

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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GST Council clears rules, States agree to July 1 rollout

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): The GST Council today cleared the pending rules, including transition provisions and returns, with all the states agreeing to July 1 roll out of the Goods and Services Tax.

"We were discussing the rules and (they) have been completed. Transition rules have been cleared and everybody has agreed for July 1 roll out," Kerala Finance Minister Thomas Isaac told reporters here.

The GST Council had last month fitted over 1,200 goods and 500 services in the tax brackets of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley chaired the 15th meeting of the GST Council which is scheduled to decide on tax rate of 6 items including gold, textiles and footwear.

Isaac's statement of all states agreeing to the July 1 rollout assumes significance as West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had said that her state will not roll out the new indirect tax regime in its present form.

Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra is however attending today's meeting.

Banerjee had said yesterday that her government would not support the new GST system in its present form and that her government would write to Jaitley for making changes to make it suitable for all the sections of the society.

"We will not support the GST in its present form. In its present form, it doesn't suit every section, especially the unorganised sector. They

turn to pg02



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Road reaches villages beyond Mantam



With a new alignment (above) finally cut out for a new road to villages beyond the Mantam lake in Upper Dzongu, Juguangs like rafting a truck across to the other side (left) might not have to be risked any more.

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA
MANGAN, 03 JUN:**

Construction of the alternate route connecting Mantam with Kayam village in Upper Dzongu, North Sikkim is finally complete, however, the road will be ready for vehicular movement in the next 10-15 days.

Once the alternate route is ready, the cut-off villages on the right bank of the river will be accessible by road. Villages like Lingdem, Kayam and Ruklu will not have to depend on motor rafts to travel across Mantam Lake.

Meanwhile, Sub Divisional Magistrate-Dzongu has informed all concerned that due to slight rise in water level at Mantam Lake and moreover due to heavy rainfall, everyone is requested to remain alert and be cautious for the next few days.

The commuters are request-



ed not to ply their vehicles late at night at Mantam during peak monsoon season for safety reasons. Further, the public of Upper Dzongu are advised not to use the motor rafts at night in order to avoid any mishap.

It is informed that the District Collector-North has directed the NHPC officials to measure the wa-

ter level at Mantam Lake instead of Namprikdang Mela Ground henceforth.

The water level of Mantam Lake has also risen as the river Rongyong is in spate owing to the onset of monsoon. It is learnt that the work for draining the lake has been stopped as the log bridge has been washed out.

Cash incentive for 48 sportspersons



**NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 03 JUN:**

Forty eight sportspersons who have brought glory to the state in different sports disciplines were awarded cash prizes ranging from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5,000 today during a function held at Chintan Bhawan in the capital.

Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs and Human Resource Development Department, RB Subba gave away the prizes to the sportspersons.

Chairman-Sikkim Youth Development Board, Khem Prasad Dahal, Secretary, SD Dhakal, officials, coaches, sportspersons and their parents were also present during the programme.

Additional Director-Sports, Kamal Chettri, while delivering his welcome speech said that very few states in the country have such programmes for sportspersons.

He also informed that the state government has spent around Rs 14.95 lakh on players

till 2015.

Minister RB Subba in his address lauded the contribution of the young sportspersons and stated that they were the pride of Sikkim. He urged them to be disciplined and motivate others in the process. The Minister also cautioned the young boys and girls of the intense competition in every field and urged them not to be complacent.

While addressing the gathering he expressed his concern on the depleting fertility rate in the

state. He further added that nine primary schools have already been shut down because of lack of young students.

He also informed that the state government has started and revised many sports competitions and in 2017 the state aims to bring the Subroto Cup to the state.

Mr Subba also expressed his happiness over the selection of Komal Thatal in the under 19 Indian football team.

[foto courtesy: IPR Deptt, GoS]

CBSE Cl X results declared, pass percentage falls

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): The pass percentage of the CBSE Class X exam has fallen to 90.95 per cent from 96.21 per cent last year, registering a dip of over 5 per cent, officials said today.

The Central Board of Secondary Education today declared results of Class X for five regions, including the national capital.

The other four regions are Allahabad, Chennai, Dehradun and Trivandrum.

The results for other

regions will be announced soon, a senior official said.

Anxious students and parents had to wait for the results as the board's website crashed half an hour before the result was scheduled to be declared due to heavy traffic.

A total of 16,67,573 candidates had appeared for the exam this year.

On May 28, the board had declared the results for class XII which had seen a dip of over one per cent in the pass percentage.

Trinamool slams BJP on cattle notification

CHENNAI, JUN 3 (PTI): The Trinamool Congress (TMC) today slammed the BJP-led government at the Centre for its notification banning sale and purchase of cattle at animal markets for slaughter, terming it as "undemocratic" and "unconstitutional".

"This is a country which believes that you can eat what you want, wear what you want. The Centre's notification is undemocratic, unethical, unconstitutional," TMC MP Derek O'Brien said at the 94th birthday celebrations of DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi here.

The TMC spokesperson, while offering his felicitations to Karunanidhi, said certain big issues had already been raised by the DMK patriarch.

"The first one, very close to his (Karunanidhi's) heart, is women's reservation. We want the Women's Reservation Bill and we want it fast," he said.

Another issue raised by Karunanidhi was equal treatment of transgenders, O'Brien said, adding, "It is a very important issue. Everyone needs to be treated equally."

Five meat shops along highway sealed in Namchi

SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 03 JUN:

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services in coordination with Namchi Municipal Council and South District Administration sealed around five meat shops along the national and state highway here at Namchi in South Sikkim today.

A team comprising of Sub Divisional Magistrate [Headquarter], Somnath Adhikari, Inspector-NMC, Sameel Tamang, Veterinary Officer, Dr Kinchokla Bhutia and police personnel from Namchi Police Station visited different areas of Namchi and all shops situated at road sides.

Speaking with this correspondent, Dr Bhutia informed that following the issuance of a government notification regarding closing of meat shops along national and state highways, the department had issued several notices to meat shop owners to relocate their shops by 31 Mar.



Further, the department had also granted them extra time but the shops that still failed to relocate have now been sealed. She informed altogether five shops belonging to Robin Rai of Jorethang Road, Palden Bhutia of Central Park Namchi, Sailesh Baraily

of Bhanjyang Road, Nar Bahadur Manger of Melli Road and Ramesh Shanker has been sealed.

Dr Bhutia informed that the reason behind the directive to relocate meat shops from the roadside is to ensure quality and hygiene of the meat as well as to

preserve the aesthetic charm of the state.

The team also inspected different meat shops and directed them to adhere to the prohibition on killing and sale of meat [except fish] on dates prescribed by the Ecclesiastical Affairs Department.

S DFA congratulates Raj Kumar Sanyasi on selection under Reliance Foundation Young Champs prog



SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 03 JUN:

South District Football Association [SDFA] has congratulated and conveyed their wishes to Raj Kumar Sanyasi for his selection under Reliance Foundation Young Champs and will be groomed in the academy with full scholarship, he added.

“We give our best wishes to Raj Kumar for his future and hope that he will bring much pride to our state,” said Mr Rai.

Speaking on the oc-

casation, president-SDFA, Binod Rai, said that this is a big achievement for Namchi and Sikkim. Raj Kumar Sanyasi was shortlisted under Reliance Foundation Young Champs and will be groomed in the academy with full scholarship, he added.

He also thanked the Government of Sikkim for setting up Namchi Sports Hostel which has become an important platform for rural talent. Mr Rai appreciated and congratulated coach of NSH, Suren Chettri, for guiding children and helping them to find success.

Raj Kumar Sanyasi will be leaving for Mumbai on 06 June from Namchi and join the academy from 08 June.

It may be mentioned here that Reliance Foundation Young Champs is a pet project of the Indian Super League [ISL] led by Nita Ambani. The programme aims to identify and develop young kids between the ages of 11 and 14 years across the country and to nurture them through a residential football scholarship.

Charity run raises Rs 93,702 for kidney patient



SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

In a very noble initiative, a Gangtok-based NGO 'Uplift' has raised an amount of Rs 93,702 for 19-year-old Kabita Chettri who is suffering from a kidney related ailment. Uplift raised this amount through a charity run which had runners, 51-year-old Pahalman Limboo and 41-year-old Chung Ching Bhutia. The run was conducted on 28 May from Ranipool to MG Marg in Gangtok.

A team of Uplift NGO led by its president, Tsewang Rinzing, handed over the amount to Sher Bahadur Chettri, the father of Kabita Chettri, today here at the Press Club of Sikkim.

Kabita Chettri originally hails from Soreng in West Sikkim and is currently residing with her family at Sichey in East

Sikkim. She is undergoing treatment at Anandloke Hospital, Siliguri after both her kidneys failed in December last year. Now, her mother Binita Chettri will be donating one kidney to her daughter and the transplant will be done at CMC, Vellore.

Mr Chettri, who is working as a mason, expressed his gratitude to Uplift NGO and both runners for coming forward to raise support for his daughter's treatment. He mentioned that more than Rs 7 lakh is required for the kidney transplant. He further appealed to people for support.

Uplift president, Mr Rinzing, expressed his happiness on being able to raise some funds for the ailing Kabita Chettri.

"After coming to know about her, we decided to raise funds through a

charity run. We are happy to have collected this amount just in one day. We would like to thank each and everyone who contributed for the treatment of Kabita Chettri," he said.

He added that Uplift will further try to raise support for her treatment if required.

Likewise, the two runners also expressed their happiness on being a part of this initiative. They also assured to continue to take part in such noble initiatives if required in the future as well. They expressed best wishes for the speedy recovery of Kabita Chettri.

Uplift is a very young NGO formed in June last year but it has already taken many initiatives on various issues. The NGO has more than 40 members who are mostly students at present.



Kitam students taken on field trip to Kitam Birds Sanctuary

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

Standard X students of Kitam Government Senior Secondary School, South Sikkim, organized a field trip to Kitam Birds Sanctuary as part of a project in Social Science and Tourism Management today wherein 39

students participated in the trip escorted by subject teachers, Suresh K Subba and Suraj Das Rai.

A press release informs that the students came across many local species of plants, various types of mushrooms and foot prints of wild boar and other wild animals, etc.

during the trip.

The prime objective of the field trip was to make the teaching-learning process real and vivid and to impress upon the students the importance of such sanctuaries especially in relation to tourism, adds the release.

SKM urges BDOs to hold Gram Sabha to identify Janata Mela beneficiaries

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

A delegation of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party comprising of vice president, PK Subba, accompanied by party vice president, DR Nirola, general secretary in-charge [Zone II], members, Nima Wangchuk Bhutia, Enchub Bhutia, SB Rai, MB Subba, Bum Tshering Yonzon, Samdup Bhutia, Pema Bhutia, Bimal Tamang, and Narayan Adhikari, visited Pakyong and Parkha Block Administration Centre in East Sikkim today.

A press release issued by publicity secretary-SKM, Arun Upreti, informs that the team submitted a memorandum to Block Development Officers of Pakyong and Parkha requesting

for a Gram Sabha to be held in order to identify beneficiaries for upcoming Janata Mela.

As per Section 11[b] of Sikkim Panchayat Act, 1993 [functions of Gram Sabha], the Gram Sabha shall identify the beneficiaries for implementation of development schemes pertaining to the village, provided that, if the Gram Sabha fails to identify the beneficiaries within the reasonable time, the prescribed authority shall, in consultation with the Gram Sabha, identify the beneficiaries, the release mentions.

The party in the release, however, alleges that Sikkim Democratic Front is randomly preparing the beneficiaries list without organizing Gram Sabha, which is total vio-

lation of the above-mentioned Act. In order to retain transparency while preparing beneficiaries list, the SKM submitted a memorandum asking to hold Gram Sabha, the release states.

SKM is submitting such letters to all BDO offices through the respective Constituency Level Committees throughout the state, it mentions.

Similarly, another delegation headed by vice president-cum-East District in-charge, Bishnu Khatiwara, along with party workers, Santosh Kumar Pradhan, Nirpat Gurung, Damber Gurung, LM Yonzon, Jacob Subba and others also submitted similar memorandums to Rongli BDO, Rhenock BDO and Duga BDO.

Vidhan Sabha team from HP visits Sikkim

GANGTOK, 03 JUN [IPR]: The 12-member team of Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Press Gallery Committee on their tour to Gangtok were accorded a warm welcome by Additional Secretary of Committee Section-Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Lakpa Doma Bhutia, and Joint Secretary, Lalit Kumar Gurung, here today.

Apart from discussing the e-vidhan procedure in which Himachal

Pradesh Assembly has taken a lead in the country, the Committee members also interacted on various issues of common interest.

Since Sikkim has similar topography like Himachal, several topics like tourism, agriculture and horticulture, functioning of e-vidhan and paperless Assembly of Himachal were also deliberated upon.

Director-Information & Public Relations Depart-

ment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, RS Negi, and senior journalists including Bureau Chief of National dailies were all praise for the warm welcome given to them.

Liaison Officer of the Committee, Hardyal Chauhan, presented details on e-vidhan and formation of the Press Gallery Committee.

The visiting Committee also suggested forming of Press Gallery Committee of Sikkim's Vidhan Sabha.

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Gangtok on Sunday, 04 June

Temp: 27°C / 17°C

Forecast: Partly sunny; a t-shower in spots in the morning followed by a couple of t-storms in the afternoon.

Sunrise: 04:40 AM

Sunset: 06:27 PM

Samay Dainik condoles death of colleague's mother

GANGTOK, 03 JUN: Samay Dainik family has expressed its deep condolence on the passing away of Yog Kumari Sharma, mother of Samay Dainik journalist, Rabin Sharma [Subedi].

She was undergoing medical treatment at Gangtok and passed away this morning.

She was 74 years old and hailed from Melli in South Sikkim. She is survived by her husband, two sons and daughters-in-law, four daughters and sons-in-law and grand children.

GST Council clears rules, states agree to July 1 rollout

Contd from pg01

(Centre) have to rectify it... We have to continue with our fight to bring down the tax rates on certain products.

"Unless the rates are reduced, they will adversely impact the state's economy and employment," she had said.

As for the transition rules approved by Council, the industry had been demanding some relaxation of the provision of deemed credit.

The draft transition law provided that once GST is implemented a company can claim credit of up to 40 per cent of their Central GST dues for excise duty paid on stock held by businesses prior to the rollout.

Several dealers are choosing to wait and watch rather than buy and hold on to inventories. They have lobbied with the government seeking an increase in the credit limit.

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State National Service Scheme convenes first Annual Advisory Committee Meeting

GANGTOK, 03 JUN [IPR]: The first Annual Advisory Committee Meeting of the State National Service Scheme was held at the conference hall of Chintan Bhawan today.

The meeting was chaired by Minister for Human Resource Development Department and Sports & Youth Affairs, RB Subba, who is also the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

The meeting also had the presence of Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, Chairman-Sikkim Youth Development Board, Khem Prasad Dahal, Secretary-Land Revenue Department, Tsegal Tashi, Secretary-Health, Dr K Bhan-

dari, Secretary-Sports & Youth Affairs, SD Dhakal, Special Secretary-Information & Public Relations, Namrata Thapa, Deputy Programme Advisor-Directorate of Youth Affairs, Government of India, Hemant Kumar Sharma, State NSS Officer, Doma Tshering Bhutia, and other officers of the Department.

Secretary-Sports & Youth Affairs, SD Dhakal, presented the activities of the State NSS including physical and financial progress, as well as proposed programmes for future. He also placed the annual budget of the NSS for the approval of the Advisory Committee.

After detailed review

of the activities of the NSS and after thorough deliberation of issues such as pending grant for 2015-16, fund position, expenditure detail for 2016-17, the budget for 2017-18 was approved by the Committee.

The Minister suggested for constitution of a sub-committee to formulate certain policies which could be used as guidelines for future.

The Chief Secretary in his address lauded the efforts of the NSS in the State stating that it is growing in focus, coverage and area of activities.

All the members of the Advisory Committee participated in the discussion.



Minister of State for Sports meets CM

GANGTOK, 03 JUN [IPR]: Union Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs [Independent Charge], Vijay Goel, called on Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling, this evening at his official residence at Mintokgang.

The Union Minister shared that this was his first visit to the State and he was very impressed with the unique features here such as cleanliness, flow of tourists, 'no horn', safety of women and the pedestrian walkway along MG Marg.

He added that the good practices of the State should be given more publicity at the national level, so that other states can learn from Sikkim. The Minister also commended the all-round development achieved by the State under the leadership of the dynamic Chief Minister.

Mr Chamling thanked the Union Minister for



his visit to Sikkim. He informed the Minister about Sikkim being a peaceful state in spite of being a border state. He shared that there is no insurgency and the people of Sikkim are emotionally integrated with the Nation.

He also informed that the State will achieve

100% literacy by the end of 2018. He also apprised the Minister about the sanitation and pollution-free status of Sikkim.

On being asked about the development on the sports front, the Chief Minister informed that the State Government has laid great impetus

on the development of sports in the form of infrastructure development and incentives to sports persons.

He added that along with football, sports like Archery, Taekwondo, Boxing and Badminton are being given highest priority in the State.

During the meeting, the Governor apprised



Minister of State calls on Governor

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports, Vijay Goel, called on Governor, Shrinivas Patil, at Raj Bhavan in Gangtok on 02 June. He was accompanied by his wife, Professor Preeti Goel, a press communiqué informs.

During the meeting, the Governor apprised

the Minister of the various achievements of Sikkim in various spheres. He also briefed him about the cleanliness and the natural beauty of Sikkim, which has been attracting tourists in large numbers. The Minister agreed that more people should be made aware of the huge attractions that the State has to offer.

The Minister is currently on a four-day

visit to Sikkim starting from 02 June. During this period, he will attend the MXIM Football Celebration programme at Paljor Stadium on 03 June and a State Level Youth Convention of Officers and Volunteers of NYKS, NSS and NCC cadets on 04 June, adds the release.

Woman donates health insurance cover for Old Age Home residents



SUMMIT REPORT

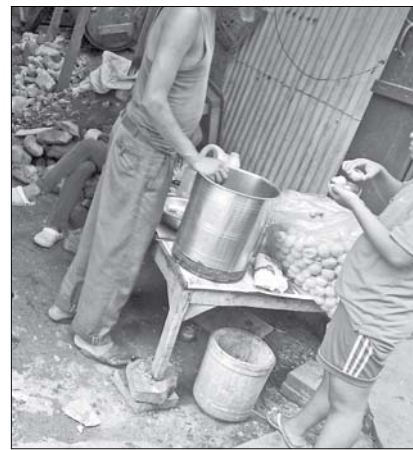
GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

Senior Librarian at Sikkim Police Headquarters, Ramana Rai [Chettri], has been actively involved in providing aid to residents of the Old Age Home in Jalipool, East Sikkim.

In the latest instance, she has secured health insurance cover under Sikkim Manipal Swasthya Suraksha Scheme for all 15 residents of the Home at her own expense ensuring Rs 1.5 lakh health benefit for the individuals.

Speaking to SummitTimes, Ms Rai

said, "We take care of our families and children but who will take care of the ones who have no one to look after them. Large amounts of money is required when they get ill. As such with the support from Central Referral Hospital staff associated with this scheme I took a stand to cover their health insurance. I wish more people who can afford to do so, extended such courtesy to the senior citizens in need of aid. The smallest assistance can prove a savior for them when it comes to monetary issues during illness."



Food stall at Singtam operating despite orders to shift

YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 03 JUN:

After the Station House Officer of Singtam Police Station, Ajai Rai, along with the staff of the Police Station, conducted an inspection of Singtam haat day on 03 June, one panipuri stall at the premises has been ordered to be shifted to a different location for health & hygiene reasons. However, the stall located near Central Bank of India in Singtam is still operating from the same spot even after the order and directions of the Police.

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Remember Tiananmen

The crackdown notwithstanding, that moment was about courage and conviction

On this day, 04 June, twenty-eight years ago, China completed its crackdown on what remains one of the more inspiring, brave and momentous occasions in recent world history. Much Before Wall Street was occupied or pro-democracy people took over Tahrir Square, there was the aspiration of the Chinese youth which crested with the nearly month and half long 'dharna' at Tiananmen Square in Beijing. The desire for democracy was so strong that China had to deploy its army and tanks to quell it. We now know the episode as the Tiananmen Square Massacre, and that the iconic image of the protest - that of a solitary man standing up to an armoured tank - continues to radiate courage and inspire movements.

News broadcasts on this day in 1989 were filled with the images of tanks, blood and death on the streets of Beijing. As night fell on 03 June, 1989, 40,000 soldiers of the 27th Peoples Liberation Army moved into China's capital with orders to crush the six weeks of demonstrations and protests by the country's students and workers, and end their demands for political change. In the preceding weeks, China, and Beijing in particular, had witnessed extraordinary events. A student occupation of Tiananmen Square became the focus for a rising working class movement. Independent Workers' Autonomous Federations were active in numbers of cities. From 20 May the movement continued in defiance of martial law and the central government was divided and paralysed. The paralysis was short-lived though and eventually the gloves came off. Accounts of witnesses testify to the calculated terror employed by the military as it reclaimed the capital.

Even though the 'uprising' was quelled. Tiananmen continues to inspire movements around the world. Who can forget that compelling image of the heroic Power of One mentioned earlier? Tiananmen cannot be dismissed as a freak development. It was the culmination of a decade of simmering discontent which exploded in the hands of students and workers. Countless were killed in the crackdown, some 40,000 arrested and dozens later sentenced to public executions. And yet, that one episode changed China. The last bastion of communism was ironically co-opted by demands of market forces and became the powerhouse dragon that the West is eyeing as much as a market as the backroom manufacturer. Even as the students inspired youth around the world, the iron fist of the government attracted those driven solely by profit. There are those who believe that Tiananmen did trigger investments into China, but for the wrong reasons. Tiananmen Square was like a global advertisement for investment - in China, no opposition to exploitation and oppression is tolerated. From 1990 on, investment flowed into China at exponential levels. In 1994 more investment entered the country than in the entire decade from 1979-1989. The crocodile tears that the rest of world shed after Tiananmen suggest that the latter interpretation is more correct.

But nothing in life is in pure black and white and the truth in this case also perhaps rests in a grey zone. Be that as it may, fact remains that Tiananmen was about courage and conviction. Since it was spearheaded by the young, it is something that every youth should learn from. Tiananmen is not just about taking on the establishment [that was just the medium of expression]; it is about harbouring convictions so strong that no adversary appears invincible. It is about finding a common cause and then living by it. We should ensure that this underpinning of the Tiananmen Moment is conveyed to all the young so that they take inspiration from the courage of the Chinese youth who put everything on the line 28 years ago.

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:
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Opinion

To conserve forests, we need to think beyond current ideas of integration or segregation

JAMES DOUGLAS LANGSTON
theconversation.com

Deforestation has historically been the price of development, but the world is now going through a forest transition; since 2015, there has been net global reforestation.

The pace and quality of this transition is mixed. In the world's remaining high conservation-value forests, deforestation rates are high and poverty persists but development opportunities are within sight.

These forests are mainly located in the tropical developing world and have growing human populations. Because as forest-dependent people are increasingly involved in cash economies, they use their forests to participate in markets. This will inevitably lead to changes in forests.

But can these transitions be nurtured so that future forest landscapes deliver the biodiversity and ecosystem benefits that societies need or desire?

HUMAN INTERFERENCE

It's not that the world's remaining forests are pristine and untouched. Humans have shaped and domesticated the remote Amazonian and Bornean and Congo Basin forests for millennia; all forests are the result of human actions.

But as development pressures and the rate of globalisation increase, and as market and cash economies spread, changes in forests are intensifying. Forest clearance and disturbance has seen biodiversity decline and ecosystems suffer.

Conservationists typically respond to this in one of two ways. They either tackle the threat head on and try to counter it (classic threat-based conservation). Or they hand over forest management to local people (community-based forestry).

This latter is a recent popular trend and it's based on the assumption that locals will take care of biodiversity.

But neither threat-based conservation nor local management has proven successful for preserving forests. Tropical forests are still subject to high deforestation rates in less developed countries and conservationists lament the ongoing decline in biodiversity and ecosystems.

These forests are home to many thousands of people, who often have few economic opportunities. What is their future; what will happen to their forests; and where do they fit in future strategies for conservation?

ROMANCE VS MAKING A LIVING

Some conservationists assume that forests will be

preserved by forest-dependent people because they're content with their "traditional lifestyles", disconnected from cash economies and living in romanticised sustainable communities.

And rights groups point out that people living in forests often have insecure land rights, lack freedoms and power, and are victims of land grabs by companies and governments. They say fixing these requires handing forests completely over to local communities.

Under the influence of their assumptions, rights-based and conservation groups both argue - perhaps implicitly - that communities, given the oppor-

prived of development opportunities, for instance, is clearly not a viable way forward.

But the alternative strategy of handing management over to local people in the hope that they will protect biodiversity is also not realistic. If the only options on offer are forest protection or development at their expense (plantations, for instance, or mines and agriculture) then most people will, naturally, choose the latter.

Where governance is weak and people are poor, forests will not survive unless conservation engages with the process of development, rather than opposes it.

Current efforts, then, can be seen as seeking to conserve the forests of the past. But what we need is to transition to future forested landscapes that will meet the needs of the 9.5 billion resource-hungry people expected to populate the world by 2050, as well as conserve biodiversity and ecosystem processes.

The binary approach of integration or segregation is thus misleading. Strictly protected areas are essential but they will have to be part of a matrix of landscape components that provide for increased prosperity and sustainability.

A balance between conservation and development can only be struck at a landscape - or seascape - level. This approach brings together stakeholders and aims to balance the multiple - and sometimes conflicting - objectives in a landscape or seascape.

It's mindful that local peoples' needs and aspirations change with time. People living near forests will say their preferred future includes the continued existence of forests and therefore, biodiversity and intact ecosystems. The challenge is to achieve this alongside improvements in livelihoods.

Blueprints and roadmaps are useless, then, unless they reflect and satisfy local development needs. Continual learning and adaptation is needed to work with changing priorities on both the local and global scales.

Only once local management coalitions explicitly acknowledge trade-offs, when winners and losers are clearly identified prior to any intervention, and local peoples share a commonly agreed path to their future, can we better nurture forests.

[the writer is PhD Candidate and Demonstrator in the Development Practice Programme, James Cook University]



Contested claims in Lombok, Indonesia lead to forest encroachment and degradation

tunity, will manage forests in a sustainable way.

Recently, even "green-black" alliances, where conservation groups and Indigenous rights groups collaborate over shared goals, have been shown to be problematic. Indigenous groups and local communities may not manage their forests to conserve biodiversity or, for that matter, the climate change mitigation values of the forests.

In spite of the lack of evidence that local management will lead to conservation, development organisations, NGOs and governments have mobilised vast sums of money to turn the management of lands over to local people.

But a slew of recent articles explains why local management is not a panacea.

Communities and indigenous people would, of course, like to see forests, nature and biodiversity - and in abundance. But their priority, like that of most people, is improving their own well-being and that of their children. This means making choices.

Data from Indonesia, the Congo Basin and Brazil show that, in general, forests managed by local people will only deliver benefits when this doesn't conflict with short-term economic interests.

REALISTIC FOREST FUTURES

To local people, tackling threats to forests is seen as opposing development and will continue to fail. Opposing new roads in areas where people are de-

How our environment can induce allergies even before we're born

SABINE LANGIE
theconversation.com

Is this the worst Northern Hemisphere allergy season yet? For many people - both those who've suffered before and newcomers to the annual sniffing, coughing mess that accompanies springtime - it seems like there are more allergens and allergies today than ever before.

They're not really wrong: allergic diseases are on the rise in the Northern Hemisphere. Nearly one in every two Europeans has either a food or environmental allergy, and both have increased in frequency and severity over the last decade.

Many allergies start in childhood. According to the European Federation of Allergy and Airway Diseases Patients Association around 65% of children are affected by 18 months of age. The International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood reports that well over 20% of European youngsters show allergic reactions to inhalants or food at some point during their childhood.

To learn more about how children become allergic so soon in life, I studied how the environment can affect the risk of developing respiratory allergies (the complete study will be published in coming months in a special issue of the journal Mechanisms of Ageing and Development on epigenetics).

ALLERGIES MAY START EVEN BEFORE WE ARE BORN

Although genetic predisposition is an important risk factor, experts have also known for some time that what pregnant women eat and breathe can impact their unborn babies. The last decade has seen further scientific

proof of the link between a mother's diet and lifestyle during pregnancy and the well-being of her child later in life.

Recent results from a Flemish birth cohort study looking at mothers and their children, which was financed by the Flemish Government and coordinated by a leading European independent research and technology organisation VITO, showed an association between exposure to traffic-related air pollutants before birth (mainly nitrogen dioxide and the particle PM10) and the development of asthma symptoms or wheezing in three-year old toddlers.

Thus, we know that chemical exposure before birth may have an impact on a child's allergy risk later in life. Other recent studies offer an explanation for the link: epigenetic DNA methylation changes induced by environmental factors.

Let's break the science-speak down a bit. Our DNA or genetic blueprint determines the way we look and, to some extent, our personality. Epigenetics - that is, all non-genetic modifications "on" genes that do not change the DNA sequence itself - is responsible for the remaining details.

When epigenetic DNA methylation occurs, it means that methyl groups (-CH3) are added onto the DNA, which affects the way genes express themselves - that is, how they behave.

For instance, mothers-to-be who are exposed to chemical compounds or consume a less-than-ideal diet - like the modern Western diet which is dominated by processed foods that are low in antioxidants but rich in saturated fatty acids - especially during the early stages of pregnancy, can al-

ter the DNA methylation patterns on their babies' DNA, turning some genes on and others off, and consequently increasing the baby's risk of allergies.

Frequent consumption of fruits, vegetables and fish, on the other hand, are associated with a lower prevalence of asthma. And a diet of fish rich in n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (also found in nuts, seeds and oysters among other foods) can actually counterbalance the pro-allergic response.

What's more, a high level of adherence to the so-called "Mediterranean diet" - olive oil, goats' cheese, and fruits, among other foods - early in life appears to protect against the development of allergies in children.

Such epigenetic changes are, to some extent, reversible. Studies show that epigenetic changes causing higher body weight could be reversed by dietary supplementation with essential nutrients such as choline, betaine and folic acid.

But it appears that extreme or chronic exposure, as may occur if there is starvation, overeating or chemical exposure during pregnancy, may alter the epigenetic pattern so intensively that it leaves a permanent "mark" on the child's DNA.

This marker can be passed on to the next generation, thus increasing their risk of disease even more from the very beginning of life and highlighting the critical importance of prenatal care in raising healthy future generations.

DETECTING RESPIRATORY ALLERGY IN YOUNG CHILDREN

My research at VITO explored the hypothesis that chemical exposures during pregnancy and early life alter the DNA methylation patterns

of young children (aged five and 11 years old) and thereby influence their immune systems and allergy risk later in life.

Questionnaires and saliva samples gathered from about 170 mother-child pairs from two different birth cohorts in Flanders (FLEHS1 and FLEHS2) were analysed. Screening of the whole genome DNA methylation patterns of children allergic to respiratory allergens (hay fever, asthma and house dust mite allergy) compared to not-allergic children revealed a list of 27 gene regions that showed a modified DNA methylation pattern and could thus possibly be used to diagnose respiratory allergies.

Interestingly, we observed an association between the altered DNA methylation patterns in three of these genes and exposure to traffic-related air pollutants during pregnancy of mothers as well as during the child's life until age 11. This suggests that these allergy-related epigenetic changes can be the result of early life exposures to air pollutants.

Since the identified genes have a regulating role in allergic disease reactions, they might be of interest to study for further development of a diagnostic screening tools. If chemical exposures and resulting changes in DNA methylation patterns can be detected early in life, strategies to prevent chemical exposures or the risk to get allergy (or both), particularly in children, could be developed at various levels such as reviewing legislation on air pollution limits or aiming at a better education of prospective parents.

[the writer is Postdoctoral fellow - Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO), Hasselt University]

Woman suspected as child lifter lynched in Odisha

BARIPADA (ODISHA), JUN 3 (PTI): A woman in mid-forties was lynched by a mob suspecting her as a child lifter at Domuhani in Mayurbhanj district today.

The woman, whose identity is yet to be established, was seen roaming in and around Bangiriposi police station area, under which the village falls, for the past two weeks, police said.

When she came to Domuhani village yesterday, she was caught by the local people who tied her in a tree last night suspecting her as a child lifter.

A mob pelted stones and beat her with lathis when the woman tried to escape this morning. She died on the spot, they said.

A case was registered.

Lineman electrocuted at Bong Basti

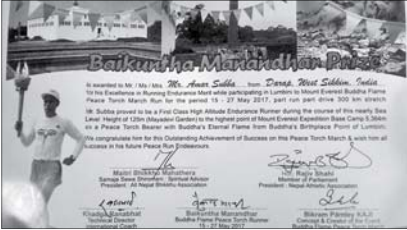
SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 03 JUN:

One 37-year old man was electrocuted at around 11 a.m. today at Bong Basti in Kalimpong while repairing a line which had stopped functioning on Friday. The deceased was identified as Sajan Chhetri, a resident of Garigaw, Lower Bong Basti. The deceased reportedly fell from the electric pole after getting an electric shock. He died on the spot according to locals. Later he was rushed to Kalimpong Hospital wherein he was declared bought dead.

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Marathon Man Amar Subba conferred Baikuntha Manandhar Award



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 JUN:

Marathon Man of Sikkim, Amar Subba, was conferred with the Baikuntha Manandhar Award at Kathmandu, Nepal on Friday evening. The award was handed over by MP, Rajiv Saha, who is also the president of Nepal Athletic Association. The award was presented to Mr Subba for his participation in a 300 km long Spiritual Run from Lumbini, the birth place of Lord Buddha, to Everest Base Camp held from 14-28 May.

It has to be mentioned here that after his spiritual run he also participated in the Everest Marathon and secured a silver medal in half marathon of 21 km held on 29 May.

"It is a great pleasure for me to receive such a prestigious award in the name of a great Olympian Baikuntha Manandhar. I also got an opportunity to pray for my family, society, well wishers and friends for their long life and happiness in this spiritual run," he said.



Mob beat up policemen, damage vehicles in Assam

SILCHAR, JUN 3 (PTI): A

mob beat up several policemen, heckled some others, damaged police vehicles and a bridge after a child was killed in an accident on the national highway 37 in Assam, police said today.

The trouble began yesterday when an eight-year-old school girl was run over and killed by a truck on the Silchar-Imphal road at

Hmarculin.

In protest, local people put up a road blockade keeping the body of the child on the road. The Officer-in charge of Lakhimpur police station Hantse along with other policemen rushed to the spot where the angry people beat them up and damaged several police vehicles.

To control the situation, police burst tear gas shells, fired four rounds

in the air as well as four rounds of rubber bullets, police said.

The injured OC Hantse, Assistant Sub Inspector Sajal Purkaystha, ASI Rafiqueuddin and driver Akbar Khan were admitted to the Silchar Medical College Hospital (SMCH).

The protesters then heckled the neighbouring Jaipur PS OC Anol Jyoti Das and other administration officials of

Lakhimpur sub-division who rushed there to bring the situation under control, they said.

Senior police officials, including the Officer-in-charge of Cachar police station, then rushed to the spot and recovered the body and sent it to the SMCH for post-mortem.

Police said the situation today was under control though tense and peace meetings were held

with the agitating people.

So far 21 people were arrested, but the people were demanding that they be released immediately, the truck traced and the family of the girl paid monetary compensation.

Meanwhile, movement of vehicles on the Silchar-Imphal NH-37 remained suspended today as the protesters had yesterday damaged a bridge there, they said.

DU teachers oppose new UGC regulations on granting autonomy

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI):

Delhi University teachers today criticised the UGC for coming up with regulations that aimed at "privatising" higher education and appealed to the teachers community to oppose the move.

The UGC had yesterday approved a new set of regulations called UGC (Categorisation of Universities for Grant of Graded Autonomy) Regulations-2017.

According to it, all universities and colleges would be graded into categories I/II/III based on their National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) accreditation and National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings.

The institutions having NAAC score more than 3.5 or NIRF ranking upto 50 for two consecutive years will be in Category I. The institutions having NAAC score from 3.01 to 3.49 or NIRF ranking between 51 to 100 will be in Category II and rest in Category III.

The category I institutions may open research parks, incubation centres, university society linkage centres either on its own or in partnership with private partners, without approval of Commission, the regulations read.

The teachers see the new regulations as a move to "decimate" the present courses run by colleges and the universities.

"The category I institu-

tions would get autonomy without visit of experts committees. In the name of autonomy, the existing institutions will be converted into teaching shops to run market-friendly courses through their off-campus branches and distance education outlets," Rajesh Jha, an executive council member and professor, said.

The "so-called" autonomous institution will have market-oriented fee structure with their amount soaring into lakhs, he added.

"At such turn of events, when the government is moving ahead with brazen privatisation agenda, we appeal to the teaching community of this country to oppose

and reject these draconian regulations unitedly," he said.

The UGC has requested feedback on the above draft documents before 15 June.

According to NIRF rankings 2017, the Delhi University ranks 15, while the Jawaharlal Nehru University 5th.

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Cattle ban: Meghalaya CM writes to Tripura counterpart seeking joint opposition

TURA (MEGHALAYA),

JUNE 3 (PTI): Meghalaya

Chief Minister Mukul Sangma has written to his Tripura counterpart Manik Sarkar seeking to form a joint opposition to the Centre's ban on sale and purchase of cattle at livestock markets for slaughter.

Sangma said the move "infringes" on the rights of states to regulate items on the State List which includes cattle markets.

"State governments must assert collectively to dissuade the Union government from such actions which directly dilute the federal structure of our great nation," he said in the letter to Sarkar last evening.

He added that the notification will set a "very wrong precedent" in negating the spirit of the federal structure.

"The Union government should have tread carefully after due consultations with state governments before proposing changes in the regulation of livestock markets under the Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals Act," Sangma said.

Calling for strong joint resistance from states, Sangma said the move by the central government to regulate cattle markets in the "garb" of environmental regulation is "a complete infringement of the states."

The Meghalaya chief minister pointed out that like other North Eastern states, Meghalaya has 85 per cent indigenous people and cannot afford to ban the sale of cattle for slaughter.

He said the butchers' association in the Khasi-Jaintia Hills had recently met him and expressed concerns over the new notification.

"This piquant situation can lead to a clash of subjects between the Union and state governments, which are clearly delineated in the VIII Schedule to the constitution and does not behold well for healthy federal relations in the larger context of cooperative federalism which the Prime Minister espouses so dearly," he said.

Map in Cong booklet shows J&K as Indian occupied Kashmir

LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): The Congress party

today committed a blooper when its senior leader Ghulam Nabi Azad released a booklet with a map of Jammu and Kashmir shown as Indian occupied Kashmir, drawing stinging criticism from the ruling BJP.

Azad, the Congress' leader in the Rajya Sabha, was in Lucknow where he attacked the Modi government for its "failures", including those in handling India's relations with Pakistan and China.

At the press conference, he released a booklet which contained a map showing Kashmir as Indian occupied Kashmir.

The BJP quickly latched on to the faux pas to attack its arch rival, saying it must have gladdened the heart of its "patrons in Pakistan".

On its part, the Congress party apologised for the "big mistake", admitting that it was its responsibility to ensure that such a map was not released. It, however, claimed the BJP had released a similar map on its website but never admitted to the mistake.



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FCAT directs CBFC to certify 'The Danish Girl'

New Delhi, Jun 3 (PTI):

The Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT) has directed the Censor Board to grant certification to British-American film "The Danish Girl" for viewing on TV channels, thereby reversing the Board's decision not to screen the film on the small screen.

The 2015 biographical romantic drama film has been directed by Tom Hooper.

Based on a fictional novel of the same name by David Ebershoff, the film is loosely inspired by the lives of Danish painters Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. The film stars Eddie Redmayne as Elbe, one of the first known recipients of sex reassignment surgery.

The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) had cleared the film for a theatrical release in January and granted it an A certificate.

However, in March, the Board refused U/UA certification to the film which is necessary for a film to be aired on TV channels. It had said the film should be viewed only by "mature adults".

Citing a Supreme Court judgement that granted recognition of gender identity to the transgender community by declaring the availability of 'Third Gender', the FCAT headed by Justice Manmohan Sarin reversed the CBFC's decision.

Sony Pictures had approached the FCAT and in their appeal cited TV shows that have aired on television and revolved around similar subjects. While seeking U/UA certification, they had offered 14 cuts in scenes and dialogues to make the film eligible for the television audience.

Citing the examples of films like "The Brokeback Mountain", "Mild", "Boys Don't Cry" and "D Trains", the production company had stated that these movies had been cleared for airing on Indian television after grant of U/UA certificate.

Similarly, they said TV shows based on similar subject like "The Big F" and "Shakti-Ek Ehsaas Ki" were on air on different channels.

The FCAT observed "The Danish Girl" shows the "travails and sufferings of a husband who struggles to find his own identity, believing that he should be a woman."

"His wife empathises with him and supports him, remaining by his bed side all through his sex reassignment surgery in the 18th century," it said.

The tribunal said it would be "unfair to curtail a film projecting these issues merely on the ground that this is a complex subject, as observed by the CBFC."

It also said that there was nothing in the film, which was "vulgar, obscene or amounting to depravity of women or which denigrates them."

Praising the film, the FCAT called it an "excellent depiction of the problems of the transgenders and their struggle for adjustments in life."

It added that unless one acknowledged the problems of transgenders, they would not be able to enjoy their rights.

Dual Battle for India: Pakistan on field, controversy off it

BIRMINGHAM, JUN 3 (PTI): Defending champions India will be aiming to shut out off-field controversies when they lock horns with arch-rivals Pakistan in their ICC Champions Trophy opener -- a marquee contest where tension and drama is never in short supply.

One of the finest fast bowlers of current times, Mohammed Amir would be pitted against the talismanic Virat Kohli in what could turn out to be a battle primarily between India's vaunted batting line-up and against Pakistan's potent bowling attack.

A line-up that boasts of Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan, Yuvraj Singh and Mahendra Singh Dhoni can be intimidating for any bowling attack.

But facing Amir and an equally talented Junaid Khan in English conditions, despite Edgbaston showing signs of being a batting-friendly track, will be testing for the Indian batsmen.

In any case, Pakistan can be brilliant on a given day and rubbish on several others.

For India, the bone of contention will be their bowling combination, with all-rounder Hardik Pandya being the balancing factor.

Jasprit Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar Kumar are certainties.

Umesh Yadav has more zip in his bowling after a successful Test season but Mohammed Shami has a variety of skill in his repertoire to trouble the best batsmen.

With Pakistan's top-order full of right-handers, Ravichandran Ashwin will have a tough fight making it into the team in place of Ravindra Jadeja.

Like it or not, an Indo-Pak match is a bit different from other cricketing rivalries purely due to its socio-political significance.

The current cross-border tension



between the South Asian neighbours also adds its distinct colour to the historical rivalry in which India have come up trumps more often than not in global competitions.

For cricketers, it's just "another match" but for the die-hard fans, a win is not everything but the only thing that they expect from their heroes.

The 'Batsman' Virat Kohli knows more than a thing or two about how to win matches against Pakistan but for 'skipper' Virat Kohli, the tournament as a whole would test his maturity.

The unsavoury controversy related to his speculated rift with chief coach Anil Kumble couldn't have happened at a more inappropriate time -- just when India were going

into an important ICC event.

But Indian teams of the past have shown that off-field issues becomes inconsequential, the moment they cross the boundary rope.

Ironical as it may sound, the Pakistan team, which has always been controversy-ridden, has not had any major flare-ups till now save enfant terrible Umar Akmal being sent back due to poor fitness.

While Champions Trophy is one ICC event where Pakistan enjoy a 2-1 head-to-head record against India but on paper, Kohli's men are far superior in each and every department of the game.

In batting, man-to-man, India have more experience and quality.

While Rohit Sharma will be playing his first international match after more than six months, Shikhar Dhawan will look to relive his performance during the 2013 edition, when he was in the form of his life winning 'Man of the Tournament' award.

But Rohit and Shikhar are proven match-winners on their days and on good tracks they can be bullies.

Cut to Pakistan, Azhar Ali and Ahmed Shehzad are talented but they are not as prolific as the Indian duo as their averages of 38 plus and 33 plus will suggest.

At No.3, there are no debates and the Indian captain already rates among the top four batsmen in world cricket along with Steve Smith, Kane

Williamson and Joe Root.

Babar Azam, with an ODI average close to 45, has been a terrific young find for Pakistan. However, the India match will not only test his technique but also his temperament in front of a packed-to-capacity stadium.

Yuvraj Singh and Mahendra Singh Dhoni are a few years ahead in terms of quality and execution compared to opposition veterans Mohammed Hafeez and Sarfraz Khan.

It will be interesting if Yuvraj, who couldn't play the warm-up games, is fit for the 'Battle Royale'. In case Yuvraj is not fit, Dinesh Karthik will get a look-in.

Pocket dynamo Kedar Jadhav will also face his first big test outside the sub-continent.

However it's the bowling where Pakistan may just have a slight edge as Amir, Wahab and Junaid are tough to face if there's cloud cover. But Bhuvneshwar, Bumrah, Shami and Umesh also combine to form a quality attack.

In all, it's advantage India despite the reported dressing room unrest.

SQUADS:

India: Virat Kohli (captain), Shikhar Dhawan, Rohit Sharma, Yuvraj Singh, Kedar Jadhav, MS Dhoni (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Umesh Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Ajinkya Rahane, Dinesh Karthik, Ravichandran Ashwin.

Pakistan: Sarfraz Khan (captain and wk), Ahmed Shahzad, Azhar Ali, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Sohail, Hasan Ali, Imad Wasim, Junaid Khan, Mohammed Amir, Mohammed Hafeez, Shadab Khan, Shoaib Malik, Wahab Riaz.

Match starts 3pm IST.

Indian Army men climb Everest without using oxygen cylinders

**SHIRISH B PRADHAN
KATHMANDU, JUN 3
(PTI):**

A team of four Indian Army personnel successfully climbed Mt Everest without using oxygen cylinders, becoming the first team to scale the world's highest peak without supplementary oxygen.

The four climbers are Kunchok Tenda, Kelshang Dorjee Bhutia, Kalden Panjur and Sonam Phuntsok.

Out of total 14 members of the team, three mountaineers -- Urgyen Topgye, Ngwang Gelek and Karma Zopa - successfully climbed Mt Everest with the support of supplementary oxygen.

"We had formed a team of 10 people with the aim to scale the Everest without using oxygen cylinder, and succeeded in sending four



members to the top of the world without oxygen," Col Vishal Dubey, leader of the Snow Lion Everest Expedition 2017, told PTI.

This was for the first time that any team had

made attempt to climb the Everest without supplementary oxygen, he added.

"Our aim is to climb the Everest without carrying oxygen cylinder and create history," he

said.

More than 4,000 people have so far climbed the 8848-metre peak, of which only 187 people have done this without oxygen on individual basis.

Six Sherpa guides of the expedition also reached the top of the world with the supplementary oxygen. The team, which scaled the Everest on May 21 returned to Kathmandu yesterday.

Ganeshan first Indian to be inducted in ITTF URC

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): Ganeshan Neelakanta Iyer, the only assigned competition manager of International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), has become the first Indian to be nominated as a member of the Umpires and Referees Committee (URC).

Following the AGM of the world table tennis body early this week, the Board of Directors of various committees met on the sidelines of the ongoing World Championships and handpicked the best in the business for the job.

Ganeshan's term as URC member is for a period of two years and can be extended.

In another first, Ganeshan has also been recommended as the Technical Commissioner from the Asian Continent to ITTF and his term will be for a period of four years.

Ganeshan is also the chairman of the South



Asian Federation technical committee and a member of the Technical Committee of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation.

Ganeshan, who supervised the Asian Championships at Wuxi (China) as competition manager last month, was a deputy referee in the Kuala Lumpur World Championships 2016.

He has also officiated in various International competitions as Competition Manger and Referee, including the Commonwealth Games at Glasgow in 2014.

Bhanwari Devi murder case: Indira Bishnoi sent to CBI custody

Dewas (MP), Jun 3 (PTI): Indira Bishnoi, an accused in the sensational Bhanwari Devi murder case who evaded the law for over six years, was today sent to seven days of CBI custody by a Jodhpur court in Rajasthan.

Bishnoi was arrested by the Rajasthan Police with the help of their Madhya Pradesh counterparts from Nemawar area last night.

The case had grabbed headlines in 2011 after the name of then Rajasthan minister Mahipal Maderna cropped up in connection with the murder

of Bhanwari, an auxiliary nurse midwife (ANM).

CBI Spokesperson R K Gaur said in New Delhi today that the agency has got seven days custody of Bishnoi during which she will be questioned on various aspects of the case.

Bishnoi had carried a reward of Rs five lakh on her head.

According to police sources, she was living with a family in Nemawar as a destitute.

The CBI has so far filed three charge sheets against 17 accused, includ-

ing Maderna and former Congress MLA Malkhan Singh, in the case.

Among the accused, 15 are in judicial custody, one is out on bail while Bishnoi was absconding.

Bhanwari, posted as auxiliary nurse midwife at a sub-centre in Jaliwada village, around 120 km from Jodhpur, had gone missing on September 1, 2011. She disappeared after a CD allegedly showing Maderna in compromising position with the 36-year-old nurse was aired by some news channels.

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Deadly explosions rock funeral in tense Kabul

KABUL, JUN 3 (AFP): At least six people were killed and dozens wounded as explosions rocked the funeral of an Afghan politician's son who died during an anti-government protest over spiralling insecurity in Kabul, raising tensions in a city already on edge.

Witnesses reported three blasts at the burial site of Salim Ezadyar, who was among four people killed on Friday when the protest degenerated into street clashes with police, fuelling anger against the government.

The hilly, wind-swept site was littered with bloodied corpses and dismembered limbs, local television footage showed, with one witness telling AFP that "people were blown to pieces" due to the impact of the blasts.



"So far six dead bodies and 87 wounded people have been brought to Kabul hospitals," health ministry spokesman Waheed Majroh told AFP.

The funeral of Salim Ezadyar, the son of an Afghan senator, was attended by senior government figures including Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah, but his office told

AFP that he was unhurt.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack. President Ashraf Ghani condemned the bombings, saying on Twitter: "The country is under attack. We must stay united."

The fresh killings are likely to further polarise a city that has been on edge since a truck

bombing on Wednesday in Kabul's diplomatic quarter killed 90 people and wounded hundreds of others, in the deadliest attack on the Afghan capital since 2001.

The bombing highlighted the ability of militants to strike even in the capital's most secure district, home to the presidential palace and

foreign embassies that are enveloped in a maze of concrete blast walls.

Hundreds of angry demonstrators calling for Ghani to step down over spiralling insecurity clashed with police on Friday, prompting officials to beat them back with live rounds in the air, tear gas and water cannon.

Kabul city was on lockdown Saturday with armed checkpoints and armoured vehicles patrolling the streets to prevent a repeat of yesterday's protests.

Before the blasts at the funeral, authorities had sealed off roads in the centre of the city, citing the threat of new attacks on large gatherings of people.

"We have intelligence reports that our enemies are trying again to carry out attacks on gatherings

and demonstrations," Kabul garrison commander Gul Nabi Ahmadzai said earlier today.

"We hope that people will stay away from protests."

But dozens of people still gathered on Saturday under a tent close to the presidential palace calling for Ghani's government to resign, but the assembly was largely peaceful.

"Any government attempt to disrupt our fair and just demonstration will show their complicity with terrorist groups and the perpetrators of Wednesday's attack," said Asif Ashna, a spokesman for the protesters.

"It is the duty of the government to ensure security to the protesters... and the government will be held responsible for any violence."

The United Nations and a host of international allies have urged the protesters for restraint.

"The enemy seeks to manipulate the people's anger and sadness to create division and sow instability," the US embassy said in a statement.

"Now is the time to stand unified and announce to the enemies that Afghans... will not allow cowards to break the resolve to achieve a stable and peaceful nation. The enemies of Afghanistan cannot win. They will not win."

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PM Modi meets French President Macron

Paris, Jun 3 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today met newly-elected French President Emmanuel Macron and discussed issues of international and mutual interests including ways to enhance the strategic ties, countering terrorism and climate change.

The two leaders met at the Elysee Palace, the official residence of the president of France.

"A meeting to mark a new warmth and friendship. PM @narendramodi meets new French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Gopal

Baglay tweeted along with some pictures of the two leaders.

Modi arrived in France from Russia, where he held talks with President Vladimir Putin and attended an international economic forum. Before Russia, Modi also visited Germany and Spain and held talks with the top leadership there.

The two sides are expected to issue a joint declaration after the Modi-Macron meeting.

"I would be exchanging views with the French President on important global issues including UN Security Council reforms and India's per-

manent membership of the UN Security Council, India's membership of the various multilateral export control regimes, counter-terrorism co-operation, collaboration on climate change and International Solar Alliance," Modi had said ahead of the visit.

France is India's 9th largest investment partner. France is also a key partner in India's development initiatives in areas like defence, space, nuclear and renewable energy, urban development and railways.

Prime Minister Modi had also called up Macron to congratulate him



on his poll victory and said he looked forward to work with him to further deepen the bilateral ties.

39-year-old Macron

created history last month by becoming the youngest president of France.

GST to be 5% on footwear below Rs 500, 18% on rest

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): Footwear below Rs 500 will be taxed at 5 per cent under the Goods and Services Tax, while the rest would be in the 18 per cent bracket once the new regime is rolled out from July 1.

Gold, on the other hand, will be taxed at 3 per cent and biscuits at 18 per cent.

The GST Council, chaired by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and comprising his state counterparts, today decided on tax rates for six goods including footwear, textiles, biscuits and gold.

Sources said the footwear costing below Rs 500 will be taxed at 5 per cent while that above Rs 500 will attract 18 per cent levy. Currently, footwear priced from Rs 500-1,000 attracts 6 per cent excise duty. Besides,

states also levy VAT.

Sources said items like readymade garments are likely to be taxed at 12 per cent, while cotton textiles and cotton yarn will be in the 5 per cent category.

Bidis are likely to be taxed at the highest rate of 28 per cent, they said.

The GST Council has already fitted over 1,200 goods and 500 services in the tax bracket of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent last month.

The Council at its 15th meeting today took up for discussion the remaining goods for taxation.

It approved the transition and return rules earlier in the day.

GST, to be rolled out from July 1, will unify 16 different taxes and make India a single market.

EVM hacking challenge sees little action

NEW DELHI, JUN 3 (PTI): The Election Commission today held the EVM hacking challenge, starting with a detailed demonstration on the various security checks in the machine.

Though the four-hour challenge began at 10 am, the NCP and the CPI(M), the only parties participating in the event, were yet to try their hand at hacking the electronic voting machines even after three hours.

While the CPI(M) delegation watched a demonstration on the various security checks involved with the machines, the NCP team interacted with Commission's technical committee of experts.

The four-hour challenge is to end at 2 pm.

The two parties have been provided with four EVMs each brought to

Delhi from Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand where they were deployed in the recently-held assembly polls.

The challenge was organised after several major opposition parties had claimed that the faith of people in the machines



has eroded due to allegations of tampering.

The EC has maintained that EVMs are tamper-proof.

The BSP and the AAP had alleged that the machines used in the recent assembly elections were tampered with and favoured the BJP. Later, several other parties had joined the chorus and wanted the EC to

revert to paper ballots.

The Commission has pulled out from its strong rooms in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Uttarakhand electronic voting machines used in the recent assembly polls there for the challenge.

The NCP and the CPI (M) were the only parties which had applied to participate in the challenge. The poll panel had invited the seven national and 49 state parties recognised by it for the challenge. It had left out smaller parties and Independents who had contested the recent polls from participating.

Even foreign experts are barred.

Members of a technical committee, which helps the EC evaluate the EVMs, would judge the proceedings.

Pak blocks bank accounts of over 5,000 suspected terrorists

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, JUN 3 (PTI):

Pakistan has frozen the bank accounts of more than 5,000 suspected terrorists, depriving them of over Rs 30 million, after the deadly 2014 Peshawar school massacre, an official said today.

"Pakistan has vigorously followed the extremists by freezing their bank accounts, suspending their identity cards and targeting them through operations," an official of the Interior Ministry told PTI.

He said coordinated actions were started after the 20-point National Action Plan (NAP) was adopted following the Peshawar school attack which left over 150 people

dead, mostly students.

"Point 6 of the NAP provides for 'choking financing of terrorist and terrorist organisations' in the country, he said.

The government has frozen accounts of more than 5,000 suspects, depriving them of more than Rs 30 million.

"We are further tightening the noose around illegal financing of any kind of violent activity," he said.

Similarly, orders were issued to block the national identity cards of more than 2,000 terror suspects on the recommendation of National Counter Terrorism Authority, which was also activated as part of the NAP, he said.

He said hundreds of militants have been

killed in Operation Zarb-e-Azb and Operation Raddul Fasad which aim to eliminate the threat of militancy on "permanent basis".

Pakistan army has already declared that the operations are against every group involved in violence. The use of forces dismantled the so called safe havens in tribal region.

The fight against terrorism has cost Pakistan more than USD 100 billion since 9/11.

The annual cost of the operations and other actions against militancy cost about Rs 100 billion, according to Finance Minister Ishaq Dar.

According to an official data, more than 60,000 people have been killed in the fight against militants.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
SINGAM EMERALD MORNING
Draw time: 11:55 am onwards
Draw No:5 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 89A 07731
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 07731 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
07606 26803 27773 39032 40659
58175 70472 72190 77964 85243
3rd Prize Rs.500/-
0667 1183 1937 2073 3433 3885 5083 6121 7221 9727
4th Prize Rs.300/-
0166 0397 2742 2840 3049 3172 3238 5489 7062 7750
5th Prize Rs.130/-
0113 0226 0241 0360 0382 0483 0489 0640 0863 0914
0975 1065 1072 1403 1450 1499 1583 1793 1847 1972
2030 2080 2143 2144 2211 2248 2266 2471 2475 2539
2597 2730 2893 2902 2961 3023 3201 3212 3216 3218
3566 3697 3711 3932 3992 4064 4081 4164 4323 4358
4385 4567 4577 4817 4884 4969 5029 5213 5268 5281
5312 5408 5488 5524 5560 5606 5614 5648 5700 5709
5744 5949 6530 6679 6698 6719 6722 6752 6810 6882
7149 7164 7316 7322 7340 7427 7437 7900 7986 8093
8576 8740 8819 8912 9020 9098 9106 9427 9513 9886

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For Results, please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com

KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR TENDER EVENING
Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:110 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 89T 47892
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 47892 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
00685 05194 06901 12224 30907
44440 50623 53628 59963 77250
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
11957 13016 17501 32008 34914
44972 66649 67503 71872 73155
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
1044 2679 4471 5319 5395 6166 8850 8919 9110 9917
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0304 0631 3397 3876 4214 4784 5320 5337 5549 8906
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0067 0080 0104 0149 0169 0178 0312 0339 0374 0581
0948 1260 1324 1460 1461 1559 1758 1825 2079 2362
2367 2401 2465 2504 2531 2541 2611 2617 2829 2901
3408 3439 3634 3740 3757 3893 3895 3907 3927 4116
4259 4399 4402 4460 4547 4626 4704 4889 4935 5013
5045 5197 5303 5313 5376 5488 5499 5525 5638 5658
5794 5931 6110 6249 6342 6346 6400 6423 6458 6481
6584 6609 6614 6831 6899 6941 7039 7064 7330 7351
7376 7470 7594 7604 7764 7800 8182 8227 8310 8448
8501 8680 8825 8867 9003 9337 9383 9421 9686 9740

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR HONOUR
Draw No:46 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 87K 45747
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,000/- 45747 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
17039 24565 39799 41284 81145
88560 90768 91345 94113 95726
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
04566 11171 26594 28513 33579
39124 51519 82177 99087 99255
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
1718 2671 2996 3100 4016 5219 6516 6928 8347 8999
5th Prize Rs.600/-
0912 1989 3416 4693 5748 6521 7085 7585 8128 8631
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0041 0119 0169 0609 1021 1040 1075 1130 1237 1244
1297 1391 1456 1510 1766 1782 1867 1900 2004 2187
2240 2402 2522 2652 2755 2803 2930 2955 3002 3204
3519 3548 3636 3653 3754 3805 3910 3970 4139 4395
4507 4576 4597 4688 4692 4743 4869 5050 5190 5397
5470 5495 5547 5602 5605 5712 5862 6032 6160 6197
6279 6385 6527 6565 6645 6697 6719 6778 6820 7175
7197 7388 7592 7883 7884 7899 8104 8201 8373 8412
8146 8421 8596 8670 8725 8794 8927 9048 9090 9163
9230 9238 9383 9473 9544 9562 9592 9687 9789 9865

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
SINGAM TOUGH EVENING
Draw No:17 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 94L 33636
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 33636 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
16056 29687 41627 43193 46074
50306 52177 59767 89464 91950
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
0064 0782 0916 1357 5266 5272 5849 6439 8480 8762
4th Prize Rs.300/-
2322 3034 3588 4329 5168 6979 7597 8023 9171 9555
5th Prize Rs.130/-
0023 0087 0216 0380 0492 0549 0718 0726 0752 0834
0935 1062 1084 1133 1202 1211 1302 1446 1549 1824
2039 2079 2241 2247 2311 2570 2610 2614 2738 2772
2833 2848 3197 3223 3294 3420 3456 3514 3735 3944
4056 4077 4140 4163 4203 4222 4357 4513 4562 4576
4678 4890 4957 4980 5188 5456 5550 5563 5581 5626
5741 6144 6242 6302 6331 6409 6674 6715 6735 6767
6924 6947 6990 7041 7158 7342 7849 8053 8077 8187
8155 8211 8224 8465 8549 8697 8753 8822 9010 9058
9089 9266 9318 9619 9638 9694 9790 9875 9941 9961

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The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorali-737102
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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
MAHA GANAPATHY
Draw No:92 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 00670
2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-
0396 0901 1067 1863 2709 7439 8085 8598 8709 8967
3rd Prize Rs.500/-
0530 0628 2305 2688 3827 4027 5474 5786 8845 9331
4th Prize Rs.250/-
1370 2047 2211 3486 4417 6241 6487 8023 8139 9292
5th Prize Rs.100/-
0604 0610 0781 2393 4144 4715 4791 7280 8260 9592
6th Prize Rs.50/-
0066 0611 1834 3059 4046 5143 6026 6883 8393 9434
0086 0870 1842 3129 4080 5364 6052 6956 8639 9519
0189 0951 2023 3215 4149 5451 6092 7118 8721 9520
0324 1033 2030 3247 4209 5452 6364 7377 8830 9577
0368 1359 2153 3290 4776 5530 6372 7450 8868 9593
0400 1378 2318 3344 4819 5629 6467 7589 8941 9622
0401 1413 2354 3463 4876 5700 6057 7622 9077 9739
0407 1515 2789 3542 5070 5735 6586 8075 9131 9868
0410 1703 2906 3727 5099 5880 6811 8149 9215 9900
0500 1772 2920 3857 5130 5893 6873 8203 9357 9947

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ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LOTTERIES
KUMBHA RASI
Draw No:92 DrawDate on:03/06/17
1st Prize Rs.10,000/- A 03894
2nd Prize Rs.5,000/-
0642 2159 2174 3723 3803 4383 5705 8445 8986 9225
3rd Prize Rs.500/-
1017 1676 2701 4084 4821 5214 5396 5793 5837 9029
4th Prize Rs.250/-
0360 2378 3109 4590 6603 6827 8069 8694 8858 9167
5th Prize Rs.100/-
0157 0332 0611 1036 1305 2112 2392 2757 6387 9381
6th Prize Rs.50/-
0165 1202 1764 2414 3249 4305 5815 6878 7920 8845
0347 1306 1884 2426 3280 4336 5860 7006 7984 9013
0352 1364 1897 2744 3432 3477 5890 7068 8054 9052
0509 1396 2034 2808 3451 4677 5977 7111 8313 9270
0523 1473 2132 2932 3602 4718 6027 7259 8393 9290
0540 1480 2150 3053 3675 4922 6049 7262 8438 9332
0929 1553 2156 3077 3717 5000 6232 7282 8484 9686
0991 1596 2168 3122 3794 5166 6333 7369 8690 9686
1157 1714 2285 3147 3933 5473 6446 7548 8794 9785
1164 1715 2396 3228 4023 5563 6781 7681 8828 9842

Issued by: The Commissioner, Arunachal Pradesh State Lotteries, Itanagar.

New & Fun Workouts You Should Try!

Are you bored of doing the same old workout and need something more exciting to get the fat burning in your body? Here are some amazing new forms of exercise and workouts that we all wouldn't mind giving a shot this year. From ballet to cycling in the water, there are so many to choose from!

1. PILOXING

A wonderful combination of kickboxing along with pilates makes this one super-fun workout. Viveca created this by putting the best aspects from both forms of exercises together. You've got the gracefulness

from pilates best for toning your body and kickboxing helps in making your core stronger. A great workout for us women!

2. TABATA

Formed by a Japanese scientist and his team, Tabata is a high intensity interval training workout in which you push hard then take a short interval and come back to it again. From four minutes of mountain climbers to rounds of push ups, those 4 minutes can be really tough...as long as you last.

3. REAL RYDER

Giving an experience of riding a bicycle outdoors while being stationary at one place sounds like quite a challenge. The maneuvers, the pedalling and the balance, all of it feels like you are outdoors. Real Ryder is the only one who



make these bicycles and they're a must try for every fitness enthusiast!

4. PLYOMETRICS

Also known as jump training, this one involves a lot of exercises that stretch and contract your muscles while doing quick jumps. A lot of skipping, hopping and

squats, this one is super effective if you are training for agility for a sport.

5. BARRE

You know the horizontal bar that ballet dancers use or take support from while they are warming up? This form of exercise is concentrated around the usage of this bar. It not only increases flexibility to also helps tone the body!

6. IVENGAR YOGA

Developed after B.K.S Iyengar, in this form of yoga, there is a lot of emphasis given to technique, sequence and timing. A few props are used to make the asanas more defined and thus is befitting for anyone looking to learn yoga as a beginner.

7. BOOIAKA

A dance fitness programme which combines different dance styles into making this one effective workout. Created by an Italian dancer, Tatiana, the idea was to let people enjoy workout by considering it

to be a dance session.

8. ANTIGRAVITY - AERIAL YOGA

An interesting take on traditional yoga, founded by a gymnast and a dancer, Christopher Harrison, where yoga asanas, acrobatics and pilates are combined to give the body a new form of exercise. All while being suspended from a hammock!

9. AQUA CYCLING

Spinning classes under water? Seems like a great new way of cycling! With the surrounded pressure of water being much higher than air, there is an increase in blood circulation and a constant massaging of the muscles which helps in building muscle and toning them faster.

10. BUNGEE WORKOUT CLASSES

Chaise Ballet Bungee is one class that helps bring out the dancer in you. From being suspended from bungees to performing piques and plies, this is one elegant workout session. We just really can't wait for it to begin in India as well!

DAILY DOSE
with PALZOR MACHUNGPA
SundaySweat



DOWN AS A QUARTET! Fifth Harmony performed an upbeat new tune on Good Morning America on 02 June premiering their first single "Down" after Camila Cabello left the group for a wildly enthusiastic audience.

• ARIANA GRANDE IS LENDING HER HEART TO FANS IN NEED...

As the 'Dangerous Woman' songstress returned to England less than three weeks after the deadly attack at Manchester Arena and ahead of Sunday night's star-studded benefit concert, Grande stopped by the Royal Manchester Chil-



dren's Hospital ward to spend time with young girls injured in the bombing.

A heartwarming snapshot shared to Ariana's Instagram as well as other fan accounts feature the 23-year-old posing for selfies with fans and bringing them goodies such as flowers and stuffed animals.

The father of one hospitalized attendee wrote on Facebook, "This means more to us than all the amazing things people have done this week. When your daughter asks after her 2nd operation: 'Is Ariana OK?' So happy she came I could burst! Never seen Jaden so happy! Even cried

again myself."

The attack, which killed 22 and injured dozens more, prompted Grande to pen a powerful essay announcing the 'One Love Manchester' concert, which will include performances from Coldplay, Pharrell Williams, Justin Bieber, Miley Cyrus, Katy Perry, Niall Horan, Little Mix, and Robbie Williams.

Tickets for the fundraising event sold out in less than six minutes, with approximately 45,000 jumping at the chance to give back to the victims and their families. Those who were at Grande's May 22 concert when the suicide bombing took place were offered free tickets; the remainder went on sale for \$52.

Extra safety precautions will be taken at the Emirates Old Trafford Cricket Ground in Manchester, with additional security checks and increased police presence.

'One Love Manchester' airs on 04 June on ABC and Freeform in the United States. The concert will air on Freeform live at 2 pm. The event is expected to bring in upwards of \$3 million, which will benefit the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, set up by Manchester City Council in partnership with the British Red Cross.

• CHRIS CORNELL'S CAUSE OF DEATH: SUICIDE BY HANGING

After a full autopsy report, the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed that Chris Cornell's death was caused by hanging.

Toxicology reports also reveal that while drugs were detected in the singer's system, they "did not contribute to the cause of death".

At 12:05 am on 18 May, police found the Soundgarden singer unresponsive with a band around his neck inside his hotel room at the MGM Grand Hotel in Detroit. Cornell, 52, was pronounced dead on the scene.

Cornell, a twice-married married father of three, died in the midst of a Soundgarden tour. The singer had been outspoken in the past about suffering from both depression and substance abuse.

Soundgarden broke up in 1997 and reunited in 2012.

In addition to releasing four solo studio albums [and one live album], he also fronted the rock supergroup Audioslave with Rage against the Machine's Tim Commerford, Tom Morello and Brad Wilk. Formed in 2001, the group released three studio albums before disbanding in 2007.



HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

write to us at
letters@summittimes.com

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

4th JUNE

1647 - The British army seizes King Charles I and hold him as a hostage

1878 - Turkey turns Cyprus over to Britain

1896 - Henry Ford takes his first car out for a test drive

1911 - Gold is discovered in Alaska's Indian Creek

1940 - As the last Allied soldier leaves Dunkirk, the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill vows his forces 'shall never surrender'

1944 - The United States Army enters Rome during World War II, which leads to the liberation of the city

1974 - Sally Murphy becomes the first woman to qualify as an aviator with the U.S. Army

1984 - Bruce Springsteen releases his bestselling album Born in the USA

1998 - George and Ira Gershwin receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

2003 - Martha Stewart is indicted on charges of insider trading

Indian History

1926 - Dalai Lama introduces a tax on ears for Tibetans to equip the army. Those with only one ear will pay half the tax

1953 - University of Cambridge confers honorary Doctorate of Laws on J.L. Nehru

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

1936 - Nutan, one of India's leading film actresses, was born on this day in 1936 to Kumarsen Samarth, a filmmaker, and Shobhna Samarth, an actress-producer

1975 - Actress Angelina Jolie is born

LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REINER



"LEROY AND I HAD A STORYBOOK WEDDING ... ALL HIS VOWS WERE FAIRY TALES."

ARCTIC CIRCLE



BABY BLUES



ARIES: The forecast today is stormy. You may have sensed that there was some tension clouding the conversation at home. Resentments were left unsaid and subtle power games were played without resolution. Today, Aries, it all becomes too unbearable for you. Regardless of the risks involved, you will take measures to clear things up.

TAURUS: The day is likely to be somewhat challenging, and it contains some disappointments. You're liable to feel dejected if you receive a lackluster response from the world. Apparently, Taurus, your performance has lost some of its ability to captivate an audience. Whether you accept this or try to

shine up your act is the question of the day!

GEMINI: Gemini, you can expect the day to be a bit bumpy. If you were an Olympic athlete, today you'd be standing at the starting line, wondering if you had trained enough for a topnotch performance. Have you had enough practice? Will you make the grade? Issues related to your material resources will certainly be on the agenda.

CANCER: A planetary configuration like today's often makes people afraid to start anything that challenges the status quo. This is true for you in your professional life. You should dare to take on more responsibility. The aspects speak of

fear only, not of being incapable of succeeding. The saying about fear being the only thing to fear is something you should take to heart right now, Cancer.

LEO: You've to take some responsibility for something in your love life, Leo. Today you will have the chance to do this. It could be that ancient family values still impede you from living a life that isn't "politically correct." For once you should bang your fist on the table! You need to make people respect your choices so that you can respect yourself.

VIRGO: It's up to you to strut your stuff, Virgo. As long as you're bashful about showcasing your

innate gifts, it will be difficult to find meaning in your life. Today's planetary alignment gives you the challenge to take your talents more seriously. You could easily profit from them, provided you look deep inside to discover how.

LIBRA: You don't have to answer to society's cultural values, Libra. If most of your work is organized around an activity that's considered fashionable, you will never succeed in feeling good about yourself or your creations. You're too motivated by meaningful activities to spend your time with frivolous ones. Today's aspects will push you to cut yourself off from all that doesn't resonate deeply.

SCORPIO: You may have noticed for some time now to what an extent your ambitions wear you out and to what point they have become outdated. If you aspire to live an ambitious life, but also one that is calmer and more balanced, the celestial energy is indicating the moment has come to make some important decisions, Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS: Are you hesitating, Sagittarius? Do you feel caught between the desire to participate fully in the world and the equally strong desire to remain in your dream world, even at the risk of feeling a little out of it? Who says that these two worlds are incompatible? If you look closely, you will

see that you don't need to choose one or the other.

CAPRICORN: You can expect to have to make a choice today related to your intimate relationships. You may have become aware that something is missing, either in your partner or yourself. Today you will act on that awareness, but it may not be easy. The root of the problem could be an issue of independence and self-sufficiency. Try to figure out the source of the problem before acting on it, Capricorn.

AQUARIUS: You're being called upon to make a commitment or promise, most likely relating to your love life. Will you take that decisive step? That's the question

today. Over the next few days you will doubtless have to prove what you're made of. The challenge most likely emanates from your romantic relationships. There is no running away this time, Aquarius. It's time to take a stand.

PISCES: There are times in your love life when you may feel somewhat inhibited, as though something is holding you back from total fulfillment. Perhaps the emotions overwhelm you or the idea of commitment frightens you. In any case, Pisces, you're well aware that your reluctance to take the plunge is detrimental to your relationship. The day will call on you to take a few more risks.