



**AAKRAMAN FC
READY TO ATTACK
FOOTBALL SEASON**
pg03

**SFA REMAINS FIRM ON REFEREE
BOARD SUSPENSION**
pg05



**STDC THROWS SURPRISE
BIRTHDAY PARTY
FOR KMY YATRI**
pg05

Summit **T**IMES

Vol 03 | Issue 192 | Gangtok | Sunday | 22 July 2018

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

Rare butterfly species spotted in Sikkim for the first time

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 JULY:**

One of the members of Butterflies & Moths of Sikkim - Nature Conservation Society [BAMOS-NCS], Tenzing W Bhutia, who is also a Block Officer at Khangchendzonga National Park [KNP], has discovered a rare butterfly species named Mackinnon's Silverspot *Kuekenthalia mackinnonii* in the State of Sikkim and has recorded its first photograph here.

Mackinnon's Silverspot butterfly was till now known to occur in Himachal Pradesh, Ut-



tarakhand, West Nepal and Central Nepal but had not been recorded from Sikkim so far. Mr Bhutia recorded the rare species on 16

July in North Sikkim at an elevation of 16,000 ft. The species is named after PW Mackinnon by Charles Lionel Augustus de Nicéville in 1891 who collected the species in Himachal Pradesh at 11,000 feet.

WH Evans [1932] previously treated the species of the butterfly as 'rare'. The species has not been photographed in India or in Nepal in recent date. There has been no information on the species since 1932. This record by Mr Bhutia can therefore be treated as a rediscovery of the

species after more than 90 years and also a new record of the species for the State of Sikkim.

Mr Bhutia informs that the photograph recorded by him is that of a female Mackinnon's Silverspot. However, more field research is needed to look for the male of Mackinnon's Silverspot which also needs to be photographed, he adds.

He has further extended gratitude to butterfly experts, Peter Smetacek, Monsoon Jyoti Gogoi and Nawang G Bhutia, for help with its identification.

CM to meet employee assoc reps for review of pay structure

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:**

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling will be meeting representatives of various employees associations who had requested for review of the revised pay structure/promotion during his recent 32-day tour of the State. As per a circular issued today by the Department of Personnel, Administrative Reforms, Training and Public Grievances, the meeting has been scheduled for 27 July at Samman Bhawan in Gangtok. The Department today also issued an office memorandum on the implementation of the government's decision on the recommendation of the Pay Committee - fixation of pay and mode of payment of arrears, etc.

Don't fall for false messages on vaccination progs: Health Dept

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:**

In a press release issued today, the Health Care, Human Services and Family Welfare Department has appealed to the general public to ignore false messages being spread on the social media with respect to vaccination programmes of the Health Department in the State.

The Health Department has clarified that all the vaccination programmes of the Health Department including Pentavalent [Diphtheria, Pertussis Tetanus, Haemophilus Influenzae B & Hepatitis B],

Pulse Polio, Measles, Mumps Rubella [MMR] and HPV are conducted as per the guidelines and supervision of Government of India.

"These vaccination programmes are closely monitored by multi lateral agencies like WHO, UNICEF, etc," the release informs.

The department has further informed that no vaccine is procured from any pharmaceutical company and that most of the vaccines are provided by Government of India while some are procured from UNICEF.

"All these vaccines are tested and approved

turn to pg05

Governor and CM greetings on Guru Rinpoche's Thrungkar Tshechu

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:**

On the birth anniversary of patron saint Guru Padmasambhava, Guru Rinpoche's Thrungkar Tsechu, Governor Shrinivas Patil and First Lady Rajanidevi Patil have extended warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim.

In a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan, the Governor has said, "Guru Rinpoche's Thrungkar Tsechu gives us the opportunity to celebrate and offer prayers to Guru Padmasambhava on the pious occasion of his birth anniversary. We Sikkimese revere our patron saint as Guru Rinpoche and feel privileged to have resided in Bayul Dremojong, the hidden

turn to pg02

CITIZEN
CITIZEN UMBRELLA
Wholesalers may contact
CITIZEN UMBRELLA MANUFACTURER LTD.
H.O.: 147, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kolkata-7
Ph. No. 033-2268-1396, 2271-2152
Fax: (033) 227-2151, E-mail: citizenuk@rediffmail.com

Children of non-Sikkimese Trade License holders can now get own trade licenses

**NITESH R PRADHAN/
IPR
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:**

Gangtok Mayor, Shakti Singh Choudhary, and Commissioner, Gangtok Municipal Council, Tshewang Gyachho, today addressed the media with regard to the new notification on Sikkim Trade License and Miscellaneous Provision Rules, 2011.

Mr Choudhary informed that with the recent amendment made by the State Government, biological sons and daughters of a father who does not possess Sikkim Subject Certificate, Certification of Identification or Residential Certificate but have valid trade license are entitled to obtain new trade license. He added that GMC has been issuing licenses in such cases since the amendment notification was issued.

"The valid trade license of the biological father shall be the basis for issue of new trade license to his sons and daughters. This is meant for all those members of the business

community who have been living in the State post 1975," he informed.

He credited Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and his government for initiating the move and has appealed to the business community to apply for such licenses by Aug this year.

Commissioner, Mr Gyachcho, in his address said, "Earlier, a person with no RC was not entitled for such facility but now children can apply for a trade license through their father's license with no hassles." This eligibility was termed as the fourth document apart from the three documents required for the issuance of trade licenses. This has come as a welcome relief to members of the business community settled and operating in the State post 1975.

The GMC Commissioner further stated that individuals whose fathers possess valid licenses can now apply for it online. In other six Urban Local Bodies, such facility is not available online but they

can approach the ULBs, he added.

"This new amendment has been made following the CM's meeting with people from Gangtok and surrounding constituencies during the last days of his Jan Sewa Jan Samman Yatra at Samman Bhawan," informed Mr Gyachcho.

Urban Development & Housing Department will be the concerned department for other areas. Members of the business community have been urged to approach Municipal Corporation for clarifications and not be misguided.

Individuals falling under the new category and intending to obtain new trade license are requested to visit the Corporation's website, www.gmcsikkim.in, and log on to relevant site and submit application duly uploading the relevant documents, photo and signature and pay online.

Thereafter, one has to visit the Corporation office once with all the original documents for authentication and

approval of new trade license. It was further mentioned that if someone is not acquainted with the process of online application submission, one can approach customer support centers established by the Corporation at District Control Room, MG Marg, GMC Office, Deorali, Sikkim GST Consultancy Service Centre, Daragan and NIC Office at East District Collectorate, Sichey with relevant documents, photo and Bank Debit Card for support and free service.

On online trade license renewal which has been under process, the Mayor also appealed to the citizens of Gangtok to renew their trade licenses online by 31 Aug, 2018 so that licensees do not have to pay late fee from 01 Sept, 2018. They can also approach the four customer service centers mentioned earlier for any help and support if they face any problem online.

While renewing license online, if the data is showing un-mapped, the licensee is requested

United Sikkim FC lifts Akkar Cup



NAMCHI, 21 JUL [IPR]: The final match of Akkar Summer Cup Open Football Tournament was played between United Sikkim FC, Gangtok and United Brothers FC, Kalimpong today at Jorethang playground in South Sikkim. United FC emerged victorious after a penalty shootout with the score of 4-3 goals. Dewashis Rai and Subham Sutradhar from United Brothers FC were adjudged Man of the Match and Man of the Tournament respectively.

Likewise, Binod Chettri from Dynamo FC was awarded with the golden gloves title while Uttam Rai from Jorethang FC was adjudged highest scorer of the tournament. The winning team was presented with a cash prize of Rs 2,25,000 and the runners up team was awarded Rs 1,50,000 alongside trophies.

The finals of the Akkar Cup tourney was attended by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest in the presence of SLA Speaker, KN Rai, IPR Minister cum Patron in Chief, AK Ghatani, Cabinet Ministers, host of digni-

ties, Binod Chettri from Dynamo FC was awarded with the golden gloves title while Uttam Rai from Jorethang FC was adjudged highest scorer of the tournament. The winning team was presented with a cash prize of Rs 2,25,000 and the runners up team was awarded Rs 1,50,000 alongside trophies.

The finals of the Akkar Cup tourney was attended by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest in the presence of SLA Speaker, KN Rai, IPR Minister cum Patron in Chief, AK Ghatani, Cabinet Ministers, host of digni-

turn to pg02

KAZIRANGA UNIVERSITY
KNOWLEDGE & BEYOND

100% SCHOLARSHIP to SC, ST & OBC Students*
Empanelled with Government of Sikkim

ADMISSIONS OPEN 2018
Apply Online @ www.kazirangauniversity.in

LOCAL COORDINATOR : +91 97333 36681
ADMISSION HELPLINE : +91 91270 56383

UNDERGRADUATE: B.Tech | B.Tech (Lateral) | B.Com | BBA | BBA (THM) | BSW | Int. BBA/B.com - MBA | Int. B.Sc - M.sc (P, C, M) | Int. B.Sc - M.sc (IT) | Int. BSW - MSW

POSTGRADUATE: M.Tech | MBA | M.Com | MSW | MCA | M.Sc (IT) | M.Sc (P, C, M)

OUR KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

IBM | BRABON | NURTURE | TIMESPRO | BOSCH | Safeducate | SKF | AIMA | NICMAR | MEDICA

PARTIAL LIST OF PLACEMENTS

Emirates HealthCare | Charminstar Kharyew | MBA | Audi | Farhana Yasmin Rahman | B.Tech ECE | Kaushal Gautam | B.Tech CSE | Amul | Abhijit Mahajan | MBA | Sunny Mahanta | B.Tech CE

HELPLINE +91 84860 34360 | +91 98540 34352
+91 98540 34359 | +91 98540 34354

CAMPUS: KORAIKHOWA, NH 37, JORHAT - 785006, ASSAM

Governor and CM greetings on Guru Rinpoche's Thrunkar Tsechu

contd from pg01

valley of rice blessed by him. Ever since Guru Rinpoche propagated tantric Buddhism in this part of the Himalaya, Sikkim has gained prominence as an abode of peace and happiness. Guru Rinpoche is revered and worshipped by Sikkimese of all faiths and walks of life.

I join my fellow Sikkimese to pray for the well being of all sentient beings. May Guru Rinpoche continue to bless Sikkim and Sikkimese as we move forward to be an enriched and enlightened society."

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling and Tika Maya Chamling have also extended warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim on Guru Rinpoche's Thrunkar Tsechu, in a press release.

In his greetings, the CM has said, "We must all bow down to our Patron Saint, for he has enriched Sikkim religiously and culturally, giving us a tradition of our own. We should follow his teachings to imbibe in us an invincible spirit and always let good win over evil.

Like he turned the wheels of the sacred Vajrayana, let us chant the holy mantra and seek his blessings. Om Ah Hung Vajra Guru Padma Siddhi Hung - I invoke you, the Vajra Guru Padmasambhava, by your blessings, may you grant us ordinary and supreme spiritual fulfillment. May you always protect Sikkim and the Sikkimese people!"

The State Government declared the day as a gazetted holiday in 1998.

United Sikkim FC lifts Akkar Cup

contd from pg01

taries and public at large. Addressing the gathering, Patron in Chief, Mr Ghatani spoke about the objective of the football tournament which had kicked off on 04 Jul. He elaborated on the theme of the tournament which is to combat various kinds of social evils.

He also brought to light the relentless efforts that the State Government has initiated in order to elevate sports in Sikkim.

"It is imperative for the youth to play sports as it can assist in shaping their future and aid in being physically fit," said Mr Ghatani while urging players and the audience to instill discipline, motivation, dedication and hard-work while playing the sport of football.

During the programme, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling was felicitated by various associations and institutions from Jorethang for boosting the State in domestic as well as in the global arena.

Similarly, Mr Chamling along with other dignitaries felicitated prominent State footballers, Sanju Pradhan, Nirmal Chettri, Bikash Jairu and Surag Chettri, for their immense contribution in uplifting the sport of football and bringing laurels to the State.

visit us at
www.summit-times.com

Online electricity bill payment facility launched for Singtam & Rangpo

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 21 JUL:

The facility of e-service portal and computerized billing system was launched by Power Minister, DD Bhutia, for consumers of Singtam [Topakhani] and Rangpo [Mamring] divisions, East Sikkim here at Mamring Power Station near Rangpo today.

Earlier this month, similar service of the Power & Energy Department was launched for Jorethang division in South Sikkim.

Representatives of the software service provider for the e-billing system, SDS Solution Sikkim, Bhawesh Pradhan and Partha Chakraborty, also attended the programme.

Nodal Officer, Sunil Rai, mentioned that the



e-service, online payment and computerized billing system will provide convenience to the consumers. It will make payment of power bills easy and secure, he added.

He further informed that one can visit the website, sikkimpower.co.in, and register by using the ID mentioned in the bill of the month of July and a password. A registered consumer can log in with the details, view the

monthly bill and make the payment. One can use net banking, debit and credit cards of all banks to pay the bills through the website and the transaction process will be free of cost, he added.

Likewise, Principal Chief Engineer cum Secretary, Power Department, NT Bhutia, highlighted the benefits of the online mode of payment.

"The Government of India is promoting digital

payment for all services. This new facility is also being done as per the guidelines of the Government of India for digital payment. People can visit Power offices in Rangpo and Singtam if they need assistance or have queries on the e-billing system," said Mr Bhutia.

He further informed that the department will soon be introducing prepaid power meters in the State.

"With this addition, consumers can decide on how much power supply they need. They can recharge their power meters by buying re-charge vouchers which will be made available by the department in the markets," he added.

Area MLA, West Pandam, Gopal Baraily, con-

gratulated the Power Department, IT Department and State Bank of Sikkim for initiating the e-billing system for Singtam and Rangpo.

Power Minister, Mr Bhutia, congratulated the general public of Singtam and Rangpo for the initiative undertaken by the State Government. He said that with the provision of the E-service facility, people will enjoy convenient payment of their electricity bills.

He urged officials to generate awareness on the same in order to ensure that consumers do not face problems while using the portal and appealed the people to pay their power bills on time and save energy whenever possible.

SKM misleading people on LT issue: SDF

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

Sikkim Democratic Front has warned Sikkim Krantikari Morcha against "misguiding and deceiving" the people of Sikkim with false and baseless statements regarding Assembly seat reservation for Limboo and Tamang communities. SDF has said that it is very important for SKM to properly study the Constitution of the Country.

A press release issued by SDF publicity secretary, Chudamani Mishra mentions that within few years of tribal status being accorded to LT communities, HR Pradhan filed a case in the court in 2006 and the issue became sub-judice. However, the SDF government consistently pressurized the Centre for the seat reservation, the release adds.

It may be recalled that SKM had on Thursday alleged that the government is only using HR Pradhan's court case as an excuse for delays in securing LT Assembly seat reservation.

SDF has further al-

leged that SKM is giving totally false and deceiving press statements by just reading a part of the letter related to LT seat reservation.

Defending Sikkim Limboo Tamang Apex Committee [SILTAC], whom SKM had lashed out against on Thursday, SDF has said that the organisation has done a noble job in the interest of members of LT communities of Sikkim by taking the seat reservation issue to the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.

SKM should, in fact, support the pro-people efforts of the government and SILTAC if it is working in the interest of the people of Sikkim, SDF has said.

The release further adds that SKM should understand the Seventh Schedule in the Constitution of India on subjects in the Union List, State List and Concurrent List. Both the Limboo-Tamang seat reservation issue or tribal status to 11 communities of Sikkim falls under jurisdiction of the Central government, the release further states.

Ghatani inaugurates 4 CMRHM houses



Zoom, 20 Jul (IPR): Minister-cum-MLA of Salghari Zoom constituency, Arjun Kumar Ghatani inaugurated four houses constructed under Chief Minister's Rural Housing Mission (CMRHM) phase-1, for the year 2017-18, today. He was accompanied by the Block Development Officer Chumbung Block Administrative Centre, CL Sharma, officials from Rural Management Development Department, Zilla Panchayat, Panchayats, youths and public.

The Minister inaugurated two houses at Dhargaon, Ward No. 4, and handed them over to the beneficiaries Pemba Rai and Navin Kr. Kami. Thereafter, he inaugurated a newly constructed CMRHM house and handed it over to the beneficiary, Meena Kumari Chhetri at Rabong, Ward No. 4 under Gelling Baiguney GPU (W).

Later, the Minister also chaired a meeting at Gelling Baiguney Pancha-

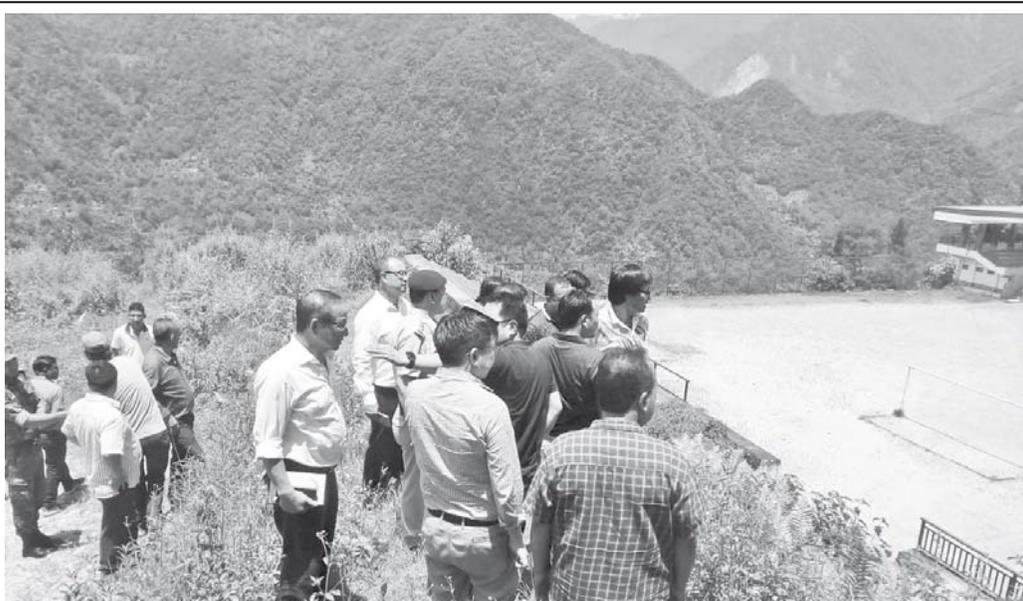
yat Bhawan and distributed allotment order of CMRHM house to nineteen beneficiaries from the constituency.

Mr. Ghatani, in his brief address, informed about programmes and policies envisioned by the Chief Minister to uplift socio-economic status of the people. He clarified that the state government under the visionary leadership of Pawan Chamling, has been putting every possible effort into transforming the society for the last twenty four years.

BDO Chumbung, CL Sharma also applauded the exemplary initiatives taken up by the Chief Minister and Area MLA for accomplishment of different activities.

Afterwards, Mr. Ghatani inaugurated another CMRHM house at Upper Sigeng under Mabong Sigeng GPU (W).

Beneficiary Januka Rai expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the state government.



MANGAN PUBLIC GROUND TO BE CLEARED OF DEBRIS FOR I-DAY CELEBRATION

MANGAN, 20 JUL: Forest Minister cum area MLA, TW Lepcha, accompanied by District Magistrate, North, Karma R Bonpo, members of North District Football Association [NDFA], and Mangan Nagar Panchayat Councillors inspected the Mangan public ground which has been damaged by a recent landslide. It is informed that the debris will be cleared out from the public ground from 21 Jul in order to organize the annual event of Independence Day Football Tournament 2018 in Mangan. [Wangchuk Bhutia]

Sikkim Aakraman FC opens SFA Premier Div League with a win

SAGAR CHETTRI
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:

Sikkim Aakraman Football Club has started Sikkim Football Association Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 campaign with a victory. In the closely played inaugural match of the league today, Sikkim Aakraman FC edged past debutant Unicorn Football Club by a solitary goal.

Both the teams went on the offensive from the start to take the lead in the match. Tenzing Tsephel scored an early



lead for Sikkim Aakraman FC in the 7th minute of the match. Unicorn FC players made some good

attacks but failed to capitalize on any and the first half ended 1-0.

In the second half,

both the teams launched attacks and counter-attacks but could not score any goals. The match

ended with 3 points for Sikkim Aakraman FC for their 1-0 victory. The referee also sent Surag Chettri of Unicorn FC off the field on a red card during the dying minutes of the second half.

The match was stopped on several occasions by the referee due to low visibility because of dense fog today.

Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club will be playing its first match against State Sports Academy on 22 Jul.

SAATHI holds training camp for Phensang SSS & Lumsey JHS

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 21 JUL:

Sikkim against Addiction towards Healthy India [SAATHI] organized its offsite training camp for 54 students of Phensang Senior Secondary School and Lumsey Junior High School, East Sikkim at Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism [IHCAE] in Chemchey, South Sikkim from 17-20 Jul, a SAATHI press release informs.

The students were accompanied by teacher coordinators of the respec-



tive schools along with the SAATHI Project Team.

Over the three and a half days in the camp, various motivational and technical sessions on substance abuse along with learning based fun and physical activities were conducted.

A session on medi-

cal aspects of substance abuse was conducted by Psychologist, Namchi District Hospital, Reshma Subba, while Sub Inspector, Sikkim Police, CK Subba, conducted a session on legal aspects.

Likewise, inspirational and life skill sessions were

facilitated by trained teacher coordinator from Rumtek SSS, Manorath Dahal, with Professional Counsellor, Pragyan Deep Dewan, conducting a session on basics of counseling.

Prashant Sharma from Hepatitis Coalition of Sikkim [HepCos] also shared his life experiences with the participating students during the camp.

Other activities included team building sessions, planning sessions, meditation, nature walk/physical training and talent hunt, the release adds.

Tourism Minister visits 'Meeting Place of Three Lamas' Project site in Yuksom

GVALSHING, 21 JUL [IPR]:

Tourism Minister, Ugen T Gyatso, visited Yuksom in West Sikkim today for site verification for the 'Meeting Place of Three Lamas' Project while also holding an interaction session with the public of Yuksom. The Minister was accompanied by Yuksum MLA, Sonam Dadul, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Block Development Officer, Panchayats of Dupdi GPU along with officials from Tourism and Land Revenue Departments.

Mr Gyatso directed the officials of his department



to take into consideration the historical factors of Sikkim regarding the establishment of the 'Meeting Place of Three Lamas' and urged the public and the Panchayat officials to work in coordination with the departments for speedy implementation of the project which will

benefit them in return.

He also acknowledged Chief Minister Pawan Chamling's efforts in preserving the historical place and the events which have a huge importance in Sikkimese history.

The Tourism Minister was briefed on the project site by the MLA and Panchayats.

Gangtok on Sunday, 22 July

Temp: 26°C/17°C
Forecast: Considerable cloudiness, a couple of thundershowers; not as warm.
Sunrise: 04:53 AM
Sunset: 6:30 PM

Meeting for 1-Day celebration held in Soreng

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

First round meeting for the celebration of the 72nd Independence Day celebration in Soreng, West Sikkim was held today at the auditorium of Soreng Sub Division. The meeting was convened by Additional District Collector, Soreng, Gayas Pega, in the presence of Minister of Human Resource Development, RB Subba, a press release informs.

The 1-Day celebration in Soreng will feature State Level Inter School Girls' Football Tournament scheduled to commence from 02 Aug. For the same, the house unanimously re-constituted the State Level Inter School Girls' Football Tournament Committee for the year 2018 and nominated Minister Mr Subba as chief patron of the tourney.

Additional District Collector, Mr Pega, further briefed the house about the formation of sub-committee for execution of work and responsibilities assigned to them last year.

All Advisors and Chairpersons under Soreng Chakung Constituency have been nominated as patrons of State Level Inter School Girls' Football Tournament 2018.

The final meeting will be held on 27 Jul, it is informed.

BEFORE THE LEARNED OATH COMMISSIONER AT GANGTOK, EAST SIKKIM AFFIDAVIT

I, Mrs Kelsang Diki Bhutia, wife of Mr. Bunit Basnet, aged about 35 years, by faith Buddhist, resident of Arithang, Sisa Golai, Gangtok, East Sikkim, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as under:-

1. That in all my relevant documents including my Unique Identification (Aadhaar) card vide No. 3270 7477 8760, my name has been recorded as "KELSANG DIKI BHUTIA", which is correct.

2. That, all my academic certificates, my name has been recorded as "KELSANG DIKI", which is incorrect.

3. That I hereby swear an oath that the names "KELSANG DIKI BHUTIA" and "KELSANG DIKI" are of same and one person representing me only and henceforth my official name shall be "KELSANG DIKI BHUTIA" for all purpose and purport. AND WHEREAS, the above mentioned statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing materials has been concealed there from and this has signed this affidavit on this the 3rd of July 2018 at Gangtok, East Sikkim.

Sd/-
DEPONENT

to book advertisements in SummitTimes call 03592-208698, 9734152541 9647102692

SLSA conducts training for panel advocates and members of the Bar

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 21 JUL:

Sikkim State Legal Services Authority [SLSA] under the directions of Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, who is also the Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA organized a training programme for Panel Advocates and members of the Bar today as per the training module of NALSA at the newly constructed Sikkim Judicial Academy in Sokeythang, East Sikkim, a press release informs.

The programme was organized to train members of the Bar who appear before the Bench of the High Court and the Ld. Trial Court, to be well versed and sound in all legal procedures and acquire leadership quality with punctuality as a main tool for becoming good professionals.



Master Trainers, KW Bhutia [Registrar, High Court of Sikkim/Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA], and N Rai [Senior Advocate, High Court of Sikkim/Senior Panel Advocate, Sikkim SLSA], were the resource persons for the event. They had undergone the first batch Training of Trainers [TOT] Programme for the Master Trainers using the Training Module of NALSA, held on 11-13 Jul, 2015 at the Indian Law Institute in New Delhi, the release adds.

Special Secretary, Sikkim SLSA, Matilda Isaacs, in her welcome address informed that during the 13th All India Meet of Legal Services Authorities which was held at Ranchi from 21-22 Mar, 2015, one of the resolutions passed was that all SLSAs should nominate Judicial Officers and Sr. Panel Advocates to be trained as Master Trainers who in turn would impart trainings to the panel lawyers in their respective States.

"The purpose being to cement the gap between the study of law and its practice and also help in building special abilities to make the above transition easier for administering efficient legal advice to their clients and legal aid/services so that access to justice is propagated in its true form and spirit," she added.

The programme concluded with an interaction session between advocates and resource persons. The vote of thanks was proposed by Deputy Secretary, Sikkim SLSA, Bikash Sharma.

It may be mentioned here, under the aegis of Sikkim SLSA, the 1st

batch of training programme for Legal Services Lawyers of Sikkim SLSA from all four districts as per the Training Module-1 of NALSA was held at the conference hall of Sikkim SLSA on 03-04 Sept, 2015 wherein 53 Panel Lawyers attended the said programme. Thereafter, under the directions of the Executive Chairperson, two such training programmes were held during 2015 and 2016 with the aforementioned master trainers as resource persons.

The "Training Module for Legal Services Lawyers, Part-2" developed by NALSA was released on 09 Nov in 2016 during National Legal Services Day by NALSA. Today's programme was a culmination of Training Module 1 & 2, it is informed.

SLA Speaker hosts farewell dinner for Governor



GANGTOK, 20 JUL [IPR]: Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, KN Rai, organized a farewell dinner in honour of Governor Shrinivas Patil at the banquet hall of the Secretariat in Gangtok today. The event was attended by First Lady Rajanidevi Patil, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, Deputy

Speaker, SLA, Ministers, MLAs, and SLA Secretary amongst other distinguished invitees.

The function also saw presentation of souvenir and khadas by the Speaker and others present to the Governor marking the completion of his five successful years in Sikkim.

SKM holds Block level meet in Lower Gangyap

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 21 JUL:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha convened a block-level meeting at Lower Gangyap under Yksom-Tashiding constituency in West Sikkim today. The SKM team was led by CLC president, Basant Tamang, and accompanied by the youth and members of Jan Yodha Toli of the party.

An SKM press release alleges that Sikkim Democratic Front has been spreading rumours among people following the news of release of SKM president, PS Tamang [Golay], next month. The CLC president urged people to ignore such rumours.

The release informs that 18 SDF families from Lower Gangyap joined SKM during the meeting.

Aakraman FC ready to attack football season

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

One of the popular clubs of the State, Sikkim Aakraman Football Club is confident about finishing the Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 on the top. The club hopes to finish on top so that it can play in the prestigious All India Governor's Gold Cup Football Tournament 2018.

The 24-member squad of Sikkim Aakraman FC is all set for this year's football season. The club is featuring fresh and young faces this time who will be supported by experienced senior players of the State. The team will be led by experienced footballer, Ashish Chettri as the team captain.

The team has a senior and experienced national footballer, Shishil Karthak as the coach and Khituk Tongden as the manager. Sikkim Aakraman FC is playing against Unicorn Football Club in the inaugural match of the league on Saturday.

Sikkim Aakraman FC general secretary, Karma Tshering stated that the team has prepared hard with the aim to become the champion of the premier division and play in the Governor's Gold Cup.

"We have mostly young and fresh faces this time in the team as the objective of Sikkim Aakraman FC is to promote young promising footballers of the State. We are hopeful that our young squad will definitely perform the best in the league," he said.

The club was formed in 2010 by a group of likeminded youth of the State. The club became the champion of the State second division league in 2015 and got promoted to the premier division league 2016. Sikkim



Aakraman FC became the champion of the premier division in its debut appearance in 2016. The club also lifted the runners-up trophy of Independence Day football tournament at Paljor Stadium and played upto the semi-final round of the prestigious Governor's Gold Cup the same year.

However, in the premier division last year, the club's performance was not very satisfactory as they finished the league on the 5th position.

"We are more serious this time to perform better in this football season and we will not disap-

point our supporters. We have undergone rigorous training consistently for the last three months," Mr Tshering stated. He added that all teams in the premier division were good so the club is looking to give a tough fight to all opponents in the league.

He also thanked the Principal of Tashi Namgyal Academy for allowing the club to practice in the school ground. Sikkim Aakraman FC has appealed to all its supporters and football lovers to continue supporting and encouraging the club throughout this football season.

The release informs

Art of Living conducts Yoga camp under Swami Purnachaitanya

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

Senior international teacher of Art of Living Organization, Swami Purnachaitanya, conducted yoga camp in Gangtok from 13-16 Jul. Fifty-six participants from different parts of Sikkim, New Delhi, Guwahati, Kolkata, North Bengal and Bhutan benefited from the Art of Living Yoga Level 2 programme held in the capital, a press release informs.

The programme involved deep cleansing and healing processes with training on profound meditations, pranayamas and yoga postures.

One of the participants from Bhutan, GP Sharma, shared that the Yoga Level 2 programme



has made him feel light and energized.

Another participant from Guwahati, Jayanta Bhattacharya, added that he had been undergoing a lot of stress and mental unrest before attending the event but feels extremely relaxed now.

After completion of the Yoga Level 2 programme, Swami Purnachaitanya conducted the Sahaj Samadhi or Effortless Meditation Programme at the Art of Living Centre in Tadong with 20 participants.

The release informs

that Swamiji Purnachaitanya will also be conducting a special puja called Rudrabhishek to mark the auspicious Shraavan Masa at the Art of Living Centre Tadong on 21 Jul which can be attended by the general public.

visit us at www.summittimes.com

CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANIZATION
HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & F.W. DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

Memo No. 258/CHSO Date: 19/7/2018

CORRIGENDUM

The following corrigendum are hereby made on the Tender document for "THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENTS FOR SETTING UP 5 BEDDED HAEMODIALYSIS FACILITY AT DISTRICT HOSPITAL NAMCHI FOR THE YEAR 2018-19" as per advertisement memo no: 205/CHSO/2018 dated 29/06/2018.

- The title may be read as "THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENTS FOR SETTING UP 5 BEDDED HAEMODIALYSIS FACILITY EACH FOR DISTRICT HOSPITAL NAMCHI AND GALSHING FOR THE YEAR 2018-19".**
- Non Conviction Certificate. (Clause 7, Page no 5):**
The Bidders (Manufactures/ Authorised Dealers/ Representative/ Indian Subsidiaries/ Direct Importers) should submit a latest copy of Valid Non-Conviction Certificate, notarized Affidavit as per format in Annexure IV in the technical bid, proving that the firms has not been blacklisted/ debarred by any Tender Inviting Authority or by any State government or Central Government department/ organization.
- Supporting Documents: (Clause 10, Page no 6):**
All pages of the bid shall be signed by the authorized person or persons signing the bid along with the stamp of the tenderer. Any interlineations, erasures or over writing shall be valid only if initialled by the person (s) signing the offer. In the event of documentary proof as required being not enclosed. The Tender shall be liable to be rejected. In case if any document is found false/ forged at the time of scrutiny or later on times is liable for blacklisting.
- Payment Terms: (Clause 24):**
The payment shall be made after full execution of the supply, installation and commissioning as ordered and submission of requisite documents and subject to other terms and conditions as laid down under the Terms and Conditions.
- Comparative statement of the technical specifications (Clause 27 to be added):**
The bidder should submit the Comparative statement of the technical specifications and compliance with the suppliers offered model, deviations and justifications.
- Technical Specifications: (Annexure VIIA):**
 - Hemodialysis Machine:**
Sl.no. 7 – Variable conductivity between 12-16.
Sl.no. 21 – Stands deleted.
Sl.no. 30 – Should have FDA/CE/UL/BIS approved product.
Sl.no. 38 – Stands deleted.
 - RO PLANT 500 lts. (For Dialysis Unit):**
To be added Sl.no. 12 – The RO plant loop line will have heat disinfection provisions.
To be added Sl.no. 13 – The RO plant should be suitable for use in the aforementioned health facilities.
 - Suction Machine – this item stands deleted.**
 - POWER BACK UP System 3 KVA UPS:**
 - Must be of reputed brand and make.
 - Minimum 60 minutes back-up along with voltage regulation and spike protection.
 - Advanced DSP controlled UPS System.
 - IGBT Rectifier, Bypass Facility, Heavy duty charger for long backup.
 - DC Start function, Surge & short circuit protection, LCD Display.
 - Include battery stand, wiring and connection accessories.
 - POWER BACK UP System 10 KVA UPS:**
 - Must be of reputed brand and make.
 - Minimum 60 minutes back-up long with voltage regulation and spike protection. Advanced DSP controlled UPS System.
 - IGBT Rectifier, Bypass facility, Heavy duty charger for long backup.
 - DC Start function, Surge & short circuit protection, LCD Display.
 - Include battery stand, writing and connection accessories.
- Technical Specifications: (Annexure VII B):**
 - Printer – should be laser printer.

Sd/-
R.O. No. 214/IPR/PUB/Class./18-19 Joint Director
dt. 21.7.2018 Central Health Store Organization

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE VIEW

Writers, Readers and Publishing

Nepali literature might be in good health, but publishing could use a professional boost

Usually around Bhanu Jayanti, tentative efforts are made to tease out an update on Nepali literature's health in these parts. The feedback has been far from encouraging for a while now. Nepali reading has apparently shrunk to newspaper reading, with literature finding ever fewer patrons. Newspapers, even journalists will admit, are not where literature finds expression; for that, the more relaxed indulgence of books, book shops and libraries is required. Newspapers can provide space to announce new arrivals and commission reviews to ponder on books, but to sustain literature, writers need readers of books not cursory skimmers of headlines.

Speak to writers and researchers and they rue the lack of professional publishers in these parts. Writers in English, and the region has had some exceptional ones in this language in the recent past, have benefited from the professional handling of the bustling Indian publishing scene. Nepali writers, unfortunately, have no such recourse available to help refine and promote their works. Writers here are increasingly being required to also become publishers, printers and retailers. In these times, when reading habits are down all over the world, such multitasking just won't cut it. At a time when writers and publishers the world over are going out of their way to woo readers and entice a wider audience, the Nepali literati in the region remains unmoved, or so it appears. The world of letters might be an exclusive club, but the work it churns out needs to be circulated more widely for creativity to be celebrated. It appears that not enough of this is happening. A book launch, for example, should mean more than just a formal release by a VIP and should excite anticipation among readers. Too many writers release their books at official functions where the protocol itself distances them from their readers. Someone should start the trend of book reading and meet-the-author sessions for Nepali publications too.

There was a time when the people of letters might have sniggered at such showbiz gimmicks and stayed away from them, but the written word, let us accept it, is in the danger of extinction and such desperate times demand urgent/grand measures. Flashy book launches and promotion drives are the order of the day in the publishing business and are no longer seen as debasing the work. These are required tools. Writers who live off their writing are constantly under pressure to put out consistently good work whereas those who write as a "hobby" can afford to be slack. Of course there are exceptions, but this is still a reasonably accurate analogy. Why hasn't the Nepali publishing industry here delivered the professionalism that the writers and readers are so desperately seeking?

In their defence, the "local" market is extremely small and the local politics too sensitive to allow the more creative writers the space for irrelevance that is so important for the more ambitious works to arrive. Advancements in desk-top publishing and affordable printing options have not helped either. Earlier, if not for anything else, then at least to handle the complicated world of typesetting and finding printers in Benaras required writers to seek out publishers. Now, anyone can 'publish' a book and while that is fine when limited to vanity publishing, it has been to Nepali literature's disadvantage that publishing has been reduced to printing. A publisher is expected to help writers refine their work, slice away the flab and help them polish their work. Take away this process, and amateurish attempts abound. That said, it cannot also be ignored that publishers here have not made an earnest stab at becoming professional either. To this day, most publishers believe that the job is over with the printing of a new title. They have to realize now that they are "publishers" and not just "printers." A publisher's work, once a piece of work has been found fit for release, begins after the printing is done. Copies of the book have to be circulated for reviews, the writer has to be promoted in the media, the markets have to be identified and consignments reached there before the publicity blitz. All this does not cost much. All it requires is a professional approach. Given the identifiable pockets in India where Nepali readers reside, the paucity of reading material [thanks largely to poor marketing], and the presence [thankfully] of some great writers still in our midst, an educated and well researched approach to publishing should save the day for Nepali literature.

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

CLAUDIO MILANO, JOSEPH M. CHEER & MARINA NOVELLI

theconversation.com

The summer holidays are in full swing – and protests against overtourism have begun (yet again) in a number of popular European cities. Overtourism is not a new problem.

Barcelona, in particular, is at the centre of these mounting concerns about the rapid growth of tourism in cities, especially during peak holiday periods. In fact, Destination Barcelona estimates that there were 30m overnight visitors in 2017, compared to a resident population of 1,625,137.

But across southern Europe protests and social movements are growing in number. This has led to the formation of organisations such as the Assembly of Neighbourhoods for Sustainable Tourism (ABTS) and the Network of Southern European Cities against tourism (SET). They are at the forefront of the fight against overtourism and the impact it has on local residents.

While many tourists want to "live like a local" and have an authentic and immersive experience during their visit, the residents of many tourism-dependent destinations are seeing the unique sense of place that characterised their home towns vanish beneath a wave of souvenir shops, crowds, tour buses and rowdy bars. They are also suffering as local amenities and infrastructure are put under enormous strain.

It is a truly global issue. Other destinations where overtourism has reached disruptive proportions include Palma de Mallorca, Paris, Dubrovnik, Kyoto, Berlin, Bali and Reykjavik. Recently, Thai authorities were forced to act when the number of tourists visiting Maya Bay, the beach made famous by Danny Boyle's film *The Beach*, led to shocking environmental damage.

WHAT DOES OVERTOURISM LOOK LIKE?

We define overtourism "as the excessive growth of visitors leading to overcrowding in areas where residents suffer the consequences of temporary and seasonal tourism peaks, which have enforced permanent changes to

Overtourism: a growing global problem



their lifestyles, access to amenities and general well-being". The claim is that overtourism is harming the landscape, damaging beaches, putting infrastructure under enormous strain, and pricing residents out of the property market. It is a hugely complex issue that is often oversimplified.

It can have an impact in multiple ways. The international cruise industry, for example, delivers thousands of passengers daily to destination ports. While comparatively little is returned to communities, cruise activity creates physical and visual pollution.

City residents also bear the cost of tourism growth. As cities transform to cater for tourists, the global travel supply chain prospers. This coincides with increasing property speculation and rising costs of living for local communities. AirBnB, for example, has been accused of reducing housing affordability and displacing residents.

Amsterdam wants to take direct action to prevent this by banning short-term rentals and directing cruise passengers away from the city centre. AirBnB is also making efforts to address the problems they are accused of creating.

Things are made worse by the fact that key destinations are mostly unprepared to deal with overtourism. According to the Italian sociologist Marco d'Eramo, in 1950 just 15 destinations were visited by 98% of international tourists, while in 2007 this had decreased to 57%. This indicates

the rapid expansion of global tourism beyond established destinations.

Overcrowding and the establishment of typical tourism-focused businesses, such as clubs, bars and souvenir shops, overwhelm local businesses – and rowdy and unmanageable tourist behaviour is common. This diminishes the unique ambience of destinations and leads to crowd and waste management pressures.

Clearly, tourism brings jobs, investment and economic benefits to destinations. But overtourism occurs when tourism expansion fails to acknowledge that there are limits. Local government and planning authorities have so far been powerless to deal with the overwhelming influence of the global tourism supply chain. This has led to widespread "tourist-phobia" – first described by Manuel Delgado more than a decade ago as a mixture of repudiation, mistrust and contempt for tourists.

DEALING WITH OVERTOURISM

Dealing with overtourism must now be a priority. But despite the mounting howls of protest, tourism promotion endures – and unsustainable hordes of tourists continue to descend on cities, beaches and other natural wonders.

Managing the flow of tourists seems an improbable and unwelcome task. But some cities have taken drastic measures to limit the effects of overtourism, including the introduction of new or revised taxation arrangements, fines linked to new

local laws, and "demarketing", whereby destinations focus on attracting fewer, high-spending and low impact tourists, rather than large groups.

But it's a fine line to tread. If tourist arrivals to a destination decline suddenly and dramatically it would likely have considerable economic repercussions for those who rely on them.

Overtourism is a shared responsibility. City administrators and destination managers must acknowledge that there are definite limits to growth. Prioritising the welfare of local residents above the needs of the global tourism supply chain is vital. Prime consideration must be given to ensuring that the level of visitation fits within a destination's capacity.

The global tourism supply chain also bears a major responsibility. It must ensure that product development achieves a balance between the optimal tourist experience and a commensurate local benefit. Tourists must also play their part by making travel choices that are sensitive to the places they visit and those who live in and around them.

Tourism should be part of the wider destination management system, which must also consider transport and mobility, the preservation of public spaces, the local economy and housing, among other aspects of daily life. Research, planning and a close and ongoing dialogue between city administrators, the tourism industry, civil society groups and local residents are essential.

Perhaps overtourism is a symptom of the present era of unprecedented affluence and hyper mobility, a consequence of late capitalism. We need to urgently rethink the way cities are evolving to uphold the rights of their residents.

[Claudio Milano is Researcher, Lecturer and Consultant in Tourism, Ostelea - School of Tourism and Hospitality; Joseph M. Cheer is Lecturer, School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures & Linguistics, Monash University; Marina Novelli is Professor of Tourism and International Development, University of Brighton]

Football may be caught in the crossfire between Qatar and the Saudis

SIMON CHADWICK

theconversation.com

Most football fans will still be reflecting on France's win, Germany's failure, Messi's frustrations, Harry Kane's goals and the rest. Yet many of us who followed the off-field games just as closely will have found the World Cup a largely uneventful tournament. This was despite pre-tournament hyperbole that portrayed Russian president Vladimir Putin as the tyrannical leader of an evil empire. Once the football started, Putin largely disappeared from view and let his soft power fest roll out before the world's eyes, thereby neatly avoiding public scrutiny.

Putin faces some serious domestic issues, though it is overseas where things could seriously kick off. Under his leadership, Russia has twice used sport as a springboard for military interventions: following the Russian national team's success at the European football championships in 2008, it invaded Georgia; and following the Sochi Olympic Games in 2014, it annexed Crimea.

It is therefore not beyond the realms of possibility that we will see Russia similarly asserting itself post-World Cup. Indeed, shortly before the world got distracted by football, Russian ally Syria recognised two of Georgia's breakaway regions – Abkhazia and South Ossetia – as independent countries. This could well be a portent of things to come in the next few months.

While we wait to see if Putin will indulge in any post-tournament political machismo, world football already faces a number of increasingly pressing issues, not least what is happening in the Gulf.

BE IN OR OUT?

Saudi Arabia is now into the second year of a bit-



ter feud with regional rival Qatar. During the World Cup, Saudi authorities complained about Qatar to FIFA, claiming that Qatar's coverage of the Saudi national team's performances was disparaging and overly politicised.

The channel involved was BeIn Sports, an offshoot of Qatar's state-funded broadcaster Al Jazeera. Though the Saudi government in Riyadh vehemently dislikes Al Jazeera, BeIn had nevertheless legally acquired the rights to broadcast the World Cup across the region, including in Saudi Arabia.

But the World Cup saw the sudden emergence of a previously unknown Saudi-based entity – Beout Q – which began broadcasting BeIn content under its own name. Saudi Arabian officials denied their involvement in the content piracy, though some were unconvinced.

With Riyadh reportedly behind a US\$25 billion proposal to develop FIFA's Club World Cup, and Qatar hosting the next World Cup (with its players using Saudi-rival Iran's Kish Island as a training camp), it seems likely that football will remain caught in the crossfire of an intensifying proxy war in the region.

Ahead of its World Cup, the government in Qa-

tar may think that it has successfully negotiated its way through endless allegations of corruption and ongoing criticism of its stance on immigrant labour rights. However, sports mega-events always shine a light on a country's deficiencies and failings pre-tournament so Qatar had better prepare itself for what is still to come.

Cynics will continue to question the country's right to host the event, not least because former FIFA head Sepp Blatter has his controversial fingerprints all over the successful bid. Meanwhile, many people, especially Europeans, are still worried about the tournament's switch from June/July to November/December, when the weather will be slightly less hot.

There will be other issues, too, as Qatar is a small country with a population of less than 3m. The influx of large numbers of fans, some of whom may be intent on getting drunk and fighting, will be challenging and a lack of hotel rooms means some may have to stay in tents and on boats.

Before we get there, however, there is also the matter of what happens in 2021. The summer before each World Cup, FIFA stages the Confederations Cup – a competition for the winners of each continent's respective championships. Following uproar about Qatar 2022 being moved to December (mid-season for many leagues across the world), it is extremely unlikely that similar, disruptive, arrangements will be made for the "Confed". Hence, another host is needed and there are rumours that China, which has huge football ambitions, is keen to step into the void and help.

[the writer is Professor of Sports Enterprise, University of Salford]



Delhi HC sets aside penalty imposed on Kanhaiya by JNU

NEW DELHI, JUL 20 (PTI): The Delhi High Court today set aside an order of Jawaharlal Nehru University's appellate authority imposing a penalty on its former students union president Kanhaiya Kumar in connection with a 2016 incident in which alleged anti-India slogans were raised at an event.

Justice Siddharth Mridul said the JNU office's order was "unsustainable on innumerable counts" after which the counsel for the varsity submitted that they are recalling the decision.

The court remanded the matter back to the appellate authority to conduct de novo proceedings in accordance with law.

Kumar had moved the high court on July 17 seeking direction to quash the office order of July 4 passed by JNU through the chief proctor.

He was held guilty for doing an act in violation of discipline and conduct and the fine was imposed on him.

The Rs 10,000 fine was imposed on Kumar by the appellate authority in connection with the incident in which slogans were allegedly raised at the event relating to Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru's hanging.

On February 9, 2016, a poetry event was held at JNU in connection with the third anniversary of Guru's hanging for his role in the attack on Parliament on December 13, 2001.

A high-level panel of JNU had recommended that another student, Umar Khalid, be rusticated in connection with the incident. Besides, financial penalty was imposed on 13 other students for violation of disciplinary norms.

On July 5, the university had revealed that the appellate authority upheld the decision against Khalid and Kumar and in some cases the penalty has been reduced.

Kumar, Khalid and Anirban Bhattacharya, were arrested in February 2016 on charges of sedition in connection with the controversial event and now are out on bail.

STDC throws surprise birthday party for KMY yatri



ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

Taking the hospitality offered by the State a step further, Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation [STDC] organised a surprise birthday party for one of the oldest pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2018, Mandayan Anandampilly Sridhar [72], at the Tourist Guest House in Rangpo, East Sikkim on

19 Jul.

Mr Sridhar who hails from Bangalore in Karnataka completed his Kailash Mansarovar Yatra successfully in its 4th batch and had reached Gangtok on 18 Jul.

The pilgrims of the 4th batch of KMY '18 were on their way back home to their respective States. On reaching Rangpo, STDC organised the surprise party under the

direction of Chief Executive Officer, STDC, Suman Thapa, it is informed.

Mr Sridhar thanked STDC for showing such generosity through the surprise birthday celebration and for extending all the support throughout their pilgrimage.

Stressing on the pilgrims being their top priority, STDC CEO, Mr Thapa said that they wanted the pilgrims to

take back with them fond memories of the State and spread the message of the State's hospitality to their respective places.

"We have been engaged in the service of the yatri and have deputed our officers and staffs for their service through day and night. All of us are happy to help the yatri and we do not want any one of them to face any kind of prob-

lems while they are here in Sikkim," added STDC Manager, Tejpal Pradhan.

It may be mentioned here, STDC has been tirelessly engaged in providing all kind of support to the yatri during KMYs. Every year, at least 10 groups comprising of 50 yatri each head for the KMY pilgrimage via Nathula. This year the yatra was flagged off on 16 Jun.

SFA remains firm on Referee Board suspension

Will bring referees from outside for Premier league and I-Day tourney

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 20 JUL:

Sikkim Football Association president, Menla Ethenpa, informed today that the association will stick to its decision on the suspension of the Referee Board, reiterating that SFA was very serious on the matter and will not tolerate any indiscipline.

It may be recalled here that an emergency meeting of SFA executive committee on 30 Jun 2018 had suspended the Referee Board headed by Chamchuk Lama as head of referee and Nim Diki Bhutia as secretary for a period of one year.

Addressing a press conference here today, Mr Ethenpa stated that the matter will be placed in the upcoming annual general meeting of SFA for the final decision.

He added that since the association has taken



serious note of the matter, no decision will be taken until the AGM.

He also clarified that SFA decided that all matches in the premier division Sikkim-League and Independence Day Football Tournament 2018 will be officiated by referees from outside the State.

Speaking on the issue, Mr Ethenpa mentioned that HoR, Mr Lama, and secretary, Ms Bhutia, had not placed any issue regarding shortage of referees to conduct matches or any such issues at a meeting with SFA for the second division league at Football House on 17 July.

He informed that the association has also agreed to make a pay-

ment of Rs 300 per day and Rs 100 for meals. The first match of the second division went smoothly on 26 June but no referees were present on the field to conduct the match the next day so a senior footballer of the State voluntarily officiated the match, he added.

Mr Ethenpa stated that somehow the SFA managed referees from Pakyong who conducted matches for the next two days but Ms Bhutia threatened them against conducting the matches.

He added that SFA also tried to bring referees from Siliguri to conduct further matches in the league but Siliguri referee board informed

them that they too had been contacted by the suspended members to avoid sending any referees which is why they declined as well.

"On crossing all limits, SFA has finally taken the decision and informed the All India Football Federation about the matter. Although it is more expensive for us, we have been compelled to bring referees from Kolkata to conduct the rest of the matches in the second division," he informed.

He mentioned that to totally boycott the league without any prior notice and information was "very unlawful".

"SFA also got fed up with the last minute

Cleanliness drive conducted at Dikchu Bazaar



WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 21 JUL:

People of Dikchu Bazaar conducted monthly cleanliness drive at the Bazaar area today wherein litter in the town was collected and disposed. The cleanliness drive had the participation of members of Dikchu Youth Welfare Association, Bazaar Committee and students.



CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANIZATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & F.W. DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

Memo No. 257/CHSO

Date: 19/7/2018.

CORRIGENDUM

The following corrigendum are hereby made on the Tender document for "THE SUPPLY OF DENTAL CHAIR/ UNIT/ INSTRUMENT/ EQUIPMENTS FOR DISTRICT HOSPITAL NAMCHI AND SINGTAM FOR THE YEAR 2018-19" as per advertisement memo no: 209/CHSO/2018, dated 29/06/2018.

- 1. Non Conviction Certificate. (Clause 7, Page no 5):**
The Bidders (Manufactures/ Authorised Dealers/ representative/ Indian Subsidiaries/ Direct Importers) should submit a latest copy of Valid Non-Conviction Certificate, notarized Affidavit as per format in Annexure IV in the technical bid, proving that the firms has not been blacklisted/ debarred by any Tender Inviting Authority or by any State Government or Central Government department/ organization.
- 2. Supporting Documents : (Clause 10, Page no. 6):**
All pages of the bid shall be signed by the authorized person or persons signing the bid along with the stamp of the tenderer. Any interlineations, erasures or over writing shall be valid only if initialled by the person (s) signing the offer. In the event of shall be valid only if initialled by the person (s) signing the offer. In the event of documentary proof as required being not enclosed, the Tender shall be liable to be rejected. In case if any document is found false/ forged at the time of scrutiny or later on times is liable for blacklisting.
- 3. Payment Terms: (Clause 24):**
The payment shall be made after full execution of the supply, installation and commissioning as ordered and submission of requisite documents and subject to other terms and conditions as laid down under the Terms and Conditions.
- 4. Comparative statement of the technical specifications (Clause 27 to be added):**
The bidder should submit the Comparative statement of the technical specifications and compliance with the suppliers offered model, deviations and justifications.
- 5. Technical Specifications: (Annexure VII, page no. 20 and 21):**
(3) Upholstery: should be of soft form, with seamless, leather lite cover for patient comfort, antibacterial, and soft and easy to clean.
Body covering Movements:-
1. Body of the chair should be automatic with motorized up and down smooth movement. The Right side arm of the Chair to have lateral rotation for easy access to the Patient.
Chair Mount unit fitted with –
a) LED light with 3 Axis movement, maximum 25,000 – 40,000 LUX, at 80 cm distance +/- 5% On/Off by sensor switch non-touch. Variable Intensity control by non-touch sensor.
e) Should have to provide motorized suction with a flow 250 lts + per minute 10% high and low vacuum with flow control and with automatic start, with fluid container having automatic drain. There should be amalgam collection filter.
Modular delivery should be over the patient filled with
1. a) High speed airtorator handpiece fiber optic standard head size, autoclavable with internal spray speed of 3,50,000 to 4,00,000 rpm.
4. One 3 way syringe to provide Hot and Cold air, water and spray. Should be FDA/CE/BIS/ISO approved product.

- 1. DC X Ray with Remote Control (Wall Bracket)**
- 2. Infection Control Package:**
Autoclave "B Class" – (17 liters).
(Line 4) Screw Type Handle/ Mechanical lock is provided for the door locking, to prevent sudden opening of the door.

The X Ray machine should be type approved.

Items	Qty required
1. Dental Chair & Unit	2 set
2. Dental X-ray machine 70 KV	2 set.
3. Infection Control Package	2 set
4. Compressor	2 set.

Sd/-
R.O. No. 213/ipr/pub/classi./18-19
dt. 21.07.2018
Joint Director
Central Health Store Organization

Bru repatriation issue: FIR against 60 refugees

AGARTALA, JUL 20 (PTI):

Tripura Police has registered an FIR against 60 Bru displaced people for allegedly holding refugee leaders captive on Monday and forcing them to withdraw their signature from a tripartite agreement on their repatriation to their home state Mizoram.

The FIR was registered suo-moto at Anandanagar police station in North Tripura district, Superintendent of Police Manik Das said today.

Only three out of the 60 were identified and notices were sent to them, he said.

As per the tripartite agreement signed by the two state governments and the Centre, as many as 32,876 people belonging to the Bru community will be repatriated from Tripura to Mizoram before September 30.

A Sawibunga, presi-



dent of the Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF), the apex body of the refugees lodged in six relief camps in North Tripura for over two decades, also signed the pact on behalf of the camp inmates.

As part of the July 3 agreement, the Centre offered the refugees a package of Rs 1.5 lakh for housing assistance, Rs 4 lakh for sustenance,

free ration for 2 years, Rs 5,000 per month to each refugee family among other benefits.

Unhappy with the outcome of the tripartite agreement, a group of refugees gheraoed Sawibunga and other MBDPF leaders at Naisingpara relief camp for several hours on July 16 and forced him to withdraw his signature in writing from the pact.

The Bru community people from Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts of Mizoram had fled homes following an ethnic clash in 1997 and took shelter in Tripura.

Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has said there was a conspiracy to stop the Bru people from returning so that the business interests of some people are not affected.

contd from pg01
by Drug Controller of India. The entire vaccination programme is closely monitored by the GoI and WHO on a monthly/quarterly basis and feedback is given to the Health Department. The vaccination programmes of Sikkim Gov-

ernment have been appreciated by WHO," the department informed in the release calling the messages circulated in the social media "mischievous and devoid of any truth".

The department has further added that it has not allowed any

trials for any medicine/ vaccine in the State and has condemned false and misleading messages circulated in the social media that are obstructing the department and government servants in performing their duties.

The Health Depart-

ment has further warned of strict legal action under relevant provision of law for spreading such false messages and obstructing the government in carrying out its responsibilities.

to book advertisements in SummitTimes call 03592-208698, 9734152541 9647102692

David Warner returns to cricket in Australia in Darwin



DARWIN, JULY 21 (AP): Former Australia vice-captain David Warner has played his first cricket match in Australia since his ball-tampering suspension, scoring 36 in a one-day match in Darwin's limited overs Strike League.

Warner played for the City Cyclones in the 50 overs match against the Northern Tide at the Marrara Cricket Ground. Australia batsman Cameron Bancroft, also suspended over the ball-tampering incident, played in the same competition on an adjacent ground.

Warner and Australia captain Steve Smith were suspended for 12 months and Bancroft for nine months for their involvement in the incident during a test against South Africa at Cape Town in March.

Their suspensions cover international matches and Australia's main domestic competitions but the trio are free to play in independent leagues such as the Strike League. Warner and Smith recently played in a Twenty20 tournament in Canada.

Warner played a bright innings yesterday before falling to a top-edged catch.

He also took a catch in the field.

**CONTACT
SUMMIT
TIMES
REPORTERS**
SINGTAM
7699771651
MANGAN/
DIKCHU
9832612485/
9434011213
GANGTOK
8116388176
9832424750
8016270440

Dortmund ease past Man City in Champions Cup opener

CHICAGO, JULY 21 (AFP): Pep Guardiola's start to his pre-season campaign ended in defeat as Borussia Dortmund captain Mario Gotze's first half penalty was enough to see off the Premier League champions Manchester City 1-0 at Soldier Field in Chicago.

Guardiola was able to call on the likes of new signing Riyad Mahrez and German Leroy Sane but his otherwise highly inexperienced, young team were unable to get the better of a Dortmund side who have already played one game this summer and looked far sharper in the opening match of this year's International Champions Cup tournament.

Gotze's winner came in the 28th minute when American international Christian Pulisic was hauled down in the box allowing the midfielder who famously scored the winning goal in the 2014 World Cup final to beat Claudio Bravo.

Mahrez showed flashes of his quality yet Guardiola will be disappointed about the lack of cutting edge on show.

With the bulk of his Premier League title



winning squad enjoying an extended break after their exertions at the World Cup, it was a vastly inexperienced squad sent out by the Spaniard at Soldier Field.

Mahrez, the USD 75 million signing from Leicester, made his debut while the precocious young English midfielder Phil Foden also started.

There was a healthy crowd of 34,629 inside Soldier Field and although a young City side held their own early on, Dortmund created the better chances with Got-

ze pulling the strings together with Pulisic.

Mahrez was City's best player; a decent run and cross midway through the first half showcased his attacking threat.

But on 28 minutes, the Germans were ahead. Alex Zinchenko, who is set to leave the club before the start of the English domestic season, brought down the lively Pulisic in the box and Gotze beat Bravo from the spot before Alexander Isak almost made it two soon after.

Jack Harrison should

have done better just before the interval when he miscued a shot from close range and then Mahrez forced a great save from Dortmund keeper Marwin Hitz.

Nevertheless, Guardiola would have been all too aware of his side's lack of killer instinct.

Former Etihad starlet Jadon Sancho, who quit the Premier League club for Dortmund last August following a fall-out with Guardiola, was introduced in the second half and began promisingly.

Joe Hart, the former

England keeper, was making his first City appearance since August 2016 but it was opposite number Hitz who was almost beaten on 55 minutes when another Mahrez set-piece flew just past the post.

The Algerian's cute pass set Lukas Nmecha through on 70 minutes but his finish was lacking before Hart produced an excellent point blank save to deny Mahmoud Dahoud.

Dortmund, however, held firm to seal a deserved win.

Sri Lanka's famed Galle cricket stadium faces stumps



COLOMBO, JULY 21 (AFP): England could be the last team to take on Sri Lanka at its famed Galle stadium, considered one of the world's most picturesque cricket grounds, when they tour in November.

This is because the stadium with views of the sparkling blue Indian Ocean could be demolished because its pavilion stand violates heritage laws protecting a 17th century Dutch fort, according to the government.

Cultural Affairs Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakse told parliament Friday that the fort risks losing UNESCO World Heritage status because of unauthorised construction, including Galle's 500-seat pavilion.

"We have to decide if we want to remain in the World Heritage list or keep the pavilion," Rajapakse said.

The Galle stadium in the south of the island is hallowed among cricket fans the world over because of its stunning setting and because it is here that the Sri

Lankan team is often at its most formidable.

The hosts have won a majority of matches played there since 1998, with the strong winds favouring their wily spinners.

The world's highest Test wicket taker, Sri Lanka's spin wizard Muttiah Muralitharan, took his 800th scalp against India at Galle in 2010. Six years earlier, Australia's legendary Shane Warne took his 500th Test wicket there.

The first Test at the venue was in June 1998 and Sri Lanka won that match against New Zealand by an innings and 16 runs.

Last week, Sri Lanka won their first Test against South Africa in Galle by 278 runs with two days to spare, with the Proteas all out for a record low 73 in the second innings.

The Galle pavilion was built in 2008, four years after the grounds were devastated by the Indian Ocean tsunami which killed at least 31,000 people in the country.

Heat wave has Tokyo residents concerned about Olympics

TOKYO, JUL 20 (AP): A deadly heat wave in Japan this week has many residents in the Japanese capital questioning the wisdom of staging the Tokyo 2020 Olympics in July and August.

Rescuers in Tokyo responded to more than 3,000 emergency calls on Wednesday as the heat wave continued to grip Japan.

The 2020 Olympics will run from July 24 to Aug. 9 when temperatures in central Tokyo can exceed 35 degrees Celsius (95 Fahrenheit).

A total of 317 people were rushed to hospitals in the capital on Wednesday. The number of emergency calls broke the previous record of 2,900 set the previous day.

Tokyo's Application File to host the 2020 Games reads: "The pleasant weather conditions at this time of year will be ideal for athletes." But anyone who has spent a summer in Tokyo knows that's not necessarily the case.



Experts have warned the risk of heat stroke in Tokyo has escalated in recent years, while noting the Olympics are expected to take place in conditions when sports activities should normally be halted.

"If this is what it's going to be like for the

Olympics, it will be dangerous," said office worker Akira Nishino as he mopped sweat from his brow near the Imperial Palace on Friday.

Nine people died and thousands were taken to hospitals across Japan on Wednesday. Temperature rose as high as 40.7C

(105F) in central Japan.

The Japan Meteorological Agency warned of extremely high temperatures and has called on people to take precautions such as drinking water and using air conditioners.

In 1964, the Olympics in Tokyo were held in Oc-

tober, mostly to avoid the scorching heat. But that was before the Olympics became big business and TV contracts determined schedules.

Organizers are doing what they can but there is only so much that can be done in an attempt to beat the heat.

During a visit to Tokyo last week, John Coates, the head of an IOC inspection team, acknowledged that heat will be a huge challenge for Tokyo organizers.

"We are mindful that we do have to prepare for extreme heat," Coates said at a news conference. "You're not the first country to host the games in extreme heat. It's a natural consequence of being in July and August." Coates said organizers should explore all options to combat the extreme heat that will likely prevail during the games.

The marathon and a number of other outside sport events will be held early in the morning to avoid scorching heat, a plan approved by the IOC on Wednesday showed.

The Japanese government and the Tokyo metropolitan government are planning to lay pavements that emit less surface heat and plant taller roadside trees but many worry it won't be

enough.

Meanwhile Coates has urged Tokyo organizers to rely more heavily on foreign expertise in staging events where Japan does not have a strong background.

Tokyo organizers have been criticized by various sports federations over issues such as competition planning, water pollution and communication channels.

Some federations including sailing have raised concerns about Japan's ability to deliver their events to an Olympic standard.

"The federations are not going to have to worry too much about karate or judo or baseball or softball -- track and field, great experience there, swimming too -- but you go to rowing, canoeing, some of those sports, and it is going to need greater reliance on the international federations, in terms of operational planning," Kyodo News agency quoted Coates as saying on Friday.

World Cup fever still raging in Rohingya refugee camps

KUTUPALONG (BANGLADESH), JUL 20 (AFP): The World Cup may be over but passion for the game burns bright in the world's largest refugee camp, where Brazil and Argentina flags still flutter alongside the red and green of Bangladesh, which hosts nearly a million Rohingya Muslims forced out of Myanmar.

For many young refugees in Bangladesh's southeast this World Cup was their first, and the excitement of last Sunday's final shows no sign of abating any time soon.

Rohingya boys paraded a miniature replica of the World Cup through the dirt alleyways of the refugee camp, the smallest football fans staring dewy-eyed at the modest golden trophy as if it were the real thing.

"My favourite was Argentina. I won," said six-year-old Mohammad Reza, proudly sporting the blue-and-white jersey of firm local



favourite Lionel Messi. One of the youngest boys jostling for a glimpse of the miniature

cup in its small glass case was five-year-old Nurul Afsar in his Brazil top.

cup in its small glass case was five-year-old Nurul Afsar in his Brazil top.

"My favourite player is Neymar," he said shyly, clutching a rubber football.

Many fans crowded around one television to watch the final, said 18-year-old Nurul Absar, pointing to a tarpaulin shack just beyond a dirt clearing where football fans had congregated for an afternoon's play.

Dozens of barefoot boys played under threatening monsoon clouds, dodging muddy potholes to shoot at a goal demarcated with twigs.

An errant strike sent a ball soaring into the huts surrounding the pitch, as a referee blew his whistle at older players contesting the main match.

Apart from the odd Spanish flag or top European club jersey, football loyalties in the remote but overcrowded Kutupalong camp are mainly divided -- fiercely -- be-

tween Brazil and Argentina, mirroring a somewhat peculiar obsession among football fans across Bangladesh.

The South American rivalry has been traced back to broadcasts of the 1986 World Cup, when Diego Maradona's brilliance helped Argentina win the trophy -- and legions of fans in Bangladesh, where Brazilian legend Pele was already a household name.

Among the many boys of all ages giving their name as Neymar, one stood out: with his hair bleached in the superstar's signature style, Jahangir Alam bore the closest resemblance to the Brazilian striker; at least in this corner of the camp.

"I like Neymar a lot. That's why I got this hairstyle like him. I enjoyed the tournament," the 17-year-old said, juggling a football in his Brazil jersey.

Key member resigns from Myanmar advisory panel on Rohingya crisis

YANGON, JULY 21 (AFP): A key member of an international advisory panel on Myanmar's crisis-hit Rakhine state has resigned, saying that the Aung San Suu Kyi-appointed board risks becoming "part of the problem" in a conflict that forced 700,000 Rohingya Muslims to flee.

Retired Thai lawmaker and ambassador Kobsak Chutikul was secretary for the panel hand-picked by civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi to advise her government on how to handle the aftermath of a military campaign that drove the mi-

nority out of the country.

The brutal crackdown started in August last year and left hundreds of Rohingya villages razed to the ground.

Refugees to Bangladesh have recounted horrifying testimony of widespread murder, rape and torture in violence the UN and US have branded as ethnic cleansing.

Kobsak Chutikul said his position became untenable ahead of a second full meeting of the panel with officials in Myanmar's capital Naypyidaw this week.

"I verbally gave my resignation in a staff

meeting last Tuesday (10 July)," he told AFP today by phone from Bangkok.

The board, he said, risks becoming a "part of the problem".

"It lulls authorities into thinking they have done enough to respond to the concerns of the international community, that they've ticked that box," he added.

"It becomes dangerous in terms of an illusion that something is being done... that they're going to do something while Rome burns."

The credibility of the advisory board was undermined early on by the

resignation of veteran US diplomat Governor Bill Richardson a one-time close confidant of Suu Kyi.

He left the panel in January in a vicious war of words with the Nobel laureate.

The government insisted it had terminated his involvement but Richardson said he stepped down due to fears the committee would only "whitewash" the causes of the Rohingya crisis.

A statement by his office today said that Kobsak's resignation "further reinforces the concerns" he held.

Kobsak, however,

told AFP that he thought Governor Richardson's departure had been premature.

But he said the board's poor organisation and funding severely curtailed its work.

"We were winging it on the fly, not really in full grasp of the full facts and figures. Everyone was all over the place - we don't have a permanent office anywhere," he told AFP.

Suu Kyi's reputation lies in tatters internationally for her failure to speak up on behalf of the Rohingya Muslims, a stateless group persecuted over decades in Myanmar.

There was no immediate reaction from her office or the panel.

The advisory board has so far dismayed rights groups for not mentioning the word 'Rohingya' -- a name Buddhist-majority Myanmar rejects, preferring the pejorative term 'Bengali' that implies the community are illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

Kobsak Chutikul said the international community should rally round new UN special envoy Christine Schraner Burgener, who he said "offers the best hope in the circumstances".

Over 20 Indian-origin persons sentenced in massive call center scam in US

YOSHITA SINGH NEW YORK, JUL 21 (PTI): Over 20 Indian-origin persons have been sentenced up to 20 years in prison in the US for their involvement in a multimillion-dollar India-based call center scam which defrauded thousands of American citizens of hundreds of millions of dollars.

The prison sentences for the 21 people convicted this week range from 4 to 20 years.

"The stiff sentences imposed represent the culmination of the first-ever large scale, multi-jurisdiction prosecution targeting the India call center scam industry," US Attorney General Jeff Sessions said.

Several of the convicted will be deported to India after the completion of their sentence.

"This case represents one of the most significant victories to date in our continuing efforts to combat elder fraud and the victimisation of the most vulnerable members of the US public.

"The transnational criminal ring of fraudsters and money launderers who conspired to bilk older Americans, legal immigrants and many others out of their life savings through their lies, threats and financial schemes must recognise that all resources at the Department's disposal will be deployed to shut down these telefraud schemes, put those responsible in jail, and bring a measure of justice to the victims," Sessions said.

According to US officials, the call center scam defrauded thousands of US residents of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Prosecutors said the Indian call centers used various telephone fraud schemes to defraud mainly vulnerable Americans, including the elderly and legal immigrants.

According to various admissions made in connection with the guilty pleas, between 2012 and 2016, the defendants and their conspirators perpetrated a complex fraud

and money laundering scheme in which individuals from call centers located in Ahmedabad frequently impersonated officials from the Internal Revenue Service or US Citizenship and Immigration Services in a ruse designed to defraud victims located throughout America.

Using information obtained from data brokers and other sources, call center operators targeted US victims who were threatened with arrest, imprisonment, fines or deportation if they did not pay the alleged money owed to the government.

Victims who agreed to pay the scammers were instructed how to make a payment, including by purchasing stored value cards or wiring money.

Once the payment was done, the call centers turned to a network of runners based in the US to liquidate and launder the extorted funds as quickly as possible by purchasing reloadable cards or retrieving wire transfers, the Justice Department said.

In a typical scenario, call centers directed runners to purchase these stored value reloadable cards and transmit the unique card number to India-based co-conspirators who registered the cards using the misappropriated personal identifying information of the US citizens.

The India-based co-conspirators then loaded these cards with scam funds obtained from the victims.

The runners used the stored value cards to purchase money orders that they deposited into the bank account of another person.

The indictment for the case also charged 32 India-based conspirators and five India-based call centers with general conspiracy, wire fraud conspiracy, and money laundering conspiracy. These defendants have not yet been arraigned.

Earlier, three other Indians were sentenced for their involvement in the same fraud and money laundering scheme.

China on "wrong side" of religious freedom: Pompeo

WASHINGTON, JUL 20 (PTI): China is on the "wrong side" on the issue of religious freedom, a fundamental human right, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said stressing that America was opposed to "religious intolerance" in any country whether it is an ally or not.

At the State Department's three-day conference next week on religious freedom, the US will be making the case that religious freedom benefits countries economically and diplomatically, Pompeo said.

The summit will bring together government officials, representatives of international organisations, religious leaders, rights advocates and members of the civil society from around the world. Pompeo said that the Trump administration is considering taking multiple actions against Myanmar on the Rohingya refugee crisis.

"The State Department has made it clear that with respect to this issue (religious freedom), we think they (China) are on the wrong side of religious freedom, that they are a country of concern connected to that," Pompeo told VOA news.

He said the US believes that "religious intolerance is unacceptable" and aims to promote religious freedom in every country, whether or not it is an ally.

He was responding to a question on repression against the Uighur Muslims and Tibetan Buddhists in China.

"We understand that religious freedom is at risk in many places in the world, and yet the US has complex, broad relationships with many countries, including China, across economic and military and political sets of issues," he said.

"The Trump administration has been incredibly strong in promoting religious freedom. It is the case that there are many countries, indeed countries that we often work alongside, who are allies in other places, we work to demonstrate to them that religious tolerance and freedom is good for them," Pompeo told EWTN Television network.



A Pakistani peace activist campaigning for better Indo-Pak ties has returned home, seven months after he mysteriously went missing, according to a media report today. Raza Mahmood Khan, a convener of Aghaz-i-Dosti -- a friendship initiative between Indian and Pakistani youths -- was allegedly picked up on December 2, 2017 from his Model Colony residence in Lahore by some men in plain clothes. The police are, however, tight lipped about where the 40-year-old social activist was found, the Dawn News reported. Following Khan's 'enforced disappearance', human rights activists, friends and family had been agitating for his release, condemning attempts to silence and harass those speaking up for peace and human rights, the report said. Quoting Mohammad Imran, Superintendent of Police, Investigation Model Town, the report said the Punjab police had recovered Khan 10 days ago and he is in good health.

US flags concern over LeT-affiliated individuals participating in Pakistan polls: report

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, JUL 21 (PTI): The United States has raised concern over the participation of Lashkar-e-Taiba-affiliated (LeT) individuals in the July 25 election, according to a media report.

America has conveyed its concern to Islamabad, even as the European Union (EU) urged Pakistan to ensure "safe and secure conditions" for the polls.

"We have repeatedly expressed our concerns to the Pakistani government about LeT, including the participation of LeT-affiliated individuals in the elections," the US State Department said in a statement, according to the Dawn newspaper.

The State Department noted that the Pakistan Election Commission had rejected the registration of Milli Muslim League (MML) in June, citing "its

linkages to LeT, an internationally-sanctioned terrorist organisation", it said.

The statement pointed out that the State Department also amended its Foreign Terrorist Organisation designation of LeT in April to add the MML as a Lashkar alias.

The State Department had in an earlier statement stressed the need for continuing the electoral process despite recent terrorist attacks targeting Pakistani politicians.

Meanwhile, the European Union issued a statement in Brussels and urged Islamabad to ensure that electoral activities in all parts of Pakistan continued in "safe and secure conditions", the report said.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono said last week that Japan strongly hoped the general election would be held this month freely, fairly and

peacefully, without giving in to terrorists who wanted to disturb the democratic process in Pakistan.

In Washington, State Department's spokesperson Heather Nauert said that such attacks on political candidates and their supporters were "cowardly attempts to deprive the Pakistani people of their democratic rights".

The EU said that it expected Pakistani authorities to "take all the necessary steps to ensure that electoral activities in all parts of the country take place in safe and secure conditions".

All political contestants and citizens should be able to "exercise their constitutional rights to participate in the forthcoming general elections without intimidation or fear for their security," it added.

Notably, it has been reported that individuals of banned outfits were

openly taking part in the elections and even forging alliances with mainstream political parties.

On June 27, Pakistan's National Counter-Terrorism Authority (NACTA) officially removed the ban on Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) and unfreezed assets of its top leader, Ahmad Ludhianvi.

Ludhianvi reportedly met former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, who is contesting from Islamabad, and announced support to him.

Earlier, Maulana Fazlur Rehman Khalil, who is now chief of Ansarul Ummah, which he claims is a political party, and in the past was linked to the Harkatul Mujahideen (HuM) militant group, has announced support to the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) candidate in Islamabad.

PTI candidate Asad Umar after meeting Khalil

announced on social media that Khalil had joined his party, headed by cricketeer-turned-politician Imran Khan. Umar later corrected that the cleric decided to support him in the elections.

Similarly, supporters and nominees of Mumbai terror attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed are participating in election from the platform of the Allahu Akbar Tehreek after their Milli Muslim League was barred to contest.

Also, Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) of hardline Barelvi Sunni sect, and known for laying siege to the capital last year, had fielded candidates for more than 150 seats.

However, the law minister of the caretaker government, Ali Zafar, yesterday announced that authorities were keeping tab on all banned groups and fully monitoring their activities.

CIA: China is waging a 'quiet kind of cold war' against US

ASPEN (US), JUL 21 (AP): China is waging a "quiet kind of cold war" against the United States, using all its resources to try to replace America as the leading power in the world, a top CIA expert on Asia has said.

Beijing doesn't want to go to war, he said, but the current communist government, under President Xi Jinping, is subtly working on multiple fronts to undermine the US in ways

that are different than the more well-publicized activities being employed by Russia.

"I would argue ... that what they're waging against us is fundamentally a cold war a cold war not like we saw during THE Cold War (between the US and the Soviet Union) but a cold war by definition," Michael Collins, deputy assistant director of the CIA's East Asia mission centre, said at the

Aspen Security Forum in Colorado yesterday.

Rising US-China tension goes beyond the trade dispute playing out in a tariff tit-for-tat between the two nations.

There is concern over China's pervasive efforts to steal business secrets and details about high-tech research being conducted in the US. The Chinese military is expanding and being modernised and the US, as

well as other nations, have complained about China's construction of military outposts on islands in the South China Sea.

"I would argue that it's the Crimea of the East," Collins said, referring to Russia's brazen annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, which was condemned throughout the West.

Collins' comments track warnings about Chi-

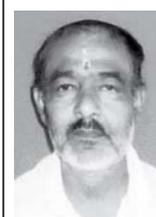
na's rising influence issued by others who spoke earlier this week at the security conference. The alarm bells come at a time when Washington needs China's help in ending its nuclear standoff with North Korea.

On Wednesday, FBI Director Christopher Wray said China, from a counter-intelligence perspective, represents the broadest and most significant threat America faces.

CHANGE NAME

I, Jiwan Limboo, S/o Ganga Ram Limboo, R/o Daramdin, West Sikkim solemnly declare that previously my name has been recorded as "Jiwan Subba". I have changed my name to **Jiwan Limboo** for all purpose and further records vide affidavit dated 14th August 2012 before the SDM Soreng, West Sikkim.

Anthyesthi Kriya



The Anthyesthi Kriya of **Mahesh Sharma** who left for heavenly abode falls on **26th July 2018**. All friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayer for the departed soul at our residence at **Lower Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim**. We also like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during the time of our bereavement.

Family Members: Mrs Kavita Sharma (Wife), Mr. Nimesh Sharma (Son), Ms. Jarna Sharma (Daughter), Mr. Madhav Koirala (Son-in-Law), Mr. Prabhakar Sharma, Mr. Mohan Sharma, Mr. Govind Sharma (Brothers). Cont: 9679900194, 8900402612, 9434357351



RED HOT! Jamie Chung, 35, put her fabulous fashion sense on show at The Pop Shop By Vita Coco, sizzling in a hot red suit that put her cleavage on show.

STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS ANIMATED TV SERIES RESURRECTED BY DISNEY FOR ONE FINAL SEASON!



It's a surprise to be sure, but a welcome one. Disney has resurrected Star Wars: The Clone Wars for one final season.

Fans rejoiced on Thursday when the studio announced it was bringing back the popular animated series, having cancelled it following its \$4-billion acquisition of Lucasfilm back in 2012.

The news was revealed at the Clone Wars anniversary panel at Comic-Con in San Diego. The final season will debut on Disney's own streaming service, which is set to be unveiled next year.

"I honestly didn't think we would ever have the opportunity to return to The Clone Wars," the show's supervising direc-

tor Dave Filoni said. "Thanks to the relentless fan support and the team behind Disney's direct-to-consumer streaming service, we will now get to tell more of those stories."

"We feel a tremendous responsibility to make something that lives up to the legacy that George Lucas created with the original series, and I think our team, many of whom worked on the show from the beginning, has risen to the challenge."

The series, introduced in 2008, is set between the prequel films of Episode II: Attack Of The Clones and Episode III: Revenge Of The Sith.

It follows Obi Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker as the Jedi lead the Repub-

lic forces and its clone army against the Separatists and their legions of droids.

The multi Emmy-winning show ran for six seasons, but fans were gutted when several storylines were left untied by the sudden cancellation.

On Thursday, a new trailer for the upcoming finale was unveiled — with the hash-tagline #CloneWarsSaved — showing Anakin being contacted by his former Padawan Ahsoka Tano.

The fan favorite female Jedi abandoned the Jedi order and her master after being framed for murder; the final 12 episode season is expected to explain the character's absence from Revenge Of The Sith.

Ram Gopal Varma disappointed with Sanju, promises to make 'real' biopic on Sanjay Dutt

Rajkumar Hirani's Sanju on the controversial life of Sanjay Dutt came and conquered, and there are no two ways about it. With over 500 crore (and counting) at the global box office, the film that stars Ranbir Kapoor in the lead role has broken records, opening gates for big moolah for the entire cast and crew.

Apart from the big bucks, the biopic also raked in raving reviews for performances, especially by Ranbir and Vicky Kaushal who plays his best friend, Kamli. Yes, there were a few scathing ones that branded the movie as a PR stunt but nothing takes away from the fact that audiences loved to see the other side of the story.

However, not everyone was left impressed. Case in point, Ram Gopal Varma is rather disappointed with the way Sanjay Dutt's story was portrayed on screen. In fact, he is even determined to redo it all over again.

According to Mumbai Mirror, the Satya



director is planning another Sanjay Dutt biopic, and the tentative title is Sanju: The Real Story. Reportedly, Varma's movie will focus only on Dutt's arrest in connection with the 1993 blasts and for possessing

an AK-56 rifle, something that many would admit, was not explored in Hirani's project properly.

According to a source, while RGV took a liking for the emotional roller-coaster it was, he felt the film didn't delve into details that it should have.

"That Dutt was doing drugs, was traumatised by his mother's battle with cancer (she died just three days before the release of his first film Rocky), had multiple flings, many of them one-night stands, is all well documented," the source was quoted saying. He has, in fact, started his research on the film, and has been meeting Dutt's associates, and cops involved in his arrest and investigation. Well, only time will tell how this one will dish out.

Actress Lydia Hearst defends husband Chris Hardwick at Comic-con over sexual assault claims

Lydia Hearst has defended her husband, "Talking Dead" host Chris Hardwick against allegations from his ex-girlfriend, actress Chloe Dykstra, that he sexually and emotionally abused her during their relationship that ended in 2014. "I've known him to be nothing less than absolutely loving, compassionate, supportive, not just to myself, but to everyone he knows and works with," Hearst told Variety.com.

"He's a genuinely good man with a good heart," she



added. Hardwick's shows are only on hiatus and AMC is conducting an investigation into the matter and she and Hardwick are both "extremely optimistic about" the result, she said. "I think fans can expect to see him back on the air soon and maybe hopefully back at Comic-Con next year," Hearst said.

The allegations stem from an essay Dykstra wrote for Medium in which she detailed a controlling relationship with restrictions on when she could go out and who she could befriend. After the breakup, she said Hardwick and an unidentified female colleague worked to get her blacklisted throughout the entertainment industry. Although she never directly named Hardwick, Dykstra described the boyfriend in details that made it clear whom she was referring to.

Titans dark first trailer sees Robin and his DC teenmates get violent...

DC has unveiled the first look at its new superhero series, Titans.

The very dark trailer — in both tone and visibility — introduces team leader Robin, played by Pirates Of The Caribbean star Brenton Thwaites.

His opening line in the edgy clip makes it very clear the show is not destined for the cartoon Network, like its hilarious predecessor. After nailing the superhero landing, the hero spooks a group of thugs gathered in a shadowy alleyway.

"Where's Batman?" one of them nervously calls.

"F**k Batman," the Teen Wonder replies before violently and bloodily dispatching the lot.

Stabbing one, stepping on another's neck and breaking it, Robin shows how far removed he is from his gun-disliking mentor by picking up a pistol and riddling his foes with bullets, before dropping his F-bomb introduction from a blood-spattered mouth.

The trailer also introduces Raven, daughter of a demon, played by 14-year-old Home And Away star Teagan Croft, who in this iteration is an angst-ridden teen.

After tracking down Dick Grayson from the circus, where his family were killed in a trapeze act gone wrong, she begs the now-police detective for help.

"There is something evil inside of me," she tells him.

"You're scared, I get it," he replies. "But you can control it."

The other members of the team are briefly seen in action, though not heard.

Starfire, an orange-skinned Tamaranian alien who can fly and shoot green starbolts in the comic — played by 24-



Legacy's Anna Diop — has been reduced to generating regular old fire with her hands.

Beast Boy meanwhile — a green-skinned teen who can morph into any creature at will, played by Big Hero 6's Ryan Potter — channels Lou Ferrigno's Incredible Hulk in his tinge, but doesn't show off any changeling skills.

Partners Dove (Minka Kelly) and Hawk (The Hunger Games' Alan Ritchson) are also briefly seen violently tearing up adversaries, which is out of character for the normally pacifist former.

Regular member Cyborg meanwhile looks unlikely to show up in the series,

having been promoted to the Justice League.

"My mom says there's no such things as monsters," Raven declares as the trailer closes.

"I used to think that; I was wrong," Robin replies.

Initial reaction to the trailer was wary, with many fans wondering why DC was so intent on the dark and brooding tone with so much of its properties, while others claimed it looked fan-made. The series will be the first of a batch that will launch on DC's forthcoming streaming service, DC Universe.

THE DAY AHEAD

ARIES: Today, Aries, matters surrounding business and finances need immediate attention, and this could prove a bit disheartening. Do you have a lot of unfinished tasks that have piled up? Gear up and get to them. They aren't going away, and you'll feel better about everything when they're out of the way. You might find that clearing up these old matters allows new opportunities to flow your way.

TAURUS: New opportunities to advance your professional standing may arise, Taurus. The aspects bode well for business and money. Promising new projects may present themselves. Your tendency to serve and nurture others should strengthen your work relationships, so morale on the job takes a tangible upswing at this time. Warmth and affection for friends, children, romantic partners, and even casual acquaintances should increase and enhance relationships.

GEMINI: Restlessness may plague you throughout the day, Gemini, because you could be brimming over with physical energy but have no outlet for it. You might have to stay in and wait for something important, which could prove frustrating. Put on an exercise video and do aerobics while you wait. This isn't a good day to start new projects. Limit your social interactions to exercising with others at the gym.

CANCER: Though current business and money matters could well encounter obstacles, at this time you may find yourself reaping the rewards of past efforts. Your naturally persevering nature practically assures more success in the future. Cancer, even though you might be blocked now. New insights as to how to continue to progress could come your way today. It might be a good idea to write them down so you'll be assured of having them at your fingertips later.

LEO: Today your powers of persuasion are at an all-time high. This is a good day to ask for a raise or promote a new project. Your drive to gain recognition for your accomplishments may necessitate seeking the public eye, so if publicity is what you need, this is the day to go for it. Your observational skills are acute, as is your insight into others' feelings. This is definitely a good day to seek advancement.

VIRGO: This day bodes well for accomplishments in business and finance. Long-term investments of either time or funds may finally pay off. New opportunities could come your way. This is a better time to complete old projects than start new ones. Virgo, but if you must, new projects started now should be successful. Celebrate by treating yourself to new clothes. Wear them for a longtime friend or lover this evening.

LIBRA: Your insight, creativity, and inventiveness are in full swing. Libra, and new ideas come thick and fast. However, you might find yourself too caught up in boring, mundane tasks to do very much about it. Yet physical energy is plentiful, so you have it in you to take care of chores and then have time to do what you enjoy. You'll produce results if you remember to pace yourself. Work too hard and you'll be too tired!

SCORPIO: As a natural healer, you might find yourself experiencing a rush of transformative energy today, which you should put into practice. This is a great time to go for a massage or study natural healing modalities such as herbs or aromatherapy. Combine them with your innate healing abilities, Scorpio, and you might be happy with the results. Your mind is especially receptive right now. You'll retain more of what you learn than you usually would.

SAGITTARIUS: Be prepared to work diligently toward making your dreams a reality today, Sagittarius. Success is definitely on the way, though it may not be approaching quite as quickly as you might like. A lot of significant letters and phone calls could come your way, keeping you busy. Don't allow yourself to get too frazzled, though. Take time periodically throughout the day to sit quietly and recoup your energy.

CAPRICORN: You could find it harder than usual to wake up this morning, Capricorn, as your energy may be flagging. Personal or professional pressures might stir feelings of futility, but don't fall into this trap. In spite of your momentary lethargy, everything on the horizon looks far better than it seems — primarily because of your own hard work. Retire early tonight and tomorrow you'll feel more energetic.

AQUARIUS: Today it might suddenly hit you that you have a lot of unfinished tasks that need to be completed, and this might lead to a case of the blues. Take heart! The process appears more overwhelming than it is, Aquarius. A little planning and focused discipline should enable you to get through everything without stressing yourself out too much. In the evening, reward yourself with a meal out or a movie.

PISCES: Business and financial matters look promising today, Pisces, but you could find yourself torn between the need to attend to these matters and the desire to relax at home. If you have to make a choice, it might be best to choose the former, because today's aspects promise opportunities that might not come around again for a while. The evening should be your own. Plan an intimate dinner with a lover. You'll like the results!