

Summit TIMES

Vol 02 | Issue 156 | Gangtok | Friday | 16 June 2017

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

Arson, arrests and a andolan in Kalimpong

**SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG, 15 JUN:**

Three incidents of arson, two which ended in the razing of public property and a third which was reportedly detected and stopped in time, were reported here today as the stand-off between the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha and the State Government escalated across the hills.

Suspected Morcha supporters set the police out-post at Pedong on fire and also reduced a facility at the Sericulture



institute here to ashes.

As per police officials stationed here, a group also attempted arson at the Hill Top Tourist Lodge here, which is under the West Bengal

Tourism Department, but were thwarted before they could cause any damage. Barun Bhujel, the councillor representing ward number 16 in Kalimpong municipality,

was arrested from the spot, police inform.

Meanwhile, as word spread of the police raid on GJM chief Bimal Gurung's residence and party office, a massive rally was taken out by GJM supporters here today. Following the call for an indefinite bandh, all shops and schools here also downed shutters at around 11:30 a.m.

The Kalimpong District Magistrate, briefing media persons later in the evening, said that the situation was under con-

trol and that adequate police bandobast was in place to avoid any untoward incidents.

He further appealed against disrupting travel, pointing out that this was the time that students will be moving out for college admissions and should not be held up because of the situation here.

Meanwhile, six Morcha supporters had been arrested through the day till the filing of this report. They were allegedly picked up while trying to set fire to the Hill Top Lodge.

Police raids GJM office, party upgrades bandh to general strike category

**SUMMIT REPORT
DARJEELING, 15 JUN:**

Violence remained part of the Darjeeling situation today, and following a police raid on the GJM chief's home and the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha party office at Patleybush, the bandh which had been limited to government offices and banks thus far, was today bumped up to a full-fledged general strike. Clashes between police and GJM party workers also intensified today.

A police contingent along with the CRPF led by police top brass arrived at Patleybush, 6 km from Darjeeling town, this morning. The contingent was led by ADGs Siddhinath Gupta and Javed Shammim along with the Darjeeling SP, Akhilesh Chaturvedi.

The police entered the party office and reportedly recovered arrows, a cross-bow, firecrackers, sling shots, khukuris, axes, binocular and radio sets, improvised arms

along with cash.

"We had information that Morcha leaders and supporters were gathering here, hence we had come for raids. From here we managed to recover these modified bows and arrows along with other items," stated the SP.

This cache is being scoffed at by all as being too minuscule and obviously ineffectual for anyone planning a violent confrontation. The raid however angered GJM
turn to pg05

Petrol price cut by Rs 1.12 a litre, diesel by Rs 1.24/litre

NEW DELHI, JUN 15 (PTI): Petrol price was today cut by Rs 1.12 per litre and diesel by Rs 1.24 per litre, the last of the fortnightly revisions after which daily correction in rates in step with cost will be implemented.

From tomorrow, petrol and diesel rates will be revised in sync with any movement in international oil rates. Rates will change at 6 am everyday depending on movement in cost on the previous day.

Currently, prices are revised on 1st and 16th of every month based on the fortnightly average of international oil price and the foreign exchange rate.

The last of such revision was announced today when petrol price was reduced by Rs 1.12 per litre, excluding state levies (VAT), and diesel by Rs 1.24 a litre, said Indian Oil Corp, the nation's largest fuel retailer. Actual reduction would be higher after taking into account local sales tax or VAT.

Petrol will cost Rs 65.48 a litre in Delhi from tomorrow as against Rs 66.91 per litre currently. A litre of diesel will cost Rs 54.49 as compared to Rs 55.94 at present.

IOC said daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel on pilot basis was implemented in Chandigarh, Jamshedpur, Puducherry District, Udaipur and Visakhapatnam from May 1.

"On the same lines, IOC intends to start revising retail selling prices of petrol and diesel across the country on a daily basis with effect from June 16. The prices declared on a daily basis shall be applicable from 6 AM to 6 AM the next day," IOC said in a statement.

The reduction in rate announced today comes on the back of Rs 1.23 a litre hike in petrol rates on June 1 and Rs 0.89 a litre in diesel price.

Fortnight long Paryavaran Mahotsa kicks off in Gangtok



GANGTOK, 15 JUN [IPR]: The fifth phase of the environmental festival unique to the state of Sikkim, Paryavaran Mahotsa, was officially launched by Minister for Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department, TW Lepcha, through a flag off programme at MG Marg in the state capital this morning.

The flag off programme was attended by MLA Gangtok, Pinto Chopel Lepcha, Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Gangtok Municipal Corporation, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest-cum-Principal Secretary of FE&WMD, Dr Thomas Chandy, along with other officials and

field functionaries of the department.

Four utility trucks loaded with saplings of flowering plants and trees to be forwarded to the free seedling distribution booths at Zero Point, Sichey Forest Check Post, Chandmari Forest Check Post and the Check Post at Bojoghari were flagged off by the Minister and the esteemed guests.

It may also be mentioned that the Free Seedling Distribution Booth at Zero Point also doubles up as an Information Booth from where the public can get all the desired information on the Mahotsa and

Green Mission, the planting of saplings amongst other vital matters.

In a bid to promote cleanliness, segregated waste bins for installation at Ganesh Tok, Thakur Bari, Do-Drul Chorten and at the Plant Conservatory in Bulbulay were also released by the guests.

The programme also saw the felicitation of drivers of the utility vehicles and sanitation workers for their contributions.

Since 2013, this people's programme is being celebrated with renewed vigour from 15-30 Jun. The Mahotsa has acted as a holistic platform that

duly integrates the State Green Mission and the Ten Minutes to Earth which have now become the core of the Paryavaran Mahotsa.

The festival that sees mass participation is driven by the theme 'Each one, Plant one' and the focus for the year 2017 is avenue plantation wherein, saplings will be planted along the road sides, highways and pathways all over the state which will not only increase the aesthetic value of our urban surroundings, but will also go a long way in controlling soil erosion and bring about economic utilization of our natural treasures.



The Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Parliamentary Affairs, SS Ahluwalia, accompanied by GJM general secretary Roshan Giri, calling on the Union Home Minister, Rajnath Singh, in New Delhi on June 15, 2017. [pic: PIB]

GJM seeks central intervention in Darjeeling

NEW DELHI, JUN 15 (PTI): As its separatist campaign in the Darjeeling hills spiralled deeper into violence, the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha today sought central intervention to bring back peace in the district and "foil" the West Bengal government's "attempt" to make Bengali mandatory in schools.

GJM general secretary Roshan Giri and BJP's Darjeeling MP SS Ahluwalia met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and placed their demands before him.

"We have apprised the home minister of the prevailing situation in Darjeeling and the Mamata Banerjee government's attempts to impose Bengali in the district-based schools. We have urged him for immediate central intervention to bring back peace there," Giri told reporters after meeting Singh.

they will not participate in the June 19 tripartite meeting called by the Home Ministry to discuss issues related to the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration and his party would talk only about a separate state.

Giri said the West Bengal government is conspiring to suppress the democratic movement brutally by using force.

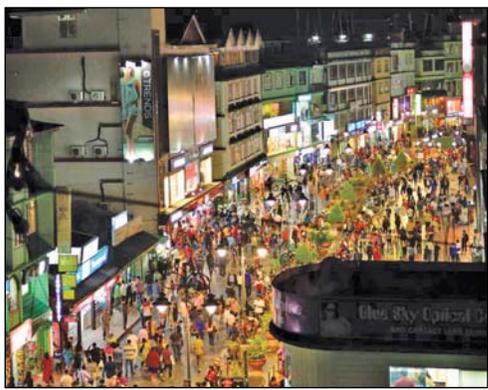
"We strongly condemn the raids on our offices in Darjeeling. Whatever the police found in our offices were planted by police themselves," he said.

Giri said both Bengali and Nepali, the languages spoken in Darjeeling, are in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution and hence, equal respect should be given to both.

"We will not accept the imposition of Bengali in Darjeeling," he said.

turn to pg05

Sudden rush of tourists in Sikkim as unrest spreads in Darjeeling



**NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 15 JUN:**

As unrest and violence engulfs districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong, Sikkim has seen a sudden rush of tourists even as this tourist season is nearing its end.

Rupali Singh, from Gujarat along with her family of four had planned for a holiday to Darjeeling. Following the unrest, they immediately canceled their tickets and booked for Gangtok.

"This was the best possible decision for us and availability of accommodation was also not a problem," she says.

Similarly, Santu Ghosh, a young biker riding from Kolkata to Darjeeling also took a different route after hearing the

news of the turmoil in Darjeeling.

"I am glad I came to Gangtok. Now Darjeeling is off the radar. I will now head towards North Sikkim," he shared.

The sudden flow of tourists has given the local taxi and tourist cabs a fresh lease of life.

Dawa Tamang, a taxi driver in the capital said, "I am getting a lot of clients now. This is not the peak season but the problem in the neighbourhood has indirectly affected us in a good way."

Another taxi driver, Kumar Rai, was of the opinion that tourists are arriving at the end of season not only due to the political crisis but also as a "compensation trip" by tour operators for those who missed their Darjeeling or Kalimpong

trips due to the ongoing crisis.

Since the tourist season in the state was already waning, the easy availability of accommodation in hotels and lodges has meant fresh bookings.

Hotelier, Tshering Bhatia, stated that bookings are full which usually is not the case at this time of the year.

Similarly, tour and travel operators are getting many queries after violence erupted in Darjeeling.

"This was quite sudden and to us a pleasant surprise," said Priya Mangar, a young tour operator in the capital.

Emerging media reports have also suggested a record footfall in the Bagdogra Airport with almost all tourists heading towards Sikkim.

Ramthang-Tanek wants alternate location for crematorium

WANGCHUK BHUTIA
MANGAN, 15 JUN:

The public and Panchayat of Ramthang-Tanek Gram Panchayat Unit of North Sikkim including Dikchu Naya Bazaar have expressed their grievances regarding the installation of a high transmission line tower on land that was used as a cremation site.

Teesta Valley Power Transmission Ltd has installed a high transmission line tower at the site located above Dikchu Naya Bazaar, North Sikkim. The high transmission line recently started supplying power from 1200MW Teesta Stage III from North Sikkim after commissioning of the said project.

This was the only crematorium site for the people of Lower Tanek and Dikchu Naya Bazaar.

"Injustice has been done to the people for they do not even have a crematorium for performing the last rites. This should not be done in the name of development," said Zilla member of Ramthang-Tanek GPU, Kado Lepcha.

"The TPTL should provide an alternate location for the crematorium as early as possible," added Ward Panchayat, Pala Lepcha.

It may be mentioned here that TPTL is a joint venture between Teesta Urja Ltd, a Government of Sikkim enterprise, and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd, a Government of India enterprise. TPTL has been envisaged as a subsidiary company of TUL and is executing the work of Inter State Transmission System in the states of Sikkim, West Bengal and Bihar.

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Mangan observes Paryavaran Mahotsav

SHERING WANGCHUK
MANGAN, 15 JUN:

Environmental festival of Sikkim, Paryavaran Mahotsav, which is observed from 15-30 Jun, is being organised by North Forest Division at Mangan in North Sikkim.

A weeklong programme on the theme 'Each one, Plant one' which will comprise of plantation drives, cleanliness drives and awareness campaigns started today which will be followed by State Green Mission 10 Minutes to Earth on 25 Jun.

As part of the programme, Adhyaksha-North, Anguli Lepcha, who attended the event as chief guest, flagged off a mass plantation and cleanliness



drive being conducted at the newly constructed

Pentok in North Sikkim. Also attending

the event were Chairman-Sikkim Nationalised Transport Department,

Pintso Namgyal Lepcha, District Collector-North, Karma R Bonpo, Senior Superintendent of Police-North, Shammi Rai, District Forest Officer [Territorial]-North, TN Bhutia, Assistant Conservator of Forest [Territorial]-North, PD Lachenpa, Forest Department officials and District Administrative officials, employees and members of Mangan based NGO Pentok Welfare Association.

The programme concluded with the distribution of saplings of different species of flowering and non-flowering plants through Sapling Booths under Forest Division to the public, various departments and schools of North District.



MLA chairs meeting on development projects at Salghari Zoom

GANGTOK, 15 JUN [IPR]: State Health Minister-cum-MLA of Salghari Zoom Constituency, Arjun Kumar Ghatani, chaired a coordination meeting on the ongoing developmental projects in his constituency at the conference hall of Rural Management & Development Department, today.

The meeting was attended by Secretary-RMDD, DR Nepal, Principal Chief Engineer, Shital Pradhan, departmental officials, representatives from Tourism Department, Zilla Panchayat-Zoom, Bhadre Bishwa, Panchayat President-Zoom GPU, Saraswati Rai, Panchayat

members and representatives from a Zoom-based NGO.

During the meeting, issues like development of Rock Garden, drinking water supply and construction of Panchayat Bhawan were discussed.

Secretary-RMDD, DR Nepal, proposed the welcome address and informed that in compliance with the Government directives, project of Rock Garden at Zoom and picnic spot at Chirbirey nearby Jorethang have already been handed over to Tourism Department.

Project at Majhigaon in Jorethang is undertaken by RMDD and the related work is being taken

up in consultation with the Tourism Department, he informed.

Minister Mr Ghatani urged the concerned department to initiate action for the completion of Rock Garden so that it becomes officially functional to benefit local people and the government as well.

He instructed Panchayats to submit a proposal to be passed by the Gram Sabha seeking new construction of Panchayat Bhawan at Zoom. He highlighted the tourism potential of Jorethang and further urged the department for early opening of FRO office at Ram-bang check-post.

He also requested RMDD to address all pending demands pertaining to infrastructure development, black topping of PMGSY road, water supply, etc. and to give priority to the public of Zoom, Gelling-Samsing and Mabong-Segang GPU in allotment of Chief Minister's Rural Housing Mission so that the socio-economic status of people can be improved.

Panchayats and public from Zoom expressed deep concern over delay in development of Rock Garden. They urged the department to carry out beautification of Rock Garden along with proper boundary fencing so that

existing property of Rock Garden can be protected.

Secretary-RMDD, Mr Nepal, also expressed his concern over the stalling of work at Rock Garden and suggested developing parking place and proper fencing of boundary at the earliest. He also suggested that a meeting with the Tourism Department be organized followed by a field inspection so that the concerned department can initiate action regarding the Rock Garden.

The department of RM&D assured to sanction construction of water harvesting tank in the area on priority basis in phase wise manner.



Phalaichadara JHS observes State Green Mission Day

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 15 JUN: Sikkim State Green Mission Day was observed today by Phalaichadara Junior High School, Rak-dong-Tintek GPU.

The programme, attended by teachers and senior students of Class VII and VIII, started with

a brief introduction of the day by RB Chhetri who is the coordinator of the Eco Club of the school.

It was followed by plantation of saplings at the school campus by five senior teachers of the school supported by other teachers and students, a press release informs.



13-yr-old scavenges to support family

YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 15 JUN:

Every day we produce tonnes of waste – sweet wrappers, plastic bags, banana peels, potato skins, egg shells – that all get dumped in the dustbin. Most of us give no second thought to where this garbage is going, let alone the people who come to whisk it out of our lives. For some of the people, collecting garbage has become a source of livelihood. Some of the children, who do not go to school, spend their day in the garbage dump, scanning garbage for items to sell. The garbage dump eventually becomes their playground.

Meet 13-year-old Ganga Hingmang from Golitar, Singtam who along with his sister ekes out a living going door to door between 08 a.m and 5 p.m to collect garbage looking for things to sell to buyers in Singtam Bazaar. Since his father's death in 2015, Ganga had to become the man of his family. He lives with his mother and 06-year-old sister at Golitar. His mother works as a dishwasher and earns Rs 1,200 per month which is not enough to support the family.

After studying till Class II at Singtam Senior Secondary School, Ganga had to drop out to help his mother earn and support the financial crisis of the family.

"I want to go to school but I have to look after my mother and my sister now," he says.

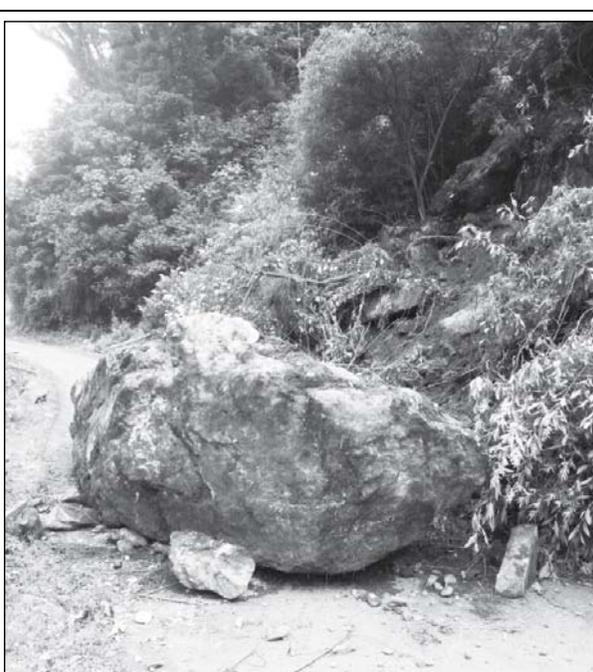


Paryavaran Mahotsav in South Sikkim

SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 15 JUN:

Paryavaran Mahotsav was marked with a massive plantation drive in South Sikkim. Forest department launched the festival with a plantation drive here at ITI Kamrang, South district. More than 700 saplings of trees, flowering and fruit bearing plants were planted at the ITI campus premises.



BOULDER BLOCKS SHIPGYER-CHUNGTHANG ROAD

MANGAN, 16 JUN: The Shipgyer-Chungthang axis was blocked near Theng Bhir today when a boulder slid onto the road this afternoon.

Commuters from Shipgyer, Saffo and Ramom are now travelling via the lower road via Theng which entails a 10km longer journey to reach Chungthang. Normal traffic is expected to resume by Friday evening, informs SDM Chungthang, Sonam Topgay Tashi.

This lower road too was blocked last week, it may be recalled and light vehicles were plying through this upper road to reach Chungthang.

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Gangtok on Friday, 16 June

Temp: 26°C / 18°C
Forecast: Mostly cloudy and not as warm with a shower or thunderstorm around.
Sunrise: 04:40 AM
Sunset: 06:32 PM

State Press Accreditation Committee meets

GANGTOK, 15 JUN [IPR]: The meeting of State Press Accreditation Committee [SPAC] for the year 2017-18 was held today at the office of the Special Secretary-IPR Department in Sochna Bhawan, Tadong.

The meeting was chaired by Special Secretary-IPR, Namrata Thapa, and was attended by members of the Committee namely Bijay Bantawa, Joseph Lepcha, Hema Sharma and DR Dulal. The IPR Department was represented by Under Secretary, Kiran K Thatal, and Senior Information Assistant, Raj K Sharma.

Among the issues discussed were issuance of fresh accreditation cards to credible journalists for the current financial year, scrutiny of the existing list of Accreditation Card holders, and issues concerning the overall welfare of the members of press and media in Sikkim.

The Committee Members also placed some suggestions for the overall development of media in the state. The scope for amending the Notification issued earlier was also discussed to make some additions in the number of Members in the SPAC to make it more representative and also to streamline the process of issuing Accreditation Cards to journalists.

After a fruitful meeting, a proposal to dissolve the present Committee was put forth and it was approved. An official intimation will be sent to the Members after which the SPAC will be dissolved.

It may be informed that the present Committee has completed its tenure. The process for nominating new members to the SPAC will be initiated by the Department of IPR at the earliest.

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Thakurbari Mandir construction to resume from 16 June

ARPAN PRADHAN GANGTOK, 15 JUN: "We want to gift the completed Thakurbari Mandir to the people of Gangtok on New Year 2018," said MLA-Gangtok, Pintsu Chopel Lepcha, who is also the Chairperson of Thakurbari Mandir Construction Committee.

On the resumption of the long pending construction work of the Mandir, a special puja was performed at the Mandir premises today.

Speaking to Summit-Times, Mr Lepcha said that the Committee and the new contractor aim to complete the construction work in the next eight months.

He informed that the state government has provided a sum of Rs 4.5 crore for the construction work and formed



a Mandir Construction Committee through a government notification.

"We are keen on re-starting the work and completing it within the new stipulated time and gift it

to the people of Gangtok," added Mr Lepcha.

Highlighting on the construction cost, the MLA said that the actual cost might increase as there is a huge increase in

the cost of raw materials but the state government has given its full assurance to help till the completion of the Thakurbari Temple.

"We will apprise the government regarding

the cost increase and again approach the government for further help and assistance," he added.

He has appealed to the general public to extend all possible support needed during the construction and requested not to create any kind of obstacle or disturbance so that the project is completed on time.

He also informed that the Committee is planning on making a ramp or a walking space for the elderly in the temple area and construction of wash rooms as well.

Mr Chopel has thanked Chief Minister Pawan Chamling for providing necessary help and financial assistance for the construction of the Thakurbari Mandir.

New contractor for the construction of Thak-

urbari Mandir, Kamlesh Kumar Agarwal, while speaking to Summit-Times, has said that if the required support is provided to his team, the project will be completed within the targeted time that is Feb 2018.

"We will work hard for the construction now as it has been already very late for the construction and a lot of time has been wasted. Now we will focus only on work, no more controversies and no more problems," he added.

He also said that since it is a religious matter, he is not looking at making any profit out of this work instead he will work on 'no profit no loss' basis. He added that the construction cost may go upto Rs 7 crore.

The construction work

of the Mandir will resume from Friday, it is informed.

It has also been informed that there will be a slight change in the Mandir's design as more than 75% of the construction has been completed so no more changes in design is possible.

The special puja today was also attended by Minister NK Subba, Mayor Shakti Singh Chaudhari, Chairperson GMC Asish Rai, general secretary of the Mandir Construction Committee BK Roka, other members of the construction committee, local people, members of the business community, members of the Mandir and Guruji were present.

It may be mentioned here that the construction work of the Thakurbari Mandir was initially started in the year 2002.

Sewage Treatment Plant inaugurated at Lower Sichey

GANGTOK, 15 JUN [IPR]: Minister for Water Security & PHE Department, Tulsi Devi Rai, inaugurated the 3.9 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant for Zone-IV of Gangtok Sewerage System at Lower Sichey in Gangtok today. The function was organized by the Engineering Cell of the Water Security and Public Health Department.

The function was attended by area MLA, DR Thapa, Parliamentary Secretary, Timothy W Basnet, Deputy Mayor-GMC, Lasey Doma, PCE-cum-Secretary, WS&PHE, Sonam Dadul Bhutia, along with senior officials of the department.

The Minister, in her address, congratulated the department for successfully completing the construction of the STP with the collective efforts of all the Divisional Engineers, Superintending Engineers, Assistant En-



gineers, Junior Engineers and all the officials.

Since the department has achieved 85% coverage of Zone IV, 15% left out area which has come up after the sanctioning of the scheme will also be looked after by the department, she added. She also asked the department to prepare proper uniform for

the fitters and labourers and to make proper use of machines during the duty hour.

She urged the local public to give suggestions and talk about the problems faced by them. Good service and quality work will be provided, she assured.

Meanwhile, Parliamentary Secretary, Mr

Basnet, congratulated the department and its

employees for constructing the STP.

Earlier, PCE-cum-Secretary, WS&PHE, Mr Bhutia, while providing the Technical Report, briefed about the 3.9 MLD STP for Zone-IV of Gangtok Sewerage System. He said that Zone IV is largest in area and also most densely inhabited area after Zone I.

The scheme of setting up of Sewerage System for Zone IV, Gangtok, Sikkim for Conservation of Rani Chu was sanctioned under National River Conservation Plan [NRCP] of National River Conservation Directorate

[NRCD], Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

The STP for Zone IV is located on the site of first micro hydel power station of Sikkim. 50 KW hydel power station commissioned on 27 May 1927 was the foundation of Power [Energy] sector in Sikkim.

The 3.9 Million Liters per day capacity Treatment Plant is based on Fluidized Aerobic Bio-Reactor [FAB] Technology, a patented technology of Ms Thermax Limited, Waste Water solution providing company based in Pune. The

Treatment Plant requires small footprint area and as such it is highly suitable for local prevailing conditions, he added.

The project had been sanctioned at a cost of Rs 7692.00 lakh in March 2010 with 90:10 funding pattern. The sewer network length is 43 KM. Design period for the sewer network is 30 years while the design period for the STP is 15 years. The project has achieved coverage of 85% of Zone IV.

Earlier, two field workers, HP Rai and AK Chettri, were felicitated by the department.

Governor Patil calls on Maharashtra Governor

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 15 JUN: Governor, Shrinivas Patil, today called on the Governor of Maharashtra, C Vidhyasagar Rao, at Raj Bhavan in Malabar Hills, Mumbai.

A press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan, Gangtok, informs that it was a courtesy call by the Governor who is on a two-day visit to Mumbai. He is scheduled to attend the 16th Sahyadri Navratna Awards organised by Doordarshan Mumbai on Thursday evening.



Mr Patil is being felicitated by Doordarshan Mumbai during the event.

During a brief meeting, Mr Patil invited the Governor of Maharashtra

to Sikkim and experience Sikkim's cleanliness, greenery and hospitality, complimented by its special status as the first Organic State in the country.

IMI Dr R.S. Tolia Award 2017: Call for Nominations Open

The Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI), a pan Himalayan civil society initiative working for sustainable development of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) and ensuring prosperity of the people in the region, has announced the Dr R.S. Tolia Award for 2017 in memory of its founding President Dr R.S. Tolia who passed away on 6th December 2016.

Dr R.S. Tolia, IAS (Retd.) was the former Chief Secretary of Uttarakhand. He also served as the first Information Commissioner of Uttarakhand. In addition to being the top administrator in the state, he was a staunch advocate for holistic mountain development that must be rooted in the mountains. Throughout his lifetime, Dr Tolia was committed to the cause of development of the Indian mountain systems and communities. His vision and commitment for the formation of a pan-Indian mountain movement not only unified diverse mountain states of India but also inspired others. In the spirit of unifying committed individuals and institutions for integrated action for the mountains of India, Dr Tolia conceptualised the idea of IMI, got like-minded people on board and led it from the front as its founding President. His deep understanding of the links among people, cultures, livelihoods and mountain environment influenced a generation of researchers, organizations and policymakers. He was a true mountain person and believed that there must be safe, sustainable and equitable mountain development.

IMI has instituted the Award for encouraging passionate individuals to carry forward the cause of integrated mountain development. The purpose of the award is to recognize and reward the exemplary work of individuals whose work has created an impact / has the potential to impact sustainable prosperity and well-being of the people of the Mountain states in India. In exceptional cases organizations will also be considered for the Award. The value of the Award is Rs. 1 lakh cash, citation and a medallion.

A jury with eminent persons working for social development in the country has been appointed to carry the selection process for the award.

The call for nomination is now open and applications will be accepted till 30 June 2017. The details and the nomination form can be viewed on the organisation's website: <http://inmi.in/get-involved/dr-r-s-tolia-award-2017/> Interested individuals/organisations can download the nomination form and send in their application along with a recent CV by 30th June 2017 to pd.inmi@inmi.in.

KUSTE SHEGU



The Kuste Shegu of our beloved mother Late SANGAY DOMA BHUTIA (Dokham Anyola) of Central Park, Namchi South Sikkim who left for heavenly abode on 30th April 2017 falls on 16th June 2017. All the relatives, friends and well wishes are requested to join us for offering prayers at our residence at Central Park, Namchi, South Sikkim. We would also take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all those who supported the family at the time of bereavement.

Palden Bhutia (son), Palchen Bhutia (grandson), Lezang Bhutia (grandson)
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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Violence Does Not Work

Our country is littered with examples to prove it

Violence, the lathicharge and tear-gassing and arson and stone-pelting kinds, serve very limited purposes. For one, they distract from the main issue and for another, they push chances of a resolution even further away by aggravating existing hostilities and mutual suspicions. Darjeeling is not new to this reality which is why the quickness with which it allows itself to be drawn back into it is confounding. The speed with which the latest situation in Darjeeling has been allowed to deteriorate is unfortunate because it allows for too many questions to be dodged, makes the evasion of accountability easier and pushes the movement for statehood to a model of 80's vintage which has only delivered diminishing returns for the people of the Hills.

What started as a protest against a shortsighted attempt at linguistic imperialism is now positioned as a violent resuscitation of the Gorkhaland demand. No real problems in the transition, especially since lobbying for a reality show contestant had snowballed into a movement which effected a regime change in the neighbouring hills not very long ago. But that evolution marinated at least through the duration of the TV show in question and could develop a plan, agendas and aim. The current situation in Darjeeling, even accepting that the aspiration for statehood is universal and consistent, is too situational and reflexive, and spontaneity is not necessarily the best approach when re-engaging with an issue which has remained unresolved, largely unaddressed and mischievously sidestepped. But that is where the situation is stuck at present. The louder discussions and shriller challenges will revolve around which side "attacked" first, who is being more obdurate, who is being more aggressive and whether a particular confrontation could have been avoided or not. Now, there will also be debates over what qualifies to be called a "weapon". These are but sideshows to the larger question of statehood. All of this might make for entertaining TV and excitable reporting, but do very little to further any cause - whether the State's or the people's, because, essentially, neither side has clearly spelled out what they are so upset and angry about. The people's desire for statehood is not new and neither is the WB Government's attitude towards it. So what explains the complete breakdown? The language imposition was a flashpoint, and the people challenged and stared it down. The state was ham-handed in engaging with the region on this count, but there is nothing new in that approach either since the WB CM and GJM chief speak only to their respective echo chambers any way.

Returning to the failure of violent confrontations, Darjeeling has experienced this when its aundolans delivered only a hill council and a territorial administration in the past when they were fighting for a State. The country is also littered with intransigent sides leveling allegations and lobbing projectiles at each other for decades on end. What could however work is politics, because it has invariably been political calculations which have led to confrontations being resolved and even states being carved out. Darjeeling finds itself well placed to leverage this position since it has given BJP an MP from its votes and has now grown as a potential thorn in Mamata's side for Delhi to twist and turn. Now that the demand has been raised, Darjeeling should use it to roll out the process towards statehood by demanding its pound of flesh for support extended in 2014. It has also remain wary against mechanizations which will want Darjeeling to remain on a boil so that a new front is opened against Kolkata and its energies sucked in here instead of getting directed towards Delhi. It is important for the violence to pause and the statehood deliberations to take off because violence, given its incendiary nature is difficult to control and could easily veer off on a tangent which does no one any good and derails the statehood demand. Proper, high-level negotiations for statehood will give Kolkata just as severe a headache if Darjeeling and Delhi can coordinate efforts better, and this really has to be the course that is taken. Negotiations will deliver a state, brickbats will serve up only dramatic visuals, confusion and delays.

WRITE US: Readers are invited to comment on, criticise, run down, even appreciate if they like something in this paper. Letters carrying abusive/indecorous language and personal attacks, except when against people responsible in this newspaper (who are fair game), will have to be ignored. Letters which carry forward a conversation or initiate a dialogue will command immediate attention and receive prominence. Mail us at: letters@summittimes.com

How world cities moving forward on climate change leave the US President behind

NANDAN SHARALAYA
theconversation.com

When US President Donald Trump announced that his country would be pulling out of the Paris agreement, the immediate reaction across the globe was one of despair, anger and helplessness.

The Paris agreement is widely seen as the last opportunity for the world to unite and limit the increase in global temperature to 2 degrees Celsius. How can this international agreement remain relevant when the world's second-largest polluter chooses to remain outside its ambit and is not willing to be held responsible?

This wasn't the first time that the United States has reneged on a climate deal. George W. Bush's government had refused to ratify the Kyoto Protocol (1997), which proved to be the death knell for the agreement and international cooperation at large. An entire decade was wasted with countries sparring over who was really responsible for the mess we found ourselves in, until Paris.

But 20 years is a long time, and between Kyoto and Paris, we find ourselves living in a completely different geopolitical and economic global framework.

The good news is that this time around, there might be reasons to not despair. Within the climate diplomacy framework, cities led by powerful mayors are effectively asserting themselves like nation-states and showing themselves willing to act collectively.

CITY COALITION FOR CLIMATE

Speaking at the press conference about the US withdrawal from the Paris agreement, President Trump declared that he was "elected to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris. Within minutes of his speech, the mayor of Pittsburgh issued a statement reaffirming the city's commitment to the Paris agreement.

He issued an executive order committing his city to the accord by continuing efforts to end the use of landfills, reduce energy consumption by half and develop a fossil fuel-free fleet of city vehicles.

Mayor Bill Peduto was not alone. All in all, 175 mayors (and counting) of the biggest cities across the country, cutting across party lines and representing 51 million Americans, reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris agreement.

On social media, #wearestillin quickly became viral while US mayors pledged their commitment to climate change on an eponymous website listing all supportive cities.

Since Trump's decision to pull out, US states have jumped in. On June 6, Hawaii enacted legislation in support of its Paris commitments. The same day, California independently signed an accord with Germany, with the aim of empowering local communities to combat climate change.

Mayors from around the world reacted, pledging their support for the Paris agreement, often adorning their cities' monuments with green lights.

POWERFUL, INDEPENDENT CITIES

This isn't the first time that cities have found themselves at the centre stage of international politics. In fact, historically, most global cities have preceded their respective nation-states by over 5,000 years. But by the late 19th century, when the concept of the Westphalian sovereign nation-state developed in modern international relations, and countries became the main actors on the diplomatic stage, the political clout of cities diminished.

Over the last decade, this has changed significantly. For starters, some cities have grown so big that by virtue of their economic might, they're now able to assert themselves independently. New York's GDP (US\$1.45 trillion) is larger than that of Spain (US\$1.1 trillion) or South Korea (US\$1.38 trillion).

São Paulo state in Brazil is wealthier than Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia combined, and Guangdong in China is richer than Russia or Mexico.

Most big cities in the world have also been able to organise themselves under a common international forum, which only further enhances



With or without the U.S., the world's going to move forward on climate change

their bargaining power. Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) or the Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) are a few such examples.

These hybrid and often complex networks have been particularly successful in fostering innovative modes of cooperation between the private sector and cities.

The private insurance industry is working with several cities across the world to identify and quantify risks as well as design mitigation strategies and post-disaster financing instruments. It's a win-win situation for both parties as the insurance industry helps develop cities' climate resilience and, in return, gains access to new markets.

CITY DIPLOMACY

Former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg is a strong proponent of this form of city diplomacy. He had once cheekily remarked:

"We're the level of government closest to the majority of the world's people. We're directly responsible for their well-being and their futures. So while nations talk, but too often drag their heels, cities act."

True to his word, within a few hours of President Trump's press conference, Bloomberg had managed to organise a coalition through the Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), which he chairs.

On June 2 2017, addressing a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron at the Élysée Palace, Bloomberg assured the international community that the US will meet its Paris commitment, and through a partnership among cities, states, and businesses, will seek to remain part of the Paris agreement.

He went a step further and pledged US\$15 million, the amount that the Bonn-based secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) stands to lose as a result of Washington's decision to pull out of the deal.

Accepting Bloomberg's proposal, Christina Figueres of the UNFCCC has even promised to evolve a method for cities to be able to independently declare their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), a responsibility earlier reserved only for countries in the Paris agreement.

City leaders have also been active members of the 2016-founded Global covenant of mayors for climate and energy, an international alliance of mayors grouping 7,450 cities across the world dedicated to fighting climate change.

President Trump's decision to pull out of the deal seems to have inspired action not just in American cities but also in the developing world.

THE COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Last week, India announced that it does not plan to build any new coal plants after 2022. It has also committed to generating 57% of its power through renewable sources by 2027, far exceeding its earlier target and three years before schedule.

Aided by a favourable market and falling technology costs, countries such as India and China are keen to assume global leadership.

Indian mayors are also particularly conscious of the financial cost of climate change. The 2015 floods that hit the southern state of Tamil Nadu and particularly the city of Chennai, caused a US\$3 billion loss to the Indian economy. Chennai is now seeking to learn resilience strategies from other Indian cities that have faced similar disasters and adapted successfully.

One of them is Surat, in Gujarat, on the west coast of India. The industrial, fast-growing town has been severely affected by climate change. In the last decade, Surat has experienced over 23 floods as well as an outbreak of plague in 1994.

But the town has made great strides towards resilience. From building early warning response systems, mapping communities vulnerable to flooding, setting up a system of evacuation shelters, securing the electricity grid, preventing vector-borne diseases and groundwater management programs, Surat has been able to drastically reduce the effects of climate change-induced disasters.

Globally, since 2000, climate change disasters are estimated to have cost a whopping US\$2.5 trillion. The case for clean energy, resilience and sustainability is increasingly an economic one rather than purely environmental.

CLIMATE IS CITIES' RESPONSIBILITY

Cities have an added incentive and responsibility to act before it's too late. Almost all of the world's cities are dealing with one or more of the harmful effects of climate change. After all, 90% of the world's urban areas are in proximity to coastal land, which puts most cities at risk of flooding due to rising sea levels. Cities also consume 2/3 of the world's energy and are responsible for over 70% of global CO₂ emissions.

It is critical that cities have plans in place to deal with climate change and its effects, develop resilient infrastructure and have contingency plans for disaster recovery.

Former US president Barack Obama had committed to reducing US greenhouse gas emissions 26% to 28% by 2025, from their 2005 levels.

If the enthusiasm of the mayors over the last few weeks is anything to go by, President Trump's decision to pull out of the Paris agreement only seems to have reinvigorated efforts, strengthened resolve and motivated local leadership to redouble efforts to tackle climate change. Some US mayors are even confident of bettering Obama's commitment.

If cities, states, businesses, and civil society are able to work together and tap into networks of other cities while maintaining the right kind of momentum, Trump pulling the US out of the Paris deal might just turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

[The writer is German Chancellor Fellow, WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management]

Are left-handed people more gifted than others? Our study suggests it may hold true for maths

GIOVANNI SALA & FERNAND GOBET

theconversation.com

The belief that there is a link between talent and left-handedness has a long history. Leonardo da Vinci was left-handed. So were Mark Twain, Mozart, Marie Curie, Nicola Tesla and Aristotle. It's no different today - former US president Barack Obama is a left-hander, as is business leader Bill Gates and footballer Lionel Messi.

But is it really true that left-handers are more likely to be geniuses? Let's take a look at the latest evidence - including our new study on handedness and mathematical ability.

It is estimated that between 10% and 13.5% of the population are not right-handed. While a few of these people are equally comfortable using either hand, the vast majority are left-handed.

Hand preference is a manifesta-

tion of brain function and is therefore related to cognition. Left-handers exhibit, on average, a more developed right brain hemisphere, which is specialised for processes such as spatial reasoning and the ability to rotate mental representations of objects.

Also, the corpus callosum - the bundle of nerve cells connecting the two brain hemispheres - tends to be larger in left-handers. This suggests that some left-handers have an enhanced connectivity between the two hemispheres and hence superior information processing. Why that is, however, is unclear. One theory argues that living in a world designed



for right-handers could be forcing left-handers to use both hands - thereby increasing connectivity.

This opens up the possibility that we could all achieve enhanced connectivity by training ourselves to use both hands.

These peculiarities may be the reason why left-handers seem to have an edge in several professions and arts. For example, they are over-represented among musicians, creative artists, architects and chess players. Needless to say, efficient information processing and superior spatial skills are essential in all these activities.

HANDEDNESS AND MATHEMATICS But what about the link between

left-handedness and mathematical skill? Unsurprisingly, the role played by handedness in mathematics has long been a matter of interest. More than 30 years ago, a seminal study claimed left-handedness to be a predictor of mathematical precociousness. The study found that the rate of left-handedness among students talented in mathematics was much greater than among the general population.

However, the idea that left-handedness is a predictor of superior intellectual ability has been challenged recently. Several scholars have claimed that left-handedness is not related to any advantage in cognitive skills, and may even exert detrimental effects on general cognitive function and, hence, academic achievement.

For example, one study discovered that left-handed children slightly under-performed in a series of developmental measures. Also, a recent review reported that left-handers ap-

turn to pg07

Tripartite meeting on GTA hangs in balance

NEW DELHI, JUN 15 (PTI): With fresh agitation rocking Darjeeling, the fate of a June 19 meeting to discuss nitty gritty of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) hangs in balance with the West Bengal government and the autonomous hill body yet to give their consent. The Centre has called the tripartite talks in which officials from the state government, the Union home ministry and the elected members of the GTA were to participate. However, in view of the fresh trouble erupting in the picturesque hill demanding

separate Gorkhaland state, the meeting may not take place at all. General secretary of the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), which rules the GTA, made it clear that they would not participate in the meeting. "We will talk only about a separate Gorkhaland state, nothing else," he said. A home ministry official said no communication has been received from the West Bengal government regarding participation in the meeting. "If the two parties do not come, there will be no meeting," the official said.

Govt contemplating to rewrite Nagaland Municipal Act : CM

KOHIMA, JUNE 15 (PTI): Nagaland government is contemplating to rewrite the Nagaland Municipal Act 2001 so that the election to the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the state can be conducted smoothly. "Not just amendment but the government is contemplating to rewrite the entire Act," Chief Minister Shurhozelie Liezietsu said today. There was no women reservation when the Nagaland Municipal Act was passed by the state assembly in 2001 and the first election was held in 2004. But with the amendment of the Constitution, the state

also amended the Act in 2006 and included 33 per cent reservation for women, he said. "Since then we could not hold elections to ULBs (earlier this year) because of various complaints from the apex tribal bodies and other organisations ... Till date we are yet to decide how best we can sail on smoothly," he said. The state had witnessed unrest and protests by tribal outfits early this year to protest against urban local body (ULB) election, which was scheduled to be held on February 1 because of 33 per cent reservation of seats for women in its 32 municipal and town

councils. Liezietsu said that people expect many developmental activities from the government but unless there is peace in the society, development cannot be expected. The lack of development in Nagaland is due to the ongoing Naga political struggle, he said adding "Nagaland for many did not have peace and even today we are expecting a solution." He hoped that with the semblance of peace, the state will be able to march forward to the path of development.



BAN hands over prizes to winners of raffle draw

SUMMIT REPORT NAMCHI, 15 JUN: Badminton Association of Namchi distributed prizes to winners of the raffle draw of 6th Himalayan Championship tournament today here at Indoor Gymnasium Hall, Namchi. The programme was held in the presence of DC South, Raj Yadav along with president BAN, Sailesh Pradhan and all executive members of BAN. The DC South congratulated the winners and handed over the prizes. Satyam Kumar Rai won the 2nd prize while Kamal Chettri won the 3rd prize. There were ten consolation prize winners. The 1st prize winning raffle was unsold.

WB Govt removes Darjeeling DSP

Kolkata, June 15 (PTI): Amid violent protests in the hills, the West Bengal government today transferred Darjeeling Deputy Superintendent of Police Pradip Kumar Singha and replaced him with Avijit Mitra.

According to a notification issued by the state police directorate, Mitra, who was the Joint Assistant Director, IB, in West Bengal, will replace Singha.

Singha will now be the Deputy SP, DEB, Nadia, it said.

Incidentally, the state government removed Darjeeling Superintendent of Police Amit Javalgi after the incident on June 8, when Gorkha Janamukti Morcha (GJM) supporters clashed with the police while trying to break barricades near the Raj Bhawan, where Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was holding a cabinet meeting.

GJM supporters had damaged police vehicles and set some of them ablaze.

Kolkata Police Deputy Commissioner, Central, Akhilesh Chaturvedi was made the new SP of Darjeeling.

The state government had earlier replaced Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) principal secretary Ravi Inder Singh and brought in Barun Ray and appointed C Murugan as the new secretary of GTA in place of Donbosco Lepcha.



PARYAVARAN MAHOTSAV AT RANGPO

RANGPO, 15 JUN: Forest Department, Rangpo Division kicked off the 15-day Paryavaran Mahotsav by distributing tree saplings to local residents. Rangpo Block Officer, Krishna Chandra Dahal started the distribution drive in a brief function attended by residents of Rangpo today. He briefed them about the steps to preserve and nurture the saplings. [Rebyna Rana]



Paryavaran Mahotsav at Yuksam

SUMMIT REPORT YUKSAM, 15 JUN:

Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department under Yuksam-Tashiding Territorial Range observed Paryavaran Mahotsav 2017 with a day-long programme at Yuksam, West Sikkim today.

Forest officials distributed saplings of various plants and trees to the villagers to mark the launch of the annual environmental festival. The Forest de-

partment of Yuksam Territorial Range planted over 400 saplings at Norbung coronation throne in Yuksam on the occasion.

The department has set up a seedling distribution booth at the Forest bungalow in Yuksam to provide free saplings to the local people. Seedling distribution booths will be open throughout the Paryavaran Mahotsav (15 to 30 June).

Police raids GJM office, party upgrades bandh to general strike category

contd from pg01

supporters who responded matching aggression.

While the security forces were returning from the raid, there were incidents of stone pelting from both sides. The road through which the force was returning has hills on both the sides. Stones started raining from all sides.

A press vehicle was also torched in the melee.

The security forces fired tear gas and also resorted to lathicharge while trying to ward off the attack. The force managed to re-

turn to Singamari, on the outskirts of the town at around 2:30pm.

The GJM has meanwhile accused the state police of collaborating with TMC and unleashing violence.

"The police along with TMC supporters vandalised our house and torched two vehicles parked in our compound," alleged Asha Gurung, GJM leader and wife of Bimal Gurung.

With news of the raid in Patleybash, the GJM clamped an indefinite general bandh in the Hills. Shops hurried-

ly downed shutters. School closed down.

In Kurseong, GJM supporters took out a rally. Late in the afternoon, a State Transport bus was torched at Paglajhora in between Mahanadi and Kurseong. GJM Trade Union leader Karuna Gurung was arrested from her residence in Kurseong.

The Darjeeling Terai Doors Plantation Labour Union affiliated to the GJM has called for an indefinite bandh of the Hill tea gardens demanding the release of Karuna Gurung.

GJM seeks central intervention in Darjeeling

contd from pg01

The GJM leader said the home minister assured them that he would speak to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue and try to find a solution.

Ahluwalia said the Mamata Banerjee government must issue an

official order declaring Bengal will not be made mandatory in Darjeeling, to assuage the feelings of the people of the hills.

He said there should be political action and a political solution to the Gorkhaland issue and the use of police force cannot be acceptable.

Protesters and riot police today hurled stones at each other, while a series of raids uncovered weapons from premises connected to the movement's chief, Bimal Gurung.

The demand by the GJM for a separate

state of Gorkhaland to be carved out of the Darjeeling hills of West Bengal is fast turning into a major political crisis for Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and is likely to cripple the critical tourist industry during the peak summer season.



SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

informed, inquisitive, relevant



SIKKIM HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

AWWAS BHAWAN, CHURCH ROAD, GANGTOK

O.O. No. 28/SHDB/17-18
NOTICE

Dated: 12.6.2017

The distribution of forms for the proposed Housing flat scheme at Lumsay, below Sikkim Flour Mill, Gangtok, is further extended in view of public demand and the last date for submission of forms is 30th June, 2017.

Sd/-
UNDER SECRETARY,
SIKKIM HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD,
AWAS BHAWAN, CHURCH ROAD,
GANGTOK.



Prannoy stuns Lee, Srikanth shocks Jorgensen in Indonesia Open

JAKARTA, JUN 15 (PTI): India's H S Prannoy stunned World No. 1 Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia in straight games to storm into the quarterfinals of the USD 1,000,000 Indonesia Super Series Premier here today.

The World No. 25 Indian, who went into the match with a 0-2 head-to-head record, saw off three-time Olympic silver medalist Lee 21-10 21-18 in a 40-minute men's singles contest at the Jakarta Convention Center (JCC).

"Lee looked ordinary today and I took my chances. I am very happy to have won," Prannoy told PTI.

K Srikanth also dug deep into his reservoir to notch up a stunning 21-15 20-22 21-16 victory over fourth seed Denmark's Jan O Jorgensen to make the quarters too.

"Tough match today but happy to be on the winning side," said Srikanth after the match.

Prannoy will next face Olympic champion Chen Long of China, while Sri-

kanth will meet the winner of the match between Chinese Taipei's Tzu Wei Wang and Hong Kong's Ng Ka Long Angus.

Prannoy looked in ominous form as he opened up a 6-0 lead in the opening game and then jumped up to a 10-3 advantage.

After the break, the Indian continued to move ahead to eventually pocket the game without much ado.

In the second game, Prannoy once again held a 10-6 lead, which was quickly erased by Lee, who had a 13-12 advantage for a brief time.

Prannoy soon changed gears to surge to 17-14 but Lee again levelled the scores before the Indian shut the door with some good points to foil the top seed's chance of clinching his record 7th Indonesian title.

World No. 22 Srikanth, however, had to toil hard to get across Jorgensen, ranked 9th.

The 24-year-old from Guntur had beaten Jorgensen in straight games during their last meeting

at the Rio Olympics and he once again had the last laugh in the 57-minute hard-fought battle.

The opening game was fought tooth and nail by both the players as they moved neck and neck till 10-10. After that, Srikanth slowly moved away and reeled off four straight points at 17-15 to grab the game.

In the second game, the duo was engaged in a fierce fight as none gave an edge. After being locked at 11-11, Jorgensen moved to a 15-12 lead but Srikanth kept fighting till the end to claw back at 20-20.

However, Jorgensen managed to earn the two points to stay afloat in the competition.

In the decider, Jorgensen zoomed to a 5-0 advantage but Srikanth showed tremendous grit in the face of adversity to turned the tables with six straight points before slowly distancing himself from the Dane. In the end, Jorgensen couldn't bridge the gap even as Srikanth celebrated.

Sikkim boys and girls in semis of Oorja U-19 football tourney



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 15 JUN:

Sikkim boys and girls teams have secured their berth in the semi-final round of the ongoing second phase of Oorja U-19 Football Talent Hunt Tour-

nament 2017 at Jammu. Due to their consistent performance in the tournament, both teams have finished the league rounds as the group toppers.

In its last league match played today, Sikkim girls' team

defeated Himachal Pradesh 4-0. Signorina Thapa scored a hat-trick while one goal was added by her teammate Karishma Rai.

Sikkim qualified for the semi-final round after topping their group. Sikkim will now take on Assam in

the semi-final match on 16 Jun.

Likewise, Sikkim boys' team also entered the semi-final round after finishing the league round as the group topper. Sikkim will take on Jammu & Kashmir in the semi-final match on 16 Jun.

Oxford's compact English-English Assamese dictionary

GUWAHATI, JUN 15

(PTI): As many as 24,000 words, phrases, idioms, phrasal verbs and derivatives with their translations and over 200 illustrations, 13,000 example sentences and 1,100 synonyms and opposites are some of the key features of a new Oxford English-English Assamese dictionary.

The base of this dictionary is adapted from the Oxford essential dictionary. The Assamese translation is kept simple and reflects the current usage of the language. A pronunciation guide using the International Phonetic Alphabet is provided to help users in pronunciation.

"This new learning

solution has been especially compiled for not just students but also for adult learners of English, teachers, translators and also general readers," OUP said.

The dictionary is seen as a vital tool for speakers of Assamese for learning the English language.

The Oxford Compact English-English Assamese Dictionary is an addition to OUP's 23 existing bilingual dictionaries in Indian Languages.

The dictionary was launched here yesterday at an event attended by several educators, academicians and representatives of educational institutions.

The launch was followed by a panel dis-

cussion on "Bilingual Learning Materials: An Effective Medium to Develop English Proficiency Skills."

Paras Bansal, Business Head (Higher Education, Trade and Professional Learning) OUP India, said at the launch, "The development of the pedagogically advanced English-English Assamese Dictionary is a significant milestone for OUP's professional learning programme."

"This launch gives us extended reach into the vital Assamese market which has a large young population desirous of improving their proficiency in the English language, for both personal and professional development."

Bangladesh's worst-affected district faces food, power crises

DHAKA, JUN 15 (PTI): Rescue workers today continued to struggle to reach remote areas of Bangladesh where monsoon rain-triggered landslides have killed over 150 people with the worst-affected Rangamati district close to the Indian border facing food, power and fuel shortages.

The southeastern Rangamati, Chittagong and Bandarban hill districts have been the worst affected regions where incessant monsoon rains have triggered a series of landslides and caused water-logging in many parts, besides submerging a number of villages.

The disaster-hit Rangamati district, which borders Mizoram and Tripura, is the worst hit and has alone seen 110 deaths, including four army personnel who were engaged in rescue operations.

It is facing uncertainty due to food, power and fuel shortages.

Power was out in Rangamati and it seems it would take a while before supply is put back to normal. Road communication is still cut off with piles of landmass and debris, according to local media reports.

"It would take time to make things normal," Local roads and highways di-

vision's Sub-Assistant Engineer Abu Musa was quoted as by Daily Star.

Fuel shortage was running high in the district... Food supplies were also getting scarce and the top eateries in town have limited their menu, the report said.

Rescuers found three more bodies including that of the missing army man as search resumed amid warning of further rain. Chittagong divisional Fire Service and Civil Defence's Deputy Assistant Director Jashimuddin told the daily that the bodies were recovered. He, however, said it was unclear if it would add to the toll.

Bangladesh has stepped up its search and rescue operations as the death toll in one of the worst landslides to hit the country has reached 152.

The disaster claimed 32 lives in Chittagong, six in Bandarban, two in Cox's Bazar and two in Khagrachhari.

Many of the victims belonged to the ethnic minority or tribal groups who live in makeshift structures along the hills in Bandarban and Rangamati where power cuts and no road connection have enhanced miseries of the residents, officials said.

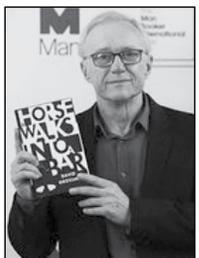
SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DERBY STURDY

Draw No:35 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.25,00,000/- A 97742
2nd Prize Rs.10,000/-
2583 3172 5671 9138 9882
3rd Prize Rs.5000/-
0161 2499 5323 8299 9311
4th Prize Rs.2,000/-
0188 2916 4430 6869 8906
5th Prize Rs.1,000/-
1032 1378 3019 6243 7197
6th Prize Rs.500/-
0099 0475 0564 0699 0721 0767 1488 1489 1615 1619
1838 2121 2123 2142 2166 2256 2283 2347 2488 2706
2830 3189 3672 3819 3949 3965 4108 4349 4431 4444
4597 4682 4769 5008 5064 5146 5317 5321 5599 5645
5676 5996 6184 6284 6429 6456 6621 6642 6888 7161
7500 7625 7984 8104 8124 8286 8619 8705 8809 8908
8995 9086 9260 9300 9429 9583 9662 9714 9740 9806
9835 9860 9878 9972 9991
7th Prize Rs.100/-
0007 0071 0077 0082 0100 0101 0116 0136 0224 0229
0245 0258 0266 0286 0289 0302 0323 0335 0342 0343
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2533 2541 2546 2560 2630 2648 2661 2690 2721 2725
2745 2870 2908 2910 2913 2931 2932 2935 2941 2951
3012 3040 3044 3072 3078 3095 3135 3197 3233 3289
3292 3321 3367 3465 3467 3470 3471 3479 3517 3526
3540 3551 3614 3632 3648 3675 3716 3767 3793 3811
3863 3911 3923 3955 3961 4027 4055 4064 4065 4094
4097 4130 4134 4233 4285 4298 4323 4369 4409 4447
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4634 4636 4681 4693 4725 4760 4825 4845 4880 4887
4888 4908 4915 4917 4930 4948 4971 4991 5032 5093
5103 5104 5128 5148 5169 5187 5215 5229 5255 5333
5376 5416 5444 5489 5504 5548 5560 5573 5577 5603
5625 5632 5664 5668 5751 5759 5765 5772 5786 5807
5881 5894 5944 5966 5992 6004 6025 6134 6140 6191
6213 6251 6364 6370 6393 6397 6424 6448 6465 6472
6512 6536 6556 6597 6599 6607 6608 6656 6669 6685
6726 6734 6737 6743 6746 6765 6789 6807 6821 6835
6845 6857 6882 6931 6987 6993 6999 7015 7053 7076
7130 7164 7177 7185 7220 7266 7337 7339 7352 7358
7385 7389 7440 7454 7477 7511 7561 7569 7578 7588
7610 7630 7640 7660 7692 7694 7701 7705 7713 7729
7752 7759 7765 7766 7780 7835 7840 7869 7874 7876
7962 7971 7982 7999 8001 8015 8062 8069 8077 8088
8098 8103 8107 8111 8125 8150 8176 8179 8231 8236
8254 8270 8316 8398 8401 8409 8413 8445 8484 8488
8490 8508 8512 8521 8522 8567 8589 8591 8632 8646
8785 8789 8790 8793 8888 8929 8941 8983 9007 9015
9118 9145 9175 9220 9239 9245 9272 9290 9291 9360
9383 9408 9430 9478 9533 9539 9571 9597 9609 9670
9680 9694 9736 9770 9783 9800 9819 9828 9859 9964

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Israel's David Grossman wins International Booker Prize

LONDON, JUN 15 (AP): Israeli author David Grossman has won the Man Booker International Prize for his novel "A Horse Walks Into a Bar."

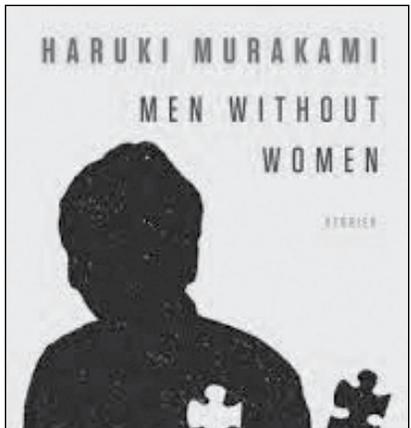
The award was announced Wednesday in London. Grossman beat out five other finalists, including fellow Israeli author Amos Oz for the counterpart to Britain's prestigious Booker Prize. Grossman's novel is about a failing standup comic and his final performance.

The award has a prize of 50,000 pounds (USD 64,000) that is split evenly between Grossman and translator Jessica Cohen.

The prize was previously a career honor, but changed last year to recognise a single book in a bid to increase the profile of international fiction in English-speaking countries.

Last year the prize was awarded to "The Vegetarian" by South Korea's Han Kang.

Murakami comes out with new collection of short stories



NEW DELHI, JUN 15 (PTI): Bestselling author Haruki Murakami has come out with a brand new collection of short stories, the first in over a decade.

"Men Without Women" is a collection of seven stories across which Murakami "brings his powers of observation to bear on the lives of men who, in their own ways, find themselves alone."

"Here are vanishing cats and smoky bars, lonely hearts and mysterious women, baseball and the Beatles, woven together to tell stories that speak to us all," publishers Penguin said in a

statement.

Murakami, best known for his works like 'Norwegian Wood', 'The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle' and 'Kafka on the Shore' among others, brings back his quintessential wry humour to craft another contemporary classic.

Other books by the award-winning author include '1Q84', 'What I Talk about When I Talk about Running', 'Colourless Tsukuru Tazaki' and 'His Years of Pilgrimage', 'The Strange Library and Wind/Pinball'.

His works have also been translated into more than 50 languages.



Farmers torch tyres after failing to sell produce in MP

NARSINGHPUR (MP), JUN 15 (PTI): Even as the agrarian unrest largely subsided in most parts of Madhya Pradesh, a group of farmers torched tyres at an agriculture market here after finding no takers for their produce.

The incident happened yesterday at the Krishi Upaj Mandi in Narsinghpur's Gadawara area when the farmers failed to sell their produce at the minimum support price (MSP).

Upon getting information about the trouble in the market, district Collector R R Bhonsle and Superintendent of Police Mukesh Shrivastava rushed to the spot to pacify the angry farmers. Bhonsle and Shrivastava held talks with the farmers and made arrangements for them to sell their produce.

"After coming to know that the farmers' were upset in the mandi yesterday, we rushed to the spot and made arrangements to facilitate selling of the farm produce," the collector told PTI.

Farmers in Madhya Pradesh had been on the 10-day stir from June 1 demanding remunerative prices for their produce.

On June 6, five farmers were killed as the agitation by peasants demanding a loan waiver and remunerative prices for their produce turned violent in Mandsaur.

Besides, a 26-year-old farmer had died in Badwan village, also in Mandsaur, allegedly after being beaten up by police.

In the midst of the cultivators' agitation, Chouhan had announced a series of measures for farmers, including declaring purchase of farm produce below the minimum support a criminal act.

He also reiterated that the government was setting up a Rs 1,000-crore price stabilisation fund to purchase the farm produce at the MSP.

Besides, Agricultural Costs and Marketing Commission would also be set up to ensure better prices of the farm produce vis-a-vis cost of crops, he had said.

UN appeals for more resources for flood-hit Lanka

YOSHITA SINGH UNITED NATIONS, JUN 15 (PTI): The United Nations and its humanitarian partners today appealed for more resources for flood-hit Sri Lanka that last month witnessed the worst torrential rains since 2003 in which over 200 people were killed.

Heavy rains had triggered floods and landslides in 15 out of Lanka's 25 districts, sweeping away homes, clinics, schools, roads and water systems.

The Disaster Management Centre (DMC) of Sri Lanka had said the adverse weather condition had left 112 people injured and nearly 600,000

people have been forced from their homes, with thousands suffering structural damage from flood inundation and landslides.

Some 212 people were killed and another 79 still remain missing. Immediately after the disaster, UN agencies and relief partners responded with assistance in priority sectors identified by the government.

However, access to the most remote communities was cut-off due to destroyed roads and bridges.

The UN said as flood waters recede and more areas become accessible, the extent of damage and the response needed is disclosed: emergency

shelter, sanitation and hygiene, and health services are high on the list.

On top of this, damaged infrastructure, particularly related to water and hygiene, has increased the risk of waterborne diseases.

According to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Emergency Response Plan amounting to USD 22.7 million launched by the Humanitarian Country Team (UN as well as non-UN humanitarian actors in the country), focuses on providing immediate life-saving and protection assistance, emergency livelihood support, and access to basic services to people

worst hit.

The plan also aims to strengthen resilience of affected communities to cope with and recover from the disaster.

It targets about 374,000 people in seven districts, including the four most affected districts Galle, Rathnapura, Kalutara and Matara.

"The Humanitarian Country Team, with the support of the international community, will continue responding to the needs of those affected by the floods through the implementation of the emergency response plan, paying particular attention to supporting the most vulnerable people in the affected

communities," said UN Resident Coordinator for Sri Lanka and the Chair of the Team.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) also reported that an allocation of USD 4 million was made by the UN Central Emergency Response Fund to assist rapid delivery of life-saving shelter, health and food assistance, as well as provide essential non-food items.

Cash assistance will also be provided to affected people to meet their shelter and food needs, in addition to the provision temporary shelters, shelter repair kits, and

emergency healthcare and reproductive healthcare support.

The recent disasters hit Sri Lanka when the country was reeling under bad drought which had affected about a million people, leaving them vulnerable to food insecurity.

The floods and landslides have washed away the crops that managed to survive the drought and further increased the urgency of more resources to ensure assistance for people who have already suffered much hardship, the world body said.

Trump being probed for possible obstruction of justice: report

LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, JUN 15 (PTI): US President Donald Trump is being investigated for possible obstruction of justice by the special counsel appointed to probe alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential polls, according to a media report.

The probe by special counsel Robert Mueller, a former FBI chief, "marks a major turning point in the nearly year-old FBI investigation, which until recently focused on Russian meddling during the presidential campaign and on whether there was any coordination between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin," The Washington



Post reported.

Investigators have also been looking for any evidence of possible financial crimes by Trump associates, the daily said, quoting unnamed US officials.

According to the paper, Daniel Coats, the current director of national intelligence, Mike Rogers, head of the National Security Agency, and Rogers's recently departed

deputy, Richard Ledgett, agreed to be interviewed by Mueller's investigators as early as this week.

The New York Times also reported that Mueller was seeking interviews with the three officials.

"The investigation has been cloaked in secrecy, and it is unclear how many others have been questioned by the FBI," it said.

The White House has been directing all questions related to this to Trump's personal attorney Marc Kasowitz.

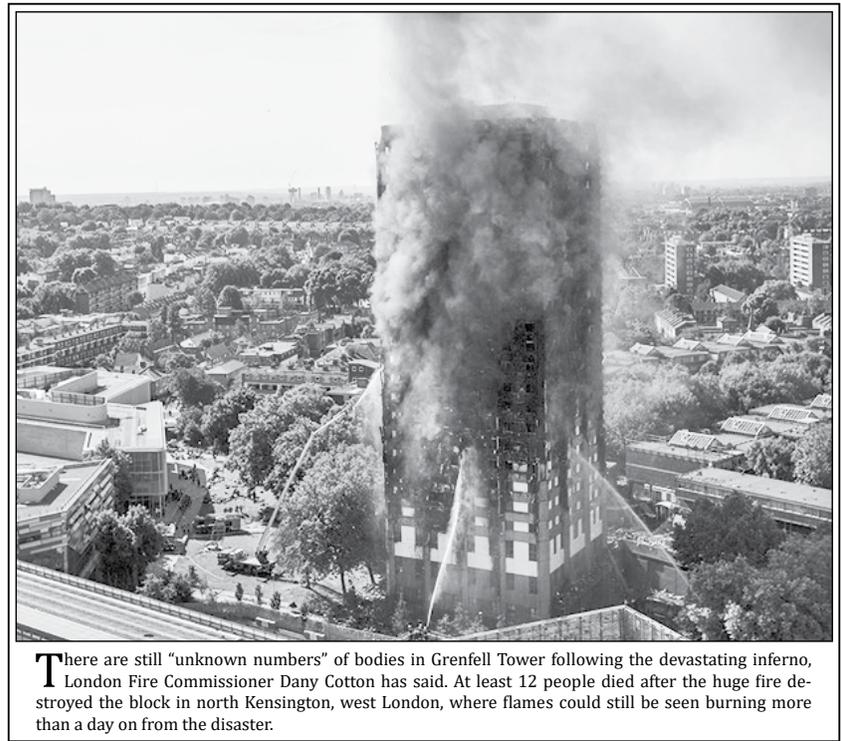
"The FBI leak of information regarding the president is outrageous, inexcusable and illegal," Mark Corallo, a spokesman for Kasowitz, was quoted as saying.

The Post reported that the obstruction of justice investigation of the president began days after James Comey was fired as the FBI Director on May 9. Mueller is overseeing a host of investigations involving people who are or were in Trump's orbit, people familiar with the probe were quoted as saying.

"The investigation is examining possible contacts with Russian operatives as well as any suspicious financial activity related to those individuals," the daily said.

Significantly, Preet Bharara, the India-born former top US federal prosecutor, earlier this week had said that there was enough evidence to begin an obstruction of justice case against Trump over his alleged interference in the Russia probe.

Trump has said he is "100 per cent" willing to testify under oath on Comey meetings and tell the FBI Special Consul Robert Muller that he never asked FBI to stop investigating.



There are still "unknown numbers" of bodies in Grenfell Tower following the devastating fire in London.

London Fire Commissioner Dany Cotton has said. At least 12 people died after the huge fire destroyed the block in north Kensington, west London, where flames could still be seen burning from a day on from the disaster.

Are left-handed people more gifted than others? Our study suggests it may hold true for maths

Contd from pg04

pear to be slightly over-represented among people with intellectual disabilities. Another large study found that left-handers performed more poorly in mathematical ability in a sample of children aged five to 14.

CAREFULLY DESIGNED EXPERIMENT Interestingly, these past studies, just like many others, differed from each other in how handedness was measured and how participants were categorised – some of them simply asked people what their hand preference was in general. And, most importantly, they had different approaches to measuring mathematical ability – ranging from simple arithmetic to complex problem solving. These discrepancies in the experimental design may be the cause of the mixed observed results.

To get more reliable results, we decided to carry out a whole series of experiments including more than 2,300 students (in primary school and high school). These experiments varied in terms of type and difficulty of mathematical tasks.

To assure comparability, we used the same questionnaire – the Edinburgh Inventory – to assess handedness in all the experiments. This questionnaire asks people which hand they prefer for writing, drawing, throwing, brushing and other things. It assesses to what extent someone prefers their right or left – it's a scale rather than a categorical left versus right assessment. This specific feature allowed us to build more reliable and powerful statistical models.

The results, published in Frontiers, show that left-handers outperformed the rest of the sample when the tasks involved difficult problem-solving, such as associating mathematical functions to a given set of data. This pattern of results was particularly clear in male adolescents. By contrast, when the task was not so demanding, such as when doing simple arithmetic, there was no difference between left- and right-handers. We also discovered that extreme right-handers – individuals who said they prefer to use their right hand for all items on the handedness test – under-performed in all the experi-

ments compared to moderate right-handers and left-handers.

Left-handers seem to have, on average, an edge when solving demanding mathematical tasks – at least during primary school and high school. Also, being strongly right-handed may represent a disadvantage for mathematics. Taken together, these findings show that handedness, as an indicator of connectivity between brain hemispheres, does influence cognition to some extent.

That said, handedness is just an indirect expression of brain function. For example, only a third of the people with a more developed right hemisphere are left-handed. So plenty of right-handed people will have a similar brain structure as left-handers. Consequently, we need to be cautious in interpreting people's hand preference – whether we see it as a sign of genius or a marker for cognitive impairment.

[Giovanni Sala is PhD Candidate - Cognitive Psychology, University of Liverpool; Fernand Gobet is Professor of Decision Making and Expertise, University of Liverpool]

MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR VULTURE MORNING

Draw No:44 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 91K 28147
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 28147 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
53347 64891 64972 66474 68500
77980 83532 85895 89679 99950
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
13566 13996 32747 35332 55203
70323 71089 81936 90525 92010
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
2037 4648 5338 5795 5924 7199 7253 8729 9082 9090
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0696 1592 1644 2179 3659 5201 5453 6583 6752 8800
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0066 0090 0155 0193 0233 0253 0360 1160 1205 1303
1425 1613 1676 1738 1829 1943 1987 2011 2224 2366
2557 2788 2870 2887 3016 3045 3105 3235 3283 3440
3446 3471 3473 3567 3630 3780 3835 3856 3961 4100
4276 4509 4643 4680 4732 4845 4892 4924 5126 5350
5982 6041 6205 6468 6557 6567 6576 6586 6611 6627
6657 6692 6869 6889 6965 7053 7116 7155 7211 7574
7751 7829 7873 7976 8016 8033 8133 8204 8358 8455
8479 8539 8904 8936 9001 9060 9102 9142 9264 9305
9323 9496 9528 9593 9805 9832 9833 9874 9877 9890

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For results please visit: www.mizoramlotteries.com

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

SINGAM TOPAZ MORNING

Draw time: 11:55 am onwards

Draw No:7 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 98E 10619

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 10619 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-

05742 07091 15511 33311 48826

61814 66907 72102 77457 98057

3rd Prize Rs.500/-

0220 1882 3027 5464 6486 7769 7802 8218 8490 9728

4th Prize Rs.300/-

1736 2791 3666 4657 5167 5336 5737 7672 9167 9622

5th Prize Rs.130/-

0059 0114 0175 0218 0236 0361 0399 0399 0730 0860

1168 1270 1363 1466 1504 1650 1687 1981 2023 2047

2113 2200 2213 2687 2840 2937 3087 3136 3157 3200

3233 3268 3349 3367 3452 3462 3507 3591 3613 3625

3674 3676 3686 3758 3810 3945 4234 4322 4323 4476

4614 4781 4837 4884 4896 4918 5044 5081 5101 5274

5335 5454 5716 5741 5922 6056 6103 6159 6165 6315

6471 6547 6556 6738 6821 6871 7071 7134 7240 7299

7378 7424 7471 7552 7745 7836 7938 8248 8412 8527

8607 8882 9027 9114 9154 9388 9456 9464 9498 9692

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For Results, please visit: www.nagalndlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FAITHFUL EVENING

Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards

Draw No:112 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 94L 10055

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 10055 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

14680 21604 26676 37175 51921

57510 71603 79077 86940 94043

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-

05922 06642 19332 24493 25697

26228 43491 48933 83587 92379

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0740 2366 3917 4203 4279 5412 5500 5821 6577 6603

5th Prize Rs.600/-

0553 0920 2011 2188 5370 5491 5762 8289 8840 9111

6th Prize Rs.250/-

0127 0373 0379 0443 0520 0686 0764 0968 0973 1062

1367 1465 1518 1859 2107 2150 2179 2186 2234 2331

2518 2629 2740 3089 3516 3723 3833 3880 3943 3951

4014 4420 4473 4476 4639 4830 4839 4863 4878 4894

4913 4970 5091 5119 5150 5284 5489 5601 5686 5770

5805 5869 5994 6054 6293 6337 6373 6434 6469 6588

6686 6735 6754 7009 7067 7140 7170 7235 7322 7476

7490 7529 7562 7564 7658 7737 7782 8022 8097 8246

8317 8326 8419 8531 8793 8811 8978 9105 9127 9182

9291 9361 9365 9448 9528 9609 9627 9671 9817 9847

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For Results, please visit: www.nagalndlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR SUCCESS

Draw No:48 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 81G 40207

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 40207 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9500/-

04542 07657 10754 17245 23033

57418 69934 71473 87489 90916

3rd Prize Rs.9000/-

07110 10974 18729 36383 41603

50301 56688 75521 77000 81805

4th Prize Rs.1000/-

0463 0985 3728 4226 4240 4771 5146 6323 7945 8006

5th Prize Rs.600/-

0891 0933 5202 6252 6764 6958 6979 7264 8009 9598

0259 0282 0420 0439 0576 0585 0814 1018 1111 1368

1390 1612 2123 2149 2258 2459 2808 2837 2887 3107

3113 3220 3274 3318 3399 3409 3443 3446 3600 3602

4010 4072 4277 4483 4686 4764 5016 5152 5288 5295

5339 5352 5363 5501 5596 5617 5622 5680 5713 5841

5924 5946 5991 6173 6242 6467 6585 6766 6888 7016

7105 7179 7254 7306 7338 7347 7367 7392 7526 7539

7551 7597 7624 7653 7724 7814 7916 8031 8207 8208

8224 8228 8323 8428 8684 8779 8822 8939 8964 9051

9147 9234 9317 9481 9620 9666 9710 9791 9852 9929

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Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SINGAM ENERGY EVENING

Draw No:19 DrawDate on:15/06/17

1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 98K 98373

(Including Super Prize Amt)

Cons. Prize Rs.8,100/- 98373 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-

31185 33558 38031 43424 46139

67550 76285 81937 88056 94872

3rd Prize Rs.500/-

01121 2577 3395 4191 4774 5397 6385 6629 8646 9951

4th Prize Rs.300/-

1545 3527 3862 5536 7375 7582 8605 8792 9649 9950

5th Prize Rs.130/-

0094 0166 0208 0346 0427 0685 0776 0819 0878 1254



MODEL DOG WALKER: Gigi Hadid went to a New York City park with boyfriend Zayn Malik's French bulldog recently.

SELENA GOMEZ Plays a WHOLE FAMILY IN HER 'Bad Liar' VIDEO WITH A Cameo From TAYLOR SWIFT

For the new video for "Bad Liar," Selena Gomez uses the power of wigs to transform herself into an entire suburban '70s family (mom, dad, teen) and the hot, blonde, potential home wrecking gym teacher. The video closes with a teaser for a project called "Fetish" coming soon, accompanied by a short clip of a solemn-looking Gomez staring into the camera lens before miming the world with her lips.

Billed as a "film" in its promotional poster, the new visual marks the second video offering tied to the steamy pop track. Back in May, Gomez released a vertical video for the song exclusively on Spotify, watchable only through smart phones.

The Revival singer takes on a quartet of interacting roles in an eerie but mesmerizing new video for the Talking Heads-interpolating track, which plays on the un-

spoken desires on the part of all four characters. Behind the camera is director (and Lemonheads bassist) Jesse Peretz, more recently of Girls and Orange Is The New Black TV-helming fame.

But the plot is simple: Selena Gomez is married to Selena Gomez, who is having an affair with Selena Gomez. But Selena Gomez actually, surprise, has a crush on Selena Gomez. Maybe this is what it's like to enter Selena Gomez's mind! With such a complex storyline for a four-minute video, it's easy enough to skip the small details - but if you take a closer look, you'll notice that another famous face appears in the video, in the form of Selena's bff Taylor.

In one of the Charlie's Angels-style posters in young Selena's room, the middle woman is almost definitely Tay, circa-Bad Blood era.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

16th JUNE WORLD HISTORY

1815: Napoleon defeated the Prussians at the Battle of Ligny, Belgium.

1884: America's First roller coaster began operating at Coney Island, New York. It hit a top speed of 6 mph.

1903: Pepsi Cola Company formed.

1917: The First Congress of Soviets convened in Russia. 1923: Dr. Sun Yat Sen, a Chinese revolutionary leader founded a military academy. 1935: President Roosevelt's New Deal legislation was passed by the House of Representatives.

1976: In South Africa white police gunned down teenagers Hector Pieterse and Hastings Ndlovu and caused a nationwide riot that left 700 people dead. Students at Morris Isaacson High School in Soweto had marched to protest a new rule that called

for Afrikaans as the medium of instruction.

INDIAN HISTORY

1858: Battle of Morar took place during Sepoy Mutiny.

1939: Subhas Chandra Bose, in a Press interview at Lahore, stated "times are so opportune that we shall be committing political suicide if we do not avail ourselves of opportunities by taking the initiative and forcing the issue of Purna Swaraj or Complete freedom".

1942: Sir Stafford Cripps, who led the famous Cripps' Mission to India in late March 1942, opined about the freedom of India after the conclusion of the Second World War.

1946: Indian leaders were invited to London to form an interim government.



Shah Rukh Khan reveals Diplo has created a track in Jab Harry Met Sejal

In a recent Twitter conversation, Shah Rukh Khan revealed that an international DJ and music composer has a track on the album. There are ten songs in the film and one of the tracks is of Diplo. Diplo and Shah Rukh Khan met last year in Goa and instantly connected. When asked about his favourite songs from Jab

Harry Met Sally, SRK named two songs -- Butterfly and a Diplo track.

This isn't the first time an international artist has performed in a Shah Rukh Khan starrer. Akon had earlier sung Chammak Challo in Ra.One.

Jab Harry Met Sejal is directed by Imtiaz Ali and is releasing on August 4, 2017.

LOCKHORNS - HOEST & REINER



"THAT MUST BE OUR FLIGHT TO LAS VEGAS."

भाडागा चाहिएको छ
समाइला सिक्किममा
होम स्टे वा भाडाको
जमिन चाहिएको छ।
जमिनबाट कसनजया
स्पच देखिनुपर्नेछ।
सम्बन्धित कागजपत्र
बाधारहित हुनुपर्नेछ।
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ADELE 'COMFORTS' PEOPLE AFFECTED BY GRENFELL TOWER FIRE DURING EMOTIONAL VISIT



Adele has been praised for visiting the Grenfell Tower area to offer comfort to those affected by the deadly fire that swept through the block of flats.

The pop star was seen attending a vigil held in the shadow of the north Kensington tower, where at least 12 people have been confirmed to have died. Flames could still be seen burning almost 24 hours after the blaze started. The Tottenham-born Hello singer, reportedly joined by husband Simon Konecki, was said to be comforting people at the scene.

"Adele was spotted at Grenfell Tower today offering her support to everyone affected by the tragedy," one fan account reported, showing pictures of the star. Adele, who kept a low profile during the visit and has com-

mented on it, was praised for her actions. "Such a humble & Down-to-earth woman," one fan account said.

Another said: "The fact that Adele has gone to Grenfell tower and not said a word about it just proves how amazingly sincere she is... Adele is an angel, she deserves heaven, biggest heart ever, so proud of her." Adele is among a number of stars to offer support to those affected by the tragedy.

Jamie Oliver offered food and drink free of charge to victims at his restaurant in nearby Shepherd's Bush. Companies, individuals and charities have sprung into action to offer help to anyone affected by the Grenfell Tower fire, with crowdfunding pages raising nearly £1 million in fewer than 24 hours.

ARIES: Your goal for today is to enchant your mate. There's no reason not to try. Indeed, it's an excellent day for love. But don't exaggerate your seductive wiles. Aries. Since the day's aspects tend to distort your perception of things, you may be deceived by what you see in the mirror. Be careful about what you do and how you do it!

TAURUS: You're in splendid shape today, Taurus! Did a fairy godmother brandish a magic wand to dispel all the little difficulties of the past few weeks? Enjoy this moment of relief from worries. As for your love life, some exciting opportunities may arise. Be on the lookout for them. Whatever you

do, don't let them pass you by!

GEMINI: It's certainly clear that you have faith in your actions, Gemini! You feel no fear or doubt as you progress toward your goals at a fast clip, cruising along on calm seas under clear skies. This new atmosphere is likely the product of your renewed commitment. Reward yourself for your accomplishments, but you should wait a few days before launching an all-out celebration.

CANCER: This is a moment to start being creative and stop worrying that you don't have talent, Cancer. Who's to say what "talent" is? In the romance department, the love of your

life might be right under your nose. Try lifting your eyes from the romance novels and look around. The perfect mate could be any number of people in your daily life. You just have to open your eyes.

LEO: You may be a bit unclear about your professional direction today, Leo. Your motivation has disappeared without warning. What happened? It may be that you need to become involved in projects that have more universal resonance. Projects that concern only your interests or that are of narrow scope no longer hold your attention.

VIRGO: You could be seeing mirages at the moment, Virgo, most

notably in the environment around you. You may have the impression that people are lying to you or that they're hiding something from you. Or it may be that you're the one who lies about certain things or hides what you do. Why are you making it all so complicated? Don't be afraid to express your feelings.

LIBRA: Hold on to your wallet, Libra, because you may have some strange (though noble) impulses to give away your money or spend a large amount on something useless. You should think about spending your money in a better way or not at all. Why not consider donating some of your time rather than money to those in need?

SCORPIO: Today isn't a good day to sign contracts or make any substantial purchases, Scorpio. Go to the grocery store, by all means, but buy hamburger, not tenderloin. Keep your money at home and safeguard your reserves. Don't negotiate about anything. No matter how good the offer sounds or how compelling the deal, walk away.

SAGITTARIUS: Are you certain you can't modify your current situation of a lifestyle that isn't of your own making or is a throwback to the past? People have been asking you to take on too many responsibilities and this is weighing you down. Don't be afraid to distance

yourself from these situations. Learn to say no.

CAPRICORN: The forecast for you is excellent, Capricorn. You can rely on today's aspects to restore your self-confidence, which has been sorely tried during the past few days. The charismatic seducer in you can swagger forth, certain of conquest. However, don't go too far. Wait a while for reality to dispel the cloud of ecstasy and you will be able to see the future more clearly.

AQUARIUS: You may have some trouble communicating today, Aquarius. It's as though something is distorting your perception. Don't

be surprised if once evening comes you feel like forgetting about everything and traveling to the other side of the world. Tomorrow you will see clearly again. Without a doubt, there are adventures in store for you!

PISCES: You are radiant and glowing with happiness today, Pisces! This is a refreshing change after the gloom of the past few weeks. Apparently, the decisions you made worked out for the best. Or even better, perhaps you're in love? In any case, it will be even easier than usual for you to communicate with others and share your joy. Let the good times roll!