



SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Egg prices 40% higher on tight supply

NEW DELHI, Nov 20 (PTI): Egg prices have jumped by up to 40 per cent to Rs 7-7.50 per piece in retail markets in most parts of the country, hit by tight supply, Poultry Federation of India President Ramesh Katri said today.

The upward trend would continue in coming months as egg production is likely to be lower by 25-30 per cent this year, he said.

"Egg prices have increased significantly as many poultry farms have reduced production for the current year because they did not get better rates last year," Katri told PTI.

In 2016-17, egg prices at the farm gate level (wholesale) were ruling below Rs 4 per piece in view of higher domestic output while the cost of production had stood at Rs 3.50 per piece, he said.

Due to the losses last year, apprehensive of getting lower rates again and fear of animal welfare activists, many have cut down their production and some have shut their poultry farms, he explained.

Egg prices in retail markets in the national capital are ruling at Rs 7-7.50 per piece, up from Rs 4-5 last year, according to trade data.

A similar situation prevails in other cities as well across the country.

Egg production was around 83 billion in 2015-16 and it remained higher in 2016-17 as well, the government data showed.

Imphal-based newspapers publish blank editorial columns to protest BJP intimidation

IMPHAL, Nov 20 (PTI): Prominent Imphal-based newspapers, including the daily that was burned down by alleged members of BJP's youth wing, left their editorial columns blank today in protest.

Copies of vernacular newspaper Poknapham were set on fire by unidentified miscreants in front of BJP's party office at Nityapat Chuthek here on Saturday over alleged disparaging content against the Prime Minister.

"The editorial column has been left blank today in protest against burning of an Imphal-based newspaper by BJP Youth Wing," the editor of San-

turn to pg02

Supreme Court restrains Bengal police against GJM founder Bimal Gurung

NEW DELHI, 20 Nov: The Supreme Court on Monday restrained the West Bengal police from taking any "coercive action" against Bimal Gurung, the fugitive founder president of Gorkha Janmukti Morcha who was removed from the post by the rival Binoy Tamang faction earlier in the day.

Gurung and some of his aides went underground more than four months ago after the Bengal police slapped cases under the Unlawful

Activities (Prevention) Act. They are suspected by Bengal police to hiding somewhere in Sikkim.

Gurung invoked the extra-ordinary jurisdiction of the top court and sought protection from arrest and also an independent investigation against the alleged executions and extrajudicial methods the West Bengal government has adopted to suppress the democratic protests by the GJM for a separate Gorkhaland state in the Darjeeling hills.

"Issue notice, returnable in two weeks. In the meantime, no coercive steps shall be taken against the petitioner," a bench of Justices A.K. Sikri and Ashok Bhushan said in an order while seeking state's response. Gurung was represented by senior advocate Harish Salve.

Astha Sharma, advocate on record (AOR) in Supreme Court who had filed the writ petition on behalf of Gurung told Hindustan Times that 122 FIRs were filed

against him. The court order means Gurung will have protection in all these cases.

Gurung claimed "false cases are being lodged against the GJM members." He said an independent agency must investigate the extra judicial killings of supporters of the Gorkhaland movement.

"Such direction is sought in light of the standoff between the Government of West Bengal and the members and supporters of GJM,

wherein illegal, overt and perverse steps have been taken by the State agencies in order to quell the democratic and peaceful movement by GJM," Gurung's petition said.

"Innocent protestors have chosen to peacefully express their desire for a separate state of Gorkhaland comprising the hills of Darjeeling, Dooars and Siliguri Terai. But the state has victimised them and foisted false cases against them," the petition said.



Bimal Gurung suspended from GJM, Tamang new chief

DARJEELING (WB), Nov 20 (PTI): The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha central committee today suspended for six months the absconding party president Bimal Gurung, a day ahead of an all-party meeting called by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Gurung's wife and GJM Mahila Morcha chief Asha, his close aide and party general secretary Roshan Giri and seven others were also suspended for the same period, Binay Tamang, who was appointed the par-

ty's new president, said.

Anit Thapa was made general secretary and other vacant posts in the party would be filled soon, Tamang said at a press conference after the meeting held at Ghoom near here.

Tomorrow's all-party meeting has been called by the chief minister to discuss the current situation in the hills.

Gurung has been absconding since August after the state government lodged cases against him under the Unlawful Ac-

turn to pg02



Traditional kitchen and farm tools on sale at Singtam bazaar on a Sunday. The stalls did not seem to draw a lot of customers, perhaps the lure of gleaming factory-made wares have become a bit too much for us to resist.

Kanchanpanda Startup Festival to boost start-up policies of the State

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 Nov:**

Kanchanpanda Startup Festival, a fest that aims to bring together entrepreneurs [aspiring, start-up and established] from Sikkim and the rest of the North East, is scheduled to be held on 25-26 Nov. The festival will provide a platform for interaction with stakeholders and thought leaders from the industry to exchange views, opinions, insights and investment.

The objectives of the festival include creating an enabling ecosystem to help entrepreneurs to become job creators rather than job seekers by providing a platform to bring together speakers, founders, innovators, start-ups, entrepreneurs, thought leaders, venture capitalists, academia, incubators, accelerators to share their strengths, weaknesses, challenges and op-

portunities.

The event will also provide access to mentoring, handholding, product or service assessment, customer, market and funding, information about resources available to start-ups and aspiring entrepreneurs from the Government of Sikkim and a portal for understanding the impact of start-ups on social and economic well-being of the State.

The fest further aims at building a start-up policy for the State through discussions and consultations along with creating a road-map for a robust start-up ecosystem in Sikkim focused on entrepreneurship and innovation.

The programme will have the presence of students, entrepreneurs, eminent decision makers, executives, venture capitalist, bureaucrats, ministers and stalwarts of start-ups.

Farmers demand total debt waiver, remunerative crop prices

NEW DELHI, Nov 20 (PTI): Thousands of farmers from across the country assembled here today, and demanded a one-time total farm debt waiver and remunerative prices for their produce.

At a 'Kisan Mukti Sansad' or farmers' liberation parliament, two "bills" were passed for debt and remunerative prices for their produce. The gathering was organised under the banner of the All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee (AIKSCC), comprising 180 peasant organisations from all over the country.

According to AIKSCC leaders, the "bills" passed by them will be placed in Parliament as private member's bills by Lok Sabha member Raju Shetty of the Swabhimani Paksha and Rajya Sabha member K K Ragesh of the CPI(M).

"We will also seek the support of other political parties to ensure that these private member's bills are passed in Parliament," said Ashok Dhawale, a leader of the All India Kisan Sabha, a constituent of AIKSCC.

According to the AIKSCC, "steady rise in input costs, like fuel, pesticides and fertilisers and even water, and slashing of subsidies by the government" are some of the key factors behind cost versus income "imbalance" being faced by the farmers at present.

The protesting farmers have alleged that the ruling BJP has done nothing for the farmers and instead has been using them to meet its political interests.

"The prime minister earlier said that no state would give bonus above the MSP (minimum support price) and now before the (Assembly) election in Gujarat, when cotton prices are down, the Gujarat government announced (bonus) of Rs 500 per bale.

But what happens to farmers of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab or Tamil Nadu?" CPI leader Atul Anjan said.

"This is blatant pampering of farmers and using the situation to meet your political interests, and not the interests of farmers," he added.



Mamata leaves for North Bengal to discuss Darjeeling issues

KOLKATA, Nov 20 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today left for North Bengal to discuss the current situation in Darjeeling hills with all political parties there tomorrow.

The all-party meeting from the Darjeeling hills will take place at Pintail village during which the chief minister would also take a stock of the ongoing projects there, officials said.

Security arrangements at Pintail village and it's adjoining areas have been tightened to ensure that no untoward incident takes place during the chief minister's visit.

Banerjee will also be holding an administrative review meeting of Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and Alipurduar districts on November 22, the officials said.

Chief Secretary Malay De, Director General of Police Surajit Kar Purkayastha and representatives of local bodies of the three districts would be present at the meeting

to be held at 'Uttar Kanya', the state's administrative headquarters in North Bengal.

Banerjee is scheduled to return to Kolkata on November 23, the officials said.

This all-party meeting on Darjeeling situation would be the fourth one held in the past few months.

Normalcy returned to the hills after Banerjee's first meeting with all political parties of the hills in Kolkata on August 29 and the 104-day long shutdown over a separate Gorkhaland state was called off thereafter.

A new administrative board for the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) came into existence with the resumption of work of all projects that had come to a standstill due to the agitation.

The state government announced earlier announced a Rs 500 crore package and later an additional Rs 174 crore was earmarked for the development of the hills.

BJP welcomes new members in Soreng

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 Nov:**

A meeting of Bharatiya Janta Party state-unit was held at Budang-Kharpaney under Soreng-Chakung constituency in West Sikkim today. A BJP press release informs that independent Zilla candidate, JB Chettri, from Soreng-Mangshir and Soreng ward independent candidate, Aita Raj Limboo, along with Yugal Acharya, Mahesh Rai, Prasid Tamang, Neeraj Dong, Sanchaman Limboo, Jagat Bahadur Chauhan and ex-police officer, LT Tamang, formally joined BJP during the meeting. The party president welcomed them in the party by offering khadas.

Bimal Gurung suspended from GJM, Tamang new chief

contd from pg01

tivities (Prevention) Act for his alleged involvement in bomb blasts in Darjeeling hills during the over three-month-long shutdown for a separate state.

The 104-day shutdown was called off on September 27.

While a faction of the GJM supports Gurung, the one being backed by the state government is led by Tamang.

Tamang himself was expelled from the party in a central committee meeting headed by Gurung at an undisclosed location in September.

Later that month, the state government formed a nine-member 'Board of Administrators' to run the Gorkha Territorial Administration (GTA) and appointed Tamang as its chairman.

All 45 elected members of GTA including its chief executive Bimal Gurung had resigned in June when the agitation had begun.

CONTACT

Summit TIMES

REPORTERS

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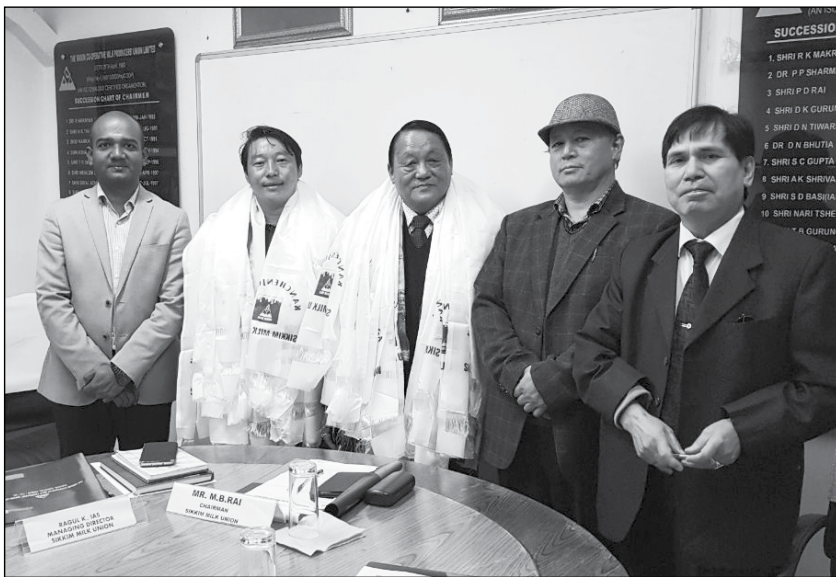
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MB Rai re-elected as Chairperson of Sikkim Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd

GANGTOK, 20 Nov [IPR]: The election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Sikkim Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited was held during the 133rd Board Meeting held on 17 Nov at the

conference hall of Sikkim Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited in Tadong.

Chairperson of Sakyong Milk Producers' Union Society, MB Rai, was re-elected as Chairperson while Chair-

person of Beng Milk Producers' Cooperative Society, Mangaljit Rai, was newly elected as Vice-Chairperson unanimously by all the elected board members of the Sikkim Cooperative Milk Producers' Union

Limited.

After the election, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson were felicitated by all the board members present before proceeding with the agenda of the meeting.

Two senior retired government employees of Singtam felicitated

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 Nov:**

During the quarterly meeting of Sikkim Government Retired Employees Welfare Association-Singtam Branch held today at Nepali Dharamsala in Singtam, two senior retired employees were felicitated for their contribution towards the society, a press release informs.

Former employee of Power Department, Netra Prasad Dahal, had retired 28 years back while Indra Basnet had retired 18 years ago from Health Department.

President-Singtam Nagar Panchayat, Sawan Kumar Pradhan, attended the event as chief guest and handed over



the appreciation letters to the awardees.

With president of SGREWA-Singtam Branch, TB Pradhan, hosting the meet,

important talks and discussions were held for the betterment of retired government employees.

The programme was

also addressed by LN Pradhan [chief advisor], Rinzing R Lhamu [joint secretary], PP Upprety [treasurer] and others, the release adds.

Man dies of electrocution

GANGTOK, 20 Nov:

One 45-year-old line man hailing from Salangdang in West Sikkim was electrocuted and succumbed to his injuries on 19 Nov. The deceased had climbed an electric pole for setting up the domestic line of a Salangdang resident.

Assault accused fails to pay victim's treatment expenses

GANGTOK, 20 Nov:

One 45-year-old male hailing from Rongli Bazaar in East Sikkim has been accused of not paying the medical

expenditure of a resident of Melli Dara, South Sikkim whom he had allegedly physically assaulted on 08 Nov. Investigation revealed that the victim and the accused had got into an argument at Rorathang over their vehicles giving passes which was followed by the accused assaulting the victim causing severe injuries. The accused, however, had assured to take care of all medical expenditure of the victim. The victim is at present undergoing treatment at Nayak Nursing Home in Siliguri but the accused allegedly has not showed up yet.

Woman hit by moving vehicle

GANGTOK, 20 Nov:

One 64-year-old lady of Upper Tanak, South Sikkim was hit on her leg by a

vehicle driven by one 25-year-old male hailing from Temi at Upper Tanak on 19 Nov. The victim was evacuated to Singtam District Hospital by her family members, villagers and the accused driver.

Man swept away by river

GANGTOK, 20 Nov:

One 29-year-old male hailing from Danak Basti in Mamring, South Sikkim and working as a painter at Lahak Spirit Factory in Manpur, South Sikkim

was swept away by River Rangeet on 19 Nov. The deceased along with his friend had gone to the river near the factory to fetch water. However, the deceased decided to take a swim and was later swept away by the river's current.

TN Dhakal demands Minister Subba's resignation

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 Nov:**

TN Dhakal today accused the state Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Ram Bahadur Subba of passing derogatory comments against the Chettri-Bahun community and further demanded the Minister's resignation. An audio recording that has been circulating in social media purportedly has Mr Subba talking about the Chettri-Bahun community in a derogatory manner, it is alleged.

While addressing the media here at Press Club of Sikkim, the former bureaucrat said that the government should immediately remove Mr Subba from the post of Minister to maintain communal harmony amongst the people of Sikkim.

"If the Minister does not issue a clarification and recuse himself from the

post of senior Cabinet Minister within a week, we will take action," warned Mr Dhakal.

He further alleged that the Minister's comments has created a rift within the Sikkimese communities and that he has violated the constitutional mandate and very oath affirmed while taking the charge of Minister that he will treat all citizens of Sikkim equally without any ill-feeling or hatred towards any section of the society.

"RB Subba is not only a Minister holding the charge of Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Human Resource Development but he also represents the government and his views reflect the views of the government," said Mr Dhakal.

The press conference was also addressed by Punya Koirala, DB Basnett and Nilu Chettri.



Singtam Police steps up for welfare of Indian Armed Forces

**YOGEN THATAL
SINGTAM, 20 Nov:**

A team of three police personnel from Singtam Police Department namely Anita Tamang, Prakash Gurung and

Songmit Lepcha today distributed the National Flag stickers to more than 100 people in and around Singtam as a part of the commemoration of Armed Forces Flag Day

or the Flag Day of India observed annually in India on 07 Dec. The funds collected will be donated for the welfare of the Indian Armed Forces personnel.

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Imphal-based newspapers publish blank editorial columns...

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gai Express said.

The president of All Manipur Working Journalists Union (AMWJU), W Shyamjai, condemning Saturday's incident, told reporters that "the act of burning the paper amounts to promulgation of mob culture."

"If the parties involved are unable to settle the matter at the level of AMWJU, they can approach the court," he said.

The BJP Manipur Pradesh Yuva Morcha did not discuss the matter with the editors and the publishers of Poknapham, Shyamjai added.

Echoing similar sentiments, President A Mobi of Editors' Guild Manipur said the members of the political party

should have approached the right forum instead of burning editions of the vernacular.

A BJP official said the "Vox Populi" column in Saturday's edition of Poknapham earned the wrath of his party members.

"The content which appeared in the 'Vox Populi' column of the daily is being considered derogatory against the Prime Minister of the country," said a BJP official on the condition of anonymity.

He, however, did not confirm if the copies of Poknapham were burned by his party members.

"The case might be taken to the Press Council of India," he added.

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Gangtok on Monday, 20 Nov

Temp: 21°C /07°C
Forecast: Not as warm with partial sunshine; a couple of afternoon showers.
Sunrise: 06:00 AM
Sunset: 4:42 PM

NIT presents talk on Introduction to Buddhism: Essence of Kagyur

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 Nov:

The Namgyal Institute of Tibetology [NIT], Gangtok will be organising a talk on 'Introduction to Buddhism: Essence of Kagyur' by Geshe Lobsang Dawa on 03 Dec from 10 a.m. at the conference hall of NIT.

The talk is being organized mainly to benefit locals interested in learning about the basics of Buddhism and the Kagyur [Buddha's teachings].

Universal Child Rights Day observed in Kalimpong

SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG, 20 Nov:

Bal Suraksha Abhiyan [BSA] Trust in collaboration with Darjeeling CHILDLINE Sub Centre, Kalimpong observed Universal Child Rights Day as declared by United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child [UNCRC] and the conclusion of CHILDLINE Se Dosti Week in Ka-

limpong town today.

During the programme, CHILDLINE 1098 board was inaugurated at Kalimpong Police Station by Additional Superintendent of Police, Amlan Gosh, along with a Jhanki [rally] on the Four Principles of Child Rights.

Also present for the function was Inspector In Charge-Kalim-

pong, TS Nath.

The Jhanki included four vehicles representing each right of a child [Right to Protection/ Right to Survival/ Right to Development/ Right to Participation] and were decorated with charts, placards and flex.

Twenty-four children from BSA Child Labour Rehabilitation Centre stood in different groups

with placards giving messages on Rights of Children.

The rally started from Thana Dara, made a round of the entire town and concluded at 8th Mile, Kalimpong. Messages on Child Rights and songs were played as the vehicles went around the town spreading awareness on Child Rights and CHILDLINE 1098.



Singtam Motors Transport Welfare adjudged Best Co-operative Society in East

SUMMIT REPORT
SINGTAM, 20 Nov:

Singtam Motors Transport Welfare Co-operative Society bagged the title of the Best Co-operative Society in East District today during the 64th Co-operative Week celebration organized

by Cooperative Department, Gangtok, at the conference hall of DPH in Ranipool.

The function was attended by Zilla Panchayat of Ranipool, under Nandok GPU, along with various officials from Co-operative Department.

SC rejects plea to delete scenes from Padmavati

NEW DELHI, Nov 20 (PTI): The Supreme Court today dismissed a plea seeking deletion of certain alleged objectionable scenes from the upcoming movie 'Padmavati', terming it as premature.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra was informed that the film has not yet received the certification from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

"Our interference in this writ petition will tantamount to pre-judging, which we are not inclined to do," the bench, also comprising Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud, said.

Advocate M L

Sharma, who had filed the petition, alleged that though the Censor Board has not given a certificate to the movie, the songs of the film have already been released.

Sharma had approached the court seeking a direction for removal of all scenes of alleged 'character assassination' of Queen Padmavati from the movie before its release.

Viacom 18, the makers of the Deepika Padukone-Ranveer Singh-Shahid Kapoor starrer Bollywood flick had yesterday said that they have deferred the movie's release which was originally scheduled on December 1.

Interrupted by protestors during speech, Nitish gets angry

BETTIAH (BIHAR), NOV 20 (PTI): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today lost his cool when a group of women contractual employees of the health department interrupted his speech and loudly raised their demand that their jobs be regularised.

Kumar was on a tour of Bhojpur district, a place associated with Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran Satyagrah, the centenary of which is celebrated this year.

As Kumar began his speech, recalling the Mahatma's valiant fight for the rights of indigo planters and measures taken by his government to apprise the youth about Gandhi's life and teachings, he was interrupted by a group of auxiliary nurse midwives in the



health department who raised slogans.

"Have you people got no shame. You are interrupting an event organised on the occasion of the centenary of Champaran Satyagrah.

If you have any legitimate demand you could have met me after the event," Kumar told the protestors.

"I am sorry to see such a behaviour from women. Who has worked

more than I have for the empowerment of women. Your slogan shouting will divert the media's attention from the event and only the ruckus will be talked about," he said.

Contractual ANM workers across Bihar have been agitating for some time demanding that their job is regularised.

Later, resuming his speech, the chief minister said prohibition imposed by his government in Bihar was "the greatest homage one could have paid to Mahatma Gandhi".

"Barring a few, most are happy with the ban on alcohol.

Even the Supreme Court has made it clear that consumption and sale of alcohol are not fundamental rights," he said.

Referring to recent hooch tragedies in Bihar, he exhorted women: "It is on your demand that we took the bold step of total prohibition. Now you must not sit idle. Remain alert."

He also said that his government was now targeting social evils like dowry and child marriage and "we will form a human chain on January 21 next year to spread awareness against dowry, child marriage and alcohol consumption".

The chief minister also announced that he "will review the progress made in the programmes launched under 'saat nishchay' (seven resolves) by the government by undertaking a state-wide tour next month. The tour will start in Champaran."

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Meghalaya Guv seeks EC opinion on disqualification of MLAs

SHILLONG, Nov 20 (PTI): Meghalaya Governor Ganga Prasad has sought the Election Commission's opinion on the disqualification of 17 legislators, who were holding charge as parliamentary secretaries, following the orders of the High Court, a Raj Bhavan official said today.

The matter was referred to the Election Commission of India as required under Article 192(2) of the Constitution of India on November 16 last, a Raj Bhavan

deputy secretary said in a statement.

The matter was forwarded to the EC based on a representation by Madal Sumer, a resident of Jowai, who had approached the High Court to disqualify the 17 MLAs on certain legal grounds, he said.

This was brought to the attention of the governor of Meghalaya on November 16 by Sumer and he took the decision to seek the opinion of the Election Commission of India, the official said.

CHANGE OF NAME

I Uma Giri, D/o. Late Shyam lall Giri, resident of Development Area Near Ganesh Mandir, Gangtok Municipal Corporation, East Sikkim solemnly declare that previously my name has been recorded/known as **AFFEFA**. Vide this affidavit No. A 117615 I have changed my name from AFFEFA to **UMA GIRI** for all purpose before the Oath Commissioner, East Sikkim. Gangtok on 7th November 2017.



NAMGYAL INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY
Gangtok, Sikkim
Ph: (03592) 281525 / 280822

NOTICE

SUBJECT- SIX WEEKS DURATION SHORT TERM INTENSIVE COURSE IN BUDDHIST STUDIES

The Namgyal Institute of Tibetology will be conducting 6 (six) weeks duration Short Term Intensive courses in English on the following subject matters:

- Tibetan/Himalayan Buddhist Art and Architecture – Resource person : Mr. Pranshu Samdarshi With effect from 26th December, 2017 (day class)
- Shaytrin (Nagarjuna's letter to a friend) – Resource Person : Khenpo Chowang With effect from 1st March, 2018 from 4.30 – 6.00 pm.

All those interested candidates who are registered college students or graduates in any discipline may submit their application to the Joint Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology on or before 27th November, 2017 duly indicating the subject of their choice and paying the requisite registration fee of Rs.700/-. The application must be accompanied by authentic documents to prove their qualification for the course. Online application will also be accepted subject to submission of scanned copies of their qualification certificates and on payment of registration fee in the office of the Joint Director prior to taking admission.

For syllabus content and application form, kindly check on the NIT website- www.tibetology.net.

Sd/- **JOINT DIRECTOR,**
NAMGYAL INSTITUTE OF TIBETOLOGY,
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Ph. No. +91 3592 280822: (Mob) +91 9832031614
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Printing & Stationery Department Government of Sikkim Tadong, Gangtok, Sikkim

Phone No: 03592 – 231283, Fax No. 03592 – 231283.

RE-ADVERTISEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited from the local eligible Schedule Tribe (Limboo/Tamang) Women candidate for filling up of 01(one) post of Driver in the Pay Band 1 of Rs.5200-20200+GP 2400 through Direct Recruitment in the Printing and stationery Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.

However, during the period of Probation/Apprenticeship/Training, pay shall be governed by Notification No. 489/GEN/DOP dated: 31.10.2011.

01. Eligibility conditions for the post of Driver:

- Minimum Educational Qualification : Class VII Passed from a recognized board. However, the School certificate should contain the date of birth of the applicant.
- Other requisites : (a) the applicant should possess a valid Driving License for Light Motor Vehicle (T/NT) category of vehicle issued by the Motor Vehicle Division of Transport Department as specified in the Central Motor Vehicle Act. 1988.
- Candidates must be in possession of Sikkim Subject Certificate or Certificate of Identification (COI).
- Should have valid Local Employment Card.
- Should be in possession of Caste Category Certificate.
- No Objection Certificate from the appointing Authority/ Head of Department in case or employed candidate(s).
- Age : Should have attained the age of 18 yrs, but should not have exceed 40 (forty) years of age as on 30.11.2017 vide Not. No. M (3)/(55)/GEN/DOP/PT-II dated: 03/07/2017.
- Reservation.

Category	Roster Point(s)	No. of post
Scheduled Tribe(Women) (Limboo/Tamang)	21	01

NOTE: In case of non-availability of female candidate under the reserved category as mentioned in the 'Employment Notice' the vacancy will be carried forward to the male candidate of same category.

02. THE FOLLOWING IF THE SYLLABUS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF DRIVER UNDER PRINTING & STATIONERY DEPARTMENT.

- Part – A = 80 Marks.
- Daily routine and check up the vehicle before starting Engine.
- Should have the knowledge of the various components and important Assemblies of Engine/ Gearbox etc.
- Daily writing of Vehicle log book.
- Should have the knowledge to differentiate between petrol and diesel engine.
- Knowledge of Traffic signal and rules.

PART – B

- Letter writing (two types): = 10 Marks.
- General knowledge (National Importance) = 10 Marks.

TOTAL MARKS = 100(One Hundred)

- Persons interested to apply for the post should submit their applications in the prescribed form, which is obtainable from the office of the Printing and Stationery Department on all working days between 11 am to 3 pm w.e.f 11/12/2017 to 15/12/2017 on production of Bank Receipt of Rs.100/- (Rupees One Hundred) only which should be credited to the Head '0058-200 other receipt'. The amount so deposited shall not be refund or adjusted against any other purpose.
- Applications complete in all respects should reach the Office of the Under Secretary (Adm.), Printing and Stationery Department on or before 28th December, 2017 by 3 pm. No application thereafter shall be accepted. Incomplete application shall summarily be rejected.
- Date and Venue of written examination will be intimated in due course through local newspapers and will also be displayed on the notice board of the department.
- No TA/DA is admissible for attending the exams/interview.

Sd/-

Secretary

Printing & Stationery Department.

R.O. No. 415/IPR/Pub/Classi./17-18 dt. 18.11.2017

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Curb Intolerance, Not Comment

The fringe has encroached too much

A sub-community which most Indians did not even know existed until a few months ago now also has a sena, an “army” raised to protect its ideas of “honour” and “identity” from an imagined threat. Fringe groups have always been around, but until power passed into the hands of those with manufactured images, curated appearances and exaggerated pride, they had remained unable to infiltrate the realm of the sane. But now they infect everything and influence just about everyone. It is time that the nation stood up to the bullies who want everything that makes us free and secular to be replaced by subservience to jingoism and insularity. For these elements, it is not enough for the rest to just allow them their madness and not challenge them, they also want the rest to prove their nationalism by joining in their mad celebrations.

In the present instance we speak of the unchallenged (by State) shenanigans of something that goes by the name Shree Rajput Karni Sena. Its lumpen elements tested the waters some months ago when they attacked the crew of the film Padmavati while they were shooting in the area where the Sena supposedly has its foot-soldiers. The country was already getting used to such roving bands of rakshaks, and most were probably relieved that Karni pride did not demand fatal-levels of violence like was being offered to the cow in our country. There was no reason for anyone to be upset about the movie, but the agent provocateurs managed to convince themselves and their muscle that the filmmakers were planning to make a movie which would be disrespectful to the titular character. See how crazy that sounds?! But the conspiracy sold and an attack was launched. The filmmakers have since opted for CGI instead of real locations which was probably a good call given the cardboard artificiality of most historical locations in out desh. The pressures on 24x7 TV news channels for regular sensationalism to keep their viewers from slipping coma kept the offended party routinely on air. And then the perfect storm arrived in the form of elections, the movie's release, failure of ambitious policy decisions and the need to distract people. Suddenly, this issue marched out of a fort-town in Rajasthan and danced around as an election item number everywhere the saffron party had presence and a stake. Leaders and governments which dismissed valid protests of students, tribes and minorities was suddenly lining up to protect the sentiments of an offensive group from imagined slights. An organisation and an establishment which sought to justify deaths without squirming and are routinely guilty of victim-shaming now want a privileged lobby to be allowed to run riot on all ideas of civility, expression and law & order. But that should not really surprise us, because this fits perfectly with the mould of intolerance that this group wants to cast us and our nation into.

As citizens, it becomes important for us to realise that our silence provides de facto justification of a warped ideology – an ideology of paranoia, intolerance, hate and macho parochialism. When pointed out, these might not be character traits with which most in the nation are comfortable with, but is obviously an ideology which sells enough to win votes and receive the endorsement of the more powerful.

Why social media may not be so good for democracy

GORDON HULL
theconversation.com

Recent revelations about how Russian agents inserted ads on Facebook, in an attempt to influence the 2016 election, present a troubling question: Is Facebook bad for democracy?

As a scholar of the social and political implications of technology, I believe that the problem is not about Facebook alone, but much larger: Social media is actively undermining some of the social conditions that have historically made democratic nation states possible.

I understand that's a huge claim, and I don't expect anyone to believe it right away. But, considering that nearly half of all eligible voters received Russian-sponsored fake news on Facebook, it's an argument that needs to be on the table.

HOW WE CREATE A SHARED REALITY

Let's start with two concepts: an “imagined community” and a “filter bubble.”

The late political scientist Benedict Anderson famously argued that the modern nation-state is best understood as an “imagined community” partly enabled by the rise of mass media such as newspapers. What Anderson meant is that the sense of cohesion that citizens of modern nations felt with one another – the degree to which they could be considered part of a national community – was one that was both artificial and facilitated by mass media.

Of course there are many things that enable nation-states like the U.S. to hold together. We all learn (more or less) the same national history in school, for example. Still, the average lobster fisherman in Maine, for example, doesn't actually have that much in common with the average schoolteacher in South Dakota. But, the mass media contribute toward helping them view themselves as part of something larger: that is, the “nation.”

Democratic polities depend on this shared sense of commonality. It enables what we call “national” policies – an idea that citizens see their interests aligned on some issues. Legal scholar Cass Sunstein explains this idea by taking us back to the time when there were only three broadcast news outlets and they all said more or less the same thing. As Sunstein says, we have historically depended on these “general interest intermediaries” to frame and articulate our sense of shared reality.

FILTER BUBBLES

The term “filter bubble” emerged in a 2010 book by activist Eli Pariser to characterize an internet phenomenon.

Legal scholar Lawrence Lessig and Sunstein too had identified this phenomenon of group isolation on the internet in the late 1990s. Inside a filter bubble, individuals basically receive only the kinds of information that they have either preselected, or, more ominously, that third parties have decided they want to hear.

The targeted advertising behind Facebook's newsfeed helps to create such filter bubbles. Advertising on Facebook works by determining its user's interests, based on data it collects from their browsing, likes and so on. This is a very sophisticated operation.

Facebook does not disclose its own algorithms. However, research led by psychologist and data scientist at Stanford University Michael Kosinski demonstrated that automated analysis of people's



Facebook likes was able to identify their demographic information and basic political beliefs. Such targeting can also apparently be extremely precise. There is evidence, for example, that anti-Clinton ads from Russia were able to micro-target specific voters in Michigan.

The problem is that inside a filter bubble, you never receive any news that you do not agree with. This poses two problems: First, there is never any independent verification of that news. Individuals who want independent confirmation will have to actively seek it out.

Second, psychologists have known for a long time about “confirmation bias,” the tendency of people to seek out only information they agree with. Confirmation bias also limits people's ability to question information that confirms or upholds their beliefs.

Not only that, research at Yale University's Cultural Cognition Project strongly suggests that people are inclined to interpret new evidence in light of beliefs associated with their social groups. This can tend to polarize those groups.

All of this means that if you are inclined to dislike President Donald Trump, any negative information on him is likely to further strengthen that belief. Conversely, you are likely to discredit or ignore pro-Trump information.

It is this pair of features of filter bubbles – preselection and confirmation bias – that fake news exploits with precision.

CREATING POLARIZED GROUPS?

These features are also hardwired into the business model of social media like Facebook, which is predicated precisely on the idea that one can create a group of “friends” with whom one shares information. This group is largely insular, separated from other groups.

The software very carefully curates the transfer of information across these social networks and tries very hard to be the primary portal through which its users – about 2 billion of them – access the internet.

Facebook depends on advertising for its revenue, and that advertising can be readily exploited: A recent ProPublica investigation shows how easy it was to target Facebook ads to “Jew Haters.” More generally, the site also wants to keep users online, and it knows that it is able to manipulate the emotions of its users – who are happiest when they see things they agree with.

As the Washington Post documents, it is precisely these features that were exploited by Russian ads. As a writer at Wired observed in an om-

inously prescient commentary immediately after the election, he never saw a pro-Trump post that had been shared over 1.5 million times – and neither did any of his liberal friends. They saw only liberal-leaning news on their social media feeds.

In this environment, a recent Pew Research Center survey should not come as a surprise. The survey shows that the American electorate is both deeply divided on partisan grounds, even on fundamental political issues, and is becoming more so.

All of this combines to mean that the world of social media tends to create small, deeply polarized groups of individuals who will tend to believe everything they hear, no matter how divorced from reality. The filter bubble sets us up to be vulnerable to polarizing fake news and to become more insular.

THE END OF THE IMAGINED COMMUNITY?

At this point, two-thirds of Americans get at least some of their news from social media outlets. This means that two-thirds of Americans get at least some of their news from highly curated and personalized black-box algorithms.

Facebook remains, by a significant margin, the most prevalent source of fake news. Not unlike forced, false confessions of witchcraft in the Middle Ages, these stories get repeated often enough that they could appear legitimate.

What we are witnessing, in other words, is the potential collapse of a significant part of the imagined community that is the American polity. Although the U.S. is also divided demographically and there are sharp demographic differences between regions within the country, partisan differences are dwarfing other divisions in society.

This is a recent trend: In the mid-1990s, partisan divisions were similar in size to demographic divisions. For example, then and now, women and men would be about the same modest distance apart on political questions, such as whether government should do more to help the poor. In the 1990s, this was also true for Democrats and Republicans. In other words, partisan divisions were no better than demographic factors at predicting people's political views. Today, if you want to know someone's political views, you would first want to find out their partisan affiliation.

THE REALITY OF SOCIAL MEDIA

To be sure, it would be overly simplistic to lay all of this at the feet of social media. Certainly the structure of the American political system, which tends to polarize the political parties in primary elections, plays a major role. And it is true that plenty of us also still get news from other sources, outside of our Facebook filter bubbles.

But, I would argue that Facebook and social media offer an additional layer: Not only do they tend to create filter bubbles on their own, they offer a rich environment for those who want to increase polarization to do so.

Communities share and create social realities. In its current role, social media risks abetting a social reality where differing groups could disagree not only about what to do, but about what reality is.

[the writer is Associate Professor of Philosophy, Director of Center for Professional and Applied Ethics, University of North Carolina – Charlotte]

Mugabe and Dos Santos: Africa's old men seem, finally, to be fading away

CHRIS SAUNDERS
theconversation.com

Soon after Zimbabwe's army confined President Robert Mugabe to his palatial Harare home this week – allegedly for his safety – it was announced in Luanda that Angola's new President, João Lourenço, had relieved Isabel dos Santos of her position as head of the state-run oil company Sonangol.

While there may not be any direct connection between these two events, they suggest some intriguing comparisons. In both countries ruling families seem to have failed to secure themselves in power.

When Mugabe, as leader of the Zimbabwean African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF), became ruler of Zimbabwe at independence in April 1980, José Eduardo dos Santos was already President of Angola. He had succeeded to that position after the death of Agostinho Neto in September 1979.

Dos Santos had to deal with external intervention and over two decades of civil war, during which he ruled dictatorially. Mugabe, despite a facade of constitutionalism and regular elections, also became increasingly dictatorial. He abandoned adherence to the rule of law and his country's economy collapsed. Angola became notorious for the scale of the corruption linked especially to its oil riches. Zimbabwe went from bread-basket to basket-case. With the great majority of the people of both countries living in dire pov-



erty, Dos Santos flew to Europe when he needed medical attention, while Mugabe went to Singapore.

Though Dos Santos was probably as reluctant as Mugabe to give up power, he decided to quit as president of the country and try to retain influence through the ruling party and members of his family. Mugabe tried to impose his wife on his party as his chosen successor and then to cling on to his positions even when the army took effective control of his country.

Given recent developments in Luanda

and Harare, it would seem that neither of these two old men have succeeded in securing their family dynasties.

DOS SANTOS'S SUCCESSION PLAN

By 2016, suffering health problems that took him to Spain for treatment, Dos Santos announced that he would step down as president of Angola and he approved his Minister of Defence, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço as his successor.

Following the victory of the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in the general election held

in August this year, Lourenço took over as president in September. But Dos Santos remained president of the MPLA, and clearly expected Lourenço to look after his interests and that of his family, who had become enormously wealthy.

From the action Lourenço has now taken against Dos Santos' billionaire daughter Isabel, it would seem that he's becoming his own man. It appears he wishes to distance himself from the Dos Santos family, which for many Angolans is associated with corruption on a vast scale.

The London-educated Isabel has proved herself to be a very capable businesswoman, and though the Angolan economy has been suffering because of low oil-prices, on top of massive corruption, it's unlikely she was sacked to bring in a better chief executive to run the country's most important state owned company. There is talk in Luanda that Isabel's brother, José Filomeno dos Santos, will be relieved of his position as head of the country's large Sovereign Wealth Fund and that his father, the former president of the country, will be replaced as president of the ruling party, though that may have to wait until a party congress is held.

MUGABE'S SUCCESSION PLAN

In Zimbabwe Mugabe has sought to arrange that his wife will succeed him. But Gucci Grace and Robert made the mistake of trying to ensure this by firing Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Though at the time of writing, the

93-year-old Mugabe remains president both of the country and of the ruling Zanu-PF party, it's widely expected that he will soon be relieved of both positions, probably by Mnangagwa, with the assistance of the army.

CHANGES FOR THE BETTER?

New leadership in Angola and Zimbabwe will have an impact on the region as a whole.

Given Mnangagwa's record as a long serving member of government in Zimbabwe, and his involvement in the mass killing of Ndebele in the early 1980s, it is hardly likely that he will emerge as a champion of democracy.

In Angola, Lourenço is still finding his feet as head of government.

It is therefore unrealistic to hope that either country will soon move from decades of repressive rule and lack of transparency to greater constitutionalism and closer adherence to the rule of law.

But if we are witnessing the end of an era in which dictators stayed in power for decades and tried to secure their continuing influence through their families, and if we are seeing the diminishing importance of liberation movements turned political party, this must be good not only for Angola and Zimbabwe but for the southern African region as a whole.

It should also hold lessons for those who rule in neighbouring countries.

[the writer is Emeritus Professor, University of Cape Town]

Bomb disposed near Jalpaiguri school, 50 students fall ill

JALPAIGURI, Nov 20 (PTI): Around 50 students were today rushed to hospital after they fell sick from the deafening sound and noxious fumes of a bomb that was defused near a school building in Coochbehar district, police said.

The students were taken to Haldibari hospital, which then referred about 15 of them to Jalpaiguri hospital, they said.

The children complained of breathlessness and pain in the ears, Chief Medical Officer of Jalpaiguri hospital Jagannath Sarkar said, adding, splinters from the bomb also hit a few of them.

Some of the students at Haldibari hospital were released after they were administered first aid, hospital sources said.

Bomb disposal squad was called in to defuse the explosive, which was lying in an open space adjacent to the school, police said.

An examination was underway in the school when the bomb was being defused.

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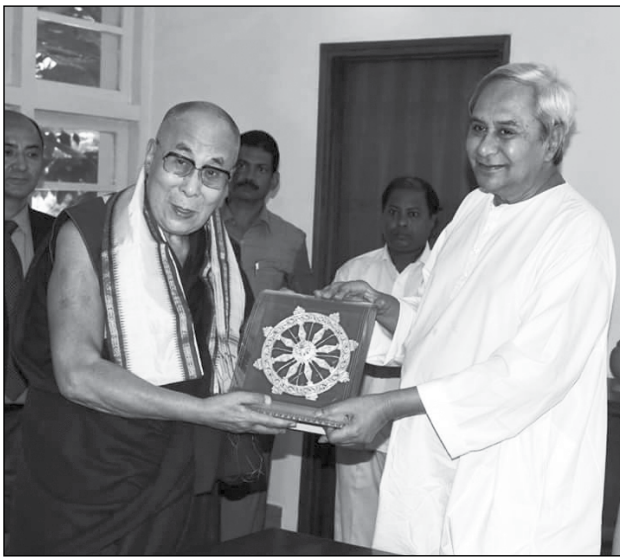
Dalai Lama admires Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik

BHUBANESWAR, Nov 20 (PTI): Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama today said he admired Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for winning people's trust and respect for a long time.

The 82-year-old Buddhist monk met the chief minister at latter's residence near the city airport.

"Naveen Patnaik is one of the longest serving chief ministers of the country. Unlike the Zimbabwean leader (Robert) Mugabe, Patnaik came to power through election process; and more importantly, he has won people's trust and respect. So, I admire him," the Dalai Lama told reporters after the meeting.

Patnaik, son of veteran leader Biju Patnaik, is serving as chief minister of Odisha for the fourth



consecutive term.

Stating that the Tibetan people, who have been

staying here, are very happy, the noble laureate said the north eastern

state had been very kind to Tibetans living at Chandragiri area of Odisha's

Gajapati district.

"Happy over Dalai Lama's praise. I am honoured that his Holiness Dalai Lama is visiting Odisha, and, it is the second time that I met him as chief minister of the state," Naveen Patnaik said.

The Dalai Lama, who reached here on a two-day visit, was welcomed by Odisha ministers S N Patro and Achol Chandra Panda.

A large number of Tibetan people assembled at the Biju Patnaik International Airport here to welcome the spiritual leader, who came to Odisha after a gap of seven years. The Dalai Lama's last visit to the state was in 2010.

The popular monk will be honoured by a private university here tomorrow.

Dhaka Lit Fest expresses concern over Rohingyas

DHAKA, Nov 20 (PTI): The Dhaka Lit Fest has backed the Rohingyas, urging the global community to support these refugees from Myanmar and "to hold accountable those who have orchestrated the violence leading to this catastrophe".

Since August 26, over 600,000 Rohingyas have been forced to take exile in neighbouring Bangladesh, a statement said at the recently-concluded festival here.

The signatories include celebrated Syrian poet Adonis, Academy award-winning actress Tilda Swinton, Booker prize winning novelist Ben Okri, playwright David Hare, historian William Dalrymple, writer Lionel Shriver, and Bangladeshi literary icons Syed Maszoorul Islam and Kaiser Haq, among over 40 other participants.



"This is one of the largest forced migrations in recent times, and puts the Rohingya as a community at risk of extinction from their native Arakan province," it said.

"The participants in the Dhaka Lit Fest express sympathy for the refugees, and wish to keep the news of this unfolding situation at the forefront of global consciousness, as the situation in the

refugee camps precipitates what could be an even larger humanitarian crisis due to disease and malnutrition..." it added.

The Rohingya crisis also figured prominently at the festival.

There were two separate sessions on the Rohingya issue titled "Rohingya: Humanity in Despair" and "Rohingyas: Landless Future". The participants called upon

the international community to put pressure on the Myanmar government to end the crisis.

Ameerah Haq, under-secretary general at the UN Department of Field Support, was of the view a huge international outrage like the one over the Darfur crisis in 2004 was needed to show support to the Rohingya community.

Such a protest should

involve renowned global personalities, including Hollywood celebrities, she suggested.

According to BBC South Asia Correspondent Justin Rowlett, who has been covering the issue, it was hard to imagine the movement of such a huge number of people, while Michael Vatikiotis, Asia regional director of Geneva-based Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, this crisis has led to a rift across South East Asia.

Myanmar does not recognise Rohingya as an ethnic group and insists that they are Bangladeshi migrants living illegally in the country.

Bangladesh has accused Myanmar of spearheading a violent depopulation campaign to eliminate Rohingya by branding them as so-called "Islamist terrorists".



Calculated plan to destroy freedom of expression: Mamata on Padmavati row

KOLKATA, Nov 20 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today charged that the controversy over Sanjay Leela Bhansali's "Padmavati" was a "calculated plan" of a political party to destroy freedom of expression. She urged film industry members to come out in support of Bhansali and his film.

"The Padmavati controversy is not only unfortunate but also a calculated plan of a political party to destroy the freedom to express ourselves.

"We condemn this super emergency. All in the film industry must come together and protest in one voice," Banerjee said in a tweet.

The makers of "Padmavati" had yesterday deferred its release from the slated December 1 date, even as protests and threats over the period drama continued unabated.

Various religious organisations, spearheaded by Shri Rajput Karni Sena, have alleged that director Bhansali has distorted facts in the film.

The film has been facing controversy since Bhansali started its shooting earlier this year.

The director was roughed up by members of the fringe group Rajput Karni Sena in Jaipur. Its elaborate sets were also vandalised during shooting schedules in Jaipur and Kolhapur.

The first poster of the movie was released in October this year and triggered a storm with various Rajput groups and others alleging that the director had "distorted" historical facts.

The makers of "Padmavati" yesterday said the proposed release date of the film, featuring Deepika Padukone, Shahid Kapoor and Ranveer Singh in lead roles, has been deferred.

WB parties lash out at Centre over Aadhaar leakage

KOLKATA, Nov 20 (PTI): The political parties in West Bengal today lashed out at the Centre over the leakage of Aadhaar card details and demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi immediately resign over the lapse.

"We have been saying this for the last few years that the way government was pursuing this Aadhaar card system could pose a serious risk. But the government didn't pay any heed to it. We demand that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should take moral responsibility and immediately resign," Leader of Opposition and senior Congress leader Abdul Manan said.

More than 200 central and state government websites publicly displayed details such as names and addresses of some Aadhaar beneficiaries, the Unique Identification Authority of India has said.

The Aadhaar issuing body said, in response to an RTI query, that it took

note of the breach and got the data removed from those websites.

State Parliamentary Affairs Minister and TMC secretary general Partha Chatterjee said, "Mamata Banerjee has been saying it for the last few years that this Aadhaar system can cause serious problems and there are chances of leakage of information. Now we are seeing that the same thing has happened. The central government has to take responsibility for it."

Like demonetisation and hurried implementation of GST, the implementation of Aadhaar system was also flawed, he added.

Senior CPI(M) leader and MLA Ashok Bhat-tacharya also echoed the views of TMC.

State BJP president and MLA Dilip Ghosh defended the central government. "In a country like India when a new system is being implemented there can be problems. We should not try to play politics over it."

India-Myanmar Bilateral Army Exercise begins in Meghalaya

SHILLONG, Nov 20 (PTI): The week-long army warfare exercise by India and Myanmar, the first to be held in the country, began today at the Joint Warfare Centre at Umroi near here, officials said.

The exercise code-named India-Myanmar Bilateral Army Exercise (IMBAX) is aimed at building and promoting closer relations with armies of the neighbouring countries, they said.

The six-day training exercise also aims to train the officers of Myanmar Army in various United Nations Peacekeeping roles and tasks, the statement said.

The training curriculum will enable the participants of Myanmar Army with the requisite knowledge and skills to



meet the evolving challenges of peacekeeping operations in accordance with principles, policies and guidelines of the United Nations.

At the exercise, 15 officers from the Myanmar Army and 16 officers from Indian Army took part. They were welcomed by Red Horns Division GOC Major General PS Behl, Army spokesperson said in a statement.

The Indo-Myanmar joint Army Exercise is a

positive step in the bilateral relations between the two neighbouring nations, the statement said.

The conduct of such exercises in future will not only enable mutual capacity enhancement, but will assist in building strong bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and Myanmar, it added.

A week-long Indo-Bangla army exercise concluded at the Centre last week.

Mamata condoles Dasmunsi's death, announces state honours

KOLKATA, Nov 20 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed grief over the death of senior Congress leader Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi and called it a "great loss".

"I am deeply saddened by the death of Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi. My deep condolence to members of his family, well-wishers and party workers. He was a very popular leader in Bengal since 1972..." Banerjee posted on her twitter handle.

The TMC chief said, "He (Dasmunsi) was in coma for almost nine years. A massive stroke in 2008 virtually ended his political career. Otherwise he could have done more in his political life. He was still alive but now he is no more. It is a great loss. May his soul rest in peace," she tweeted.

Banerjee later told reporters that Dasmunsi's body will be brought to the city tomorrow from Delhi, where he passed away, and the West Bengal government will accord full state honours at his funeral.

To a question, she said the cremation site will be decided by Dasmunsi's



family and the Congress.

"I have already spoken to Abdul Mannan (leader of opposition in the assembly) about this," she said.

Banerjee also declared a half-day holiday for the state government employees as a mark of respect for Dasmunsi.

The 72-year old Congress leader, who was in coma since 2008, passed away at a New Delhi hospital this morning.

Nabaneeta Dev Sen honoured with Big Little Book Award



KOLKATA, Nov 19 (PTI): Popular Bengali writer Nabaneeta Dev Sen has been declared winner in 'Author in Bengali language' category at the second edition of Big Little Book Award.

A first-of-its-kind initiative in India, the Big Little Book Award seeks to recognise and honour authors and illustrators who have contributed to children's literature that are global in appeal and contextual in nature.

The award has been institut-

ed under Parag initiative of Tata Trusts to promote children's literature.

"The award would be focusing on one Indian language every year. Last year it was Marathi, this year Bengali," the organisers said in a statement.

Sen, recipient of the Sahitya Academy Award and the Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Award, has been writing for children as well as general readers for the past three decades.

She has explored a wide range of human emotions in

some of her bestsellers such as Thikana, Sabda Pare Tapurtur, Urala, Naba-Nita.

"In today's world, books are vying for attention of the present generation as technology and other recreational activities like music are taking precedence over a more conventional form - reading," Sen said.

It's important to encourage publishers to invest their time and energies in children's literature, she said, adding that she was thrilled to receive this honour.

Among the nominees for this year's award were Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay, Amarendra Chakravorty and Kartik Ghosh.

In the illustrator category, Proiti Roy received the honour. Her volume of work includes illustrations in translated fairy tale books. The illustrators' entries, however, were not limited to any language.

The chief of Parag Initiative, Swaha Sahoo, said, "Bengali literature has a legacy. There is huge body of quality work in that language."

SFA condoles former AIFF president's demise

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 NOV:

Sikkim Football Association has condoled the demise of former All India Football Federation [AIFF] president, Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, who passed away earlier today in New Delhi.

An SFA press release issued by its president, Menla Ethenpa, informs that Late Dasmunsi had been in a coma since the last eight years. He had also served as Union Cabinet Minister under the Congress regime. He is survived by his wife and son.

Late Dasmunsi was first elected as the AIFF president in December 1988, succeeding Khalifa Ziauddin.

The SFA flag was lowered to half-mast at Football House in Gangtok today and a minute's silence was observed by SFA members as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

Late Dasmunsi, fondly referred to as Priyo-da, played a stellar role in laying the foundation for the growth of football in the country. It was under his leadership that Vision India Projects were launched along with the National Football League, and later the I-League along with the AIFF Elite Academy in Goa.

While speaking in the condolence meeting, SFA president, Mr Ethenpa, mentioned that Sikkim was very close to Late Dasmunsi's heart.

"This is a massive loss for Indian football. I had the opportunity to work under Late Dasmunsi for one team. He was a visionary and he has been an inspiration to all. He was a workaholic and we will always remember him for his passion for football. I share the grief," said Mr Ethenpa.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

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news@summittimes.com

PCS beats SCSC in friendly during Sikkim Inter-Church Football Tourney

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 20 NOV:

Press Club of Sikkim [PCS] outplayed Sikkim Christian Sports Committee [SCSC] in a friendly match played here at Paljor Stadium today. A hattrick by Lakpa Sherpa helped the PCS to register its 4-2 victory. Another goal for PCS was scored by Sudanshu while Patrick Pradhan scored a brace for SCSC.

Lakpa Sherpa was



adjudged as Man of the Match for his hattrick during the match.

This friendly match was part of the ongoing 6th Sikkim Inter-Church Football Tournament 2017 here at Paljor Stadium which is being organized by SCSC.

The final match of the tourney will be played between Assembly of God Church, Gangtok and Wok XI on 21 Nov.

The SCSC members also carried out a cleanliness drive at Paljor Stadium complex this morning.



Indian football mourns Dasmunsi's demise

KOLKATA/NEW DELHI, Nov 20 (PTI): The Indian football fraternity today mourned the death of former AIFF President Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, who served in the position for nearly two decades.

The 72-year-old, also an eminent Congress leader, passed away today after being in coma since 2008, when he had suffered a stroke.

"His contribution to Indian football can never be forgotten. Under him, the National Football League started in 1996 (which was rechristened I-League in 2007) and everything today is moving ahead based on the foundation he laid," All India Football Federation (AIFF) vice-President Subrata Dutta told PTI.

Dasmunsi first became the AIFF President in 1989, succeeding K Ziauddin, and held the position for 19 years.

Hospitalised after the stroke, Dasmunsi was succeeded by Praful Patel, who holds the position till date.

Dasmunsi earned a rare distinction during his tenure when in 2006, FIFA named him the match commissioner for a group stage game between Australia and Cro-

tia in the 2006 World Cup.

Dasmunsi was also a member of the Asian Football Confederation's Executive Committee.

"He initiated the professionalism in Indian football," said Dutta.

Former Indian captain Bhaichung Bhutia also paid tribute to the former AIFF chief.

"Very very sad to hear that. His contribution to AIFF has been massive. His contribution has really taken Indian football forward," he said.

"He was very passionate about football. He had football in his blood. He went out of his way in being supportive when I was playing for East Bengal. His passion and love for the game was easily seen by everyone," he added.

Another of Indian football's biggest stars, I M Vijayan, also recalled the contribution made by Dasmunsi in developing Indian football.

"It is a big loss for Indian football. He was the man who started the National Football League as a sort of pan-India league. It is his legacy. He brought private channels to telecast matches. These are his two most important contributions," he said.

Bolt enlisted to make Aussie cricketers 'explosive' runners

SYDNEY, NOV 20 (AFP): Australia's cricketers have called on retired sprint king Usain Bolt to boost their running between the wickets during the Ashes Test series against England.

The Jamaican track superstar, the world record holder in the 100m and 200m and eight-time Olympic champion, is working with the Australian batsmen to improve their "explosiveness" off the mark.

"It's all about explosiveness, and that's one thing I've noticed with cricket -- they don't real-



ly have a lot of explosiveness when they're running," the world's fastest man told the Herald Sun newspaper.

"They seem to always take off at a slow rate.

Getting that right will definitely help people."

Bolt, 31, who retired from athletics after August's World Championships in London, said he was trying to increase

the awareness of running while batting.

Australian batsman Peter Handscomb said Bolt's tips were welcomed ahead of Thursday's first Ashes Test in Brisbane.

"He was giving us a few pointers on how to get a little bit faster," Handscomb said. "We'll give it a crack."

"He was trying to get us nice and low in the turn and in and out. The first couple of steps are key and if we can get them right, we'll be fast."

"Obviously he's the fastest man ever so if we can have the title with

him, that'd be cool."

Bolt said had been busy after retirement preparing for a tilt at football, having been invited to train with Bundesliga side Borussia Dortmund.

"It's something that I want to do. I'm trying to get fit now," he said.

"My doctor finally passed me after my hamstring problems at the world championships, so now I can start training."

"I've started training while I'm here and trying to get into shape before I get home and next year I'll get a trial and we'll take it from there."

SC unhappy over use of juvenile justice fund by states, UTs

NEW DELHI, NOV 20 (PTI): The

Supreme Court today expressed displeasure over the collection and non-utilisation of juvenile justice fund by various states and union territories and said it appeared that children of this country were "not relevant".

The top court made the observation when the Centre placed before it data on money collected and spent by various states and union territories under the juvenile justice funds.

"Nobody has done anything. It appears that children of In-

dia are not relevant, as per the states," a bench comprising Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta said.

The bench was hearing a PIL seeking implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and its rules. The petition has raised the issue of alleged apathy by the governments in implementing the welfare measure.

During the hearing, the bench asked the counsel appearing for the Centre regarding the money collected under the fund.

Too early to term Bengaluru FC as favourites: Guimaraes

BENGALURU, NOV 20 (PTI): Bengaluru FC might have been labelled as favourites to win this year's title but Mumbai City head coach Alexandre Guimaraes said it is too early to term the ISL debutants as front-runners as there are many more games to go in the tournament.

"Many people are saying that (BFC are hot favourites to win the title) be-



cause they maintain good core players and fluidity

of their game is more advanced than other teams.

However, this is just the beginning," he told reporters.

"There are too many games to go. As the tournament progresses, we will see really who are the contenders for this edition of ISL."

Though Bengaluru FC made their debut last night, football pundits already have labelled them as favourites to lift this year's ISL trophy.

Last night, they began

their historic ISL journey by notching up a 2-0 convincing win against Mumbai after skipper Sunil Chhetri and Eduardo Garcia scored a goal each.

Talking about their 0-2 defeat at the hands of BFC last night, Guimaraes said it was a good learning curve for the team, who will face FC Goa next.

"Scoring goals is the main objective of any game and that is something we

need to focus more on," the Costa Rican said.

Replying to a query, Guimaraes said the atmosphere at Sree Kanteerava Stadium was not intimidating, but fantastic.

"The atmosphere at the stadium was fantastic (not intimidating) and cannot be used as an excuse for what the final result is. The first half wasn't as good as the second, as we then realized what we

had to do," he said.

Asked how he compares the recent crop of players in Mumbai's squad to that of previous seasons, Guimaraes said, "It is difficult to compare as both our teams have had different players."

"But I know for sure that we need to work hard and correct our mistakes to be more competitive in the coming games.

Western Ghats' biodiversity 'faces threat', says report

KOCHI, NOV 20 (PTI): Biodiversity in India's iconic Western Ghats is facing a threat from forest loss, encroachment and conversion, says a global environment agency in its report.

It also put the hills in "Significant Concern" category in its new outlook in the conservation prospects of natural World Heritage sites.

The report, released recently by IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, at the UN climate change conference in Bonn, Germany, says pressure from the human population in the Western Ghats region is greater than that faced by many protected areas around the world.

The new report - 'IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2', which assesses for the first time changes in conservation prospects of all 241 natural World Heritage sites, warns that climate change will probably exacerbate a system already under pressure and has the potential to



impact the large-scale monsoonal processes which the Western Ghats influence.

Moderating the region's tropical climate, the site presents one of the best examples of the monsoon system on the planet.

A network of 39 separately managed sites in Western Ghats was inscribed as World

Heritage site by UNESCO in 2012.

It says ongoing pressure for development would continue to place the Western Ghats under high threat.

Traditionally conserved by small populations of indigenous people leading sustainable lifestyles, the area is under increasing population

and developmental pressure, requiring intensive and targeted management efforts to ensure that not only are existing values conserved, but that some past damage may be remediated, it says.

The report said pressure from human populations in this region should not be underestimated. Fifty million

people are estimated to live in the Western Ghats, resulting in pressures which are orders of magnitude greater than many protected areas around the world."

Evidence suggests that forest loss, encroachment and conversion continue to affect the property, it said.

It, however, acknowledged

es the initiatives taken by the government to protect the biodiversity of Ghats.

"The challenges are many, but the will by both government and non-governmental groups to ensure the conservation of the Western Ghats is high," it says.

However, until more data is accumulated (on conservation trends and protection and management aspects), and given the number and level of threats that this property faces, its conservation outlook is still assessed as of Significant Concern, says the report.

Older than Himalaya mountains, the Western Ghats, spread over Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, represents geomorphic features of immense importance with unique biophysical and ecological processes.

The report says each of the 39 component parts of the property has its own management system and protective measures that

vary throughout this complex serial site that stretches over a distance of some 1,600 km from north to south.

"There is a priority need to articulate a clear overarching management framework that harmonises policy and management practise across the various clusters and states.

Functional corridors that assure wildlife movement and ecological connectivity between the clusters of component protected areas are also required," it says.

The global World Heritage Outlook in 2017 remains similar to 2014 with a positive conservation outlook ("good" or "good with some concerns") for 64 per cent of sites, "significant concern" for 29 per cent and "critical" status for 7 per cent.

These results are for the 241 natural World Heritage sites listed as of November 2017, including new sites which have been inscribed on the World Heritage List since the previous report.



Zimbabwe's Mugabe passes deadline to resign; now impeachment

HARARE, Nov 20 (AP): Longtime President Robert Mugabe ignored a midday deadline set by the ruling party to step down or face impeachment proceedings, while Zimbabweans stunned by his lack of resignation during a national address vowed more protests to make him leave.

"Arrogant Mugabe disregards Zanu PF," one newspaper headline said.

Opposition activists and the influential liberation war veterans association announced more demonstrations to pressure the 93-year-old Mugabe, the world's oldest head of state, to step down after 37 year in power.

"Your time is up," veterans association leader Chris Mutsvangwa said at a press conference. "You should have the dignity and decency to spare the country of further turmoil by simply announcing your departure immediately."

He also suggested that the military, even though it put Mugabe under house arrest days ago, was still beholden to him and compelled to protect him because he is officially their "commander in chief."

Zimbabweans were astonished that Mugabe, flanked by the military in his national address tonight, remained defiant.

The war veterans' association will go to court to argue that Mugabe is "derelict of his executive duty," Mutsvangwa said.

Some ruling party members said an impeachment process likely wouldn't lead to Mugabe's immediate resignation and could take days to complete.

Mugabe was stripped of his party leadership today by the Central Committee of the ruling ZANU-PF but said in his speech he would preside over a party congress next month.

The congress is expected to ratify his firing as party chief, the expulsion of the unpopular first lady and the naming of Mugabe's recently fired deputy to succeed him.

Amid the confusion, some people in the capital, Harare, are now more cautious about talking to reporters.

That contrasts with the jubilation and open condemnation of Mugabe over the weekend, when the bulk of Harare's population of roughly 1.6 million appeared to be in the streets, dancing and taking selfies with soldiers in an event backed by the military.

At the University of Zimbabwe, students protested and refused to sit for exams, singing and demanding that Mugabe step down. The spokesman for the Zimbabwe National Students Union, Zivai Mhetu, said they want all universities shut down until he does.

Mallya extradition hearing confirmed for 8 days from Dec 4

LONDON, Nov 20 (PTI): A defiant Vijay Mallya today appeared at Westminster Magistrates Court in London for his pre-trial hearing where the liquor baron's extradition hearing was confirmed for eight days starting December 4.

The 61-year-old businessman, out on bail on an extradition warrant executed by Scotland Yard earlier this year, was released by the judge on the same bail conditions and asked to appear at court on December 4.

The trial will last until December 14, with



December 8 marked as a non-sitting day.

Speaking to reporters as he left today's case management hearing, Mallya said he has repeatedly stressed that he has done nothing wrong

and will let the evidence speak in court.

"It will all become clear in court," he said.

The UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), which is arguing the case against Mallya

on behalf of the Indian authorities, had presented additional "supplemental" charges of money laundering to the previous charges of fraud at the last hearing in the case on October 3.

The previous fraud charges relate to Mallya's now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines owing more than Rs 9,000 crore to various Indian banks.

The UB Group chief has been on self-imposed exile in the UK since he left India on March 2, 2016.

The CPS said it was technically re-filing its

extradition request in court, after the new charges "superseded" the previous ongoing case.

The judge, Chief Magistrate Emma Louise Arbuthnot, agreed to formally re-open a fresh case while keeping to the same time-table as set before.

However, she had concurred with Mallya's defence team that if further evidence keeps coming in it could put the December 4 trial date at "risk" before releasing him on the same bail conditions as before.



Lanka PM appears before bond probe panel

COLOMBO, Nov 20 (PTI): Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe today appeared before a presidential investigation commission probing the issuance of bonds by the central bank, in what the opposition has alleged is the "biggest scam" in the country's history.

Wickremesinghe is also the minister in charge of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, and has been accused of appointing his close friend Arjuna Mahendran as its governor despite a conflict of interest involving Mahendran's son-in-law's links to primary dealer firm Perpetual Treasuries.

Perpetual Treasuries was alleged to have made thumping profits in two central bank bond issues in February 2015 and March 2016. The opposition has dubbed this as the "biggest financial scam in Sri Lanka's history".

Wickremesinghe spent over one hour before the presidential commission of inquiry investigating bond sales following his written submissions sent earlier.

"I had an opportunity to explain our government policy on public debt..." Wickremesinghe said as he left after testifying.

"The president, secretary of our party and

our ministers have come forward to fearlessly give evidence," he said, adding, "the 'yahapalanaya' (good governance) will move forward. There is nothing to hide. There may have been mistakes, shortcomings, but the 'yahapalanaya' will move forward".

The opposition has called for Wickremesinghe's resignation over the alleged scandal.

Wickremesinghe was summoned before the commission following his public announcement last month that he was willing to testify should the commissioners require any clarification from him about government policy on bonds.

Mahendran, who was sacked by President Maithripala Sirisena after the scandal broke, in his testimony had told the commission that it was the prime minister who wanted him to do away with the system of private placements and go for public auctions to ensure more transparency in bond sales.

Sirisena appointed the three-member commission in January to investigate whether the country lost billions of rupees, as claimed by the opposition, as a result of inside information leaked to a primary dealership linked to Mahendran's son-in-law.



Greece's government today announced relief measures for areas hit by flooding as the death toll rose to 20 with two more people missing. The freak flood struck early on Wednesday in the towns of Mandra, Nea Peramos and Megara, some 50 kilometres [30 miles] west of Athens. Most of the victims were drowned, carried away by the floodwaters and mudslides, or trapped in flooded cars or basements. Several were found at sea.

China dismisses Pak general's allegation of RAW sabotaging CPEC

BEIJING, Nov 20 (PTI): China today dismissed a top Pakistani Army General's allegation that India has established a special intelligence cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the strategic China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), saying it does not have any such report.

Chairman of Pakistan's Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat on November 14 said had accused India of stoking "chaos and anarchy" in the region.

He alleged that Indian's external intelligence agency RAW has established a special cell at a cost of USD 500 million to sabotage the CPEC. He also accused India of fanning terrorism in the restive province of Balochistan.

"We have no such relevant reports," Chinese Foreign Min-



istry spokesman Lu Kang told a media briefing when asked about the allegation.

China's rebuff over the allegation against India is significant considering that Beijing and Islamabad regard themselves as "iron brothers" sharing "all-weather ties".

Also in an apparent refer-

ence to India's objections over the CPEC traversing through the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Lu said "we hope that CPEC could win more recognition and support from regional countries and the international community".

Pakistan's top officials have been accusing RAW of sabotaging the CPEC as the Pakistani

security forces had to battle numerous attacks by the Balochistan nationalist forces as well as the Islamic State in Balochistan province.

The CPEC connects China's restive Xinjiang province with Gwadar Port in Balochistan.

Lu said the CPEC is new type cooperation framework built by China and Pakistan for long term cooperation development.

"It is important not just to the common development of China and Pakistan but also regional connectivity and common prosperity," he said.

He said China believe that it can work with Pakistan to ensure the success of the CPEC and the economic cooperation in various fields between the two countries.

~ SummitTIMES ~

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50364 51009 60133 65395 90744

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0012 0150 0235 0392 0426 0649 0916 1067 1216 1316

1331 1362 1465 1501 1587 1653 1682 1721 1756 1893

1983 2057 2169 2237 2340 2406 2442 2561 2601 2698

2761 2771 2929 2935 2972 3041 3295 3352 3363 3708

3751 3764 3788 4015 4309 4444 4676 4906 4908 4925

5143 5258 5540 5555 5565 5856 5860 6013 6253 6290

6371 6374 6479 6542 6763 6773 6779 6846 6870 6904

7060 7221 7248 7454 7478 7527 7609 7696 7870 7996

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8878 8905 9109 9136 9141 9254 9302 9319 9474 9719

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34801 36914 46651 71345 97657

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0008 0051 0116 0213 0383 0393 0755 0897 1120 1327

1346 1440 1541 1598 1606 1781 1870 1960 2041 2359

2369 2384 2459 2742 2745 3103 3302 3441 3471 3481

3696 3806 3897 3917 3959 4291 4386 4433 4683 4688

4750 4773 4816 4990 5333 5348 5463 5495 5497 5624

5703 5756 5826 5828 6101 6199 6277 6279 6282 6331

6342 6413 6890 6918 6955 7002 7045 7218 7309 7378

7645 7663 7717 7727 7776 7971 8132 8219 8302 8468

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MAKING HISTORY! K-Pop Superstars BTS made history on Sunday night as the first Korean pop group to perform at the American Music Awards 2017.

American Music Awards 2017: Complete Winners List

The American Music Awards hosted by Tracee Ellis Ross took place Sunday night, with Bruno Mars winning six awards.

Diana Ross was honored with the American Music Award for Lifetime Achievement. Nick Jonas, Selena Gomez, Lady Gaga, Demi Lovato, and more performed.

Here's the complete list of winners:

ARTIST OF THE YEAR: The Chainsmokers, Drake, Kendrick Lamar, Bruno Mars [WINNER], Ed Sheeran

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR: James Arthur, Niall Horan [WINNER], Julia Michaels, Post Malone, Rae Sremmurd

COLLABORATION OF THE YEAR: The Chainsmokers ft Halsey-Closer, Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee ft Justin Bieber-Despacito [WINNER], DJ Khaled ft Justin Bieber, Quavo, Chance the Rapper & Lil Wayne-I'm The One, Maroon 5 ft Kendrick Lamar-Don't Wanna Know, The Weeknd ft Daft Punk-Starboy

TOUR OF THE YEAR: Garth Brooks, Coldplay [WINNER], U2

VIDEO OF THE YEAR: Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee-Despacito, Bruno Mars-That's What I Like [WINNER], Ed Sheeran-Shape of You

FAVORITE MALE ARTIST - POP/ROCK: Drake, Bruno Mars [WINNER], Ed Sheeran



FAVORITE FEMALE ARTIST - POP/ROCK: Alessia Cara, Lady Gaga [WINNER], Rihanna

FAVORITE DUO OR GROUP - POP/ROCK: The Chainsmokers, Coldplay, Imagine Dragons [WINNER]

FAVORITE ALBUM - POP/ROCK: Drake-More Life, Bruno Mars-24K Magic [WINNER], The Weeknd-Starboy

FAVORITE SONG - POP/ROCK: The Chainsmokers ft Halsey-Closer, Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee ft Justin Bieber-Despacito [WINNER], Ed Sheeran-Shape of You

FAVORITE MALE ARTIST - COUNTRY: Sam Hunt, Thomas Rhett, Keith Urban [WINNER]

FAVORITE FEMALE ARTIST - COUNTRY: Miranda Lambert, Maren Morris, Carrie Underwood [WINNER]

FAVORITE DUO OR GROUP - COUNTRY: Florida Georgia Line, Little Big Town [WINNER], Old Dominion

FAVORITE ALBUM - COUNTRY: Jason Aldean-They Don't Know, Chris Stapleton-From a Room: Vol. 1, Keith Urban-Ripcord [WINNER]

FAVORITE SONG - COUNTRY: Sam Hunt-Body Like a Back Road, Jon Pardi-Dirt on My Boots, Keith Urban-Blue Ain't Your Color [WINNER]

FAVORITE ARTIST - RAP/HIP-HOP: Drake [WINNER], Kendrick Lamar, Migos

FAVORITE ALBUM - RAP/HIP-HOP: Drake-More Life, Kendrick Lamar-DAMN [WINNER], Migos-Culture

FAVORITE SONG - RAP/HIP-HOP: DJ Khaled ft Justin Bieber, Quavo, Chance the Rapper & Lil Wayne-I'm The One [WINNER], Kendrick Lamar-Humble, Rae Sremmurd

FAVORITE ARTIST - ALTERNATIVE ROCK: Imagine Dragons, Linkin Park [WINNER], Twenty One Pilots

FAVORITE ARTIST - ADULT CONTEMPORARY: Bruno Mars, Shawn Mendes [WINNER], Ed Sheeran

FAVORITE ARTIST - LATIN: Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee, Shakira [WINNER]

FAVORITE ARTIST - CONTEMPORARY INSPIRATIONAL: Lauren Daigle [WINNER], MercyMe, Chris Tomlin

FAVORITE ARTIST - ELECTRONIC DANCE MUSIC [EDM]: The Chainsmokers [WINNER], Calvin Harris, DJ Snake

TOP SOUNDTRACK: Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2: Awesome Mix Vol. 2, Moana [WINNER], Trolls

Padmavati BANNED in Madhya Pradesh!

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Padmavati continues to face criticism and backlash from self-vigilant groups and parties. While yesterday the makers of Padmavati decided to push the release of the film so that the situation could calm down, it seems like the protesters are not ready to give any chance to film. Today, Padmavati has been banned in Madhya Pradesh, which means none of the theatres in the state will screen this historical drama, whenever it releases.

The protesters claimed that underworld don, Dawood Ibrahim, has invested in Padmavati and their [Rajput Karni Sena] head has received threat calls

from Pakistan for opposing the film's release.

"We have heard the movie's release date [01 Dec] has been postponed. We will be on the streets as soon as a new release date is announced. All we want is a complete ban on the film. We will not allow the release of Padmavati at any cost," said the founder of the RKS, Lokendra Singh Kalvi.

He further said, "I got three threat calls from international numbers - one from Karachi, which indicates Dawood's money is involved...What is the interest of a man sitting in Karachi in bumping me off?"

Lokendra also said that Sanjay Leela Bhansali's team had earlier assured them in writing that they will hold the pre-screening of the trailer for them but it didn't happen. "Bhansali's team had, on January 30, assured us in writing, that he will pre-screen the trailer and the movie and take the Rajput organisations into confidence before releasing it. But he did not do so."

Rajput Karni Sena's head claims that film has distorted historical facts and it will not be tolerated by them, "We will not allow distorted facts to be shown in the film at any cost and will see to it that the film is not released," he reiterated.

ARIES: Don't give up on finding the romantic partner of your dreams, because now is your chance. Talk is spurring you to take action. Don't be surprised if a bit of friction keeps you from jumping into the situation with both feet. Hang in there. Once you get below the surface, you'll find that there's much more to this person than first meets the eye.

TAURUS: Be careful about declaring your love for someone when you haven't spent enough time with him or her to make that call. You may base this impulse on superficial encounters and brief conversations. You may not have the long history or deep discussions needed to know if this person is as ideal for you as

you think. Don't be fooled by fast talk and high fashion.

GEMINI: Issues of love and romance may be climactic now. You may be in a relationship phase approaching a major turn in the road. Perhaps there's a sudden breakdown in communication. Perhaps you realize that you rely much more on this person than you first thought. If you aren't intimately involved with someone, you should probably consider this a good situation for now.

CANCER: You may be drawn to someone because of the things you share in common. You both appreciate art, music, and romantic dinners, but this person may not be a good

permanent mate for you. He or she is unwilling to take the first step, or is indecisive about important issues. If you're uninvolved now, look for someone who challenges your quick wit and isn't afraid to make the first move.

LEO: Love and romance are in your favor even though roadblocks may keep you from taking full advantage of the situation. You're being much too picky about the type of person you seek. Love isn't meant to be a set of desired qualities on a shopping list. You can't realistically create a scenario of how things will work out. Let things proceed naturally.

VIRGO: If things begin to stir,

change, or fluctuate in love and romance, your first impulse is to over-react. This is probably the opposite of what you should do. Instead of quickly jumping to conclusions, you should sit back and let things slowly unfold. Resist the urge to make a move today just because your emotions are in an uproar.

LIBRA: When it comes to topics of love and romance, your feelings continue to be intercepted by words and opinions from others. What you want to keep private is suddenly made more public by mouths that just don't stop talking. Relax into the sensual element of love instead of getting caught up in more political aspects of the situation.

LINKIN PARK DEDICATES 2017 AMAS WIN TO CHESTER BENNINGTON



Linkin Park took a moment to honor Chester Bennington at 2017 American Music Awards.

The alternative-rock group's lead singer passed away in mid-July, shocking band members and their millions of fans who followed Bennington's decades in the spotlight. Linkin Park canceled their tour in the wake of him committing suicide, and a surprise appearance at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles Sunday evening marked their first in months.

Upon accepting the honor for Favorite Alternative Rock Artist, Mike Shinoda, Rob Bourdon and Brad Delson shared a heartwarming message remembering Chester's legacy.

"We want to dedicate this award to him, to his memory, to his talent, to his sense of humor, to his joy," they shared. "And remember, you guys, all of you tonight, whether you're a fan or an artist—I want you guys to take a moment to appreciate what you've got. And make Chester proud."

Two months after his tragic passing, fans organized public memorials all around the world. Linkin Park shared an emotional montage video of the many candlelight vigils, tributes and balloon send offs that took place in places like Peru, Greece, Indonesia, Russia, Kazakhstan and beyond.

They've also championed mental health awareness like never before, and in late October, held a concert at the Hollywood Bowl in Bennington's memory. Linkin Park launched the Give to the One More Light Fund to support Bennington's favorite Music for Relief program, Solar

Suitcases, as well as individuals and families coping with mental and emotional

struggles.

Gone, but certainly never forgotten.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

21ST NOV
WORLD HISTORY

1783: French inventor Jean François Pilâtre de Rozier and François Laurent, the Marquis d'Arlandes, make the first manned hot-air balloon flight, travelling five miles over Paris in 25 minutes.

1934: The New York Yankees purchase the contract of Joe DiMaggio from San Francisco of the Pacific Coast League.

1963: The Elvis Presley film Fun in Acapulco premiers.

1973: The 18.5 minute gap in the Richard Nixon Watergate tapes is revealed.

1974: Two bombs explode in Central Birmingham pubs,

killing 19 and injuring over 180.

1975: Elton John receives a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame.

1979: A mob in the Pakistani capital Islamabad burns the US Embassy to the ground in a five-hour attack in which a US marine is killed.

1980: A fire breaks out in the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Smoke and fire spread through the hotel, killing 84 people and injuring 785 others.

1983: Michael Jackson's award-winning 14-minute video for Thriller premiers

1962: After a month of fighting along its border with India, China declared a unilateral ceasefire, bringing to an end the Sino-Indian War.

1970: Sir CV Raman, Indian physicist and Nobel Prize winner, passed away.

LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REINER



"AND I THOUGHT THAT WAS ANNOYING IN RESTAURANTS."

ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT



SCORPIO: Certain areas of your life are expanding rapidly, causing you to lose touch with the more romantic aspects. The more you reach out in one direction, the more deprived you feel in the opposite direction. Perhaps you need more input as to where you put your energy. It's time to focus your attention on things that are working well instead of dwelling on things that are going nowhere.

SAGITTARIUS: The time has come for you to take charge in matters of love and romance. This isn't often the case for you who normally like to let others take the lead in this department. A new phase has begun in your love life. You should think

about expanding outward into new realms with new people and new circumstances, or both. It's time you were in charge.

CAPRICORN: You may be taking a back-seat approach when it comes to love and romance. This isn't necessarily a bad thing. In fact, this kind of attitude works to your advantage. By going with the flow and waiting for another to make the first move, you can spend more time on you instead of sending your energy outward toward others.

AQUARIUS: Love may become more sensual. You should consider new ways in which to pamper your special someone. There may be gossip associated with your

relationship that turns you off at first, but don't let that get in the way of expressing your true feelings. Real communication about this partnership will be primarily nonverbal.

PISCES: Your mind may be in an expansive mode now. Many things should be working for you. Your flexibility and ability to juggle many things at once should make tasks that require these talents a breeze. Unfortunately, they may not help too much when it comes to love and romance. You may not have the communication you desire with a close partner. You could find it easier to communicate with strangers!