



# SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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## Marathon Man heads for 24Hr Stadium Challenge

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:** Marathoner Amar Subba is leaving on Tuesday to participate in an ultra marathon, 24 Hours Stadium Challenge, to be held on 28 July at Bangalore in Karnataka. He is confident that he will finish the challenge in the top-10.

The 48-year-old Mr Subba, popularly known here as the "Marathon Man", it may be recalled, had stood third in the 12 Hour Stadium Challenge held at Bangalore in 2014, covering a distance of 96 KMs over the 12 hours. This will be the first time that he is participating in 24 Hours Stadium Challenge.

The challenge is scheduled to begin at 6 PM on 28 July and participants need to cover the maximum distance by 6 PM on 29 July. Addressing a press conference here today, Mr Subba thanked the organisers for inviting him to the event.

"This 24 Hours ultra marathon is a new experience for me and an opportunity to encourage the younger generation in the field of sports and health. If a 48-year-old man can run for 24 hours then young people can do anything," he shared.

As part of the preparation, he ran for 12 hours on hilly terrain on 14 July, covering a distance of around 80 KMs apart from his daily practice, he informed.

"The competition is really tough and a first for me, but I am confident that I will finish in the top-10," he said. He also thanked his supporters and well wishers who have backed his passion over the years. "This is a good sign that many people have been coming forward to support sportspersons as this will encourage the younger generation to make a career in sports," he said.

## Girl crushed to death

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:** One 21-year-old man, originally hailing from Nepal and presently residing in Mulukay, Rhenock, reportedly stole a vehicle parked in front of Rhenock Bazaar gate and met with an accident crushing one Geetanjali Adhikari to death on 22 Jul. The accused has been arrested for further investigation and the vehicle seized.

## Transfer and show cause notice for absentee Rhenock CHC doctor

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL [IPR]:** Following the public uproar against unavailability of doctor and ambulance service at Rhenock Community Health Centre to attend to accident victims brought to the facility on the evening of 22 July, Principal Director-I, Dr Pempa T Bhutia, Director Health Services-I,

Dr Uttam Pradhan, and Chief Medical Officer-East, Dr Tshering Laden visited the CHC on 23 Jul to investigate the matter and take stock of the situation.

A meeting was held at the CHC with the public representatives under the chairmanship of MLA, Hemendra Adhikari, to address the grievances of

the public.

Upon hearing of the unfortunate incident, Minister for Health Care, Human Services & Family Welfare Department, Arjun Kumar Ghatani, instructed the HOD and officers of the Department to attend to the matter the same day and take action immediately so that proper measures can be

enforced.

Subsequently, the Health Department held a meeting today which was chaired by Director General cum Secretary, K Bhandari, and attended by Principle Director-I, Director-I, Chief Medical Officer-East, Additional Secretary and Deputy Secretary.

During the meeting,

various actions were taken which included a show cause notice to Ambulance driver and a show cause notice along with transfer order to Medical Officer In-charge. Further, immediate posting of two Medical Officers and an additional ambulance driver to Rhenock CHC has been directed.



## CBI seeks arrest warrant against Bimal Gurung

**KOLKATA, JUL 24 (PTI):** The CBI today sought an arrest warrant against Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) president Bimal Gurung, his wife Asha and 20 others from a city court in connection with the Madan Tamang murder case.

The CBI counsel prayed to the chief judge of the City Sessions Court Kundan Kumar Kumai that the arrest warrant be issued against the 22 accused, who were absent at today's hearing.

Out of the 48 accused in the case against whom CBI has sought framing of charges for the murder of All India Gorkha League leader Madan Tamang in the heart of Darjeeling in

2011, 26 accused were present.

The Calcutta High Court had on July 19 asked all the accused against whom CBI has sought framing of charges to be present before the court of the chief judge of City Sessions Court, which had fixed today for commencement of hearing.

A division bench presided over by acting Chief Justice Nishita Mhatre had directed the trial court to hold day-to-day hearing and conclude framing of charges by August 17.

Noting that several accused were not present during the hearing

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## Concern in Rajya Sabha over Rohingyas in Jammu, Ladakh

**NEW DELHI, JULY 24 (PTI):** Veteran journalist and nominated member Swapan Dasgupta today expressed concern over the reported influx of Rohingya refugees in Jammu and Ladakh saying it was a matter of national security.

Raising the issue during the Zero Hour in the Rajya Sabha, he said there was a "vicious" ethnic conflict and civil war going on in Myanmar, but since it was an internal affair of a friendly neighbouring country, "we refrain from commenting on it".

"But it is curious and somewhat inexplicable as to why there should be so many Rohingyas who have migrated to Jammu and to Ladakh," he said. Rohingyas are tribals from

Myanmar, commonly also known as the 'boat people'.

Dasgupta said as per the Jammu and Kashmir Government, there are approximately 5,700 Rohingyas in Jammu and 7,664 Rohingyas in Ladakh.

Whereas the UN High Commission for Refugees states there are 14,000 Rohingyas in the whole of India, the media reports say that the Home Ministry estimates there are 40,000, he added.

"Now to my mind... this is very, very suspicious. The suspicion arises not for humanitarian reasons or anything like, but because of what the Bangladesh Government has reported that there are at least three terror-

turn to pg03

## Gangtok water supply to resume by Tuesday

**REBYNA RANA**  
**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:** The landslide that occurred below the under construction Secretariat building in Gangtok at around 5.30 p.m. on 21 July, apart from disrupting the water supply to large parts of Gangtok, has also damaged the State Data Centre [SDC] located in the Mines and Geology Department building.

In a circular issued on 22 Jul, the Home Department has said that the landslide has caused major damage to the State Data Centre due to which the Centre will remain suspended until all components are restored.

This has affected various Government applications namely Sikkim Integrated Financial Management System [SIFMS], C-Tax, Election Department, CCTNS [Police De-



partment], State Service Delivery Gateway and 30

other government websites hosted by SDC.

All HoDs have been requested to make neces-

sary alternative arrangements

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## Peden O Namgyal crowned Miss Sikkim 2017



**NITESH R PRADHAN**  
**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

The fourth edition of Miss Sikkim 2017 was held in Manan Kendra on 23 Jul with Peden O Namgyal being declared as the new Miss Sikkim. Sushmita Gurung was the 1st runners up and Raksha Shankar was the second runners up.

Organised by event management company Positude, the grand finale of Miss Sikkim 2017 had Miss India Universe,

Roshmita Harimurthy, along with designer, Manish Rai, transgender queen beauty title holder, Bishesh Huiram, filmmaker, Dorjee Dem Phemphu, and Associate Professor-Sikkim University, Swati Akshay Sachdeva, sitting on the judges panel.

Various pageant subtitles were given away during the function. The Beauty with Purpose title went to Pooja Khatel

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# If there is a will, there may be a way

**SUDIPTA CHANDA**  
**SILIGURI, 24 JUL:**

What is clear by now is that the Centre will not intervene in the Darjeeling situation until the West Bengal government officially urges it to.

And, given the West Bengal government's outlook, an official appeal may not come in the foreseeable future.

But, the state government has been requisitioning Central security forces along with the Army whenever hostilities escalated in the hills since June 8 and the Centre has been complying with a fair share of blame game thrown in between.

The pattern implies that both the Centre and the state are treating the hill situation as a law and order problem, not a political issue born out of identity crisis, as claim the movement protagonists.

So where does it leave the people of the hills and by extension of the region, which is also affected by the hill movement nudging two months now? In between a rock and a hard place is the answer.

Against this backdrop West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee begins her Delhi sojourn starting Monday to attend the swearing in ceremony of the country's 14th President. Will the courtesy visit

also graduate into meetings with the country's policy makers on the Darjeeling issue, even if on a personal basis? Here is keeping the fingers crossed that it does.

With all sides maintaining rigid stands in keeping with their respective agenda, the hill movement has entered a blind alley. No relief is possible unless some side relents without pre-conditions.

That the Centre will not engage on the hill issue till the West Bengal government asks it to become clear last week when replying to a question in Parliament from CPI-M MP Mohammed Salim vis a vis the hill movement, the Parliamentary Af-

fairs minister, Ananth Kumar held Mamata Banerjee's "ham-handed" approach responsible for the hill unrest.

When the Parliamentary Affairs minister makes such a statement in Parliament, the message - 'it is your mess, you clean it', goes out loud and clear.

That is, however, surprising since the Centre is a signatory to the autonomous Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), a Constitutional instrument, and thus has moral responsibility to ensure normal life in the hills.

The Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), which was one of the three

signatories to the GTA besides the Centre and the West Bengal government, might have walked out of the GTA, but that does not attenuate the GTA's status.

Mamata Banerjee can be extremely persuasive when she wants to. With her in Delhi, the Darjeeling issue is bound to come up for discussion, officially or unofficially, with Union ministers. There is no word of a meeting between the Bengal CM and the Prime Minister as yet, but unscheduled meetings do happen if there is enough intent.

Will Mamata walk that extra mile?



# SAATHI conducts 3rd offsite training camp of the year

## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India [SAATHI] conducted their 3rd offsite training camp for the year 2016-17 and 12th since the programme started back in 2013 from 20-22 Jul. The camp saw the participation of 120 students from the Government Senior Secondary Schools of Hee Gyathang, Mangshila, Tharpu and Zoom, a press release informs.

It may be mentioned that as an ongoing endeavor to curb drug abuse issues amongst school children, SAATHI conducts these residential camps at the Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism [IHCAE] in Chemchey, South Sikkim.

Accompanied by the Teacher Coordinators of the respective schools and the SAATHI Project Team, various motivational and technical sessions on drugs along with learning



based fun and physical activities are conducted with the students during the camp.

The session on the medical aspects of drugs was taken by Teacher Coordinator from Rumtek SSS, Roshan C Dahal,

while the inspirational and life skills sessions were facilitated by Arnab Thokder from EQUIP.

An experience sharing session was undertaken by KC Nima from Freedom Reha-

bilitation Center. The newly launched SAATHI App was also presented and demonstrated to the students by the SAATHI Project Team during the programme.

Other activities included

team building sessions, planning sessions, meditation, nature walk/ physical training and talent hunt.

The next off site training camp will be held from 27-29 Jul at Chemchey.

## CBI seeks arrest warrant against Bimal Gurung

*contd from pg01*

for framing of charges on earlier occasions also, the division bench had directed the CBI to ensure their presence in court.

Among the 26 accused present before the court today were former GJM MLA Harka Bahadur Chetri, Captain Ramesh Allay and Rabin Subba.

Apart from Bimal Gurung, senior GJM leaders Asha Gurung, Roshan Giri, Binay Tamang and Devendra Sharma were among those absent.

Those accused who were absent in the court made written prayer before the court seeking to be represented by their lawyers.

CBI counsel Arun Bhagat opposed the prayers, submitting that the high court had expressly ordered their presence before the trial court for the hearing. He sought arrest warrants against them for being absent.

Citing the high court's noting that CBI did not oppose the prayers of the accused to be represented by their lawyers during earlier hearings, the CBI counsel submit-

ted that he had vehemently raised objection, but it was not recorded.

Claiming that it led to the adverse noting by the high court, Bhagat prayed before the Chief Sessions Judge that his opposition on earlier occasions be recorded.

Debasish Roy, counsel for Bimal Gurung, Asha and some other accused claimed that the notice for appearance before the court was not served at the homes of the these persons and was pasted in marketplaces.

Bhagat submitted that CBI had tried its best to communicate the high court order through SMS, mail or through messenger, but many were not found at their addresses and as such the officials had to paste the notice on the walls of their houses. The CBI counsel submitted that order be passed on the applications of the accused persons for not being personally present before commencement of hearing on framing of charges.

The judge, after hearing all the parties, adjourned the matter till tomorrow.

## Disability awareness and identification camps held in all districts



### SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

District Disability Rehabilitation Centre [DDRC] under Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department recently concluded their Awareness Generation-Identi-

fication-Assessment and Free distribution of Aids and Appliances camps in six different District Hospitals and PHCs across the state, covering all the four districts, a press release informs.

The number of peo-

ple registered at different camps is 128 in Gyalshing, 111 in Dentam, 101 in Mangan, 145 in Namchi, 131 in Yangang and 219 in Singtam.

A total of 239 new Disability Certificates and Identity Cards were

issued at the camp. Hearing aid [BTE], wheel chairs [Large/Small], axillary crutch, elbow crutch and walking sticks were distributed free of cost on recommendation of the Medical Authority, the release adds.



## SDF Panchayat cell consultation meeting held

### SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

Sikkim Democratic Front today held a Panchayat cell consultation meeting at Chongyek in Syari constituency today.

With the upcoming Panchayat elections due shortly, the party is holding such meetings throughout the State, informed Ganesh Rai.

He also held that decentralization has been one of the key agendas of the SDF government which will benefit the unemployed and added that rural areas are the main focus of the government for economic and social development.

He further said that the goal of the party and the government is to have equitable distribution of resources in which Panchayats play a key role.

Mr Rai also urged all members to avoid factionalism and group-ism in the party and asked all to keep the party intact.

Praising the Chief Minister, he held that just like the leader of the party, the Panchayats should also be democratic in their approach. He also asked all to keep party agendas and policy in the forefront and make the party strong.

During the course of the programme, an open discussion was also held where locals discussed various issues.

Vice president, DB Thapa, who was present as chief guest, said that such consultative

meetings are being held in villages wherein the party will have to come up with a candidate after consultations.

He also appealed to party members not to get disheartened on not getting tickets and continue to work for the party in various capacities.

Spokesperson of the party, KT Gyaltsen, while addressing the gathering, said that Sikkim will develop only if villages develop. He further lashed out at the opposition for never conducting such meetings in spite of having an MLA from the constituency.

Adding that debate, dialogue and discussion are fundamentals of a democracy, he said that such consultations will be helpful in selection of candidates.

Although near the capital, Syari area is backward and in order to change that, people need to vote for the ruling party, he added.

He also informed the audience of a meet in Mintokgang where all the demands and concerns of the area have been placed.

Vice president, Panchayat cell of the party, Manita Mangar, informed that similar programmes will be held in all four districts with the formation of two teams, South-West and North-East, she added.

She also held that the party is seeking candidates who are active and can take forward the party ideology.

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**Gangtok on  
Tuesday,  
25 July**

**Temp:** 23°C / 17°C  
**Forecast:** Cloudy  
with a couple of  
thundershowers.  
**Sunrise:** 04:55 AM  
**Sunset:** 06:29 PM

## Man on the run after committing multiple offences

### SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:** One 23-year-old hailing from Nandugaon in South Sikkim has been accused of committing multiple mischievous acts in Samatar, South Sikkim. The accused, who is absconding at the moment, allegedly broke into the house of one Prem Bahadur Limboo in Samatar on 23 Jul and cut the clothes worn by his wife who was in deep sleep.

It was also reported that the same accused had opened the window of a house belonging to one Rudra Prasad Rai of Samatar in order to peep inside a room where his 24-year-old niece stayed. Another time, he allegedly tried to break the wall of a house belonging to one Tej Bdr Rai in order to watch his daughters sleeping inside their room.

Later, the accused stole one mobile phone belonging to one Harka Man Rai of the same locality from his residence on the night of 23 Jul.

On seeing the police heading towards the house where he was staying, the accused is said to have fled from the spot.

Upon searching the suspect's room, three mobile phones, three sharp edged blades, one black coloured leather wallet containing cash of Rs 1308, two finger rings and one ear ring were recovered. Sources have been deployed to find the absconding accused.



## 51-member SSLA squad for National Strength Lifting and Incline Bench Press c'ship

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 24 JUL:

A 51-member Sikkim Strength Lifting Association [SSLA] team is all set to represent the State in the upcoming 24th edition of the National Strength Lifting and Incline Bench Press Championship to be held from 28 to 30 July at Nehru Stadium in Assam. The tournament will see competitions in sub-junior, junior, senior, master,

senior blind and senior physically challenged for men and women.

Joseph Subba will be debuting in the physically challenged category, while 68-year-old Nimsang Lhamu is participating in the women's master category.

At a function held here on Sunday at White Hall, SSLA executive members conveyed their best wishes to the State team members.

SSLA president, TD Denzongpa, called on the team to give their best in the competition and shared his happiness on the promotion and development of strength lifting in the State.

He added that Sikkim has already produced a lot of international and national level strength lifters in a short period of time.

SSLA chief coach, Pema Dorjee, informed

that the team has undergone rigorous training sessions and all were in high spirits to give their best in the competition.

Likewise, SSLA general secretary, Sonam Tshering Bhutia wished the lifters well and urged them to give their best to win medals and laurels for the State.

The team is scheduled to leave on 26 July for the championship.

## Gangtok water supply to resume by..

### contd from pg01

ments for service delivery, as per the circular.

The Mines & Geology Department has also remained closed, thus, affecting the conduct of official work, an official who wishes to remain anonymous informed SummitTimes.

It is further informed that the concerned department has been facing problems caused by the mudslide that has entered

the Accounts Cell Section and Lab office of the department. The Information Technology Department has also been affected by the mudslide. Big trees and boulders have fallen at the entrance of the office building. However, restoration works are under progress.

So that official work can continue, the Mines & Geology Department is looking at the possibility of setting up a temporary

office. A meeting on the same will be held at the earliest, it is informed.

On the other hand, the PHE officials inform that restoration work on the 600 ft long water pipeline is 75% complete and completion of the remaining work will depend on weather conditions.

However, water supply will resume, even if the quantity is reduced, by 25 July to all areas that the tank connects to.

It may be recalled that the landslide has damaged the 600 ft long water pipeline that fills the zonal tank and consumer lines to Deorali, Namrang, Lal Bazaar, New Market, Kazi Road, Tadong, Lingding, Lumsey and Central Referral Hospital. Hence, it is informed that the water supply to the aforementioned areas will be disrupted till restoration work is completed.

## Concern in Rajya Sabha over Rohingyas...

### contd from pg01

ist organisations among the Rohingyas," the member said.

He further said "we have seen" evidence of Rohingya involvement in the blast in Bodh Gaya and in October, 2016, that one of the two militants killed in an encounter in

Jammu and Kashmir, turned out to be from Myanmar.

"To my mind...it is something which is a pressing matter, which goes beyond the humanitarian aspect..." he said, adding that the Rohingya refugees have also been flaunting voter cards and

Aadhaar cards.

"It is only when they tried to register themselves as State Subjects that the issue came to the fore and assumed great importance. I would urge the Government to take this matter very, very seriously," Dasgupta added.

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## Health and education in poor state, alleges newly formed Sikkim Youth Alliance



### SAGAR CHHETRI GANGTOK, 24 JUL:

A newly formed organisation, Sikkim Youth Alliance [SYA], today alleged that health services and education in the State are in deplorable condition. The organisation further alleged that world-class facilities in health and education in the State are only limited to speeches and claims.

It is informed that SYA is just four months old and currently has around 500 members.

Addressing a press conference here today, SYA executive member, Bhanu Pratap Rasaily stated that few like-minded people of the State formed this organisation with the main aim of safeguarding Sikkim and its people.

"We found that the people of Sikkim are presently living in an insecure environment, so we, the youth, decided to step forward and voice our issues to the State and Central governments," he said. He alleged that the State government has secretly diluted Article 371F which is considered as the safeguard of Sikkim and its people.

Speaking on the recent Rhenock incident, Mr Rasaily alleged that the negligence at Rhenock health centre is just an instance in which a child lost her life due to negligence but there are lots of other such incidents happening in the State. He alleged that the incident shows the deplorable condition of the health sector in the State.

Another SYA executive member, Manish Raj Shrestha stated that Sikkim University has not been able to set up its own campus in the last 10 years since its establishment and has been

compelled to spread along the highway.

"The State government announced to make Sikkim an educational hub but SU does not even have its own campus in the State. However, numerous private pharma companies have been able to create their own infrastructures easily. This is a total failure on the part of the State government," he alleged further adding that students have been suffering due to the same.

He also demanded that the State government make immediate arrangements for students of Sikkim studying in the schools of Darjeeling hills to continue their studies.

The press conference was also addressed by SYA executive members, Pema Sangderpa and Karma Yenten.

They stated that it is high time for the people of Sikkim to come forward on these crucial issues.

"We have been creating social awareness on these issues among general people to build a stronger civil society," they said. Influx and land being leased out to companies from outside are important issues that need to be addressed for the safeguard of Sikkim and its future generation.

They alleged that politicization of Panchayat elections has brought about division in the society. On the same, they added that Panchayat election should not be based on political parties. They also opposed the increase in the number of State Assembly seats from 32 to 40.

"The increase in the number of State Assembly seats is a dilution of Article 371F. So Limboo Tamang seats should be reserved from the existing 32 seats," they said.

## Peden O Namgyal crowned Miss Sikkim 2017

### contd from pg01

while the Miss Talented title was awarded to Sakun Rai. Philomena Biswakarma was given the Miss Healthy Skin title along with Peden O Namgyal, Rohika Ramudamu and Tseten Bhutia receiving the Miss Congeniality, Miss Best Ramp Walk and Miss Popular titles, respectively. The Miss Photogenic, Miss Timeless Beauty and Miss Fashionable titles went to Srijana Chettri, Shabnam Sherpa and Smriti Rai, respectively.

The programme also featured dance performances by Dilu Tamang & group and dancing star, Mingma D Lepcha.

Many talents also showcased their creations on the Miss Sikkim contestants including gowns designed by Tshering Doma. Traditional outfits were presented by duo, Dolly and Santosh, for the pageant contestants.

The winner of Miss Sikkim 17, Peden O Namgyal, has thanked her parents and all her well wishers. She also hopes to bring laurels to her state and asked everyone to pursue their dreams and be themselves. Chief Executive Officer of Positude, Gyurmila Bhutia, has thanked everyone involved for making the event a grand success.

### ANTHYESTHI KRIYA

The Anthyesthi Kriya of former Chief Minister Nar Bahadur Bhandari who left for his heavenly abode on 16 July 2017 falls on Friday 28 July, 2017. All relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul at our residence, Primula Cottage, Church Road, Gangtok.

Dil Kumari Bhandari  
Primula Bhandari - 8918061018  
Sharmila and Bikram Pal Singh  
Perilla and Bryan Swartz  
Roshan R Bhandari and Naseeb Puri  
Ashwin, Rehaan and Noor (grandchildren)  
And all Bhandari family



Northeast Career Guide  
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# SummitTIMES

## Young and Violent

**Sikkim needs to wake up to a worrying trend and begin engaging**

A youth was brutally assaulted on a very minor provocation in the heart of Gangtok over the weekend. A few days before that, another youth tried to get out of a scrap by pulling out a firearm and shooting in the air. Then there is the incident in which a person was shot from the back as he was returning home. There is no reason at hand to believe that this was a premeditated attack and could well have been over provocation so petty that the victim is not even aware of it, or still more worryingly, a violent release sought out either on purpose or inducement by an idle mind with access to a dangerous weapon. These present a worrying scenario which add to the stress that the society here is already under due to rampant substance abuse, a disturbingly regular leveraging of privilege to escape accountability and debilitating ennui among the a wide cross-section of the young.

Such violence is not new to Sikkim and in the recent past, a youth was shot at pointblank range by a clearly demented mind (thankfully the youth survived, unfortunately, the cops could not build a halfway decent case) and another college youth succumbed to injuries received in a brutal beating by boys only slightly older than him. The Singtam thana is still talking about the insane rage the law keepers had to confront when they brought in a driver for questioning following a complaint. Agreed, these are but a few instances, but these are the ones which have come out in the public domain. There must be several episodes of such unhealthy outbreaks of violence occurring in schools, at homes and among friends which go unreported. Even if there are no other such incidents, these by themselves point to a disturbing trend which needs to be recognized and addressed before it strikes deeper roots. Sikkim, or course, is not alone in being visited by increasing instances of juvenile violence. Horror stories from USA and Europe of shootings in schools and other instances of macabre dystopian violence by the young have often made headlines. When these instances make headlines elsewhere, they also lead to much soul-searching and receive the attention of experts who then come up with possible solutions. It is unlikely that such focus will be invested into Sikkim's situation. So the people here will need to devise their own solutions.

It will help to learn what is already widely understood about the young and violent crimes. The reason experts feel juvenile's commit crimes is because of risk factors when they were younger. Some risk factors associated with juvenile crime are poverty, repeated exposure to violence, drugs, easy access to potentially harmful weapons, unstable family life and family violence, delinquent peer groups, and media violence. These are generalizations, but look around, and one needs to accept that generalizations can sometimes be accurate. Of these risk factors, the demise of family life and the effect of the media and delinquent peer groups can be flagged as playing the more dominant role in turning so many juveniles to the delinquency path in Sikkim. The end of the joint family system and the increasing number of broken families expose children to spite and violence much younger than they should learn of these things and often also to neglect and even abuse, setting them up to be taken down by other influences. Psychologists have known for a long time that children who have suffered neglect and/or abuse in their earlier years display high levels of aggression and antisocial behavior. And then there is "media violence". A recent study in USA has shown that before the time a child has reached seventh grade, the average child has witnessed 8,000 murders and 100,000 acts of violence on the television! Most kids the world over are exposed to similar media nowadays, in fact, one could argue that children here and in our country might have seen more violence than their Western counterparts thanks to the absurd acceptance of violence on TV in these parts where crime shows are part of family viewing time. At least this we can change immediately because it is universally accepted now that heavy exposure to televised violence is one of the causes of aggressive behavior, crime and violence in society. Television violence affects youngsters of all ages, of both genders, at all economic levels, and all levels of intelligence. Because the society at large still refuses to see violent crimes by the young with the worry and concern they demand, more young find themselves in the company of unreprimanded peers, an easy trap to fall into in an environment which offers very few alternatives to engage them.

Yes, these are generalizations and even superficial comments to flag a very real problem, but this is attempted here to start a conversation so that something more meaningful could shake out.

## HAVE

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## Opinion

# Can Tourism Alleviate Global Poverty?



into the top ten in 2000.

### MONEY CAN'T BUY EVERYTHING

If the share isn't great, the total amount of traveller money spent in these countries is still substantial – US\$79 billion in 2016 alone. This is as much as the foreign aid budget of the US, Germany, UK and France combined, based on figures from the World Economic Forum.

But money alone doesn't reduce poverty. If it did, Thailand, the world's fourth most popular tourism destination, would be rich (it earned US\$54 billion from international tourism in 2016).

Whether a cash injection turns into development depends on many well-studied factors. For example, less developed countries lack the critical goods and services that tourists require, including airports, accommodation, key attractions, tour guides and telecommunications, to name just a few.

This leads to what economists call "leakage". When a country must import everything from generators and solar panels to certain kinds of food, it spends a considerable proportion of tourist dollars before they can multiply in the local economy.

In developing countries, leakage ranges from 40% in India to 80% in Mauritius, according to researcher Lea Lange who wrote a 2011 paper for the German development agency GIZ, depending also on the factors that are included in the analysis.

Part of the broader leakage problem is that tourism investors are often foreign, so the profits are expatriated. Cruise lines are notorious for this. Ships may well visit a dozen small island developing states on

any given marine jaunt, but most of the profit goes back to headquarters, which are typically located in Western countries.

### DON'T LET THAT DOLLAR GO

Governments can reduce leakage by thinking strategically about procurement, emphasising local business development, integrating supply chains and investing in education and training to prepare workers for tourism jobs.

Such changes helped Samoa, where tourism is one of the economy's main pillars, develop a more diversified and lucrative portfolio. Tourism income has grown from US\$73 million in 2005 to US\$141 million in 2015 (at current prices), when the industry contributed 20% of the country's GDP. It welcomes about 134,000 international visitors annually.

Among other innovations launched jointly by donors, government and community groups, Samoa increased locals' share of traveller resources by reinventing its fales – simple, sometimes open-air beach huts that often attract backpacker-types – to appeal to luxury travellers.

Out of the 2,000 hotel rooms in Samoa, about 340 are now fales, which are typically owned and operated by local families. The Samoa Tourism Authority assists them in business planning, marketing and service delivery.

Samoa tourism was given a boost by a lucrative 2009 contract with the Body Shop to produce and sell coconut-based beauty products. With the Samoan Women In Business Development Initiative securing continuity and scale, this deal is likely to create positive domestic tourism spin-offs like greater entrepreneurial capaci-

ty among Samoan women, business confidence, and brand enhancement of Samoa with luxury connotations.

By 2014, Samoa was no longer classified as a least-developed country.

Making sure that visitor dollars benefit local people also depends on the commitment of foreign-owned companies, particularly hotel groups, to partner with and invest in local communities.

The Marriott in Port au Prince, for example, has been feted not just for setting up shop in earthquake-shattered Haiti (one of the world's least-developed countries) in 2015 but for hiring local, paying well and focusing on professional development. This has proven to be a good business strategy, too. With happy workers, the hotel has very low turnover.

### MAKING TOURISM WORK

Ecuador, Fiji and South Africa are among other countries illustrating that tourism can contribute to development and alleviate poverty. The English travel agency Responsible Travel, which holds annual World Responsible Tourism Awards, showcases more great examples.

International organisations such as the UN can help countries find this balance by financing transport connectivity, for example, and facilitating infrastructure investment that's mindful of potential tourism uses.

Capacity-building among domestic stakeholders is also critical. Only when a destination's tourism offices, luxury hotels and ecoparks are run and staffed by well-trained locals can the benefits of tourism be equitably distributed, its costs effectively managed and its growth sustainable.

Individuals have a role to play, too, by making ethical travel choices. Tourists visiting developing countries can maximise the community benefits of their trip by "going local" on everything from food and tour companies to craft purchases.

Opting for certified "responsible" companies and simply by asking the right questions may also send an important signal over time that tourists care about their impacts.

Tourism will never end poverty. But if governments, industries and consumers start paying attention, they can make it a force for change.

*[the writer is Professor of Sustainable Tourism and Director, Griffith Institute for Tourism, Griffith University]*

SUSANNE BECKEN  
*theconversation.com*

Wouldn't it be great if something as simple and pleasurable as international travel could help end something as grinding and enduring as global poverty? After all, the industry is booming, growing at least 4% a year since the 1960s (with a brief slowdown in 2009), according to the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

In 2016, over 1.3 billion international tourists spent an estimated US\$1.4 trillion. That's the equivalent of Australia's gross domestic product, dispersed around the world.

The UN has even declared 2017 the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, heralding the role of international travel in reducing poverty. But how much global tourism money really makes its way to poor countries?

### THAT BIG TOURISM PIE

Researchers from Griffith University and University of Surrey provide a mechanism to get find out – Global Sustainable Tourism Dashboard. And, spoiler alert, it's not inspiring.

The dashboard was launched in January 2017 to measure tourism's impacts and contribution to the UN's 2015-2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Among other sustainability-related indicators, it can determine whether tourism is really redistributing wealth by tracking how much travel money arrives in the world's least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

Some 14% of the global population [lives in LDCs (which includes Cambodia and Some 14% of the global population lives in LDCs, (which include Cambodia and Senegal, among others) and SIDS, like Vanuatu and the Dominican Republic.

Yet in 2016 these countries saw just 5.6% of global international tourism expenditure. If we take Singapore (a small island developing state in name only) out of the mix, it falls to 4.4% – just US\$62 billion out of the US\$1.4 trillion spent worldwide on travel in 2016.

Mainly, the dashboard shows, global tourism is an economic exchange between rich countries. Citizens of ten nations, most of them in Europe and North America, make about half of all international travel. China, which in 1995 was not a member of this frequent flyer club, broke

# How wildfires could radically change forests- and your life

MERRITT TURETSKY  
*theconversation.com*

A lonely bird call breaks my concentration and I glance upward. Where glacier-topped mountains should be filling the horizon, instead my view is obscured by a strange orange haze. Even the bright sun has given up. It seems to float in the sky as a faint pink ball.

I am a field ecologist working east of the Denali mountain range in Alaska, but the postcard-worthy view of my sites today is obscured by smoke drifting across the border from wildfires burning throughout British Columbia. I have been studying boreal wildfires for years and have a strong understanding of the importance of fire to the boreal forest of Canada.

Boreal wildfires in Canada are spectacular displays of nature's force — they burn across hundreds of thousands of kilometres and can last for months, sometimes smouldering right through the winter. These fires tend to occur in remote regions that simply cannot be managed. And their zone of impact is much wider than most people ever imagine as soot, ash and smoke drift in long-range atmospheric circulation patterns across geopolitical borders, affecting air quality around the world.

Over the past 5,000 years, repeated cycles of burning followed by vegetation recovery have allowed conifer forests to flourish into the great forested biome that today covers much of Canada. But multiple lines of evidence are now telling us a convincing story that boreal fires are changing — they are getting bigger, larger, and more intense, particularly in northwestern Canada. And if this continues, there is a good chance that

the next years of wildfire will cause fundamental changes to our iconic northern forests.

Conifer trees need fire. Following light or moderate fire activity, trees like black spruce often regenerate immediately. But when northern forests burn too severely, deciduous trees like aspen and birch can outcompete conifers during post-fire succession.

### FIRES ALREADY CHANGING NORTHERN FORESTS

In some areas of boreal North America, we already are seeing large increases in the extent of deciduous forests as a result of increasing fire activity. There is no doubt that such an important shift in the makeup of Canadian forests will have winners and losers. Some animals may thrive with the better forage quality produced by deciduous species, while others will lose important habitat.

A loss of conifer forest area would mean big changes for how the boreal biome interacts with the Earth's climate system. The consequences of fire-induced shifts in the structure of boreal forests would be far ranging from small-scale changes in biodiversity to global-scale changes in albedo (the amount of the sun's energy reflected back into space) and greenhouse gas emissions.

Northwest Canada has experienced steady increases in the annual amount of forest area burned over the second half of the 20th century. This is despite similar increases in money spent on fighting fires. Some of the variation in fire regimes in this area is attributed to anthropogenic — human-made — climate change and this influence is only likely to strengthen in the future.

There are some easy conclusions

to reach. Warmer, drier fuels will burn more — this seems obvious to anyone skilled in building a campfire. But there will be plenty of surprises when it comes to making predictions about the future of Canada's fire regime. People, for example.

Humans cause about half of the fires in Canada, although most of the area burned still results from fires started by lightning. With more people moving into and relying on the boreal forest, this dynamic between human versus lightning-initiated fires could shift in the next century.

Scientists in general expect climate change to increase the frequency of lightning ignitions in the north, but there is plenty we still need to learn about how climate change will influence storm events and cloud-to-ground lightning discharges.

It is impossible to make predictions about boreal fires without considering future vegetation. If deciduous forests do increase in extent, this will have major impacts on fuel-moisture content, ignition probabilities and area burned.

Other disturbances that affect the amount of dead wood in forests also are likely to alter fire activity. There are a number of examples of insect outbreaks triggered by climate change, and this can lead to fuel accumulation and greater risk of severe fires.

### IMPACT ON HUMANS

Climate change is not an esoteric concept for people living in the north. Northerners are intimately connected with their land and know that their homes are experiencing warming at a faster rate than anywhere else on the planet. Wildfire perhaps can be viewed as a climate change beacon, a harbinger of things to come.

While big fire years used to occur episodically, maybe once or twice a decade, now it seems that there is always a big fire year occurring somewhere in Canada or Alaska. In 2014, the Northwest Territories experienced its largest fire year on record. In 2015, the military was called in to assist firefighters battling large fires in Saskatchewan. In 2016, images of the Fort McMurray fires were broadcast all over the world. And today, on this summer day in 2017, I am supposed to be working in one of the most pristine areas of Alaska, but am instead breathing in smoke from Canadian fires.

While I study wildfires from a natural science perspective, I am acutely aware of the sociological impacts. Fires cause human health problems and anxiety. Wildfires cause more evacuations in Canada than any other natural disaster. The Fort McMurray fire alone forced more than 80,000 Canadians to flee their homes.

Not too long ago, I spoke with an emergency room doctor based in a northern Canadian city who told me about increases in post-traumatic stress disorder diagnoses following big fires. "Is it the sight of billowing smoke and flames?" I asked. The anxiety of having to leave your home and not knowing whether it would still be standing when you returned?

No, she said. She believed it was the realization of a new reality — that climate change was no longer something to just talk about. It's here, and it will affect how people will live and survive in the north. Fire is just part of the stress of this new reality.

### NEW RISKS, OPPORTUNITIES

Climate change undoubtedly means *turn to pg07*





## Nav Prabhat Samaj nominates advisors

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, JULY 24:** The recently elected executive body of Nav Prabhat Samaj of Amar Gram Tadong, a society of the residents of Amar Gram, Tadong, today nominated advisors. The Samaj was nominated Bhasker Basnett, ex-councilor, and Tekman

Chettri, an ex-service-men, as advisors. Their term will continue till 2020. Nav Prabhat Samaj has been active in the area since the year 2000. Recently, the Samaj had formed a new executive body for the term 2017-20 with Bishnu Maya Luitel as presi-

dent, Tara Sundas as vice president, Sonam Bhutia as general secretary, Pushpa Sharma as treasurer, Dhananjay Goley as joint secretary, Ajay Chettri as sports secretary, Bhaichung Bhutia as publicity secretary, Milan Bhutia as culture secretary and Thupky Bhutia as PRO.

## Demands for restoring internet services in Hills rejected

**DARJEELING (WB), JULY 24 (PTI):** With class nine students being unable to fill up their board examination forms without internet, the Darjeeling teachers' association today met the district magistrate and sought restoration of its service today, but in vain.

The authorities rejected the demand for restoration of internet services in the hills saying they would make special arrangements for students to go to Siliguri to fill up their forms.

The teachers' body took out a procession and met the district magistrate demanding restoration of the internet services saying class nine students were unable to fill up forms for their board examinations.

The demand was, however, turned down by the authorities on the grounds of persisting law and

order problem in the Hills, facing an indefinite shutdown for creation of a separate Gorkhaland for the last 40 days.

The internet services in the Darjeeling Hills had been suspended on June 18.

"The teachers association members had come here to submit a memorandum (for restoring internet services) but we told them that internet cannot be selectively reopened. We told them that we will make special arrangements so that students can go to Siliguri to fill up their forms," a senior district official told PTI.

Meanwhile, there was no report of any untoward incident from the scenic hill town since last night.

The GJM's supporters took out rallies at Chowkbazar area during

the day demanding Gorkhaland amidst patrolling by police and security forces. Tight vigil was in place at every entry and exit routes.

The West Bengal director general of police and other senior state police officers who were scheduled to visit Darjeeling to assess the law and order situation did not visit the hills but held a meeting at Murti area of neighbouring Jalpaiguri district.

According to officials, the state government yesterday sealed the Siliguri-based office of a Nepali language satellite television channel alleging that it was promoting unrest.

The GJM leadership has termed the move as "an effort to throttle the freedom of the press" and said it was an "emergency-like situation."

## Manik FC and Kumar Sporting Club in C-Div semis

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

Manik Football Club edged past Daddy's Dzongri Football Club 1-0 in the ongoing knockout round of Sikkim Football Association C-Division Sikkim League here at Paljor Stadium.

With the win, Manik FC has secured a berth in the semi-final round of the tournament.

The only goal in the match was scored by Ongdup Lepcha in the 20th minute.

On Sunday, Kumar Sporting Club defeated Lall Bazaar Football Club 2-1 in the other quarter-final match. Bikram Gurung and Titus Shah scored a goal each for Kumar SC, while Chandar Chettri scored a goal for Lall Bazaar FC.

The first semi-final match will be played between Renzong Football Club and Sadarian Football Club on Tuesday.

## Sikkim girls leave for Jr National Football tournament

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 24 JUL:**

A 20-member Sikkim women's football team has left to represent the at the upcoming Junior National Football tournament 2017 to be held from 26 July to 10 October at Cuttack in Odisha.

The team is being accompanied by Pusp Gurung as chief coach, Lako Phuti Bhutia as assistant coach and Susana Rai as Manager.

Sikkim, it may be recalled, has been placed in group "A" along with Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Mizoram. Sikkim will be playing its first league match against Chhattisgarh on 28 July, then against Andhra Pradesh on 30 July and finally taking on Mizoram on 01 August.

## BRO to construct tunnels to cut down distance to China border

**ITANAGAR, JUL 24 (PTI):** The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) will construct two tunnels through 4170-metre-high Sela Pass in Arunachal Pradesh, which would cut down the distance to China border through Tawang by 10 km.

"The tunnels would cut down at least an hour of travel time between the Army's 4 Corps headquarters at Tezpur and Tawang. Moreover, the tunnels would ensure that NH 13 and especially the 171 km stretch between Bomdila and Tawang, remains accessible in all weather conditions," a BRO release said here today.

This is in keeping with India's bid for faster access to the Tibet frontier through the tough terrain of the state in

the Eastern Himalayas.

RS Rao, the commander of the 42 Border Road Task Force under BRO's Project Vartak has initiated formal requisition to West Kameng Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sonal Swaroop for acquisition of land for construction of Sela Tunnel, the release said.

The project constitutes widening of existing single lane road to NH double lane specifications from Baisaki and then taking off a greenfield alignment of length 12.37 km.

It also includes construction of two tunnels of length 475 metres and 1790 metres each through Sela-Chabrela ridge meeting the existing Balipara-Chaudur-Tawang road on Nurarang side, it said.

The above alignment has been approved by the Chief Engineer, Project Vartak.

There is a shorter but less used road along the Bhutan border via Orang in Assam and Kalaktang in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Due to construction of tunnels across Sela pass the road length reduces by approximately 6.50 km in addition obviates high altitude, steep gradient and hair pin bends on either side of Sela pass which, would bring relief to commuters as lot of hardships have to be faced in winter season due to snowfall at on Sela pass," the release said.

"Sela tunnel will add to the tourist potential of Tawang and attract more tourists making Tawang a more popu-

lar destination in North East region," it added.

"The new alignment of the road to Tawang involves 12.

37 km and the construction of two tunnels to bypass Sela and a number of hairpin bends. The altitude of the new alignment will vary between 11,000 and 12,000 ft," Swaroop informed from Bomdila, the district headquarters.

"The survey for land acquisition will start after the monsoon," she added.

The BRO, which manages the roads across India's borders, has completed technical details of the proposed tunnels.

They would be a boon to the Indian army troops in winters when heavy snowfall hinders connectivity on roads.

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## 24 monuments are untraceable: govt

**NEW DELHI, JUL 24 (PTI):** Twenty-four monuments have disappeared and remained untraceable, the government said today.

Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma, in reply to a question in Lok Sabha, said that the ruins of Copper Temple in Arunachal Pradesh, Guns of Emperor Sher Shah in Assam's Tinsukia district, Bara Khamba Cemetery in Delhi and the ruins of fort Bamanpukur in West Bengal's Nadia district are among the disap-

peared monuments.

According to the list of untraceable monuments prepared by the ministry, Uttar Pradesh tops with 11 such monuments, followed by two each in Haryana, Delhi, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, and one each in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

Conservationists say that urbanisation has made it very difficult to trace such monuments and often buildings come up around them and

eventually parts of the historical site are "swallowed up."

Another reason for the monuments disappearing is the routine encroachment, say senior culture ministry officials.

The minister listed eight such encroachments in centrally protected monuments during the last five years which his ministry has partially removed.

They include Asafi Imambara in Lucknow, a mosque at Sakshakheva in Maharashtra, Mahadev

Temple, Chaiturgharh Fort, Danteshwari Devi Temple at Chattisgarh, D'Eremao Cemetery in Delhi, Mosque of Sarai Alavardi Khan in Haryana and Virupaksha Temple in Hampi, Karnataka.

The Minister also said that the government has spent Rs 23,551.95 in 2014-2015, Rs 23,746.25 in 2015-2016 and Rs 30,176.22 in 2016-2017 for the conservation of protected monuments and sites under the Archaeological Survey of India.

## Heavy rains to continue in Gangetic West Bengal till Wed: Met

**KOLKATA, JUL 24 (PTI):** The Met department today said heavy rains will continue to lash all districts of Gangetic West Bengal till Wednesday morning.

"A well-marked low pressure is prevail-

ing over Gangetic West Bengal and adjoining Jharkhand, apart from a monsoon trough from North-East Bay of Bengal to Rajasthan," regional Met director G K Das said.

"As an effect of these two systems, heavy rainfall will continue in all

districts of Gangetic West Bengal," Das said.

"There will not be much change in the weather, however, the intensity of rain may decrease from tomorrow afternoon," he said.

The metropolis recorded 73.9 mm rainfall in 24 hours till 8.30 AM today, resulting in inundation of low-lying areas in some parts of the city.

With incessant rains lashing the city through the night, school-going children as also office-go-

ers were inconvenienced.

Buses and taxis were fewer in number on the roads of the metropolis, while at some places traffic snarls occurred owing to inundation of thoroughfares.

Bankura (110 mm) recorded the highest rainfall in the state during the same period, while Burdwan (43.9 mm), Diamond Harbour (42.2 mm) and Asansol (20.1 mm) also recorded significant precipitation, the Met department said.

### DECLARATION

I, Punol Shipmoo Lepchar/o Burtuk, P.O. & P.S. Gangtok, East Sikkim hereby solemnly declare that the name of my father has been recorded as UGEN SHIPMOO LEPCHA in my Class X Certificate (no. TW 60067644) and UGEN LEPCHA in my Pan card no. APUPL4438C, are both the names of one and same person i.e my father. Henceforth the above name UGEN SHIPMOO LEPCHA & UGEN LEPCHA is my father and I am his legal son.

**PUNOL SHIPMOO LEPCHA (son)**  
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## Govt launches 'SHe-box' portal for sexual harassment complaints

**NEW DELHI, JUL 24 (PTI):** The Women and Child Development ministry today launched an online platform to enable women employees of the central government to file complaints related to sexual harassment at the workplace.

"We are also going to soon conduct a national survey to assess the nature and magnitude of sexual harassment at the workplace," Union minister Maneka Gandhi said after launching the portal at her office here.

The WCD minister also instructed officials to make the 'SHe-box' (sexual harassment electronic box) as "interactive" as possible.

"To begin with, central government women employees can file complaints, but we are going to widen the ambit to include the private sector as well," she said.

"We just need to make a few changes in our online interface. Once it is done, employees from private companies would also be able to lodge complaints," Gandhi added.

The decision to host an online platform for sexual harassment cases was taken by the WCD ministry last October after the minister received complaints from women employees in various ministries.

### FLAT AVAILABLE FOR COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS:

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# Man-U down Real Madrid 2-1 at Intl Champions Cup

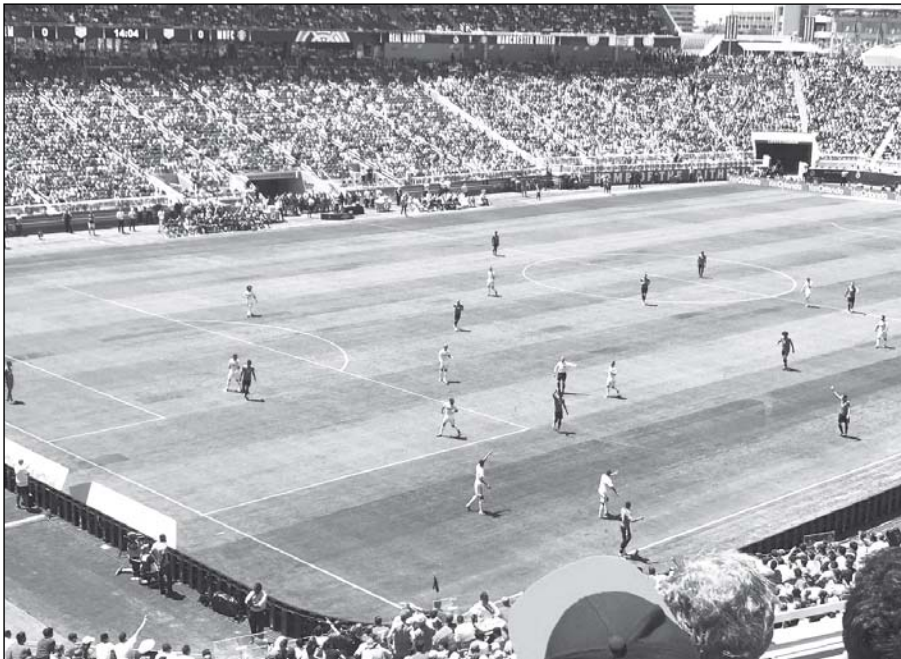
**SUMMIT REPORT SANTA CLARA [CALIFORNIA], 23 JUL:** David de Gea showed Real Madrid what they are missing by playing the hero act for Manchester United as they won 2-1 on penalties after a 1-1 International Champions Cup draw in California on Sunday.

The Spain International, a long-time reported target of the Champions League winners, saved spot-kicks from Mateo Kovacic and Oscar before Casemiro hit the crossbar with his shoot-out kick - having scored from 12 yards in normal time - to hand United victory.

Manchester United remain unbeaten on their US tour after seeing off Real Madrid on penalties in the International Champions Cup.

United took the lead shortly before half-time thanks to a sensational piece of play from Anthony Martial, the forward slinking away from Dani Carvajal, Luka Modric and Lucas Vazquez to give Jesse Lingard the simplest of finishes at the back post.

Casemiro levelled from the penalty spot after Victor Lindelof could



only stop a rampaging Theo Hernandez by crashing into him before the Brazilian missed the decisive penalty in a poor shoot-out.

United remain unbeaten in the four matches they have played on their tour of the United States after holding off Madrid in searing temperatures, while the first

pre-season match for Zinedine Zidane's men ended in defeat.

The clubs will soon clash again as Madrid face United in the UEFA Super Cup in Skopje next month.

Lingard was one of two players retained from the United team that beat Manchester City 2-0 on Thursday and

he had the first attempt with a shot Keylor Navas had to beat away.

In the stifling Santa Clara heat, the game was played at little more than walking pace, and Lingard bent a 20-yard effort narrowly wide after 40 minutes with Navas well beaten as both teams continued to struggle for attacking momentum at

Levi's Stadium.

But in the first minute of stoppage time, a moment of Martial mag-

ic provided the opener.

Brilliant skill from the Frenchman saw him cut inside off the left and evade three Madrid defenders before pulling back a precise low cross that Lingard tapped in from close range.

Z i d a n e changed his entire XI at the interval while Mourinho made eight substitutions including introducing Romelu Lukaku and Paul Pogba, with Ander Herrera forced off through injury after just five minutes of the second half.

Madrid were handed a glorious chance to level the scores after 68 minutes when a dreadful Lindelof

challenge on Hernandez resulted in a penalty.

Casemiro stepped up to smash the spot-kick past De Gea and more penalties were required to find a winner with neither side making a breakthrough after Marouane Fellaini wasted a golden chance with seven minutes to play.

Martial blazed the first kick well over the crossbar before De Gea saved from Kovacic and Kiko Casilla denied Scott McTominay.

De Gea's save from Oscar allowed Henrikh Mkhitaryan to nudge United ahead but Madrid responded through Luis-mi Quezada before Lindelof hit his kick straight at Casilla and Hernandez scuffed wide.

Daley Blind converted his kick to pile the pressure on Casemiro, with the Brazilian thudding his effort against the bar to continue United's fine run in pre-season.

[Pic: Puran Tamang]

## Delhi Dynamos bolster squad, add 15 new players

**NEW DELHI, JUL 24 (PTI):** Delhi Dynamos have reinforced their squad for the Indian Super League Season 4 with a mixture of both youth and experience in the recently held draft.

The side added 15 new players to their ranks with the most notable ones being defender Pritam Kotal, goalkeeper Albino Gomes and forward Romeo Fernandes.

Having decided to not retain any players from the previous season, Aizawl custodian Albino Gomes was Dynamos's first choice in the draft. The 23-year old played a key part in the north-eastern side's historic triumph in the recently concluded season of the I-League.

Joining Albino in the back line, will be the promising 23-year old defender Pritam Kotal. The wingback spent the initial seasons of the ISL



with FC Pune City, before moving to Atletico de Kolkata where he was a vital cog in the side's Championship winning team.

Kotal has also represented Mohun Bagan in the I-League and has been one of the mainstays in the Indian national football team.

Up front, the GMS owned Delhi franchisee have added the pacy and skillful winger Romeo Fernandes. The 25-year old has spent the last three ISL seasons with FC Goa and his impressive performances saw him earn a loan deal with

Brazilian side Atletico Paranaense.

Joining Romeo up front will be Seityasen Singh who was previously plying his trade with NorthEast United. The 25-year old made six appearances for the Highlanders last season and found the back of the net on two occasions.

Winner of the 2015 edition of the ISL, Sena Ralte will also be representing the Dynamos this season, alongside the experienced Pratik Chowdhury and Munmun Lugun who rejoins the team after a gap of three years.

# Paradise Lost: Indian eves stumble at the finishing line

**LONDON, JUL 23 (PTI):** The Indian women's cricket team let slip a historic title triumph with nerves getting the better of it in a tense summit clash against England, leaving Mithali Raj's giant-slaying side with the runners-up tag for a second time in the ICC World Cup, here today.

It was an anti-climactic result for India since they were well on course for a memorable triumph, sitting pretty at 191 for three in 42.5 before a batting collapse saw them bowled out for 219 in 48.4 overs.

Needing just 38 runs off 43 balls, the Indian lower middle order committed harakiri losing seven wickets for 28 runs in 6.5 overs.

Opener Punam Raut (86) and Harmanpreet Kaur's (51) steady half centuries had set the platform but once they departed it was far from a smooth ride as England's consistent strikes turned it into a cliff-hanger.

Veda Krishnamurthy (35 off 34 balls), Sushma Verma's (0) and Jhulan Goswami (0) were dismissed in space of nine balls.

Krishnamurthy had raised hopes with a cameo but her sloppy shot selection



off Anya Shrubsole in the 45th over changed the script as it exposed the tailenders to a pressure situation which they could not cope with.

Nevertheless, Indian women team emerged as a force in world cricket with some inspiring performances such as Harmanpreet Kaur's fearless strokeplay.

However, it was one last chance for captain Mithali Raj and veteran Jhulan Goswami to have a World title in their

cupboards. India were making their second appearance in a World Cup final. They lost their previous final, against Australia in Centurion, by 98 runs in 2005.

A proven performer for far too long, Jhulan delivered with three wickets in the most widely watched game in the history of women's cricket as India restricted the hosts to 228 for seven.

Smriti Mandhana (0) must have been desperate to break

her run-less streak but a four-ball duck ended her campaign in the tournament as Anya Shrubsole crashed through her defence in the second over of the Indian innings.

Mithali Raj (17 off 31) and Punam Raut added 38 runs for the second wicket before the captain trudged back to pavilion following a lazy run out. Surprisingly, Raj gave up half way after Raut called her for a run.

India were steady, going

little under four an over, but England were fielding well to ensure there were no freebies.

Harmanpreet came to the crease with a bag of burden on her shoulder and batted with maturity.

In company of Raut, she kept the scoreboard ticking and twice lofted left-arm spinner Alex Hartley over the ropes, signaling that things were very much under control.

India reached 100 in the 27th over and Raut rasied her half-century with a single off Shrubsole. Harmanpreet too got to the milestone soon when she glanced Brunt to fine leg.

With two batswomen going about their business untroubled, India had a firm control over the proceedings. But England got exactly what India did not want to lose at that time: Harmanpreet's wicket.

The Moga girl swept Hartley straight to Beaumont at deep square leg when even England had not expected a wicket and that too of the most dangerous batter in Indian line-up.

She did not set the field on fire like the way she batted against Australia but it

was a significant knock, although it did not prove to be enough in the end.

Earlier, the coin landed in the opponents' favour at the toss was hardly a deterrent as India went about the task in a professional manner.

Leading the show was the redoubtable Goswami, who scythed through the English middle-order.

The highlight of the lanky Bengal's outing was the back-to-back dismissals of Sarah Taylor and Fran Wilson, which pegged England back.

Taylor is a legend of the women's game and Sciver entered the marquee match on the back of two centuries, and Jhulan had them caught behind and trapped in front of the wicket.

In what could be her last match, Taylor walked off to an ovation from the almost sell-out Lord's crowd after scoring 45 off 62 balls. The veteran English batswoman, surprisingly, could not hit a boundary in her innings.

The in-from Sciver struck 51 off 68 balls, hitting five boundaries in the process, before her recovery act was cut short by Jhulan in the first ball of the 38th over.

A former ICC Player of the Year, Jhulan finished her spell with impressive figures of 3/23 in the allotted 10 overs, which included three maidens.

The end of Jhulan's spell proved to be a boon for England, who rode on Katherine Brunt's 42-ball 34 and Jenny Gunn's 25 off 38 balls towards the end to sign off with a respectable total.

After Jhulan, leg-spinner Poonam Yadav was the most impressive bowler, finishing with two 2/36 in her quota of 10 overs.

England were off to a decent start with openers Lauren Winfield (24) and Tammy Beaumont (23) putting on 47 runs in a little over 11 overs. Rajeshwari Gayakwad gave the spirited visitors their first breakthrough when she removed Winfield.

Yadav dismissed the other opener and skipper Knight in a span of two overs to leave England in a spot of bother at 63 for three in the 17th over.

Taylor and Sciver steadied the ship with a partnership before spearhead Jhulan returned and removed Sciver.

The hosts then got some useful runs from the willows of Brunt and Gunn.





Israel strikes Gaza after missile across border: army

**JERUSALEM, JUL 24 (AFP):** Israel struck a position of Islamist group Hamas in Gaza today, the army said, hours after a missile was fired across the border from the Palestinian enclave.

"An (Israeli) tank targeted a post belonging to the Hamas terror organisation in the southern Gaza Strip" in the early hours of the morning, the army said in a statement.

A Hamas security source told AFP on condition of anonymity that five strikes hit an observation post of the group's military wing near Khan Yunis in southern Gaza.

The source said separate strikes hit farming land in central Gaza, with no injuries reported in either incident.

The Israeli strike came hours after a "projectile fired from the Gaza Strip" hit an open area inside Israel without causing any injuries, the army said.

Israel and Hamas, who run Gaza, have fought three wars since 2008.

Since the last one in 2014, a fragile ceasefire has been observed along the largely closed border.

Missiles and rockets are periodically fired at Israel, generally by hard-line Islamist groups opposed to Hamas.

But Israel holds Hamas responsible for all rocket fire from Gaza regardless of who carried it out, and usually retaliates within hours.

How wildfires could radically change forests..'

**Contd from pg04**

more fire in Canada, and that will bring changes to the land and to the quality of our air and water. Some of the changes will pose great challenges for people, others may create new opportunities.

One thing is certain: Heading into our new climate reality, fire management needs to adapt to the future years of fire in Canada. The dynamics of fire itself may change. Fuels that were too wet to burn in the past 50 years may no longer be considered fire breaks. The resources we used to protect from fire may need to change. Should we try to protect deep stores of carbon in peatlands and permafrost forests from burning? Is this even possible given the tools available to firefighters?

We need to work together to create new

Will safeguard our security interests at 'any cost': China

**BEIJING, JUL 24 (PTI):** China said today that it will safeguard its security interests at "any cost" as its sovereignty was "indomitable", amid a standoff with India in the Sikkim sector.

Chinese Defence Ministry spokesman Wu Qian made this assertion ahead of this week's National Security Advisors' (NSA) talks to resolve the standoff.

Maintaining China's hardline stance on the issue, Wu told a media briefing that the willingness and resolve of China to defend its sovereignty was "indomitable".

"China will safeguard its security interests at any cost. India should not leave things to luck and not harbour any unrealistic illusions," he said ahead of the 90th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

Commenting on the over a month-long military standoff between the troops of the two countries at Doklam area in the Sikkim section, Wu urged India to "correct its mistake".

Stating that the PLA has tak-



en emergency measures in the region and continues to increase focused deployments and drills, he said, "We strongly urge India to take practical steps to correct its mistake, cease provocations, and meet China halfway in jointly safeguarding the border region's peace and tranquillity."

His comments came as NSA Ajit Doval is set to travel to Beijing this week to attend the BRICS NSAs meeting scheduled to be held from July 27-28 during which he is expected to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi. Both Doval and Yang are Special Representatives of the two countries in the boundary talks.

Chinese officials say while there may not be a formal meeting between the two officials, keeping with Beijing's public position that no talks will be held without India withdrawing troops, they could hold discussions on the sidelines to end the deadlock.

Last week, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj told

Rajya Sabha that China intends to unilaterally change the status of the tri-junction with Bhutan, which poses a challenge to India's security.

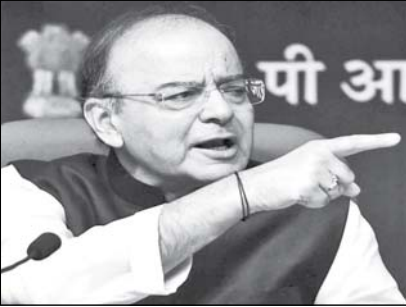
She had said there was a written agreement between India, China and Bhutan in 2012 that the three nations will together decide on the boundaries at the tri-junction point.

She also accused China of building roads using bulldozers and excavators, which has been protested by Bhutan in writing to China.

Swaraj also said that India was not "unreasonable" on the issue and all nations were with it.

The standoff between China and India in the Doklam area near the Bhutan tri-junction has dragged on for the past four weeks. It started after a Chinese Army's construction party attempted to build a road.

Doka La is the Indian name for the region which Bhutan recognises as Dokalam while China claims it as part of its Donglang region.



FM introduces bill to replace Banking Regulation Ordinance

**NEW DELHI, JUL 24 (PTI):** A bill to authorise the RBI to direct banking companies to resolve the problem of stressed assets was on Monday introduced in the Lok Sabha by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.

The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2017, seeks to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and replace the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017, which was promulgated in May this year.

The measure allows the RBI to initiate insolvency resolution process on specific stressed assets.

The RBI would also be empowered to issue other directions for resolution, appoint or approve for appointment, authorities or committees to advise the banking companies for stressed asset resolution.

Jaitley introduced the Bill amid protests in the House by opposition members protesting over the alleged incidents of lynching by cow vigilantes in different parts of the country.

Just before the bill was introduced, Trinamool Congress member Sougata Ray said he was opposed to the banking regulation ordinance and said it was a "desperate step by a desperate government".

Non-performing assets of banks have risen to over Rs 9 lakh crore and now RBI is being given power to refer the cases to Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board, he said.

"It is the same RBI which had not been able to count notes (since demonetisation). Giving such powers to RBI will detract it from macro-economic to micro-economic issues and render the bank management useless," Roy said.

He demanded that the bill be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee.

When Speaker Sumitra Mahajan asked Jaitley if he has to say anything on Roy's remarks, the Finance Minister said the issues does not relate to the introduction and would be dealt with when the bill comes up for a discussion.

Moving on fast-track, the RBI had in June identified 12 large loan defaulters who account for 25 per cent of the total bad loans in the banking sector.

Action under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code has already begun in certain cases, including Essar Steel, Bhushan Steel and Bhushan Power & Steel.

2 Indian pilgrims killed, 9 injured in accident in Nepal

**KATHMANDU, JUL 24 (PTI):** Two Indians have been killed and nine others injured when a tractor trailer carrying pilgrims overturned in Nepal's Terai region.

The tractor was ferrying 25 pilgrims to the Dudheshwar Mahadev Temple in Parsa district when it turned turtle, killing two persons and injuring nine others around midnight last night, police said today.

The deceased have been identified as Mahendra Paswan (50) and Puja Kumari (9), who hailed from Raxaul of West Champaran district in Bihar, the Hima-layan Times reported.

The injured are yet to be identified. Of the nine injured, one is said to be in critical condition.

Trump envoy heads to Israel for holy site crisis talks



**JERUSALEM, JUL 24 (AFP):** A top aide to US President Donald Trump was due in Israel today in a bid to ease tensions over new security measures at a highly sensitive Jerusalem holy site after a weekend of deadly violence.

Jason Greenblatt's visit comes after more than a week of tensions over the Haram al-Sharif mosque compound, known to Jews as the Temple Mount and central to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Israel installed metal detectors at entrances to the site, which includes Al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock, following an attack on July 14 that killed two policemen.

Palestinians view the move as Israel asserting further control over the site. They have refused to enter the compound in protest and have prayed in the streets outside.

Israeli authorities say the metal detectors are needed because the July 14 attackers smuggled guns into the site and emerged from it to shoot the officers.

Clashes have broken out during protests over the measures, leaving five Palestinians dead.

On Friday, a Palestinian broke into a home in a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and stabbed three Israelis to death.

An incident last night in Amman that, according to Israeli officials, saw a Jordanian attack an Israeli security guard with a screwdriver at the Israeli embassy compound raised further concerns, though it was not immediately clear if there was any link.

The security guard was said to have shot dead the Jordanian, while a second Jordanian there at the time was also killed.

Separately today, Israeli tank fire struck a Hamas post in the Gaza Strip after what was believed to be a rocket from the enclave landed in an open area in Israel.

With fears further unrest could follow, Greenblatt "departed for Israel last night to support efforts to reduce tensions in the region," a US official said on condition of anonymity.

The UN Security Council will also hold closed-door talks today about the spiralling violence after Egypt, France and Sweden sought a meeting to "urgently discuss how calls for de-escalation in Jerusalem can be supported".

Israeli officials have said they may be open to changing the measures at the holy site. Cameras have been installed at entrances in a possible indication of an alternative to the metal detectors.

"Since the start of the events, I have held a series of assessments with security elements including those in the field," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday.

"We are receiving from them an up-to-date picture of the situation, as well as recommendations for action, and we will decide accordingly."

Arab League chief Ahmed Abul Gheit on Sunday accused Israel of "playing with fire" with the new security measures, and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called them an insult to the Muslim world.

Pope Francis said he was following events with concern and urged dialogue and moderation.

Friday's main weekly Muslim prayers - which typically draw thousands to Al-Aqsa - brought the situation to a boil.

In anticipation of protests, Israel barred men under 50 from entering the Old City for prayers.

Clashes broke out between Israeli security forces and Palestinians around the Old City, in other parts of annexed east Jerusalem and in the occupied West Bank, leaving three Palestinians dead.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR AFFECTIONATE EVENING	
Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward	
Draw No:118 DrawDate on:24/07/17	
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 77E 07779	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 07779 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	
12448 18035 47786 58317 66379	
72415 73345 80071 92809 98308	
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	
06296 20092 32524 45446 67245	
70032 71509 71891 87081 93790	
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	
0423 1432 1921 2006 2412 3122 4194 4437 5009 5813	
5th Prize Rs.600/-	
0016 1028 1098 2638 3060 4350 5081 6007 8124 9282	
6th Prize Rs.250/-	
0076 0082 0123 0290 0308 0433 0585 0620 0631 0666	
0712 0762 0808 0811 0884 1031 1070 1072 1408 1502	
1532 1547 1574 1611 1662 1716 1972 2095 2353 2417	
2436 2479 2492 2566 2618 2789 2857 2915 3006 3474	
3512 3552 3611 3686 3690 3764 3811 3909 4301 4388	
4395 4552 4590 4600 4691 4729 4843 4845 4923 4947	
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7130 7145 7312 7369 7725 7735 7830 7866 8023 8027	
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9515 9626 9705 9741 9851 9901 9922 9959 9975 9990	
Issued by:	
The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland	
For Result, Please Visit : www.nagalandlotteries.com	
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE	

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR LUCK	
Draw No:54 DrawDate on:24/07/17	
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 71K 52396	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 52396 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	
08100 08971 11899 33001 37586	
52044 61419 64678 77829 87682	
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	
01920 08873 13169 21977 26898	
36841 46796 78052 84664 92299	
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	
1583 3127 7194 7233 7594 8214 8956 9310 9787 9900	
5th Prize Rs.600/-	
0059 2209 2750 4259 4870 4891 6777 7045 9570 9574	
6th Prize Rs.250/-	
0086 0276 0822 0825 0859 0917 1073 1168 1333 1668	
1703 1978 2020 2119 2193 2315 2368 2445 2620 2628	
2862 2939 2950 2953 3220 3226 3241 3269 3509 3815	
4064 4084 4266 4312 4325 4432 4486 4492 4614 4690	
4822 4863 4931 4975 4977 5052 5296 5438 5700 5856	
5972 6187 6234 6239 6442 6446 6562 6578 6583 6625	
6787 6835 7003 7010 7050 7162 7251 7281 7394 7414	
7472 7541 7597 7713 7724 7907 7943 8070 8160 8199	
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The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok	
please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com	

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES	
DEAR PARROT MORNING	
Draw No:50 DrawDate on:24/07/17	
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 99D 47472	
(Including Super Prize Amt)	
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 47472 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	
05018 30236 36436 42272 52128	
55408 57898 66080 67455 70798	
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	
05472 33923 45606 50266 57408	
65669 81238 83222 85401 94314	
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	
0092 0313 0441 2368 3050 5839 6039 6070 6349 6556	
5th Prize Rs.600/-	
0158 0975 2240 2476 3856 5074 5677 6279 6864 8798	
6th Prize Rs.250/-	
0274 0283 0493 0543 0977 1031 1266 1302 1384 1388	
1689 2018 2064 2077 2157 2212 2281 2782 2925 3093	
3102 3115 3225 3289 3370 3424 3425 3572 3710 3727	
3785 3982 3986 4020 4088 4188 4304 4311 4749 4770	
5126 5152 5190 5241 5360 5501 5601 5705 5929 6009	
6015 6077 6102 6145 6282 6414 6466 6559 6580 6585	
6589 6704 6752 6897 7036 7056 7118 7164 7229 7351	
7707 7790 7809 7987 8056 8078 8210 8238 8278 8367	
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The Director, Mizoram State Lotteries,	
For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com	

[the writer is Associate professor, Integrative biology, University of Guelph]



# Jagga Jasoos continues its struggle at the box office

Jagga Jasoos has finally managed to make Rs 50 crore and more at the box office. Ranbir Kapoor's first production has been a total disaster. No wonder he has vowed never to produce again. Jagga Jasoos has always been a risky proposition and the continuous delay only ruined its chances at the box office. Those who have watched it have raved about the treatment and cutesy moments in the film. In fact, many have even said great things about Katrina Kaif who never gets critics' appreciation in terms of histrionics. But all that was not enough to give Jagga Jasoos the push at the box office. The film has in two weekends have only managed to earn Rs 53.38 crore.

The movie has dragged its way to the Rs 50 crore mark which is sad because the film was expected to do that in the first weekend itself. It couldn't even make that much in its first week which proves that the film just failed to make a mark with the audience.

The film might just make Rs 60-



80 crore in its lifetime with the way it is working. But interestingly, a film which showed no signs of improvement since Monday has managed to stay put till today.

Now as is customary, everyone

is busy blaming one another for the debacle and the victim here is Anurag Basu. First Ranbir Kapoor called him irresponsible as with him, nothing is in his control. Later Rishi Kapoor too slammed him for the same. But we

wonder why blame it on one person. Isn't filmmaking a team job?

## CHRISTOPHER NOLAN'S WAR DRAMA RAKES IN RS 11.90 CRORE

Dunkirk had garnered a collection of Rs 4 crore on Saturday, which bring the weekend total around Rs 11 crore, which is pretty good.

A Christopher Nolan movie making big bucks at the Indian box office doesn't come as a surprise. Earlier, movies like The Dark Knight, Inception, The Dark Knight Rises, Interstellar have had a mighty run in the Indian market. Now, Dunkirk is repeating history. The war drama released worldwide last Friday, and has received critical acclaim with many calling it the best war drama ever made. Indian audience and critics, too, were overwhelmed by the movie

and its enigma.

The movie opened to a collection of over Rs 3.60 crore, and on Sunday the daily collection only increased. Dunkirk was able to rake in Rs 4.30 crore over the Sunday, as per a report carried by KoiMoi.

Also, looking at the fact that it is competing against two Bollywood movies – Tiger Shroff's Munna Michael and the much controversial, Lipstick Under My Burkha – it is quite commendable that Dunkirk is sailing strong. With a great word-of-mouth,

the movie is only going to get stronger. Also Read: Dunkirk movie review: Christopher Nolan's nerve-racking war drama is definitely the best blockbuster of 2017.

Featuring actors like Tom Hardy, Mark Rylance, Cillian Murphy, Kenneth Branagh and One Direction star, Harry Styles, the film revolves on the British evacuation of Allied soldiers from the beaches and harbour of the French city of Dunkirk during World War II in 1940. The film is told through the eyes of three soldiers.

## Shacking up!

Tristan Thompson is so 'crazy' about Khloe Kardashian that he wants to rent a love nest specifically for romantic sleepovers.

Khloe Kardashian, 32, and Tristan Thompson, 27, are about to take a BIG step in their relationship! The couple, who were recently spotted house hunting, have decided to temporarily live together — just to test the waters before diving in head first.

"They're not planning on buying a house together anytime soon, but Tristan is looking to rent a place in LA. He needs somewhere to stay when he's not playing and training. Even though he's crazy about Khloe, he still really likes his own space and décor," sources inform.

Living together is arguably more of a commitment than getting married. You have to agree on SO.MANY.THINGS. Who gets TV time? Who gets to shower first before work? Who has the better mattress? It's overwhelming...but worth it when you're in love.



"Khloe is staying with Tristan almost every night anyway so why not find a mutual place?" the source continues. "They are super serious and even trying for a baby. He definitely sees a future with her." Since the couple are reportedly in the baby-making business, it makes sense that they'd want a family-friendly home with extra space for a kid's room.

In fact, the Good American designer is already thinking of what their children might look like!

Khloe has always wanted to start a family, even in her previous romance

with Lamar Odom. She dealt with fertility issues years ago but was seeing a specialist for help and reportedly looked into IVF treatment.

## And the award for best boyfriend goes to...

The Weeknd! He literally flew half-way around the world from Paris to Los Angeles to spoil Selena Gomez with a romantic post-birthday brunch.

Haters will say he's a day late, but The Weeknd, 27, honestly outdid himself to make girlfriend Selena Gomez happy. The "Fetish" singer, who turned 25 on July 22, was treated to a romantic post-birthday brunch in Los Angeles.

For their date, the "Starboy" crooner kept it casual in a black and white Puma sweatshirt with sneakers and a baseball cap. Selena mimicked his laid-back style in baggy white pants and a simple tank top with her hair tied up in a ponytail. The Weeknd had just returned him his



trip to Paris where he performed at the Lollapalooza music festival, so we can't blame the couple for keeping their outing relaxed and low-key.

Now that The Weeknd is back in LA, he's ready to make up for lost time since he wasn't in town for Selena's actual birthday. Of course he still find a way to make her feel special, even while being thousands of miles apart.

But despite the long distance, the brunette beauty still had a total blast on her special day! She celebrated with some of her closest non-famous friends in the comfort of her own kitchen, where she was showered with gifts, balloons, and a delicious birthday cake with candles. As Selena made her birthday wish, her BFFs took pictures and recorded videos that she's just dying to show The Weeknd over dinner!



**BROMANCE!** Actors Misha Collins (L) and Jensen Ackles at the "Supernatural" panel during Comic-Con International 2017 at San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California.



## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

### 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY

#### WORLD HISTORY

**1587:** Japanese shogun Toyotomi Hideyoshi banned Christianity in Japan and ordered all Christians to leave.

**1593:** France's King Henry IV converted from Protestantism to Roman Catholicism.

**1799:** On his way back from Syria, Napoleon Bonaparte defeated the Ottomans at Aboukir, Egypt.

**1814:** British and American forces fought each other to a standoff at Lundy's Lane (Niagara Falls), Canada, in some of the fiercest fighting in the War of 1812.

**1830:** King Charles X of France signed the July Ordinances, also known as "The Ordinances of Saint-Cloud". These, among other steps, suspended the liberty of the press, dissolved the newly elected Chamber of Deputies and excluded the commercial middle-class from future elections.

**1943:** Benito Mussolini was dismissed as premier of Italy by King Victor Emmanuel III and

placed under arrest. Mussolini was later rescued by the Nazis and re-asserted his authority.

#### INDIAN HISTORY

**1929:** Somnath Chatterjee, former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, was born in Tezpur Assam.

**1997:** K.R. Narayanan was sworn in as the tenth President of India becoming the first Dalit to hold the prestigious office. Since 1997, all the succeeding Presidents of India have been sworn in on 25th of July. The President of India is the common head of all independent constitutional entities.

**2001:** Phoolan Devi, popularly known as "Bandit Queen", was shot dead by three masked gunmen outside of her Delhi bungalow. Phoolan Devi was the sitting member of parliament for Mirzapur when she was assassinated.

## LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"JUST ONCE, I'D LIKE TO TEST THE OLD ADAGE 'MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS.'"

## ARCTIC CIRCLE - HALLATT



## BABY BLUES - KIRKMAN & SCOTT



**ARIES:** The tension in the air might be what you need in order to become more aware of subconscious issues that affect your behavior, Aries. There's a great deal that you need to get off your chest. The more honest you can be about the pain people have caused you, the more love will flow in the future. Open the communication channels.

**TAURUS:** Stop being an enabler to someone you care about, Taurus. You may let someone continue a dangerous addictive behavior simply because you want to avoid a confrontation. Realize that this behavior is doing neither of you any good. The more you continue to perpetrate the lie, the more it will

hurt all parties involved. Be open and honest with your concerns.

**GEMINI:** You may have some issues with food, Gemini. Maybe your sense of self-worth isn't at its highest, and you're trying to make up for this by sabotaging your relationship with your body. Food is healthy nourishment that you need in order to survive. Your body deserves respect, and you need to give it the proper fuel it needs to be healthy.

**CANCER:** If there's an issue with your partner that needs airing, this is a good time to do it, Cancer. Don't hold back just to maintain the equilibrium in the relationship. Don't sacrifice your peace of mind

just to keep from rocking the boat. Refusing to face reality just to keep up an easy facade isn't doing anyone a bit of good. Be totally honest about yourself, your feelings, and other people.

**LEO:** The intensity of the day may bring unexpected opposition, Leo. Whether it's verbalized or not, the confrontations are quite real. Don't underestimate a loved one's emotions. Stand up to these issues and be realistic about their solutions. No one expects you to have all the answers, so don't pretend to. We're all human and we all make mistakes.

**VIRGO:** Give your loved ones the attention they need today, Virgo.

Don't let another day go by without saying you love them. Life is short and getting shorter with each passing day. Be confrontational about a serious issue that needs addressing. You're responsible for your feelings. Don't play the victim. You'll only experience more pain and resentment later.

**LIBRA:** Don't run away from the tension today, Libra. Any emotional stress you feel will be compounded if it isn't dealt with right away. Be in the moment while the moment is here. The more you take the present, the less you will regret in the future. Clear up any sticky situation that arises and move forward. People may not understand

your needs and concerns until you clearly verbalize them.

**SCORPIO:** Stop hiding behind your intellectual barrier, Scorpio. Playing games will get you nowhere. True strength is standing up and demonstrating that you can say what you feel in any situation, especially regarding a close loved one. If you feel the need to say something, say it. Don't wait until the situation escalates to an unhealthy argument before you finally get your feelings out.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Stop trying to feel everyone else's emotions and focus on yours, Sagittarius. Being empathetic is certainly laudable, but at some point you need to face

the music and look in the mirror. Make a clear distinction between your needs and those of others. Express your feelings. Ask for help if you need it. Other people aren't mind readers. They probably have no idea what you're feeling.

**CAPRICORN:** It may seem like neither side of the bed is the right side to wake up on today, Capricorn. The only solution may be to just go back to dreamland if you can. If you can't, focus on your heart, because it's trying to tell you it needs some attention. Emotions may be running high, so be careful how you treat yourself and others.

**AQUARIUS:** You may feel like you're being double-crossed by a

loved one today, Aquarius. Maybe your words are being used against you in such a way that makes you look like the bad guy. When it comes to making a rebuttal on your behalf, let the other person know that you're confronting them about their behavior and not their person.

**PISCES:** You may say one thing one minute and the opposite the next, Pisces. Most of the time you jump from one issue to the next with no hassle, but today people probably will call you on it. Think about what you mean before you say it. Don't do all your thinking aloud so others can hear. Your continuous thought process might be mistaken for your final analysis.