



SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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India and China cannot defeat each other so should become good neighbours: Dalai Lama

MUMBAI, AUG 14 (PTI): Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama today said India and China cannot defeat each other and both the countries will have to live together as neighbours.

The spirit of "Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai" is the only way forward, he stressed.

"In the current border situation, neither India nor China can defeat the other. Both countries are militarily powerful," the Dalai Lama said.

Both the countries will have to live together as neighbours, he said.

"There may be some incidents of cross-border tension. It does not matter," he said.

The Dalai Lama was responding to questions by reporters at an event here.

He said, "In 1951, a 17-point agreement was signed between the Local Government of Tibet and People's Republic of China for peaceful liberation of Tibet. Today China is changing and has become a country with the highest Buddhist population. They (India and China) should go back to 'Hindi Chini Bhai Bhai' again."

It is a Communist government but Buddhism is widely accepted, he said.

"Earlier, the Dalai Lama used to be the head of spiritual and political movements in Tibet, but in 2011, I totally retired from politics. It was a way of democratising the institutions, because it had some feudal elements in it," said the 14th Dalai Lama.

He suggested that India should "develop pilgrimage for Chinese" people who are followers of Buddhism.

"We must understand that the followers of Buddhism in China are actually following the line of Indian Buddhism that came from Nalanda (Indian seat of learning) and Sanskrit," said the

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CM announces across the board hikes in social sector grants in I-Day message

...appeals for increased people's involvement

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG**

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling has listed out a series of across-the-board increments in various social sector grants and payments made out by the State Government.

These announcements make part of his Independence Day message. These "key announcements," the CM details, are being "undertaken for accelerated development and progress of the State".

Old Age Pension stands enhanced to Rs 2,000 per month for those aged 80 and above, Rs 1,500 for the 70-80 age-group and Rs 1,000 for those aged between 60-70.

The State Government has also sanctioned four Old Age Homes, one in each district, and the CM assured that the concerned Department "should ensure that a homely and friendly atmosphere is maintained

with open spaces".

Also on the anvil is a pension scheme for farmers. Krishi Pension is proposed to be introduced from the year 2018 onwards for farmers solely dependent on agriculture and aged 50 years and above.

The CM has further directed the respective Districts Collectors to prepare a list of 'sukumbasis' (landless Sikkimese) and identify unutilised government lands. This process is to be completed within three months. By 2018, all the identified 'sukumbasis' will be provided land for construction of houses, and their houses will be constructed by the

Government, the CM has announced.

All Government buildings to be made disabled-friendly with provision for ramps to ensure convenient access, the CM has announced in his message. Also slated for a hike is the monthly pension for differently-abled persons who will now receive Rs 1,500.

Unmarried Pension is also proposed to be increased from the existing Rs 500 monthly grant to Rs 2,000. The CM also shared details of the "Proud Mother Scheme" under which a Rs 6,000 grant is offered after the first baby and Rs. 10,000 after the second baby.

The CM has also announced that the minimum daily wage for working class people will be enhanced to Rs 300 even as the adhoc salaries are ratified and made uniform. Under this, Medical Officers (doctors) and dentists on adhoc will receive Rs 25,000 per month, Post Graduate Teachers Rs 20,000 per month, Inspector/JE/ Retainer/ GT Rs 15,000 per month, LDCs Rs 10,000 per month and peons Rs 8,000.

While on administrative matters, the CM also announced that the practice of frequent transfers of government employees on request will

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Two new GPUs formed under Soreng-Chakung

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

Two new Gram Panchayat Units have been formed under Soreng-Chakung Constituency, West Sikkim. The newly formed GPUs Mangerdzong-Mangsari GPU and Budhang GPU were introduced in a meeting held today.

There are now 12 GPUs in the constituency and accordingly one extra

seat of Zilla panchayat has been added from the newly formed GPUs.

On the occasion, a new ad-hoc Block Level Party Committee was also formed, with 11 members, 02 from each ward.

The public also took the opportunity to extend their thanks and gratitude to the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and Area MLA, R.B Subba for

fulfilling their promise.

The meeting was attended by Youth Development Board Chairperson, Khem Prasad Dahal, CLC workers and dignitaries from the area.

B.P Sharma and Sancharaj Subba have been nominated as the Convenors of the newly formed BLC of Mangerdzong-Mangsari GPU and Soreng GPU, respectively.

GJM youth end hunger strike in response to Home Minister's appeal

**SUMMIT REPORT
KALIMPONG/
DARJEELING, 14 AUG:**

The 12 Gorkha Janmukti Yuva Morcha youth who have been on an indefinite hunger-strike in support of the Gorkhaland demand for the past 25 days, and whose health has deteri-

orated to worrying levels, ended their fast on Monday evening respecting the call of the Union Home Minister who met Gorkhaland movement leaders in Delhi yesterday and appealed to them to help restore normalcy in the hills.

The fasting youth in

Kalimpong, Darjeeling and Kurseong broke their strike at 4:30 p.m. when they were offered water by their respective MLAs.

Earlier today, the GJM president, Bimal Gurung, released a statement which read, "Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh yesterday held a

meeting with GJM leaders as well as some of the representatives of GMCC (in Delhi). The members of the delegation, especially the GJM gave their viewpoint that nothing short of creation of a separate state of Gorkhaland can help the people of the

turn to pg02

Gorkhaland agitation: cracks in unity among hill parties

PRADIPTA TAPADAR

DARJEELING (WB), AUG 14 (PTI): As the indefinite shutdown in the Darjeeling Hills hits the two-month mark on Tuesday, cracks have appeared in the united front fighting for a separate state with the parties appearing divided and even clueless on the way forward.

Various hill parties are critical of the "big brotherly" attitude of the Gorkha Janamukti Morcha (GJM), which is spearheading the agitation, and feel that the lack of leadership is taking a heavy toll. The indefinite shutdown began on June 15.

"Most of the violence that took place in the hills in the last two months was by supporters of the GJM. Such incidents have not only demeaned our democratic agitation but have also put a question mark on our rightful demand," Bharatiya Gorkha Parisangh (BGP) president Sukhman Moktan told PTI.

BGP is one of the 30 hill parties in the Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee (GMCC), which was formed on June 20 to chalk out the fu-

ture course of action to achieve the demand for a separate Gorkhaland state.

Headed by the GJM, the GMCC has 30 members representing all the hill-based parties, including the GJM, the GNLF and the Jan Andolan Party.

GJM chief Bimal Gurung's recent statement that only his party has the right to call off the strike as it was the one that had called it has not gone down well with other parties.

"What is the need of forming the GMCC if Gurung takes the final call? GJM has to understand that this is a people's movement and not their own issue that they will thrust their views on us," GNLF spokesperson Neeraj Zimba said.

GJM general secretary Roshan Giri, however, refuted the claims of the hill parties. "Bimal Gurung is the undisputed leaders of the hills. We have cooperated with all the hill parties to carry forward our movement. The allegations against us are baseless."

A senior GNLF leader responded by saying that most parties, except the

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Late mountaineer's family to sponsor I-Day football tourney

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

Family of Late Yangdi Sherpa, the first Sikkimese woman to scale Mount Everest has offered to sponsor the trophies of the ongoing Independence Day Football Tournament being held at Chongay Taar in East Sikkim, a press release informs.

Along with the winner and runner up trophies, the family has said that it will sponsor individual trophies for the players too.

Chongay Development Committee in return has thanked the family members of Late Yangdi Sherpa for the sponsorship.

Born to Wangchuk Sherpa and Lhamu Sherpa on 10 Feb 1977, Yangdi Sherpa became the first woman mountaineer from Sikkim to successfully scale the world's highest peak Mount Everest on 10 May 2008. After completing her primary education from Rongyek Junior High School she completed her senior secondary education from Enchey Senior Secondary School and graduated from Sikkim Government College, Tadong. She was also very active with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. She died at a young age of 38 years following prolonged illness in the year 2014.

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

A string of programmes under the Freedom from Open Defecation Week' was conducted at Yuksam in West Sikkim today, a press release informs. Organized by Rural Management & Development Department and Yuksam Block Administrative Center, 70 school students, local youths, gram panchayats and social workers participated in the event.

Marathon, quiz competition, cleanliness drive and awareness rally were some of the highlights of the daylong programme.

A mini-marathon on 'Freedom from Open Defecation Week' was also conducted by the organizers.

Sub Divisional Magistrate (Yuksam), Dr Sonam Rinchen Lepcha flagged off the marathon with Block Development Officer, Nickjey Lamu Bhutia, Panchayat President, Budha Hang Subba, Deputy Director (Human Resource Development Department), Pema G. Bhutia and other dignitaries.

The winners of the marathon and



quiz competition were felicitated by the organizing committee.

Addressing the gathering on the importance of 'Freedom from Open Defecation Week' Block BDO, Nickjey Lamu Bhutia stated that the movement is important for the coun-

try to achieve a clean environment with well constructed toilets for all. She also encouraged the villagers to promulgate the principle of '5 Rs' - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Renew and Repair. She also encouraged the villagers to cultivate hygienic hand

washing practices and installation of proper sanitary latrines.

While congratulating the villagers of Yuksam-Dubdi GPU on being declared an 'Open Defecation Free' GPU she urged the people of Yuksam to set bigger goals to become a 'sani-

tation model village'.

As part of the celebration, the Yuksam Gram Panchayats also handed over 10 eco-friendly trash bins made from bamboo to the SHG members to install at footpaths and along roads, informs the release.



Training on waste management at Wok-Omchu

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

A three-day training on Zero Waste Management was organised at Wok-Omchu Gram Panchayat Unit under Sikkim Block Administrative Center, a press release informs.

The training was organized to teach trainees utilize locally available waste materials and to prepare useful products in order to assist the Self Help Groups to generate revenue by selling these products.

Certificates were

distributed to the trainees of various SHGs at the valedictory function. Additionally, it was informed that a follow-up meeting with trainees will be organized at Sikkim BAC after one month, reads the release.

SAATHI conducts 5th offsite training camp

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India (SAATHI), a project initiative under Chief Minister's Youth Empowerment Mission, 2013 conducted its 05th offsite training camp from 11-13 Aug, a press release informs.

The camp was attended by 119 students from Government Schools of Makha, Kaluk, Sreebadam and Dikchu. It was held at In-

dian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism (IHCAE) in Chemchey, South Sikkim.

Various motivational and technical sessions on drugs along with learning based physical activities were conducted with the students.

Dr Netra Thapa from STNM Hospital took a session on medical aspects of drugs with the trainees while ICHAE instructor and the youngest person to scale Mount Everest, Anand Gurung engaged

in an experience sharing session with the students.

SAATHI also launched its own 'SAATHI App' on the occasion. A demonstration session was also held by the SAATHI members. Other activities included team building sessions, planning sessions, meditation, nature walk, physical training and talent hunt, says the release.

The next off site training camp will be held from the 17-19 Aug at IHCAE, Chemchey.

Flood situation worsens in West Bengal, trains cancelled

KOLKATA, AUG 14 (PTI): Around 60,000 people in Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri districts of West Bengal have been affected by deluge with all major rivers in north Bengal flowing above their danger marks.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed concern over the flood situation in north Bengal and said the administration has been monitoring the relief and rescue operations round the clock.

According to government sources, in Malda district, water of Phulihar river was flowing above its danger level, while 20 villages, mostly under Harischandrapur Block-II and Ratua block, were inundated.

The situation was

similar at Bhutni Island in the district, while erosion was taking place at Pardeonapur village near Farakka.

"We are concerned about the flood-situation across the country. Earlier floods had affected south Bengal. Now north Bengal also affected," the chief minister wrote on her Twitter handle this evening.

"We are monitoring the situation 24X7 for relief and rescue operations," she said.

Reports from Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri districts, quoting authorities, said 60,000 people have been affected by the flood and though there are no reports of any deaths, two children were missing.

In Jalpaiguri district

water discharged from Gajoldoba barrage on the Teesta river has flooded new areas of Mal block and worsened the situation in areas like Milnapalli, Basusuba and Champadanga.

More NDRF personnel have been deployed in these areas for relief and rescue work, the authorities said.

Villages in Dhupguri and Moynaguri blocks of Jalpaiguri have been inundated and a large number of people have taken shelter in government relief camps, they said.

Eastern Railway chief public relations officer R Mahapatra told PTI that a number of trains originating from the city were today cancelled as flood water was flowing above

rail tracks in areas under North East Frontier Railway jurisdiction.

The trains which have been cancelled are Howrah-Guwahati Saraighat Express, Sealdah-New Alipurduar Teesta Torsa Express, Howrah-Dibrugarh Kamrup Express, Sealdah-New Cooch Behar Uttarbanga Express, Sealdah-Alipurduar Kanchankanya Express, Seldah-New Jalpaiguri Darjeeling Mail, Sealdah-New Alipurduar Padatik Express, Kolkata-Radhikapur Express, Sealdah-Silchar Kanchanjunga Express and Howrah-New Jalpaiguri Shatabdi Express.

The next announcement would be made only after the situation improves, Mahapatra said.

CM announces across the board hikes...

contd from pg01 henceforth be stopped, requiring a minimum period of two years in one place of posting.

The government will also ensure posting of a DSP, ASP and SP in all district headquarters and a minimum of one lady Police Officer and some lady constables in all police stations.

Also assured is "uniform qualifying years" for promotion to next higher post for different cadres in the State.

The CM has also announced free education for Sikkimese students enrolled in ATTC, Bardang, and CCCT, Chisopani, and the establishment of a Horticulture College at Bermiok in South Sikkim.

Among the other announcements are construction of a Police Memorial at Aritar near Rhenock in East Sikkim, a helipad at Temi-Tarku which will also receive a "Tourism Peace Centre", and the development of

Lachen and Lachung as 'Garden of Rhododendrons'.

The Government also plans to construct a Yoga Hall in each district and select schools from best performing institutions.

The CM concludes this section of his address with the appeal that public participation and involved be ensured in implementation of all government programmes with the State Government acting only as a facilitator.

Elsewhere in his message, the CM also informs that benefits worth Rs 700 crores were disbursed during the recent series of Janta Melas held across the State during which tokens for CM-RHM, LPG connections, Community Development Fund, Land Bank Schemes, Homestays, Samajik Sewa Bhatta, milching cows, proud mother scheme, GCI sheets and other welfare schemes were handed over.

GJM youth end hunger strike in response...

contd from pg01

Darjeeling hills, Dooars and Terai achieve their dreams.

"Given that tomorrow is Independence Day, I am also of view that the home minister's appeal should be respected and the hunger strike by Yuva Morcha should be withdrawn as the first step to achieving our goal of Gorkhaland. I therefore direct the Yuva Morcha to call off the hunger strike on the eve of Independence Day."

News that the youth will be ending their fast was also confirmed by media reports earlier in the day which quoted the Gorkha Jannukti Yuva Morcha's Prakash Gurung as saying that the decision was taken to respect the Home Minister's appeal and in support of his attempts

at starting the dialogue process.

The indefinite shutdown, which entered its 61st day today, will, however, continue in the hills, it is informed.

GJM assistant secretary Binay Tamang has further informed that the party has decided that there will be no picketing by its activists from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on August 15 though the indefinite shutdown will continue in the hills.

The GJM and GMCC are yet to take a call on the fate of the indefinite shutdown and have decided to hold a meeting within a day or two to decide the future course of action. "We will discuss with GJM supremo Bimal Gurung and other hill parties before taking a final call," GMCC convener and GJM leader Kalyan Dewan said.

The Trinamool Congress wel-

comed the move but said the GJM must ensure "proper atmosphere" for talks.

Senior TMC leader and Minister Gautam Deb when asked whether the state government will now call the GJM for talks, said, "We had called them for talks earlier but they did not attend. So we feel that peace and proper atmosphere should prevail for initiation of talks."

"But I can't comment further on this matter as this will be decided at the highest level of the state government," he said.

Meanwhile, the Darjeeling district administration today extended the ban on Internet services for another 10 days. Internet services in the hills have been banned since June 18.

Gorkhaland agitation: cracks in unity among hill parties

contd from pg01

GJM, were of the opinion that the movement lacked proper leadership, which was taking a heavy toll.

"There is serious lack of proper leadership. Although all of us had united for the cause of Gorkhaland, due to lack of leadership we could not channelise the people's anger or aspirations," the leader said on condition of anonymity.

"That is the reason why GJM no longer has the control over its own cadres. We don't know what the way forward

is," he admitted.

With the GJM's hope that the BJP would help them in achieving their dream of Gorkhaland fading fast, its leadership is desperate to start the dialogue process in order to have a way out from the two-month shutdown.

"The strike will continue until a positive step is taken to restore normalcy by the Centre. We urge the central government to initiate the dialogue process so that normalcy can be restored in the hills. If the state

government is part of that dialogue process we have no problem with it," GMCC convener and senior GJM leader Kalyan Dewan had said.

With the strike on for the last two months and GJM youth wing activists on hunger strike for 24 days, hill parties are out of ammunition to put pressure on the state and central governments, said a Jan Andolan Party leader.

"We have overused both our weapons of democratic movement. And now we have no ammo left in our arsenal to

force the state and central governments to listen to our demands. We are clueless," he said.

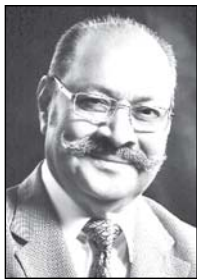
Beyond extending the strike, the leaders don't appear to have any proper plan of action on how to further the statehood demand.

"We really don't know what is happening apart from taking part in processions. Nothing has moved forward in the last two months. The dialogue process is yet to start," a professor of St Joseph College, Darjeeling, said.

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clouds and sunshine.
Sunrise: 05:06 AM
Sunset: 06:14 PM



Governor's I-Day message

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

On the occasion of the 71st Independence Day of the country, Governor Shrinivas Patil has conveyed his heartiest greetings and good wishes to the people of Sikkim.

In his message, the Governor has congratulated Ram Nath Kovind on assuming office as the President of India. He has recounted the achievements of the state government in various sectors.

Further, he has said, "Though we are a small State, our vision is ambitious and I seek your cooperation in reaching our goals in terms of socio-economic development and the welfare of our people."

India and China...

contd from pg01
spiritual leader.

"India should develop a pilgrimage for Chinese people who follow Buddhism. These people can come to places like Bodh Gaya and can come closer to India emotionally as well," he said.

India and China have been locked in a stand-off in the Doklam area since June 16 after Chinese troops began constructing a road near the Bhutan trijunction.

Commenting on the definition of secularism in the Indian context, the Dalai Lama said, "Respect for all religions and even the non-believers too. This is the definition of secularism in Indian context."

"During the French Revolution and the Bolshevik movement, people opposed the exploitation by their kings and queens.

Then religious institutions were supporting the feudal lords; hence the revolution also went against them. That's why in the western context, secularism has become a word expressing disrespect to religion," he said.

"Even an Indian communist leader had once told me that as a communist party worker, he does not believe in God. But for the people who he works for, they do believe in God and it is his duty to respect their feelings. I welcome such a mature approach," the Dalai Lama said.

Rewaj Chettri's NE™ to launch its renewed services on Independence Day

PALZOR MACHUNGPA

GANGTOK, 14 AUG:

Today, the world belongs to the consumer. Smartphone, online virtual assistants, digital databases have permeated every segment from retail to hospitality, and significantly so in travel. Established tech aggregators are the new in-thing in travel, and they have immensely facilitated travelers in planning out their trips. Ditching the old norms where ticketing, hotels, and local transport etc., needed to be booked from different agents, NE™ (previously known as NE Taxi) is all set to launch its renewed services on 15 Aug after more than three years of pilot run.

Started in 2013 by NERIST (North East Regional Institute of Science and Technology) alumnus, Rewaj Chettri, NE™ is North-East India's most popular car aggregator to making reliable road transportation available and accessible all over North-East India for the thrill seeking travelers of the world. Apart from being the first ever aggregator company in Sikkim, the company earned Rewaj the title of 'The Entrepreneur' by Young Leaders Connect in 2016. One of the first aggregators focused on travel industry in India, NE™ serves as an aggregator to bridge the gap between cab drivers and commuters.

NE™ is now operating its



service all over North-East India. It has its head office situated in Gangtok but its branches are located in Siliguri, Darjeeling, Guwahati, Shillong, Tawang and Kaziranga. It is one of the most widespread travel aggregator companies in North-East India.

NE™ partners with cab owners then puts these cars on rental through app based bookings. Basically, NE™ acts as a facilitator in providing cab-booking services by partnering with trained and skilled taxi drivers in the region and allowing them to render their service under it. Customers can book their

cabs through the NE™ app. Only those drivers with valid trainings and permits duly authorized and verified by the authorities can sign up with NE™. The drivers get access to a driver mobile app on their smartphone once they register with NE™. This is done only after a thorough check of authenticity and conducting due diligence of commercial papers and personal papers of driver and operator.

North East™ is also set to launch its mobile applications, one for the drivers and one for the customers both for iOS and Androids on 15 Aug. NE is using cutting edge technology that has the reach of the web to offer a native-app-like immersive customer experience which will provide both local and outstation travel solutions inventories, bookings and payments of a driver instated under the service and car booking in any region in the North-East India with ease.

Users can book a NE™ cab through the app across all categories and can also pay for their ride through online transactions, making the mobility experience seamless and convenient. The drivers on the other hand have a similar driver mobile app on their smart phones. The drivers can log-in to the NE™ application and accept requests for rides from customers.

"We are committed to our mission of becoming the world's largest, North East India travel aggregator by offering our customers great value while at the same time inspiring, innovating and setting standards in customer service. We also aspire to bring forth the unexplored destinations of the region and make it globally accessible for traveling, excursions and holidaying," says Founder of NE™, Rewaj Chettri.

NE™ has also collaborated with an NGO based in Meghalaya called Impulse NGO network, which deals with human trafficking, as a solid measure towards providing a safe and sound environment for tourists, but more than that, to keep a check on human trafficking in and around the region. An important aspect of this collaboration is the efficient use of technology where they will be sharing software that is in sync with the Impulse Case Info Centre (ICIC) and which will be installed with the NE™ app. Under this collaboration, the drivers will be given access to the software wherein an SOS button will be attached. The moment a driver or a passenger suspects any case of trafficking, they can utilize the SOS app that will then report the incident to the nearest police department or authority.

NE™ is pioneering the wheels of traveling in North East India and aims to develop the traveling industry to enable the tourism development to achieve its goal. Tourism is all about travel; and the role of travel aggregators like NE™ is vital.

"There are rainforest, savannah, waterfalls, attractions, national parks, and much more. A large part of the sector is undergoing development. Tourism cannot flourish without travel, which brings us to the idea of transportation as an inherent part of the tourism industry, and with the improvement of transportation tourism has also been elaborated," Rewaj further adds.

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*SKM's
greetings on
Independence
Day*

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party has expressed its best wishes to the people of Sikkim on the occasion of the 70th Independence Day of the country.

An SKM press release issued by its publicity secretary, Bikash Basnet states that although Sikkim is the youngest State of the country but Sikkimese people have always had great feeling of patriotism towards the country.

*Voice of
Pabyuik*

*Naitam semi
finals held*

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 14 AUG:**

The semi final round of Voice of Pabyuik Naitam and dance competition was held on 13 Aug at Pabyuik Naitam in East Sikkim. Five contestants have been selected in each event for the finals which is scheduled to be held during the Pabyuik Naitam tourism festival to be held later this year.

The semi final round was attended by Chairperson SICUN, Ganesh Kumar Rai as chief guest and Ranipool SHO, Sarita Pradhan as guest of honour.

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Army top brass call on CM

GANGTOK, 14 AUG (IPR): Core Commander of 33 Corps, Lieutenant General S.K. Jha along with Major General GOC, Mountain Division, Gangtok, Tejbir Singh called on the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling at his official residence Mintokgang here in the capital today.

The General Officer in his remarkable career has served

in a number of places including Sri Lanka, Jammu & Kashmir and Nagaland. He thanked the Chief Minister on the wonderful hospitality that he got from the State and was very vocal on how the state of Sikkim is so serene and people disciplined and law abiding.

Mr Jha also commended and congratulated the Chief Minister

for the peace and security that has been maintained in the state and applauded the various milestones which the state had achieved like being the first organic state, work done in environment, peace, security etc.

The Chief Minister thanked Mr Jha for all the wonderful praises and the cooperation from the Indian Army.

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Government of Sikkim

SIR THUTOB NAMGYAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Gangtok, Sikkim

Ref No. 13/G.H./STNM/17

Dated: 7.8.2017

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- Medical Shop Signboard displayed for easy identification.
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- The duly filled Tender Document should reach the Office of Director cum Medical Superintendent within 12.30 pm of 29th August 2017. The Tender received after 12.30 pm of 29th august 2017 will not entertain.
- The sealed quotation will opened on the same day at 2.00 pm in the Office of Director cum Medical Superintendent.
- Terms and condition shall be applicable as per the general purchase condition and details will be indicated in the tender form.
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Director cum Medical Superintendent

R.O. No. 242/IPR/PUB/classi/17-18 dt. 9.8.2017

'Where the Mind is Without Fear'

This I-Day, let's resolve to reject diktats, evaluate claims and challenge more often

As we turn 70 as a democracy, it is important that we remind ourselves that we sought out Independence as a people because we were tired of accepting without questioning, being told what to do, how to think, whom to accept and whom to other, what to consider virtues and what to frown upon. As subjects of an empire, that was the dictated life and conduct that was assigned to us. And then we decided to salvage our pride and seek out our "tryst with destiny"; we wanted to be our own masters, our minds unshackled. Seventy years appears an apt milestone to see how far we have progressed.

So, where do we stand today?

There is a lot to be proud about, and the leaders and their speeches will delve exclusively into that on I-Day, so here, let's focus on what we abandoned along the way. Seven decades on, we find ourselves in a situation in which a self-serving club (loose translation) which did not even want the British masters to Quit India, and imagined, and continues to do so, monsters in shadows while preferring to ignore the elephant in the room, is telling citizens of a proud nation on how to prove their nationalism. People who mistake bigotry for nationalism are not rare in the world, but that is no reason for us to normalize their presence here. But we do; worryingly, to the scale of celebration. We have arrived at a nadir from which we allow theatrics to camouflage demagoguery, noise to cancel out reason and accept self-promotion as evidence despite ground realities screaming otherwise. Acceptance and mutual respect, virtues which have kept us together as a people for seventy years, is increasingly being made conditional, and that cannot be healthy. As citizens of a free country, and irrespective of which pigeonhole we find ourselves slotted into, it has become important for us to challenge the sectarian narrative being laid out by minds which have been wearing blinkers of exclusion for far too long. Majority opinion is not always right, and while reasoned debate will not always win, capitulation is no option either.

Let's begin by putting our freedom in perspective. Seventy years of self-rule later, the only freedom which we can guarantee ourselves is our political freedom. Political freedom is very important, but not complete in itself. What is equally necessary is economic, and more importantly, social and cultural independence. This is a pertinent issue in our country today where rapid developments in various fields, the homogenizing experiment of Right Wing nationalism and the ironically simultaneous percolation of identity issues are collaborating to inflict serious fragmentation of society. The plethora of touchy social issues which are multi-dimensional in nature, but are painted in nuance-obliterating swathes, make it urgent for free citizens of an Independent nation to go over the basics once again. We were never uni-polar, and while our diversity was always celebrated, it was also a complicated and messy existence, something which has been stirred up even more with human engagement having become broader and more inclusive in thought but parochial and paranoid in practice. Political relevance is increasingly being sought in the dangerous muddle of suspicion and distrust. In the past few years, the concept of freedom in India has experienced a regression especially due to the rise of politico-religious and ethnic pressure groups and the moral police muscle. The ideas of compassion and collaboration which inspired us to become a nation need to be highlighted more often and the hate and suspicion which gave us the horror of the Partition need to be reasoned away.

We have to become a nation which addresses its challenges with more than beef bans enforced by gau-rakshaks and police teams equipped with beef-testing kits at a time when our hospitals lack oxygen for ailing children and suffocate more than 30 of them to death within 48 hours in one hospital alone. We cannot allow ourselves to be distracted by state-mandated dietary control, an obsession of the privileged high castes, when the population is riven by malnutrition.

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CHIEF MINISTER PAWAN CHAMLING'S INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE 15 AUG 2017

Let's commit ourselves to become more capable and competitive

[Excerpts]

Respected fellow citizens,

On the auspicious occasion of the 71st Independence Day of the Country, I offer my warm greetings and hearty congratulation to the people of Sikkim and to my fellow Countrymen.

ON THE YOUTH

"In order to provide new avenues and hone their entrepreneurial skills, a new start-up programme is being designed to provide support to our educated local unemployed youths including school drop outs. The idea has been to turn Sikkim into a self-reliant state with its own sources of income, employment and industry. The government of India has also recognized the potential within the north-eastern region for start-up initiatives. With Sikkim becoming the first organic state of India, a new horizon for start-up initiatives has opened up in organic farming in addition to manufacturing and service sector linked with the public sector banks. I am pleased to state that 25 % start-up costs of any new programme shall be borne out by the State Government.

We want see that Sikkimese educated youths should harness all economic opportunity created in the state. These will address the unemployment problem in the state

Our youths should be attracted towards opportunities and avenues available in the state. So long as our own people do not work, there will be work-force coming from outside state to fulfilled requirements. The start-up program is aimed at attracting our youths towards private enterprise, promoting dignity of labour and making them self reliant.

With such support, the youth of our state should be empowered to plan for their future. It is the goal of our government to change Sikkimese society to a society of producers, a society of inventors, a society of innovation and a society of entrepreneurship. This is, in addition to, the existing number of youth oriented programmes, improved sports infrastructures, cash incentives for sportspersons upto Rs. 1 crore bagging Olympics Gold Medal. In fact, Sikkim also hosts tournaments, both at regional and national levels in disciplines such as football, athletics, basketball, boxing, archery and martial arts on a regular basis. On this momentous, I would call upon all the Sikkimese youths to take advantage of these initiatives taken by the government."

"Sikkim holds rare distinction to constitute over 13% population employed in the government sector. At present, we have 77,338 government employees which is the highest percentage of employees in any state, country or the world. In the developed world, educated youths invent new avenues or look for uncharted fields for econom-



ic engagement. Less than 1 percent of population are working in government sector in the 1st world countries which is not the case in our State. This needs to slowly change but the mindset of our people has to change first. Until now the Government is tolerant to the present situation.

With more than 65% of our central plan allocation going into salary payments, we are left with less resource to carry out other development projects like construction, expansion and black topping of roads, housings and building of other social infrastructures. Nonetheless, the State Government has provided maximum incentives and the salary of government employees is the highest found in the Country. There are provision for reservation to every class and communities in the government job and higher studies including the physically challenged, women, ex-servicemen. Recently, the State Government has also prescribed a uniform upper age limit of 40 years for all communities of the state in the services/posts to be filled up be direct recruitment under the Government of Sikkim and in the State Public Sector Undertakings of Sikkim."

ON IMPACT OF GORKHALAND AGITATION

"Almost as a re-run to the past incident, Sikkim has been mercilessly trapped between the renewed agitation demanding Gorkhaland in the Darjeeling, Doars and Siliguri region and the unrelenting, insensitive West Bengal Government to the plight and suffering being faced by Sikkim and its people. In the process, Sikkimese people have been denied right to free movement, safety, security and a life of

dignity as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The overall well being, the hopes and aspirations of the people who joined the Indian mainstream must be honoured. It is a common knowledge that we have been suffering during the last 33 years due to the Gorkhaland agitation. Sikkim remains totally cut-off and isolated when bandhs are called by political parties across the border. The loss the State has incurred is more than Rs. 60,000 crores and during last year 33 years of agitation over 5000 Sikkim registered vehicles have been damaged or torched with loss of lives of over 50 drivers and passengers.

I have personally written a letter to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister to restore permanent peace and prosperity by solving the problem of Darjeeling permanently. Sikkim will hugely benefit as our developmental tempo remains undisturbed. I have also apprised the Hon'ble Prime Minister about hardship caused to Sikkim due to the Gorkhaland agitation.

On our petition, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has also been pleased to direct the Central Government and the State Government of West Bengal to facilitate free and safe passage of goods and free flow of road traffic along the National Highway 10 connecting Sikkim with rest of the Country. It is contentious though whether the situation has improved after the important ruling by the highest Court of the land.

I once again express my firm belief and conviction that the Central Government will protect the larger interest of people of Sikkim. Likewise, law and order being the State subject, I hope that the State Government of West Bengal will ensure protection of people of Sikkim, like one among themselves, on the principle of reciprocity, who want to live in peace, harmony, with full dignity and respect that the Constitution guarantees to all the Indian citizens."

CONCLUSION

"On this great occasion of attaining self-right and self-determination, we must commit ourselves to become more capable and competitive. There is greater need to develop sense of responsibility, self-discipline and the knowledge that we are the master of our own destiny. The Sikkimese people are the masters to determine the future of Sikkim. So we must conduct ourselves befitting the status of a master. On whatever capacity and wherever we are, we should serve the interest of people as responsible citizens of the Country.

With these thoughts and observations, I send my greetings and congratulation to fellow citizens of the State and the Country. On this auspicious day, I also send my best of wishes to my countrymen for a more prosperous, developed and happy life ahead."

In America, domestic extremists are a bigger risk than foreign terrorism

DAVID ALPHER
theconversation.com

"TAKE AMERICA back from those who have stolen it. Protect America from those who want to destroy it. Restore the principles that these usurpers betrayed."

These are the messages that have defined the GOP presidential race. They have been used for the past eight years to justify obstruction of the Obama administration, and are now being used to paint the democratic candidates as dangerous. In the late stages of the GOP primary as the rhetoric became increasingly xenophobic, they were applied to increasingly broad swathes of the American population as well.

Years of constant repetition by members of the GOP have given them an appearance of legitimacy, now strengthened by Donald Trump's victory in the GOP primary contest and the party's growing embrace of him as their standard-bearer.

Unfortunately, the Republican Party isn't alone in using these messages.

Right-wing extremist groups use them as well, and to very specific ends: to define the conditions under which antigovernment violence becomes legitimate in their worldview.

I have spent nearly 15 years studying how the risk of violence grows within societies around the world, and running programs designed to stem the tide. I have seen rhetoric like this used to mobilize violence in countries like Iraq and Kenya.

This same dynamic, I argue, is taking shape within American society now. If it continues, it represents a greater threat than anything we face

from terrorist groups outside our own borders.

TURNING A BLIND EYE

Fear and anger make for strong motivation.

The GOP has spent many years mobilizing both (sometimes tacitly and sometimes actively), in the form of anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant, racist and antigovernment sentiment. This strategy has secured them votes from the white, Christian, male and ideologically extreme demographic needed to offset the party's growing distance from an increasingly diverse and progressive American society.

This has typically been done in code, a practice that's come to be known as "dog whistle politics" – but this election has brought it into the open.

Few have emerged unscathed. For months, Republican candidates traded shots claiming that each other, liberals, immigrants and Black Lives Matter protesters – to name a few – are to blame for the picture they've painted of a degraded America that's fallen into hostile hands.

Even the GOP itself has fallen into the cross-hairs. The divide between party leadership and the population it claims to represent is growing, and becoming septic. Trump has built his candidacy on the idea that America is sick, broken and misled, and "making it great again" depends on taking it back and cutting out the cancer.

His campaign rhetoric has a common thread with that of extremists. It emphasizes betrayal and theft. It tells Americans that things are bad because of it, and then points a finger and places blame.

THE PATRIOT PARADOX

Every violent group in history describes its own violence as the legitimate response to a threat that was forced on them. Groups survive in the long term when that description makes sense to enough of the population to buy them tolerance and safe space to operate, plan and grow. That's true of terrorism and violent extremism – but because protesters and supporters alike view each other as enemies of the state and therefore legitimate targets, it also helps to explain the growing physical violence at Trump rallies. It should also provide a warning for what that as-yet-limited violence could grow into.

For examples, look at the websites of American extremist groups. Their reasoning usually orbits around the belief that they are defending the Constitution, stopping the theft of the political process from the people of the United States and resisting takeover by hostile powers. As such, they don't consider themselves extremist at all, but defenders against it. It's the same language we saw in 2014 at the Bundy Ranch standoff, and again in 2015 at the Malheur occupation.

The names these groups take – "Patriot Movement," "Freemen," "Sovereign Citizens" – serve to legitimize them in American eyes, drawing on the narrative that true Americans are not only able – but expected – to throw off oppression themselves. Typically, each group insists it's not violent – unless pushed, and then of course it stands ready to respond in kind.

Here, of course, is the rub. The constantly repeated themes of theft and betrayal from the GOP suggest to the patriot militias and to supporters

who feel angry and alienated that the push has already happened. Trump has on many occasions claimed that America is "lost" to the American people. Given his hostility against immigrants and Black Lives Matter protesters and short-lived nomination of a white nationalist as a delegate in California, it seems clear he means white Americans. The "birther" argument, which Trump supported and other GOP officials failed to reject, at its heart is an argument that President Obama is the foreign agent that the patriot movement feared. Ted Cruz often repeated this idea that the nation is under threat of destruction and that the Obama government is law-breaking and unconstitutional.

We've seen the message from across the GOP that Hillary Clinton is in thrall of elite interests that stand opposed to those of everyday Americans. As for Sanders' self-embraced "socialist" label, it has stood in for alien since before the Cold War.

Recent years and the 2016 race aren't the first time we've heard this kind of language from Americans within the patriot movement.

The following words were spoken by Timothy McVeigh, in an interview explaining why he destroyed the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City.

"Those who betray or subvert the Constitution are guilty of sedition and/or treason, are domestic enemies and should and will be punished accordingly. It also stands to reason that anyone who sympathizes with the enemy or gives aid or comfort to said enemy is likewise guilty. I have sworn to uphold and defend the Con-

turn to pg05

Death toll in Nepal floods reaches 78, Indians rescued

KATHMANDU, AUG 14 (PTI): At least 12 people were killed in a landslide in Nepal today, taking the death toll in floods and rain-related calamities to 78 across the Himalayan nation, even as all the 35 stranded Indian nationals have been rescued, officials said.

Heavy rainfall has lashed Nepal for the past four days, swelling several Himalayan rivers beyond the danger mark and causing flooding and landslides at many places in the country.

The river Rapti, which flows through a large part of Nepal towards the southern plains, flooded human settlements and hotels popular with tourists in the Chitwan Valley.

All the 35 Indian nationals, who were stranded in Sauraha, a part of the Chitwan National Park, have been rescued, an Indian Embassy spokesperson said. They were rescued to safer place by using tamed elephants.

Although earlier reports quoting local authorities, said that 200 Indian tourists were among the 700 stranded people, the Indian Embassy official said only 35 of them were Indian nationals.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) at least 12 people were killed by landslide in Morang district today, taking the death toll in the district to 17 and overall to 78.

Thirty five people were also missing since Friday.

The monsoon havoc has affected 27 districts spanning from the eastern, central to the western regions.

Nine persons were killed in Rautahat, eight were killed in Sunsari,

four each in Sarlahi, Sindhuli, Bara, Makawanpur and Banke districts, five persons were killed in Jhapa, three killed each in Dang and Surkhet, two each were killed in Bardiya and Chitawan and nine persons were killed elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Nepal's Energy Minister Mahendra Bahadur Sahi has claimed that the highways built along the no man's land on the Indian side of the border are the major reasons behind the floods in the Terai.

"The highways made by elevating the land next to the Nepal-India border have restricted the natural flow of water, leaving Nepal's Terai plains submerged during the rainy season," Shahi said.

The government will take up the issue with India during Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba's India visit slated for next week, Shahi said yesterday.

A total of 34,843 houses were inundated across the plains. More than 1,000 houses were destroyed in floods that killed an estimated 400 livestock, the Kathmandu Post reported.

The government has mobilised Nepal Police, Nepali Army and Armed Police Force personnel for rescue and recovery work.

While rainfall is likely to continue in the next few days, as predicted by the Meteorological Forecasting Division (MFD).

Weathermen have said the extreme rainfall, starting from eastern Nepal, witnessed in the last few days was caused by the formation of a low pressure zone over the hills. The monsoon, it added, was gradually getting weaker in the east and moving towards the west.



State Library celebrates National Librarian's Day

GANGTOK, 14 AUG (IPR): National Librarians' Day was celebrated in the State Central Library on Saturday to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Padmashree awardee Dr S. R Ranganathan for

his valuable contribution in the field of library science.

The occasion was chaired by the Secretary, Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department, Yasoda Bhandari and was

attended by Special Secretary, Vidya Subba, Joint Director, S. T. Gyatso and other officers and staff of the department.

The Secretary in her message appreciated all officers and staff of the

State Central Library for organizing the programme and encouraged to continue with awareness programmes specially to inculcate reading habit amongst children.

Home Minister Rajnath welcomes withdrawal of hunger strike



NEW DELHI, AUG 14 (PTI): Home Minister Rajnath Singh today welcomed the decision of the Gorkhaland statehood movement leaders to call off their hunger strike demanding a separate state in Darjeeling.

Singh said by withdrawing the hunger strike on the eve of Independence Day, the leaders have shown "nationalist approach, political maturity & wisdom".

The Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee (GMCC), an umbrella organisation of all the hill parties led by the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM), is spearheading the statehood

agitation in the hills.

"I wholeheartedly appreciate the decision taken by GJM president Shri Bimal Gurung & the GMCC to call off their indefinite hunger strike," he said in a tweet.

The decision came a day after the leaders met the home minister to apprise him of their demands.

Singh had yesterday appealed to them to withdraw their indefinite hunger strike and agitation, which has been going on for two months.

He also urged West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to initiate dialogue with the movement leaders.

Flood situation remains grim in Arunachal

ITANAGAR, AUG 14 (PTI): Flood situation in Arunachal Pradesh continued to remain grim as surface communication has been disrupted in various parts of the state.

Majority portion of Anjaw, East Siang and Namsai districts were affected by flood while Papum Pare, East Kameng and West Siang were partly hit.

Remote Anjaw district has been cut off from the rest of the state for seven days as the main road to the district from Lohit remained blocked at several places following landslides triggered by incessant rains, an official report said here.

Intra-district road communications were also badly hit.

Hawai, Hayuliang and Chalongam Circle in the district



were cut off from the rest of the district for the past three or four days, the report said.

Though efforts were on clear the roads, recurring landslides were hampering resto-

ration work.

Meanwhile, food crisis looms large in the district bordering

China and Deputy Commissioner Mamata Riba requested the state government for facilitating air dropping of food packets if the road remains blocked for another two days.

The district administration has directed the PWD and other departments to pull in resources for quick restoration of roads. An East Siang district report said that a sudden change in course of Silluk river has cause inundation in Silluk village damaging paddy fields and roads.

At least nine houses were damaged due to erosion of Noa-Dehing river in Namsai district in the second wave of monsoon flood, though officials said the situation is improving.

In America, domestic extremists are a bigger risk than foreign...

contd from pg04

stitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and I will."

David Lane, white supremacist, founder of The Order and convicted murderer, phrased the rationale for his violence thus:

"cover-ups in the Kennedy assassination and the Vietnam affair made it apparent that powers alien to America's claimed role were running things."

We could rewrite Lane's and McVeigh's words alike using Trump's birther argument or Ted Cruz's accusation of elites without significantly changing the mean-

ing. Indeed, although the United States remains fixed on foreign groups such as ISIS and al-Qaida when it defines terrorism, domestic violence already poses an equal or even greater threat. The foreign groups can certainly kill, but they have no power to divide our society; that additional and deeper threat is only our own.

THE THREAT FROM INSIDE

Consider this: individual acts of violence linked to racism and extremist politics are on the increase. The Washington Post reported in February 2015 that the number of Muslims targeted in hate crimes

is, on average, five times higher post-9/11 than before the attacks. Politics is increasingly divisive, and anger is the defining characteristic of American society.

The blame for these rifts and the likely consequences neither begin nor end with Donald Trump. He simply used an existing trend for his own gain. His praise of violence and embrace of racism and political extremism, however, goes past even what the GOP has already made commonplace.

Mainstream GOP rebuttals were too little too late. Paul Ryan rebuked Trump's belated disavowal of David Duke, but the

act rang hollow because the Washington Post reported that some of Cruz's advisers were radically anti-Muslim conspiracy theorists. Meanwhile, Pamela Geller, Ann Coulter, Michael Savage, Glenn Beck and a host of other conservative commentators continue pandering to fear, prejudice, theft and betrayal unchallenged.

In an age defined by the fear of terrorism, "taking America back from people who betrayed her security" has real power at the polls, as Trump can attest. But this strategy for winning elections isn't just divisive. It's creating a risk of violence that

has already outgrown the threat it's supposed to be a shield against.

Trump's emergence as the GOP candidate has added fuel to the fire, especially while the GOP dithers over whether or not to embrace him and his message. Trump himself is unlikely to stop or be convinced of the effect he's really having on American security. It's left to the GOP to decide whether American security or winning an election is more important to them.

[the writer is Adjunct Professor at the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University]

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Several websites of Pak govt hacked on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD, AUG 14 (PTI): Several websites of the Pakistan government were defaced to-day allegedly by hackers from India.

The hackers attacked websites of some key ministries on the day the country celebrated its 70th Independence Day.

The sites hacked included Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Climate Change, Ministry of Inter-provincial coordination, Ministry of Water and Power, Ministry of Information Technology and others.

An official of the Ministry of Information Technology said the attack was carried out by a group calling themselves "LuluSec India". The hackers posted pro-India material on the web pages of hacked websites.

Several websites are still not functional.

There was no formal reaction by the government so far.

It is not the first incident of cyber-attack by hackers targeting the Pakistani government websites. Such attacks have occurred in the past also.

Pakistan hoists 'largest' national flag to mark 70th I-Day

LAHORE, AUG 14 (PTI): Pakistan today hoisted a 400-foot high national flag, the largest in its history, at the Attari-Wagah border with India to mark the country's 70th Independence Day.

Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa hoisted the flag at the border after midnight last night, kicking off the celebrations for the Independence Day across the country.

The flag is said to be the highest in South Asia and the 8th highest in the world.

Made in Pakistan, it is 400-feet high and 120 feet by 80 feet in size.

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Gangtok, 14 Aug: Thirty-two runners from different parts of the State participated in an open marathon organized by Block Administrative Centre, Ranka on Monday. The marathon was held from Kanchenjunga Amusement Park to Reshithang in Ranka, East Sikkim. In girl's category, Liza Lepcha finished the run in the first position, while Kamala Khati and Ambika Chettri finished second and third, respectively. In boy's category, Hem Bahadur Neopaney secured the first position leaving Raj Hang Subba on the second and Som Bahadur Gurung on the third positions. The organizers presented certificates to all participants and cash prizes to the winners. **[SAGAR CHETTRI]**

Yuvraj Singh: All good things come to an end

KUSHAN SARKAR NEW DELHI, AUG 14 (PTI): He singlehandedly won a World T20 for India in 2007. But then he played a big role in losing the 2014 edition. He coughed blood, hung around and won India the 2011 World Cup. Yet, his failures as a Test cricketer remain baffling.

Indian cricket's 'fighter-man' Yuvraj Singh has time and again bounced back after adversities that would have felled most others. He even battled a rare germ cell cancer to return to cricket -- a testimony of triumph in life.

But now it looks like one of India's greatest ever limited-overs exponents may never be seen again in a blue jersey, a uniform he had made his own for the better part of the last 17 years.

The national selectors yesterday did not name the 36-year-old for the ODI series in Sri Lanka, a tough but fair call, indicating their mind-set going into the 2019 World Cup in England.

So, is it time up for Yuvraj Singh? Perhaps, it is if one reads between the lines of what experts feel.

"Yuvi is a fighter but I believe going into the 2019 World Cup, it is more to do with his fitness rather than just form. Look, there's a difference between 20-over fitness and 50-over fitness," Saba Karim, who was a national selector in the last panel, told PTI today.

"It was our panel, who got Yuvraj back in 2015 for the Australia T20. At that point, we were looking only at the World T20 in India and Yuvraj's experience. But now it's different. I believe Manish (Pandey) is a great talent and should be given enough opportunities," the former India stumper said.

"We have little over one and half years to the World Cup.

The core team needs to get 40 matches at least. And Manish has done extremely well as India A captain. And he is perhaps one of the best fielders in current Indian line-up," Karim observed.



An interesting piece of statistic will help in understanding the practical reason behind the selectors' call.

When India will go into World Cup in 2019, it will be one of India's oldest teams in terms of average age playing a marquee event.

Skipper Kohli will be nearly 31, Rohit Sharma will be 32, Shikhar Dhawan 33, Kedar Jadhav 34, Ravichandran Ashwin 32, Ravindra Jadeja 30, Umesh Yadav 31 and last but not the least Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be 38 plus.

From being a pre-co-

cious U-19 talent thrown into the deep end of the pool by Sourav Ganguly in 2000, Yuvraj's career has been one of the most eventful ones with various shades all mixed in a palette one calls life.

Yuvraj, in all these 17 years, has been a bundle of contradictions. But possibly there's not much fuel left in the tank for one more comeback on the field. Former India opener and analyst Aakash Chopra raised a valid question.

"Unless selectors come out with a definitive statement on Yuvraj, you don't exactly know

their policy. Having said that, you possibly can't have two 38-year-olds going into World Cup.

If you have both Dhoni and Yuvi, you will have to make them bat at No.4 and 5. That will be an issue," Chopra explained.

He also feels that whether it's persisting with Yuvraj or giving Manish his share of chances, a clear cut thought process will be required.

"If you continue playing someone whom you don't want in the longer run and not give chances to one you think can do the assigned job, you

are not being fair to both of them. Also we now have KL Rahul, Kedar Jadhav and Manish -- in that middle order," said Chopra.

"Perhaps, selectors and the team management feel that Manish can be the No.4 and look at preparing Kedar as a finisher," Chopra said.

With 8701 runs in 304 ODIs to his credit, may be the die-hard Yuvraj fans would love to believe that a last hurrah will be somewhere round the corner. Even if not, there's no embarrassment as it has been a career worth celebrating.



HERE COMES THE SUN:

As the sun finally emerged today after days of rain, kids from Singtam bazaar rushed to Rongi Chu for a dip. **[Yogen Thatal]**

RES Gangtok FC wins girls football tourney



YOGEN THATAL SINGTAM, 14 AUG: RES Gangtok FC has won the Late Binod Rai Memorial Open Girls Football Tournament. In a nail biting final played today at Golitar ground, RES Gangtok FC beat Pendam FC 2-1 to win the coveted tourney.

Trophies and cash prizes will be given to the winners and the runner up team during the

Independence Day celebrations on Tuesday. RES Gangtok FC goalkeeper, Nikita Rai was named 'Best Player of the Match' for her stunning two penalty save.

Ashika Rai from Pendam FA on the other hand was adjudged the 'Best Player of the Tournament' for her incredible goals in the tournament. She was the highest goal scorer of the tourney.

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR FLAMINGO EVENING
Draw Time : 8:00 pm onward

Draw No:3 DrawDate on:14/08/17
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 86L 17885
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 17885 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
14039 28170 30668 33484 41197
45533 60780 65441 82710 83146
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
09677 11993 14730 31090 35058
51727 54306 71842 71944 93676
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
0535 0952 1349 1485 1670 2175 5102 5108 8025 8559
5th Prize Rs.500/-
2363 2387 2679 2908 3661 5206 5561 5886 6446 9181
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0006 0036 0073 0189 0300 0416 0636 0787 0801 0879
0977 0999 1205 1777 1816 1951 2088 2177 2206 2305
2392 2557 2817 2983 3246 3706 3707 3865 3925 3949
4137 4353 4403 4487 4643 4694 4696 4780 4926 5019
5116 5218 5482 5491 5509 5525 5619 5641 5749 5762
5845 5951 5981 6025 6142 6387 6439 6504 6518 6526
6663 6722 6749 6753 6785 6862 7069 7082 7104 7242
7536 7539 7589 8002 8032 8086 8244 8363 8417 8453
8460 8534 8609 8670 8699 8707 8715 8953 9125 9156
9609 9653 9718 9775 9781 9805 9814 9866 9900 9963
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SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR LOVING
Draw No:3 DrawDate on:14/08/17

1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 95J 09882
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 09882 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
07074 22088 22290 28346 57825
58693 60708 70450 73877 78039
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
13371 14558 25159 41723 45469
48892 49866 75881 79965 82916
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
2598 2739 3291 4572 5149 6330 6585 8077 8114 9362
5th Prize Rs.500/-
0000 2033 2922 3379 4094 4604 4953 5433 6026 6134
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0491 0601 0663 0667 0758 0762 0843 1144 1146 1232
1401 1419 1574 1611 1630 1795 1854 2151 2312 2353
2470 2482 2532 2608 2645 2695 2731 2825 2829 2848
2988 3141 3179 3218 3310 3351 3389 3390 3458 3519
3534 3894 3918 3931 3953 4085 4192 4707 4834 5117
5154 5226 5302 5312 5391 5807 6041 6048 6052 6059
6189 6318 6598 6846 6922 6939 7043 7169 7212 7267
7286 7311 7489 7604 7646 7928 7968 8031 8193 8357
8470 8476 8824 8932 9037 9108 9125 9165 9173 9261
9310 9365 9376 9409 9592 9601 9627 9917 9930 9952
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MIZORAM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR CHANCE MORNING
Draw No:3 DrawDate on:14/08/17

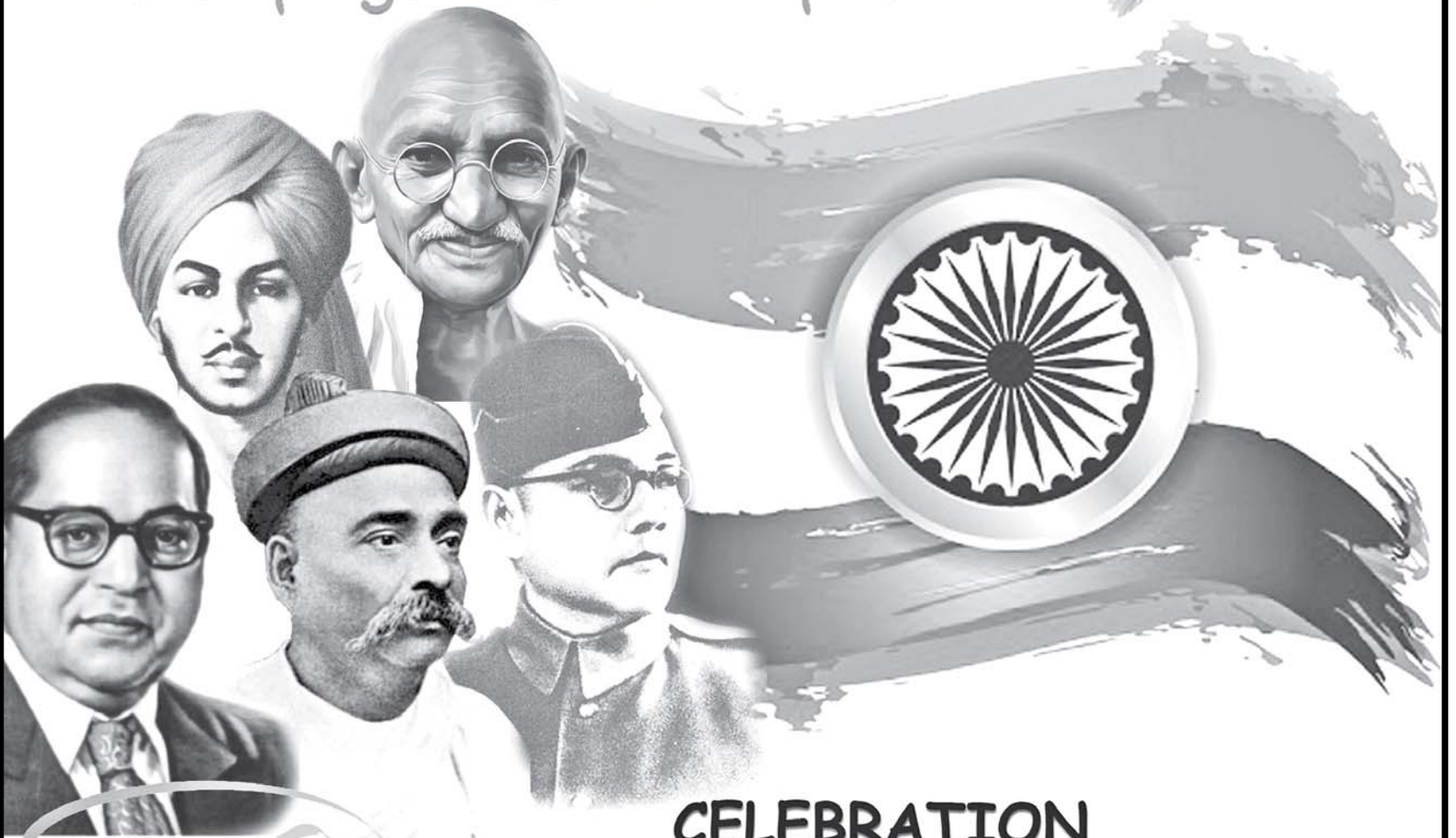
1st Prize Rs.61 Lakhs/- 94J 37304
(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 37304 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-
26110 31726 31855 45689 53511
65982 80053 85389 88790 97941
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
06923 25733 27621 41231 51700
55711 63879 72419 78158 91760
4th Prize Rs.1000/-
3082 3453 3896 4565 4702 6743 6887 7070 9051 9400
5th Prize Rs.500/-
1418 1510 1821 2085 3316 5976 6623 6809 7292 7990
6th Prize Rs.250/-
0072 0075 0322 0515 0536 0648 0663 0768 1081 1119
1247 1332 1349 1378 1379 1491 1728 1896 1966 2049
2126 2195 2264 2403 2432 2452 2466 2745 2780 2816
2839 2961 2972 3017 3113 3138 3214 3617 3624 3767
4000 4083 4103 4132 4207 4305 4335 4654 4853 4884
5020 5076 5350 5592 5651 5918 5969 6066 6373 6640
6689 6788 6860 6975 7162 7251 7269 7271 7423 7475
7658 7665 7834 8241 8327 8360 8404 8425 8543 8603
8708 8722 8762 8808 8917 8922 9076 9224 9284 9326
9443 9503 9554 9565 9593 9621 9625 9773 9895 9913
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Issued on the occasion of Independence Day 2017
INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM



Never forget their sacrifice.....



CELEBRATION
OF **71ST** INDEPENDENCE
DAY

१५
अगस्त





THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT: Justin Timberlake got the crowd up on their feet at the Apollo in the Hamptons 2017 at The Creeks in East Hampton, New York.

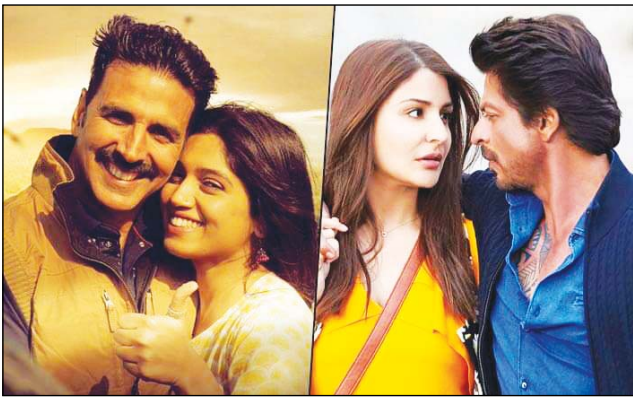
BOX OFFICE

AKSHAY'S TOILET: EK PREM KATHA BEATS SRK'S JAB HARRY MET SEJAL IN 1ST WEEKEND

TOILET: Ek Prem Katha released this Friday and from the first show the word of mouth was out. An unconventional story of an ordinary man based in rural India is what connected with the audience. 1st weekend collections are out and the film has beaten many biggies of this year.

On Friday the movie opened to a decent occupancy, it was expected because of dull phase Bollywood has been going through since last few months. After Salman Khan's Tubelight, Ranbir Kapoor's Jagga Jasoos, Shah Rukh Khan's Jab Harry Met Sejal it required a film like Toilet: Ek Prem Katha to attract the audience back. The film collected a decent 13.10 crores on its day one and this was not at all a bad start. The film needed a jump over the weekend and it got one. The film showed over 30% growth, which is very good, on its 2nd day. It collected 17.10 crores on Saturday.

Along with single screens, the mul-



tiplexes are holding up quite well too. Evening shows picked up giving the film a much-needed boost. After a good jump on Saturday, the expectations for a jump on Sunday were high. The advance

bookings for the day proved beforehand that the leap will be there. The movie clocked a huge 21.25 crores on Sunday summing up the grand total of the film to an exact 51.45 crores.

TEEN CHOICE AWARDS 2017 REHASH

FIFTH HARMONY WINS BIG, BRUNO MARS UNVEILS NEW VIDEO

It was a big night for Fifth Harmony at the 2017 Teen Choice awards. The group took home surfboards in the categories of Choice music group and Choice summer group. Their latest single, "Down" with Gucci Mane, was awarded Choice song: Group; and their fans, the Harmonizers, were honored as choice fandom.

Speaking to the crowd at the University of Southern California's Galen Center, group member Lauren Jauregui evoked the violent clashes with white supremacists in Charlottesville, North Carolina that left three dead over the weekend. "In light of recent events we just wanted to say to all of the young ones at home watching: no matter who you are, where you come from or what you look like,



you are beautiful and you are important, so keep spreading love and positivity, all right?" she said.

Here are the Teen Choice 2017 winners in the music categories:

- Choice Male Artist (#ChoiceMaleArtist) Harry Styles
- Choice Female Artist (#ChoiceFemaleArtist) Ariana Grande
- Choice Music Group (#ChoiceMusicGroup) Fifth Harmony

- Choice Country Artist (#ChoiceCountryArtist) Carrie Underwood
- Choice Electronic/Dance Artist (#ChoiceElectronicDanceArtist) Calvin Harris
- Choice Latin Artist (#ChoiceLatinArtist) CNCO
- Choice R&B/Hip-Hop Artist (#ChoiceRBHipHopArtist) Beyoncé
- Choice Rock Artist (#ChoiceRockArtist) Harry Styles
- Choice Song: Female Artist (#ChoiceSongFemaleArtist) Camila Cabello - "Crying in

- the Club"
- Choice Song: Male Artist (#ChoiceSongMaleArtist) Niall Horan - "Slow Hands"
- Choice Song: Group (#ChoiceSongGroup) Fifth Harmony (feat. Gucci Mane) - "Down"
- Choice Collaboration (#ChoiceCollaboration) Steve Aoki & Louis Tomlinson - "Just Hold On"
- Choice Summer Song (#ChoiceSummerSong) "Despacito" - Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee (feat. Justin Bieber)
- Choice Summer Female Artist (#ChoiceSummerFemaleArtist) Camila Cabello
- Choice Summer Male Artist (#ChoiceSummerMaleArtist) Shawn Mendes
- Choice Summer Group (#ChoiceSummerGroup) Fifth Harmony.



Wishing You a
Happy
71st Independence Day

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