season. He is a busy player on the pitch, always in the thick of things -- setting the pace, assisting and finding the back of the net. I know our fans really wanted him to don the FC Pune City jersey! Welcome Marcelinho," he said.

In his career spanning almost a decade now, Marcelinho has represented Atletico Madrid 'B', Getafe 'B', Greek clubs



like Skoda Xanthi FC, Atromitos Athens, Kalamata among others.

Head coach Antonio Habas said, "Marcelinho is one of the most accomplished attackers we have seen in ISL. He has the versatility to play on wings as well as in front of the net along with

great pace to match his abilities. These qualities will be of great help to the team and hope we can achieve results that we aim for in the coming season."

On donning the orange and purple jersey this time, Marcelinho said. "It's exciting times

ahead as I join FC Pune City. Antonio Habas is a great coach to work with and his vision for the club is something that got me excited. I will give my 100 % and ensure my stint with FC Pune City gives the Orange Army many reasons to celebrate.

## Deuba on four-day India visit from Wednesday

**NEW DELHI, AUG 21 (PTI):** In his first foreign visit after assuming office, Nepalese Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba will arrive here on Wednesday on a four-day trip during which he will hold wide-ranging talks with his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi on issues of mutual interest.

Deuba, who will be accompanied by a high level delegation, will also call on the president and the vice-president, an external affairs ministry release said.

"In recent years, India-Nepal partnership has witnessed significant growth in all areas of cooperation. The upcoming visit will provide an opportunity to both the sides for holding wide-ranging discussions on issues of mutual interest, and advancing age-old special ties of friendship between our two countries," it said.

Deuba took over as prime minister in June 2017. During his four-day visit he will also travel to Hyderabad, Tirupati and Bodh Gaya.



## 11 kickboxers from House of Champion in State team

**SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 21 AUG:**

Eleven kickboxers from House of Champion, Karate and Kickboxing Academy, Tadong have been selected in the State team for the upcoming WAKO India National Kickboxing Championship 2017 for cadet, junior and senior to be held from 06-10 Sept at Balbeer Singh Juneja Stadium, Raipur in Chhattisgarh. The academy is being run by four time international kickboxing medalist, Sushmita Rai.

The selected kick-box-

ers from the academy in the State team are Yonten Sherpa, Anvi Basnett, Vihan Neupaney, Achyata Adhikari, Bigyasha Tamang, Yajana Gurung, Priyanka Chaudhary, Saavi Mangla, Beekalp Rai, Rakesh Rai and coach, Ms Rai.

Ms Rai expressed immense happiness and satisfaction on the performance of her students in the selection camp held on Sunday. She assured to train more national and international kick-boxers and karatekas from the academy in the near future.



## Srikanth, Sameer sail through World Championship opener

**GLASGOW, AUG 21 (PTI):** India made a promising start at the World Championship with in-form shuttler Kidambi Srikanth and Sameer Verma advancing to the second round of the men's singles competition here today.

Srikanth, seeded eighth, who won the Indonesia Super series premier and Australian Super series Open in June, defeated Russia's Sergey Sirant 21-13 21-12 in less than half an hour match to set up a clash with France's Lucas Corvee in the next round tomorrow.

Sameer Verma, who won the Syed Modi Grand Prix Gold in January, also reached the second round after his opponent Spain's Pablo Abian retired midway with the score reading 21-8 17-4 in favour of the Indian.

He will meet either England's Rajiv Ouseph or Czech Adam Mendrek in the next round.

Young mixed doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Maneesha K defeated Hong Kong pair of Tam Chun Hei and Ng Tsz Yau 24-22 21-17 to also start their campaign on a positive note.

The Indo-Malaysian pair of Prajakta Sawant and Yogendra Khrishnan saw off Chinese Taipei's Lu Ching Yao and Chiang Kai Hsin 21-15 13-21 21-18 in another mixed doubles match.

In the men's singles, it

was a nervy start for Srikanth as he missed few points but his smart play at the net and some precise smashes helped the Indian to enter the break at 11-6.

After the interval, the Indian kept increasing the distance, reaching 15-7 and eventually sealed the opening game with ease.

In the second game, Srikanth once again zoomed ahead to 11-5 after an initial duel. The duo engaged in some exciting rallies but the Indian was always ahead.

Srikanth eventually held a comfortable eight match points advantage when his rival hit the net. Sirant's next return also found the net as Srikanth sealed the match comfortably.

"I had a decent break after the Indonesian Open and I worked hard after that before coming in here. First rounds can always be tough in big Championships like this and I am happy that I came through it. It is a confidence booster," said Srikanth.

"I have not set any targets as such, I just want to play and I want to go match by match. I did not think about the second round before this match and now I am only thinking about the next match," he added.

Saina Nehwal and P V Sindhu will open their campaign tomorrow, having got byes in the first round.

## Ladakh Scouts regiment gets President's Colours

**JAMMU, AUG 21 (PTI):** Decorated with 605 gallantry and distinguished service awards, Ladakh Scouts today got President's Colours from Ram Nath Kovind at Leh.

The President arrived in Leh on a day's visit to Jammu and Kashmir. It is Kovind's first visit outside Delhi after assuming the office earlier this month.

"The President of India Ram Nath Kovind today presented the President's Colours to Ladakh Scouts Regimental Centre and all five battalions of the regiment," defence spokesman said.

A ceremony parade was conducted as per the highest military traditions of the Indian Army which was attended by a spectrum of civil and military dignitaries including the Governor and Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

The Chief of the Army Staff, GOC-in-C Northern Command, GOC 14 Corps besides a large number of serving and retired personnel witnessed the grand ceremony.

He said that the President complimented the Ladakh Scouts personnel for their outstanding performance in all spheres and their exceptional valour and sacrifice while up-



holding the sovereignty of the nation in Ladakh region especially in the Siachen Glacier.

He appreciated the exceptional gallantry and indomitable courage displayed by the brave sol-

diers during all major wars and operations since independence which have earned them 605 gallantry and distinguished service awards besides, Battle Honours of Batalik & Turtuk, Theatre Honour Kargil and the coveted Chief of the Army Staff Banner for Valour & Sacrifice, making them one of the most decorated regiments of the Indian Army.

He exhorted all personnel to continue to striving hard in pursuit of excellence in all spheres and take a solemn vow to defend the sovereignty of the nation against all odds in the true spirit signified by the Colours presented to the regiment.

The President released a documentary movie on Col Sonam Wangchuk, MVC, and also interacted with the veterans and 'Veer Naris', besides the gallantry awardees and complimented them.

Raised as Nubra Guards in 1948, amalgamated into the Army as regular troops in 1963 and restructured as an Infantry Regiment in the year 2000 post 'Operation Vijay', the Ladakh Scouts have carved a niche for themselves in the annals of history of the Indian Army, the spokesman said.

## China blames Indian troops for Pangong Lake incident in Ladakh

**BEIJING, AUG 21 (PTI):** China today blamed Indian soldiers for "violent action" against its troops during a standoff at Pangong Lake in Ladakh on August 15 leading to scuffles and stone pelting, and has lodged a protest with India.

Indian border guards had foiled an attempt by the Chinese soldiers to enter Indian territory in Ladakh, resulting in stone pelting that caused minor injuries to troops on both the sides.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying claimed that the incident occurred when Chinese border troops were conducting normal patrol on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) around the Lake area on August 15.

"During this process, the Indian side took some violent actions and injured the Chinese border personnel," she claimed.

India says that the incident was discussed by the local army commanders of the two sides.

Hua said "China has expressed strong dissatisfaction and lodged serious representation to India".

The incident at the Pangong Lake happened amid a standoff between Indian and Chinese troops at the Doklam area in the Sikkim section which has now entered the third month.

China has alleged that Indian troops illegally trespassed into the Chinese territory in Doklam and they should unconditionally withdraw to end the faceoff.

Last week India said it will continue to engage with China to find a mutually acceptable solution to the Doklam standoff, but underlined that incidents like one in Ladakh were not in the "interest of either side".

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## Doklam solution soon; forces have might to protect borders: HM

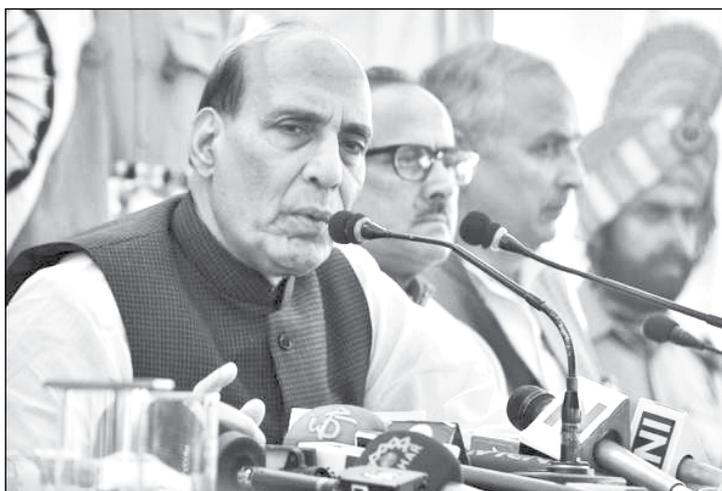
**NEW DELHI, AUG 21 (PTI):** A solution to the "deadlock" at Doklam between India and China would be found soon, Home Minister Rajnath Singh today said as he made it clear that the country was well equipped to protect its sovereignty.

The minister, while speaking at an event of the Sino-India border guarding force ITBP here, said he hoped that China would make a positive move to resolve the issue.

"There is a deadlock going on at Doklam between India and China. I believe there will be a solution soon. I hope China will undertake a positive initiative (to resolve the stand-off)," he said.

The minister said the world knew that India had never cast an evil eye on any country, had never attacked a nation nor did it harbour any expansionist attitude.

"We never want to expand our borders...but I can say that our security forces and defence forces possess all the might to protect our borders," Singh said.



India and China have been locked in a face-off in the Doklam area of the Sikkim sector after Indian troops stopped the Chinese Army from building a road in the area.

China claimed it was constructing the road within their territory and had been demanding immediate pull-

out of the Indian troops from the disputed Doklam plateau.

Bhutan says Doklam belongs to it but China claims it to be its territory.

China had been ramping up rhetoric against India over the last few weeks demanding immediate withdrawal of Indian troops from Doklam.

The Chinese state media, particularly, had carried a barrage of critical articles on the Doklam stand-off slamming India.

The minister, in the same breath, lauded the bravery and grit of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), saying it was due to their prowess on the border that "no one can

dare cast an evil eye on India".

The ITBP is tasked to guard the 3,488-km long Sino-India border and works under the command of the home ministry.

The minister went on to say that India had always believed in having good relations with its neighbours and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his swearing-in ceremony in 2014, had invited all the premiers of the neighbouring countries.

This move was not just to shake and join hands but to bring together hearts, he said.

"India has taken the initiative (of friendship with neighbours) many times. Our former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee used to say friends can change but not neighbours. He said we should have good relations with our neighbours.

"Hence, I want to give this message to all our neighbours that we don't want struggle but peace," Singh said.

The home minister, during the event, officiated as the chief guest where promo-

tion for 1,654 ITBP officials, across various ranks, was announced.

Singh himself put the new ranks on the shoulders of few personnel during the pipping ceremony, also attended by his deputy in the ministry Kiren Rijiju.

He also expressed concern that these promotions, announced today, were delayed for the last six years and he promised that it would be his effort that promotions and other welfare measures for the troops were not obstructed or delayed in the future.

"It was your right to get promotions on time but despite the delay you never complained and your morale was high. A timely promotion is important for boosting morale. I appreciate your dedication towards your duty," he said.

He recounted his 2015 visit to an ITBP border post in Ladakh where he found that troops were in their full spirits on the line of duty despite the harsh and cold climate in the region.

## Spain identifies driver of Barcelona rampage van as hunt

**BARCELONA, AUG 21 (AFP):** Spanish police said today they had identified the driver of a van that mowed down pedestrians in Barcelona, killing 13, as an international manhunt for the suspect believed to be a Moroccan national deepened.

In a tweet, police in Catalonia said they knew who the driver was without naming him, but regional interior minister Joaquim Forn said in a radio interview that "everything suggests the van driver is Younes Abouyaqoub."

The 22-year-old Moroccan is believed to be the last remaining member of a 12-person cell still at large in Spain or abroad, with the others killed by police or detained over last week's twin attacks in Barcelona and the seaside resort of Cambrils.

Investigators have honed in on an imam, Abdelbaki Es Satty, aged in his 40s, who is among the suspects and is believed to have radicalised youths in Ripoll, a small town at the foot of the Pyrenees.

Several suspects -- including Abouyaqoub -- grew up or lived there. Police raided more homes there on Monday morning, Forn said.

Police said the imam had spent time in prison and had once been in contact with a suspect wanted on terrorism charges, without giving



further details.

El Mundo newspaper reported that Satty had struck up a friendship in prison with Rachid Aglif, who is serving an 18-year sentence over the 2004 Madrid train bomb attacks, which killed 191 people.

Prosecutors in Belgium also said he had spent time in the country, without elaborating.

The imam has been missing since Tuesday. On Saturday, police raided his apartment. They have raised the possibility that he died in an explosion on Wednesday evening at a house believed to be the

suspects' bomb-making factory, where police uncovered a cache of 120 gas canisters.

The suspected jihadists had been preparing bombs for "one or more attacks in Barcelona", regional police chief Josep Lluís Traperó told reporters, revealing that traces of triacetone triperoxide (TATP) -- a homemade explosive that is a hallmark of the Islamic State (IS) group -- had also been found.

The suspects accidentally caused an explosion at the house on the eve of Thursday's attack in Barcelona -- an error

that likely forced them to modify their plans.

Instead, they used a vehicle to smash into crowds on Barcelona's Las Ramblas boulevard as it was thronged with tourists, killing 13 people and injuring about 100.

Several hours later, a similar attack in the seaside town of Cambrils left one woman dead. Police shot and killed the five attackers in Cambrils, some of whom were wearing fake explosive belts and carrying knives.

IS claimed responsibility for the attacks, believed to be its first in Spain.



## RJP-Nepal will participate in third phase of local polls: CEC

**KATHMANDU, AUG 21 (PTI):** The Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal, a coalition of six Madhes-based groups who had boycotted the first two phases of the local-level polls, will participate in the final phase next month, according to the chief election commissioner (CEC).

Madhesi parties have long been demanding an amendment to the Constitution promulgated in 2015 to accommodate their main demands: more political representation for the inhabitants of the southern plains and redrawing the provincial boundaries.

They had boycotted the first two phases of the polls - being held for the first time in about two decades - over the demands. CEC Ayodhi Prasad

Yadav told reporters in Janakpur, a centre for cultural tourism about 200 kilometres from Kathmandu, that RJP-Nepal will contest the polls scheduled on September 18 in Province No. 2 as per the deal reached with the government and the main opposition CPN-UML of former prime minister KP Sharma Oli.

In April, six Madhesi parties announced to jointly form the Rastriya Janata Party-Nepal (RJP-Nepal).

RJP-Nepal leader Rajendra Mahato last week, however, indicated the party might contest the third phase, saying the ruling alliance of Nepali Congress and CPN-Maoist Centre have assured them they would endorse the Constitution

amendment bill tabled in the parliament.

Yadav also said that the Election Commission was preparing to hold federal and provincial elections in 31 mountainous and hilly districts on November 20 and discussions were underway with the central government on the matter.

Millions of Nepalese voted in the first two phases as the Himalayan nation takes a key step towards cementing democracy.

Nepal witnessed political instability when Madhesi, who are mostly of Indian origin, had launched a prolonged agitation between September 2015 and February last year against the implementation of the Constitution.

### NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FLAMINGO EVENING  
Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward

Draw No:4 DrawDate on:21/08/17  
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 98A 80385  
(Including Super Prize Amt)  
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 80385 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-  
02476 24817 28468 29460 33652  
04064 47271 51111 55053 95863  
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-  
22911 27514 30091 33610 35944  
36605 47974 59035 61658 82920  
4th Prize Rs.1000/-  
0605 1344 2297 2929 3359 3657 5267 8059 8079 9046  
5th Prize Rs.500/-  
0619 1619 2190 5483 6076 6322 7502 8636 9486 9682  
6th Prize Rs.250/-  
0034 0097 0158 0490 0498 0544 0880 0916 0998 1112  
1326 1383 1426 1448 1501 1652 1735 2018 2052 2066  
2117 2201 2242 2296 2304 2315 2732 2741 2787 2876  
2951 2997 3074 3092 3125 3238 3438 3563 3658 3780  
3973 4276 4554 4878 5129 5147 5167 5263 5381 5609  
5619 5620 5684 5920 5930 6062 6092 6150 6255 6258  
6432 6456 6467 6552 6576 6609 6765 6860 6966 6973  
7041 7051 7177 7182 7317 7543 7618 7663 7897 7924  
7972 8003 8114 8207 8314 8321 8322 8405 8658 8920  
8931 9144 9199 9560 9596 9619 9695 9829 9905 9946  
Issued by:  
The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland  
For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com  
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

### SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR LOVING

Draw No:4 DrawDate on:21/08/17  
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 94E 48371  
(Including Super Prize Amt)  
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 48371 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-  
02374 05415 29630 35017 52966  
57525 58822 79102 80458 98535  
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-  
04147 06991 07399 21090 29694  
32864 38282 39795 44409 59263  
4th Prize Rs.1000/-  
0104 1449 2733 2900 4651 6747 7217 9053 9472 9659  
5th Prize Rs.500/-  
0460 0710 2244 3867 4629 5946 6645 7579 8877 9464  
6th Prize Rs.250/-  
0019 0167 0280 0304 0396 0485 1221 1633 1636 1756  
1787 1807 1813 1846 2007 2040 2156 2286 2312 2336  
2359 2452 2729 2735 2791 2937 3277 3344 3351 3445  
3484 3488 3550 3714 3730 4077 4150 4228 4385 4496  
4547 4649 4687 4844 4855 5323 5401 5511 5659 5681  
5790 5860 5999 6035 6193 6407 6424 6477 6562 6646  
6678 6697 6763 6936 7038 7055 7283 7290 7334 7377  
7388 7400 7613 7682 7842 7860 7876 7955 7986 8028  
8255 8451 8494 8855 8881 8899 8929 8953 9018 9019  
9082 9217 9276 9313 9392 9397 9510 9556 9645 9837  
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The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok  
please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

### MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR CHANCE MORNING

Draw No:4 DrawDate on:21/08/17  
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 91H 98320  
(Including Super Prize Amt)  
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 98320 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)  
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-  
04391 06759 19557 29842 37806  
42365 49459 50822 87122 98730  
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-  
01458 09663 28745 36805 38612  
54326 63180 67775 95908 99314  
4th Prize Rs.1000/-  
0508 3223 4177 4413 4992 5233 5404 5924 6274 7483  
5th Prize Rs.500/-  
0178 2287 3720 5201 5292 7841 8163 8322 8360 9028  
6th Prize Rs.250/-  
0080 0093 0118 0173 0421 0495 0512 0528 0545 0578  
0830 0837 0845 1037 1126 1288 1361 1390 1499 1657  
1741 1878 1920 1971 1980 2041 2055 2216 2227 2457  
2547 2693 2816 2842 2999 3093 3203 3254 3275 3299  
3354 3755 3957 3971 3975 3984 4122 4296 4328 4595  
4750 4861 4900 5043 5106 5263 5485 5486 5625 5657  
5845 6087 6497 6603 6646 6980 7021 7024 7086 7155  
7331 7343 7386 7501 7616 7801 7818 7832 8110 8177  
8178 8292 8333 8400 8517 8731 8764 8796 8967 9171  
9323 9394 9467 9468 9603 9672 9867 9899 9960 9976  
Issued by:  
The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries,  
For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

### Anthyesthi Kriya



The 14th day Anthyesthi Kriya of late Mani Kumari Gurung who left for her heavenly abode on 10.08.2017 falls on 23.08.2017 [Wednesday]. All relatives, friends & well-wishers are requested to join us in the offering prayers for the departed soul on the above mentioned date at our residence at Middle Burtuk, Manbir Colony, Gangtok.

Ganga Psd. Gurung, Dil Psd. Gurung,  
Dhan Bdr. Gurung, Ram Bdr. Gurung  
[brothers-in-law], Ashib Gurung [son]  
Ph: 9564874111



© VISHAL PATEL/REUTERS/BACKGRID

**OUT AND ABOUT!** Pregnant with her third child, actress and Honest Company co-founder Jessica Alba looks radiant as she dresses her growing bump in dungarees as husband Cash Warren fed the parking meter while taking daughter Haven to dance class on Sunday in LA.

# Kevin Hart's Wife Eniko Parrish Slams His Ex Torrei!

Tell us how you really feel, Eniko Parrish. Kevin Hart's wife totally ripped his ex Torrei a new one on Instagram, slamming her for playing the 'victim' in their failed marriage! Yikes!

Don't believe everything you hear. That's what Eniko Parrish, 33, wants her fans to know in regards to her husband's first marriage. Torrei Hart might not be telling the whole truth about what happened with Kevin Hart, 38, whose current wife is SICK of listening to the hurtful rumors.

Taking to Instagram on Aug. 20, Eniko set a curious fan straight. "Their marriage was broken way before I came in the picture," she began. "They were separated, living in separate homes. I was never a secret. She knew that as well. Don't believe the hype." The fan later apologized via social media for assuming Eniko was some kind of home wrecker.

"It's no problem at all," Eniko replied, "I'm basically immune to it now. Those rumors were spread from her years ago because she wanted to play the victim and not own up to her wrong doings as well. Singled me out as the mistress because we stuck... knowing damn well there was other women during their marriage. But I never wrecked any home. That was

never the case and people ran with it. Only WE know how it really went down." SHOTS FIRED.

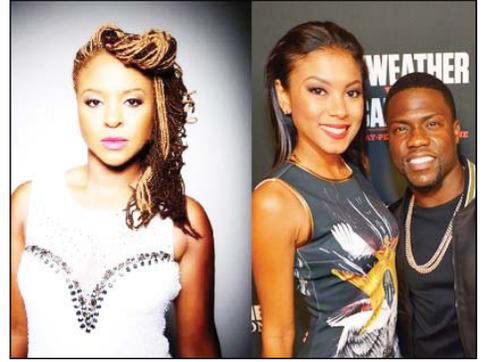
Not trying to take sides here, but Torrei appears to be doing just fine without Kevin. The comedian's ex is basically Hollywood's newest breakout star following her amazing haircare line.

"My new haircare line Heavenly Hart was inspired by and named after my daughter. Heaven is her first name, her

## FEUDS

middle name is Leigh and then, of course, Hart," she told Essence. "So, it actually came from her. With me being a mom and having a daughter, who's not only a black daughter, but she's a chocolate girl, too." Aww that's so sweet! Hopefully Eniko's comment doesn't deter from Torrei's business.

UPDATE — Torrei RESPONDED to Eniko's rant. "Normally I don't feed into this but when you addressed me, you forced my hand to respond. We have made successful strides to become a loving co-parenting family, but you have now left it open for my character to be questioned. You, Kevin and I know the truth. I offer this simple solution to your 'ig Comment problems' either respond truthfully or don't respond at all. Thank you for Considering My advice - Torrie"



## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

**Dr. RAJEN UPADHYAY**  
Assistant Professor in History,  
Namchi Govt. College

**22<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST WORLD HISTORY**

**634:** Abu Bekr Abd Allah (61), [al-Siddik], successor of Mohammed, died. He was an Arabic merchant, Mohammed's father-in-law and the first Caliph. Before his death he appointed Mohammed's adviser Omar (Umar) as his successor.  
**1642:** Civil war in England began as Charles I declared war on the Puritan Parliament at Nottingham. Charles I went to the House of Commons to arrest some of its members and was refused entry. From this point on no monarch was allowed entry. The Oct 23 Battle of Edgehill was the first major clash of armies of the English Civil War.  
**1762:** Ann Franklin became the first female editor of an American newspaper, the Newport, Rhode Island "Mercury"

**1849:** The Portuguese governor of Macao, China, was assassinated because of his anti-Chinese policies.

**1902:** President Theodore Roosevelt became the first U.S. chief executive to ride in an automobile.

**1910:** Japan annexed Korea following 5 years as a protectorate and ruled for 35 years.

**INDIAN HISTORY**  
**1639:** Madras (now Chennai) was founded by the East India Company who bought it as a piece of land from the local Nayak rulers.

**1818:** Warren Hastings, first governor-general of India (1773-84), died.

**1921:** Mahatma Gandhi made a bonfire of foreign clothes.

## MOVIES THIS WEEK: A Gentleman, Qaidi Band, Babumoshai Bandoobbaaz

There will be a lot of movies this weekend. Choose wisely. Here comes a shocker, there

are 9 releases this Friday? Yup... that's a fact! Spoilt for choices? Well, could be, depending on your taste. It's a rare variety that you will get on a weekend. So if you are into some Hollywood level stylish cinema, A Gentleman should be your choice. But if you are in the mood for some performance laced movie with an earthy touch, Nawazuddin Siddiqui's Babumoshai Bandoobbaaz is recommended. Then there is also Qaidi Band which will launch two new faces in the industry, one of them even belongs to the illustrious Kapoor family.

Apart from all that, there's Sniff too which is finally getting a release this week. There are also many other small films which you aren't too aware of. But if we talk about the ones which are making more noise, we have A Gentleman, Qaidi Band and Babumoshai Bandoobbaaz. Let us tell you a bit about all of them.

**Film:** A Gentleman  
**Director:** Raj Nidimoru, Krishna D K  
**Star cast:** Sidharth Malhotra, Jacqueline Fernandez, Suniel Shetty  
**Synopsis:** Gaurav falls for the sweet and chirpy Kavya but she wants a man who is adventurous. As if on cue, their life gets messed up when Gaurav gets stuck in a case of mistaken identity. Kavya's wish has finally come true but at the risk of their lives.

**Film:** Babumoshai Bandoobbaaz  
**Director:** Kushan Nandy  
**Star cast:** Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Bidita Bag, Chitrangada Singh  
**Synopsis:** It's a story of a small time contract killer and how his life unfolds.  
**Film:** Qaidi Band  
**Director:** Habib Faisal  
**Star cast:** Anya Singh, Aadar Jain  
**Synopsis:** It's a tale of a few under-trials who take the musical route

**Film:** Babumoshai Bandoobbaaz  
**Director:** Kushan Nandy  
**Star cast:** Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Bidita Bag, Chitrangada Singh

**Director:** Habib Faisal  
**Star cast:** Anya Singh, Aadar Jain

**Synopsis:** It's a tale of a few under-trials who take the musical route to escape prison.

Other films which are releasing are Sniff, The Rally and many more.



## HERE'S WHAT AAMIR KHAN HAS TO SAY ABOUT TUBELIGHT AND JAB HARRY MET SEJAL'S FAILURE AT THE BOX OFFICE

Two of Bollywood's most anticipated films of 2017, Salman Khan's Tubelight and Shah Rukh Khan's Jab Harry Met Sejal faced severe treatment at the box office by fans and audience. Both the films turned out to be the biggest duds of the year already.

Even though both the films released sometime ago, they're still being talked about. Trade experts, producers, other celebrities, everybody's prime focus has been to learn from the mistakes of the two big Khans.

However, when asked Aamir Khan to give his opinion about the failures of the films, the actor simply stated, "We can't say it's a shift of trend. We see ups and downs, it happens." Well, that's a classic Aamir answer. The actor was present at the song launch of Main Kaun Hoon from Secret Superstar along with the director and protagonist Zaira Wasim.

Ever since JHMS tanked at the box office, all focus has been shifted towards the Khans, at least two of them, who haven't delivered good movies. The fact that both, Salman and Shah Rukh's films have failed to make an impact at the box office is proof

enough that audience no longer aches to see their favourite stars but yearns for better content. A lot of celebs in the recent past have even attributed the same as they have openly quoted that content is the king. Perhaps that could work in Secret Superstar's favour? You see, the film has Zaira as the lead protagonist and since it is about a child artiste, it will gain a wider audience too. Also, Aamir has ensured that the focus during promotions are on his Dangal daughter and not himself.

Their new song, Main Kaun Hoon, is sung by Meghna Mishra and composed by Amit Trivedi. The lyrics have been penned down by Kaur- sar Munir and it's easy to relate to the song. We all have been in situations where we suffer from identity crisis. It somehow brings out this very notion in the voice of Meghna. In case you haven't watched the song, you can check it out in the link above. Also, we'd like to know if you agree with Aamir over how the downward trend of Bollywood superstars is just a phase. Tell us in the comments box below. Stay tuned to this space for hot scoop and latest updates.



## BOLLYBUZZ!!!

**ARIES:** Your thinking is clear today, Aries, but it might be hard to take action on your thoughts. A restrictive force may seem to be holding you back. A sense of discipline is welling up within you, reminding you to add a touch of conservatism to whatever it is that you have in mind. Take the opportunity to pursue tasks that require you to be reserved and collected.  
**TAURUS:** Your flamboyant approach may not get as much attention today as you'd like, Taurus. Don't push yourself to achieve something that isn't working. By insisting that something should be done your way, you'll only create enemies and bottlenecks in what-

er task you're trying to accomplish. A thoughtful, conscious, reserved approach is going to win today.  
**GEMINI:** You have exactly the right amount of discipline and sense of duty to accomplish quite a bit today, Gemini. Your thinking should be clear. Your sense of time and restriction works in your favor to help you figure out any puzzles that present themselves. You have a strong will that helps you complete just about every task you undertake.  
**CANCER:** Trying to talk your way out of tasks and obligations probably isn't the best way to win friends today, Cancer. In fact, this is a time to get yourself in gear and take responsibility for your actions. The time you spend trying to weasel your way out of something is better spent just doing the thing that you need to do. Be understanding and receptive of other people's objectives.  
**LEO:** Just when you thought you had everything figured out and planned correctly, another obstacle appears, Leo. Your first reaction may be to get upset. Rage won't help. You can't always control everything. There are bound to be surprises. Plan for what you can, but know that there are often unknown forces working against your aims. Watch out!  
**VIRGO:** The fire within you may

be burning brightly, Virgo, but unfortunately, there isn't a great deal of fuel available to keep it going. It may seem as if people are trying to rain on your parade, but they're just trying to do their duty. Relax and contemplate what's going on around you. This may not be the best day to implement change and promote new ideas.  
**LIBRA:** You may find that other people are the missing variable in the equation that you seek answers to today, Libra. Don't feel like you have to come up with all the details and resolutions yourself. Work with those who also have something to contribute to the situation at hand. A quiet, disciplined approach is ex-

actly what's needed to plow through any problem that needs fixing.  
**SCORPIO:** By jumping around from place to place, Scorpio, you may end up feeling like you're getting nowhere. Instead of tackling many different tasks, today is better spent focusing your energy on one. Start from ground level and work up. Get to the root of the problem and many of the related issues will simply dissolve as you work.  
**SAGITTARIUS:** Make a plan at the beginning of the day for what you want to accomplish by sundown, Sagittarius. This is a good time to tackle many of the nitpicky tasks that require your attention. Be conscious of the fact that there

are time limits and restrictions on some of the things you're working on. Keep on task and try not to get distracted by other people.  
**CAPRICORN:** You might have to adjust your way of thinking in order to match the energy of the situations around you. While you may feel a desire to strike out into some new, adventurous activity, there's a strong resistance asking you to be more cautious and stable. Don't lose touch with your pioneering attitude, but don't fall prey to reckless behavior, either.  
**AQUARIUS:** Your steady nature will be greatly appreciated today, Aquarius. A well thought out plan of attack is the one that wins approval from the higher-ups. You know the best way to proceed and now all you need is the confidence to follow through with your ideas. Getting things started should be easier for you today since your mind is working in harmony with your heart.  
**PISCES:** It's possible that you're feeling obliged to do something out of a sense of duty toward family or loved ones, Pisces. Take this time to help someone who's struggling with who they are and what they're doing in this world. Your concern for others reflects a noble sense of empathy that you should develop more regularly. We're only as strong as the weakest link. Do your part to strengthen the chain.

## LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"WHAT'S THE POINT OF GOING TO A NEW YEAR'S PARTY IF I HAVE TO BE ON MY BEST BEHAVIOR?"

## ARCTIC CIRCLE - HALLATT



## BABY BLUES - KIRKMAN & SCOTT



## THE DAY AHEAD