

SummitTIMES

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O N T O P O F T H E N E W S

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2ND CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF NIT SIKKIM

NIT-Sikkim will be best in country: CM

66 graduate out
of NIT Sikkim

GANGTOK, 28 APR [IPR]: The 2nd Convocation of National Institute of Technology, Sikkim, was held at Chintan Bhawan in Gangtok today. Chief Minister Pawan Chamling attended the function as chief guest along with Director, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology [IIST], Shibpur, Professor AK Ray, as guest of honour.

Sixty-six students graduated out of which 60 students of Bachelor of Technology and 06 students of Master of Technology were awarded the degrees during the function.

While addressing the convocation ceremony, Mr Chamling expressed his happiness over the State's success in delivering world class technological courses.

Extending best wishes to the students, Mr Chamling said, "This is



a proud moment for all, having graduated from such Institute of repute and having learnt the skills required to meet the challenges that lie ahead. This journey should not end by acquiring a degree and must move forward to achieve

big things in life. Today students are not only taking knowledge but a series of additional skills which the institution has provided. Education is the single most important element in converting our young population into national assets. If

the younger generation of our nation is empowered, it will constitute a very strong and productive workforce for the coming years."

He also requested the students to take maximum advantage of the Startup Scheme

through which qualified engineers can take up entrepreneurship on the basis of innovative ideas acquired from the institutes. He also informed about the Chief Minister Self Employment Schemes for the educated unemployed

youth in Sikkim.

Mr Chamling further added that NIT Sikkim at Ravangla has made best efforts to maintain the quality of education. He also complimented the Director, management and staff for their commitment towards this institution.

He also added that the government has arranged for more than 100 acres land for the Institute and the state government will extend all cooperation to make the institute the best in the country.

Speaking about Bhaley Dhunga Skywalk project in Yangang which will be the first skywalk in India and second in Asia after China, Mr Chamling said, "Ravangla, which is close to Yangang, will be the best place to establish NIT Institute, and for this the government already has a plan to construct one of the best NIT Institutes of India and all the support will be provided by the State Government to pg05

List of 20 religious structures encroaching public spaces submitted to HC

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:**

After a Public Interest Litigation was filed seeking removal of religious structures encroaching public places, as many as 20 religious structures have been identified in East and South districts of Sikkim, in the first phase.

The Amicus Curiae, on High Court directions, has submitted a list of 20 religious structures situated in public places.

Acting on the report of the Amicus Curiae, the division bench of the High Court of Sikkim headed by Chief Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri and Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai directed the District Collector, East, to initiate action after issuance of notices to the concerned persons manning these institutions or places and submit a report as to whether these structures are unauthorised encroachments on public places or streets

within three weeks.

The list includes two monasteries, one in East district and one in South, while the rest are mandirs of which Hanuman mandirs number the highest.

The bench has also directed the Amicus Curiae to inspect the remaining places in East and South as well as West and North districts within a period of four weeks and submit a report.

It may be mentioned that, the bench had pulled up the state government for their lackadaisical approach in failing to respond to court directions in a time bound manner and imposed costs of Rs 25,000 recoverable from the officers who have failed to take any initiative on the court's order.

The state government informed the bench on 25 April, earlier this week that the fine imposed was recovered from the officers responsible for the failure to act.

CM & Governor extend Sakewa greetings

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:**

Governor Shrinivas Patil and First Lady Rajanidevi Patil have extended heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim on Sakewa.

The Governor has said, "Our rich tradition of worship and reverence of nature has become all the more logical and meaningful which should be promoted extensively for sustenance and prosperity of mankind. The wisdom that our ancestors intended to pass on to the subsequent generations through the festival of Sakewa should be assimilated through scientific reasoning by nature lovers from world over.

On this occasion, let us all pray and commit to the conservation of Mother Nature for the well being of all sentient beings. May our rich tradition inspire one and all to work for the sake of mother nature and our future generations."

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and Tika Maya Chamling have also extended warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim on the occasion of Sakewa.

In his message, the CM has said, "Sakewa is one of the most significant cultural and religious festivals for the Kirat Khumbu Rai community in Sikkim.

I offer my greetings and best wishes to all my fellow Sikkimese people on this special occasion and pray that the festival strengthens mutual love, harmony and unity among all."

United Brothers and Sikkim Police to battle for Mahendra Karki Memorial trophy

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:**

United Brothers, Kalimpong will take on Sikkim Police in the finals of the 2nd edition of Mahendra Karki Memorial Invitational Football Tournament 2018 here at Paljor Stadium on 30 Apr.

United Brothers outplayed Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club 3-0 in the second semi-final match played today.

Dewashish Rai scored the lead for United Brothers in the 24th minute. Sikkim Himalayan SC players played their hearts out to

equalise the score but the first half ended with scoreline of 1-0 in favour of United Brothers.

Soon in the second half, Baichung Rai extended the lead of United Brothers to 2-0 in the 56th minute. While the home team players were sweating it out hard to bounce back into the match, Bishal Chettri sealed the 3-0 victory of United Brothers with his goal in the 89th minute.

Sikkim Police is already in the finals after defeating Apex Football Club, Kalimpong in the first semi-final match on 27 Apr.



CHAMLING CREDITS LONGEST SERVING CM RECORD TO PEOPLE

"History created because of Sikkimese people"

**NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 28 APR:**

As Chief Minister Pawan Chamling attended the 2nd convocation of National Institute of Technology [NIT], Sikkim as chief guest at Chintan Bhawan today, the CM received congratulatory greetings from those present in the function on surpassing former West Bengal CM Jyoti Basu's record as the longest serving CM of the country.

Speaking to the media, the CM thanked and gave credit to the people of Sikkim for constant support shown to his party and the government in its efforts to make Sikkim one of the leading States in the country.

"It is because of the Sikkimese people that this history has been created," said the CM.

He also remembered and dedicated this momentous occasion to his late parents.

Remembering all his party colleagues and members from the past and present, the CM added that it was due to the faith of his party colleagues that a Sikkimese has created such a historic feat in Indian politics.

The CM also extended gratitude to journalists and media personnel from the State for highlighting the good initiatives of the government and taking the message forward to the citizens in the State and outside.

Mentioning all bureaucrats of the state government for constant support, he thanked them for standing strong with

the government's endeavours for the common good of the Sikkimese.

He also thanked the Central government for extending cooperation to the State in its march towards development and progress.

The CM said that it has now become a habit to work and serve the Sikkimese people.

"I am just doing my work as entrusted by the Sikkimese people," said the CM.

He further said that he may have grown old with age but his ideas and vision is young and that may be the reason for people choosing him as their leader.

"My only wish is to serve Sikkim and Sikkimese people," he said.

Meanwhile, the CM also

posted a long message on his Facebook page thanking everyone for supporting him.

"Allegations of corruption have often been made against our Government. In this regard, I want to state a bare and a basic fact, i.e development and corruption never go hand in hand. There can never be development where there is corruption and vice versa. The quantum and magnitude of development that has taken place in Sikkim speaks for itself," reads the message.

Mr Chamling has further said, "I dedicate this landmark of becoming the longest-serving Chief Minister of the Country to my most beloved people of Sikkim."



*Congratulations
to our
Hon'ble Chief
Minister!*

Congratulations Hon'ble Sir, for becoming the longest serving Chief Minister of the Country and taking Sikkim to greater heights. Thank you Hon'ble Sir for making us proud. God bless you and God bless Sikkim.

**SIKKIM DEMOCRATIC
STUDENT FRONT**

National Road Safety Week observed at Dikchu SSS

WANGCHUK BHUTIA
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

Motor Vehicle Division, Gangtok, today organized National Road Safety Week 2018 with the theme "Sadak Suraksha-Jeevan Raksha" at Dikchu Senior Secondary School in East Sikkim.

Highlighting the importance of road safety, Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Phurba Wangyal Bhutia, stated that road accidents have been reduced to 6% as compared to the 2016 ratio. He urged students to take precautions while crossing the road and travelling in a vehicle.

Similarly, Sub Inspector, Traffic, Sukra Hang



Subba, delivered tips on road crossing and encouraged all to use

zebra crossings and to take precautions while boarding and disem-

barking a vehicle. He also stressed on the importance of wearing

proper helmets while riding two wheelers. Deputy RTO, Motor

Vehicle Division, JB Thapa, informed about the common causes of road accidents and its consequences which leads to grievous injuries and death as well. He also appealed to people to help rescue victims during accidents.

An essay competition was also conducted during the event on "Awareness regarding traffic rules" followed by a 1 KM rally on road safety awareness which had the participation of students of Dikchu SSS.

It may be mentioned here, the Motor Vehicle Division is observing Road Safety Week 2018 from 23-30 Apr.

SDF condemns SKM's Labour Day allegations

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

Sikkim Democratic Front has strongly protested and condemned the press statement given by Sikkim Krantikari Morcha regarding Labour Day.

An SDF press release issued by its publicity secretary, Chudamani Mishra, alleges that SKM has been terrorizing workers, farmers and hardworking people of Sikkim with its violent words and activities.

On Friday, SKM had said that SDF does not have the right to celebrate Labour Day because it has failed to provide basic rights to labourers of the State. SDF has said that the

party has been working for the protection, benefit and progress of workers, farmers and hardworking people of Sikkim since the past 26 years.

It has further said that SKM spokesperson, Jacob Khaling, tries to level baseless allegations against SDF on every issue. Regarding the allegation of SDF receiving corporate donations, the party has said that the same can be said of SKM.

The ongoing series of resignations from SKM will soon leave Mr Khaling alone in the party, the release adds.

SDF will be celebrating Labour Day at Lamitar near Temi Tea Estate in South Sikkim this year.

Milch cows distributed at Kitchudumra cluster under RKVY

SUMMIT REPORT
NAMCHI, 28 APR:

Fourteen milch cows within 1st to 2nd lactation age group along with calves were distributed at Kitchudumra cluster of Mamley-Kamrang GPU under Poklok Kamrang constituency in South Sikkim today.

A press release received from the office of Animal Husbandry Department, South district informs that the programme has been sponsored under the second phase of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana [RKVY 2017-18] with considerable share from the State capital.

The programme is in line with Sikkim Organic Mission and the main focus is on the overall economic elevation of farmers through enhanced milk production level thereby transforming

Sikkim into a milk-surplus State.

Attending the distribution programme were Zilla Panchayat, Rabin Rai, accompanied by area Panchayat, former Panchayat members, farmers cell, officer from Sikkim Milk Union, Karfector and a host of officers from the concerned department led by Joint Director/ South, Dr T Bajgal.

The milch cows are included with three years insurance coverage and the selected beneficiaries have been provided with packs of mineral vitamins, dewormer & anti-stress tonic.

Additionally, the beneficiaries were also made aware of modern management practices focusing on balanced diet, breeding, health coverage, insurance for enhanced production.



Milch cows distributed in West Sikkim

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 28 APR:

Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department, West Sikkim, today distributed milch cows to members of the Scheduled Caste community of Maneybong Dentam constituency and Gyalshing Bermiok constituency in the presence of Minister for Rural Management Development Department, SB Subedi, All Sikkim Scheduled Caste Welfare Association president, Shekhar Sewa, Zilla Panchayat of the two constituencies and officers of SJE&WD.

Training on Kharif vegetable crop cultivation in West Sikkim



SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Sikkim, conducted daylong training on "Organic cultivation and nursery management of Kharif vegetable crop" at Melli Aching in West Sikkim today, a press release informs.

Subject Matter Specialist, Horticulture, spoke on sustainable organic farming and its importance. She informed about the importance of high

value crop farming, nursery management and raising of vegetable nursery in plug tray using soilless media [co-peat and vermicompost in the ratio 2:1]. She further demonstrated the use of hand compressor sprayer to the participants.

Thirty-two participants attended the programme wherein 10 different kinds of vegetable seeds were distributed to the progressive Self Help Groups of the area.

Lingi Paiyong School holds inter-house spelling & handwriting competition



SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

Inter-house spelling & handwriting competition for senior and ju-

nior students was held at Lingi Paiyong Secondary School in South Sikkim today. The spelling competition was held for stu-

dents of Class VI-X while the handwriting competition was conducted for Class I-V students under the supervision

of house coordinator, CR Khatiwara. The spelling competition was won by Gurudongmar [Yellow] House. The result of the

handwriting competition will be announced on 30 Apr, a press release informs.

SKM demands re-hiring of local employee fired by pharma company

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

The labour and youth wing of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha visited Micro Labs Limited at Mamring in East Sikkim today with regard to the re-enrollment of a local youth who had been recently fired by the company on grounds of misbehavior.

An SKM press release informs that the local employee was accused of manhandling a fellow employee from Bengal for which he was fired from work. However, the local youth alleged that the employee from Bengal had instigated an argument by saying that "Sikkimese people are worthless".

The SKM stood firmly with

the local youth and demanded that he be re-hired but not through labour contractor.

The release further informs that while the management denied access to other temporary employees for interaction with the team, the local Panchayat of the Sikkim Democratic Front party interfered and negotiated on behalf of the company.

SKM has also alleged that the vice president of the company said that it is how the system works in the State of Sikkim and they have are just following the system.

Meanwhile, representatives of SKM have given a three-day ultimatum to the company to fulfill their demand, the release adds.

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Gangtok on Sunday, 29 Apr

Temp: 21°C / 11°C
Forecast: Periods of clouds and sunshine with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 04:59 AM
Sunset: 6:07 PM

NIT-Sikkim will be best in country: CM

Contd from pg01

ernment.”
 Minister for Human Resource Development Department, RB Subba, congratulated the graduating students on the occasion and wished them success in their future endeavors. He urged the students to contribute towards building a better society and country, be humble and thankful towards every individual.

Earlier, declaring the convocation open, Director, NIT Sikkim, Professor Mahesh Chandra Govil, addressed the gathering by presenting the Director's report on NIT Sikkim. In his report, he touched upon the infrastructure developments in the campus and emphasized the achievements all through-out the year and the long cherished dream of success of the University.

The function also saw the presentation of memento to the CM and the dignitaries by the Director, NIT Sikkim.

Also present for the event were Speaker, SLA, KN Rai, Principal Secretary, HRDD, GP Upadhyaya, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Additional Secretaries, senior officials from the different departments and students from various schools.

SRM's sports meet ATHLON 2018 concludes

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 28 APR:

The three-day inter-department annual sports meet, ATHLON 2018, organised by Sri Ramasamy Memorial [SRM] University, Sikkim concluded at Khel Gaon in Reshithang, Gangtok, a press release informs.

Three-hundred students participated in various track, field and team events during the meet.

The Blue-Bits comprising of students from Information Technology and B. Vocational Pharma Manufacturing Departments of SRM secured 265 points bagging the Rolling Trophy in their names.

Deputy Director, Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Thupden Rapgyal Bhutia, attended the finale of the meet as chief guest accompanied by the Registrar and the Dean of SRM, the release adds.



Singtam SSS bids farewell to outgoing Class XII students

YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 28 APR:

Government Senior Secondary School, Singtam, organized a farewell ceremony for its outgoing Class XII students here at the school premises in Singtam, East Sikkim, today in the presence of Zilla Adhyakshya, East, S Bokhim, School Management Committee members, Panchayats from various GPUs, teachers and students of Singtam SSS and the general public.

Addressing the gathering as chief guest, Mr Bokhim extended best wishes to the outgoing students for their future endeavours. He urged the teaching faculty to work hard towards delivering and providing quality education.

“Students are the future of our State and Country. We need to prepare them well for the competi-



tions they will be facing in days to come,” added Mr Bokhim.

The function also featured a

cultural programme presented by students of the school.

Best performing North GPs under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan felicitated



MANGAN, 28 APR [IPR]: A programme on Gram Swaraj Diwas and Gram Shakti Abhiyan was organized at the DAC Conference Hall in Mangan today which was chaired by the District Collector, North, Karma R Bonpo, in the presence of Additional DC [Development], Superintendent Engineer [Energy & Power], Joint Director [Agriculture], Chief Medical Officer [North], other officers

and Gram Panchayat members.

The function was held to felicitate the best Gram Panchayats for implementing the seven schemes under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan from 14 Apr to 05 May.

Under the Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, seven schemes are being implemented in mission mode to saturate the scheme in 27 villages of North District. The scheme in-

clude the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana [LPG connection], Subhagya [Pradhan Matri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana], Ujala scheme [LEDs for all], Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Matri Jeevan Jyothi Beem Yojana, Pradhan Matri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Mission Indradhanush.

Rongong Tumlong GPU from Kabi Block, Ringhim Nampatam GPU from Mangan Block and

Passingdang Saffo GPU from Dzongu Block were declared the best GPUs implementing the above schemes in the district.

During the programme, the Energy and Power Department also distributed new connection certificates and connection kits for un-electrified households and also distributed LED bulbs under the Ujala scheme.

Tingvong Panchayats come home with national award



SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 28 APR:

The public of Tingvong Gram Panchayat Unit in Dzongu, North Sikkim, today accorded a grand welcome to the entourage comprising of Panchayat members of Tingvong GPU led by Zilla member, Chungden Lepcha, and Pancha-

yat President, Tshering Rapzor Lepcha, who have returned to the State after receiving the Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Sabha Puraskar [NDRGGSP] on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day on 24 Apr at Madhya Pradesh.

The Tingvong GPU of Dzongu constiuen-

cy was conferred with NDRGGSP award for outstanding performance of Gram Sabha Gram Panchayat Development Plan [GPDP] at MP.

Panchayat President, Mr Lepcha, expressed gratitude to the public for their support and contribution for the achievement.

SC Collegium to meet soon to reconsider Justice Joseph's name for elevation

NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra is understood to have decided to urgently convene a meeting of the Collegium to reconsider the name of the Uttarakhand High Court Chief Justice K M Joseph for elevation as a judge of the Supreme Court.

The government had on Friday returned the file to the Collegium which had recommended on January 10 Justice Joseph's name for his elevation as an apex court judge.

A Supreme Court official said it is but natural to hold the meeting of the Collegium and it will be convened as soon as possible.

However, the only question that remains is the availability of all the five judges of the Collegium as Justice Madan B Lokur, who is the member of the Collegium, was away from work on April

26 and 27 due to medical reasons.

If the quorum is complete, the Collegium meeting will be convened immediately, the official said.

Justice Joseph had headed the bench that had quashed the Narendra Modi government's decision to impose President's rule in 2016 when the Congress was in power in the hill state.

The government returned the Collegium's recommendation to elevate Justice Joseph seeking its reconsideration, saying the proposal was not in accordance with the top court's param-

eters and there was adequate representation of Kerala in the higher judiciary from where he hails.

Justice Joseph, who will turn 60 this June, has been the Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court since July 2014. He was appointed as a permanent judge of the Kerala High Court on October 14, 2004 and had assumed charge of the Uttarakhand High Court on July 31, 2014.

His name was recommended by the Collegium comprising Chief Justice Misra and justices J Chelameswar, Ranjan Gogoi, Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph.

KUTSE SHEGU



Karthok Gumpa, Pakyong, East Sikkim. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in the time of our bereavement.

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

Kutshe Shegu



The 49th day Kutshe Shegu of **Late Norbu Tshering Lepcha** who left for his heavenly abode on 15 March 2018 falls **02 May 2018**. All friends, well-wishers and relatives are requested to join us in offering prayer for the departed soul at our residence, Chamkong Lee (Ruvong, Hee-Gyathang, Dzongu, North Sikkim). We would also like to extend our gratitude to all those who stood by us during our time of bereavement and regret our inability to thank them individually.

Pemtu Tsh Lepcha (eldest son) 9734365676, Songmit Lepcha (eldest daughter) 9593822460, Dr. Sonam Rinchen Lepcha (younger brother) 9647884804, Dathup Lepcha (younger brother) 7407015920

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The Art of Distraction

Don't laugh, get scared... very scared

When an elected leader, who has gone on to get selected Chief Minister by his fellow MLAs, in his very first public address of consequence, claims that there were internet-like “things” in the times of the Mahabharata, it is easy to scoff at the pool that democracy offers to pick representatives from. It staggers some more when his Governor too echoes the belief and extends gubernatorial support to the claim. And before the ICT textbooks can be rewritten to include this information about a tool of communication not more than six decades old, he delivers another revelation! Now, he is questioning the evaluation by which beauty pageants select winners and serving “Indians” their most significant query: who represents the quintessential Indian form of beauty better Aishwarya Rai or Diana Hayden? There is a lot that is problematic with “beauty contests,” but come on, even beauty pageants make a token claim for brains. But for the Chief Minister of Tripura, beauty is only skin-deep, and more dangerously, the Indian look has to manifest in a Hindu lady to be good enough to represent India on the global stage. His fixation with mythology as science is clearly limited to Hindu epics, or maybe that is the extent of his learning, because just about every epic from anywhere in the world has characters which communicate long distance, fly, even bend time, receive limb replacement surgeries, build grand edifices... and the list goes on, but the point being made is the same – the Right has dangerous blinkers on, and because they command democratic endorsement now, will be serving more horrors than jokes. Just laugh and mock them, and a nightmare will soon become very real.

The Tripura CM was condemned for his latest bout of pettiness, but there are more memes and social media jokes about his than warnings. And with this response of mock and giggles, we are performing exactly as the AltRight playbook wants everyone to. When such comments surfaced initially, one could laugh at the obvious juvenility of saffron-flaunting leaders. But these comments are no longer rare, and this throws up two immediate worries – one, that such puerility, because it also has electoral endorsement will get forced into the already distressed education system of the country and brainwash an entire generation, and two, that these are intentional distractions in which a stand-up comic subverts the public discourse while the more dangerous muscle demolishes everything that the Right does not agree with. We have already seen the ease with which the American Comic-in-Chief ties up commentators with his tweets and phone-ins while policy changes are effected to upend governmental decencies. It will not surprise if media attention in Tripura is focused so much on the idiocy being announced from public speeches that the violent eviction of political competitors receives no attention. A similar subterfuge was seen in the education sector as well when saffron-clad leaders and junior ministers made outrageous claims at around the same time that institutions were being cut at their knees and/or being infected from the top. The Right tested the waters when they appointed jokes to outlying institutions like the FTI and the Censor Board. They refined the power of distracting with “nationalistic lies” when JNU was attacked and now they are upping the game, infiltrating mainstream institutions and daily lives.

It is important to stop seeing the loony claims of leaders of the Right as confirmation of their foolishness. There is a much more Machiavellian plan afoot – one that seeks to lull us with shock and comedy so that we do notice the horror that is actually being put into effect.

JAMES KESBY
theconversation.com

Every day we make a range of choices in the pursuit of pleasure: we do things that make us feel good or work in a specific job because it's rewarding or pays well. These experiences help shape our perspectives on life and define our personality.

Consequently, problems with our ability to manage or maintain our pursuit of pleasure often lie at the root of many neuropsychiatric disorders such as addiction and depression.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE BRAIN WHEN WE EXPERIENCE PLEASURE?

Pleasure itself – that good feeling you get in response to food, sex and drugs – is driven by the release of a range of neurotransmitters (chemical messengers) in many parts of the brain. But dopamine release in the brain's reward system is particularly important. Dopamine release tells the brain when to expect something rewarding, modulates how rewarding it will be and drives us to seek rewarding things.

Dopamine is also important for a range of other functions such as voluntary movement and cognition. Disorders such as schizophrenia have too much dopamine release, which causes psychotic symptoms. In neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's disease, the dopamine cells responsible for motor coordination die prematurely.

All drugs of abuse, no matter their primary mode of action, release dopamine in this system. Other rewarding experiences – sex, food, and gambling – are also associated with increases in dopamine release. Conversely, decreases in dopamine within reward systems are associated with depression, a lack of pleasure or motivation, and withdrawal.

We all experience pleasure differently as a result of individual differences in biology or neurochemistry, but also as a result of past experiences (no longer liking a food that previously made you sick), and differing social and cultural factors.

For example, musical preferences seem to be shaped more by upbringing than by biological factors. So while some may get a greater hit of dopamine from buying a new handbag, others may get it from placing a bet on a sports match.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS... When we make decisions, some are habitual and less reliant on pleasure, and some are more goal-directed. Most of us would probably love to eat ice cream for lunch every day because it tastes good, and sugar releases dopamine in reward systems. But we know if we ate ice cream every

Rap Music's Path from Pariah to Pulitzer

peals eventually overturned the ruling on the basis of freedom of speech.

A big focus of critics were anti-police lyrics, which started to appear most prominently in the late 1980s. Many described the police harassment, racial profiling and police brutality that plagued inner-city neighborhoods across the country.

However, the lyrics of the group N.W.A. attracted the most attention – specifically, their song “Fuck tha Police,” which directly denounced the police in unequivocal terms.

Police unions denounced the song's lyrics; some departments refused to provide security during N.W.A. shows, while the FBI sent a letter to the group's label, Priority Records, calling the lyrics “discouraging and degrading to these brave, dedicated officers.”

'AN INVISIBLE TV STATION' FOR BLACK PEOPLE Because of these headline-grabbing controversies, it was easy for critics to discount rap as a nihilistic

that compelled some hip-hop artists to boycott the ceremony.

In 1993, rap group Arrested Development was awarded the best new artist. Two years later, the Grammys recognized female hip-hop artists for the first time, with Queen Latifah and Salt-N-Pepa each winning an award. But only two rap albums have won the coveted album of the year: Lauryn Hill's “The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill,” which was categorized as a R&B album, and Southern rap duo Outkast's “Speakerboxx/Love Below.”

RAP GETS AN ALLY – IN THE WHITE HOUSE Today, many of the same dynamics are at play. Police brutality is still a common theme of rap music, Kendrick Lamar's work included.

“Nigga, and we hate po-po,” he raps in “Alright.” “Wanna kill us dead in the street fo sho.”

The criticism hasn't abated, either. On a June 29, 2015 segment of Fox News, host Geraldo Rivera criticized “Alright,” arguing that “Hip-hop has done more damage to young African Americans than racism in recent years.”

Lamar responded by saying that “Hip-hop is not the problem. Our reality is the problem.”

Despite a drumbeat of criticism, hip-hop has been increasingly recognized by other mainstream award shows. Rapper Eminem and the rap group Three 6 Mafia have won Oscars. Hip-hop artists are also being voted into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, with Tupac the most recent rapper to join the ranks. In 2017, the Kennedy Center Honors recognized rapper and actor LL Cool J, the first time they've honored a hip-hop artist.

President Barack Obama played a big role in the genre's acceptance. Even before he officially announced his candidacy for the

presidency, Obama held closed meetings with rap artists such as Ludacris to discuss youth empowerment.

During his campaigns and two terms, rap artists always had his ear – he'd continue to meet with them, mention them in speeches, and even host rappers at the White House.

Following Obama's election, views across the aisle started to shift as well. In 2009, former Republican National Chairman Michael Steele tried to woo rap artists to the Republican Party. Oprah Winfrey – who had previously denounced rap music – gave her first ever in-depth interview of a rapper when she invited Jay-Z to a show that aired on Sept. 24, 2009.

Back in the 19th and 20th centuries, there were attempts to censor slave narratives; because they detailed the harsh realities of slavery in the South, critics questioned their authenticity and accuracy. Eventually, more and more recognized the value of these narratives, and the federal government dispatched writers to record the stories of surviving slaves in the 1930s.

Over the past few decades, we've seen a similar dynamic with rap music. While some have attempted to silence rap because of its raw portrayal of life in inner-city communities, people increasingly see its value. Like slave narratives, rap music has given an authentic and candid voice to the voiceless.

For his part in this tradition, Kendrick Lamar's Pulitzer Prize is well-deserved.

[the writer is Associate Professor of Political Science, Georgia State University]



genre that wallowed in misogyny, self-harm and violence.

Often overlooked was the way rap music resonated with marginalized, alienated inner-city youth by detailing their daily lives in ways most media outlets wouldn't – or couldn't.

Chuck D of Public Enemy called rap “the invisible TV station that black America never had.” Los Angeles Congresswoman Maxine Waters was one of the few politicians who recognized its power. In 1994, she came to rap's defense.

“It would be a foolhardy mistake,” she said, “to single out poets as the cause of America's problems. ... These are our children and they've invented a new art form to describe their pains, fears and frustrations with us as adults.”

That same year, American Studies scholar Tricia Rose published her seminal study of hip-hop culture, “Black Noise.” She was the first academic to explore the complexities and positive contributions of the genre in a book-length format.

And then there was the simple fact that Americans loved rap music: By the 1990s, it had become the most popular genre on the Billboard Hot 100.

Nonetheless, perhaps because of its reputation, traditional venues were hesitant to embrace rap.

The Grammys have a contentious and inconsistent history with rap. The first hip-hop-themed award was “best rap performance,” presented to the rap duo DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince in 1989 for their song “Parents Just Don't Understand.” However, the Grammys didn't air this award during the show's television coverage – a decision

Why that cigarette, chocolate bar, or new handbag feels so good: how pleasure affects our brain



day we would put on weight, become less healthy and feel worse because of it. This knowledge takes some of the pleasure out of it and makes us less likely to want ice cream all of the time.

The cognitive processes behind goal-directed behaviour involve determining the value of the potential outcomes and forming a strategy that maximises our ability to achieve the most valuable outcome. And if we make the same decision enough times and the outcomes stay the same, our decisions become less goal-directed and more habitual in nature.

But certain choices do not always lead to a positive outcome. In these cases, over time

we learn which outcome provides the best overall reward. We then guide our decisions towards this outcome, even if occasionally it does not result in a positive outcome.

Gambling is a good example of how this process can become problematic. Poker machines provide a positive outcome just often enough to keep you playing, even though they are programmed so that you lose money in the long run.

WHEN DECISION-MAKING GOES WRONG

Having issues at any point in the decision-making process can lead to pathological behaviour. Addiction is categorised by a single-minded focus on obtaining the next exposure or “hit” (be it drugs, a pokies win, sex). So much so the individual makes bad decisions in order to attain this particular outcome, even if they no longer find it that pleasurable.

We still know little of how addictive behaviours start and persist, but genetic and environmental factors can put someone at a greater risk. For example, finding a certain drug more pleasurable (due to differing drug metabolism or an increased dopamine response) places a greater value on its use, which can lead to continued con-

sumption. This may become addictive if the behaviour becomes more habitual and less sensitive to bad outcomes and experiences.

Dopamine release is essential for the rewarding response we feel toward a particular outcome and inflating the “wanting” of that experience. Because this drives continued use, dopamine release in reward systems is important for the development of addictive behaviours.

However, by placing a much greater level of value on the outcome (so it appears the best option in nearly any comparison), and accelerating habit formation (so the negative consequences of this decision are ignored), the brain warps its own decision-making capabilities. At this point, attaining the outcome in question becomes less about dopamine release and more of a subconscious drive. Therefore, statements like “just stop using drugs or doing x” are of little use.

This is why multiple approaches are required to treat addictive behaviours. There is a quest to develop medications that adjust the neurochemical balance to weaken these habitual behaviours. Inevitably, these will require other interventions such as cognitive behavioural therapy and social support networks to help retrain the brain and improve decision-making capabilities.

[the writer is Advance Queensland Research Fellow, The University of Queensland]

Heptulla urges Manipur's CWG gold medallists to train youths

IMPHAL, APR 28 (PTI): Manipur Governor Najma Heptulla today urged three women athletes of the state, who won gold at the recently concluded Commonwealth Games (CWG) in Australia, to train youths here and pave way for more laurels into the country.

President Ram Nath Kovind, during his visit to Imphal last year, had rightly said that the state is the sports capital of the country, Heptulla asserted after felicitating the athletes at Raj Bhavan here.

"It is unfortunate that people do not realise the potential of the people here unless they win gold and silver for the coun-



try," she said.

India finished third at the Commonwealth Games 2018 with 26 gold medals. Of that, boxer

Mary Kom and weightlifters Mirabai Chanu and Khumukcham Sanjita Chanu bagged three.

Affectionately ad-

ressing the three gold medallists as "my girls", the governor said a healthy diet regime is necessary for sportsper-

sons to stay fit and develop stamina.

Not just weightlifters and boxers, youths interested in other sports disciplines like badminton, archery and football should also work hard to prove their merit on the international arena, she said.

Prior to the Games at Gold Coast in Australia, the Manipur government had announced a cash reward of Rs 15 lakh for the gold medallists from the state.

Sports minister Letpao Haokip, who was also present at the programme, said the award would be given to them after completion of official formalities.

Mary Kom, on her part, said the state has to provide proper infrastructure and financial assistance to produce sportspersons of "international calibre".

Mirabai Chanu, who won India's first gold medal at CWG, promised to put up a good show at the upcoming events.

"I will practice hard to maintain my form at the Asian Games and 2020 Olympics," she said.

Echoing similar sentiments, Khumukcham Sanjita Chanu, who won the yellow metal in the women's 53 kg category, said, "I am aiming for gold at the Asian Games."

Bar Association lifts ceasefire in Calcutta HC

KOLKATA, APR 28 (PTI): The Bar Association of the Calcutta High Court today lifted its two-month-long ceasefire following the Centre's notification to appoint four more judges and a permanent chief justice, an official said.

The lawyers will resume work in the high court from Monday, Bar Association President Uttam Majumder said at a press conference here.

The ceasefire at the high court, which had 2.22 lakh cases pending before it at the end of January, had commenced on February 19 to press for the appointment of more judges and a chief justice for the high court which had been headed by acting chief justices for over three years with the exception of only three months.

The Bar Association, which commands the support of majority of the lawyers, said the decision to lift the ceasefire was taken unanimously in consultation with other striking lawyers' bodies.

"Today we got the notification from the Centre about the appointment of four new judges who

will take over from next week. The high court will also have a permanent chief justice from next week. In the wake of these developments, we are lifting the ceasefire," Majumder said.

He said three judges had been appointed by the Centre in March and with four new appointments today, the high court now has 37 judges which is a little over 50 per cent of the sanctioned strength of 72 judges.

To a question about the Bar Association's earlier decision at a general body meeting that the ceasefire will continue till May 11, Majumder said, "We had asserted that the ceasefire will automatically stand withdrawn if the appointment of new judges is notified in the meantime."

"We are also lifting the ceasefire in the interest of general public," he added.

The previous longest strike had lasted for two months in 2002 in protest against the hike in stamp duty by the West Bengal government. It was observed across all courts in the state including the Calcutta High Court.

New app for railway vendors

KOLKATA, APR 28 (PTI): To make the vendor approval and registration process faster and easier, the Research Designs and Standards Organization (RDSO) has launched a new mobile app.

Called PIMS, the app was launched yesterday at the 'Rail Connect 2018' conference organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

"This app, which can be downloaded through Google Play Store, will not only help vendors track their file movement, and status of their application for registration, but will also make the whole process fair and transparent," said Lakshmi Raman, Executive Director (Quality Assurance, Mechanical), RDSO.

RDSO functions under the Railway ministry as a technical adviser and consultant to the Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Railway Production Units, among others.

SK Gupta, Executive Director (Stores), RDSO, urged the vendors to join the "massive augmentation and modernization" exercise by the government.

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China seeks FTA with India to boost trade opportunities

KOLKATA, APR 28 (PTI): China today said that a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India would facilitate more commerce between the two countries.

"I hear... that there are certain barriers to trade and investments in both the countries. A Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will help facilitate more commercial exchanges



between the two countries," Chinese Consul General in Kolkata Ma

Zhanwu said here.

He was speaking at an interactive session organised by the Bharat Chamber of Commerce.

The 19th Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held in October 2017 promised more opening up of the Chinese economy to the outside world, and also increased imports from other countries, he said.

Biplab now suggests mechanical engineers should not join civil services

AGARTALA, APR 28 (PTI): Days after courting a controversy with his remarks against former Miss World Diana Hayden, Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Deb now thinks civil engineers are better suited for civil services as compared to mechanical engineers.

"Those who are from a mechanical engineering background should not opt for civil services. Society has to be built up. Civil engineers have this knowledge... Because those in the administration have to build society," he said at an event at the Prajna Bhavan here yesterday.

Earlier, arts graduates use to appear for the civil services examination and now, medical and engineering graduates are also joining the services, he said.

Deb said civil service officers should be all-rounders as "people



who are expert in all disciplines have the highest demand".

To drive his point home, he cited the examples of Sachin Tendulkar and Kapil Dev.

"People take names of special players such as Sachin Tendulkar and Kapil Dev. Dev's bowling was good, but batting was also excellent. This is the age of speciality. All-rounders are accorded highest priority," Deb said.

Deb is no stranger

to making controversial statements.

He had on Thursday questioned the crowning of Diana Hayden as "Miss World" in 1997 and alleging that international beauty contests were a farce.

Earlier this month, Deb, an arts graduate, had claimed that Internet and satellite communication existed in the days of Mahabharata, drawing criticism from Twitterati, intellectuals and his political adversaries.

SMST of IIT KGP to launch new programmes

KOLKATA, APR 28 (PTI): The School of Medical Science and Technology of IIT Kharagpur will launch new programmes from the upcoming academic session, a statement issued by the institute said today.

The objective is to simultaneously train students and researchers on engineering and medical science, the statement said.

The new courses will also include a 2-year M Tech in Biomed-

ical Engineering.

The school already runs a 3-year Masters in Medical Science and Technology, a unique programme of its kind with MBBS doctors being admitted in the domain of medical technology.

There will also be a joint MSC-PhD programme with the Tata Medical Center, Kolkata from the coming academic session in the areas of molecular medical microbiology, nuclear medicine and med-

ical physics.

The head of the School of Medical Science and Technology, IIT Kharagpur, Prof Suman Chakraborty said, "These programmes would bridge the gap among medicine, biological sciences and engineering with a road map to develop world-class scientists."

IIT KGP is also in the process of launching a 400-bed super speciality hospital which is expected to be operational by 2019.

NCM members criticise law and order in WB

SURI (WB), APR 28 (PTI): Two members of the National Commission of Minorities visited Birbhum today and met the family of the man killed in the violence on April 23, the extended nomination day for the May Panchayat poll and criticised the law and order situation in West Bengal.

Sunil Singhi and Vade Khurshed Kaikobad Dastoor met the family of Dildar Khan at the government guest house here, official sources said.

TMC activists with placards had staged a sit-in with placards near Dildar Khan's house at Karidhya village during the team's visit. Led by two councillors of Suri municipality they also staged protests at the guest house gates.

Both BJP and TMC had claimed that the man, who was killed here, was their worker.

Singhi criticising the law and situation in the state told newsmen before departing, "As many as eight persons from the minority community have been killed recently in the state.

This exposes that the law and order here (in West Bengal) is not up to the mark."

"We strongly condemn they way Dildar Khan had been killed. We have talked to the family members, they are in grief and could not express everything. We consoled them and told that Government of India is with them. They will get all possible help from the central government.

"Though they (the family members) did not accuse anybody, we felt that they are under some pressure," he added.

Later TMC district president Anubrata Mondal said the NCM visit was "politically motivated".

"They (NCM members) came from Delhi to create pressure. They thought that Dildar's family members would say something different. They were state guests we should not dishonor guests but they have got the message that Dildar was our ardent worker," he told newsmen.

State Urban Development minister Firhad Hakim had claimed on April 23 that Dildar was killed by contract killers from Jharkhand hired by the BJP.



Students enrolling in humanities courses increased in past 3 yrs: UGC data

NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): The number of students enrolling in humanities disciplines has increased in the past three years, according to UGC data.

"The University Grants Commission (UGC) has stated that the total number of students enrolled in universities and colleges in the discipline of arts, humanities, social science including languages, oriental learning and area studies has increased in the last three years, a senior HRD ministry official said.

According to the data, 1.22 crore students enrolled in humanities courses across the country in 2014-15 academic session, and the number rose to 1.25 crore and 1.26 crore in 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

"There is a popular perception that those who take science courses are more studious and academically sound and there has been a stigma attached to humanities courses in the society. The perception has changed now. More and more students are opting for humanities courses and having successful careers," the official said.

Day 3: AIIMS resident doctors continue strike

NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): Healthcare services at AIIMS in Delhi remained affected for the third consecutive day today as resident doctors remained adamant that the administration suspend a senior doctor who had allegedly slapped one of their colleagues in front of patients and other staffers.

Routine surgeries remained cancelled, out-patient clinics functioned in a restricted manner and patients seeking OPD consultation were sent back due to the strike.

Only the emergency and ICU services functioned. The senior doctor, who heads a department at the premier institute, has tendered a written apology for assaulting the resident doctor and proceeded on leave on the directions of an internal probe panel.

The resident doctors, who have been on the protest strike since Thursday evening, paid no heed to AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria's appeal to call off their strike and return to work.

"The senior doctor has been sent on leave. We want the administration to suspend him. Till he is suspended we will continue our strike," a doctor participating in the strike said.

The hospital administration has put in place a contingency plan for patient-care services, as a part of which faculty-on-call in all clinical departments have to physically man the in-patient wards.

"OPD services will function on restricted basis till such a time that normalcy is restored. Only follow-up patients with prior appointment will be registered in OPD. New Patients OPD registration will be done as per availability of faculty in respective OPD as decided by Head of Department/Unit concerned. No walk-in registration (new and old) will be done," an order issued by the administration stated.

BCCI recommends Edulji for Lifetime Award, she declines

KUSHAN SARKAR/ BHARAT SHARMA

NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): The BCCI today recommended former Indian women's team captain Diana Edulji for the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, an honour she declined citing her current role in the board as a Supreme Court-appointed CoA member.

Earlier today, a three-man BCCI panel had recommended Edulji for the Lifetime Achievement Award alongside the late Pankaj Roy, former India opener and coach Anshuman Gaekwad, and former India women's captain and coach Sudha Shah.

However, soon after the BCCI announcement, Edulji took the call of not accepting the award.

"Since I am a member of the Hon'ble Supreme Court appointed committee of administrators of the BCCI, I do not think it is appropriate for me to accept this honour at this juncture," she said in a statement.

"I have discussed the decision with my family, friends and well wishers who wholeheartedly support my decision not to accept the award during my tenure as a member of the COA. In fact, I had made my decision very clear last year as well when



my name was suggested for this honour."

The panel that send the recommendations comprised eminent journalist N Ram, acting president CK Khanna and acting secretary Amitabh Choudhary.

"Nevertheless, I would like to thank the Members of the BCCI awards committee for considering me worthy of this prestigious honour," Edulji added.

Edulji and Roy were chosen for the 2016-17 period while Gaekwad and Sudha Shah will be honoured for the 2017-18 cycle.

Abbas Ali Baig, late Naren Tamhane and late Bhudi Kunderan will get special recognition during the awards ceremony to be held ahead of the one-off Test between India and Afghanistan in Bengaluru in June.

Last year when Shantha

Rangaswamy got the Lifetime Award, Edulji and COA members were party to the decision unlike this time. In fact, Edulji was part of the panel that recommended the names alongside Ramachandra Guha and N Ram.

She is one of the most accomplished women cricketers from India. She played in 20 Tests and 34 ODIs in a career spanning over 17 years, taking 63 and 46 wickets respectively.

She played at a time when the game was run by Women's Cricket Association of India (WCAI) which was mostly cash strapped and couldn't arrange for international matches.

While Edulji's contribution as a pioneer of women's cricket movement in the country is unquestionable, there were murmurs in the BCCI corridors about the timing of such a recommendation as she is a part of the CoA headed by former CAG Vinod Rai.

Rai was asked if this is a case of Conflict of Interest.

"The committee is headed by Mr N Ram. I didn't even know the recommendations. It doesn't come to us at all," said Rai.

A veteran BCCI official said: "No one can ever question Diana's contribution towards growth of women's cricket in

India. After Shantha, she is a logical choice as there aren't too many great women cricketers of yesteryears.

"But she is being recommended at a time when she is one of the figure heads of BCCI. Conflict of Interest is not about direct conflicts but about perceptions.

"Whenever I see these situations, I feel bad for Roger Binny, who was dumped from selection panel as his son Stuart is an active cricketer. Roger also used to recuse himself when Stuart's name would come up," the official added.

Meanwhile Pankaj Roy's son Pronab, himself a former Test player, was ecstatic to hear the news.

"Dad would have got emotional had he been around. We as a family always felt that my father always got his recognition late. But better late than never. My mother will be overjoyed to hear this news," he said.

Roy played 43 Tests scoring 2442 runs with five hundreds. He will always be remembered for his world record opening stand of 413 runs with Vinoo Mankad against New Zealand in Chennai (Madras) in 1956. The record stood for 52 years.

Govt to amend POCSO Act to make it gender-neutral

NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): The Centre is planning to amend the POCSO Act to provide justice to male child victims of sexual assault, the Women and Child Development Ministry said, days after an ordinance promulgated by President Ram Nath Kovind provided the death penalty for rape of girls under the age of 12.

"The government has always strived to develop gender neutral laws. Government has proposed amendment in the POCSO Act to seek justice for survivors of child sexual abuse," it said on its official Twitter handle on Thursday.

WCD Minister Maneka Gandhi recently supported a petition on Change.org by filmmaker-activist Insia Dariwala, who said "male child sexual abuse is an ignored reality in India".

Replying to the petition, she said a first-of-its-kind study on male survivors of child sexual abuse would be conducted.

"Another much neglected sphere of child sexual abuse is male survivors. Child sexual abuse is gender neutral. Boys who are sexually abused as children spend a lifetime of silence because of the stigma and shame attached to male survivors speaking out. It is a serious problem and needs to be addressed," she said in her response on the campaign website.

Gandhi said following the petition, she had in September 2017 instructed the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to look into the issue.

The NCPCR held a conference in this regard in November last year.

"As per the recommendations that emerged from the conference, it was unanimously decided that there should be an amendment to the existing scheme for the victims of CSA to also include compensation for boys who have been sexually abused or raped," she said.

Recently, an ordinance promulgated by the president said courts were now allowed to award the maximum death penalty to those convicted of raping girls below the age of 12 years.

According to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance 2018, new fast-track courts will be set up to deal with such cases and special forensic kits for rape cases will be given to all police stations and hospitals in the long term.

AIIMS faculty members work through night as jr doctors continue strike



NEW DELHI, APR 28 (PTI): Even as AIIMS resident doctors continued their strike over an alleged assault on one of their colleagues by a senior doctor, the faculty members worked through the night at the trauma centre to retrieve the organs of a man and offered a fresh lease of life to several other patients.

An 18-year-old man was brought to the trauma centre on Thursday, the day resident doctors went on the strike, following a road accident on Noida Expressway, its chief

Rajesh Malhotra said.

The man had sustained severe head injuries and was comatose after the accident. He was put on life support and tests conducted on him confirmed he was brain dead, Malhotra said.

Subsequently, his father, who works at Nagaland House in New Delhi, was asked if they were willing to donate the organs of his son to patients who needed them. He gave his consent and the organ retrieval team at the trauma centre was activated.

Amid strike by the Resident Doctors Association, the process began at 6 pm yesterday and the heart was retrieved at 9.30 pm. It was transplanted to a cardiac patient.

Both kidneys were transplanted to two patients waiting for renal transplants. His liver was given to two patients at two hospitals. Both the corneas (eyes) were retrieved for corneal transplant on two patients who may get vision soon.

The family also gave their consent for retrieving the bones, which will

be used by the orthopaedic team.

The body was then handed over to the family after due formalities.

"Arjun has given life to seven different patients in need of organ transplants and so his life continues after death," Malhotra said.

"Senior doctors worked through the night for this humane cause and respected the greatest human donation inspite of greatly-increased clinical load due to the strike by junior residents," Malhotra added.

UPSC 2nd topper Anu to be Beti Bachao ambassador in Sonipat

CHANDIGARH, APR 28 (PTI): Anu Kumari, who secured second rank in the prestigious civil services 2017 examination, would be made the brand ambassador of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign in Sonipat district, Haryana Urban Local Bodies Minister Kavita Jain said today.

Anu Kumari, the topper among the female candidates, has graduated with BSc (Hons) in Physics from the Delhi University and has done an MBA (Finance and Marketing) from IMT, Nagpur. She hails from Haryana's Sonipat.

The significant achievement of Anu has given a befitting reply to such people who have killed their daughters in the womb. She has emerged as an inspiration in changing the mindset of people towards the girl child, the minister said in a statement.

Congratulating Anu and members of her family on her success, Jain said today daughters are in no way behind in any field.

"There is need to give them opportunity to prove their mettle. It is a matter of pride not only for Sonipat but for entire Haryana that daughter from an ordinary family has proved her mettle in the civil services exam," she said.

7th Himalayan Running and Living Marathon to start on April 30

SHIMLA, APR 28 (PTI):

The seventh edition of the Himalayan Running and Living Marathon, one of the few to be held at an altitude of over 10,000 ft above sea level, would be held in the Sangla valley of tribal Kinnaur district from April 30 to May 4.

Runners from Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, Gujarat, Solan, Batseri and Sangla, and also from the UK and Dubai, will participate in the event, Additional Chief Secretary Tarun Kapoor said.

The marathon will be organised by Running and Living, a Delhi-based organisation, and supported by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Himachal Pradesh.

The department was delighted to support the run and looked forward to more people from across the country and the world participating

in such events in the future, Kapoor said.

"Registered participants and those who want to register at the last minute would have to come to Banjara camp in Batseri Village, 8 km beyond Sangla, on April 30 for their race packet and briefing. On May 1, they will be required to trek, jog the distance from Raksham to Batseri and back via a beautiful jungle trail," an official spokesperson said.

He added that on May 2, the half marathon participants would have to run 5,000 metres and the marathon participants have to run 10,000 metres.

On May 3, they would visit Chitkul and beyond at 11,500 ft and trek or run to get used to the higher altitude. On May 4, half and full marathons would start at 6.30 am, he added.

Xi wants screening of more Bollywood movies in China

WUHAN, APR 28 (PTI): Chinese President Xi Jinping has seen a number of Indian films, including Hindi and regional, and believes it would be a good idea that Bollywood movies come to China and vice-versa.

Briefing reporters at the end of the two-day informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi in the central Chinese city, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said they proposed collaboration in the areas of spirituality, trade, technology, tradition and entertainment including films.

"President Xi said that he had seen a number of Indian films, both Bollywood and regional, and that it would be a good idea that more Indian films come to China and more Chinese films go to India," Gokhale said.

Modi and Xi were seen enjoying an instrumental rendition of 1982 Bollywood superhit song "Tu, tu hai wahi dil ne jise apna kaha," from movie "Yeh Vaada Raha" by Chinese artists here yesterday.

Xi had told Modi last year that he had watched Bollywood star Amir Khan's 'Dangal' movie and liked it. 'Dangal' was a super hit in China and broke several records in the Chinese movie industry and raked in over Rs 1,100 crore.

Ahead of the Wuhan summit, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying hailed media reports that India plans to appoint Khan as brand ambassador to boost trade between the two countries.

Opp meet SEC; express grievances on single-phase Bengal rural poll

KOLKATA, APRIL 28 (PTI):

Opposition parties in West Bengal today met the State Election Commission to express their grievances over the upcoming single-phase panchayat polls and the security arrangements for the same.

Apart from the opposition Congress, BJP and Left parties, the ruling TMC also met the poll body and discussed the security and election arrangements for the upcoming poll, sources said.

The SEC officials met representatives of ten political parties of the state separately.

"We told the SEC that we are not happy with the security arrangements for the elections. The state does not have adequate forces to hold the elections in one day. The result of today's meeting is zero," senior

BJP leader Pratap Banerjee told reporters after the meeting.

"We had demanded that the elections be held in three phases when a meeting was held in this regard on April 21. We told the SEC that one phase election will only lead to violence," CPI(M) senior leader Rabin Deb said.

The Congress delegation blamed the SEC and the state government for its alleged failure to provide adequate security during the filing of nominations.

The TMC delegation, led by party general secretary Subrata Bakshi and TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee, did not speak to the media after the meeting.

The West Bengal panchayat election is scheduled to be held in a single phase on May 14.

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Indian Commonwealth official wins unfair dismissal case in UK

ADITI KHANNA

LONDON, APR 28 (PTI):

An Indian official who worked at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London has won an employment tribunal claim that he was unlawfully forced out of his job and is entitled to thousands of pounds in damages.

Ram Venuprasad had brought the case against Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland for unfairly disciplining him over leaks of information to the media, which he denied responsibility for.

The 45-year-old's lawyers had argued that the former deputy head of office at the Secretariat had been "marked out" by Scotland after he raised concerns over her decision to spend 50,000 pounds on a garden party shortly after she had taken office in 2016.

The specially-convened employment tribunal concluded that Venuprasad was unlawfully forced out of his job and the disciplinary processes used against the former senior civil servant were "seriously flawed", The Times reported.

The ruling from the tribunal, held at the Secretariat headquarters in Marlborough House in London, came soon after the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) concluded on April 20.

"Despite receiving the judgment last week, I did not want to speak publicly until the conclusion of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London," Venuprasad told the newspaper.

The Indian citizen who has lived in Britain for 20 years hopes to find work at another international organisation but had been told by head-hunters that the case would hinder his chances.

Venuprasad's legal team told the tribunal that when media reports highlighted Scotland's alleged "extravagant and over-zealous spending", the civil servant was blamed for the leak and suffered a campaign of "intimidation and hostility", which he said was "designed to damage his reputation and damage him psychologically".

The civil servant, who joined the Secretariat in 2001, said the tipping point came when Scotland, 62, organised a major meeting for staff and caused a stir by telling the meeting that no one outside of the organisation had ever heard of her predecessor, Kamalesh Sharma, the former Indian high commissioner to the UK.

"That really did not go down well," Venuprasad recalls, claiming that Scotland a former UK Attorney-General appeared to suggest that she was a big name who was going to raise the profile of the Secretariat.

"I spoke to her directly and frankly about her comments. I told her that I thought her criticisms were very unfair as (Sharma) was not there to defend himself. I saw it as a question of common courtesy. And she did not like that," he claims.

The employment tribunal concluded that Venuprasad's suspension was a "breach of the secretariat's obligations" under its employment contract.

Modi, Xi to issue ‘strategic guidance’ to militaries to build trust

KJM VARMA
WUHAN, APR 28 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping have decided to issue "strategic guidance" to their militaries to strengthen communications and to build trust and understanding, the top Indian diplomat said today, a move aimed at avoiding a Doklam-like situation in the future.

Modi said his talks with President Xi focussed on diverse areas of India-China cooperation. "We discussed ways to give impetus to our economic ties as well as people-to-people relations. Other areas we spoke about include agriculture, technology, energy and tourism," he said.

Briefing reporters at the end of the two-day informal summit between the two leaders in the central Chinese city today, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said the two leaders underscored the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in all areas of the India-China border region.

"To this end, they issued strategic guidance to their respective militaries to strengthen communication in order to build trust and mutual understanding and enhance predictability and effectiveness in the management of border affairs," Gokhale said.

He said the two leaders further directed their militaries to earnestly implement various confidence building measures agreed upon between the



two sides, including the principle of mutual and equal security, and strengthen existing institutional arrangements and information sharing mechanisms to prevent incidents in border regions.

They also endorsed the work of the special representatives to find a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement on the boundary issue.

The two countries have so far held 20 rounds of talks to resolve the boundary dispute and worked out different mechanisms to keep peace along the 3,488-km long Line of Actual Control. His remarks assumes significance as the 'heart-to-heart' summit between Modi and Xi is being seen as an effort by India and China to rebuild trust and improve ties that were hit by the 73-day-long Doklam standoff last year.

"The two leaders were of the view that the two countries have the maturity and wisdom to handle all our differences through peaceful discussions within the context of the overall relationships and bearing in mind, we would respect each other's sensitivities, concerns and aspirations," Gokhale said.

Modi and Xi underlined that as two major countries India and China have wider and overlapping regional and global interests. They agreed on the need to strengthen strategic communication through greater consultation on all matters of common interest. "They believe that such strategic communication will have a positive influence on enhancing mutual understanding and will contribute to regional and global stability," Gokhale said.



Knife attacker kills nine children in China

BEIJING, APR 28 (AP): The death toll has risen to nine in a stabbing attack outside a middle school in northwestern China.

The Mizhi county government in Shaanxi province reported that another 10 people have been hospitalized with injuries resulting from the Friday evening rampage outside the No. 3 Middle School.

Police have arrested a suspect in his 20s identified by the surname Zhao who had been a student at the school and was appar-

ently seeking revenge for having been bullied, according to the Mizhi government's official microblog.

China tightly restricts private gun ownership, making knives and homemade explosives most common weapons in violent crimes.

Many schools have beefed up security at access points following violence against students and family members. In 2010, nearly 20 children were killed in knife attacks outside school gates.

Monsoon threatens thousands of Rohingya refugees: UN

YOSHITA SINGH

UNITED NATIONS, APR 28

(PTI): The UN has said that lives of tens of thousands of Rohingya refugees hang in the balance as monsoon and cyclone seasons threaten their makeshift camps in Bangladesh.

According to the UN estimates, nearly 700,000 minority Rohingya Muslims have fled to Bangladesh to escape violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State since August 25 last year when the army launched a military crackdown.

Myanmar does not recognise Rohingya as an ethnic group and insists that they are Bangladeshi

migrants living illegally in the country.

The United Nations migration agency -- the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) -- appealed for urgent financial support to prepare the area in southern Bangladesh against floods and landslides.

Without new funding, tens of thousands of people in the camps, fleeing violence triggered in Myanmar last August, will be at risk, the IOM said.

"We cannot wait for funding to come in after the emergency is over and possibly preventable tragedies have occurred," said John McCue, IOM's Senior

Operations Coordinator in Cox's Bazar. "We need to be able to act now if lives are to be saved," he said.

Almost a million Rohingya refugees live in Cox's Bazar under tarpaulins, on steep, sandy slopes 25,000 of whom are said to be at the high-risk risk of landslides.

Without aid, numerous refugees will have to remain in these hazardous locations and hundreds of thousands of others will also be at risk if roads become impassible, blocking access to aid supplies and medical services.

"Tarp stocks are also rapidly running out and

the IOM, which oversees shelter distribution, reports that by mid-May supplies will fall below critical levels," McCue said.

He said that without more funding, neither new shelters nor replacements would be available to those who lost homes during storms.

He also pointed out that other risks included safe water supply systems, which if collapsed could put hundreds of thousands of refugees in jeopardy of waterborne diseases.

Only nine per cent of a USD 951 million joint agency response plan has been secured. Of that, USD 182

million allocated to provide Cox's Bazar with assistance through December 2018 is facing a shortfall of almost USD 151 million.

Aid staff on the ground are working to improve shelters, secure key access roads and have emergency response services ready should the worst happens, "but the harsh truth is that we cannot keep doing that if we do not have the funds," McCue said.

The IOM, the World Food Programme and the UN refugee agency are working alongside the Bangladesh government and others to manage the scale of the response.

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES
LABHLAXMI VIRGO

Draw No:12	DrawDate on:28/04/18
1st Prize Rs.10,000/-	3338
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/-	2634 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1021
4th Prize Rs.300/-	1229 5th Prize Rs. 205/- 5546
6th Prize Rs.100/-	
1165 1183 1187 1194 1196 1202 1209 1214 1350 1352	
1355 1434 1443 1541 1543 1552 1561 1574 1586 1593	
1594 1598 1602 1613 1667 1686 1749 1780 1795 1809	
1825 1828 1841 1852 1857 1864 1869 1879 1905 1973	
2001 2025 2044 2067 2096 2101 2163 2171 2173 2263	
2283 2337 2350 2388 2412 2426 2436 2460 2534 2557	
2558 2571 2614 2642 2668 2678 2680 2713 2716 2719	
2740 2812 2826 2839 2854 2911 2935 3012 3042 3062	
3076 3078 3087 3090 3097 3140 3189 3225 3238 3240	
3251 3259 3275 3289 3292 3294 3385 3396 3397 3398	
3494 3509 3519 3522 3542 3557 3571 3572 3580 3589	
3611 3621 3630 3650 3666 3674 3675 3684 3690 3717	
3765 3804 3857 3885 3911 3955 3992 4068 4109 4161	
4235 4284 4309 4329 4368 4376 4386 4479 4518 4531	
4540 4585 4592 4599 4629 4638 4666 4685 4693 4696	
4714 4716 4754 4765 4774 4805 4810 4816 4824 4831	
4837 4858 4891 4894 4901 4914 4956 4976 4978 4985	
5025 5046 5049 5059 5065 5108 5170 5236 5258 5389	
5423 5452 5528 5584 5603 5636 5642 5653 5661 5679	
5685 5705 5719 5729 5732 5749 5787 5789 5794 5801	
5809 5812 5847 5851 5854 5855 5876 6013 6018 6030	
6038 6050 6080 6161 6163 6186 6188 6195 6224 6232	
6275 6303 6316 6335 6374 6377 6422 6523 6537 6613	
6631 6694 6697 6730 6772 6777 6820 6855 6868 6907	

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

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
MUMBAILAXMI RAJA

Draw No:12	DrawDate on:28/04/18
1st Prize Rs.10,000/-	1361 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 5267
3rd Prize Rs. 1,000/-	5566 4th Prize Rs. 505/- 4327
5th Prize Rs.200/-	
1025 1062 1104 1126 1210 1222 1282 1297 1368 1450	
1593 1614 1636 1649 1673 1680 1757 1863 1949 2009	
2065 2085 2154 2160 2251 2468 2480 2504 2514 2566	
2669 2737 2798 2892 3052 3057 3066 3137 3180 3198	
3238 3293 3330 3423 3562 3713 3737 3774 3796 3801	
3853 3861 3918 3933 3936 3996 4017 4081 4093 4199	
4417 4446 4475 4485 4523 4544 4581 4584 4601 4611	
4627 4656 4701 4771 4791 4798 4805 4828 4889 4951	
4969 5037 5158 5160 5183 5191 5354 5379 5380 5416	
5467 5471 5576 5597 5772 5809 5857 5864 5877 5989	
6th Prize Rs.100/-	
1093 1097 1128 1131 1151 1253 1278 1292 1311 1324	
1343 1365 1366 1369 1384 1387 1394 1416 1446 1460	
1486 1489 1503 1505 1524 1532 1546 1548 1585 1577	
1596 1659 1670 1689 1712 1763 1776 1782 1783 1792	
1795 1839 1849 1879 1880 1893 1909 1926 1935 1947	
2013 2028 2032 2061 2076 2171 2192 2266 2265 2292	
2332 2400 2437 2467 2487 2494 2495 2510 2523 2546	
2559 2595 2624 2664 2695 2698 2722 2752 2821 2890	
2917 2924 2942 2963 2975 2976 3014 3021 3046 3081	
3110 3145 3149 3153 3188 3200 3240 3302 3348 3356	
3402 3464 3549 3565 3611 3673 3692 3806 3846 3887	
3888 3942 3948 3949 3994 4030 4079 4102 4109 4194	
4197 4205 4215 4220 4226 4238 4245 4273 4281 4296	
4311 4324 4328 4331 4361 4376 4410 4465 4490 4540	
4558 4599 4647 4663 4697 4707 4712 4786 4800 4883	
4914 4946 4954 4983 4984 4999 5003 5028 5030 5058	
5073 5142 5146 5167 5180 5255 5208 5221 5225 5262	
5264 5312 5336 5381 5403 5410 5468 5473 5487 5495	
5501 5539 5545 5602 5682 5702 5763 5765 5766 5797	
5835 5845 5860 5861 5927 5939 5944 5953 5962 5965	

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The Commissioner,
ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES,ITANAGAR.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES		
DEAR GENTLE MORNING Draw Time : 11:55 am onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:28/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.05 Lakhs/- 87A 31753 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 31753 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 03365 05822 27273 32216 43887 44949 46791 55567 70677 82223 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0286 1310 1601 1902 2120 2242 8477 8519 9302 9878 4th Prize Rs.250/- 1554 3927 4081 4298 5589 5643 6620 6932 8631 9601 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0050 0197 0221 0237 0332 0393 0473 0750 0752 0929 1026 1027 1122 1169 1199 1249 1671 1722 1778 1791 2189 2319 2346 2501 2556 2646 2742 3023 3039 3240 3304 3421 3518 3688 3705 3774 3926 3929 4084 4365 4536 4666 4696 4780 4974 5022 5054 5144 5183 5224 5249 5815 5817 5905 6101 6196 6249 6277 6288 6328 6361 6452 6457 6500 6646 6699 6739 6876 6887 7006 7175 7207 7272 7301 7531 7591 7960 8065 8109 8146 8251 8498 8508 8531 8563 8598 8758 8945 8962 9063 9141 9150 9192 9295 9506 9594 9595 9733 9844 9862	DEAR PRIZED Draw Time : 04:00 pm onwards Draw No:21 DrawDate on:28/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.05 Lakhs/- 99C 79892 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 79892 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 03855 04637 39352 41130 52581 73908 81445 88389 91365 96343 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 2386 2416 2875 3846 4354 5862 6660 7303 8270 9897 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0103 0477 0481 1168 1589 2370 3696 7690 8914 9819 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0002 0118 0120 0305 0323 0356 0406 0430 0622 0729 1075 1087 1090 1244 1248 1355 1601 1677 1766 1903 2020 2142 2204 2214 2269 2390 2429 2702 2837 2895 2962 3179 3276 3499 3571 3580 3603 3674 3814 3888 4424 4512 4766 4816 4822 5111 5123 5159 5227 5288 5308 5334 5369 5538 5580 5586 5636 5645 5690 5815 5872 5906 5996 6093 6179 6213 6381 6747 6816 6821 6858 6870 6902 7099 7125 7132 7284 7349 8249 8281 8475 8515 8570 8574 8631 8633 8689 8808 8854 9154 9160 9188 9326 9368 9461 9835 9846 9924 9945 9949	DEAR OSTRICH EVENING Draw Time : 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:39 DrawDate on:28/04/18 1st Prize Rs.26.05 Lakhs/- 96A 27515 Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 27515 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 01793 07741 19736 37302 41201 50648 56199 60422 83136 85810 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0405 0504 1866 2018 2081 2979 5326 5585 8481 9391 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0255 0572 1676 3192 5407 5327 7375 8425 8702 9390 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0013 0258 0313 0471 0532 0560 0632 0724 1117 1141 1208 1257 1410 1534 1577 1832 1894 1926 2079 2172 2199 2418 2624 2818 2835 3090 3254 3292 3349 3452 3464 3509 3600 3624 3824 3851 4001 4039 4139 4236 4257 4330 4391 4408 4523 4581 4630 4788 4801 4934 5083 5170 5296 5535 5567 5624 5702 6015 6060 6093 6142 6230 6289 6378 6464 6670 6703 6852 6872 7150 7156 7437 7631 7666 7682 7706 7800 7909 7994 7997 8071 8152 8230 8289 8451 8541 8551 8588 8642 8985 8995 9041 9101 9167 9387 9430 9451 9540 9862 9981 Issued by : The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima ,Nagaland For Result Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com



© GQ / BACKGRID

STRUTTING HER STUFF! The 44-year-old former Spice Girls star, Victoria Beckham, looked sensational in a simple yet typically stylish ensemble comprising of a perfectly cut white T-shirt with high-waisted flared jeans which added height to her diminutive frame.

Boyzone to SPLIT after 25 years... but will pay tribute to late member Stephen Gately in final album

They burst onto the music scene in 1993, making waves with their catchy songs and over-enthusiastic dancing. But after 25 years, Boyzone have reportedly decided to call it a day.

The Irish boyband are said to be planning to pull out all the stops for their final album, which will be a poignant tribute to their late bandmate Stephen Gately who passed away in 2009.

According to The Sun, the band made the decision to part ways after a series of meetings where they discussed the future of Boyzone.

The newspaper reports Ronan Keating, Keith Duffy, Mikey Graham and Shane Lynch, will release their final album to coincide with their 25th anniversary and embark on a goodbye tour before throwing in the towel for good.

The Love Me for a Reason hitmakers previously said they enlisted the help of Ed Sheeran and Sam Smith to write their tracks for their album, which will be released in September.

The rumours of their split comes nine years after Stephen died from natural causes aged just 33, leaving fans around the world devastated.

Shane previously spoke about his heartache, during



his stint on Celebrity Big Brother earlier this year.

He said: "He was 33 when he died. When that happened, we were in the middle of making a new album. And at that point we were like, 'What do we do? Do we call it a day? Is there no more Boyzone? Is that it?' But every time we got together as a group, the four of us came together, it was very apparent that he was alive, when we came together. Because that was our bubble. He's so there. So we'll always be five, regardless of visually what you see. He will always be there."

Born in Dublin, Gately joined Boyzone in 1993 after answering an advert to audition for Ireland's first boyband. The group achieved international fame as well as six UK

No.1s - including Words, No Matter What, All That Matters To Me and You Needed Me.

The band officially split in 2000, but have frequently got back together for landmark tours - including the Back Again...No Matter What tour in 2009 - which was the last time they'd perform as a five-piece.

The band also reunited in 2013 to celebrate their 20th anniversary with a tour and new releases.

Shane previously talked about the upcoming tour this year on ITV's Lorraine in May 2017.

He said: "We can't let it go. I love the boys, I love being with them. I love my musical side of the world and we just have to work everything out."

ARIES: A festival, rally, or other mass event could occur today in your community, Aries. It could center on a social, ecological, or political issue. You could well decide to attend in the company of a romantic partner, and perhaps a group of friends, too. This event could prove exciting for you, although some of what you learn there might be unsettling. Take a notebook and plenty of pens. You'll want to keep a record.

TAURUS: Career matters should be going very well for you today, Taurus. A sudden change regarding your work could catapult you into a position you've been hoping to reach for a long time. A rise in income could result. You've worked hard and done very well, so what may seem a lucky break to others is actually the result of

intense, determined effort on your part. Enjoy your success and make the most of it.

GEMINI: A sudden desire to expand your horizons could have you and possibly a romantic partner considering returning to school, Gemini, perhaps for an advanced degree. The school you're considering, however, might be located in another state or even a foreign country. Following through with your desire could require some careful planning. As a result, you and your beloved may have some intense conversations over the next few days.

CANCER: Some new ideas for expanding your horizons on some level could come to you today through an unexpected source, Cancer, possibly even dreams or visions. If an idea does come

through a dream or flash of insight, don't write it off as crazy. It probably warrants some careful consideration, if nothing else. Some research is definitely called for, and possibly consulting with people in the know. Think about it!

LEO: Ideas for a new enterprise, which could be anything from a party to a vacation to a new business, could have you spending a lot of time on the phone today, Leo. You'll need to consult with people who know about what you want to do and at least lay the groundwork for making solid arrangements. Some of what you hear may be confusing, but don't be afraid to ask for an explanation. Go to it!

VIRGO: Have you been thinking about getting fit by investing in some exercise equipment? If so,

I lost my virginity through rape: Amy Schumer

Actor and stand-up comic Amy Schumer has revealed that she was raped by a former boyfriend, someone she "really trusted", when she was young.

The 36-year-old actor opened up about the experience to media mogul Oprah Winfrey and said her comic skits often reflected her life story where she would say if a woman is asleep, one cannot assume to have the consent to engage in a sexual act with her.

"When we hear about rape when we're children, and we're being warned about it, it's about a guy popping out from a bush... and some villain. They don't say it's probably gonna be a guy you know really well. It could be your husband. It could be your friend. And so you think, when that happens you, you say, 'OK, this isn't someone I want to see rotting in a jail cell, but what he did to me was wrong, and I didn't consent.'"

"And for me, I lost my virginity while I was asleep. And that's not OK. So, in my



stand-up I would say, 'If she's asleep, that's a no.' Just hoping that a couple guys would see that and it would be met in that moment, like, 'This is a no. I heard that somewhere,'" Schumer said, according to Jezebel.

The "I Feel Pretty" actor said when she confronted her then boyfriend about her sexual assault, "The first thing he said was, 'I thought you knew.' I didn't say anything yet, and he says, 'I thought you knew.'"

To this Winfrey said, "What's interesting about that is that you then were feeling bad for how he would feel the next day."

The actor said she loved him and it was her training as a woman that she did not want to "get angry" as it pushed people away.

"There's sort of no place for that anger. But I felt I wanted to comfort him because he felt so bad and he was so worried. And I just tried to push my anger down," she added.

Schumer said she and her boyfriend eventually started having consensual sex, but pointed out that it does not negate the initial assault.

When Winfrey asked her how she would sum up the incident in retrospect, the actor paused and replied, "I personally feel like I lost my virginity through rape. I didn't consent. We hadn't discussed it. We weren't there in our relationship. We weren't at that moment. And we talked about things.

Gigi Hadid's Tommy Hilfiger Event Crashed by Protestors



With designers waiting to dress her and millions of fans desperate to copy her looks, Gigi Hadid is an undeniable fashion icon. But that doesn't mean that everyone is a fan of her outfits. On Thursday, the 23-year-old model was bombarded at a meet-and-greet by a group of anti-fur protesters who had an issue with her history of wearing fur.

The incident occurred at a signing for Hadid's collaboration with Tommy Hilfiger at a Macy's in New York City's Herald Square. In a video obtained by the Daily Mail, Hadid can be seen sitting at a table, waiting for the next fan as a woman, pretending to be a fan, approaches her. Hadid reaches up for a hug as the woman tells her something and tries to show her something on her phone.

When Hadid looks away to sign a card for her, the woman reaches from under her clothes and pulls out a sign with the words: "Gigi Kills." Seconds later, another woman approaches the table with a sign reading, "Fur Scum." The women are seen

chanting, "Gigi Hadid. Shame on you!" as their signs are wrestled away from them and they're ushered off the premises by security. The video shows Hadid briefly looking up at the women's signs when they begin chanting before looking toward the crowd and back down at the table until the commotion is over.

The video then cuts to moments later when Hadid is escorted away from the stage to compose herself. According to fans who were there, Hadid returns minutes later to continue her signing. However, almost immediately after her return, the model was approached by protesters again, leading security to cancel the event.

Though it's unclear whether she was wearing real or faux fur, Hadid has been photographed wearing fur-looking clothes on many occasions.

Aside from a couple Instagram pictures from the event Hadid hasn't addressed the incident. Ironically enough, Tommy Hilfiger, Hadid's collaborator, went fur-free in 2007. We wonder when, if ever, Hadid did the same.

Ed Sheeran puppet returns in new music video for Happier...

And Ed Sheeran fans were left in tears by the character on Friday, as he returned for an appearance in the video for his emotional ballad Happier. His puppet counterpart made his last appearance in the video for his 2014 mega-hit Sing.

The heart-wrenching video sees puppet Ed hit rock bottom after being separated from his inflatable girlfriend, with fans rushing to comment their delight at seeing the character back on the emotional track.

Sporting his trademark ginger hair and gingham shirt, puppet Ed is seen drowning his sorrows and reminiscing on the good times following a romance with a balloon blonde beauty.

After she is taken away by a little girl, Ed struggles to reunite with his beloved, who is then swept away into the sky after an Animal-esque character loses his grip on her string lead.

Puppet Ed last made an appearance in the significantly more up-beat Sing, with the character partying up a storm among



a plethora of scantily clad women.

The video left fans delighting and weeping in equal measure, as some were thrilled to see puppet Ed back while others wept at the video's tragic storyline.

One commented on the video: "This makes me so sad. I love the song and for some reason those damn puppets make

me sadder. This song gives me all the feels."

And while puppet Ed appears to be in a barrage of never-ending relationship drama, the real-life singer's relationship status is much more down to earth.

The Shape of You hitmaker confirmed in January that he and long-term girlfriend Cherry Seaborn are engaged, taking to Instagram with a sweet post to confirm the news.

Ed informed his 18.9 million followers at the time: "Got myself a fiancé just before new year. We are very happy and in love, and our cats are chuffed as well xx".

ing, as it could conflict with your viewpoint, but bear in mind you don't have to agree with others to learn from them. Enjoy your day.

CAPRICORN: Relations with colleagues on the job could be very cooperative today, Capricorn, probably because you're about to complete a project of some kind that could result in higher income for everyone. Communication should be open and honest, and for once you'll probably be able to reach everyone you phone without having to leave any messages. Go with the flow and all should be completed successfully. Onward and upward!

AQUARIUS: Friendships and romantic bonds should provide a rich source of support and good companionship today, Aquarius. Conversation is likely to be light, cov-

ering general matters like current events and the weather, but this might be just what you need right now. Someone could introduce you to some new friends from far away who have some intriguing news of their own. This should prove a light, restful, and altogether very pleasant day. Enjoy!

PISCES: Today you might find yourself hosting an impromptu social event, Pisces, and more people could show up than you initially counted on. Don't worry about it, however. The party should be enjoyable for everyone even if the place is a bit crowded. Your visitors can look out for themselves. Among the unexpected guests might be an attractive, interesting person who could shape up to be a potential love partner. Relax and enjoy your day.