



SummitTIMES

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

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Oil tanker crushes woman to death

SINGTAM, 04 DEC: A woman hailing from Aadarsh Gaon in South Sikkim was killed on the spot this afternoon after being hit by a truck along National Highway 10 at Majhitar in East Sikkim. According to witnesses, the vehicle lost control, toppled over and crushed the woman under its oil tank.

Organs of brain dead woman give new lease of life to 9 persons

COIMBATORE, DEC 4 (PTI): Nine persons got a new lease of life after the organs of a 56-year old brain dead woman, a bank employee, were harvested on them.

The woman suddenly fell unconscious at her office here on November 30 and was rushed to K G Hospital, where she was diagnosed to be suffering from high blood pressure, cardio-vascular accident and intra-cerebral hemorrhage.

A team of specialists tried to revive her and her brain became dysfunctional yesterday and also suffered irreversible damage, Hospital chairman Dr G Bhakthavatsalam said.

After two mandatory apnoe tests, the doctors declared her brain dead in the evening, he said.

After getting consent of her son and daughter, the heart, liver, lungs, kidneys, eyes, skin and bones were harvested today.

The Transplant Authority will turn to *pg03*



CM inaugurates Sidkeong Tulku Bird Park and Tashi Choling Dharma Center

GYALSHING, 04 DEC [IPR]: On the third day of his West Sikkim tour, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling today inaugurated the Sidkeong Tulku Bird Park at Rabdentse.

The Bird Park includes birds of calliformes family like Golden Pheasant, Reeves Pheasant, Silver Pheasant, Lady Amherst Pheasant, Silver Golden Pheasant, Yellow Pheasant,

Jindaya Conur, Indian Fantail Pigeon and Love Birds.

In a brief interaction with the forest officials and media personnel, the CM declared to expand the 2 hectare bird park into 18 hectares and assured to release funds of Rs 18 crore in the next budget session.

In addition, he advised the forest officials to introduce local species of birds like Danphe,

Monal, Kalej etc. in the park.

The CM was accompanied by the Forest Minister TW Lepcha.

Later, the CM inaugurated the Tashi Choling Dharma Center at Khecheopalri established by Suktse Rinpoche, one of the most revered Nyingmapa religious figures.

The Dharma Center houses 1,000 Guru Rinpoche and

1000 Tara statues dedicated for world peace.

A token of gratitude was presented to the CM for his support to not only the monastery but also for the overall development and preservation of all religions in Sikkim. The token of gratitude contained a citation and a memento to the CM presented by His Eminence Suktse Rinpoche.

The entire ceremony took place in the presence of Khacheod Tulku Rinpoche of Pemayangtse Monastery, Serdup Dungzin Rinpoche of Namchi Monastery, Yap Tempa Gyatso of Pemayangtse Monastery and senior monks of the Old Khechuperi Gumpa.

The opening of the Tashi Choling Dharma Centre was also attended by Minister, Ur-

ban Development & Housing Department, NK Subba, Deputy Speaker Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, Gangtok MLA Pintso Chopel Lepcha, Advisor, Human Resource Development Department, OT Lepcha, MLAs KS Lepcha and Sonam Dadul Bhutia, District Collector (West), Kapil Meena, Zilla Adhikshya-West, Devika Subba, Panchayats and other dignitaries.



Rhenock-Rongli farmers urged to explore growing vegetables on commercial scale

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

Ward-wise awareness programme for round-the-year vegetable cultivation was organised by Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department at Upper Tarpin and Mandir Dara wards under Rhenock Rongli sub-division on 03 Dec.

The event aimed at encouraging farmers from the area to grow vegetables commercially



and on a round-the-year production basis. They were informed about the

benefits and schemes which were available to them. Benefits of vegetable cultivation and technical ideas were also shared during the programme.

The programme was conducted by Horticulture Inspector, Rhenock, Kishori Sharma, a press release informs.

Later, an interaction session was also conducted wherein farmers shared their needs and problems.

Delhi's air quality dips further

NEW DELHI, DEC 4 (PTI): A day after Sri Lankan cricketers took to the field here wearing anti-pollution masks, Delhi's air turned fouler today with a sharp rise in the level of particulates since morning.

The concentration of the most dominant pollutants, PM2.5 and PM10, reached levels as high as 276 and 455 micrograms per cubic metre by 3 pm, according to the Central Control Room for Air Quality Management of the CPCB.

Pollution is considered severe plus or emergency when these readings are above 300 and 500 respectively. The corresponding prescribed standards are 60 and 100.

The Air Quality Index (AQI), as recorded by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), also reflected the rise in the levels of these ultrafine air-borne particulates. The AQI was 390, on a scale of 500, around 3.30 pm. It is classified as *turn to pg03*

Shashi Kapoor: Bollywood's ultimate charmer fades into the stars

MINU JAIN

NEW DELHI, DEC 4 (PTI): With those copybook good looks and that rakish smile, he was the stuff of teen crushes that evolved into wistful nostalgia as the years rolled by.

Shashi Kapoor, 79, when he passed away in Mumbai after a prolonged illness today, will be remembered for his many commercial films, his commitment to quality cinema when he turned filmmaker but also as the man who embodied ageless elegance.

"He was god's good man. He was such a beautiful human being beyond anything else," director Shyam Benegal, who worked with the late actor in "Kalyug" and "Junoon", told PTI.

Shashi Kapoor was also effortlessly charming, whether at 25 when he was dancing around trees or at 65 when age and the famous Kapoor weight had slowed him down.

The fame was destined, the legacy of quiet dignity the result of retaining a certain humility despite a lifetime under the harsh arclights.



He was born an unprepossessing Balbirraj on March 18, 1938 in what was then Calcutta to Rama Devi and Prithviraj Kapoor, the son of a legendary actor who went on to complete the famed Kapoor trinity with his older brothers Raj and Shammi.

The tryst with cinema started in 1961 with Yash Chopra's "Dharmputra". The next two-and-half decades saw a dizzying lineup of films, some good, like "Kabhi

Kabhie" and "New Delhi Times", others like "Fakira" and "Ghar Ek Mandir" eminently forgettable, even embarrassing.

But Shashi Kapoor was not just a star, one more in an ensemble cast in the multi-starrers that were the vogue in the 1980s or another face in a brain dead Bollywood melodrama. He straddled two worlds with his partnership with James Ivory and Ismail Merchant resulting in films like "The House-

holder", "Shakespearewallah" and "Heat and Dust" early in his career.

The real turnaround came in 1980 when he started his own company Film Vala, diverting some of the money he had made in Bollywood into making films with the likes of Benegal and Aparna Sen. The partnership resulted in gems like "36 Chowringhee Lane", which saw his wife, veteran theatre actor Jennifer Kendal, as an aging teacher in a changing world, "Junoon", "Vijeta", "Utsav" and "Kalyug".

Shashi Kapoor himself acted in several of these films - his roles as an obsessive suitor in "Junoon" set in 1857, as the brooding husband and father in "Vijeta" and as the suave, conflicted Karan in "Kalyug", a modern-day adaptation of the Mahabharata, see the actor deliver some of his career's finest performances.

But Shashi Kapoor was more than just an actor, an inheritor of the Kapoor family legacy of showbiz and style or a filmmaker with undeniable class.

He was the star with no starry

airs, the man who stayed steadfastly loyal to his wife through more than 25 years of marriage with scarcely a hint of scandal and the ultimate hero who always had a kind word for his fans.

Which other actor, in his hey day in the 1980s, would not just smile when a bunch of giggly, starry-eyed teens barge into his hotel room, but also welcome them in, take time to talk to them individually and leave them to handle things while he went into the next room for an interview.

That he maintained a relationship with the group -- among them this correspondent -- through his three days in Delhi, inviting them to watch a shoot and taking time off to talk to them is the stuff of true greatness.

He stood apart from his peers, part of the rat race and yet not part of it.

And then, with his wife's death in 1984 it was as if the very life had begun ebbing away from him too. The weight started piling and the roles started dwindling.

Shashi Kapoor began fading away from the headlines.

He appeared in few films, as the corpulent Urdu poet Noor in Ismail Merchant's "In Custody" in 1993 and as a narrator in "Jinnah" some years after that. He also revived his father's Prithvi Theatre, a job now taken over by his daughter Sanjana.

The sons, Kunal and Karan, tried dabbling in films and then stood respectfully away when they realised it was not for them.

Ill health felled Shashi Kapoor and when he was awarded the Dadasaheb Phalke award in 2015, he was too unwell to travel to New Delhi to get it. It was 17 years after he retired into the quiet shadows. Union minister Arun Jaitley went to Mumbai to honour him.

But the old charm still lingered, the silver hair that refused to be dyed adding to that grace and somewhere still that old charisma.

Bollywood's ultimate charmer has gone, leaving a legacy of decency and elegance that may find few followers in the film industry of today.



*SMIT faculty,
Sandeep
Gurung, to
be awarded
PhD degree*

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 04 DEC: Sandeep Gurung has successfully defended his PhD titled "Hybridization of Steganography and Visual Cryptography for Digital Images" on 25 Nov at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology [SMIT], Majitar and has been recommended for award of Doctor of Philosophy degree by the Board of Examiners of Sikkim Manipal University [SMU].

An SMU press release informs that Mr Gurung is a faculty member of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering [CSE] at SMIT. He worked under the supervision of former Dean [Academics]-SMIT, Professor [Dr] MK Ghose.

His research work aimed at the design and implementation of an advanced security system based on the combined features of visual cryptography and transformed based steganography. The ideology was deployed on digital images. The scheme led to the formulation of a hybrid system with a high carrying capacity and security that can be applied for the secure communication between authorized peers or groups of participants.

Born on 15 Dec, 1977 in Darjeeling, Mr Gurung graduated in BE [CSE] from SMIT in 2002. In 2003, he joined SMIT as a Lecturer in the Department of CSE and completed his PG MTech [CSE] from SMIT in the year 2009.

The Doctor of Philosophy will be awarded to him during the next convocation of SMU, the release adds.

*Swami
Swaroopanandaji,
Global Head of
Chinmaya
Mission*

*worldwide set
to visit Sikkim*

GANGTOK, 05 DEC: Global Head of Chinmaya Mission worldwide, Swami Swaroopanandaji, is scheduled to visit Sikkim on 11 Dec for a three-day official tour, a press release informs.

The tour schedule is packed with bhajans and talks at various venues in the State.

The Global Head of Chinmaya Mission is slated to give a motivational talk, "Shape Your Destiny", on 12 Dec at Chintan Bhawan.

Swami Swaroopanandaji is presently the Global Head of Chinmaya Mission Worldwide and the Chairman of the Chinmaya Viswavidyapeeth, a university of Sanskrit and Indic traditions and Director of Chinmaya International Residential School, Coimbatore.

Namprikdang Namsung Festival celebration committee preps for fest

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA
MANGAN, 04 NOV:**

The first coordination meeting for the upcoming Namprikdang Namsung Festival 2017 was held on 03 Dec under the chairmanship of Deputy Speaker [SLA], area MLA Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, in the presence of Chairperson, SNT Department, Pintso Namgyal Lepcha, former North Adhyakshya, Anguli Lepcha, Sub Divisional Magistrate (Dzongu), Tshering Dorjee Bhutia, president of Namsung Festival celebration committee, Nezing Lepcha, Panchayat members and the celebration committee members.

The area MLA appealed to the celebration committee to organize the event with grandeur as it has now been declared a State-level programme.

The meeting also discussed various aspects of the festival which includes cultural dance presentations and also urged the committee to organise the MLA Challenge Football Cup, which is a part of the festival this



year, annually.

Mr Lepcha added that the fund sanctioned under Tribal Carnival Social Welfare, Government of India, needs to be utilized properly as per the guidelines of Government of India.

He also called on all Gram Panchayats to impart information regarding Chief Minister

Start-up Scheme [CMSS] to the unemployed youth of their respective areas as it is the vision of Chief Minister Pawan Chamling to make the youth of the State self reliant.

The Dzongu SDM, in his address, appealed to all the Gram Panchayats to collaborate with the administration in uplifting the public of Dzongu. He also

informed that the Gram Panchayats will have to inform visitors/tourists about the possession of pass/ permit to enter the protected area of Dzongu and that the same should be issued without any fuss.

It is further informed that the schedule for the festival will be fixed after holding a deliberation with the CM.



SKM motor rally reaches North

**SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 04 DEC:**

On the 10th day of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party's Sadbhavna Motor Rally across the State, the SKM rally team reached North Sikkim today. Led by Sangha MLA, Sonam Lama, the team was given a warm welcome at the three constituencies of North Sikkim. The rally came to halt in Mangan today and will proceed back to Gangtok on 05 Dec.

All-India Sr Ranking Badminton c'ship gets underway at SMIT



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

The All India Senior Ranking Badminton Championship got underway here at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology [SMIT] campus at Majhitar in East Sikkim today.

The championship is being organised by the Badminton Association of Sikkim under the aegis of Badminton Association of India [BAI]. Sikkim is hosting this prestigious

championship for the first time with the support of the State Government.

The championship has registered 425 players from 27 States and sports boards of the country and has the participation of seven players from Sikkim.

The championship is also a selection of the India team for upcoming international badminton championships. It is informed that players

will be selected on the basis of their performance and ranks in this championship.

The organising committee secretary, Sukanta Das, informs that this edition of the championship has received a higher registration of participants compared to previous years.

Qualifying matches will be played on 04 and 05 December.

The formal inaugural

ceremony of the championship is scheduled to be held on 06 December with the Sports & Youth Affairs Minister, RB Subba, as the chief guest.

The championship has ten international players of India including Pratul Joshi, Asnal Yadav, Bodhit Joshi, Anura Prabhu Desai, Rasika Raje, Riya Mukherjee, Shika Gautam, Vignesh Deswalkar, Anil Kumar Raju and Venkat Garuva Prasad.



A massive tongba [vessel which holds the traditional millet beer] spotted at Naga in North Sikkim. [Wangchuk Bhutia]

Yul Dru Sum Kiduk felicitates achievers on its founder's day



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

Yul Dru Sum Kiduk, an organization formed by the families of people hailing from Lachen, Lachung and Chungthang settled in Gangtok, celebrated its foundation day on 03 Dec at Dzomlee in Gangtok, a press release informs.

Achievers in different categories like excellence in academic [post graduate and above], new appointments & promotions in regular government jobs, Papon of Lachen & Lachung Dzomsa, Lachen Tourism Development Committee [LTDC] & Lachung Dzomsa Box-

ing Committee were felicitated during the function which had the theme "Achievers Day".

In the Arts & Entertainment segment, the team behind the making of the first Bhutia feature film, "Bhyakay", was felicitated followed by felicitation of team Dhokbu, the first Lepcha feature film. Screenings of both the films were organized for the attendees.

Member of Parliament, Hishey Lachungpa, who is also the advisor of Yul Dru Sum Kiduk, attended the event as chief guest along with government officials, members of different social organizations and members of Yul Dru Sum Kiduk.

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**Gangtok on
Tuesday,
05 Dec**

Temp: 21°C /08°C
Forecast: Nice
and pleasant with
sun and clouds.
Sunrise: 06:11 AM
Sunset: 4:41 PM

Guardian misbehaves with School Principal on alleged leakage of question papers

GANGTOK, 04 DEC: On 27 Nov, a person of Lower Temi Tea Garden in South Sikkim and others reportedly entered the office of the Principal of Temi Senior Secondary School and misbehaved, threatening him regarding alleged leakage of question paper of the Class IX exam.

They also allegedly obstructed him during duty hours and disturbed the process of examination in the school.

During the course of investigation, it was learnt that the main accused in the case was the father of a student and had gone to the office of the Principal along with others to discuss about the alleged leaking of question paper. The case is under investigation and suspects are being arrested.

One booked under SADA

GANGTOK, 04 DEC: During routine checking of incoming vehicles at Rangpo check-post on 03 Dec, a 34-year-old male hailing from Ranipool in East Sikkim was found in possession of one bottle of prohibited cough syrup, 1,440 loose capsules of Spasmoxyvon and 25 files of N-10 containing 500 tablets. These are all controlled substances the possession of which without a proper prescription is prohibited in Sikkim. The person was then taken into custody and booked under the Sikkim Anti-Drugs Act.

Organs of brain dead woman give new lease...

turn to pg 06

thority of Tamil Nadu has allotted the liver and one kidney to K G Hospital, another kidney to Sri Ramakrishna Hospital, eyes to Aravind Eye Hospital, skin and bones to Ganga Hospital, he said.

The heart and lungs were allotted to Fortis Malar Hospital/Globul Hospital, Chennai, Bhakthavathsalam said adding this helped nine persons get a new lease of life.

**HAVE A STORY
TO SHARE?**

write to Summit
TIMES at
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Philately is a medium to portray my love for Cricket, says Roshan

**NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

When your interest becomes your passion it does not take long for the person to scale greater heights in their chosen field of work.

A classic example of such person is 31-year-old Roshan Prasad who hails from Singtam in East Sikkim.

Roshan has participated in competitive class and has won silver medal in the thematic category of philately [stamp collection] at Indian National Philatelic Exhibition [INPEX] 2017 in Mumbai.

National Philatelic Exhibition, "INPEX 2017", was organized by the Philatelic Society of India with the support of Department of Post, Government of India and the patronage of the Philatelic Congress of India to commemorate its 120th foundation year at the Prestigious World Trade Centre in Mumbai from 30 Nov to 04 Dec. The event aimed at promoting every aspect of



philately in the country.

Over 900 frames were allowed comprising of almost 200 participants from all over the country in the exhibition.

The topic of Roshan's collection was "The Story of Cricket", a 5 frame exhibit [arranged in 80 A4 size paper], comprising of postal stamps, first days covers, special covers, book-

lets, miniature sheets, post cards, telegrams and commercial envelopes on Cricket, issued worldwide since 1962 [when the first postal stamp was issued in Cape Verde on 18 January 1962].

Roshan completed his schooling from Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School, Gangtok in 2005 and

graduated with a Bachelors degree in Commerce from University of Calcutta, Kolkata.

He has been collecting stamps and other philatelic materials related to the game of Cricket since 2005 which he says is a way to show love to "The Gentleman's Game".

He also collects autographs of Cricket players who are in-

ducted in Hall of Fame for their contribution to the game.

"My collection has been appreciated by different cricket and sports boards and clubs in India and abroad. I have also designed Special Cover for the National Club of India [Mohun Magan AC] in 2010 to commemorate the centenary celebration of 1st victory of In-

dian football team [commonly known as "The Immortal XI" who played bare footed] against British-East Yorkshire Regiment [IFA Shield 1911], which was issued by Department of Post and was released during Mohun Bagan Day 2010 by the then Governor of West Bengal," he informs.

At present, he is working on a special cover to commemorate 80 years of the first cricket match played in Sikkim and also the first match to be played at an altitude of 2,728 meters.

"The design is almost ready and once done, I need to discuss the matter with Sikkim Cricket Association and Department of Post, Sikkim Region," he adds.

Roshan has represented the State and the country and has brought home many laurels in the past including silver in World Stamp Championship in Taipei, Taiwan 2016 and Vermeil in 21st GCC Stamps Exhibition in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in the same year.

Award of Excellence conferred to retired Secretary IT Deptt

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

Retired Secretary, Information Technology Department, Rajesh Verma, was conferred with the Award of Excellence by Governor Shrinivas Patil for his dedication, service and contribution to the cause of the disabled in Sikkim at a function organized at Tashi Namgyal Academy ground on the occasion of International Day for Persons with Disabilities on 03 Dec, a press release informs.

It may be mentioned here, Mr Verma has been associated with the Disability Sector since 2001 and has spearheaded the use of Information Communication Technology [ICT] tools at the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Institute [JNMI] for the Visually Challenged, Namchi, School for the Hearing



Impaired and Spastics Society making learning more efficient and productive for the students,

thus, helping them to secure good marks in their examinations.

He organized various career oriented training programmes for the differently abled and assisted them to secure jobs in the government and private sectors, thus, making them self reliant. He is presently involved in converting school and story books to audio and accessible format for the benefit of the disabled.

The others who were similarly honoured during the function were Almayya Subba [Special Educator of the Special School for the Hearing Impaired], Radha Raisai [Special Teacher of the Spastics Society], Neil Tara Academy, Gangtok, Monohar Thapa [Technician of the Sikkim Viklang Sahayata Samiti and Devi Maya Chettri [Braille Teacher of the JNMI, Namchi].



Sikkim Judicial Academy conducts workshop for Judicial Magistrates

GANGTOK, 04 DEC [IPR]: Sikkim Judicial Academy organized a workshop on Time and Stress Management Skills and Leadership Development for all Chief Judicial Magistrates and Civil Judge-cum-Ju-

dicial Magistrates on 02-03 Dec at the High Court premises in Gangtok. Former Director, West Bengal Judicial Academy, Kolkata, Shyamal Gupta, was the resource person for the programme.

Delhi's air quality dips further

contd from pg01

'very poor'. However, it is menacingly close to the 'severe' category.

Yesterday's 24-hour average was 351.

A 'very poor' AQI comes with the warning that people may develop respiratory illness on prolonged exposure while exposure to 'severe' air affects healthy people and seriously im-

pacts those with existing respiratory or cardiovascular diseases.

An AQI between 0-50 is considered Good, 51-100 Satisfactory, 101-200 Moderate, 201-300 Poor, 301-400 Very Poor, and 401-500 Severe. Pollution levels in Delhi usually remain in the 'very poor' category during December.

November witnesses

extremely high levels of pollution as smoke from paddy residue burning reaches the city, aggravating the situation.

However, there are phases, when such spikes are seen even during December and January, mostly due to rapid drop in temperature and high moisture content, factors that trap particulates near the surface.



Sagar Mohra displays his collection of newspaper clippings in Rangpo

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 04 DEC:**

Manav Utthan Seva Samiti, Rangpo, organized a public exhibition of newspaper clippings at its Environmental Awareness and Research Centre in Rangpo today.

The exhibition had clippings of newspapers from Siliguri like Himalaya Darpan, Swarnabhoomi, Sunakhari and Dainik Jagran and local newspapers like Sikkim Express, Prajashakti, Himali Bela, Samay Dainik, Summit Times and many

more collected by the Press & Media Incharge for the North East, Sagar Mohra, since 2007, a press release informs.

President of Press Club of Sikkim, Joseph Lepcha, who attended the event as chief guest, in his address, welcomed the collection of such clippings as a respectful offering to the fourth pillar of democracy.

He also spoke on the decrease in the spiritual insight in humans and emphasized such effort to be an inspiration for the young generation.

Rangpo Tehsil in-charge, Mahatma Purnabai, expressed the importance of media in popularizing the activities of their Samiti. She extended gratitude to the Press Club for supporting the event in the publication of spiritual programmes and ideas which has encouraged people to do the same.

Rangpo Tehsil president, Surya Kumar Giri, also took the opportunity to thank the Press Club for their immense support.

Mr Mohra, while ad-

ressing the gathering, said the clippings contained the documentation for all the programmes conducted by the Samiti in and around the hills. He has also expressed his wish for digitization of the clippings in the near future.

The exhibition was also attended by Mahatma Kritika Baiji, State Committee Advisor, Nagendra Sharma, North East Sikkim Division Secretary, Bharat Kumar Pradhan, and Rangpo Branch secretary, Ganga Cintury.



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
SOCIAL JUSTICE EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
LUMSEY, 5TH MILE, TADONG, EAST SIKKIM
No. 51/SJE&WD/2017-18 Dated: 04/12/2017**

NOTICE

Based on their performance in the Viva Voce/ Interview held on 18/09/2017 and 19/09/2017, the following candidates are hereby selected in the posts as given against their names under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim, namely:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	Name of the selected candidates
1.	Counsellor	Laxana Subedi
2.	Social Worker	Amrit Sharma
3.	Social Worker	Bandana Rai (D/o Shri Gokul Rai)
4.	Social Worker	Sanjok Rai
5.	Social Worker	Ribena Chettri
6.	Outreach Worker	Anjel Subba
7.	Outreach Worker	Tika Maya Limboo
8.	Outreach Worker	Rinzing Choden Bhutia

The candidates are directed to report to the Office of the Deputy Secretary/ ICPS, within 15 days from the date of issue of this Notice. If they fail to report within 15 days their selection shall be cancelled and the offer of appointment in the panel list in order of merit.

BY ORDER.

Sd/-

**DEPUTY SECRETARY, WCD
SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM.**

R.O. No. 448/ipr/pub/classi./17-18 dt. 04.12.2017

SummitTIMES

Support Rural Pragmatism, Not Urban Vainglory

*The new panchayats should
set themselves new aims*

A new set of Panchayats is in place now, this time elected after a relatively well contested election unlike the absolute walkovers that were on the verge of becoming the norm. Reasonably well-empowered panchayats have been around for a few terms now and Sikkim has seen some exceptional panchayats rise through the ranks, so that is something to take heart from. Meanwhile, also slipped in without much explanation is the appointment of panchayat secretaries from the administration's side and not from among the elected panchayats as has been the practice all this while. This rearrangement of the panchayats is unfortunately not being discussed or dissed enough even though this is another example of the executive looking down on the capabilities of elected representatives and is symptomatic of the urban disregard for the capacities of rural pragmatism.

Soon, the new panchayats, after their welcomes are over and the holiday season eased a bit, will be put through the motions of orientation programmes and workshops. They are usually taken through the processes on which amendments to which Acts made their election possible, given the drill on the usual stuff about working for the people etc etc. These are the basics that one hopes the elected Panchayats already knew when they filed their nomination papers. One still hopes that the Panchayats learn well the basic reason on why they are more empowered today and why plans are afoot to divest even more powers to them. The reason the nation has empowered the rural voters is because all other attempts at fixing accountability have failed. When Panchayats decide, and if they decide at the gram sabhas as they should, then the whole village knows; when the whole village knows, the whole village watches and because it is about them and about facilities they and their children will use, they are also expected to monitor implementation more closely. When things fail, the hierarchy ends with the village boundaries and the buck can actually stop at the right door. Empowered villages are not so much about politics as they are about accountability. The Panchayats have to be told that although they might be co-opted into taking shortcuts and sipping from the funds pool, the people above them are too vague and unrecognizable for the villagers they live among. When things go wrong and when development is compromised, their neighbours will not see it as the system having let them down, they will see it as a personal failing of the person who promised to work for them and is empowered to do so. These feeling can run deep at the village level and even stay alive for generations. That is the possible branding that Panchayats should be made aware of. Once realization sinks in, the Panchayats will refuse to sit through mundane repetitions of panchayat field books, they will demand details on how funds are released, which officers they can direct and which offices they need to approach if things don't progress the way they were planned. When that happens, panchayati raj institutions would have become institutions that they are ideally imagined to be. And when the interactions are held, the panchayats should also seek proper explanations on why the administration wrested the post of panchayat secretaries away from the elected representatives.

For real accountability to set in, the defeatism which accepts corruption as a necessary evil has to end. The pessimism with which people greet action against corruption is unfortunate and even misplaced. After all, when the people decide otherwise, they do succeed in challenging corruption at least at the village level and Sikkim has seen some such episodes even in the recent past. There is therefore no meat in the claim that the social and economic decay is simply too overwhelming for small efforts to make a difference. These are just excuses that the urban residents hide behind to avoid coming face to face with their own culpability in feeding the monster. Unfortunately, most efforts at public propriety has been mooted from urban settings [in Sikkim as much as in India] by people who might mean well, but are too ill-informed on what rural priorities are.

Thankfully, the rural folk have more say now. With panchayati raj there is more rural empowerment at work. The urban naiveté, which demanded Acts for transparency and accountability when they should have been part and parcel of democracy, is losing out to rural pragmatism. Now for that pragmatism to start expressing itself more forcefully.

When should you unfriend someone on Facebook?

ALEXIS ELDER
theconversation.com

The nature and ethics of "fake news" has become a subject of widespread concern. But, for many of us, the issue is much more personal: What are we to do when a cranky uncle or an otherwise pleasant old friend persists in populating our news feeds with a stream of posts that can run deeply contrary to our own values?

One option is to unfriend people who share material that conflicts with our values. But a siloed environment where people self-select into echo chambers could also be worrisome. As a researcher working on the ethics of social technologies, I start with what might seem like an unlikely source: Aristotle.

Classical Greece may bear little resemblance to today's world of smartphones and social media. But Aristotle was no stranger to the struggle to build and maintain social connections in a contentious political climate.

VALUE OF FRIENDSHIP

The first issue is what should real friendships look like. Aristotle argues that a "perfect friendship is the friendship of men who are good, and alike in virtue."

On the face of it, it would appear then that friendships are essentially about similarities, arising where like-minded people group together. This could be a problem, if you thought that a good friendship involved respecting difference. It would also be a reason for people to unfriend those who disagreed with us politically.

But Aristotle doesn't say friends should be "alike." What he says is that best friends can be different and yet share good lives together so long as each is virtuous in his or her own way. In other words, the only similarity necessary is that they both be virtuous.

By "virtuous," he means the features of excellent people, those character traits like courage and kindness that help individuals be good to others, their own selves and live good lives. Such traits help people flourish as rational, social animals.

APPRECIATING DIFFERENCES

Again, if you thought that these characteristics looked the same for every individual, you might worry that this still means that friends should be very similar. But that is not what he says about the nature of virtue.

A virtuous character trait, he says, consists of having the right amount of common human disposition – not too much and not too little. Courage, for example, is the middle ground between an excess and a deficit of fear. Too much fear would keep people from defending what they valued, while too little would make them vulnerable to unnecessary injury.

But what counts as the middle ground is rela-

tive to the individual, not an absolute.

Consider how what counts as the right amount of food is different for an accomplished athlete than a novice. Likewise for courage and other virtues. What counts as the right amount of fear depends on what needs defending, and what resources are available for defense.

So courage can look very different for different people, in different contexts. In other words, each individual could have his or her own moral style. This seems to leave room for appreciating friends' differences on social media. It should also give individuals reason to be cautious in exercising the

ence on us.

HOW CAN WE USE FACEBOOK WISELY AND WELL?

What I take from this is that we ought not to think that friends' differences, political or otherwise, pose a problem for friendship. But at the same time, character matters. Repeated interactions, even on social media, can shape our character over time.

So, in considering the question, should you disconnect from that Facebook "friend," the short but unsatisfying answer is, "It depends."

Facebook connects people, but it imposes both physical and psychological distance. One could argue that this makes it easier both to share our thoughts (even those that many wouldn't air in person) and to disconnect from others, even when social pressures might make it harder to do so when face to face.

Figuring out when to exercise these different abilities could require individuals to exercise the virtues. But as I have explained, they do not give anyone a uniform guide to action. What counts as a virtue depends on the details of the circumstance.

LANDMARKS FOR NAVIGATING

Several factors look relevant. Social media makes people happier when they use it to interact rather than passively observe. Diverse connections and conversations can enrich people's lives. On Facebook, we have an opportunity to experience "ideologically diverse news and opinions."

Sure, sometimes unfriending an obnoxious co-worker or relative helps keep the peace... but this can be cowardly. And sometimes arguing with someone online just reinforces our own belligerence, making us worse in the long run. What we want to do is have good conversations that strengthen good connections.

But here, too, we need to remain sensitive to details of context. Some conversations are better had at a distance and others face to face.

In the end, some reasons to connect or disconnect are rooted in concerns about our own character, and some revolve around others' characters. We have reason to foster a courageous and compassionate willingness to consider others' worldviews and to be mindful of our own tendency to vilify posts (and people) because we disagree with them. But we also want our friends to be good people.

What we need to remember is that the devil is in the details. I think the reason we grapple with this issue is that it resists easy or uniform answers. But using the tools Aristotle provided to reflect on where we want to end up, we can find ways to connect that make us better off, both singly and together.

[the writer is Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota Duluth]



"unfriend" option.

LIVING TOGETHER

For Aristotle, shared lives are key to explaining both why friendship matters to us and why good character matters to friendship. Friends, he says, "...do and share in those things which give them the sense of living together. Thus the friendship of bad men turns out an evil thing (for because of their instability they unite in bad pursuits, and besides they become evil by becoming like each other), while the friendship of good men is good, being augmented by their companionship..."

For Aristotle, virtues are by definition those traits that help you to flourish as a rational, social animal. Being your best self helps you to live a good life.

The opposite, he says, is true of vices. What he means by a vice is the wrong amount of a characteristic: for example, too much fear or too little concern for others. Vices can make people's lives worse overall, even if more enjoyable in the short term. The coward cannot stand up for what she values and so harms herself and not just those she ought to protect. The selfish person makes himself incapable of close friendship and deprives himself of an important human good.

Difference isn't bad, and can even enrich our lives. But having vicious people as friends make us worse off, both because we care about them and want them to live well and because of their influ-

Blocks are still the best present you can buy for children

KYM SIMONCINI & KEVIN LARKIN
theconversation.com

With Christmas looming (and in Sikkim's case, also Losoong), many people will be considering what present to buy for their children, nieces and nephews, grandchildren and friends. Soon, if not already, we will be reading lists of the top trending presents for 2017. These lists will no doubt include, and may even be totally dominated by, all the latest gadgets and devices.

The purpose of these lists is to attempt to persuade parents of young children if they want to give their child the best start in life, and all the advantages for doing well later at school, they need to purchase the latest technology.

Missing from these Christmas lists, but what should actually be at the very top in terms of learning, are blocks. Blocks have been part of children's play for a long time. But there's still no other toy that compares in promoting all areas of children's development. Any early childhood teacher can easily identify all the areas block play develops including fine motor, social, language and cognitive skills.

BLOCKS DEVELOP SPATIAL REASONING SKILLS

As children experiment by stacking, balancing, or building with blocks, they need to share, respect other children's constructions, ask for desired blocks and describe what they are creating. Perhaps more importantly, children develop problem solving skills, creativity and imagination in creating their masterpieces. Finally, let's not forget persistence where children try



again and again to build the tallest tower or most elaborate castle.

Less well known is that blocks also foster spatial reasoning. Spatial reasoning is the ability to mentally manipulate objects or to think in a way that relates to space and the position, area, and size of things within it. We use spatial reasoning skills in everyday life when we read maps, pack the car for holidays, assemble flat pack furniture or cut cake into equal slices.

Spatial reasoning skills are linked to mathematics skills. Children who have good spatial skills tend to have better maths skills. Many people are unaware of the research, but early mathematics skills are a better predictor of later school success than either early reading or social-emotional skills. Block play helps children understand many mathematical concepts in number, measurement and geometry. During block play children count, measure, estimate, pattern, transform, and learn about symmetry.

Perhaps most surprising to readers will be the research that shows spatial reasoning skills are the best

predictor of whether children will end up in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related career. Spatial skills are especially important in STEM related jobs where people are required, for example, to create or read X-ray and ultrasound imaging, engineering and architectural designs, or cross sections of heating and plumbing systems.

BLOCKS ALSO HELP DEVELOP SPATIAL LANGUAGE

Block play also fosters spatial language. When children play with blocks they hear and produce more words related to spatial reasoning including things such as beneath, above, next to, behind, and so on.

One study showed block play elicited more spatial language than any other type of play. The other types of play included playing with puppets, playing house, shops, school, zoos, chefs and throwing a ball.

Other research that looked at spatial language showed the more spatial words children heard, the more spatial words they produced and the better they performed on spatial tasks. In this study, researchers looked at

language relating to the spatial features and properties of objects such as the dimensions of objects (such as how big small, wide, tall), the forms of shapes (for example rectangle, circle, square) and other spatial properties (like bent, pointy, curved).

DIFFERENT BLOCKS FOR

DIFFERENT AGES AND STAGES

There are a wide variety of choices for blocks for children including Mega-Blocs for really young children, Duplo, wooden blocks or waffle blocks for preschoolers, and Eco bricks and Lego for older children.

These age guidelines are suggestions only. My ten and fourteen year old daughters will still play with the wooden blocks. Much of the reason blocks are such enduring toys is due to the fact they're "loose parts". That is, they can be moved, arranged, combined, taken apart, and put together in any number of ways. Froebel, the father of kindergarten, created ten gifts for children of which six were blocks.

The best way to engage children in block play is to play alongside them and show your interest and enthusiasm in block building. My friend has a ritual of playing half an hour every afternoon with Duplo with her three young boys aged five, three and one. She says it's her favourite time of day.

So, when those lists appear in your inbox or on social media, just remember the best toy of all is likely to be missing.

[Kym Simoncini is Assistant Professor in Early Childhood and Primary Education, University of Canberra; Kevin Larkin is Senior Lecturer in Mathematics Education, Griffith University]

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Bhutanese Ambassador to India meets Assam CM

GUWAHATI, DEC 4 (PTI): Bhutanese Ambassador to India Maj Gen Vetsop Namgyel today called on Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal here and the two made a strong pitch for the growth of the entire region.

The chief minister and the ambassador discussed issues such as cultural and sporting exchanges and tapping of tourism potential of Assam and Bhutan, an official release said here.

Informing Namgyel about the two-day Global Investors' Summit to be held here from February 3, Sonowal invited Bhutan to participate in the event.

Namgyel also expressed his country's keen interest to participate in the summit.

Bhutan is looking forward to tap Assam's tourism destinations considering its sprawling tea gardens, unique and colourful culture and national parks, he said.

Sonowal said Assam can also develop and promote various sports in the Himalayan country.

The Ambassador invited Sonowal to visit Bhutan which he accepted in principle, the release added.

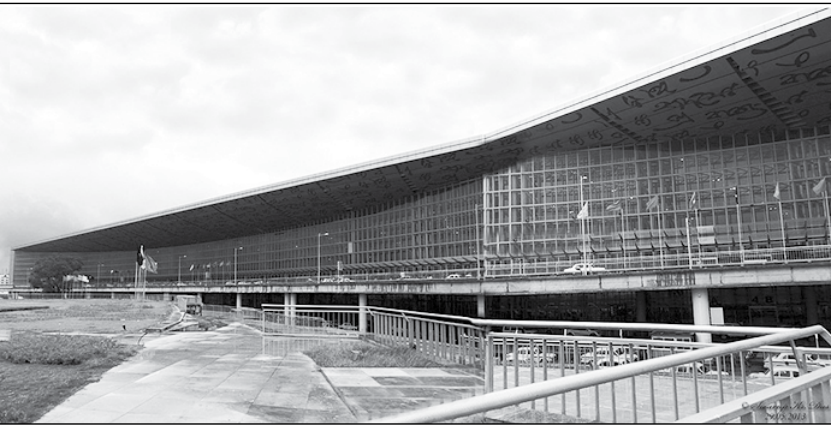
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Kolkata airport to go green with 15 MW solar power plant

KOLKATA, DEC 4 (PTI): The Kolkata airport is all set to start using clean and green energy for its day to day operations, as its ground mounted grid connected solar plant is ready for commissioning.

The 15 MW plant, capacity wise the largest one among all the AAI airports across the country, is slated to be inaugurated by Union Minister for Civil Aviation Ashok Gajapathi Raju tomorrow.

"Once the solar power plant becomes operational, we will be able to cut down on carbon emission and at the same time do some cost cutting once the solar power plant becomes operational," S Raheja, member (planning), Airports Authority of India (AAI), told PTI.



The solar power plant will be able to meet the power requirement of the terminal building at the NSCB Airport here which is around 10-11

MW per day, Raheja said.

The Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) airport Director Atul Dixit said the solar panels have been installed across 67.5 acre land in the operational area of the airport.

The plant will generate 1.35 million units per month and this will reduce the AAI's power bill by around 1.20 crore per month, Dixit said.

Only two other AAI airports have the ground mounted grid connected solar plant - Chandigarh (3 MW) and Jaipur (1.8 MW).

AAI has completed the installation work in

six months in spite of operational hindrances and continuous rain, and the total cost of the project is Rs 90 crore, he said.

AAI has entered into an agreement with private power utility CESC (DISCOM) so that the excess power generated by it can be injected into CESC's DISCOM grid and the airport can avail power from the grid when solar power is not available.

This is called 'net metering benefit' and AAI has obtained permission from the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission for it, AAI officials said.

Mizoram starts registration of Myanmar refugees

AIZAWL, DEC 4 (PTI): The administration of southern Mizoram's Lawngtlai district has started the process to register the over 1,600 Myanmar nationals who had taken refuge in four remote villages in the district, an official today said.

After the refugees are registered with the district ad-

ministration, they would be given temporary ration cards for food distribution among them, the official said.

More than 300 quintals of rice had already arrived in the four villages, situated along the Mizoram-Myanmar border to be distributed among the refugees, he said.

Makeshift relief camps in

the villages were being constructed for the refugees.

The official said that the refugees who took shelter in the four villages - Hmawng-buchhuah, Zochachhuah, Laitlang and Dumzautlang - belonged to Khumi and Rakhine province of Myanmar, known to the local populace inside Mizoram as 'Zakhai',

tribes.

Central committee of the Young Lai Association (YLA), the apex body of the Lai tribe in Lawngtlai district had distributed blankets and garments to the displaced people on Friday.

Mizoram Thalai Kristian Pawl (MTKP) the youth wing of the Baptist Church of

Mizoram also handed over Rs 50,000 to the central committee of the YLA for purchase of relief items.

The exodus of civilians from Myanmar to Lawngtlai district began on November 25 last after armed clashes between the Myanmar army and the Arakan militants.

Billy Bush bites back at Donald Trump over infamous Access Hollywood tapes: "He Said That"

A little over a year after the now-infamous Access Hollywood tapes, in which then-reality star-and-now president Donald Trump can be overheard on a "hot mic" in 2005 talking graphically about women to a bunch of men on a bus, were leaked, The New York Times reported earlier this week that the 45th president has been claiming that the tapes are fake.

But now, Billy Bush, the newsman who was caught in the middle of all of it, isn't letting this one slide.

In regards to Trump's inflammatory "grab 'em by the p—sy" line, Bush has come out to say, "Of course he said it. And we laughed along..."

In the New York Times' op-ed piece, entitled "Billy Bush: Yes, Donald Trump, You Said That", the entertainment news reporter wrote, "Along with Donald Trump and me, there



were seven other guys present on the bus at the time, and every single one of us assumed we were listening to a crass stand-up act. He was performing. Surely, we thought, none of this was real."

He added, "We now know better."

The controversial audio recording featured the then-reality star bragging to

the men that he could grab women "by the p—sy" simply because he was famous.

Previously, the topic of the tape came up during the Oct. 9, 2016 presidential debate against Hillary Clinton. At that time, Trump apologized for the headline-making comment.

"No, I didn't say that at all. I don't think you understood what was said. This was locker

room talk. I'm not proud of it. I apologize to my family. I apologize to the American people. Certainly I'm not proud of it. But this is locker room talk," he shared during the live debate. "I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

However, the NYT's new report claim that the commander-in-chief is changing his tune behind closed doors.

In Sunday's article, Bush, who lost his job at the Today show a week after the tapes came out, made his thoughts crystal clear on the matter: "President Trump is currently indulging in some revisionist history, reportedly telling allies, including at least one United States senator, that the voice on the tape is not his."

He wrote, "This has hit a raw nerve in me."

Today's letter also makes

it clear that Bush hopes his words help change the men, including himself, who said nothing that day.

"Today is about reckoning and reawakening, and I hope it reaches all the guys on the bus," Bush also wrote that the past year has been an "odyssey."

In addition to losing his job at NBC, the former host also separated from his wife of 20 years, Sydney Davis, whom he shares three daughters with.

Bush finished the remorseful letter with the hope that he's learned from his highly publicized mistakes.

"I know that I don't need the accoutrements of fame to know God and be happy. After everything over the last year, I think I'm a better man and father to my three teenage daughters—far from perfect, but better," he concluded.

Sonowal announces cabinet sub-committees for tribes

Guwahati, Dec 4 (PTI): Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today announced setting up a cabinet sub-committee to carry out feasibility study for inclusion of Rabha, Tiwa and Mising tribes under sixth schedule of the Constitution.

The decision was taken at a meeting with representatives of autonomous councils of the respective communities this evening, an official release said.

"Sonowal also assured the representatives that all the rights of the communities, including land rights would be protected while executing the state capital region," it added.

He said that implementation of the State Capital Region Authority would catapult progress of the areas within its jurisdiction and there is no cause to worry for the Rabha and Tiwa people as their rights would be fully protected.

"The chief minister further mentioned that the chief executive members of the Rabha and Tiwa Autonomous Councils would also be included as members in the State Capital Region Authority in a bid to safeguard the interest of the communities," the statement said.

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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	
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1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 5769	1st Prize Rs.10,000/- 2587 2nd Prize Rs.2,000/- 4249
2nd Prize Rs.1,000/- 3076 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1228	3rd Prize Rs.1,000/- 5348 4th Prize Rs.500/- 4123
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Lower courts short of 5k judges as no suitable candidates available

NEW DELHI, DEC 4 (PTI):

Lower courts in the country face a shortage of nearly 5,000 judges, mainly because of the inability to find suitable candidates and pending cases challenging previous recruitments, a law ministry document says.

The sanctioned strength of the subordinate judiciary, considered the backbone of Indian justice delivery system, was increased from 16,949 at the end of 2010 to 22,288 in December, 2016. But as on June 30, 2016, there was a shortfall of 4,937 judges in lower courts across the country.

"Some of the reasons for delays in filling up of vacancies, as indicated by the high courts, is the inability to find suitable candidates, pending court cases challenging previous recruitments and difficulties in coordination between high courts and state public service commissions," the note says.

The note was circulated to members of the parliamentary consultative committee attached with the law ministry.

There are only 17,576 court rooms/court halls and only 14,363 residential units available for district and subordinate courts in the country.

It says that this is against the sanctioned strength of 22,288 for judicial officers/judges of district and subordinate courts in the country.

"The focus is, therefore, to match the number of court halls/court rooms with the number of sanctioned strength of judicial officers/judges in the district and subordinate courts. This will help in improving the functioning and performance of the judiciary in the country," the note states.

On November 16, the government had decided to continue with a scheme sponsored by it to develop the infrastructure of the lower courts, which would help complete the construction of 3,000 courtrooms and 1,800 residential units for the judicial officers of subordinate courts.

Sikkimese footballer Novin excited to play in Hero I-League 2017-18

REBYNA RANA GANGTOK, 04 DEC:

"I AM OVERJOYED to be a part of the Hero I-League season this time too. I will give my best to keep up with the expectations of my well wishers who have been very supportive throughout," says Sikkimese footballer, Novin Gurung, who is playing for Shillong Lajong FC at the moment.

The 11th season of the Hero I-League kicked off on 25 Nov with the participation of 10 teams from across the nation.

18-year-old Novin hails from Rongli in East Sikkim. He started his journey in football from 2006. He officially joined Shillong Lajong FC in 2015 as a mid-fielder.

Talking about his performance as compared to last year's season, he says that he is confident about leading his club to victory with his club being on the top table [6 points] after winning two matches.



The first match was played against Gokulam Kerala FC on 28 Nov wherein Shillong Lajong FC won by 1-0 goals while the second match was played against Churchill Brothers on 02 Dec. Shillong Lajong FC defeated

Churchill Brothers 2-0.

The next match will be played on 09 Dec against East Bengal.

Novin has conveyed his gratitude to all his well wishers for the constant support since the



first day of the league.

The other Sikkimese footballer to represent Shillong Lajong FC is Phurba Tempa Lachenpa as goal keeper for the Hero I-League season 2017-18. He hails from North Sikkim.



Mithali Raj, Sakshi Malik to take part in 'We The Women' fest

MUMBAI, DEC 4 (PTI): Indian Women Cricket team skipper Mithali Raj and Olympic wrestling medallist Sakshi Malik will take part in 'We The Women', a participatory Women's Festival to be held over the weekend.

The festival, to be held on December 9 and 10, is presented by Facebook & UN Women, a media release issued here said today.

Other personalities who will be part of the event include Union ministers Smriti Irani, Harsimrat Badal, corporate leader Roshni Nadar, actor Twinkle Khanna, it added.

Mithali Raj led the Indian Women's team to the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup final earlier this year, where they finished as runner-up against England.

Sakshi Malik had won the bronze medal in the 2016 Rio Olympics.

I do fail, admits Yuvraj but won't give up at least till 2019

COLOMBO, DEC 4 (PTI): Yuvraj Singh has no qualms in conceding that he has been 'failing' but the out-of-favour Indian cricketer says he won't give up on his career at least till 2019.

The 36-year-old all-rounder, who played a pivotal role in India's 2011 World Cup triumph, has been struggling to keep a place in the side for some time now.

"I would like to tell that I am failing. I still fail. I failed the last three fitness tests but yesterday I passed my fitness test. After 17 years I am still failing," Yuvraj said.

Speaking at an interactive session organised by UNICEF here as part of "The Power of Sports to Shape the Future of Adolescents" campaign, the veteran said his career decisions will be solely decided by him.

"I am not afraid of failure. I have gone through ups and downs. I have seen defeat and that's what's the pillar of success.

"To be a successful man, to be a



successful person in your life, you need failure and you've got to be defeated.

That will make you a stronger person and it will take you to the next level," he explained.

Yuvraj said he is not quite sure

how many people believe in him given his recent slump but he hasn't stopped believing in himself.

"I am still playing. I don't know what format I am going to play. But I am pushing everyday as hard as I used to, may be harder than before because I am getting older. And I see myself playing cricket till 2019 and obviously take a call after that," he said.

"So I still believe in myself. As I said I don't know how many people believe in me but I do believe in myself," Yuvraj added.

The left-hander has played 40 Tests, 304 ODIs and 58 T20 Internationals in his 17-year-career scoring 1900, 8701 and 1177 runs across the respective formats.

He had recently hit the headlines for skipping Ranji Trophy matches to train at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

It was learnt that he did so to clear the 'Yo-Yo' fitness test, which he had failed in the past.

Vijender to defend title against African Champion Ernest Amuzu

NEW DELHI, DEC 4 (PTI): Indian boxing star Vijender Singh is set to defend his WBO Oriental and Asia Pacific Super middleweight titles against Ghana's Ernest Amuzu in Jaipur on December 23.

Unbeaten in nine fights so far Vijender was last seen in action in August when he defeated China's No.1 boxer Zulpikar Maimaitali to claim the WBO Oriental title.

"I am really excited on having my 10th fight in India in the Pink City of Jaipur. I am training hard in the ring for the last two months and still have three weeks to go for my next fight, so looking forward to winning the third title fight in a row," the Olympic bronze medallist said.

Announcing the launch of his new promotional company -- Vijender Singh Promotions, he said, "the company will encourage the new talents and provide them a chance to be a part of a big show.

Ghana's Ernest Amuzu will also be looking to win the 26th pro fight of his

career. He has won 23 fights, 21 of them Knockouts, and lost only two in his pro career.

"So far Vijender has not faced any tough and experienced opponent like me, I am sure that after facing me in the ring he will realise how tough pro boxing is," the 34-year-old boxer said.



"I am ready and fully prepared to defeat Vijender Singh in the early 3-4 rounds Knockout win," he added.

It will be a change of venue for the boxer given that his previous bouts have taken place in the metro cities of Mumbai and Delhi.

"I do not want to fight in the metros, I want to take the sport to small towns, so middle-class families can also see the matches," he said.

"I am sure it will be an exciting fight night for the people of Jaipur and I am confident that sports fans will come out in large number to support me when I compete for my third title fight," he added.

In 94.6 per cent cases of rape, accused known to victim: NCRB

INDORE, DEC 4 (PTI): Girls and women are more vulnerable to their own relatives and acquaintances than unknown persons on the issue of sex-related crimes, data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) "Crime in India 2016" report has indicated.

Highlighting rape figures, the report has stated that "in 2016, the accused of rapes in 94.6 cases are none other than the victim's relatives in-

cluding brother, father, grand-father, sons or acquaintances."

The report showed that in the year 2016, a total of 38,947 cases of rape were registered in the country under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) as well as Section 376 and other related sections of the Indian Penal Code.

Among these 38,947 cases, in 36,859 matters, accused are related to the victims, it said.

Similarly, it said that in 630 cases, victims were allegedly raped by grand-father, father, brother and son while in 1,087 cases the accused were acquaintances.

Besides in 2,174 cases, the accused are relatives and in 10,520 matters, it was neighbours who were facing charges of rape, it said.

In 600 cases, employers and co-workers are accused of rape, the report said.

The NCRB report also stated that in 2016, in 557 cases, the accused are live-in partners, husband and ex-husbands.

Similarly, in 10,068 cases, women were raped on the promise of marriage. It also states that in the remaining 11,223 cases, the victims in some manner or the other knew the accused.

Expressing concern over these figures, National Commission of Women (NCW) chairperson, Rekha

Sharma told PTI, "In our society there is lot of restrictions imposed on girls.

But now it is enough. Time has come when boys should be taught from childhood how to behave with women as per our social values."

She said that porn material is easily available on internet. In such a scenario, parents should keep a watch on the mobile phones and computers.

From obscurity to overnight fame, Argentina's Olympic tale

SAUMOJYOTI S CHOUDHURY

BHUBANESWAR, DEC 4 (PTI): Cutting through barriers and years of neglect in a country that is obsessed with football and its global icons, the Argentine men's hockey team is finally coming out of the shadows and charting its own path.

While the likes of Lionel Messi and Diego Maradona are household names, 'Los Leones', as the Argentina men's hockey team is called, lived in relative obscurity till a bronze medal at the 2014 World Cup opened the doors for more success.

Until the breakthrough in the Netherlands, the men's hockey team was living not only under the shadow of soccer, rugby and basketball, but was also weighed down by the achievements of its more famous women counterparts.

Hockey in the South American nation, till then, was mainly liked to 'Las Leonas', the women's hockey team.

Featuring the great Luciana Aymar, the Argentine women have won medals at the last four Olympics, won two World Cups and seven Champions Trophy titles, all coming in a century that is not even two decades old.

And then, out of nowhere, the men's team won the gold medal in the 2016



Rio Olympics, its best-ever international result, and it made them overnight stars back home.

"The Olympic gold was important for

the survival of men's hockey in Argentina. It was a historic moment for us. We know how important it was for us," said Gonzalo Peillat, who was the top-scorer in Rio with

10 goals.

"After the Olympics mentality (of Argentines back home) has changed a little bit. Hockey has slowly started to become bigger

and bigger. Earlier the women's team was only famous but now a days the support is equal for us. Every television channels in Argentina are now following us."

Soccer is a culture in Argentina and football players are worshipped as Gods. Expectedly, the infrastructure and popularity of hockey is not upto the mark, forcing the likes of Peillat to ply their trade in the European leagues of Netherlands and Germany.

"Argentines are crazy about soccer. Competition in hockey is not good and that's why more than half of our team players have moved to Europe," said Peillat.

Senior player Lucas Villa summed up men's hockey's plight in Argentina before their Rio success.

"Men's hockey was not so popular in Argentina till we won the gold. We were bullied whenever we used to go for training.

People used to inquire what was there in our hockey kit. They used to ask us whether we were carrying guns," Villa said.

"But now the scenario has changed. People back home have started to recognise us."

Argentina men's hockey team is currently the world No. 1 side, while the women are placed third in the standings.

Indian-origin woman killed in shark attack in US

NEW YORK, 04 DEC [PTI]: A 49-year-old Indian-origin woman equity manager based here has been killed by a tiger shark while scuba diving on a remote Costa Rican island, according to media reports.

Rohina Bhandari was part of an 18-member group that went for a diving session off Cocos Island National park in Costa Rica, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, famous for the abundant varieties of shark species, The New York Post reported.

Bhandari, a Wall Street private equity manager, was hauled out of the water after sustaining severe bites to her legs, Costa Rica's Environment Ministry said.

Park guards and medical personnel vacationing on the island launched a frantic effort to treat her wounds.

But Bhandari, a senior director at WL Ross & Co. LL, a firm founded by Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, could not be saved, the reports said.

A dive master also suffered a shark bite but those injuries were not life-threatening.

The instructor, who was conscious and in relatively stable condition, told officials that the shark attacked when his group was surfacing at the tail end of the dive.

A boater and other divers tried to drive the creature away but it was too late, it said.

"Upon reaching the surface, the attack on the tourist was already serious," the environment ministry said.

Tiger sharks are predators often found around Pacific islands. One of the largest sharks in the world, Tiger sharks are known for their powerful jaws and voracious appetites.

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Australian Parl resumes gay marriage reform debate

CANBERRA, 04 DEC [AP]: Australia's Parliament today started debating a bill that could soon legalise gay marriage across the country, with one lawmaker taking the opportunity to propose to his gay partner.

The House of Representatives resumed for its final two-week session of the year, which is giving priority to achieving same-sex marriage reform. The major parties want the legislation passed this week after a majority of Australian's endorsed reform in a postal ballot last month.

The Senate last week approved the bill and rejected all proposed amendments that would have increased legal protections for those who would discriminate against gay couples on religious grounds.

But several lawmakers including Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull intend to persist with amendments rejected by the Senate.



Turnbull, a gay marriage supporter, says he wants wedding celebrants, not just those affiliated with churches, to have the right to refuse to officiate at same-sex marriages.

If the House of Representatives supported such an amendment, then the altered bill would have to return to the Senate for ratification, delaying the reform.

Tim Wilson, a lawmaker in the conservative coalition, was among

the first lawmakers to join the debate and used his speech to propose to his partner Ryan Bolger, who was watching from the public gallery.

"In my first speech I defined our bond by the ring that sits on both of our left hands," Wilson said. "There's only one thing left to do: Ryan Patrick Bolger, will you marry me?"

The 33-year-old primary school teacher responded: "yes", which was recorded in the official parliamentary record.

Warren Entsch, a long-term advocate of marriage equality within the conservative government, helped draft the bill and was the first to speak for it in the House on Monday.

"The bill which the Senate passed is a robust bill, a whole range of religious protections are already in place," Entsch said in introducing the bill.

"We have made sure that we have removed any element of discrimination in this bill while ensuring that religious freedoms are protected."

Entsch said related amendments to bolster freedoms of speech and education rights could be debated in a separate bill next year and should not be sued to delay the reform.

"Australians are sick of excuses and they're sick of delays," Entsch said.

A nonbinding postal survey found that 62 per cent of Australian respondents wanted reform. Almost 80 per cent of Australia's registered voters took part in the two-month survey. Most gay marriage opponents accept that the Parliament has an overwhelming mandate to make the reform.

While marriage equality could become law this week, state marriage registries say they would not have the paperwork to proceed with weddings until January.



China evades comment on Chabahar port launch

BEIJING, 04 DEC [PTI]: China today declined to directly comment on the launch of the strategic Chabahar port in Iran but hoped that the project, which enables India to directly trade with Afghanistan besides rivaling Pakistan's Gwadar port, is conducive to regional peace and stability.

The first phase of the Chabahar port on the Gulf of Oman coast was inaugurated yesterday by Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, opening a new strategic route connecting Iran, India and Afghanistan while bypassing Pakistan, and reflecting growing convergence of interests among the three countries.

The port in Iran's Sistan-Balochistan province on the energy-rich nation's southern coast is easily accessible from India's western coast and is increasingly seen as a counter to Pakistan's Gwadar port, which is being developed with Chinese investment and is located around 80 kms from Chabahar.

Asked how China views the launch of the project, considering that China is investing heavily in Gwadar as part of the USD 50 billion China Pakistan Economic Corridor, foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang declined to comment on it directly.

"As for the [Chabahar] port, I want to give you a principled answer. We welcome the development of friendly relations between the regional countries and conduct mutually beneficial cooperation," he said.

"We hope the relevant cooperation can be conducive to maintaining regional peace and promoting regional stability and prosperity," he said.

The Chabahar port is being considered a gateway to golden opportunities for trade by India, Iran and Afghanistan with central Asian countries besides ramping up trade among the three countries in the wake of Pakistan denying transit access to New Delhi.

Vijay Mallya arrives at UK court for extradition trial

LONDON, 04 DEC [PTI]: Liquor baron Vijay Mallya, out on a 650,000-pound bail bond following his arrest by Scotland Yard over fraud and money laundering charges, today arrived at Westminster Magistrates' Court for the opening day of his extradition trial.

The 61-year-old tycoon looked relaxed as he was greeted by a swarm of cameras and reporters when he entered the court to stand trial on charges of fraud and money laundering related to his erstwhile Kingfisher Airlines owing several Indian banks around Rs 9,000 crores.

"Please hear the proceedings," Mallya told reporters outside the courtroom.

However, the trial opening was delayed as the courtroom had to be evacuated due to a fire alarm going off.

Mallya, who has been out on bail since Scotland Yard executed an extradition warrant in April this year, will be in the dock for the duration of the trial scheduled to end on 14 Dec.

A judgement in the case, being presided over by Judge Emma Louise Arbuthnot, is unlikely until early next year.

His defence team is led by barrister Clare Montgomery, known as an expert in criminal and fraud law with the UK's Matrix Chambers.

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) will be arguing on behalf of the Indian government,



led by barrister Mark Summers.

The CPS will need to demonstrate a prima facie case by producing evidence to show that the criminal charges against Mallya are justified and that he should be extradited to face the Indian courts.

Prison conditions in India are expected to be at the forefront during the hearing, with the Indian government providing assurances of protection of Mallya's human rights.

The tycoon has been on self-imposed exile in the UK since he left India on 02 March, 2016.

While on strict bail conditions, which include providing a bail bond worth 650,000 pounds, surrender of his passport and a ban on possessing any travel documents, the former Rajya Sabha member has been based at his Hertfordshire estate Ladywalk in the village of Tewin, around 30 miles from London.

The CPS, acting on behalf of the Indian authorities, had presented "supplemental" charges of money laundering to previous charges of fraud against the businessman at an earlier hearing in October.

The judge had agreed to effectively re-open a fresh case so that all charges can be heard concurrently in court.

If the judge rules in favour of extradition at the end of the trial, the UK home secretary must order Mallya's extradition within two months. However, the case can go through a series of appeals in higher UK courts before arriving at a conclusion.

Judge Arbuthnot and her colleague, Rebecca Crane, at Westminster Magistrates Court have recently rejected two other long-pending extradition requests from India, that of UK-based alleged bookie Sanjeev Kumar Chawla on 16 Oct and a British Indian couple, Jatinder and Asha Rani Angurala, on 12 Oct, relating to bank fraud.

Chawla, the key accused in the cricket match-fixing scandal involving former South African captain Hanse Cronje in 2000, was discharged on human rights grounds over severe conditions in Delhi's Tihar Jail where he was to be held on being extradited.

The Anguralas were discharged on grounds of over 25 years having passed.

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

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DEAR LOVING MORNING Draw Time: 11:55 am onwards Draw No:1 DrawDate on:04/12/17 1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 95L 31731 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.9494/- 31731 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 18892 19843 24087 25680 48437 61511 66654 68602 75838 96280 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 2358 3338 3512 4089 5353 5668 7065 8024 8663 9091 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0416 2022 2145 2477 2943 3499 4351 5427 8003 9723 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0011 0013 0123 0203 0400 0478 0505 0562 0571 0607 0779 0895 0933 0983 1043 1044 1065 1086 1168 1306 1328 1335 1386 1490 1608 1629 1761 2208 2253 2323 2340 2397 2587 2648 2806 2818 3133 3174 3342 3797 3862 3889 3967 4037 4063 4138 4268 4273 4393 4720 4737 4765 4885 5003 5163 5327 5455 5501 5590 5657 5866 5873 5991 6011 6109 6275 6329 6340 6626 6694 6743 6744 6894 7014 7515 7658 7737 7762 7772 7883 7944 7955 8159 8179 8353 8423 8489 8601 8639 8771 8780 8828 8859 9087 9230 9243 9635 9744 9938 9968	DEAR PRECIOUS Draw Time: 04:00 pm onwards Draw No:1 DrawDate on:04/12/17 1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 75L 35213 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.9494/- 35213 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 11817 15337 33714 65140 72992 75645 86616 95777 97571 99660 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0158 0617 1418 1927 2153 3411 5154 8136 9610 9647 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0770 0932 2670 2829 3771 4912 5080 5963 7158 8479 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0021 0311 0413 0689 0724 0792 1048 1187 1215 1406 1673 1887 1990 2076 2297 2328 2505 2540 2549 2604 2646 3162 3368 3415 3427 3436 3511 3542 3692 3700 3706 3818 3977 4049 4210 4371 4398 4449 4453 4550 4570 4706 4780 4782 4858 4921 4973 4990 5226 5344 5381 5382 5384 5413 5418 5533 5579 5742 5755 5769 5915 5973 6066 6131 6141 6308 6584 6634 6790 6961 7088 7105 7163 7550 7610 7706 7826 7883 7888 7943 8123 8490 8539 8690 8998 9008 9037 9146 9186 9284 9322 9360 9451 9468 9528 9619 9630 9786 9829 9841	DEAR FLAMINGO EVENING Draw Time: 08:00 pm onwards Draw No:19 DrawDate on:04/12/17 1st Prize Rs.26 Lakhs/- 85L 88184 (Including Super Prize Amt) Cons. Prize Rs.9494/- 88184 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS) 2nd Prize Rs.9000/- 07958 26047 29865 31378 34192 34299 39925 42687 65339 85581 3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0342 0482 1792 2253 2518 2684 3885 4004 4312 6238 4th Prize Rs.250/- 0033 0336 1203 2499 2930 3913 6177 8011 8034 9785 5th Prize Rs.120/- 0051 0140 0159 0351 0364 0680 0808 0840 0853 0858 0878 0921 1053 1076 1081 1338 1475 1540 1638 1789 1794 1808 1830 2114 2243 2337 2423 2436 2889 3105 3150 3152 3289 3326 3472 3539 3579 4024 4052 4067 4071 4710 4751 4919 5242 5313 5367 5443 5500 5531 5573 5579 5690 5966 6003 6026 6176 6220 6264 6275 6298 6370 6377 6608 6737 6822 7064 7143 7148 7231 7376 7400 7750 7753 7946 7947 8001 8111 8234 8317 8350 8366 8378 8507 8572 8758 8855 8918 8940 9096 9158 9160 9170 9186 9319 9478 9494 9538 9897 9996
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Anurag Kashyap finds his second male lead for Manmarziyan in Dulquer Salmaan

We have some good news this Monday! As per the latest update, Anurag Kashyap's Manmarziyan will have another male lead. He is not a Bollywood actor but a huge superstar down South! Very very cute and widely popular – we are talking about Dulquer Salmaan.

As per reports on Mumbai Mirror, Dulquer Salmaan will complete the love triangle with Taapsee Panu and Vicky Kaushal. Turns out, the team had been on the lookout for a

BOLLYBUZZ!!!

second male lead and it was found that Dulquer fit the bill perfectly, stated a source. Interestingly, this will be Dulquer's second project in Bollywood.

Karwaan, his film with Irfan Khan and Mithila Palkar will mark his first ever in Bollywood. Dulquer's first film in Bollywood has not even released and he has already bagged his second opportunity! Both films have him team up with interesting actors. We can't wait for more details on his role in Manmarziyan. Karwaan is about two friends on a roadtrip.

Manmarziyan will be produced by Anand L Rai and directed by Anurag Kashyap. Manmarziyan was supposed to be made with Sameer Sharma with Ayushmann and Bhumi in the lead. But that didn't work out. His collaboration with Anurag Kashyap has reportedly surprised everyone especially since Anurag is known for his noir drama movies.

But in one of his interviews, Anand L Rai defended the director when he said this – Just because he's made a Gangs of Wasseyapur doesn't mean he doesn't understand love. I gave him a narration, he loved the script but was busy with Mukabaaaz. I told him we would do both together. He could make my film after finishing his. This way I'd get satisfaction and he, lots of affection."



Padman new poster: A smiling Akshay Kumar proves MAD only become famous

Akshay Kumar's Padman is creating a huge buzz on the social media, thanks to its eye-catching posters of the film. The makers of the biographical drama have released one more poster and we must say, Akshay Kumar looks apt as the common man – social activist, Arunachalam Muruganatham in it.

The 50-year old actor shared the poster on his twitter account and captioned it, "#PadManTalks : Mad only become famous! @PadManTheFilm @sonamakapoor @radhikaapte @

mrsfunnybones @SonyPicsIndia @kriarj #RBalki"

In the poster, Akki is seen in a cotton factory holding cotton pieces and smiling looking at them, while in the background there are bunch of sanitary pads, which are getting in the production in the factory. It also has an interesting subtitle which reads, Superhero hai yeh pagla [This mad person is a superhero], which can be said as a one-liner of the film.

In Padman, Akshay Kumar will portray the character of Tamil Nadu-based social activist, Arunachalam Muruganatham. The film will show Arunachalam's journey of finding a way to make cheap, affordable sanitary napkins for women in his village. Apart from Akshay, the film also features Radhika Apte and Sonam Kapoor. The film is produced by the actor's wife, Twinkle Khanna, under her banner, Mrs Funnybones Movies, and directed by R Balki, who has previously helmed movies like Ki and Ka, Paa and Shamitabh.

Like Baby and Airlift, Akshay Kumar has locked Republic Day weekend for Padman. The film will hit the screens on January 26, 2018, and will clash with Sidharth Malhotra and Manoj Bajpayee's Aijaary at the box office.

Apart from Padman, Akshay Kumar has a huge line-up of movies in 2018 and 2019. The Khiladi will make his Tamil debut in Shankar's 2.0 which will also feature megastar Rajinikanth in a lead role. Akshay will be seen as the lead antagonist in this sci-fi flick. Post that he has Gold, Kesari, Housefull 4, Mogul and Crack. By looking at the volume of projects in his kitty, we must say Akshay Kumar is one of the busiest actors in the industry.



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

05TH DEC

WORLD HISTORY

1756: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is born.

1916: The French defeat the Germans in the Battle of Verdun.

1939: The movie Gone with the Wind premiers in Atlanta.

1945: A US Navy Avenger torpedo bomber aircraft is lost in the Bermuda Triangle.

1961: Adolf Eichmann is sentenced to death by an Israeli court for organizing the deportation of Jews to concentration camps.

1966: Animated-cartoon pioneer and movie producer Walt Disney dies in Los Angeles.

1977: Egypt severs ties with Arab hardliners - President Anwar al-Sadat of Egypt breaks all relations with Syria, Libya, Algeria and South Yemen.

1989: Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher defeats Sir Anthony Meyer in the first challenge to her leadership of the Conservative Party.

1991: The Maxwell empire collapses with debts of £1.4bn, as

the late Robert Maxwell's sons concede they are unable to organise a rescue package for the family's private companies.

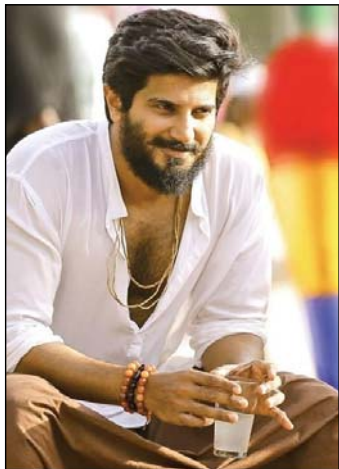
2008: OJ Simpson, who was acquitted of double murder in Los Angeles a few years back, is sentenced for up to thirty-three years in prison for robbing a pair of memorabilia dealers.

INDIAN HISTORY

1950: Sri Aurobindo, Indian nationalist and spiritual guru, passed away.

1994: In Bihar, a mob pulled senior government official G Krishnaiah out of his car and beat him unconscious before shooting him to death because the official's car had inadvertently crossed paths with the funeral procession of a noted underworld don and aspiring politician, Chottan Shukla. In 2007 Anand Mohan and two other politicians were sentenced to hang for their role in the attack. Four others, including Mohan's wife, Lovely Anand — also a former member of parliament — were sentenced to life in prison by the court in Patna, the capital of Bihar State.

1997: Explosions on three separate passenger trains left at least 10 dead and 64 injured in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.



FLAWLESS BEAUTY! Pregnant Miranda Kerr dresses her baby bump in white mini with high waist as she promotes her organic skincare line, KORA Organics, at Sephora in Santa Monica.

Jurassic World: Fallen

Kingdom Teaser Has Chris Pratt Running for His Life

The new teaser for the sequel to Jurassic World is here and once again: "Life finds a way..."

The high-octane teaser, which is just 15 seconds, is packed with drama and comes out five days before the first full trailer for Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom debuts on Dec 07.

The teaser shows Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard who will reprise their roles as raptor trainer Owen Grady and and park operations manager Claire Dearing, and Justice Smith on the run from a menacing foe.

Ted Levine, Rafe Spall, Toby Jones, Geraldine Chaplin, and Daniella Pineda are also slated to star in the big-budget film.

In June, Universal Pictures revealed on Twitter the first poster for the sequel.

The poster shows fiery debris and the tag line, "Life Finds a Way"—a call-back to a line Jeff Goldblum's ominous line in Jurassic Park, the movie that started it all, when he talks about how a species will find a way to survive even in seemingly impossible circumstances.

The actor, who starred in the first two films in the '90s, is set to reprise his role as mathematician Ian Malcolm in the new film.

Howard talked to E! News last year about her character's transformation in Jurassic World, and noted that her

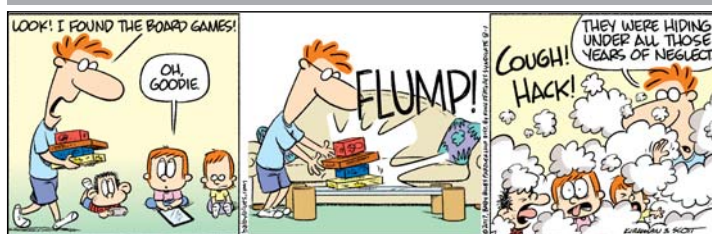


super impractical white high heels will not be making a comeback.

ARCTIC CIRCLE



BABY BLUES



effective. The support of friends and groups could prove invaluable.

SCORPIO: Spiritual matters come to the forefront today. You'll want to throw yourself into the study of a spiritual or metaphysical discipline that appeals to you the most. Friends or a group may want to join you. Getting together with others might stimulate your intellect, imagination, and spirit. At day's end, write down your thoughts. Take a long walk to clear your head so you can sleep.

SAGITTARIUS: You're a spiritually inclined person, but today your mind is on other planes. Insights and revelations could come thick and fast, and you might want to express them through art. Romantic and

other relationships take on a new karmic aura. Meditation could help you make sense of it all, as could a process like past-life regression or rebirthing. In the absence of that, write down your thoughts.

CAPRICORN: Other people take on special importance today. Romance is very much on your mind, whether in friendships, business partnerships, or relationships of all kinds. Your interactions are warm, cordial, and supportive. Romantic feelings approach fairytale intensity. Make the effort to see everyone as they really are and not as idealized images.

AQUARIUS: Today you might try to secure the perfect job, possibly in an artistic field or one connected

with the healing arts. You might have a specific position in mind, or you could consider several. It's important to think of all the ins and outs of every position before charging ahead. What you think might be perfect today could have hidden aspects you don't know about.

PISCES: A new or existing romance could take on a spiritual aspect that creates a stronger bond between you. The works of past great masters, perhaps some from exotic lands, inspire your creative drive. Spirituality could take on new importance to you. You might want to spend time meditating or studying. Past-life regression or guided meditation could prove enlightening.

ARIES: Dreams and meditation could bring up deep-seated emotions from the past that have been blocking your growth without your realizing it. Both seeking and giving forgiveness may take on new importance. Romantic passion should be at an all-time high. These emotions are also likely to provide artistic inspiration that you want to turn toward decorating your home.

TAURUS: If you aren't romantically involved, don't be surprised if romance comes your way today, perhaps in your neighborhood. Even if you are involved, you'll make a new friend. You're likely to meet someone special outside in the open air and close to a crowd of people. Therefore, this isn't

a good day to stay inside, even if the weather's bad. Go see what the Universe has in store for you.

GEMINI: Your value system may take on new spiritual and idealistic aspects today. Mundane affairs could assume new meaning for you. You might even see spirituality in your job. You could set some idealistic but unrealistic goals as far as your health is concerned. If you want to start a new health program, take it one step at a time. Don't try to accomplish everything all at once.

CANCER: Other people are important to you. Today your relationships could take on even more significance than usual. You could meet some interesting people, and if you're not in-

involved, you might even fall in love. Old and new friends could seem more wonderful and idealized. Romantic relationships could assume fairytale qualities. Try to make an effort to see people as they really are. **LEO:** A group encounter, perhaps spiritual or metaphysical, could take place at your home tonight. This group will probably manage to do whatever it aspires to do. Intuition, energy, and imagination are all around you. You'll get closer to whomever you choose to spend time with today, be it friend, lover, or colleague. Tonight write down your thoughts and insights so you can remember them.

VIRGO: Group activities concern-

ing spiritual, metaphysical, or humanitarian interests could take place in your area today. You'll meet some new friends. If you aren't currently involved, this could provide a chance to meet someone special. Look your best! Your mind is buzzing and your thoughts are more intense by day's end, so a short exercise session before bed might help you get to sleep. **LIBRA:** New business contacts could bring the possibility of pursuing a new career in the psychic, spiritual, or healing arts, or perhaps in painting, writing, or another of the fine arts. Think seriously about it. Your own talent should be especially acute today. You could be thinking seriously about training to be more