

SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Labour Department revises minimum wages of workers

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 JUL:**

The Department of Labour has raised the minimum rate of wages through a notification issued on 01 July.

As per the notification, minimum wages of Unskilled workers has been hiked from Rs 220 to Rs 300, Semi-skilled from Rs 242 to Rs 320, Skilled from Rs 275 to Rs 335 and Highly skilled from Rs 319 to Rs 365. The revised rates are inclusive of Dearness Allowance, but exclusive of other concessions, if any, enjoyed by the employees.

The notification mentions that the revision follows the policy decision adopted in 2014.



Safe delivery of currency notes to Sikkim raises concern

**ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 06 JUL:**

Besides essential commodities and fuel, the transport of currency to the State has also been affected by the Darjeeling unrest. Banks in the State are currently meeting the demand for cash through internal collection and there is no cause for panic as of now.

However, safe delivery of currency through the National Highway has become a matter of concern. This is also the first week of the month, when people queue up outside ATMs to withdraw their salaries.

"We haven't been able to receive cash as the West Bengal Government is denying the provision of security for the safe delivery of notes through the Highway owing to the current unrest in Darjeeling," informed a bank official, who did not wish to be named.

The West Bengal Police has said that they are not in a position to provide escort or security for the transfer of currency notes from Siliguri to Gangtok as they are busy maintaining law

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Sikkim considering legal action against WB government: CM

**SUMMIT REPORT
NAMCHI, 06 JUL:**

The State is considering the possibility of filing a case against the West Bengal Government in the Supreme Court demanding compensation for the heavy losses incurred by Sikkim due to unrest in West Bengal, said Chief Minister, Pawan Chamling today while addressing the Janta Mela function at Singithang, South Sikkim.

Sikkim has incurred losses of around Rs 60,000 crore over the past 32 years due to unrest in the neighbouring hills, he stated.

Standing firm by his letter to the Union Home Minister last month supporting the demand for Gorkhaland, Mr Chamling said, "It is their constitutional demand but the government has always ignored and suppressed their demand."

He added that Sikkim's development had



been hit for three decades because of the protests and blockades in West Bengal.

Condemning the recent attacks on Sikkimese vehicles including trucks carrying essential sup-

plies and passenger taxis, the CM said, "It has been 32 years of suffering. The agitation and blockades have caused damages to the Sikkimese people. Our people are beaten up and our vehicles destroyed by goons."

Regarding the stand-off between China and India at the Nathu La border, he said, "We are constantly in touch with the Central Government regarding the matter. There is no need to panic."

However, he added

that the Karmapa's visit to Sikkim could be delayed due to rising tension between India and China.

The CM further appealed to the people to stay 'united and avoid conflict amongst ourselves'.

J&K Governor records concurrence to draft Presidential Order

SRINAGAR, JUL 6 (PTI): Jammu and Kashmir Governor N N Vohra today recorded concurrence to the draft Presidential Order of the state government required for implementing Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the state.

The J&K Assembly had yesterday passed a resolution on implementing GST in the state while ensuring protection of the special status of the state.

Jammu and Kashmir is the only state which is yet to implement the GST which was rolled out in rest of the country on July 1.

"The governor has recorded concurrence to the draft Presidential Order, approved by the state government, which relates to the application of certain provisions of the Constitution of India, in a modified form, through an order of President which is issued under Clause 1 of Article 370 of the Constitution of India, an official spokesman said here.

He said these provi-

sions would enable the extension of the GST framework to the state and would facilitate enacting of the Jammu and Kashmir Goods and Services Tax Act 2017.

"The draft Presidential order contains safeguards to maintain the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and the legislative powers under the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir," the spokesman said.

"The Presidential Order will come into force immediately after it receives the assent of the President of India, he added.

The Presidential Order will be received under Article 370 of the Constitution that grants special status to the state.

After the Presidential Order is received, the state government will take it to the Assembly for enacting an SGST (state goods and services tax) bill, state's Finance Minister Haseeb Drabu said today.

CM hands out benefits at Janta Mela in Namchi

NAMCHI, 06 JUL (IPR): Janta Mela under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan 2017 was held today at Singithang ground in Namchi, South Sikkim. The event, organized by the Rural Management & Development Department, was attended by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling along with his Cabinet colleagues, MLAs, Sikkim Legislative Assembly Speaker, Heads of Departments and party workers.

The Chief Minister handed over grants and assistance to 72 beneficiaries gathered here from Melli, Namthang-Ratheypani, Poklok-Kamrang and Namchi-Singithang constituencies.

Addressing the gathering Mr Chamling spoke in brief about the importance of Janta Mela and said that the mela will help empower the rural masses of the state. The Chief Minister also informed today that Rs 700 crore has been allocated for the Janta Melas this year.

In his address to the people, the Chief Minister touched upon various

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**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 06 JUL:**

The 82nd birthday of the Dalai Lama was celebrated with full traditional ceremony by Pegong Kiduk, under Chungthang GPU, in North Sikkim today, a press release informs.

The celebration was attended by ex-Minister, Tasa Tengay Lepcha, Pan-chayats of Chungthang GPU & members of the Kiduk accompanied by the local public.

Pegong Kiduk celebrates 82nd birthday of the Dalai Lama



The programme started with the Lhasols, fol-

lowed by offering of khadas to the portrait of the

Dalai Lama and day long

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Three suicides in one day

GANGTOK, 06 JUL: Three suicide cases were reported on Wednesday from West and East Sikkim. One 32-year-old man from Gyalshing, a 23-year-old man from Rangpo and a 12-year-old boy of Pakyong committed suicide by hanging.

BJP Sikkim celebrates birth anniv of Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 06 JUL:

Bharatiya Janta Party, Sikkim celebrated the birth anniversary of Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder, Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee at its party head-office in Ranipool today.

The celebration was attended by BJP Sikkim sangathan mahamantri, Panchanan Rawat, state-unit president, DB Chauhan, vice-president, Jagat Singhi, treasurer, GD Agarwal, mahila morma mahamantri, Devika Chettri and party workers.

A BJP press release informs that Bharatiya Jana Sangh established in 1951 later became the Bharatiya Janta Party in 1980. The release mentions about the life, thoughts and contributions made by Dr Mukherjee.

Safe delivery of currency notes to Sikkim raises concern

contd from pg01

and order in the State.

The matter has been forwarded to the Chief Minister's office, RBI, Sikkim Police and all the concerned authorities, according to the bank official.

He also added that there has been a sudden rise in demand for cash in the past few days which is causing the shortage. Demand for cash, however, varies each day and as of now the banks are in a position to meet the demand, he said.

Pegong Kiduk celebrates 82nd birthday of the Dalai Lama

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festivities.

The Pegong Kiduk, headed by Nrodup Bhutia and Tenzing Bhutia, includes twelve regular members and has been organizing this programme annually since four decades.

The Kiduk has been performing Tsechu every month along with all the main Duechens of the Buddhist calendar. It has Tongche [thousand butter lamps] which the members diligently light during auspicious occasions, adds the release.

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State not doing enough on Siliguri harassment alleges SKM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 06 JUL:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has said that the state government needs to play a proactive role in resolving issues and problems faced by the people of Sikkim presently in Siliguri. The party has demanded that the state government stop giving statements and take prompt action using all its resources to resolve issues in the interest of the people.

In a press conference held here at its head-office, SKM talked about the problems and harassment faced by the people of Sikkim in Siliguri. The press conference was addressed by SKM working presidents, MP Subba and Navin Karki, MLAs, Kunga Nima Lepcha and Sonam Lama and general secretary, Birendra Tamling.

SKM MLA, Mr Lepcha, who is also the spokesperson of the party, stated that the people of Sikkim are facing lots of problems and harassment in Siliguri. He demanded that the state government take up immediate measures by way of administra-



tive talks or other means to sort out issues with the West Bengal government.

SKM working president, Mr Karki said that the state government should have dealt with the matter in a diplomatic manner and by establishing good relations with West Bengal.

The CM's statement on Sikkim getting sandwiched be-

tween China and West Bengal, reflects fear and indicates that the situation has gone out of the government's hands, said Mr Subba.

SKM MLA, Mr Lama, also stressed that if the state government fails to tackle the situations then the SKM party will take action.

"If required then we SKM

MLAs will meet the West Bengal government and other authorities to bring out a solution. We are also sending a letter to the Centre on the present situation tomorrow," he said.

He also stressed that the government should invite all political parties, social organisations and intellectuals of Sikkim to talk on the issues.



Tension in Basirhat, WB govt says situation under control

KOLKATA, JUL 6 (PTI):

Fresh tension was reported in West Bengal's Basirhat area today forcing the police to lob tear gas shells and resort to baton charge even as the state government decided to ban some organisations for allegedly instigating people.

"There may be some reports of small incidents, but the situation is under control," a senior official at the state secretariat asserted.

"Fresh tension brewed up at Basirhat town and station area after the communal clashes in Baduria in the district. Police had to lob tear-gas shells and resort to baton charge to disperse an unruly crowd," a senior police officer said.

Police and BSF personnel immediately rushed to the area to bring the situation under control, he said.

The state cabinet decided to ban the organisations after they were allegedly found instigating people in communal riots, a state minister said.

It was also learnt that if these organisations try to hold any meeting or rally, they will have to inform the police and seek prior permission.

"Police will run a check on their records and then only give permission for holding rallies and meetings," the minister said.

"Some strategies were chalked out during today's cabinet meeting to control the situation in Basirhat," he said.

On whether a BJP

delegation, which is planning to visit Baduria tomorrow, will be allowed to enter the area, a senior state government official said, "Prohibitory orders are already in place in the area. No gathering is allowed as per rules and the administration and police will take steps per the provision of law."

The official said four companies of paramilitary forces (around 400 personnel) already present in Baduria are "enough" to maintain law and order situation there. "The number of forces present there (in Baduria) is enough... At the moment we do not require more forces there..."

We have been asking for forces from the Centre for the hills, but not getting that," he said.

North 24 Parganas district officials said life in Baduria and surrounding areas, where communal clashes broke out, returned to normal.

Shops and markets reopened, bus services resumed and local residents started coming out of their homes.

However, Internet services continued to be disrupted and paramilitary forces and police remained posted in the troubled areas.

"Everything is back to normal. There are no reports of any problem from anywhere in Baduria. We are keeping a strict vigil so that nothing untoward happens. Till then police postings will continue here," the official said.



FINAL COORDINATION MEET FOR BHANU JAYANTI AT SINGTAM

SINGTAM, 06 JUL: The final co-ordination and review meeting for the upcoming Bhanu Jayanti celebration was held today at the auditorium hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat.

During the final meeting, the organizing committee members discussed various issues regarding the seating and refreshments for the people as well as participants during the audition on 10-11 Jul.

Different NGOs and organizations of the region were assigned chores and assignments for the celebration. The organizing committee has resolved to put in place adequate safety and security procedures to guard against miscreants at the event. **[Yogen Thatal]**

Jobs, admissions on fake caste certificates not valid: SC

NEW DELHI, JUL 6 (PTI):

The Supreme Court today held that government jobs or admissions secured under reserved category by using forged caste certificates cannot be held valid or sustained in the eyes of the law.

A bench of Chief Justice J S Khehar and Justice D Y Chandrachud did not concur with the findings of the Bombay High Court that if a person continues in service for a long period of time and the certificate is found to be fake at a later stage then, he or she may be allowed to continue in the service.

The verdict came on a batch of petitions including the one filed by the Maharashtra government against the Bombay High Court judgement.

PM Modi visits Haifa, pays homage to Indian WW I heroes

HAIFA, JUL 6 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi today saluted the Indian soldiers who laid down their lives during the World War I while protecting the Israeli city of Haifa from the Ottoman Empire forces and said the sacrifices made by them is a mark of enduring bond between the two nations.

Modi visited the Indian cemetery in Haifa along with his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu on the last day of his visit to Israel and laid wreaths at the site.

"Together in homage to the fallen brave. Wreaths by PM @narendramodi & PM @netanyahu at Haifa," External Affairs Ministry Spokesman Gopal Baglay tweeted.

He also unveiled a plaque commemorating Major Dalpat Singh, known as the 'Hero of Haifa' for his critical role in the liberation of the city.

"I am deeply honoured to stand here today to salute the valiant Indian soldiers, who led down their lives for the liberation of Haifa during the WW I," Modi wrote in the guest book.

"The exceptional bravery and supreme sacrifice of Major Thakur Dalpat Singh MC, the 'Hero of Haifa' and his men, will be remembered forever and continue to inspire generations to come. Next year, the centenary of the battle of Haifa will present another opportunity to mark this



enduring bond between India and Israel," he wrote.

The Indian Army commemorates September 23 every year as

Haifa Day to pay its respects to the two brave Indian Cavalry Regiments

after almost 402 years.

that helped liberate the city following a dashing cavalry action by the 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade.

In the autumn of 1918, the Indian Brigade was a part of the Allied Forces sweeping northwards through Palestine in what is seen as the last great cavalry campaign in history. Captain Aman Singh Bahadur and Dafadar Jor Singh were awarded the Indian Order of Merit (IOM) and Captain Anop Singh and 2nd Lt Sagat Singh were awarded the Military Cross (MC) as recognition for their bravery in this battle.

Major Dalpat Singh was awarded a military cross for his bravery.

In 2012, the municipality of Haifa decided to immortalise the sacrifices made by Indian soldiers, many of whom are buried in the cemetery here, by including the stories of their valiant efforts in school curricula.

The municipality also decided to organise a ceremony every year to commemorate the role of the Indian Army in liberating the city from Turks

Gangtok on Friday, 07 July

Temp: 25°C / 19°C
Forecast: Mostly cloudy; a morning shower followed by heavy showers in the afternoon.
Sunrise: 04:46 AM
Sunset: 06:34 PM



SCA to organize Jigdal Denzongpa Memorial State Level Chess tourney

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 06 JUL:

Sikkim Chess Association is set to organize Jigdal Denzongpa Memorial State Level Chess Tournament from 13-16 Jul here at Sikkim Democratic Front Bhawan at Bye-Pass Road in the capital. The winner of the four-day long tournament will receive cash prize of Rs 1 lakh.

This was announced by the SCA general secretary, Mahendra Dhakal, who is also an international arbiter, during a press conference here today. Apart from open category, the tournament also has U-07 [boys & girls], U-09 [boys & girls], U-11 [boys & girls], U-13 [boys & girls] and U-15 [boys & girls] categories.

Mr Dhakal stated that the Late Mr Denzongpa was a talented chess player and gave his contribution in the promotion and development of chess in the State.

"SCA would like to pay homage and respect to him for his contribution towards the society through this tournament in his memory," he said.

He added that this tournament will also provide a state-level platform to young upcoming chess players from across the State to test their game.

"We would also like to encourage young upcoming players to go ahead in the game of chess to play in the national and international levels through such tournaments," he said. He informed that the tournament will have around 400 chess players from across the State.

The tournament will follow the FIDE Swiss League System of 09 rounds. The tournament has cash prize for top 15 in the open categories, while top three winners in different age categories will get medals and chess set. The registration of players is open till 08 a.m of 13 July.



Empty shelves at the Big Bazaar store in the Capital due to panic buying. The popular store is sporting many empty shelves these days and as one of the workers informed, consumers have been buying huge loads of supplies in the past few days. Fresh supplies are to arrive in a few days, it is learnt.

17th Installation Ceremony of Innerwheel Club of Gangtok

NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 06 JUL:

Innerwheel Club of Gangtok is Sikkim's leading women's organisation. It has been actively involved in various projects centered on women, children and underprivileged section of the society since 2000.

The 17th Installation Ceremony of the Club was held at a local hotel in Gangtok with great enthusiasm on 05 Jul with District Chairperson of District 324, Mira Oberoi, who is also a founder member of the club, as chief guest.

The programme featured the passing on of the baton from the existing team led by Dr Neeti Nepal to a new team led by Suman Oberoi.

Mira Oberoi expressed her ideas and goals for the year 2017-18 for the whole district. Outgoing president, Dr Neeti Nepal thanked her team and the



members for their support and cooperation.

Outgoing secretary, Deepati Oberoi, presented an overview of the projects undertaken during the year. The major projects were Ignite - an inter college competition, Udaan - an

inter school competition, Happy School, Joy of Reading - setting up libraries in government schools, Kavach- self defense for women, cancer awareness and screening camps, and summer camp among many others.

The new president, Suman

Oberoi, introduced her team for the year 2017-18 and outlined her vision for the year.

She called upon the members for their support to keep contributing to society by organizing various service projects.

SFA C Division S-League



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 06 JUL:

Kumar Sporting Football Club has registered one more victory in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association C Division Sikkim-League here at Paljor Stadium. Kumar Sporting FC defeated Tathangchen Football Club 2-0 progressing further in the league. Sanam Khawas and Chendup Bhutia scored a goal each for Kumar Sporting FC.

In the second match, Tadong Yargay Foot-

ball Club held Gangtok Sporting Club for 1-1 draw. Rupen Rai scored the lead for Gangtok SC in the 63rd minute but Wangchuk Bhutia scored the equalizer for Tadong Yargay FC immediately in the 67th minute.

On Friday, Helipad Football Club will take on Korinthian Football Club in the first match at 12:30 p.m. which will be followed by another match between North Hill United and United Nandok Football Club.

Assam flood toll mounts to 19, Sonowal reviews situation

GUWAHATI, JUL 6 (PTI): The toll in the current spate of floods in Assam mounted to 19 today with over four lakh people in 15 districts suffering from the deluge.

The situation has prompted the state government to open 128 relief camps with Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal taking stock of the situation, a government release said.

Shankar Dolui (10), a boy in Lakhimpur district died today after he drowned near his house, pushing the toll in the floods to 19, the release said.

Brahmaputra, Dikhow Dhansiri, Jia Bharali, Beki and Kushiya rivers are in spate, affecting 47 revenue circles and 857 revenue villages, it said, adding the surging waters have damaged

more than 16,000 hectares of crop area in the state.

The flood affected districts are Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sivasagar, Cachar, Dhemaji, Biswanath, Karimganj, Sonitpur, Hojai, Majuli, Barpeta, Chirang, Nagaon and Nalbari.

Both rhino habitats of Kaziranga National Park (KNP) in upper Assam and Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Central Assam, which is the most dense habitat of one horned rhinos in the world, are under water, forest department officials said.

Over 50 per cent of KNP has been submerged by flood waters forcing the animals to shift to higher grounds in and around the World Heritage Site park, they said.

CM hands out benefits at Janta Mela in Namchi

contd from pg01

ous schemes of the State government that have benefitted the under privileged as well as the general population even as the focus has primarily been on the poor.

He announced that a new pension scheme named Krishi Bhatta (pension for agriculture farmers) for those above 50 years will be intro-

duced from next year onwards. He added that a Mother Dairy farm has been proposed by the State Government which will be located in North Sikkim in order to support the dairy farmers. He directed the District Collectors of all four districts to submit the list of unused government lands in their respective districts to make them available

for public utilization.

Speaking about the Smart City project under which Namchi and Gangtok have been selected, he said that the project will bring a whole lot of development in all spheres and urged the stakeholders and the general public to work towards promoting sustainable development. Reiterating the state gov-

ernment's commitments towards the welfare of the public, the Chief Minister assured consistent and continuous service towards the public in the future.

The CM updated the youth of their need to equip themselves with skills in a variety of profitable and flourishing sectors like horticulture, floriculture, agriculture,

fishery, home-stay, poultry sectors in order to become self-reliant and self-sufficient.

Moreover, he brought to light that Sikkim is renowned in the world as a State which has advanced itself in the field of Organic Farming and urged the public to maintain the momentum and to achieve greater heights through this sector.

MISSING



Name: Shailendra Dhakal, S/o Somnath Dhakal, Central Pendang, East Sikkim
Missing from: Gangtok dated 15.05.2017
Age: 26 years
Height: 5.2 feet
Complexion: Fair
Hair: Black Brown

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Anthyesthi Kriya
Anthyesthi Kriya of Late JN Sharma who left for heavenly abode on 02 July falls on 14th July 2017. Friends, well-wishers and family members are requested to attend the praying ceremony to be held at our residence at Melli Bazar, near Hospital Melli, South Sikkim.
Tanka Pd Sharma, Ishwar Pd. Sharma (sons) Kiran Sharma, Kalyani Sharma, Beena Sharma & Prabha Sharma (Daughters) Lata Sharma & Indira Sharma (Daughter in law) & All Dhital's Family
Cont: 9434164758, 9434209933

DONATE A BOOK! GET THE YOUNG READING!!

Government Secondary School in Gangyap, West Sikkim is setting up a library for students, an initiative of the school Headmaster, Tashi Ongyal. The SMC and the guardians have constructed and contributed wooden almirahs, out of the fund collected in the village to store the books. The school is currently engaged in a drive to collect books.

Those interested in contributing in this effort can donate old or new books. You can drop the books at SummitTimes office at DPH, Gangtok.

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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Get Involved, or Live With the 'Politics'

Politics is not inherently 'bad', but politics in everything is unhealthy

It is ironic that people will continually foist leadership roles in even social and cultural organizations on politicians, and then complain that the leaders are playing politics. When politicians get involved things are bound to be 'politicised.' While there is nothing wrong in career-politicians taking up social, cultural or environmental causes, it is also true that political presence in such initiatives compromises the core issue since the debates invariably digress to personal attacks and arguments eventually get adjusted to consolidate vote-banks. One sees such approaches in the current clash of ideas between pro and anti Stage-IV groups in North Sikkim, and this being Bhanu Jayanti season, ask around the organizing committees and they will attest that while a politician heading the group opens doors for funds and assistance, his/ her political position also shuts down some options for purely political reasons.

Does that mean that politicians be distanced from concerns of the society? They cannot, because it is the people that politicians represent and their involvement should ideally be automatic and spontaneous. But involvement should not immediately translate to influence. Maybe a conscious decision should be taken to not have them head apolitical organizations or efforts, especially so in a Sikkim where, unfortunately, political positions are too straitjacketed. Those who raise an issue might have no political affiliations, but the only response they receive is from political circles. As mentioned earlier, there is per se nothing wrong with political presence, what disturbs is that this invariably is the only involvement that stakeholders receive. This is not only about protests, even required social interventions await political patronage to reach deliverance. What people sacrifice when they invite a politician to head, say a Bhanu Jayanti organizing committee, is the opportunity to felicitate fiery writers who have captured not just the mood of the people but also their readership with their incisive literary skills sharpened in the whetstone of anti-establishment sentiments. You invite a politician to get involved in aid and relief and of course political affinities will influence beneficiary lists. Get them to head social movements and you cannot complain if the debate targets people instead of ideas and arguments.

Why, really, should environmental concerns be the preserve of only the affected people receiving outside support from Opposition parties who will attach themselves to anything challenging the establishment? Why should ways and means to improve the quality of education [we talk of solutions here, not criticism] be deliberated only in seminars and workshops initiated by the State Government? Or, why should the proper functioning of cooperatives or promotion of organic farming be an obsession only of the establishment?

Those who rue the 'over politicization' of the affairs of the State need to also recognize that 'politics' is merely occupying the vacuum created by the absence of a coherent Civil Society. In an almost instinctive reaction, Sikkim looks towards the Government [and the very thinly separated ruling party] to deliver not only development, but also to engineer social reforms, and the Opposition to lend weight to dissenting voices. This is a common situation across the country, but most parts of the nation also have a reasonably mature civil society which moderates the voices and issues in the public domain. This civil society is sorely missed in Sikkim. In its absence come inferred fears and postured stands, both rather unhealthy trends. Surely, there must be many individual members of the Sikkimese society who notice the absence of a community feeling/ response at times. Is the State, or even the capital, anywhere near getting itself a Civil Society? A Civil Society is not an organised body that one can register and elect office bearers to; it is a level where individuals start thinking of more issues than just those that their immediate circles experience. It is a state where the society's reaction to issues and developments is spontaneous and free of prejudices. Simply put, it is a society that cares and is willing to get involved. Till Sikkim can do that, it will have to live with 'politicization' of all its affairs; not something that is inherently wrong or evil, but still something that leaves the public space incomplete and the people only partially represented.

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

Border walls are ineffective, costly and fatal- but we keep building them

ELISABETH VALLET
theconversation.com

It seems like every month brings news of another border wall going up.

Europe's Baltic States, worried about invasive neighbours, are raising a fence along their eastern frontier. Meanwhile, in Asia, Chinese President Xi Jinping is calling for the building of an iron wall around the Xinjiang region.

In Latin America, Ecuador appears to have begun erecting concrete panels along the Peruvian state line. In Africa, a barrier between Somalia and Kenya, made of barbed wire, concrete and posts, is nearing completion.

This is a far cry from the illusion generated by the fall of the Berlin Wall — and by the utopian dream of a world without borders that emerged in the 1990s.

THE WALL: A NEW STATUS QUO IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

At the end of the Cold War there were just 15 walls delimiting national borders; today, with 70 of them in existence around the world, the wall has become the new standard for international relations.

With the proliferation of border walls and their normalization in the rhetoric of U.S. President Donald Trump, democracies have adopted the tactic as though it were a classic policy tool in foreign relations and defence.

And yet these rampant fortifications come at a hefty price, as much for the governments and international relations as for the local economies and populations affected. For those most vulnerable, for the middle class, for those pushed out by the walls (Saskia Sassen's "expelled" peoples), the cost is exorbitant.

As symptoms of a rift in the world order, as manifestations of the failings of international cooperation, these barriers also come at a cost to those they shut out — the world's "untouchables".

The reality is that, despite being entrenched in international law, their freedom of movement is not as valuable as others', each passport carrying its own set of rights.

THE FINANCIAL COST OF BORDER WALLS

First, we must consider the financial cost of border walls. Each one is a boon to the security and construction industries (many players from the former having adapted to changes in the post-Cold War defence market).

The experience in United States provides many examples of the cost of a massive border infrastructure. This typically involves not just a physical wall with stone foundations, posts, and even concrete panels, but also razor wire, cameras, heat sensors, movement detectors, drones and patrol personnel, dogs or robots, among other things.

That's because a wall, by itself, doesn't really work: it's easy to scale it, put up a ladder, place ramps over the barrier to get a car across, fly drugs over it with drones, or use hydraulic fracturing to dig out narrow tunnels to circumvent it. In fact, in 2009, the U.S. Government Accountability Office placed the cost for building just a fence along California's border at between \$1 million Cdn and \$6.4 million Cdn per kilometre. In harsher terrain jurisdictionally and geologically, such as the Texas state line, the building cost could be as much as \$21 million a kilometre.

Maintaining it for 20 years will cost an estimated \$8.5 billion; it is therefore a massive public infrastructure, akin to a giant highway, that eats away at a country's public finances and, in turn, at overall disposable income (whether funding comes from public sources or in part from private sources).

So this financial burden is also an economic weight that drags down the country's aggregate income as well as the local economy. The latter, often significantly affected by the slowing down and re-



defining of cross-border activity, legal or otherwise, is sometimes put on life support in the form of an influx of military or patrol personnel, construction crews and staff for related services (restaurants, hotels, and so on).

WALLING OUR COUNTRIES IN: THE HUMAN COST

There is also a human component to the economic cost. There is, in fact, a proven correlation between the fortification of borders and the number of people who die trying to cross them. In the United States, where local advocacy groups actively seek out and disclose this information, 6,000 deaths in the desert) along the border have been recorded in the last 16 years.

Since the tightening of European policies, the Mediterranean has become a "dead sea," to paraphrase cartographer Nicolas Lambert, who maps tragedies befalling migrants in the region, where the number of deaths continues to climb despite a decline in the total number of crossing attempts.

In fact, to get across a fortified and tightly controlled border, the available routes are often far more treacherous, pose greater threats and require resorting to smugglers, who are sometimes linked to organized crime groups like the Mafia.

Violence is amplified when the border is militarized. First and foremost, because such militarization legitimizes the perception of the border zone as a theatre of operations, a war zone, where paramilitary groups feel justified to act, as in their deployments along the Hungarian border.

Secondly, by adding military personnel or army veterans to border patrol forces (they account for a third of such teams in the U.S.), the tactics come to match those used in war zones, bringing with them patent impunity and violence, as reported by authors Todd Miller, Reece Jones and others.

Lastly, by forcing clandestine border crossing to become even more hidden, by pushing migrants deeper underground, these measures reinforce the power of Mafia and organized crime groups, and increase the violent extortion or coercion of vulnerable migrants (through kidnappings and ransom demands, for example). From the borders of Southeast Asia to the Sahel Region, and from the corridors leading from Central America to the U.S. or from Turkey to continental Greece, it is the most vulnerable migrants who suffer the repercussions of the world's border walls.

Thus, sexual assault has become a common event in women's migratory journey, with 80 per cent of them being assaulted along their route to the United States; the NGOs they encounter along

the way systematically dole out contraceptives.

DIVISION AS A POLITICAL COST

Constructing walls also comes at a political price. Since putting up a wall is a one-sided act — the farthest thing from the bilateral reasoning behind drawing state lines — it induces a separation from the neighbouring state, rather than fostering co-operation with it.

The rift created by the wall sends shock waves through other facets of the relationship between the nations. In the case of Trump's wall, the cost of the split with Mexico is high, given this trade partner's importance to the U.S. economy as well as to the other bordering states. Within the migratory channels that are increasingly popular with refugees, the neighbouring states often serve as filters.

Erecting a wall at the border may influence not just how these other countries play their role as advanced border checkpoints, but also how they set their own defence and security policy, which can sometimes lead to a form of extroversion, that is, a kind of appropriation of the discourse of the walled State at the expense of the national interests of the other.

Canada is not immune to any of this, either. In fact, in response to the presidential transition team's request for information on the borders in December 2016, U.S. Customs and Border Protection confirmed the need to fence off more than 640 kilometres of the country's southern border, but also some of its northern border between Canada and Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Montana, Idaho and Washington.

FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED

On June 3, The Economist published an article on the need to build a wall at the border with Canada, mainly to prevent drug smuggling.

Yet no wall has ever succeeded in permanently eliminating contraband. Ramps, catapults, drones, tunnels, submarines, mules or even corrupt border guards can always undermine its effectiveness; or the traffic merely shifts elsewhere. A wall simply pushes us farther from getting to the heart of the matter, from addressing the root problem, from treating the illness and not just the symptoms.

As border walls erode the potential for international cooperation and community, the world's problems keep growing: food insecurity, ethnic conflicts, environmental crises, climate change, massive displacements of people. Many different problems bring nations to build walls, but we should recognize them as pointless facades that must, in the end, come tumbling down.

[The writer is Director - Center for Geopolitical Studies, Université du Québec à Montréal]

Trumps show how damaged personal brands can harm the business

FANG WAN
theconversation.com

The relationship between a high-profile figure and a business brand is fraught with difficulties, as the ascent of the controversial and contentious Donald Trump to the American presidency demonstrates every day.

Despite his political victory, Trump's business brand, as well as Ivanka Trump's, is suffering. The Trump Tower and properties in Toronto are ridding themselves of his name, and earlier this year, some retail giants pulled Ivanka Trump's fashion label from their shelves. More recently, her fashion line is facing increasing scrutiny.

How is a personal brand related to a business brand? And what should be the optimal distance between the two?

My research findings suggest that we should all first understand the benefits and liabilities of a person who dominates a brand's presence such as Trump, Omnimedia's Martha Stewart, Virgin's Sir Richard Branson or Apple's Steve Jobs.

The person is dynamic, nuanced, with his or her own set of values, com-



petence levels and vision. At the initial stage of the business brand-building, a person, particularly a charismatic founder with unique qualities, can represent an excellent shortcut to the construction of a business brand. Consequently, the business brand is not just a name or a logo. It is personified or exemplified by an intriguing, charismatic, successful and often idiosyncratic leader.

Nonetheless, the benefits of having a high-profile leader generally cease when the business grows and starts scaling. When a business brand has garnered substantial public attention and dominant market share, it gradually and necessarily evolves into an entity independent of its founder and leader.

PEOPLE MAKE MISTAKES THAT CAN HURT THE BRAND

The corporation's performance is mostly driven by teams and employees. Its major stakeholders are not just the brand's leader and founder, but investors and the public. And at that point, a personality closely associated with the brand can become a liability, because human beings are fallible. They are susceptible to scandal (Martha Stewart), they pass away (Jobs) or they become widely disliked or distrusted in the face of controversy (the Trumps).

The negative spillover resulting from a personal brand's scandal or crisis onto the business brand is not only costly and potentially disastrous

for the business, but also requires the business to manage and control the fallout.

But how?

Based on my brand coaching experience over the past decade, I'd advise a business brand at the growth stage to cut the cord from the founder's brand and enter the phase of depersonalization. The trick is not to "kill" or deteriorate the personal brand but instead, to make that person immortal by propagating their legacy, values, achievements and caveats of their stories, and morphing that person into a symbolic meaning.

In this new world, the person in that case ceases to be a dominating force or a risky spectre hovering over the business. The person has become the rooting foundation of a business brand and its source of meaning. A person's visions, missions, thinking and responsibilities, when shared and enacted by the teams and employees, will become the soul of a business brand — and a source of inspiration, not embarrassment of the type that is plaguing the Trump brand.

[The writer is Professor of Marketing, University of Manitoba]



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
RAJYA SAINIK BOARD, P.S. ROAD
GANGTOK SIKKIM (EAST)- 737101

ARMY RECRUITMENT RALLY

DATE : 04 SEPT 2017 TO 10 SEPT 2017

VENUE : PALJOR STADIUM, GANGTOK

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES TO APPLY ONLINE.

Date of commencement of ONLINE Application = 03 July 2017

Last date of submission of Application = 19 August 2017.

CATEGORY	AGE	HEIGHT (CMS)	WEIG HT (KG)	CHEST (CMS)	EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION
Soldier Tradesman	17 ½ years to 23 years (Born in between 01 Oct 1994 to 01 April 2000)	160	48	77-82	Minimum Class X Pass for all trades (except House Keeper, Mess Keeper & synce) 8 th class pass candidate and marks sheet issued by Head Master/ Principal and both should be counter signed by District Inspector School/ Joint Director (HRDD).
Soldier Tradesman (Indian Gorkha)		157			
Soldier GD	17 ½ years to 21 years (Born in between 01 Oct 1996 to 01 April 2000)	160	48	77-82	Class X Pass with 45% in aggregate and 33% in each subject in case candidate has passed class X from Education Board from adopted grading system, candidate must have the grade with containing corresponding marks in each subject and in aggregate, no percentage considered in case candidates has passed higher qualification i.e. 10+2 and above.
Soldier GD (India Gorkha)		157			
Soldier Clerks/Store Keeper Technical	17 ½ years to 23 years (Born in between 01 Oct 1994 to 01 April 2000)	160	48	77-82	(a)Should have secured 50% marks in each subject and 60% marks in aggregate in class XII. (b) Should have studied English and Maths/ Accts in Class X or Class XII, should have secured minimum 50% marks in each of these subjects, whether it was studied in Class X or Class XII. (c) Even if a candidate is a graduate or has higher qualification percentage marks scored in Class XII would be applicable towards his eligibility. (d) Subject taken as "Alternate English" by the candidate will not be accepted.
Soldier Clerks/Store Keeper Technical (Indian Gorkha)		157			
Soldier Technical	17 ½ years to 23 years (Born in between 01 Oct 1994 to 01 April 2000)	157	48	77-82	Soldier Technical: (a)10+2/HS/Intermediate pass in Science with Physics, Chemistry, Maths and English with minimum 50% marks in aggregate and 40% marks in each subject. (b)Subject taken as "Alternate English" by the candidate will not be accepted. Sol Technical (Aviation/Ammunition Examiner) (a)10+2/HS/Intermediate pass in Science with Physics, Chemistry, Maths and English with minimum 50% marks in aggregate and 40% marks in each subject. OR Three years Diploma in Engineering (Mechanical/Electrical/ Automobile/ Computer Science and Electronic & Instrumentation Engg.)) from recognized Institute. (b) Subject taken as "Alternate English" by the candidate will not be accepted.
Soldier Nursing Assistant (NA)/Veterinary Assistant	17 ½ years to 23 years (Born in between 01 Oct 1994 to 01 April 2000)	157	48	77-82	Sol Nursing Assistant & Veterinary Assistant: (a)Should have secured 40% in compulsory subject (Physics, Chemistry, English and Biology) 50% in aggregate in Class XII. (b)In case of graduate have B.Sc Degree (Botany/Zoology/Bio Science and English (simple pass), the stipulation of percentage in Class XII is waived off. However, the candidate should have studied all the four subjects in Class XII also. © Subject taken as "Alternate English" by the candidate will not be accepted.



Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee meets, condemns attack on Sikkim vehicles

SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG, 06 JUL:
Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee (GMCC) has decided to continue the ongoing strike in Darjeeling Hills. The committee's first meeting was held at Pedong Saint George School girl's hostel. The meeting started at around 12.30 p.m. and ended at 6 p.m.
GJMM central joint secretary, Binay Tamang informing about the meeting's outcome said GMCC today unanimously decided to continue the indefinite strike. Schools will remain closed.
He informed that three sub committees were formed today. The committee on Human Rights cell will be headed by Arun Ghatani of CPRM, Data and Research cell headed by R Moktan of GJMM and Legal cell which has four members Neeraj Zimba, DK Pradhan, Tilak Chand Roka and Pravakar Dewan.
The committee will submit their reports by 17 July and the next meeting of GMCC will be held on 18 July.
The meeting has decided that it will undertake all GMCC programs in the proposed area of Gorkhaland from Sunkosh to Mechi River.
The GMCC has appealed and requested all the Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of all Hill Development Boards including Siliguri Terai Doors Nepali Board to resign for the sake of Gorkhaland. Mr Tamang informed that GMCC will send them an appeal letter very soon.
Meanwhile, GNLF today clarified that they have given up their 6th Schedule issue and now their one-point demand is Gorkhaland.
Regarding the violence that broke out in Kalimpong on Thursday, Mr Tamang accused the police of provoking the public. The police lathicharged an innocent driver leading to the public's outburst, he alleged.
Mr Tamang said that recently in Siliguri, Oodlabari, Malbazaar and Jalpaiguri area vehicles carrying essential supplies to Sikkim and Darjeeling were stopped with the help of the police of the area. Condemning such activities as inhuman, he said that they will approach all appropriate forums regarding this.
Dawa Pakrin alleged that the police is picketing and stopping essential supplies from reaching Sikkim and the Hills which, he said, is a clear violation of the Food Security Act.
Addressing a press conference later, the convener of the GMCC, Prof Kalyan Dewan said today's meeting of the GMCC was held in a very friendly environment where all parties have expressed their desire to work together for Gorkhaland.
"We strongly condemn the barbarous attitude and activities of Bengal police who have not been allowing vehicles carrying essential commodities to Darjeeling and Sikkim. We also condemn the indiscriminate firing yesterday in Kalimpong where many innocent people were injured. We condemn every provocative act of West Bengal Police which is creating tension and disturbing the peaceful environment of the Hills," said Prof Dewan.

2,513 pilgrims leave for Amarnath from Jammu

JAMMU, JULY 6 (PTI): Another batch of 2,513 pilgrims today left left Jammu for the 3,888-metre high Amarnath cave shrine of Lord Shiva in south Kashmir Himalayas.
Escorted by the CRPF, the pilgrims comprising 1863 men, 550 women and 100 sadhus left in 78 vehicles for Baltal and Pahalgam base-camps of Amarnath shrine this morning, officials said.
With today's batch a total of 23,048 pilgrims and sadhus have left Jammu for Amarnath since the yatra began on June 28. As many as 90,045 pilgrims had paid obeisance at the Amarnath shrine in South Kashmir hills till last evening.
Five pilgrims and an ITBP Assistant Sub Inspector died en route to the shrine during past 7 days of the yatra. The annual yatra in Kashmir began amid a terror threat, which has prompted the authorities to mobilize the "highest level" of security measures, including satellite tracking system.
The government has mobilized a heavy security blanket of over 35,000 to 40,000 troops including the police, the Army, the BSF and the CRPF. This year's yatra is eight days shorter than the last year's of 48 days. It will conclude on Shrawan Purnima (Raksha Bandhan) on August 7.
Situated in a narrow gorge at the farther end of Lidder Valley, Amarnath shrine stands at 3,888 metres, 46 km from Pahalgam and 14 km from Baltal.

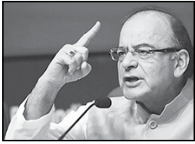


- DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR RECRUITMENT:**
Candidates must have the following documents:
- (a) Email ID and Mobile Number is a must.
 - (b) Aadhar Card.
 - (c) Class X, Class XII & Class VIII Mark sheet & Certificates both.
 - (d) Admit Card, Registration Certificates, Mark Sheet and Board Certificate.
 - (e) Residential Certificate.
 - (f) Birth Certificate.
 - (g) Character Certificate.
 - (h) Unmarried Certificate.
 - (i) Sikkim Subject/Certificate of Identification (Col).
 - (j) NCC Certificate.
 - (k) Relation Certificate (Applicable only to the wards of Son of Serving Soldiers, Son of Ex-servicemen, Son of Widows & Son of War Widows).
 - (l) Outstanding Sportsmen Certificate.
 - (m) Caste Certificate.
 - (n) Gorkha Certificate.
 - (o) Buddhist/Christian Certificate.

NOTE: SHARING OF MOBILE NUMBER AND EMAIL ID IS NOT PERMITTED.

Candidates are advised to fill up online application at the earliest through cyber café or through schools or through other sources. Please visit website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in in case of any difficulties/problem contact office of the Rajya Sainik Board, Gangtok or Zillz Sainik Board (West/Couth/North/East). Candidates may also contact at the number 95932 68468.

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Vajpayee, not Congress, set the ball rolling on GST: Jaitley

NEW DELHI, JUL 6 (PTI): Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today said the first move towards the landmark GST was made by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government 17 years back, and not the Congress.

The Vajpayee government constituted a task force which in 2003 submitted a report saying central and state levies should be merged or unified into a Goods and Services Tax (GST), he said at a public rally on the new tax regime.

Jaitley said the government changed in 2004 and the incoming Congress saw merit in the argument mooted in the report.

The then Finance Minister P Chidambaram in 2006 spoke of GST and set 2010 as deadline for rolling out the new indirect tax regime, he said, adding he could not implement the plan.

In 2011, the then Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, who is now the President, introduced a Constitutional Amendment to bring GST.

But the UPA could not get all states onboard because they could not resolve how to compensate losses to manufacturing states arising because of GST being a destination-based tax, he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said, was clear from day one that India has to be unified economically and devised not just a compensation formula, which was put in the Constitution Amendment Bill, but also got all the 29 states and six union territories on board to agree to the new tax.

India has 29 states and seven union territories but the Finance Minister apparently did not include Chandigarh as that Union Territory has not been consulted separately because it is part of Punjab and Haryana in such negotiations.

Jaitley said Prime Minister Modi not just got the bill approved in the Parliament but also got states and UTs to pass their laws, with Jammu and Kashmir assembly being the last to pass a resolution yesterday adopting GST.

Taking a dig at the Congress, he said the GST was in the party's election manifestos but at the last moment it did flip-flops as it was not sure if the new tax regime would pay off.

NEW DELHI, JUL 6 (PTI): The Indian football team on Thursday rose to the 96th spot in the latest FIFA rankings, its best-ever in the last two decades and the second best overall. As far as Asia is concerned, India are the 12th highest ranked team in the continent, while Iran lead the chart at the 23rd spot.

India's best-ever FIFA ranking till date stays 94, which was attained in February 1996, while 99 was India's second-best, achieved in November 1993. The national team has been on an upsurge with a string of impressive results leading to a climb of 77 places over the last two years.

The team has now won 13 of its last 15 matches and is unbeaten in the last eight games (including the unofficial match against Bhutan).

India were ranked 171 when Stephen Constantine took over as national coach for the second time in February 2015 and slipped further to 173rd in March 2015 in the FIFA ladder even before



the gaffer could have his first game in charge against Nepal, which India eventually won 2-0 on aggregate.

Congratulating the team, All India Football Federation president Praful Patel said:

"It's a giant leap of faith for Indian football. Two years back, we were 173 and now we have reached our second best FIFA ranking ever. The leap signifies the potential of Indian football. Congratu-

lations to the national team boys, the coach, the staff and all in AIFF."

AIFF general secretary Kushal Das stated: "This comes as a huge boost ahead of our next AFC Asian Cup

qualifying match against Macau on September 5, 2017. Hats off to the team for giving it their all in achieving this milestone. Qualifying for the AFC Asian Cup 2019 stays our top priority." Con-

federations Cup champions and reigning world champions Germany have overtaken Brazil to be the top team in the world and are followed by Argentina at third spot, Portugal and Switzerland.

Constantine said: "When I took over, I had mentioned that my target was to bring India below 100. I am happy to have played a small part in this process. Kudos to the boys, the staff and a big thank you to my colleagues in AIFF for supporting us all throughout. I also need to thank Mr. Patel and Mr. Das for their trust in allowing me to do things in the manner I wanted."

"But the present FIFA spot doesn't mean that we have achieved much. We need to stay focused on the upcoming challenges."

A qualification spot in the AFC Asian Cup UAE 2019 is what the AIFF aims at this moment. That would be India's second AFC Asian Cup stint in eight years, the last being in Doha in 2011.

Sports Ministry backs AIFF's bid to host U-20 FIFA WC

NEW DELHI, JUL 6 (PTI): Sports Minister Vijay Goel on Thursday backed AIFF's expression of interest to host the Under-20 FIFA World Cup in 2019, saying the ministry will always encourage hosting of international tournaments in the country.

Bracing up to organise the U-17 World Cup in October, AIFF president Praful Patel recently said that they would be happy to discuss with FIFA about the possibility of hosting the event in India in 2019.

"AIFF is contemplating on it. Whenever there will be a proposal from the Federation, we will look into it. We always want that the country to host as many international tournaments as possible," Goel told re-



porters on the sidelines of the CII Scorecard 2017 event here.

In other issues, the Indian badminton players, including P Kashyap and H S Prannoy, had asked for help from the Ministry of External Affairs and Sports Ministry to get their passports in time to participate at the Canada Open and US Open.

Ahead of Indonesia Open also, shuttlers

such as N Sikki Reddy and Manu Attri had to go through a similar ordeal when their passport arrived just a day ahead of their departure for the tournament.

Asked if the Ministry is doing anything about it, Goel said: "Players selection and all these issues are in federation's hand but nobody has contacted me or complained to me. If there is

a complaint or anything regarding it, I personally will look into it, and about the issue, I have been informed that we had intervened in that."

Goel, who completed his one year in office on Thursday, said there are a number of things he wishes to work on in the next one year.

"I have a number of targets, including launching the national sports portal, getting 1000 scholarships for sporting talents, bringing sports under concurrent list this year, making sports part of compulsory education," he said.

The Sport Minister reiterated the initiatives taken by his ministry and sought the support of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII).

"We need to create an atmosphere and culture of sports in India. We are taking a lot of initiatives but we need the support of CII," he said.

"We have to ensure that there is no duplication or overlapping of support for one athlete and also instead of showering all the money after they win medals, it is important to provide them the support before they achieve success,"

Union Sports Secretary and SAI director general, Injeti Srinivas asked the industry to work for open space management so that people can have enough open fields to play sports and also stressed on the need to have a club and sports community culture in India.

Academy for athletes to come up in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR, JUL 6 (PTI): An academy for athletes will be built in the Kalinga Stadium here with the Odisha government today signing an Expression of Intent (EOI) with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and the Athletics Federation of India (AFI).

The EOI, signed in the presence of Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, is for establishing an 'Odisha-AFI-IAAF High Performance Academy', to provide coaching, integrated support services and education to athletes and junior potential elite athletes of the state.

Signing of the EOI was significant as it took place a day after the Asian Athletics Championship was declared open by the chief minis-

ter here last evening.

"The academy will provide professional environment and approach to athletes in track and field events in which the athletes with potential can grow and develop into champion performer," said Patnaik.

It would provide excellent coaching and integrated support services and educational experience for the athletes, which will build their mental skill, confidence, focus and determination, he said. The state government would provide infrastructure and support services including outdoor stadium, medicine and physio therapy facilities and specialists, international sports hostel for the athletes and coaches and visiting foreign specialists, Patnaik said.

India inch closer to semi-final with 16-run win over Lanka

DERBY (ENGLAND), JUL 06 (PTI): India took a giant stride towards clinching a semi-final spot with another convincing 16-run victory over Sri Lanka in a one-sided ICC Women's World Cup encounter here today.

Mithali Raj and Co recorded their fourth win on the trot as they defended a respectable 232/8 by restricting the island nation to 216 for 7.

The Indian eves also maintained a clean slate against their sub-continental neighbours since the 2013 World Cup, having never lost a single ODI in all meetings.

India's battery of slow bowlers have choked the opposition time and again during the tournament so far. It was no different on the day as leg-spinner Poonam Yadav (2/23 in 10 overs) led the charge with twin blows, removing the dangerous Chamari Atapattu (25) and opener Nipuni Hansika (29).

Left-arm spinner Ekta Bisht (1/48 in 10 overs) and



off-spinner Deepthi Sharma (1/46 in 10 overs) were also economical.

The seasoned Jhulan Goswami (2/26 in 8 overs) was parsimonious as ever, and provided important breakthroughs too.

Dilani Manodara Surangika (61 off 75 balls) batted well but found little support at the other end.

Skipper Raj marshalled her resources well after another impactful half-century, which was largely responsible for the decent total.

"In the middle overs we really pulled ourselves and

the dot balls pushed them to score in the end. Overall, our spinners did quite well," Raj said after the match.

She admitted that having pure all-rounders have helped their cause while bowling.

"Cricket has evolved over the years because now we need to have more allrounders, with bowlers who can bat in the slog overs and batsmen who can pick some wickets," she said.

The skipper praised the current batting line-up which gives her freedom to play her natural game.

"I have always enjoyed

batting and stepping up when it's required. I'm blessed to have the kind of openers and I can play probably a bit of my own game which I have had to hold up because of the kind of the responsibility I have had over the years," she stated.

The match decisively swung in India's favour when the pint-sized Poonam, coming round the wicket, got the better of Atapattu with a flighted delivery that she tried to sweep but missed the line to be bowled.

Another identical delivery saw Nipuni make a big stride forward for a slog sweep only to be stumped by Sushma Verma.

The Lankan innings never had the momentum and only one team could have won from that situation despite gallant effort from Surangika.

Earlier, Deepthi Sharma and Raj hit fine half-centuries to help India post a decent 232 for 8.

Deepthi made 78 off 110 balls while Mithali (53 off 78) continued her good form with

yet another 50 plus score to set the base for India's total after the early dismissal of openers Punam Raut (16) and Smriti Mandhana (8).

Middle-order batters Veda Krishnamurthy (29) and Harmanpreet Kaur (20) stitched crucial 50 runs in just nine overs to help India get past the 230-run mark.

Player of the match Sharma said: "The wicket was a bit slow when I batted so I adjusted accordingly by taking my time and it paid off. I tried to time my straight-bat shots properly instead of hitting them hard."

Electing to bat, India didn't have the best of starts as Mandhana departed early. She was soon followed by Raut in the 11th over that brought Mithali and Deepthi at the crease.

The duo first resurrected India's innings and opened up once they got their eyes in.

They shared vital 118 runs for the third wicket to not only steady India's innings but cre-

ate the perfect launchpad for others to follow.

But just when it was time for the Indian eves to launch the attack on Sri Lankan bowlers three quick wickets dragged them back.

After the dismissal of Deepthi in the 37th over, Jhulan Goswami (9), who was promoted up the order, and Mithali to fell in successive balls of Inoka Ranawera's 39th over to put brakes on India's scoring.

But Veda and Harmanpreet took the onus upon themselves to keep up the ante before both got out in consecutive balls in the 49th over off Sripali Weerakkody to hand the Sri Lankan right-arm medium pacer, an opportunity to claim a hat-trick.

The Indian willow-wielders managed a decent 62 runs off the last 10 overs.

For Sri Lanka, Weerakkody (3/28) was the pick of the bowlers while Inoka Ranawera (2/55) also returned with two crucial wickets.

175 newly-appointed IAS officers to study BHIM, GST & Aadhaar

NEW DELHI, JUL 6 (PTI): As many as 175 newly-recruited IAS officers will be given exposure to the Centre's flagship programmes, including the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the BHIM app for cashless transactions and Aadhaar.

These officers have been posted as assistant secretaries in different central government departments, except the Prime Minister's

Office (PMO), from July 3 to September 29.

Their posting is part of an initiative started by the government to groom bureaucrats at the Centre before they move to their respective cadre states. All officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) are allotted cadres which could either be a state or group of states. The officers are supposed to start their

career in their respective cadre states.

The assistant secretaries have been allocated work relating to flagship programmes or initiatives of the ministry concerned. They will also be given exposure to the government's important initiatives such as the GST with particular reference to Saksham (a technological system by the Central Board of Excise and Customs),

Constitutional amendments, rules and regulations, working of the GST council and GST Network, the information technology backbone of the GST, an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said.

These officers will also be given exposure on the move towards "less cash economy" with emphasis on digital transactions such as unified

payments interface, Aadhaar enabled payment systems and Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), it said.

"Each ministry/department is already taking action for smooth implementation of the GST in their area of work as well as to promote digital transactions. The assistant secretaries must be fully involved in these activities of the ministry/department," the DoPT said.

The officers have been grouped into nine sectors- agriculture and allied sector, transport and communications, energy and environment, health, sanitation and urban development, education and social development, finance and corporate affairs, commerce and industry, governance and crises management.

They will be mentored by senior secretaries.

“Atmosphere not right” for a Xi-Modi meet in Hamburg: China

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, JUL 6 (PTI): China today said the “atmosphere” was “not right” for a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Hamburg, amidst a standoff between the armies of the two countries in the Sikkim section.

The “atmosphere is not right” for a bilateral meeting between President Xi and Prime Minister Modi, Chinese Foreign Ministry officials



said ahead of the G20 Summit in the German city of Hamburg from tomorrow.

However, Indian sources in New Delhi said a meeting of BRICS leaders will take place on the sidelines of G20

summit tomorrow which is expected to have the presence of, among others, Modi and Xi, suggesting that there was no bilateral meeting between the two leaders scheduled in Hamburg.

China and India have

been engaged in a stand-off in the Dokalam area near the Bhutan tri-junction for the past three weeks after a Chinese Army’s construction party attempted to build a road. Doka La is the Indian name for the region which Bhutan recognises as Dokalam, while China claims it as part of its Donglang region.

There were reports that Modi and Xi may meet on the sidelines of the G20 Summit to resolve the standoff.

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman

Geng Shuang expressed hope that “India can immediately withdraw the border troops to the Indian side of the boundary to uphold the peace tranquillity of the China and India border areas”.

“I think this is the pre-condition for any meaningful peace talks between the two sides,” he told a media briefing here when asked about the meeting between Modi and Xi on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

Geng, however, said the BRICS leaders meet-

ing which will be attended by Modi and Xi will take place on the sidelines of the summit tomorrow.

On the possibility of a Xi-Modi meeting, Geng said relevant information will be released in a timely manner. China’s state-run media yesterday had quoted Chinese analysts as saying that Beijing would be forced to use a “military way” to end the standoff in the Sikkim sector if India refuses to listen to the “historical lessons” being offered by it.

G20 Summit: Counter-terrorism, climate change may hog agenda

BARUN JHA
HAMBURG, JUL 6 (PTI): Fighting terrorism, climate change and global trade will be at the core when Prime Minister Narendra Modi and leaders from the world’s other top economies assemble here for a two-day G20 Summit beginning tomorrow.

Any possible meeting between Modi, who is expected to have a number of bilateral meetings on the sidelines during his two-day stay in this port city, and Chinese President Xi Jinping will be keenly watched in the wake of the recent spat between the two countries over developments near Sikkim.



The Summit, with a theme of ‘Shaping an Inter-connected World’, is taking place at a time when differences have emerged among several leaders expected to be present -- mostly on publicly stated views of the US President Donald Trump -- including on issues like climate change and open trade.

Other top leaders expected to be present include Russia’s Vladimir Putin, Turkey’s Recep Tayyip Erdogan, France’s Emmanuel Macron and Theresa May of the UK.

The ‘Group of Twenty’ is made up of 19 countries and the European Union. The countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK and the US.

While Hamburg happens to be city of birth for the Summit host and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, it is also known as an ‘anti-establishment bastion’ of Left-wing radicals.

At least 30 protests are expected to be held here ahead of the Summit that may attract thousands of people, including from anti-capitalist groups. Local authorities expect these protests to remain peaceful and around 15,000 police personnel will be deployed to protect the venue. Besides, nearly 4,000 personnel will keep a tab on the airport and train

security.

While counter-terrorism and economic reforms will dominate the discussions, the 12th G20 Summit will also discuss issues like free and open trade, climate change, migration, sustainable development and global stability.

Modi, who is reaching Hamburg after a visit to Israel, said in a Facebook post before his departure from India that he is looking forward to “engaging leaders from other G20 countries on the vital issues affecting our world today that have a bearing on economic growth, sustainable development, and peace and stability”.

The prime minister said the world leaders will review progress on decisions since the Hangzhou Summit last year and deliberate on issues of terrorism, climate, sustainable development, growth and trade, digitisation, health, employment, migration, women’s empowerment, and partnership with Africa.

He further said he is looking forward to the opportunity to meet leaders on the sidelines of the Summit to exchange views on bilateral matters of mutual interest. The Summit will begin tomorrow with Merkel welcoming the world leaders, followed by ‘G20 Leaders’ Retreat’ where the topic of discussion will be ‘fighting terrorism’.

The first working session will be on ‘global growth and trade’, followed by the second session on ‘sustainable development, climate and energy’. The world leaders will also attend a musical concert tomorrow evening, followed by a dinner for them and their spouses.

The second day of the Summit will begin with the third working session on ‘partnership with Africa, migration and health’ while the fourth working session will be on ‘digitisation, women’s empowerment and employment’. These two will be followed by a closing session on Saturday evening, after which a joint statement by the G20 leaders will be issued.



Theresa May will hold one-to-one talks with Donald Trump during a two-day G20 summit in Hamburg which will be dominated by the North Korean missile test. As well as discussing the potential missile crisis, the Prime Minister will raise the issue of climate change with the President after his controversial withdrawal of the US from the Paris accord. Germany’s second largest city is bracing itself for violent demonstrations aimed at the attendance at the summit of President Trump, Vladimir Putin and Turkey’s President Erdogan. The G20 comes exactly four weeks after the general election in which the Prime Minister lost her Commons majority, leaving her weakened on issues like Brexit and battling for her political survival. And her bilateral with the US President will be their first major face-to-face meeting since her visit to the White House in January when their talks were overshadowed by pictures of him holding her hand as they walked together.

US warns using military force against North Korea

UNITED NATIONS, JUL 6 (PTI): The US today warned of using military force in response to North Korea’s “reckless” launch of a ballistic missile and blasted China and Russia for “holding the hands” of the reclusive nation’s “vicious dictator” Kim Jong Un.

“It is a dark day because yesterday’s actions by North Korea made the world a more dangerous place. Their illegal missile launch was not only dangerous, but reckless and irresponsible. It showed that North Korea does not want to be part of a peaceful world,” US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said at an emergency Security Council meeting here yesterday following the launch of the intercontinental ballistic missile by North Korea.

The device, launched yesterday, was capable of reaching Alaska, and the Korean Central News Agency quoted leader Kim Jong-Un as saying the confrontation with the US had entered the “final stage”.

Indian-American Haley warned that the US “is prepared to use the full range of our capabilities” to defend itself and its allies.

“One of our capabilities lies with our considerable military forces. We will use them if we must, but we prefer not to have to go in that direction. We have other methods of addressing those who threaten us and of addressing those who supply the threats. We have great capabilities in the area of trade,” she said.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DERBY STURDY
Draw No:38 DrawDate on:06/07/17
1st Prize Rs.25,00,000/- B 88196
2nd Prize Rs.10,000/-
0779 2713 2750 8797 9422
3rd Prize Rs.5000/-
0046 4817 5726 6932 8918
4th Prize Rs.2,000/-
0870 4244 4477 8950 9201
5th Prize Rs.1,000/-
0137 2686 6812 9358 9705
6th Prize Rs.500/-
0257 0288 0386 0702 0708 1090 1109 1150 1287 1361
1374 1458 1810 1958 2354 2441 2768 2850 2924 2972
3089 3185 3312 3420 3615 3779 3929 3979 4167 4472
4982 5331 5522 5580 5751 5834 6018 6510 6537 6895
7126 7131 7211 7279 7283 7316 7582 7654 7655 7780
7932 7985 8027 8102 8268 8278 8466 8528 8568 8671
8689 8709 8753 8785 8790 8835 8921 8941 9100 9165
9228 9322 9586 9854 9980
7th Prize Rs.100/-
0037 0045 0105 0139 0153 0163 0199 0213 0218 0227
0262 0287 0293 0316 0329 0361 0363 0378 0393 0419
0443 0468 0503 0510 0537 0549 0663 0693 0711 0737
0750 0780 0857 0930 0942 0958 0977 0978 1019 1023
1033 1034 1066 1100 1114 1161 1174 1177 1211 1250
1285 1331 1365 1383 1398 1405 1440 1457 1507 1508
1543 1551 1595 1621 1642 1666 1707 1732 1768 1771
1793 1804 1836 1891 1903 1905 1937 1966 2014 2036
2044 2066 2100 2136 2143 2155 2196 2197 2239 2247
2276 2305 2333 2396 2404 2405 2420 2434 2442 2519
2524 2525 2595 2598 2654 2678 2717 2720 2735 2790
2804 2836 2867 2878 2906 2911 2923 2939 2966 2984
2998 3015 3033 3058 3111 3117 3182 3196 3245 3250
3259 3264 3283 3314 3332 3360 3366 3370 3371 3389
3410 3426 3459 3477 3505 3515 3519 3546 3564 3578
3616 3669 3706 3727 3815 3837 3859 3905 3913 3953
4075 4134 4138 4142 4147 4148 4171 4179 4214 4268
4277 4287 4303 4353 4354 4364 4411 4413 4417 4475
4507 4519 4525 4541 4547 4560 4561 4563 4573 4602
4604 4605 4614 4641 4645 4678 4687 4752 4790 4822
4848 4911 4930 4944 4960 4968 4975 4979 4996 5029
5030 5031 5077 5107 5161 5235 5236 5255 5282 5285
5320 5324 5347 5349 5358 5380 5388 5403 5412 5420
5440 5503 5551 5573 5681 5699 5714 5722 5735 5818
5821 5829 5830 5858 5868 5929 5942 5945 5970 6017
6033 6088 6097 6130 6144 6155 6209 6218 6225 6257
6265 6301 6309 6330 6369 6411 6436 6463 6597 6609
6648 6671 6688 6692 6697 6725 6776 6794 6815 6838
6869 6902 6920 6931 6943 6949 6962 6985 7058 7075
7082 7091 7144 7158 7177 7190 7193 7228 7233 7237
7244 7257 7268 7270 7299 7303 7340 7351 7390 7399
7414 7421 7443 7454 7534 7624 7626 7685 7688 7698
7722 7799 7831 7861 7918 7928 7935 7986 7993 7996
8053 8079 8088 8155 8165 8183 8185 8226 8230 8251
8314 8350 8371 8437 8504 8519 8589 8625 8699 8727
8733 8755 8828 8837 8864 8877 8889 8899 8907 8911
8926 8959 8969 8973 8991 9040 9088 9089 9099 9176
9188 9200 9241 9271 9301 9304 9309 9393 9428 9445
9547 9611 9658 9659 9682 9708 9715 9717 9731 9751
9777 9778 9786 9789 9791 9798 9890 9922 9974 9993
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The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Gangtok, Sikkim
Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com

NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES	NAGALAND STATE LOTTERIES
SINGAM PLATINUM MORNING	DEAR SINCERE EVENING
Draw time: 11:55 am onwards	Draw time: 08:00 pm onwards
Draw No:10 DrawDate on:05/07/17	Draw No:115 DrawDate on:05/07/17
1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 99J 34133	1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 84D 65042
(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 34133 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 65042 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-	2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
06246 08593 09722 21737 43877	27690 42886 47985 50107 55644
48684 61021 62881 93354 93676	77360 83442 86556 90842 95172
3rd Prize Rs.500/-	3rd Prize Rs.9000/-
0459 1003 2649 2991 3484 3552 6211 7853 8331 9475	04031 08810 14957 17057 40621
4th Prize Rs.300/-	42957 47697 57084 71759 74307
0419 1236 3702 4281 7609 7925 8400 8660 9634 9935	4th Prize Rs.1000/-
5th Prize Rs.130/-	0199 0251 3472 3726 5104 6549 6676 7128 7194 7906
0065 0160 0281 0316 0406 0479 0488 0578 0734 0741	5th Prize Rs.600/-
0980 1082 1171 1193 1281 1364 1369 1520 1522 1760	1330 3199 3295 4234 4358 5310 5696 6741 8262 8815
1896 1950 1993 2173 2180 2203 2326 2354 2726 2855	6th Prize Rs.250/-
3068 3135 3169 3186 3262 3317 3339 3368 3401 3418	0076 0094 0099 0303 0330 0466 0483 0627 0639 0660
3454 3497 3544 3723 3804 3900 3952 4010 4011 4170	0690 0757 0920 0963 1018 1051 1080 1142 1253 1334
4285 4369 4451 4699 4768 4811 5030 5128 5283 5320	1438 1494 1533 1592 1878 2094 2123 2336 2434 2639
5403 5566 5791 6386 6442 6499 6549 6567 6611 6836	2706 3071 3081 3124 3334 3460 3592 3635 3661 3823
6845 6887 7091 7289 7383 7385 7503 7626 7647 7689	3834 3852 3974 3999 4094 4287 4368 4591 4742 4772
7695 7709 7847 7918 8231 8302 8318 8333 8598 8681	4800 4811 4835 4846 4861 4878 4959 5095 5126 5236
8927 9090 9142 9261 9295 9330 9380 9386 9507 9531	5334 5688 5690 6060 6736 6875 7067 7068 7155 7167
Issued by:	7220 7277 7464 7537 7544 7584 7628 7667 7713 7818
The Director, Nagaland State Lotteries, Kohima, Nagaland.	7846 7853 7940 8087 8149 8194 8227 8468 8568 8657
For Results, please visit: www.nagalandlotteries.com	8789 8858 9075 9141 9143 9275 9339 9401 9620 9748
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULTS WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.	

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES	SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES
DEAR FORTUNE	SINGAM VIGOR EVENING
Draw No:51 DrawDate on:05/07/17	Draw No:22 DrawDate on:05/07/17
1st Prize Rs.50 Lakhs/- 70L 01135	1st Prize Rs.10 Lakhs/- 94H 03669
(Including Super Prize Amt)	(Including Super Prize Amt)
Cons. Prize Rs.8,000/- 01135 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)	Cons. Prize Rs.9,100/- 03669 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9500/-	2nd Prize Rs.9,000/-
05285 14703 17464 22603 23381	06865 27717 39247 60986 65542
41342 54845 55249 62885 67583	71681 85510 87469 89156 97685
3rd Prize Rs.9000/-	3rd Prize Rs.500/-
05366 17012 41369 56482 62276	1981 2100 2121 3363 3588 4265 4701 5351 5806 6930
65838 81243 87082 88363 90543	4th Prize Rs.300/-
4th Prize Rs.1000/-	0133 0195 0786 0938 3467 4024 4393 6408 8967 9399
0607 2054 2111 2873 3253 4988 6531 6637 7175 7639	5th Prize Rs.130/-
5th Prize Rs.600/-	0192 0332 0435 0623 0725 0851 0948 1023 1087 1091
0655 2476 2579 4132 4310 5018 5826 9013 9305 9787	1112 1164 1178 1179 1231 1296 1333 1530 1683 1740
6th Prize Rs.250/-	1791 2217 2346 2366 2559 2565 2717 2905 2996 2975
0061 0066 0257 0259 0367 0413 0469 0558 0681 0705	2996 3356 3500 3532 3592 3760 3781 3842 3867 4000
0885 0960 0968 1251 1401 1487 1667 1780 1821 1863	4072 4108 4186 4210 4233 4631 4430 4494 4585 4605
1886 1922 2213 2507 2633 2771 2795 2889 2895 3015	4681 4814 5057 5176 5197 5631 5658 5747 5843 5994
3184 3223 3341 3417 3486 3711 3938 3967 4133 4544	6022 6072 6100 6207 6249 6295 6347 6362 6463 6534
4667 4685 4712 4849 4922 4956 4992 5370 5460 5598	6750 6756 6841 6976 7219 7372 7466 7539 7586 7943
5751 5772 5781 5785 5790 5802 5890 5987 6055 6103	7996 8005 8082 8149 8276 8288 8308 8440 8712 8728
6217 6231 6416 6577 6580 6610 6675 6680 6702 6758	8731 8858 8908 8915 9072 9215 9225 9485 9731 9997
6898 6999 7001 7069 7092 7117 7132 7170 7336 7567	Issued by:
7752 7797 7868 7940 8056 8063 8505 8546 8572 8703	The Director, Sikkim State Lotteries, Deorail-737102
8905 8953 8962 8987 9047 9419 9547 9623 9814 9950	Please visit: www.sikkimlotteries.com
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE.	

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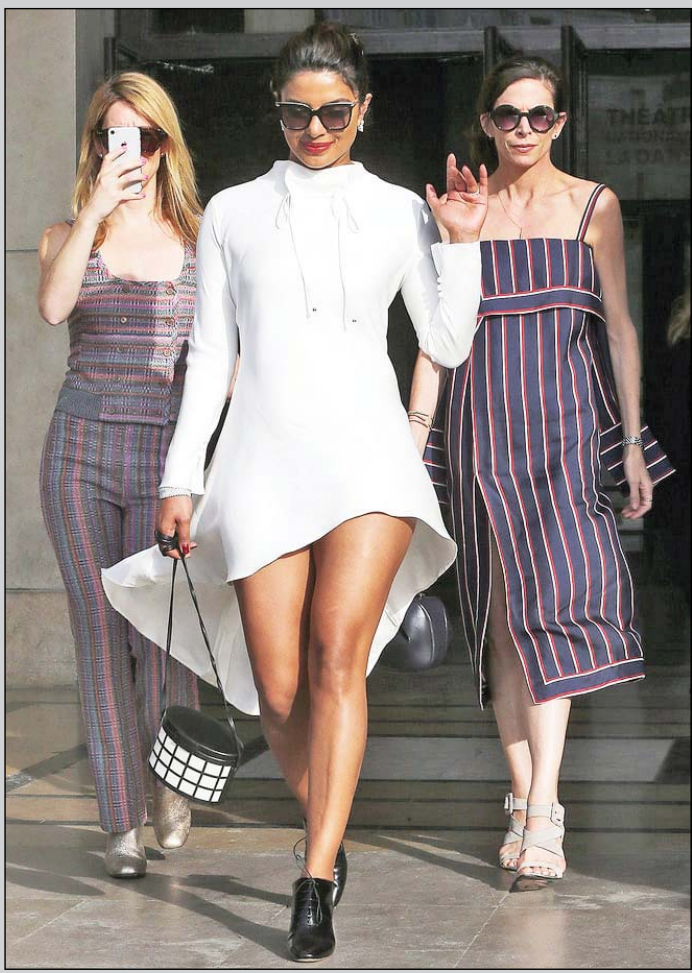
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PRETTY PRIYANKA: Desi gal Priyanka Chopra turned heads at the Giorgio Armani Prive Haute Couture Fall/Winter 2017-2018 show in Paris, France.

PRIYANKA CHOPRA JOINS REBEL WILSON'S 'ISN'T IT ROMANTIC'



With her ABC show "Quantico" on summer hiatus, Priyanka Chopra is making waves on the big screen.

Sources tell that the "Baywatch" star is set to join the New Line comedy "Isn't It Romantic" op-posite Rebel Wilson.

Chopra will shoot "A Kid Like Jake", another Hollywood project in June and

then immediately begin production on "Isn't It Romantic" in July before returning to "Quantico" this fall.

HOLLYBUZZ

Silas Howard is directing "A Kid Like Jake," which also stars Octavia Spencer. The pic follows two parents who are in the process of filling out kindergarten applications for their four-year-old boy who is gender variant. After realizing that they can't afford private

school tuition, the director of Jake's preschool encourages them to emphasize Jake's gender variance to help him stand out and earn a scholarship.

Todd Strauss-Schulson's "Isn't It Romantic" also stars Adam Devine and Liam Hemsworth. The romantic comedy follows a young woman (Wilson) who gives up on love only to mysteriously find herself trapped inside a romantic comedy.

OK to laugh at your mistakes. Humility is good for you.

GEMINI: Other people may steal the spotlight from you today, Gemini, but don't let it get you down. The key is to learn from the ones who take charge. Have fun and don't worry about the details. A definite dynamism is helping you transform certain areas of your life that need to change. Get out of the rut you're in.

CANCER: It may seem like close loved ones are trying to pick a fight with you today, Cancer. There may tend to be a "me first" attitude stirring up a pot of trouble. Don't automatically assume that

the other person is wrong. There's a valuable lesson to be learned in every conflict. Take each disagreement as an opportunity to learn something about yourself.

LEO: A close loved one may express displeasure with the way things are, Leo. Maybe there's some tension in the air. Things could get rather explosive. There's a feeling urging others to act, a certain restlessness that demands that you take action. Unfortunately, this action is likely to meet with opposition if you aren't careful.

VIRGO: Fire up today, Virgo, and let your spirit fly. You have a great deal of ammunition that encourag-

50 CENT ON JAY-Z'S '4:44' ALBUM: 'THAT SH-- WAS LIKE GOLF COURSE MUSIC'

Despite 4:44 achieving platinum status and it being lauded as a great comeback album, JAY-Z has received his fair share of detractors. Recently, 50 Cent reviewed 4:44 on Instagram and dubbed Hov's latest offering "golf course music."

"I listened to Jay sh--, that 4:44," 50 began, "I thought the sh-- was aight. I liked the sh--, but I'm gonna keep it 100: the sh-- was too smart. I felt like I was supposed to be wearing glasses and tie a f---ing sweater around my waist."

It was like Ivy League sh--."

Then, 50 acknowledged that though JAY-Z released a solid album, that he no longer should proclaim himself as the best, because of his age. "I'mma tell you the truth: N---as is hot out here. They don't wanna hear that sh--."

They just wanna have a good time. F--- that."

You can't be the best rapper at 47, because the new n---as is here," said 50.

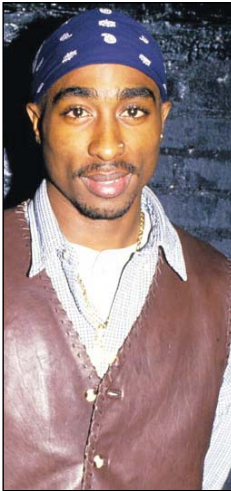
He added: "I ain't gon' hold you up. That sh-- was like golf course music."

Since 4:44 was released

CONFESSION

REVEALED!!

TUPAC DUMPED MADONNA BECAUSE SHE'S WHITE, HIS PRISON LETTER REVEALS



Tupac split from Madonna because of her race. In a letter written from prison on January 5, 1995, and published by TMZ on Wednesday, July 5, the late rapper explained that he couldn't be with the queen of pop anymore because she's white. "Can u understand that? For you to be seen with a black man wouldn't in any way jeopardize your career. If anything it would make you seem that much more open [and] exciting," he explained. "But for me at least in my previous perception I felt due to my 'image' I would be letting down half of the people who made me what I thought I was. I never meant to hurt you."

Tupac concluded the letter by extending a peace offering. "I offer my friendship once again this time [I'm] stronger [and] focused. If you are still interested I would like to further discuss this with you but some of it couldn't wait," he wrote. "I felt compelled to tell you ... just in case anything happened 2 me. Please be careful Madonna. Everyone is not as honorable as they seem there are those whose hearts bleed with envy & evil. They would not hesitate to do you harm! Let my 6 bullets be proof of that!"

The letter was written while Tupac was serving time in prison for sexual assault. The famous rapper was fatally shot during a drive-by shooting one year later in 1996. He was 25

years old. The letter will be up for auction July 19-28 at Gotta Have Rock and Roll. The starting bid is listed at \$100,000.

As previously reported, Madonna revealed that she dated Tupac during a candid interview with Howard Stern in 2015. "I was mad at [David Letterman] when I said the F-word a lot. I was in a weird mood that day. I was dating Tupac Shakur at the time and the thing is he got me all riled up on life in general," she said during their chat while referring to a 1994 appearance on The Late Show With David Letterman. "So when I went on the show I was feeling very gangsta."



last week, Kanye West reportedly severed ties with JAY-Z's streaming service Tidal. In addition, Future and

Boosie BadAzz took offense to some of Hov's lyrics and responded with jabs of their own on social media.



08TH JULY

WORLD HISTORY

1497: Vasco da Gama, Portuguese explorer, departed on a trip to India. He sailed from Lisbon en route to Calicut, India. His journey took him around South Africa and opened the Far East to European trade and colonial expansion.

1815: With Napoleon defeated, Louis XVIII returned to Paris.

1853: An expedition led by Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Edo Bay, Uraga, Japan, on a mission to seek diplomatic and trade relations with the Japanese. Perry sailed his flagship USS Susquehanna into Edo Bay. He soon forced Japan to open its ports with his big gunboats, the steam-powered "Black Ships."

1990: West Germany won the World Cup soccer championship by defeating Argentina, 1-to-0.

INDIAN HISTORY

1918: Montagu-Chelmsford Report was published seeking re-

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

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

forms in the Indian legislature. The Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms or more briefly known as Mont-Ford Reforms were reforms introduced by the British colonial government in India to introduce self-governing institutions. The reforms take their name from Edwin Samuel Montagu, the Secretary of State for India during the latter parts of World War I and Lord Chelmsford, Viceroy of India between 1916 and 1921.

1954: Jawaharlal Nehru inaugurates the world's longest dam, Bhakra-Nangal, at Punjab. The Dam is described as "New Temple of Resurgent India" by Jawaharlal Nehru.

1996: Former Chief Election Commissioner T.N. Seshan won the prestigious Magsaysay award.

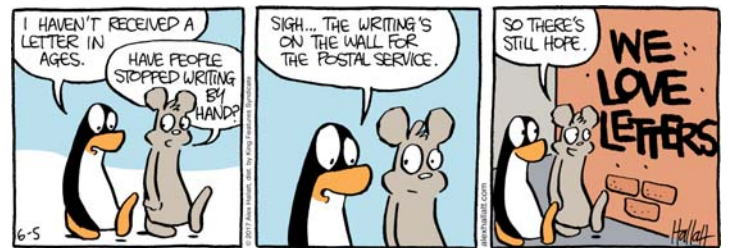
LOCKHORNS

- HOEST & REINER



ARCTIC CIRCLE

- HALLATT



BABY BLUES

- KIRKMAN & SCOTT



ARIES: Don't hide, Aries. This is your time to come out of the shadows. There's a spark within that's urging you to act. Move forward and worry about the consequences later. This isn't a good time to search every sentence for hidden meaning. People may be careless with their words. Don't overanalyze them.

TAURUS: This is a terrific day for you, Taurus. Your mood is good and everything is flowing your way. The fire within is burning hot. You will take the lead role in every production. Romance and love are definitely in the cards for you. Be yourself and remember that it's

OK to laugh at your mistakes. Humility is good for you.

GEMINI: Other people may steal the spotlight from you today, Gemini, but don't let it get you down. The key is to learn from the ones who take charge. Have fun and don't worry about the details. A definite dynamism is helping you transform certain areas of your life that need to change. Get out of the rut you're in.

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VIRGO: Fire up today, Virgo, and let your spirit fly. You have a great deal of ammunition that encourag-

ing you to take charge. Let your adventuresome spirit roam wherever it pleases. Communication with loved ones will be clear. You can expect all social encounters to go smoothly. You will be the hit of any party.

LIBRA: Put your reservations aside, Libra, and go for the thing your heart desires most. Throw caution to the wind and make it happen. Today's energy urges you to take charge of your life and conquer new territory. There's dynamism about the day that could leave you behind unless you latch onto the trend and make it work for you.

SCORPIO: There may be tremendous changes in store for you, Scorpio. Connect with something futuristic and far out. There may be some roadblocks in the way. Maybe your heart is impeding your progress. You don't need another person to fill in any voids in your life. Your confidence is what you need to bolster your self-esteem.

SAGITTARIUS: Be bold and aggressive today, Sagittarius. Even if this isn't in your nature, dynamic action can be rewarding on a day like this. People will be delighted to hear from you. Your opinion is precious. You have many insights

to offer the group. Your adaptable nature will be tested. You may need to make adjustments in order to match other people's way of thinking.

CAPRICORN: Love is on your side today, Capricorn, and all romantic and social situations are favored. This is the perfect time to take the lead on creative projects or anything requiring a keen eye for beauty. Your mood is apt to be positive and jovial. You can't go wrong in whatever way you choose to express yourself.

AQUARIUS: Certain love and romance matters may cause some tension, Aquarius. Inflated egos

may get in the way of important communication that needs to take place for harmony between you and your romantic partner. You're a bit more argumentative than usual. Sparks of disagreement are likely to flare into bonfires if you aren't careful. Keep a fire extinguisher handy.

PISCES: Take charge of your life, Pisces. The more action you take, the more alive you will feel. Maybe you will decide to have a career on the stage. This is the kind of day when you need more variety than usual. Bright and happy people will catch your eye. Jump on the fast track. You're ready.