



HEE KARATE
ACADEMY READY FOR
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PG02

BADMINTON ASS OF SIKKIM
TO ORGANIZE 29TH
STATE OPEN BADMINTON
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FUNDS FOR TWO
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KALIMPONG pg02

SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 222 | Gangtok | Thursday | 23 August 2018

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

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

New Governor Ganga Prasad to take office on 26 Aug

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Newly appointed Governor, Ganga Prasad, will be arriving in the capital on 25 Aug and is expected to take charge as Governor of Sikkim on 26 Aug.

Raj Bhavan sources inform that the swearing in ceremony will be held in the afternoon



on 26 Aug at Raj Bhavan. Mr

Prasad will be the 16th Governor of the State.

Acting Chief Justice, Meenakshi Madan Rai, will administer the oath of secrecy to the Government.

Mr Prasad was transferred and appointed as the Governor of Sikkim by a Presidential warrant issued on 21 Aug along with six other heads of

the States of the Indian Union.

Governor Shrinivas Patil's tenure had ended on 13 Jul and he has been on extension since then.

Mr Prasad was born on 08 Jul, 1937 in the city of Patna in Bihar. He holds a B.Com degree and is a senior political leader who has had life-long affiliations with Bharatiya Janata

Party [BJP]. In the year 1994, he was elected as a Member of Legislative Council [MLC], a position he held till 2012.

Mr Prasad was earlier appointed as Governor of Meghalaya in Oct 2017. He was a member of the Legislative Council in Bihar for 18 years and a former leader of the opposition in the Bihar Assembly.



*DSA unimpressed
with dilution of Article
371F if Sherpas brought
under Revenue Order
No 1 argument*

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Denzong Sherpa Association [DSA] has asserted that if Chief Minister Pawan Chamling cannot protect the rights of the Sherpa community, then he has no right to speak against the community either. The association alleged that instead of speaking on related issues on the occasion of World Entrepreneurs' Day, a comment attributed to the CM on the day proves to DSA that the existence of the Sherpa community was in danger.

Addressing a press conference here today, DSA spokesperson, Pasang Sherpa, criticised the CM's statement that his government would be toppled and that the Bhutias and Lepchas will not agree to provide land protection for Sherpas under Revenue Order No 1 as is being demanded by DSA.

On the same, he stated that the statement indicates that Sikkim Government is being completely "blackmailed".

He mentioned that Sikkimese Sherpa community has only been

demanding for liberation from a historical injustice by seeking protection of their lands under Revenue Order No 1 like is being enjoyed by the Bhutias and since Sherpas are also now counted among the Bhutia community.

He went on to contend that blackmailed by feudal thoughts, the State Government will not be able to protect the rights of the Sherpas.

While criticising the CM's statement that since Old Laws of Sikkim are protected by clause (k) of the Article 371F, providing land protection to Sherpas under Revenue Order No 1 would violate clause (k) and hence Article 371F itself, Mr Sherpa referred to several other Old Laws that have been repealed in Sikkim.

Mr Sherpa further stated that if the CM was sincere towards Article 371F, Old Laws and upcoming entrepreneurs of the State, then he should have spoke about the present status of the Registration of Companies (Sikkim) Act, 1961 to entrepreneurs on the occasion of World Entrepreneurship Day.



*Mettur dam
crosses full
level for
third time
in 30 days*

COIMBATORE, AUG 22 (PTI): The Mettur dam today crossed the full level of 120 feet, the third time in the last 30 days, officials said.

The level now stood at 120.25 feet.

With discharge from Karnataka dams dropping, inflow was at 45,000 cusecs at 4 PM, compared to 65,900 cusecs in the morning, they said.

The discharge from Kabin and KRS reservoir has come down since last night following scanty rains in catchment areas in Karnataka, they said.

The water level in Mettur dam reached its maximum of 120 feet on August 11 for a second time since July 23.

CM's statement on Doklam standoff 'anti-national' says SKM

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has registered its strong objection to Chief Minister Pawan Chamling's statement on the Centre not informing Sikkim about Doklam stand-off published on 21 Aug in a national newspaper. The party has demanded that the CM withdraw his statement immediately and apologize to the Centre, Army and the people of Sikkim and India for his statement.

According to SKM, in an article published in The Economic Times, the CM has said that during the Doklam stand-off with China, the State Government was kept in the dark by the Centre and neither the Central Government nor the Army had informed him about the situation.

Addressing a press conference here today, SKM spokesperson, Jacob Khaling, stated that the Constitution has demarcated duties and responsibilities of the Union and the State. He added that the Centre and the Army has full right to choose not to disclose sensitive international and border issues with the State.

While thanking the Centre and the Army



for standing firm during the Doklam stand-off, he expressed that a Chief Minister giving such statements on a sensitive issue was very unfortunate and anti-national.

Mr Khaling demanded that the Centre immediately investigate the intension behind the statement of the CM. He stated that such statements will discourage the willpower of the Army and be beneficial for China.

He further alleged that earlier too China had taken advantage of the CM's statement wherein he had said - "Sikkim did not merge

with India to become a sandwich between China and Bengal".

Likewise, SKM acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, stated that such irresponsible and anti-national statement by the CM will jeopardize national security. He added that the CM should consult with his think tanks before speaking on such sensitive issues.

China may again misuse the statement and the CM should stand with the decision of the Centre instead of questioning it, Mr Lepcha said.

Draft policy: Compulsory genetic screening of pregnant women to curb genetic disorders

NEW DELHI, AUG 22 (PTI): The Centre has prepared a draft policy proposing compulsory genetic screening of all pregnant women to prevent inherited disorders such as thalassemia and sickle cell anaemia along with putting in place advanced facilities for comprehensive care of such patients.

The policy advocates for provision of medicines, including iron chelating agents, leukocyte filters and infusion pumps free of cost to the poor patients.

In line with 'Make in India'

initiative, the draft policy also advocates for promotion of manufacture of the equipment and chemicals in the country and "waiver of GST and custom duties to reduce cost of treatment for the affected families".

Titled "Policy For Prevention and Control of Hemoglobinopathies Thalassemia, Sickle Cell Disease and variant Hemoglobins In India", the draft note has been put up on the website of the health ministry seeking comments and suggestions from various stakeholders till August

30.

The policy recognises that for prevention, the focus should be on creating awareness of these disorders in the community for better acceptance of carrier screening.

"This is recommended for all pregnant mothers, based on automated red cell counts with confirmation by HPLC analysis for Hb A2 and other hemoglobin variants.


"For women identified to be carriers, their husbands will be screened and in couples where

both the partners are carriers, prenatal diagnosis will be offered to ensure that they have a baby unaffected with a clinically significant hemoglobinopathy," the draft read.

Carrier screening could also be undertaken for high school and college students.

As per the draft policy, all subjects screened would be given a card indicating their status, whether normal, carrier or diseased through systems of colour-coding.

turn to pg02



KARISHMA PRADHAN

JUDGE FOR AUDITION
MODEL/ENTREPRENEUR

SummitTIMES

TEMI TEA

2018
MANHUNT

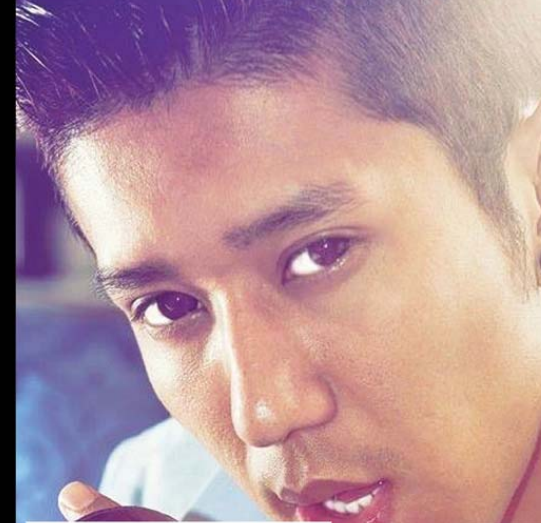
Karishma Pradhan is a model and an entrepreneur from Sikkim. She is the winner of the prestigious Sananda Miss Tilotama 2007, the biggest beauty pageant in Eastern India which was held in Kolkata. She is also one of the top 5 finalist Miss Pune 2006.

She was the brand ambassador of RENE, a popular brand in Kolkata. The brand promoted and name their Diwali collection as 'Karishma Collection'.

She was also featured in a video called 'Angel' by Girish and the Chronicles which was promoted in VHI, MTV.

She has done her MBA from a premiere B School Great Lakes. Presently, she is an entrepreneur and engaged in hospitality and tourism industry.

WWW.MRSIKKIMMANHUNT.COM



SONAM BARPHUNGPA

JUDGE FOR AUDITION
MODEL/ACTOR

SummitTIMES

TEMI TEA

2018
MANHUNT

Sonam Barphungpa is an actor/model from Sikkim. His debut movie Kahi Katai with Nepali superstar Dilip Rayamajhi was released recently. He has also signed a Nepali movie 'Friends Love' which is being directed by Sajjan Shrestha of Nepal.

He is the first runner up of Mega Mr. Northeast 2013 and also the winner of subtitle 'Best Personality'. He is also the winner of Mr. Vibes 2015-16 Sikkim.

Barphungpa is a brand ambassador of Hill Bike, Sikkim and Pasal, Sikkim. Also one of the Judges of Miss. Sikkim Diva 2014 and Miss. Kalimpong 2017 he now looks forward to launch a clothing brand 'Meraki' with Mac Donald Dhungel.

WWW.MRSIKKIMMANHUNT.COM

CMO directs strict compliance of GPU level work tenders

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG: The State Government in Jun 2018 had decided to permit execution of works up to Rs 2 crore to be tendered at Gram Panchayat Unit level. For the same, engineers of different levels have been authorised by Secretary, Roads & Bridges Department specifying the power permitting tender of works up to Rs 2 crore in the GPU level vide Notification No. 515/R&B/PWD/Secy dated 12/06/2018.

A press release received from the Chief Minister's Office informs that strict compliance of the notification by all District Collector level officers, SDM level officers and BDO level officers in their respective jurisdiction has been directed.

Debates on Sidhu attending Pak PM swearing in 'shameful': SPCC

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG: Sikkim Pradesh Congress Committee has said today that making an issue out of the participation of former Indian cricketer and Tourism Minister of Punjab, Navjot Singh Sidhu, in the swearing in ceremony of Pakistan Prime Minister, Imran Khan, is sad and unfortunate. The party has stated that discussions on this topic in the national media have created a situation of confusion in the country.

An SPCC press release states that Navjot Singh Sidhu along with other senior cricketers were invited as cricketers by the Pakistani PM and only Mr Sidhu attended the ceremony. To politicize it is a shameful act and portrays India as weak in front of other nations of the world, SPCC has said.

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Hee Karate Academy ready for State c'ship

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG: Hee Karate Academy is all set to participate in the 16th State Karate Championship 2018 being organised by the Sikkim State Karate-Do Association scheduled to

be held at Indoor Hall in Namchi, South Sikkim from 24-26 Aug.

Twenty karatekas from the Academy will be participating in the championship, a press release informs.

In 2017, Hee Karate Academy

had bagged the runners-up trophy in the said championship. After undergoing a month-long training camp under coach Bishnu Kumar Limboo, the academy has expressed confidence in securing the champion's trophy this year.



IPL conducts training for Annapurna Farmers Group

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG: International Panaacea Limited (IPL) organized training programme on seed treatment and technical aspects of sowing seed to a group of progressive farmers of Annapurna Farmers Group at Kerabari Ward of Bering Tareything GPU in

East Sikkim on 21 Aug, a press release informs.

During the programme, IPL trainers conducted demonstration sessions on nursery management for tomato, cauliflower and cabbage seeds. Sessions on seed and soil treatment using fermented cow urine, pseudomonas and Trich-

oderma viride were also conducted.

Field executive, IPL, Pushpa Lal Bastola, demonstrated treatment methods for cauliflower [Suhasini variety], cabbage [Maharani variety] and tomato [Romeo variety] in nurseries through line sowing method.

Run with Roshni Foundation runners to participate in Rotary Sohra Marathon



SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 22 AUG: Fifteen runners from the "Run with Roshni Foundation" will be participating in the Rotary Sohra Marathon scheduled to be held at Cherrapunji in Me-

ghalaya on 25 Aug. Rotary Club of Kalimpong has sponsored two runners for the marathon.

Making the announcement, international marathon runner, Roshni Rai, said, "I am proud of my

team because they can travel without me to any part of India. It gives a sense of achievement that these young runners are understanding their responsibilities through the discipline of running."

Mani Trust collects funds for two cancer patients of Kalimpong

SUMMIT REPORT

KALIMPONG, 22 AUG: Mani Trust handed over cheques of Rs 1, 70, 936 each to two cancer patients of Dunga and Paiyu under Kalimpong 1. The Trust, which was established on 28 May 2014 with an aim to improve living standards of people residing in the hills of Darjeeling and Kalimpong District, raises donations for downtrodden patients under its 'support for life' initiative.

The Trust was approached by Samaj of both the villages few weeks ago appealing to raise funds for 28-year-old Suren Biswakarma Bhujel and 60-year-old Sangita Rai.

Suren is suffering from throat cancer and is presently admitted at NRS in Kolkata while Sangita is suffering from uterus cancer and is admitted at CMC in Vellore.

Chief Executive Officer, Mani Trust, Reshma Rai Singh, informed that the 12-day donation camp from 02-14 Aug was held in aid of both the cancer patients in Kalimpong town with due permission from Chair-



person of Kalimpong Municipality. People donated a total sum of Rs 3, 41, 872. The Trust bore all expenses during the camp, she added.

Kalimpong Superintendent, Dr A Simlangdi, handed over the cheques to the family members of Sangita and Suren in the presence of Riwali Youth Club, Dunga Sewa Samaj and other trustees and advisors of Mani Trust.

The Mani Trust CEO has extended gratitude to all the donors and volunteers for making the fund raising initiative a grand success.

The donation collection report was handed to club members which will also be sent to Kalimpong Municipality, Police Station and DM's Office, informed Ms Singh.

It may be mentioned here, Mani Trust has been regularly supplying home-cooked food and

water to homeless people of Kalimpong since 29 May 2014 under its 'Food for Helpless' initiative. The Trust distributed English, Hindi, Nepali and Bengali newspapers at three parks of Kalimpong town under its Social Information Promotion initiative. Further, the Trust is working to establish a Medical Tourism Hub in Kalimpong and reviving the glory of Kalimpong Arts and Craft.

Draft policy: Compulsory genetic...

contd from pg01

For sickle cell disease, policy recommended newborn screening to be initiated in areas of high prevalence.

"Thalassemia and sickle cell diseases are two common genetic disorders that are chronic, life-restricting and require long and specialized treatment. They cause severe distress and financial loss to the family and are a great drain on the health resources of the country.

"With the fall in infant mortality rate due to control of communicable and nutritional disorders in the last decade in India, these disorders have become important causes of morbidity and mortality," the draft policy stated.

According to the draft note, it is estimated that there are almost 3.6 to 3.9 crore carriers of -thalassemia in India, and about 10,000 to 15,000 babies with -thalassemia major are born each year.

For sickle cell disease there are about 25,00,000 carriers of the gene (Hemoglobin AS), and about 1,25,000 patients of sickle cell disease.

The draft policy has proposed creating of centres of excellence in states that will have advanced facilities required for comprehensive care of patients with thalassemia and sickle cell disease, including a bone marrow transplant unit and a prenatal diagnostic centre.

The centres of excellence will provide technical support for thalassemia in medical colleges, tertiary care hospitals, district level health facilities and primary health centers, as well as impart training to the health professionals.

The draft note has recommended creation of a hemoglobinopathy unit in government medical colleges, tertiary care facilities as well as in district level hospitals to carry out therapy as well as preventive activities.

It also recommended setting up of a patient registry for thalassemia and sickle cell disease to obtain information on the number of persons affected and the number of carriers to estimate patients who require various services.

Screening of differently abled in Lower Tumin

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG: The third round of screening for persons with disabilities [divyang] was conducted at Lower Tumin, Barang in East Sikkim under the aegis of Kalpataru Prathisthan today. More than 84 persons registered themselves as patients with the screening team led by head of department of psychiatry, STNM Hospital, Dr CS Sharma, a press release informs.

The Prathisthan has the patronage of Minister cum area MLA, Ugen T Gyatso Bhutia, and Lok Sabha MP, PD Rai.

It may be mentioned here, the first round of screening was held at Rakdong Tintek BAC while the second was conducted at PWD guest house in Kambal. The Kalpataru



Prathisthan aims at reaching out to divyangs in the area and will be expanding its activities in other villages in the coming days.

Gangtok on
Thursday,
23 Aug

Temp: 28°C/18°C
Forecast: Cloudy,
times of rain; a show-
er or thunderstorm in
spots in the evening.
Sunrise: 05:10 AM
Sunset: 6:06 PM

Keralites
start to
come to
grips post-
floods

THIRUVANANTHAPUR-
AM, AUG 22 (PTI): Ker-
ala was today coming
to grips with the dev-
astation caused by the
deadly monsoon as more
displaced people started
returning to their homes
which lay in ruins de-
voured by the unprece-
dented deluge.

A sense of despair
gripped most people as
they found their homes
filled with huge mounds
of mud and dirt left by the
receding flood waters.

A 68-year-old man
committed suicide at his
home unable to get over
the shock of what was
left of his dwelling at
Kothad in Ernakulam dis-
trict, close on the heels
of a teenaged boy from
Kozhikode taking his life
after his certificates were
destroyed in the floods.

With the offer of USD
100 million (Rs 700 crore)
aid by the United Arab
Emirates appeared to be
getting stuck over hurdles
in accepting such huge
cash donation, Vijayan
said the state government
would approach Prime
Minister Narendra Modi,
if needed, to get it cleared.

CM unveils official poster of Temi
Tea Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt



NITESH R PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling un-
veiled the official poster of Temi Tea
Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt at Samman
Bhawan on the occasion of World En-
trepreneurs' Day on 21 Aug.

Temi Tea Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt
is a test attempt jointly being organized
by GBT Entertainment, The Accelerator
and Sikkim Chronicle.

With SummitTimes as the official
printing partner, the show is the first of
its kind initiative in the State focusing
not just on body building but various
facets of modeling, grooming and per-

sonality development.

Temi Tea, one of the State's most
iconic brands, has tied up with the com-
petition as its title sponsor.

Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt promises
not just to find models but to hone tal-
ent into personalities who will proudly
represent the state in various platforms
of expression to deliver a message of
hope.

This year's theme for the competi-
tion is "Let's talk mental health".

Promos have already hit the right
note with its video going viral and re-
ceiving record breaking response in
terms of registrations.

SMPCT
conducts
cleanliness
drive at Jalipool
Old Age Home

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Students of Sikkim Manipal Col-
lege of Physiotherapy [SMCPT] led
by faculty member Dr Pratik Chettri
organised cleanliness drive at Old
Age Home in Jalipool, East Sikkim on
20 Aug, a press release informs.

The students cleaned the prem-
ises and cleared the area of accu-
mulated garbage while also clean-
ing and tidying up the cupboards,
rooms and the kitchen area.

The management and inmates of
Old Age Home have expressed grati-
tude to the students for their service.

Later, the students contin-
ued their cleanliness drive by
cleaning classrooms and the
OPD of Department of Physio-
therapy at the Central Referral
Hospital premises in Tadong.

The SMCPT students
were supported by the engi-
neering department of Sik-
kim Manipal University.



Badminton Ass of Sikkim to organize 29th
State Open Badminton Championship

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Badminton Associa-
tion of Sikkim, under
the aegis of the Badmin-
ton Association of India,

will be organizing the
29th State Open Badmin-
ton Championship 2018
at the Indoor Badminton
Hall in Paljor Stadium,
Gangtok from 11-16 Sept,

a press release issued by
BAS general secretary,
Sukanta Das, informs.

The categories for the
championship include
U-11, U-14, U-17, U-19

for Boys & Girls, Men's &
Women's Singles & Dou-
bles and Singles & dou-
bles for Veterans [40+,
50+, 60+].

The qualifying match-
es for the event will be
held on 11-12 Sept while
the main draw matches
are scheduled to be held
on 13-16 Sept.

The release fur-
ther adds that for en-
try, BAS can be con-
tacted at 9474350118,
9 7 3 2 0 0 4 1 0 7,
9434127401 or

9832048999. Registration
for the tournament will
close on 05 Sept at 4 p.m.

It may be mentioned
here, this tournament
is one of the selection
tournaments for Juniors
& Seniors of Sikkim
team for the upcoming
Zonal and National level
championship.

President of BAS and
members have requested
all shuttlers, badminton
associations and clubs of
the State to participate in
the championship.

PLOT FOR SALE: Plot measur-
ing 30x40 and 40x60 both on
Road side at Shyari, Gangtok,
East Sikkim for sale. Contact:
7384620040/ 7477406169.

SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

DEAR VIGOR EVENING

Draw No:2 DrawDate on:22/08/18

1st Prize Rs.26.02 Lakhs/- 62H 56082
Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 56082 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)
2nd Prize Rs.9000/-
00698 10498 20581 28324 57889
63490 65760 80511 88291 89816
3rd Prize Rs.500/- 1899 4333 4337 4463 5840 6541 6544 7354 7515 9029
4th Prize Rs.250/- 0253 0437 1029 1634 2563 4343 7075 7168 7873 8647
5th Prize Rs.120/-
0197 0422 0500 0619 0709 0807 0899 1020 1108 1122
1138 1248 1437 1546 1633 1651 1730 1735 1953 1978
2379 2592 2603 2659 2674 2697 2707 2800 2995 3077
3100 3109 3154 3224 3271 3280 3318 3486 3882 3930
4028 4110 4155 4745 4793 4812 4837 4867 4907 5050
5077 5200 5302 5321 5341 5373 5384 5706 5967 6249
6376 6454 6852 6938 7209 7236 7298 7450 7504 7621
7646 7759 7861 7882 7949 7962 7963 8226 8234 8427
8506 8546 8666 8684 8740 8880 9032 9101 9161 9186
9261 9285 9295 9326 9445 9467 9637 9679 9799 9982

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Please Visit : www.sikkimlotteries.com
KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE

Training on Plant
Nutrient Management
in Soreng

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Mevedir organized
Ward level train-
ing cum demonstration
programme on Plant
Nutrient Management
on 21 Aug at Peghaga-
on Ward, under Soreng
GPU, in West Sikkim in
the presence of Village
Level Worker, Agricul-
ture Department, Soreng,
Kavita Thapa, Panchayat
president, Chandra Ku-
mari Tamang, and Field
Assistant, Agriculture
Department, Chandra B
Rai, along with Mevedir
master trainer, Lall Man
Tamang.

A press release in-
forms that Mevedir mas-
ter trainer, Mr Tamang,
demonstrated prepara-
tion of fermented plant
extract [FPE] using lo-

cally available plants
from the area such as
Hatibar [Agave], Lyo-
nia [Angeri], Artimisea
[Titeypati], Eupatorium
[Banmara] and Zanthox-
ylum [Timbur].

In the next session,
Mr Tamang explained
about steps for prepara-
tion of Amritjal, an easy
and quick method to
prepare a local fertilizer
with on-farm available
inputs that enhances fer-
tility of soil. The applica-
tion method, frequency
of usage and other de-
tails were highlighted to
the farmers.

Panchayat president,
Ms Tamang, while brief-
ing on the importance
of organic farming, ap-
pealed to the farmers to
use homemade solutions
for growing crops.

Vajpayee's ashes reach Kolkata,
to be immersed tomorrow

KOLKATA, AUG 22 (PTI):
The ashes of former
prime minister Atal
Bihari Vajpayee was
brought to the city today
and will be immersed
in various rivers across
West Bengal.

The 'asthi kalash'
was brought to Kolkata
by state BJP president
Dilip Ghosh and will be
taken to Gangasagar to-
morrow where it will be
immersed as part of the
party's country-wide
programme, a party lead-
er said.

Gangasagar is an is-
land off the coast of Ben-
gal where the Ganga river
meets the Bay of Bengal.

The contents of the
main kalash (urn) will
be divided into four oth-
er urns. The main urn
will be immersed at

Gangasagar and the four
other urns will be taken
to north Bengal, Farakka,
Bankura and Nabadwip,
he said.

"The people of these
areas too want to pay
their respects to Vajpay-
eeji so it will be taken
there and immersed in
rivers there," Jaiprakash
Majumdar, vice-presi-
dent of West Bengal BJP
unit told PTI.

Earlier, West Bengal
Governor K N Tripathi
offered floral tributes to
the urn containing the
ashes at the city airport.

Several state unit
leaders gathered at the
state party office to pay
their respects.

A rally will be tak-
en out tomorrow in the
morning towards Gan-
gasagar with the urn.

LOST: I Tshering Choden Butia, D/o. Sonam
Pintso Bhutia R/o. Ethenpa Enterprise, Namchi,
South Sikkim has lost my Class X Marks Sheet
bearing Index No. T/4456/026 [ICSE-X- 2013] of
Namchi Public School and Class XII Marks Card
bearing Index No. 2158239/015 [ISC-XII-2015] of
Mount Hermon School, Darjeeling, West Bengal. If
found please contact: **8971854015.**

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
SORENG, WEST SIKKIM

This is to inform you that the NIT published vide Memo No –
136/SD/SOR/R&B/2018-19/35 Dated: 04/08/2018 and R.O. – 252/
IPR/PUB/Classi./18-19 Dated: 06.08.2018 under Zoom Salghari
Constituency in different local newspaper and Sikkim herald shall
be kept in abeyance till further notice.

Sd/-
ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
SORENG SUB DIVISION.

R.O. no. 297/ipr/Pub/classi./18-19 dt. 22.08.18

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
SORENG, WEST SIKKIM

This is to inform you that the NIT published vide Memo No – 136/
SD/SOR/R&B/2018-19/36 Dated: 04/08/2018 and R.O. – 248/IPR/PUB/
Classi./18-19 Dated: 06.08.2018 under Soreng-Chakung Constituency
in different local newspaper and Sikkim herald shall be kept in abeyance
till further notice.

Sd/-
ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT
SORENG SUB DIVISION.

R.O. no. 296/ipr/Pub/classi./18-19 dt. 22.08.18

Brahma Kumaris Gangtok
tie Rakhis on journalists

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 22 AUG:

Brahma Kumari Meditation Centre,
Gangtok celebrated Raksha Band-
han today at Brahma Kumari Raj Yoga
Meditation Centre in Development
Area wherein Brahma Kumari centre
head, Sonam Didi, tied Rakhis on the
wrists of journalists working in differ-
ent media houses of Sikkim.

Addressing the gathering, Sonam
Didi said, "Raksha Bandhan means the
bond of protection that celebrates rela-
tionship between brothers and sisters.
On this occasion, one should promise
to share happiness and show right path
to others and believe in righteous acts.
Rakhis are tied on the right hand which
means one's actions must come from

right thoughts."

Sonam Didi informed that the Brahma
Kumari chief, Dadi Janki ji, will be
visiting Sikkim in Nov this year to inau-
gurate the upcoming Shanti Kund Cen-
tre in Development Area scheduled to
be held on 19 Nov.

She further added Brahma Kumaris
have their headquarters at Mount Abu
in Rajasthan and has its centres spread
over 147 countries across the globe.
Brahma Kumaris is a non-profit organ-
isation sustained by voluntary dona-
tions from the Brahma Kumari family
members, she added.

Similar Raksha Bandhan pro-
grammes will be conducted by the Brahma
Kumaris for different sections of the
society in the State, it was informed.

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Hating to Love?

Really, is Indian pride so fragile that an out of turn hug can hurt it?

So, Navjot Singh Sidhu, the former cricketer, one-time road-rage murder accused, TV reality show fixture and now Legislator from Punjab, finds himself in a soup. His "crime" - having hugged the Army Chief of Pakistan during his recent travel there for the swearing in as PM of another cricketer-turned-politician, Imran Khan. And why was that such a boo-boo? Well, because Pakistan supports terrorists with evil designs on India. And while that may be true, why should personal animosity be necessary when the establishments already hate each other so much? If the premiers of the two countries can shake hands and earn praise for it, why should hugging be sacrilege? After all, hugging is to a Punjabi what shaking hands is to the more reserved. But the issue has been dusted up as a national outrage. Must be the timing so close to I-Day, when the nationalism of the easily offended gets an uptick and when distractions are also necessary to divert attention from the more real worries and concern. Remember, it was almost to the day this time two years back when Ramya, an actress who is also a former Congress MP, was facing a private complaint in a Court in South India seeking action on sedition and other charges against her for "insulting" Indian patriots with her remark that "Pakistan is not hell".

There cannot be a better example than these two episodes to understand the problems of nationalism versus the confidence of patriotism. Schools and colleges across the country should take these episodes to debate what they want from the future citizens - compassionate souls or boorish clowns infected with blind faith, because in these instances, we have examples of both. It all started with some Union Minister referring to Pakistan as "hell". As expected, the right-wingers loved this pronouncement. There also appears to be a law in the land where inciting hatred against another country is also considered a bookable offence. No one appears to talk of that law though.

India and Pakistan have their issues, but these are issues which obsess the governments and leaders. That is not to say that these are not important issues or that they don't affect the citizens at all, but it is also a fact that as far as the people are concerned, Pakistan loves Bollywood and India loves Pakistani TV soaps. Agreed, a very simplistic analogy, but one which works fine to drive home the point that governments are not the same as people; regimes can be hellish and situations nightmarish, but an entire country or all its citizens are not.

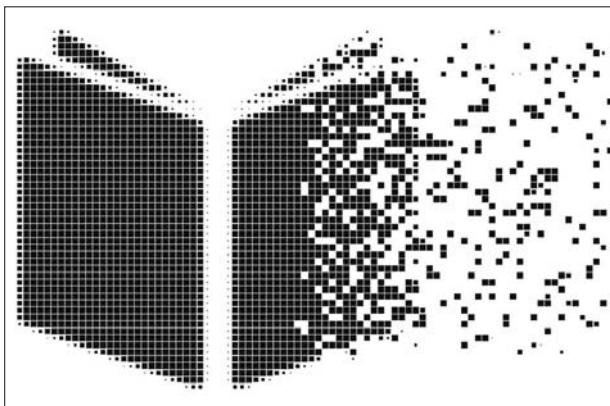
The real worry is the mindset which is gaining credence all over; a mindset which requires people to constantly run down everyone else all the time so that they can keep their chest puffed. Blind faith is embarrassing enough, but to demand it of everyone is dangerous, but that is increasingly what is being asked of Indians. These demands used to be made in the past as well, but under the current dispensation at the Centre, these come laced with a semblance of authority and are often also backed by the state machinery. The madness of gau-rakshak gangs and the naked aggression against Dalits, students and thinkers - basically everyone who does not worship at the altar of the warped interpretation of nationalism, all these instances stand proof of the fact that the lunatic fringe is on the verge of becoming the new normal.

If the people arrive at an informed choice that they want to become ultra-nationalists, there is nothing one can do. But if they are conned into mouthing nationalism when they would rather be patriots first, well, that would be wrong and needs to be challenged. It is hence important that because there is so much blurring of the lines between nationalism and patriotism, at least schools and colleges make the effort to allow the young to discuss the differences and decide for themselves which pigeonhole they want to lock themselves into. But then again, a generation which has given up its ability to think for itself (because they allow TV anchors to do it for them) cannot make out the difference between nationalism and patriotism, but the young should be encouraged to see the contrast, discover the nuances and make an informed choice.

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

Why it matters that teens are reading less



JEAN TWENGE
theconversation.com

Most of us spend much more time with digital media than we did a decade ago. But today's teens have come of age with smartphones in their pockets. Compared to teens a couple of decades ago, the way they interact with traditional media like books and movies is fundamentally different.

My co-authors and I analyzed nationally representative surveys of over one million U.S. teens collected since 1976 and discovered an almost seismic shift in how teens are spending their free time.

Increasingly, books seem to be gathering dust.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE SCREENS

By 2016, the average 12th grader said they spent a staggering six hours a day texting, on social media, and online during their free time. And that's just three activities; if other digital media activities were included, that estimate would surely rise.

Teens didn't always spend that much time with digital media. Online time has doubled since 2006, and social media use moved from a periodic activity to a daily one. By 2016, nearly nine out of 10 12th-grade girls said they visited social media sites every day.

Meanwhile, time spent playing video games rose from under an hour a day to an hour and a half on average. One out of 10 8th graders in 2016 spent 40 hours a week or more gaming - the time commitment of a full-time job.

With only so much time in the day, doesn't something have to give?

Maybe not. Many scholars have insisted that time online does not displace time spent engaging with traditional media. Some people are just more interested in media and entertainment, they point out, so more of one type of media doesn't necessarily mean less of the other. However, that doesn't tell us much about what happens across a whole cohort of people when time spent on digital media grows and grows. This is what large surveys conducted over the course of many years can tell us.

MOVIES AND BOOKS GO BY THE WAYSIDE

While 70 percent of 8th and 10th graders once went to the movies once a month or more, now only about half do. Going to the movies was equally popular from the late 1970s to the mid-2000s, suggesting that Blockbuster video and VCRs didn't kill going to the movies.

But after 2007 - when Netflix introduced its video streaming service - moviegoing began to lose its appeal. More and more, watching a movie became a solitary experience. This fits a larger pattern: In another analysis, we found that today's teens go out with their friends considerably less than previous generations did.

But the trends in moviegoing pale in comparison to the largest change we found: An enormous decline in reading. In 1980, 60 percent of 12th graders said they read a book, newspaper or magazine every day that wasn't assigned for school.

By 2016, only 16 percent did - a huge drop, even though the book, newspaper or magazine could be one read on a digital device (the survey question doesn't specify format).

The number of 12th graders who said they had not read any books for pleasure in the last year nearly tripled, landing at one out of three by 2016. For iGen - the generation born since 1995 who has spent their entire adolescence with smartphones - books, newspapers and magazines have less and

less of a presence in their daily lives.

Of course, teens are still reading. But they're reading short texts and Instagram captions, not longform articles that explore deep themes and require critical thinking and reflection. Perhaps as a result, SAT reading scores in 2016 were the lowest they have ever been since record keeping began in 1972.

It doesn't bode well for their transition to college, either. Imagine going from reading two-sentence captions to trying to read even five pages of an 800-page college textbook at one sitting. Reading and comprehending longer books and chapters takes practice, and teens aren't getting that practice.

There was a study from the Pew Research Center a few years ago finding that young people actually read more books than older people. But that included books for school and didn't control for age. When we look at pleasure reading across time, iGen is reading markedly less than previous generations.

THE WAY FORWARD

So should we wrest smartphones from iGen's hands and replace them with paper books?

Probably not: smartphones are teens' main form of social communication.

However, that doesn't mean they need to be on them constantly. Data connecting excessive digital media time to mental health issues suggests a limit of two hours a day of free time spent with screens, a restriction that will also allow time for other activities - like going to the movies with friends or reading.

Of the trends we found, the pronounced decline in reading is likely to have the biggest negative impact. Reading books and longer articles is one of the best ways to learn how to think critically, understand complex issues and separate fact from fiction. It's crucial for being an informed voter, an involved citizen, a successful college student and a productive employee.

If print starts to die, a lot will go with it.

[the writer is Professor of Psychology, San Diego State University]

Kofi Annan: a complicated legacy of impressive achievements, and some profound failures

DANNY BRADLOW
theconversation.com

Kofi Annan (80) was an important historical figure who played a critical role in many key events of the 1990s and 2000s. His death is therefore an opportunity to both celebrate his life and to begin honestly assessing his contributions to the world.

The Ghanaian diplomat's legacy is complicated. He served as both head of the United Nations peacekeeping and as Secretary General of the UN. His tenure in these high offices - from 1992 to 2006 - were marked by great human tragedies as well as episodes of progress. His role in these events raises difficult questions about individual responsibility and the role of international organisations and their leaders in creating a more peaceful and just world.

On the plus side, his contributions were impressive. He was an effective diplomat, a shrewd negotiator and an intelligent strategist. He was such a successful bureaucratic operator that he was the first UN employee to rise to the position of Secretary General.

When he took over the organisation it was facing numerous challenges. They included a tense and often hostile relationship with its most powerful member state, the US, a difficult budgetary situation and what appeared to be an inability to fulfil its core peacekeeping, human rights and development functions.

By the end of his term, things looked very different. Relations with key member countries had been restored, the UN had a sound fiscal position and both he and the organisation had won the Nobel Peace Prize.

In addition, the organisation had launched some important new initiatives. It had adopted the Millennium Development Goals, which contributed to significant gains in health, education and human welfare in many countries around the world. The initiative was so successful that it was succeeded by the even more ambitious Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, the international community had established the International Criminal Court and had

begun prosecuting war criminals for their deeds in the wars in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

He had also initiated the process of getting corporations to recognise and accept their responsibility for the environmental, social and human rights consequences of their activities. This process moved slowly. But his efforts ultimately led to the UN Human Rights Council unanimously endorsing the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in 2011. These have now been incorporated into the human rights policies of many companies and have led to a number of countries adopting national action plans on the human rights responsibilities of business.

After he left the UN, Annan continued to do good work with both the Elders, a group of global leaders working for peace and human rights, and his own foundation. In these capacities he had some notable achievements. He helped resolve the post-election violence in Kenya, helped ensure peaceful elections in Nigeria and a number of other countries, and helped promote more productive and sustainable agriculture and good governance across Africa. He also tried, albeit unsuccessfully, to end the civil war in Syria and the campaign against the Rohingyas in Myanmar.

But there's also a darker side to Annan's record.

THE TRAGEDIES

Annan was the head of UN Peacekeeping operations in the 1990s when two of the biggest failures in UN history happened. Under his watch both the Rwandan genocide and the massacres in Srebrenica took place.

In both cases his commanders on the ground requested authority to take stronger action to limit the risk of tragedy to those under their protection. In both cases he declined their request - with tragic results.

In addition, under his leadership UN peacekeepers in a range of countries, including Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo, were found to be sexually exploiting those they were charged to protect. The UN failed to respond promptly to these actions and they continued into the 2000s.

In most organisations, a leader who is responsible for such profound failures would be held accountable. If not fired, or forced to resign, they would at the very least be moved to a position of lesser authority. But this didn't happen because the UN has poor mechanisms and a weak culture of accountability. In fact, the UN and its member states, decided to promote Annan, selecting him to replace the first African Secretary General, Boutros Boutros Ghali, who was deemed to be too independent minded by the US.

Annan continued relying on the

UN's lack of accountability once he was in office. His son was implicated in the infamously corrupt food-for-oil programme that was initiated to help the Iraqi population during the period of sanctions against Saddam Hussein.

Eventually, under pressure, he appointed the independent Volcker Commission to investigate the programme. It concluded that, although Annan himself was not guilty of any wrong doing, his actions in response to the abuses were inadequate, including that he had failed to refer the matter to the UN's independent watchdog agency.

He also tolerated sexual harassment within the UN Secretariat, protecting the former head of the UN refugee agency when he was accused of sexual harassment, penalising his accuser and then relying on the UN's legal immunity to avoid having to respond to her efforts to seek justice. The adverse publicity eventually forced the guilty official to resign.

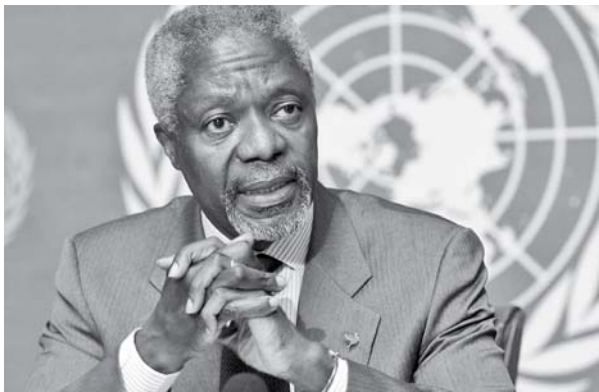
LESSONS TO BE DRAWN

There is no doubt that running a complex international institution like the UN is difficult and requires leaders who are willing to compromise. Given the Secretary General's weak position, it may also be inevitable that its leaders will have to turn a blind eye to some acts and omissions that have tragic and possibly evil consequences in order to advance higher priorities.

Annan showed throughout his career that he was a master at playing this game. As a result, his record includes both some impressive achievements and some profound failures. It will be up to history to decide if he made the right choices and struck the correct balance between doing good and tolerating evil.

In the meanwhile, we should all draw lessons from the life of this important historical figure about the importance of holding leaders and the institutions that govern our world accountable for their actions and decisions.

[the writer is SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria]



Brus cancel protest rally

AIZAWL, AUG 22 (PTI): Bru people lodged in relief camps in Tripura today cancelled their proposed protest rally in Mizoram's Mamit district as the administration did not give them permission to hold the rally, police said.

The inmates of the relief camps in North Tripura district, under the aegis of a newly-formed Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Coordination Committee (MBDPCC) had asked for permission for holding a rally between Kanhmun an Zawnuam villages, but the permission was not given by the Mamit district administration, police said.

The permission for the rally was not granted as district administration apprehend that the rally may heighten communal tension, officials said.

The MBDPCC, a breakaway group of the Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF) is opposed to the agreement of July 3 in which the Centre, Mizoram and Tripura governments and MBDPF were signatories.

The agreement stated that all the Bru refugees were to be repatriated before September 30.

The agreement stipulated that Rs four lakh for each repatriated Bru family would be deposited in the bank account of the head of the family which would mature after three years and payment of Rs 1.5 lakh as housing assistance.

Each repatriated Bru family would be given Rs 5,000 through Direct Benefit Transfer every month and a free ration for two years.

Thousands of Brus are lodged in the Tripura relief camps since late 1997 in the wake of a communal tension triggered by the brutal murder of Lalzawmliana, a forest guard inside the Dampa Tiger Reserve on October 21, 1997 by Bru National Liberation Front (BNLF) militants.

Seven labourers injured as under construction bridge collapses

IMPHAL, AUG 22 (PTI): Seven labourers were injured when an under construction bailey bridge collapsed in Manipur's Jiribam district today, police said.

The bailey bridge was being constructed over Gorkhale river to connect Borberkra village to Jatarpur. At around 8 am this morning the bridge collapsed injuring seven labourers, they said.

The injured labourers were rushed to Borbekra health centre from where they were referred to a hospital in Silchar in neighbouring Assam, the police said.

District officials said the 160 feet long bailey bridge was being constructed by a private contractor and the project was being funded by the Rural Development Ministry under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

NASA tracks monsoon rains behind Kerala floods

WASHINGTON, AUG 22 (PTI): NASA has released a video created using satellite data that provides an estimate of the intense rainfall over India in the past week and shows the spread of the resulting severe flooding in Kerala and parts of Karnataka.

The summer monsoon is a regular feature this time of year in India, and it can bring heavy rains to the region. However, periodically areas of low pressure can form within the general monsoon trough and bring even more rain.

Kerala is facing its worst floods in nearly a century that has left at least 231 people dead, and forced 3.14 lakh people out of their homes. The Centre has declared this calamity of 'severe nature'. Rainfall accumulations from August 13 to 20 showed two bands of heavy rain across India, NASA said in a statement.

The first band appeared



much broader and extends across the northern part of the peninsula with weekly rainfall totals ranging from over 5 inches towards the western half of the peninsula to as much as 14 inches over parts of the eastern half towards the Bay of Bengal. The first band

is associated with the general monsoon circulation.

The second band appeared more concentrated and intense and is closely aligned with the southwest coast of India and the Western Ghats where onshore flow was enhanced by an area of low pressure embedded within the general monsoon.

Weekly rainfall totals in this band are generally over 10 inches with embedded areas exceeding 16 inches. The maximum estimated value from the data in this band was 18.5 inches, NASA said.

Although the extreme Himalayan topography is much more well-known, another contributing factor to the heavy rains along the southwest coast of India is the Western Ghats, it said.

Though much smaller than the Himalayas, this mountain range runs parallel to the West Coast of India with many

peaks over 2,000 metres.

As a result, the Western Ghats are well positioned to enhance rainfall along the West Coast of India as they intercept the moisture laden air being drawn in off the warm waters of the northern Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea as part of the southwest monsoon circulation.

The Integrated Multi-satellite Retrievals for GPM (IMERG) is used to estimate precipitation from a combination of passive microwave sensors, including microwave sensor and infrared data.

The data is generated every half an hour, thereby allowing scientists to track rainfall across the globe almost in real time.

GPM is the Global Precipitation Measurement mission core satellite. GPM is a joint mission between NASA and the Japan Aerospace Agency, JAXA.



Nepal forms panel to discuss energy cooperation with China

KATHMANDU, AUG 22 (PTI): The Nepal government has formed a committee to hold talks with China to implement a key bilateral agreement on energy co-operation, which could potentially end the land-locked nation's decades-long dependency on India for its power needs.

Nepal and China had signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Energy Cooperation during the visit of Nepali Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli to Beijing in June.

Nepal, which used to import its entire energy needs from India, turned to China in 2015, after facing crippling oil supply shortages following the economic blockade at the Indo-Nepal border by agitating ethnic Madhesis.

The Madhesis, who are Indian-origin inhabitants of the Terai region bordering India, alleged that Nepal's new constitution promulgated by the then government did not give them sufficient political representation.

At the height of the economic block-

ade, which triggered a wave of anti-India sentiments in the country, Nepal began strengthening ties with China, courting infrastructure investments and signing deals on energy.

To implement the MoU with China, Energy Secretary Anup Kumar Upadhyay has been appointed as the co-chair of the seven-member committee. The panel includes representatives from Nepal Electricity Authority and the Energy Ministry as its members, officials said.

The committee meeting, which will be held in Kathmandu on September 27 and 28, will deliberate on energy cooperation and progress on investment exchange in the sector, they said.

The committee will prepare the ground for creating a conducive environment to promote investment in the energy development from both government and private sectors.

Nepal had signed a similar energy cooperation agreement with Bangladesh also earlier this month.

Stalemate continues in Bengali serial industry

KOLKATA, AUG 22 (PTI): The stand-off between artistes and producers of Bengali TV serials remained unresolved for the fifth day today, with no shooting taking place in any of the eight studios of the city.

The producers' association said it was ready for talks with no pre-condition, while the artistes body maintained that dialogue would start only after getting a formal letter from the other side.

Following a call by the Artists' Forum demanding regularisation of their payment, the actors were on a cease-work from August 18.

A spokesman of the Welfare Association of Television Producers (WATP) said the producers were ready for talks with the Forum but there should not be any pre-condition.

Forum General Secretary Arindam Ganguly maintained that talks with the WATP can take place only after getting a formal letter from the producers inviting it for dialogue.

Ganguly said the Forum wanted that all artistes should get their dues as decided in a meeting between the Federation of Cine Technicians and Workers of East India and the producers on July 7 and they should not be forced to work for more than 14 hours.

The WATP spokesman said the 14-hour stipulation may not be feasible during outdoor shoots, as it takes time to make all arrangements before a shoot. But still they were ready for talks on every issue without any pre-conditions with the Forum which had "unilaterally called the cease-work from August 18", he said.

Ganguly, on the other hand, said the actors had turned up at studios and were ready to begin shoots on August 18, but the WATP showed no urgency in addressing their wage problem.

The Forum demands that payment of salaries of every artiste be paid within the 15th of the next month and hourly basis of payment if the shooting schedule of an artiste exceeds 10 hours.

It said this arrangement has been agreed upon in the July 8 meeting between the Federation of Cine Technicians and Workers of East India, the Forum and the producers.

The WATP, however, said the July 8 meeting did not pass any resolution about arrangement of payment and only recorded the minutes.

Ganguly said many producers paid the wage of the artistes in the given time, but many did not and the Forum took up the agitation in the interest of every artiste.

Croc nesting season comes to end at Bhitarkanika Park

KENDRAPARA (ODISHA), AUG 22 (PTI): Altogether 36 estuarine crocodile babies have emerged from the artificially hatched eggs at Bhitarkanika National Park, marking the culmination of this year's nesting season for the reptile, a senior forest official said.

The hatchlings will be released in a "captive pond" in the park and reared till they grow up to one metre, he said.

"Of the forty eggs collected from the wild for artificial nesting, 36 have hatched. The sight of baby crocodiles breaking out of eggshells and crawling aimlessly around the breeding centre was a visual treat," Divisional Forest Officer, Rajnagar Mangrove (wildlife) Division, Bimal

Prasanna Acharya, said.

Earlier this month, naturally bred crocodile fledglings had broken out of their eggshells to make their way to water bodies in and around the park, he said.

"The emergence of baby crocs from the nests, both in captivity and in the wild, marks the culmination of the annual breeding season of these reptiles," Acharya stated.

Usually, it takes three

years for a baby to grow up to one metre, the DFO said.

"The baby crocodiles are not immediately released in the wild as there is possibility of predators devouring them.

The mortality rate of croc hatchlings is exceedingly high. Out of five hundred baby crocodiles, only one reaches adulthood," he claimed.

The forest officials had kept the national park closed from May 1 to July 31 owing to the

nesting period of the reptiles.

Funded by the United National Development Programme and Food and Agriculture Organisation, the rear and release programme of crocodiles has been going on here since 1975, Acharya said.

The number of crocodiles at Bhitarkanika has increased from 96 in 1974 to 1,698 this year, he said.

"Adequate conservation measures by the state forest department have led to a systematic rise in the number of these reptiles over the years," the DFO added.

Bhitarkanika is also home to a 23-foot-long salt-water crocodile, which figured in the Guinness Book of World Records in 2006 as the largest crocodile in the world.



SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

informed, inquisitive, relevant

All 8,000 candidates fail exam for accountant's posts in Goa

PANAJI, AUG 22 (PTI): As many as 8,000 candidates appeared for an examination conducted for 80 posts of accountant in the Goa government, but all failed the test.

The candidates, all graduates, needed to secure a minimum of 50 marks out of the total 100 to qualify but none got it, a senior official said on condition of anonymity.

Goa's director of accounts, in a notification issued yesterday, said none of the candidates, who appeared for the initial recruitment examination held on January 7 this year, secured the minimum qualifying marks required to get through.

The directorate of accounts had advertised 80 posts of accountant in the common account cadre in October last year.

The five-hour examination included a 100 marks paper on English, general knowledge and accounts-related questions, the official said.

The successful candidates were supposed to go through a round of oral interview before the final selection.

Aam Aadmi Party's Goa general secretary Pradeep Padgaonkar criticised the delay in announcement of results and said the failing of all 8,000 candidates is a sad commentary on the "collapse" of the state's education system.

It is a "big shame" on the Goa University and the commerce colleges that produce these graduates, he added.

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Rahi becomes first Indian woman to shoot Asiad gold

PALEMBANG, AUG 22 (PTI): Rahi Sarnobat today became the first Indian female shooter to win a gold at the Asian Games, achieving the rare feat after a nerve-wracking 25m air pistol finals here today.

The 27-year-old held her nerve to pip Thailand's Naphaswan Yangpaiboon in a heart-stopping contest after both were tied at 34 points following 10 series of five shots each, taking it to a shoot-off.

Both found the target four times in the shoot-off, leading to another shoot-off where Rahi shot three and the Thai two, ensuring a historic gold for the Kohlapur-born shooter.

The bronze went to South Korea's Kim Minjung.

Rahi was in the lead for the major part of the final and her first 10 shots were on tar-



get. She got a five out five even in the sixth series.

With her stellar effort, Rahi became the second gold medallist from the Indian

shooting contingent after 16-year-old Saurabh Chaudhary had shot a gold in the 10m pistol finals yesterday.

She is also the sixth Indian

to shoot a gold at the Games, joining Chaudhary, Jaspal Rana, Randhir Singh, Jitu Rai and Ronjan Sodhi. Her 34 in the finals also ended up as a

joint Games Record.

The talented Manu Bhaker cracked under pressure to finish sixth in the finals. The 16-year-old had a remarkable morning as she had shot 593 to equal the Games qualification record. Rahi had sneaked into the finals in seventh place, shooting 580.

Rahi, who had become India's first pistol shooter to win a gold in World Cup back in 2013, had suffered a serious elbow injury last year. Realising that she needed a tweak in her technique, Rahi roped in Munkhbayar Dorjsuren, a two-time world champion and Olympic medalist from Germany.

"I had to change her technique and I also worked on her a lot on the mental aspect of the game. She was already a high-level shooter and need-

ed some tweak in her game. It was a close final but I had prepared her for the shoot-off," Dorjsuren, who moved to Germany from Mongolia, told PTI.

The Mongolian-German coach also knows the legendary Gabriele Buhlmann well. Buhlmann had coached Abhinav Bindra to India's only individual Olympic gold in 2008.

Rahi is a double gold medallist at the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games and had a bronze in the 25m pistol pairs event at the 2014 Incheon Asian Games.

In the women's Rifle 3 Positions event, Anjum Moudgil and Gayathri Nithyanandam failed to qualify for the final. Moudgil had a great start to the qualification but flopped in the standing series to bow out of the competition.

Dipa pulls out of artistic team finals as knee injury flares up

JAKARTA, AUG 22 (PTI): Star Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar today pulled out of the artistic team finals of the ongoing Asian Games here after a career-threatening knee injury flared up again.

"...there was risk of a dangerous injury, so she could not be her best. We will give her rest from the team event but she will definitely do well in (balancing) beam finals," Dipa's coach Bisweswar Nandi told PTI. Asked if competing in beam finals will affect the knee adversely, Nandi said, "No, the landing is not hard on balancing beam."

A sobbing Dipa blamed it on a jerk felt during the 'podium practice' and insisted she will strive to make up for the lost opportunity by shining in the balancing beam finals.



Dipa, who attained global fame attempting the death-defying 'Produnova' vault at a stage no less than Olympics for a fourth-place finish in 2016, could not even qualify for her pet event here.

"I felt jerk during podium training. I could not do my best. I had trained hard for this," Dipa said.

After the high of Rio, Dipa remained out of action due to a knee injury and had made a comeback only recently at the

World Challenge Cup in Mersin Turkey, where she won a gold in vault.

It was her first event after undergoing an Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) surgery in Mumbai, last year when she was forced to skip the Commonwealth Games too.

Nandi said Dipa was inconsolable after failing to qualify here.

"She said, vault is my identity, what will people say? I told her that it was not her fault but she was very upset. She did not have dinner last night and now she is refusing to breakfast too," Nandi said.

Explaining how the injury flared up, Nandi said, "On Mon-

day she started feeling a jerk in her knee while landing. The surface here is hard and the one in Delhi was soft (foam) which would absorb the jerk.

"We consulted the IOA doctor here and he advised that she should not push, otherwise it will aggravate."

Despite the heartbreak, Dipa can take solace from the fact that she is the first Indian gymnast to qualify for beam finals at the Asian Games.

Nandi said she will consult Dr Anant Joshi, who is conducted her ACL surgery, after returning to India but he is confident that Dipa will make a comeback soon.

"It's a jerk and a two-week rest would be enough. We just did not want to aggravate the injury, so speed had to be compromised. She will be back and soon."



Ankita Raina assures India of another medal

PALEMBANG, AUG 22 (PTI): Anikta Raina today confirmed just the third singles medal in women's tennis for India at the Asian Games as she reached the semifinals after being 1-4 down at one stage.

India's top-ranked women's singles player, Anikta breezed past Eudice Chong 6-4 6-1 of Hong Kong in their quarterfinal match.

She won the first set in 54 minutes and took only 27 minutes to claim the second set.

Raina came back from behind to take the first set 6-4 against Chong of Hong Kong. Raina was trailing 0-3 and 1-4 at the beginning of the match before staging a comeback.

Raina thus assured herself of at least a bronze medal.

After Bindra, another German hand produces a champion in Rahi Sarnobat

PALEMBANG, AUG 22 (PTI): There is something about Germans and historic moments in Indian shooting.

It was a German, the legendary Gaby Buhlmann, at the helm when Abhinav Bindra became India's first and till now the only individual Olympic gold medallist back in 2008.

Ten years later, another German hand, Munkhbayar Dorjsuren, played a pivotal role as Rahi Sarnobat became the first Indian woman shooter to win a gold at the Asian Games today.

Rahi fell just short of saying that today's performance would not have been possible if it was not for Dorjsuren, former Olympic medallist, world champion.

Dorsjuren is originally a Mongolian who moved to Germany and claimed an Olympic bronze for the country back in 2008, the same year Bindra scripted history for Indian shooting.

"It is like a mother-daughter relationship. Her daughter is nearly my age. We have been together for almost a year," said Rahi, who rushed to hug Dorsjuren after winning a



tense shoot-out in the final. The coach kissed her in return.

Dorsjuren has instilled a champion mindset in Rahi and it was on full display with the Pune-resident not giving up till the final shot.

"She has achieved a lot so her attitude towards competition and performance is really different and that matters a lot. More than the technical things, these things matter," said

the 27-year-old who is a deputy collector in Maharashtra.

Rahi had not won a major medal since the Commonwealth Games gold in 2014. An elbow injury which she picked up even before Glasgow set her back for the next two years.

After taking a seven-month break in 2016, she had to try something different. In came Dorsjuren but she came at a huge price.

"I came to know that she retired

after 25 years of her career. We had one trial training camp in July last year. After that I decided to hire her as personal coach. Of course she is expensive and I can't afford her with the salary I get.

"I have been getting support from OGC but that is also not enough. So I have been using the cash awards I got after winning in Glasgow," said the soft-spoken shooter, who hopes to be in the central government's Target Olympic Podium Scheme after today.

Dorsjuren too acknowledged that Rahi needed to be mentally stronger.

"I had to change her technique and I also worked a lot on the mental aspect of her game. She was already a high-level shooter and needed some tweak in her game. It was a close final but I had prepared her for the shoot-off," the 49-year-old said.

Rahi was taken aback when she was told that she had become the first female from India to win a shooting gold at Asian Games. But this medal was extremely important for her, having also undergone a lap-

aroscopic surgery earlier this year.

"This was important for me to open my mind. It has taken me to the time I was winning medals," said the Kohlapur-born who is now eyeing an Olympic quota place in the upcoming World Championships.

Rahi is an avid reader who never gets excited. Even what she did today did not excite her much.

"Shooting is life for me." What does she do in her free time? "Shooting only," she said with a hearty laugh. And when she is not shooting, she is reading.

"I have got four books kept in my room at the Games Village. I am currently reading S L Bhyrappa. He is a Kannada writer but I am reading the Marathi translated version. It is about human relations and philosophy. I have three days free so I am going to back to my room and finish it," said Rahi.

Next stop is the Worlds in Changwon in South Korea, the place where she won her only World Cup gold, back in 2013.

"I hope Changwon is lucky for me again," Rahi added.

Brilliant India pull back with 203-run win in 3rd Test



CHETAN NARULA

NOTTINGHAM, AUG 22 (PTI): India's cornered cricketers produced a fantastic collective performance to outclass England by 203 runs in the third Test to keep the five-match series alive, here today.

Needing only a wicket on the final morning, India completed the formalities in only 2.5 overs as England were all out for 317, well short of the mammoth victory target of 521 runs.

India now trail England 1-2 but more importantly got some breathing space after a heart-breaking defeat in Edgbaston, followed by the debacle at the Lord's.

The final wicket was taken by Ravichandran Ashwin, who dismissed James Anderson (11), caught by Ajinkya Rahane.

The heartening aspect was the kind of domination shown by the Indian team in what can easily be termed as a complete performance under Virat Kohli's captaincy outside the sub-continent.

While openers KL Rahul and Shikhar Dhawan were solid if not spectacular, the

new ball bowlers Ishant Sharma (2/32 and 2/70) and Mohammed Shami (1/56 and 1/78) were relentless in their attack.

Vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane (81 in first innings) and Test specialist Cheteshwar Pujara (72 in second innings) also put their hands up when it mattered the most.

Hardik Pandya (five-for and half-century) produced an all-round performance with wickets and runs to justify his place and make a statement to the sceptics.

The slip catching improved by leaps and bounds with Rahul taking seven catches.

Rishabh Pant showed why he is considered a minefield of talent during his eventful stay at the crease.

Pant might still be a work in progress as far as glove-work is concerned but five catches in the first innings showed that it won't be easy for the first choice Test keeper Wriddhiman Saha to just walk back into the team once he gets fit.

Last but not the least was skipper himself. Easily the best batsmen across both

sides, Kohli has now taken his tally of runs to 440 after knocks of 97 and 103 in the third Test.

Call it a coincidence, Kohli has accumulated exactly 200 runs in the first and third Test matches.

With two hundreds and two half-centuries, Kohli has made sure that there are no debates on who is the best batsmen in world cricket currently. He has now scored hundreds in Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and England.

The Indian captain's ability to cut down on his scoring shots, showing patience when Jimmy Anderson was on fire was hallmark of his greatness.

Such has been his domination that the second-highest scorer across both the teams is Jonny Bairstow (206 runs) while Jos Buttler, after his maiden Test hundred, is placed third with 170 runs.

From India, Pandya with 160 runs, is the second best but it has a lot to do with the batting debacles in the first two Test matches.

Temple school in Pak where Muslim woman teaches Hindu students

KARACHI, AUG 22 (PTI): Inside a Hindu temple in a shanty area in Pakistan’s Karachi city, Anum Agha wearing the traditional Muslim Hijab greets her students with ‘salaam’ and gets a loud ‘Jai Shri Ram’ in response.

Anum runs a school inside the temple in the Basti Guru area of the southern port city. The school is situated in the middle of an informal Hindu settlement which is facing constant threats from land grabbers.

But Anum is determined to impart knowledge about education, health and basic rights to the children of the minority community.

In the settlement, 80 to 90 Hindu families live in a close cluster of wooden huts and some semi-constructed houses.

One can see Anum holding discussions with children of the settlement after her classes are over.

“Everyone is surprised when I tell them about our school inside this temple but we had no other place to hold



our classes when I first started coming here last year,” she told PTI.

The classes are conducted in the main area of the temple. The walls of the temple are plastered with posters of Hindu deities and statues of

Hindu Gods placed up on a higher perch.

The lack of basic facilities is noticeable as one moves around the settlement located in Rehman Colony near Mahmoodabad but for land grabbers, it is not an ordinary

piece of land.

“There have been at least two incidents in the last four years when some huts were set on fire and the Hindu families were threatened and told to get out of the area,” Shiva Dharni, a community

leader, said.

Recently authorities also cut electricity and water connections to the Basti, which was set up in the 60s when the Hindu families migrated from Ghotki in interior Sindh to Karachi.

The area witnessed tensions a few years ago when a Muslim resident apparently started propagating an idea that a mosque should be constructed over the land.

“These land grabbers try to persuade the Muslim clerics that having a settlement of lower caste Hindu in the center of a proper Muslim neighbourhood is unacceptable,” Arif Habib, who heads the non-governmental Initiator Human Development Foundation which has brought Anum to run the school in the temple, said.

“These are vulnerable communities and they are under threat from non-state actors, I mean land grabbers who want them to evacuate the plot where this settlement is located,” he said.

Anum reluctantly admits that some of the Muslim residents living around the settlement don’t like her involvement with the scheduled caste Hindu families and her holding classes.

“But I do it because these people are not even aware of

their basic rights. Their children want to gain knowledge and education. Some of them attended other schools in the area but faced social and religious issues,” Anum said.

She said that the Hindu elders were very happy that their children, specially the girls, don’t have to leave the settlement for education.

Asked whether she has faced difficulties as a Muslim teacher, Anum said she did face challenges.

“But I never talk about religion and avoid hurting their sensitivities. I try to keep them focused on different subjects and religion is not one of them,” she said.

“I respect them as human beings and they respect me back. That is how we work. We celebrate religious festivals together. I say salaam to them and they respond with Jai Shri Ram.”

She feels the school can serve as an example of how different communities can co-exist peacefully in the Muslim majority nation while respecting each other.

Rohingya refugees celebrate holiday amid memories of home

KUTUPALONG, AUG 22 (AP): Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees living in sprawling camps in Bangladesh are celebrating the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, praying for better lives as they wonder if they’ll ever again celebrate at their homes in Myanmar.

People streamed into makeshift mosques in the camps, the children dressed in new clothing. Those who could afford it feasted on buffalo meat.

Muslims often slaughter sheep, cattle or goats on Eid Al-Adha, and distribute some of the meat



to the poor.

More than 700,000 Rohingya poured into Bangladesh last year, fleeing a brutal crack-

down in Buddhist-dominated Myanmar, where the Muslim Rohingya have long faced discrimination.

Challenge narrative of hatred, division by caring for victims of terrorism: UN chief

UNITED NATIONS, AUG 22 (PTI): UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has called for global support for the victims of terrorism and their families, stressing that it is a “moral imperative” to protect their rights and amplifying their voices will help to challenge the narrative of hatred that terrorism aims to spread.

Recognising the impact of terrorism on the lives of ordinary people worldwide was the focus yesterday to mark the first International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution last December and proclaimed August 21 as the annual day to honour and support victims and survivors of terrorism.

“Supporting victims and their families is a moral imperative, based on promot-

ing, protecting and respecting their human rights,” the UN chief said yesterday .

“Caring for victims and survivors and amplifying their voices helps to challenge the narrative of hatred and division that terrorism aims to spread. We need to provide victims with long-term assistance, including financial, legal, medical and psychosocial support.”

Terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to international peace and security, and Guterres pointed out that the UN, too, is regularly targeted.

He recalled that this week marked the 15th anniversary of the bombing of the organisation’s compound in Baghdad in which 22 people were killed, while some peacekeeping operations are under constant threat.

Although more countries are being

affected by terrorism, the UN said most victims can be found in just a handful, namely Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia and Syria.

“But after terrorist attacks, we rarely hear about those who were killed and injured; the ordinary women, men, girls and boys, who were going about their daily business when their lives ended or were changed forever,” Guterres said.

“We rarely hear about their surviving families, friends and communities, who must learn to live with the burden of terrorism for their entire lives.”

The UN chief said the international day therefore serves as a reminder “to stop and listen to the victims and survivors of terrorism, to raise up their voices and recognise the impact terrorism has on their lives.”

Residents prepare as hurricane near Hawaii strengthens

HONOLULU, AUG 22 (AP): Hawaii residents rushed to grocery stores to stock up on bottled water, ramen and toilet paper as they faced the threat of heavy rain, flash flooding and high surf from a powerful and erratic hurricane expected to churn close to the islands or directly over them.

On Tuesday night, the National Weather Service announced that Hurricane Lane had strengthened to become a Category 5 hurricane, which means that it is likely to cause catastrophic damage with winds 157 mph or above. The hurricane is about 804 kilometers southeast of Honolulu.

The weather service says that in a Category 5 hurricane, a high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed.

Roofs and walls will collapse, and the winds will knock down trees and power pole. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months, and most of an area hit by a Category 5 hurricane will be uninhabitable for weeks or months, the weather service added.

Earlier Tuesday, the weather service issued a hurricane warning for Hawaii island. A hurricane watch was issued for Maui and other smaller islands, meaning tropical storm-force winds, excessive rain and large swells could arrive starting Wednesday.

It’s possible Oahu and Kauai may later be included in a weather service advisory for the hurricane.

Hurricane Lane “is forecast to move dangerously close to the main Hawaiian islands as a hurricane later this week, potentially bringing damaging winds and



life-threatening flash flooding from heavy rainfall,” the weather service’s Central Pacific Hurricane Center warned as it got closer to the state.

The storm had been moving west but is expected to turn northwest toward the state today. There’s some uncertainty to Lane’s path whether it moves north or south, meteorologist Gavin Shigesato said.

“It is much too early to confidently determine which, if any, of the main Hawaiian islands will be directly impacted by Lane,” the weather service said.

But the hurricane center said the storm will move very close to or over the islands from Thursday through Saturday. Even if the center of Lane doesn’t make landfall, the islands could be walloped with rain and wind.

Maui County and Big Island schools will be closed starting Wednesday, the state Department of Education said. All after-school activities statewide are canceled for the rest of the week.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige is allowing non-essential state employees on the Big Island and Maui to go on administrative leave from Wednesday to Friday as Hurricane Lane approaches. Employees on Hawaii and Maui islands who work in disaster response as well as in hospitals and prisons are required

to report to their jobs, the governor said.

The east side of the Big Island has taken the brunt from previous storms and is still reeling after lava from an erupting volcano wiped out entire neighborhoods. But early indications showed that the south end of the island up to the western side would be taking the brunt of the storm.

“At this time, it looks like maybe Puna will be spared,” county Managing Director Wil Okabe said of the beleaguered, rural district. “But you never know.” Officials were urging residents across the islands to prepare.

“People are getting ready, which is exactly what we want,” Maui County spokesman Rod Antone said. “I know people are taking trips to Costco, buying ramen, rice, the usual. Toilet paper.” He reminded people to have emergency kits ready and to “withdraw cash.

Remember, if the power goes out, ATMs aren’t going to be working.” Hawaiian Airlines is waiving change fees for tickets to, from, within and through Hawaii from Tuesday to Sunday.

Some customers were buying cases of bottled water at Island Grocery Depot in Kahului, Maui, manager Brian Arakaki said. He planned to call in more workers to cope with an expected afternoon rush.

On the south side of the Big Island, workers at Mizuno Superette in Pahala also were bracing for a busy afternoon.

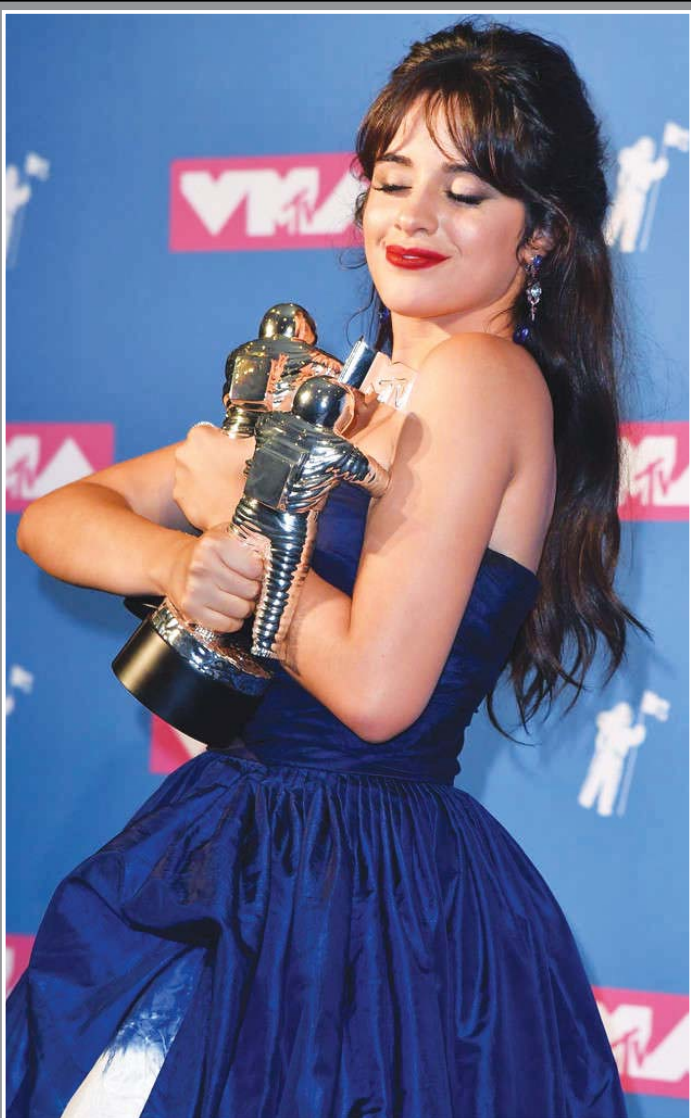
“Right now, it’s nice, everybody’s calm,” said Carla Andrade, a store clerk. “When everybody finishes work, they’ll have time.

Eight essays put the spotlight on the journey coursed by hydel projects in Sikkim and the region, the cost exacted by this “development” and some of the stories it birthed, not all of which have been shared before.

Also finding place in this collection is the arrival of Climate Change and its impact on Sikkim and how the State could negotiate with this new disruption.

ESSAYS ON TEESTA, HYDEL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN SIKKIM

LOKTA BOOKS
Darjeeling - Sikkim
loktabooks@gmail.com
+91 9891 080 0280, +91 989 280 0763



MOON MAN DAZE! The “Havana” singer, Camila Cabello, embraces her awards in the 2018 MTV Video Music Awards Press Room in NYC.

NATALIE PORTMAN TO DIRECT, STAR IN DEAR ABBY-ANN LANDERS BIOPIC



LOS ANGELES, AUG 22 (PTI): Actor Natalie Portman is all set to star and direct a drama based on the real-life competing advice columnist sisters, Esther and Pauline Friedman.

Van Buren and Ann Landers, for their respective columns that used to feature in many newspapers across North America. Portman, 37, will play both the sisters in the film with Katie Robbins penning the script, reported Variety.

Producers are Peter Saraf and Dani Melia of Big Beach Films. The actor, who made her directorial debut with 2015 Israeli drama ‘A Tale of Love and Darkness’, will be next of Love and Darkness’ ‘Vox Lux’ and seen in music drama ‘The Death and Life of John F. Donovan’.

ARIES: Take hold of this day as if it's your own and use it to grow your dreams, Aries. You'll find a great deal of power and dynamism in the air urging you to take the adventurous route. There's no need to hold back. The door is open and waiting for you to take the leap of faith to the other side. Don't even worry about consequences now. Your good luck will pull you safely through.

TAURUS: There's a fiery tone to the day that can't be ignored, Taurus. You may find that adjustments need to be made in your own plan of attack in order to get on the same page with other people. Don't worry if things don't go according to your plans. In fact, the best route to take is the one that wasn't even planned. Do something that you've never done before.

GEMINI: There's an extra spark in your eye that people won't be able to ignore. Today's a good day to get your point across, because you'll find people more open and receptive to new things than usual. Speak with confidence and you'll go far. It's important for you to say what you feel. If you don't, others will find reasons to walk all over you.

CANCER: Take yourself on a mental adventure today in which you explore new aspects of your world. Discuss philosophy and religion. Get to the core of a matter that seriously interests you. Now is a good time to consider taking classes or engaging in some form of higher learning. Your emotions come from a point of great power and you should use this energy wisely.

LEO: Today is your day, Leo, so live it up! If it seems like things have been rather intense lately, don't worry, they're apt to lighten up quite a bit today. Feel free to be your usual jolly self, the one who adds humor to the group. Your laughter will be appreciated. Come into the forefront. Bring things up to your level and you'll find that others willingly join you there.

VIRGO: Be careful that you aren't acting in a way that you dislike in others, Virgo. You could find that you're slowly taking on the traits of the people you despise. Lighten up a bit and put a smile on your face. If you continue to see the negative side of everything, it's likely that other people will only see the negative side of you.

LIBRA: The day's general mood should fit quite well with your agenda,

Libra. There's no need to fixate on the negative. Keep things light and upbeat and worry about the consequences later. This is the time to be adventurous and explore. Don't let anyone else tell you how to run your show. You have a strong will and strong opinions, so don't be afraid to express either.

SCORPIO: You may need a translator to get through to people today, Scorpio. It could be hard to make decisions, but not impossible. Today's tip is to err on the side of adventure. Trust that good luck will pull you through if you take risks. You may feel unappreciated. Ask for help when you need it, but don't rely on others to heal you. Most of this work needs to come from within.

SAGITTARIUS: Use your power resources today, Sagittarius, as you

have a great deal of dynamic energy at your disposal. You have the ability to transform and conquer anything now. Note that your spirit of adventure is apt to be more acute than normal, and you may be feeling quite anxious to get things rolling in a new direction. Don't hold back. Now is the time to do things full force.

CAPRICORN: You could be asked to make some spontaneous decisions today that you might not feel entirely comfortable making, Capricorn. You could feel you don't have enough facts to make an educated decision about what to do next. Realize that sometimes it's necessary to bite the bullet and make the best choice based on the knowledge you have. Be adventurous and trust your judgment.

AQUARIUS: Emotionally, you may

feel as if you're running up against a brick wall, Aquarius. It could be that your first reaction is to drown your sorrows in drink. Escapism is only a temporary remedy. If things slam in your face today, use this as an indication that you need to take necessary action. Don't keep bouncing around from one thing to the next in order to avoid the obvious. Face the music. **PISCES:** Your emotions could be extra powerful today, Pisces, although something may not feel as if it's sitting right. It could be a feeling of manipulation. Perhaps you've misjudged someone else's sensitivity and now they're working to get back at you in a subtle yet harmful way. Attend to your feelings and spend time alone if it helps you get more in tune with your emotions.

The adrenaline is what I live for: Ranveer Singh

NEW DELHI, AUG 22 (PTI): In his eight-year-old career, Ranveer Singh has played a lazy lad-turned-wedding planner, a charming thief, a Gujarati Romeo, a Maratha warrior and most recently a vile Sultan.

The actor, who is awaiting the release of his next, “Simmba”, says the idea of working in the Rohit Shetty directorial got all his “adrenaline” pumped up, something he thrives on.

After the mega success of “Padmaavat”, Ranveer is geared up to play a Mumbai cop Sangram “Simmba” Bhalerao in his last offering for 2018.

“Simmba is the type of film I loved as a kid. The masala film is something that attracted me to become an actor in the first place. Getting a chance to work with Rohit Shetty who is the king of masala movies is a huge deal for me. I find it very challenging. You have to perform so many things - there is comedy, action, drama- everything together..

“This movie has a lot of all



genres. The adrenaline is what I live for and hence shooting for this was a blast,” the actor told PTI in an interview.

The 33-year-old actor says he tried his best to get into the skin of the character but felt a bit nervous about working with Rohit.

“It was a blast working with Rohit and the rest of the cast. I did feel a slight pressure to deliver but that was just me wanting to ace my first film as a masala hero with Rohit,” he says.

For the actor, who still runs like a free spirit in terms of being labelled as a “type” of performer, Ranveer finds comedy the toughest cookie to crack.

“It's always been a conscious choice for me to be a versatile actor. Growing up, I used to always admire actors who had that chameleon quality and who could transform themselves into anyone and any kind of genre. Those are the type of actors I aspire to be and hence I always en-

sure all roles that I choose are starkly different from each other,” he says.

“Comedy is the hardest as you need to nail it with every dialogue delivery. I don't have any expectations for December but I'm just enjoying the process. It's very enriching and I'm trying to absorb all of it. It's exciting to see the audience anticipation though,” he adds.

Also starring debutante Sara Ali Khan, “Simmba” is set to open on December 28.

Danny Boyle exits Bond 25 due to ‘creative differences’

LONDON, AUG 22

(PTI): Director Danny Boyle has dropped out of directing next James Bond movie due to “creative differences” with the producers.



The official James Bond Twitter account shared the news of Boyle's departure, saying the filmmaker chose to walk out of the project.

“Michael G Wilson, Barbara Broccoli and Daniel Craig today announced that due to creative differences Danny Boyle has decided to no longer direct Bond 25,” the official James Bond Twitter account tweeted.

The producers had announced in May this year that the 61-year-old director, who won the 2009 Best Director Oscar for his India-set “Slumdog Millionaire” and has critically-acclaimed titles such as “Trainspotting” and “127 Hours” to his credit, will be helming the new Bond film.

The film will be the last outing for actor Daniel Craig as the famed British spy, having played the part in four previous films -- “Casino Royale”, “Quantum of Solace”, “Skyfall” and “Spectre”.

The as-yet untitled film had previously been given a release date of 25 October 2019 in the UK.

In March, Boyle had said that he was working on film's script along with his frequent collaborator John Hodge.

The film would have marked a reunion between Boyle and Craig, following the actor's cameo in the director's 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony production. The producers are yet to announce a replacement for Boyle.



Lucky ‘Panga’ announced even before my Bollywood debut: Jassi Gill

NEW DELHI, AUG 22

(PTI): Punjabi actor-singer Jassi Gill says he feels blessed to have been announced as the part of Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari's “Panga”, even before his debut Bollywood film hit the theatres.

The 29-year-old actor, who is foraying into Hindi cinema with “Happy Phir Bhaag Jayegi”, says it helps a debutante create his/her goodwill early on in the film industry.

“I got both the films through proper screen tests. I'm lucky the news came while I'm promoting ‘Happy’. It helps a newcomer gain faith in the industry,” Gill told PTI in an interview.

“I had locked two other pictures when I came on board ‘Happy’.. ‘Panga’ was offered to me long back. We had even discussed the project. But the makers

wanted to announce the project in a special manner - so that theme of the film reaches out to the audience along with its title,” he adds.

The actor, who has been paired opposite Sonakshi Sinha in the sequel to “Happy Bhaag Jayegi”, will be seen opposite Kangana Ranaut in Tiwari's film.

“I'm feeling blessed to be working with A-listers such as Sonakshi and Kangana right in the beginning of my career.

“I just want to do my best. I don't want people to rethink casting me,” he adds.

Gill says when the banner, Colour Yellow Productions, reached out to him, he thought they wanted him to sing a Punjabi number in some film.

By then Gill had done over half a dozen Punja-

bi films, “Mr & Mrs 420” being his debut in 2014.

“But when I met Muddassar sir in Mumbai, he told me he wanted to cast me in the film and wanted to go in for a screen test. It was a pleasant surprise for me.”

He says Aziz offered the part of Khushwant Singh ‘Khushi’ after watching his Punjabi song video, “Nakhre”.

“I just want people to know that I have got this opportunity through my hard work,” he says.

He hopes the manner in which Punjabi music has found its groove in Bollywood, Punjabi actors will also create an audience for themselves.

The actor has two more Bollywood films in his kitty, but he chose not to reveal the details.

Also starring Jimmy Shegill, Piyush Mishra and Ali Fazal, the film releases this Friday.