SummitTIMES

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LPG price hiked by Rs 2.71 per cylinder

New Delhi, Jun 30 (PTI): Subsidised cooking gas price was hiked by Rs 2.71 per cylinder today as a re-sult of tax impact of base price rising due to spurt in international rates and fall in rupee.

Subsidised LPG with effect from midnight to-night will cost Rs 493.55 in Delhi, a statement is-sued by Indian Oil Corp

Oil firms revise LPG ce on 1st of every month based on average benchmark rate and for-eign exchange rate in the previous month.

"The increase is mainly on account of GST on revised price of Domestic Non-Subsidised LPG," the statement said.
As a result of higher

global rates, the price of Non-Subsidized LPG at Delhi will increase by Rs 55.50 per cylinder. "The balance Rs.52.79

(Rs.55.50 minus Rs.2.71) is being compensated to the customer by increase in subsidy transfer to their bank account. Ac-cordingly, the subsidy transfer in customer's bank account has been increased to Rs 257.74 per cylinder in July 2018 as against Rs 204.95 per cylinder in June 2018. Thus the domestic LPG custom-er is protected against the increase in international prices of LPG," the statement said.

Consumers non-subsidised or market price LPG after exhaust-ing their quota of 12 sub-sidised cylinders of 14.2kg each.

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situation.

When he reached the hospital building, he was informed his son had died in the clash and the body was brought to the hospital.

> 16, was among the peo-ple injured in the clash between stone-pelters and security forces during the encounter with terrorists in Thamu-

na village on Friday.

He was rushed to a hospital in Rajpora in critical condition but doctors there feared he would not survive and referred him to the dis-

trict hospital, where his father practices.
"Doctors at the Ra-

ipora hospital informed us after they recognized Faizan. They also told us he might not make it (to the district hospital)," Dr Rashid Parra, medical superintendent of the dis-

to revive him when he was brought to the district hospital, but unfortunately there were no signs of life in him," Parra

It was then that Par-ra and other hospital staffers decided to call

"Faizan was born at this hospital and spent his childhood in the hospital campus. We called Khan without telling him about his son and then kept him in a room as we wrapped Faizan's body in

a shroud," Parra said.
Surrounded by his
colleagues at the hospital, Khan was informed about his son's death. They consoled Khan but it was unlikely that it would have helped in reducing his pain.

"He went to the casu-alty ward to see his son and broke down instantly. We all were in tears...,"

Faizan to the same hospital to be declared dead where he was born," he added.

ba terrorist was killed during the encounter in Thamuna village yes-terday. Police said today initial reports had sug-gested three terrorists were killed but two of them apparently escaped during the security oper-

Government to work with complete determination for the holistic upliftment of the general public. He also mentioned that the State Government has amplified its aims and objectives for the convenience of its citizens and created a roadmap in elevation of their socio-economic

ments were made during the programme by the CM. Deliberation will be done at the earliest to transform the Sikkim State University as 'State Green University'; spe-cialized subjects will be included in the curriculum at college level in order to skill the students according to the changing demands of the global world; free education for Sikkimese students in State medical college BPL senior citizens will be provided with hear-ing aid and dentures; amendment in Sikkim Succession Act, 2008 will be passed during the ensuing Assembly session; new roads will be sand tioned in one month's time; jhora protection works will commence; building of churches, temples and monasteries will be embarked upon at the earliest; DPR will be made depending on the primacy of the work; and qualitative implementation of work by the concerned stakeholders were some of the an-

nouncements.

The CM highlighted the diverse amalgamation of infrastructure expansion such as establishment of Sikkim University, road upgradation that has been brought about turn to pg03

CM's Jan Sampark Abhiyan concludes in Lingmoo at Sokeythang, Gangtok;

The final day of Chief Minister Pawan Cham-ling's 32-day Jan Sampark Abhiyan was held for Rangang-Yangang and Lingmoo, South Sikkim at Greenvale Academy playground in Lingmoo, South Sikkim today.

The CM was accompanied by Speaker SLA, KN Rai, MP Lok Sabha, PD Rai, Cabinet Ministers, Chairmans, Advisors, Zilla members, Panchayats, students and the public of the constituency.

It may be mentioned

here, the CM's tour which commenced on 02 Apr from North District is aimed at understand-ing and addressing the grievances of the public at grass root level. It is also a phenomenal exercise of the State Government which intends to take stock of ground realities and address the



issues at grassroot level appraising the people on the policies, welfare

measures and other de-

velopmental activities Addressing the gathering, the CM traced back

the start of Ian Sampark Abhiyan earlier in Apr and how during that time, the entire State Government machinery met and interacted with the public.

He deliberated that it

Public hearing on SIA study of 520 MW Teesta IV HEP held in Mangan



MANGAN, 30 JUN:
The public hearing on Social Impact Assessment
[SIA] study of 520 MW NHPC Teesta Stage-IV hydel project was held today at Zilla Bhawan in Mangan. North Sikkim. The SIA was held for the affected Gram Panchavat Units of the left bank of River Teesta which includes Malling-Singhik, Kazor, Zimchung, Tingchim,

The SIA was conducted by SIA Unit, Department of Economics & Statistics Monitoring & Evaluation [DESME], Government of Sikkim and Administrative Government of Staff College of India [ASCI]. Hyderabad and was attended by Executive Director, NHPC, D Chattopadhya, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mangan, PW Lepcha, officials from DESME, Land Revenue Department, Panchayat members, landowners and

the affected people.

The SDM Mangan gave an introduction of the SIA and the reasons for conducting it. Chief

Chief Engineer In charge, NHPC Teesta Stage-IV, Ramesh Mukhiya, high-lighted the components of the project.

Director, ASCI Hyder-abad, Dr Reshmi Nair, gave details about the SIA report to the landowners and af-

It may be mentioned here, the Panchayats of the areas of right bank of the river from Dzongu have submitted a petition to the North District Administration seeking postponement of the SIA in Lum/Gor/Sang-tok GPK and Hee-Gyathang GPK. Dzongu scheduled to be held on 02-03 Jul.

Regarding the same, some of the landowners *turn to pg03*

Adhoc lecturer group objects to regularization of 19 lecturers

GANGTOK, 30 JUN:

section of around 50 Asection or and adhoc lecturers have objected to the regular-ization of 19 adhoc lec-The 19 adhoc lectur-

ers were recently handed memorandums on their appointment as perma-nent lecturers. These lec-turers, who have worked for more than 5 years, were appointed on the basis of them fulfilling the required criteria even though they did not pass the interviews conducted by Sikkim Public Service Commission [SPSC] re-

However, the remaining 50 lecturers were not regularized since they did not meet the required

criteria although many of them have worked for more than 15 years.

According to group, if the regulariza-tion of the 19 lecturers is being done on compassionate grounds, then the same should apply to the rest and they should be given time to acquire the requisite qualifications.

ization of the 19 lecturers as 'great injustice' the group has requested the authorities to either absorb all lecturers who have worked for more than 5 years irrespective of whether they fulfill the required criteria or withdraw the appointment of the 19 lecturers.



Doctor saves many injured in clash during J&K encounter; only casualty is his son

SRINAGAR, JUN 30 (PTI): Dr Abdul Gani Khan had quietly retired to his residential quarter after a distressing day attending to people injured in a clash with security forces during an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district.

No sooner had he reached his residence, Khan received a call to urgently return to the district hospital in Pul-

Little did he know who he was to attend to. He had seen so much blood and suffering through the day it seemed impossible for him to comprehend the

Faizan Ahmad Khan,

trict hospital, said.
"We tried our best

Khan from his residential

the medical superinten-

dent said. "Fate had brought

Faizan's body was later taken to his ancestral home in Ladoo village of the district for last rites.

A Lashkar-e-Tai-



Chalk & Dust Free Classrooms launched in West dist



GYALSHING, 30 JUN [IPR]: Mission Chalk and Dust Free Classroom in All Schools was launched at Mangsari Secondary School in West Sikkim on Friday. Zilla Adhyakshya, West, Devika Subba, chaired the occasion as chief guest in the presence of District Magistrate, West, AB Karki, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Soreng, Additional District Collector [Development], Soreng, Block Development Officer, Assistant Engineer, Deputy Director [Human Resource Development Department], School

Principals, teachers, Panchayats members and other dignitaries.

Mangsari Mangerjung GPU Ward Panchayat, Gyan B Tamang, and Zil-la Panchayat, BP Sharma, sponsored white boards, dusters, markers and televisions to the schools falling under their jurisdiction to facilitate chalk free, dust free and audio visual study centre.

With the objective to improve scores of stu-dents in subjects like English and Mathematics, all Panchayats have taken the responsibility tive area schools in West Sikkim.

The DC urged every individual to come forward and help in favour of improving quality in education with special focus on English and Mathematics. He asked the students to be diligent in their studies and reminded them that Sikkim's free education to all Sikkimese students announced by the Chief Minister is for their benefit and they should grasp the opportunity and be

SKM holds district level meet in Gyalshing



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 30 JUN:

ikkim Krantikari Mor-Sikkim Kraliukai.... cha held its District level party executive level party executive meeting at its party of-fice in Gyalshing, West Sikkim today. The meet was chaired by working president, MP Subba, president, MP Subba, and attended by party members, PT Luksom, DB Gurung, Thutup Bhutia & JB Subba, and other

party functionaries of the district, an SKM press release informs.

The meeting dis-cussed the need to inject into the minds of people the change that the party seeks and Sikkim people aspire for and unanimously agreed upon working positively in accordance with the framework of the constitution of the party.

West begins prepping for World Tourism Day

GYALSHING, 30 [IPR]: The first

World Tourism Day a grand success with all

quested formation of a final organising committee which will be followed by round table meeting wherein the distribution their side as capital for the event along with the support from Depart-ment of Tourism and Civil Aviation and West District Administration.

of the festival.

Special Secretary for Tourism, Namrata Tha-

have helped Sikkim Tourism grow. The next meeting will

be held on 02 Jul wherein further discussions will be held in detail, it is in-

HSP forms South district committee in Namchi



SUMMIT REPORT

As part of its organisa-tional activities, Hamro Sikkim Party [HSP] constituted its South district committee during a meeting held at Namchi in South Sikkim today.

An HSP press re-lease mentions that the 21-member HSP South district committee has appointed Hukum Chandra Rai as its president. responsible for taking forward the activities of the party in South dis-

Similar party activi-ties of HSP are being held in West Sikkim by HSP West district committee under its president, In-dra Hang Subba, and HSP vice president, RB Subba, the release adds.

BJP questions State Govt on irregular power

supply in town

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 30 JUN:

Bharatiya Janata Party Sikkim Pradesh has alleged that the people of Gangtok and its surrounding areas been facing problems due to irregular power supply since past few days. The party has said that the complete black-out in Gangtok and its surrounding areas on 29-30 Jun is proof that the Sikkim Democratic Front government's claims of

development are limited

to speeches.

In a press release,
BJP Sikkim has said that people are paying power bills of the entire month but only consuming half a month's supply. If the SDF government does not immediately address the irregular power sup-ply problem in Gangtok and other areas. BIP will gherao the power projects in the State and the State Power Department as well to ask for clarifi-

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE **COMMUNICATION BRANCH**

POLICE HEADQUARTERS, GANGTOK - 737101

Dated: 29/06/2018

addiction.

The other activities during the camp includ-

ed team building ses-

sions, planning sessions,

meditation, nature walk,

physical training and tal-

NOTICE

chanics and Followers (Cooks, Washerman, Water Carrier and Barber) is scheduled to be held on 21/07/2018 (Saturday) at Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School (TNSSS), Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim.

Reporting Time for Follower Candidates

- 08 A.M. on 21/7/2018.

Reporting Time for Constable Drivers, Constable Mechanic candidates

- 1 P.M. on 21/7/2018.

Recruitment Committee

STP Pharma observes Paryavaran Mahotsav



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 30 JUN:

STP Pharmaceuti-cals Private Limited, Sangkhola along with local bodies conducted plantation and cleanliness drive at Sangkhola in East Sikkim to observe Paryavaran During the plantation drive, ornamental plants and bamboos were planted as provided by the Territorial Range Officer, Singtam. A press release informs that STP Pharma has been consistently observing the mahotsav and has maintained cleanliness and greenery at its premises.

tendent of Police, West, Tenzing Loden Lepcha, Further, he urged all otels and homestays to the meet that the Department of Information & importance of members of West Sikkim together as one. He remake contributions from Public Relations will be due credit to people who

paredness meeting for World Tourism Day 2018 was held at Bhanu Salig in Kyongsa. West Sikkim today. The meeting was presided by District Collector, West.

Tourism Society and of-ficials from Sikkim Tourism. Gangtok.

The DC shared his vi-sion of making this year's

of responsibilities will be

It was decided during

partly taking charge of all publicity related aspects

pa, stated that 2018 is the 'Year of Adventure'

SAATHI offsite training camp held at Chemchey

GANGTOK, 30 Jun:
Sikkim against Addiction and towards Healthy India [SAATHI] organized an offsite training camp for five Government Schools namely Luing Govern-ment Senior Second-ary Schools, Mellidara Government Secondary School, 4th Mile Government Junior High School, Aho Kishan Government Secondary School and Burtuk Government Ju-nior High School at Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tour-ism [IHCAE] in Chemchev, South Sikkim from 27-30 Jun, a press release

The camp had the participation of 117 stu-dents and 08 teachers from the above mentioned schools.

During the camp, various motivational and technical sessions on substance abuse along with learning based fun and physical activities

Ref No: SIMFED/18-19/744(A)

With the approval of the Gove

been fixed with immediate effect Rates in Rupees

Per kg

sale rates and the Maximi

Tomato

Cabbage

Carrot

Raddish

Broccoli

Pea

Chilli

Brinjal

Bhendi

Bottle Gourd

Bitter Gourd

Leafy vegetables

Chayote

Butter Beans

Singtamey beans

Cauliflower

were conducted with the students. The students were informed about physical emotional and ocial effects of alcohol,

SIMFED (

Sikkim State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. Above Sangram Bhavan, Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim

NOTIFICATION

SIMFED's Pro-

(Farmgate)

25

28

28

22

50

40

33

38

15

20

20

10

25

25

Government, the Procurement price (Farmgate price), Whole-um Selling Price of the following Local Organic vegetables have

SIMED's selling

sale)

30

33

33

55

48

40

45

18

24

24

30

marijuana, tobacco and substance abuse and its ill effects in education, goals and future success.

Date: 18th June, 2018

Maximum Selling Retail Price

30 40

40

40

30

65

60

50

60

25

30

30

15

40

of Counseling was con-

Likewise, Pranit Tha-

ducted by Pragyan Deep Dewan [Counseling Psychologist] while Dewak-er Basnet [Proprieter, 24 Hours Inspired] spoke on unication skills.

pa [Teacher Coordinator, Namcheybong GSSS]

conducted a session on medical aspects of drugs with Joy Gurung [Sub Inspector, Namchi SHO] highlighting on legal as pects of drug abuse and Bikash Bista [Teacher. Jorethang GSSS] counseling the students about various consequences of

No. 78/COMM/2018

The Written Examination for Constable Drivers, Constable Me-

Candidates must bring their Admit Card alongwith Proof of Identity (Aadhar Card/ Voters ID) for getting entry into Examination Hall.

R.O. No. 167/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 30.6.2018

Police Headquarters, Gangtok

R.O. No. 165/Pub/classi./18-19 dt. 30.06.18

The above rates shall be reviewed from time to time and is valid till further notice. (General Manager) SIMFED

Gangtok on Sunday, 01 July

Temp: 23°C/18°C Forecast: Periods of rain, some heavy, and a thunderstorm; cooler: watch for flooding. Sunrise: 04:44 AM Sunset: 6:34 PM

Mevedir conducts training on organic farming technologies SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 30 JUN:

Mevedir conducted daylong training on organic farming tech-nologies for farmers of Aarigaon Chumjong, under Yangthang GPU, and Lower Tikpur, under Siktam Tikpur GPU, West Sikkim on 29 Jun, a press release informs.

In Aarigaon Chum

jong, Mevedir master trainer, Amrita Subba, presented demonstration on preparation of Nettle Sprays and in-formed that the nettle sprays can help fight blight diseases and can be used for varied crops.

Likewise, in Lower Tikpur, Mevedir master trainer, Chuten Sherpa, demonstrated the preparation and usage of Amritjal by using cow dung, cow urine, jaggery [gur], water and soil from the farmer's field.

Concluding the ses-on, Block Technology Concluding the session, Block Technology Manager, ATMA, Dawa Tshering Sherpa, high-lighted on the benefits of organic farming and informed that various produce cultivated in certified farms are collected by Farmer Producer Organizations [FPOs] for marketing. He urged all to take full advantage of the opportunity and reap benefits from such programmes being provided by the State Government.

to book 03592-208698 9734152541

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news@ summittimes.com

Highest 4-day stage race in Country, EPIC 17K concludes

The EPIC 17K Mountain Terrain Biking race, the highest four day stage race in the Country came to a finish at Gurudongmar at an altitude of 17800ft in North Sikkim. The event was organized by the North District Administration with its technical partners Hub Outdoors

The event revolved around the theme "Beti Bacho Beti Padhao" and "Secure Himalava".

The race was very challenging but it was a race of lifetime for both elites and amateurs, as they passed through one of the most panoramic views of the world and

experienced the beauty of North Sikkim having covered a total distance of 80 cyclists participated in the event which includvaried professional background like bureaucrats. doctors, cadets from SSBs.

Issac Rai from SSB who covered a stretch in 13 hours, 32 minutes and 5 second won the coveted prize in the Men's Elite category and took away a cash prize of Rs 70.000. Tandin Wangchuk from Bhutan stood second in the Men's Elite category completing the stretch in 14 hours, 48 minutes and 32 seconds while Shiven from Chandigarh stood third with a timing of 14 hours, 55 minutes and 4 seconds

Issac Rai was also adjudged the winner in the "King of the Mountain" race which was the toughest stage and won a cash prize of Rs 20000. He covered the stretch from Lachung to Thangu spanning a distance of 83 km in four hours 47 minutes. The final stage of the

race took place on 29 June from Thangu at an elevation of 13.300 ft with Gurudongmar as the final destination at an elevation of 17,800 ft. This stage saw a tie between Asim Sharma from Sikkim and Issac Rai of the SSB and both completed the race in 2 hours, 29 minutes and 2 seconds.

In the Men's Master riders above the age of 40, the winner was 62-year-old Tashi Dorjee Tangbi from Bhutan who finished the course in 17 hours 3 minutes and 28 seconds. Tenzing Chombay Sherpa from Darjeeling stood second in the category with 18 hours 5 minutes and 12 seconds and Brin-da Mohan Subba stood third with a timing of 18 hours 43 minutes and 56 seconds. The cash prize of Rs 30,000, Rs 20,000, Rs 10,000 was awarded to the first three riders in Men's Master competition. A special consolation prize was awarded to all female riders who participated in the event.

Forest Minister, TW Lepcha who was main sponsor of the event also took part in the race. In the closing ceremony held at Lachen Dzumsa Hall, he said that the race will promote entrepreneurship among the youth and develop tourism in the state. He stated that the youth should capitalize on the event and he also invited feedback from the riders for further improvement in the event in the coming years. He also gifted a mountain bike to Ching Chang Rai who stood 8th in the race and is a taxi

The closing ceremony of the event was orga nized at Lachen Dzumsa hall where a grand feast was organized by Lachen Dzumsa and a traditional cultural program was The ty Speaker SLA, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, Forest Minister Mr Lepcha and other esteemed guests attended the closing ceremony. The medals of the race were distributed to all the winners and participants. Mementos were also distributed to the volunteers and sponsors of the event.

The District Administration has decided to make the competition an in the district. The first edition of the race was 2017. The event has generated significant atten-tion in the Mountain Biking community and many organizations have expressed their willingness to be associated with the event in the near future.

The EPIC 17K event

was supported by 11 Battalion ITBP commanded by Rajesh Tomar,112 Mountain Brigade of the Indian Army, Lachen Dzumsa, La-chung Dzumsa, and Kazi Sherpa an eminent Everester from Sikkim, District District police Hospital, force and Sikkim Nationalized Transport.

Forest Dept conducts mass cleanliness drive in Namchi

NAMCHI, 30 JUN:
A mass cleanliness
drive was carried out at Central Park, Namchi Bazaar and adjoining ar-eas of Namchi Municipal Council in South Sikkim today as part of Paryava-ran Mahotsav under South District Headquarter. The cleanliness drive was organized by Territorial Division, Forest Department, South led

by Additional Director, Udai Gurung.

The programme had the participation of all line departments of South district, NGOs, Bazaar community and social organisations of Namchi.

Earlier, Additional Director, Mr Gurung, also urged the shopkeepers and general public of Namchi to maintain their sur-



SFA suspends Referee Board for unlawful activity, referees deny allegation

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 30 JUN:
A feud has broken out between the Sikkim Football Association [SFA] and its Referee Board which has led to the suspension of the Referee Board for a period

of one year.

A press release from SFA today informed that the executive committee of SFA held an emergency meet-ing this evening and unanimously passed resolution to suspend the Referee Board for resorting to unlawful activities. The board is headed by Head of Referee, Chamchuk Lama, and Nim Diki Bhutia as secretary.

According to SFA, the Referee Board resorted to wildcat strike and did not turn up in the ground to conduct scheduled matches on 27 Jun 2018 without

any advance notice to SFA.

However, while speaking
to SummitTimes, Nim Diki

Bhutia refuted this allegation and said that they had informed SFA about the unavailability of local referees.

It may be mentioned that the Second Division

"Among local referees Among local referees of Gangtok, Priscilla Ta-mang is not available as she is out of station to offi-ciate a tournament at Cut-tack and as SFA could not arrange leave for Reshmi Chettri from her department so she is also not available," she informed.

The referee board had then requested Adarsh Gurung from Chakung to officiate the tournament. "On his arrival, just a day ahead of the league on 24 June, Adarsh Gurung plained to the referee board that his accommodation managed by SFA at Football House was in fused to stay in that room. On that day, he stayed in the house of a relative in Gangtok," she informed.

matter brought to the notice of the SFA officials repeatedly but no action was taken, said Ms Bhutia.

"However, he officiated the first match of the league on 25 June. SFA's senior officials directly denied making any other accommodation arrangements for him so Adarsh expressed his desire not to officiate the league further and SFA officials also agreed and paid his fees

for officiating the first match," she said. SFA officials were then informed that are no referees to officiate the league from the next day, she add-ed. Ms Bhutia further said that there has been no official correspondence with

SFA officials and they have been conducting matches so far in the league with uncertified referees.

Although the referee board has not received any official information regarding its suspension, SFA should provide valid reasons for doing so, she

Meanwhile, SFA has alleged that referees from Pakyong, who conducted matches on 28-29 Jun, were threatened by other referees not to conduct any more matches which is why no matches could be conducted on 30 Jun.

The SFA committee also resolved further to keep the referee panel under SFA League Organizing Committee [LOC] till the next board is constitut-ed. All other referees who want to pursue referee activities are advised to

Public hearing on SIA study of 520 MW Teesta IV HEP held in Mangan

Contd from pg01

from the right bank also turned up to attend the SIA today and submitted a memorandum stating that the scheduled SIA for the right bank should

not be postponed.

During an interaction session, Panchayat vice president, Mangshila-Tibuk GPU, Dilliram Limboo, placed some additional demands to be included in SIA including insurance of property, health insurance provision of Area Development Fund under CSR in GPUs.

Likewise, one Tashi Tongden Lepcha underlined provision of skill development training for unemployed youth and involvement of af-fected people in Local Area Development Com-

mittee.

Dawa Tamang of Rangrang demanded employment opportunity to be given to one member of the family of each landowner.

people were explained and assurances were given by the project developer and the officials.

The affected people of right bank of River Teesta who turned up today also placed their demands and suggestions.

Likewise, people from the left bank of Riv-er Teesta also demanded that their SIA should also accepted and made final today.

The NHPC Teesta

Stage-IV is a run-of-theriver hydro project with a proposed installed ca-pacity of 520 MW. The project is a part of the Teesta cascade evolved by the Central Water Commission [CWC] and is located between Teesta-III HE Project upstream and Teesta-V station

CM's Jan Sampark Abhiyan concludes in Lingmoo

in Rangang-Yangang and Lingmoo. He also spoke in detail of the comprehensive progress which the general public will after the building of Sikkim University and Skywalk Project at Bha-

leydhunga in Yangang.

He further urged the citizens of Sikkim to reshape their thinking process as that of people living in the developed countries of the world which is possible through the accumulation of experience, formation of substantial priorities substantial priorities and dignity of labour. He also extolled that Sikkim is the only State in the country to be exempted from Income Tax.

The CM informed that the State Government has provided free medical assistance to the public and urged people to make use of the various health schemes.

Earlier, the CM laid the foundation stone for the up-gradation of eight-room school building at Lingmoo Kolthang Senior Secondary School.

During the course of the programme, the CM

was felicitated by the students of Lingmoo Senior Secondary School and Secondary School and Greenvale Academy for

raising the prestige of the State in domestic as well as in international arena.



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANISATION

HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM CONVOY GROUND, TADONG

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Memo No. 205/CHSO/18-19

Date: 29/06/2018

Sealed quotations are invited from the reputed manufacturers, authorised distributors/dealers/ representative for the supply of equipments, instruments, fixtures, furnitures, computers and accessories for setting up 5 bedded dialysis centre at District hospitals Namchi for the year 2018-19.

The Tender Details can be obtained from Sikkim Government website www.sikkim.gov.in w.e.f 02/07/2018.

Sd/-Joint Director Central Health Stores Organization. R.O. No. 163/IPR/Pub/classi./18-19 dt. 29.06.2018

to support the initiative of SFA to continue their foot-ball activities. A copy of the SFA resolution is also being for-warded to All India Foot-

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM HORTICULTURE AND CASH CROPS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT KRISHI BHAWAN, TADONG

Memo No: 66/Engg/HCCD

empanel themselves with

LOC, the release states.

The release further adds that efforts will be made to continue the foot-

ball activities of SFA as

pail activities of SFA as per its calendar with the help of other empanelled referees failing which SFA will be left with no other option but to import refer-ees from outside Sikkim to

The SFA has urged all

the clubs of Sikkim espe-cially "B" Division Clubs

hall Federation New Delhi

the release informs

conduct the matches.

Dated: 28.6.18

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

"Expression of Interest" is invited for leasing out a three storied RCC building for Wholesale Regulated Market cum Integrated Pack House at Melli, South Sikkim. The following spaces and facilities as mentioned below will be handed over at present.

BASEMENT - I: 79.0 ft x 29.0 ft (2291.0 sft).

1. BASEMENT – I: 79.0 ft x 29.0 ft (2291.0 sft).

One Auction Hall (46.5 ft x 29.2 ft = 1353.0 sft).

One Canteen/multipurpose room (20.0 ft x 29.0 ft = 580 sft).

One kitchen/Ladies toilet/Gents Toilet.

2. GROUND FLOOR: 80.0 ft x 60.0 ft(4800 sft)

Dry Store – I (1300.0 sft)/ Grading Area (210.0 sft).

Dry Store — II (832.0 sft).

Two Office rooms with 217.0 sft area each.

Toilet Blocks for Ladies & gents.

TOP FLOOR: The fully air-conditioned top floor is the integrated floripack house with the following facilities.

Grading & Sorting Room (900 sft).
Pre Cold Store (96.0 sft).
Cold Store- I (396.0 sft)
Cold Store – II (850.0 sft).

R.O. No. 162/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19

Auction Hall (900 sft): This climate controlled room have sitting capacity for 40 bidders (20 tables & 40 chairs), PA system & LED TV.

ns of reference:

The facilities created would be handed over for a period of 5 (Five) year in "as is where is basis" which can be extended further based on the performance.

The unit would be handed over to the highest bidder.

The interested individual/Agency should be preferably local.

The interested individual/Agency should be registered with APEDA as a merchant.

The interested individual/Agency should be registered with APEDA as a merchant.

The interested individual/Agency should be having National and International market linkages.

The interested individual/Agency should market Agricultural and Horticultural products of Sikkim only.

List of Equipment's for Grading and Packing process, Computer and Peripheral's, P.A systems and other electrical items, other inventories and furniture's will be available from the Engineering Cell of the Department.

Timely repair, maintenance of the unit should be ensured and electricity bill be borne by the individual/ Agency.

The unit shall be subject to time to time inspections by the government officials during the lease period.

Further facilities may be added by the Department to strengthen the unit depending upon the avail-IU. Furrher facilities may be added by the Department to strengthen the unit depending upon the availability of fund which will not be covered by this EOI and a separate EOI shall be floated for the same. The "Expression Interest" in sealed envelope should reach the office of the Director-II, Horticulture and Cash Crop Development Department, Krishi Bhavan, Tadong, East Sikkim on or before 2.00 pm or 24.7.2018 and shall be evaluated on the same day by the Evaluating committee in the presence of authorised representatives of the individual/Agency.

Mission Director

Government of Sikkim, Krishi Bhavan, Tadong

SummitTIMES

A Birthday Worth Celebrating, **Examples Worth Emulating**

His Holiness leads by example; we should follow

 $T^{
m he}$ Dalai Lama turns 83 on 06 July. On that day, he will equal the record of the longest-living Dalai Lama, the first, who is reported to have lived till he was 83. Those who receive their news exclusively online, would have come across clearly planted and leaked reports suggesting that the Dalai Lama was keeping in poor health. The Governor of Sikkim met the Dalai Lama on Thursday, and the photographs of the meet ing have the Dalai Lama beaming with his trademark self-effacing warmth. Definitely not a picture of illhealth or even suggestive of his advanced age.

While His Holiness' advanced years health in themselves are reasons enough for his followers to celebrate his birthday, even the nonbelievers should join the celebrations because the Dalai Lama's contributions to the secular world are as profound as his hierarchical position in Tibetan affairs is supreme.

The Dalai Lama is the spiritual anchor of a displaced people. He keeps their hopes alive and priorities in line with his logical and clear thinking. Few leaders can claim to bring such succour to their people. Although he dismisses any reference to him as a 'God King', and for long has preferred to introduce himself as a 'Simple Buddhist Monk,' the Dalai Lama stands heads and shoulders above most heads of states for his contributions to how the world conducts itself. The Tibetan issue could have snowballed into a cold-war incinerator and imploded like Afghanistan had it not been for the Dalai Lama's commitment to peace and rational approach to a historical wrong. The Dalai Lama was barely 24 when he was thrown into the outside world, of which, not only he, but most Tibetans who joined him in exile, knew very little. While this culture shock would have been too much for less-er minds to handle, the Dalai Lama conducted himself exceptionally. Not only did he learn and adapt well, he also kept his flock together and even managed something that had eluded Tibetans even in Tibet - unity. Religion was influential in Tibet. The next were clans and their attendant hierarchies. The various sects of Tibetan Buddhism had quarreled often while in Tibet and the clans remained parochial and insular. It was with such a baggage that the Dalai Lama found himself in India; a way of life and a culture under threat. There must have been many who tried to influence the young leader, but the only influences that the Dalai Lama allowed were ones which furthered his understanding of the modern world and benefited his people. He is now respected as a great unifier, a savior, and a man of peace. Few can deny him this recognition and China still fears the influence he commands not only over Tibetans in exile, but also those at home.

Where other leaders would have retreated, the Dalai Lama has adapted, improvised and grown. The people who have gained most from this attitude have been the Tibetans, but the world at large too has learnt much from him. The near hysteria that greets his ar rival everywhere he goes does not come from blind faith alone, it is triggered because he inspires hope, instills belief and most of all, delivers.

In a world grappling with the rise of extreme rightwing posturing, the Dalai Lama also makes it possible for organized religions to adopt less regressive positions. Even as most religious leaders promote more and more parochial interpretations of their respective scriptures, the Dalai Lama keeps an open mind. In his book, Beyond Dogma, he does not shirk from sharing his opinion on homosexuality, which no organized religion provides a humane answer to. "If the two peo ple have taken no vows [of chastity], and neither is harmed, why should it not be acceptable?" he posits. Few religious leaders will come on record with such open minds, but now that the Dalai Lama has done so, others might follow. While the Dalai Lama records that homosexual behaviour is considered sexual misconduct for Buddhists, he admits to a "willingness to consider the possibility that some of the teachings may be specific to a particular cultural and historic context. Also, for a man who has seen his people suffer in the hands of Communist ideology, he displays no prejudice and has in the past endorsed that of all the modern economic theories, for him, the economic system of Marxism is founded on moral principles. "I think of myself as half-Marxist, half-Buddhist," he says.

The Dalai Lama opens many windows to the world, keeps reminding those who will listen that there are many ways to approach tricky situations. There is much that the world can learn from him, and should, and hence should celebrate his birthday as a first step towards emulating the path he has chosen.

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A psychological theory to explain how music helps footballers prepare for the pitch

COSTAS KARAGEORGHIS, JONATHAN BIRD & MARCELO BIGLIASSI theconversation.com

ith the 21st FIFA World Cup in Russia now in With the 21st FIFA World Cup in Russia now in full swing, fans await a symphony of soccer set to a musical score. Football has long been established as one of the world's most popular spectator sports, characterised by a vibrant music culture embodied in chants from the terraces, era-defining soccer anthems, pre-match and half-time entertainment, and players' use of music as part of their pre-match routine.

In our recent study published in Sport, Exercise

Opinion

and Performance Psychology, we looked at how young players in the Premiership Academy youth league used music to psychologically prepare themselves for match performance. We presented a grounded theory to illuminate the science behind this phenomenon, illustrated in the diagram below.

We studied 34 academy players from a UK Pre-nier League football club using questionnaires, reflective journals, interviews and observations. We found how players used music both to stimulate and to regulate emotion prior to a match. Music is also used to build a sense of group identity, by increasing perceptions of group cohesion and creating a positive team atmosphere.

Many players have gone on record to testify to the power of music. For example, former England and Manchester United captain Rio Ferdinand, a veteran of two World Cups, is well known for his pre-match playlist of hip-hop and grime classics. Among his favourite tracks was Tinchy Strider's Game Over, a track that pulsates with raw, confrontational and alpha male-type energy.

Our grounded theory model shows the way in

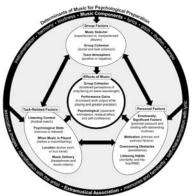
which music is used in psychological preparation for training and on match days. The musical com-ponents (top of outer ring) and non-musical factors (bottom of outer ring) are moderated and affected by the group environment, current context and personal factors relevant at the point of listening. The interaction between these aspects alters the impact of the music in terms of its positive physical or psychological benefits.

By way of illustration, one of the players commented: "Today in the gym, I felt very fatigued and a bit aggravated, and not as though I could get through the gym session. Another player put on Post To Be by Omarion and he knows that's my tune. As soon as the boys in the gym and I heard it,

we were all buzzing and it got me motivated."

Interestingly, we found that some players may feel that preparation without music was inade quate, suggesting that many develop a dependen-cy on music as part of their routine. We also found that the effects of music would linger beyond its running time: this phenomenon of the residual effects of music is well documented in music psychology literature, and we will all know how persistent ear worms can be (even when we'd rather they weren't). Often, the lyrics of the last track players hear can resonate in their minds and influence





their emotional state

Coaches, such as England's Gareth Southgate, can make use of pre-match music with the ultimate goal of unifying the team, optimising players' emo-tions and even achieving performance gains on the pitch. A team anthem can serve to unite the fans behind a team: a prime example of this was at the 1996 European Championships hosted by England, during which the home fans chanted "It's coming home, it's coming, football's coming home", from the song Three Lions, performed by popular TV comedians David Baddiel and Frank Skinner.

The lyrics alluded to the fact that England, the spiritual home of soccer, had not won a major championship since the World Cup it hosted back in 1966. Although it wasn't to be for England on this occasion – they were knocked out by Germany in the semi-finals – the catchy refrain served to bridge the gap between a mere soccer tournament and a stage for the nation's hopes and dreams.

One unique finding to emerge from our study was the degree to which the music preferences of senior players were readily accepted and adopted by juniors. Accordingly, if music motivates a team leader, such as England captain Harry Kane, his motivation can itself influence other members of the squad through nonverbal cues.

Familiarity is an important factor in terms of players' liking for music. Selections that are familiar and exploit cultural and personal associations are, according to the theory, likely to yield greater psychological benefits. Our participants suggest-ed that playlists should be varied and directed towards the needs of the majority of players on a

Examples of pre-match tracks selected by our participants included Lose Yourself by Eminem, Pour It Up by Rihanna, Blood On The Leaves by Kanye West, and The Catch Up by Drake. Be-cause everyone has a different taste in music, this wouldn't work for all players. But there are scien-tific ways in which coaches and managers can get a "best fit" between playlists and players' preferences, something examined further in the book Applying Music in Exercise and Sport.

We found evidence of the effects that music has on psychological responses such as self-confidence and motivation. Some players indicated that the presence of lyrics and a fast tempo had the biggest effect. Alternatively, when other players listened to 300 Violin Orchestra by Jorge Quintero, an in-strumental track at a steady 100 bpm, the music nevertheless appeared to conjure up the sort of pre-match imagery required. According to one par-

It felt like I was getting ready to go to war, it was the violins, it was getting me prepared for something. So even instrumental music can provide an

auditory and emotional backdrop against which a player can visualise their match performance to

come as part of their psychological preparation. Following the incessant din of the vuvuzelas in South Africa 2010 and the lilting beat of the samba drums in Brazil 2014, we eagerly anticipate a new wave of music-sport crossovers from the 2018 incar-nation of the World Cup in Russia. Let the band play on!

[Costas Karageorghis is Reader in Sport Psychol-ogy, Divisional Lead for Sport, Health & Exercise Sciences, Brunel University London; Jonathan Bird is PhD Research Student in Sport and Exercise Psychology, Brunel University London; Marcelo Bigli-assi is PhD researcher, Brunel University London]

Why do people suddenly 'get into' football during the World Cup?

CHRIS STIFF

F ootball fever is once again sweeping the globe. People's behaviour during the World Cup is very interesting for us psychologists, as we can see many examples of the theories we use in action. Here are five questions you might ask during the tournament – and how psychology would answer them:

1. Why do people suddenly "get into" football during the World Cup, when usually they're not interested? This change in attitudes has to

do with a change in our social identity. Social identities are aspects of our personality that relate in some way to our social surroundings, for example, our nationality, the organisation we work for, or a club we are members of. People are usually nicer towards people that share their social identity (the "ingroup"), and tend to be meaner to those that don't (the "outgroup") even if they know nothing else about those people. This happens even if you split people up based on really trivial things such as which artist

We all have many social identities, and we might act in different ways depending on which one is activated. A person would act differently when their "student" identity is active compared with their "rugby team member" identity. During the World Cup, social identity as a member of a country suddenly becomes very visible. So even people who normally don't follow football feel very motivated to be positive about

their country and its team. They are also more likely to be negative about

Why do people cheer and yell during a match in a way they never

normally would?

The presence of others around you can lead to "deindividuation". This is where you blend into a crowd and be-come anonymous, something partic-ularly likely to happen if everyone is wearing the same football strip.

Deindividuation means you are more likely to act in a way appropriate to the norms of the group rather than your own norms. In a football crowd, those norms involve yelling and cheer-ing. Note that this doesn't always lead to bad behaviour – witness the Japan and Senegal fans clearing up their lit-

ter after their recent match.

3. Why do we criticise our country's team so much, but feel annoyed if someone from another country

when responding to criticism, it isn't just what is said that matters - it's who said it. This is because of something called the intergroup sensitivity effect. Generally, people are more tolerant of criticism from an ingroup member compared with an outgroup member because they feel ingroup members are trying to be constructive, whereas outgroup members are trying to be de-rogatory. Even if an outgroup member is very knowledgeable and says ahead of time they are trying to be construc-tive, it still doesn't help.

People aren't always tolerant of criticism of their own team though. As conflict between our group and others becomes more visible, we become less tolerant of ingroup criticism, until we will be as intolerant as if an outgroup member said it. So during the opening rounds of the World Cup fans may be able to get away with criticising their own team, but nearer the final it will

be much less welcome.

4. Why do we enjoy it when a team

that's not meant to be very good

wins a match? Often during the World Cup, a plucky inexperienced team progresses further than expected and suddenly becomes a focus of the tournament. People usually start rooting for this team, hoping that they'll win and topple another "bigger" side. This is the underdog effect.

One explanation for this feeling is

that if we see success in difficult circumstances, it inspires us to believe that we too might succeed at something difficult. Another is that the costs of rooting for an underdog are small, but the rewards - the "I told you they could do it" factor - are big. Some research also suggests that underdogs are seen as putting in more effort, and percep-

tion of effort leads to more liking.

5. Does the World Cup always causes conflict between different coun-

Actually, no. In fact, it can improve relations between countries if fans are encouraged to adopt a common in-group identity. This is a social identi-ty that they both share – so "England fans" and "Germany fans" would also share the identity of "football fans" Rethinking identities in this way can actually reduce conflict between groups. So although there is potential for rivalry, the World Cup really can also bring people from nations can also bring people from nations all over the world together through their love of football.

[the writer is Lecturer in psy-chology, Keele University]



Court finds former J'khand minister guilty of murder

SIMDEGA (JHARKHAND), JUN 30 (PTI): A court here today found former Jharkhand minister Enos Ekka guilty in a murder case.

Additional District Judge Neeraj Kumar Srivastav convicted Ekka under sections 302 (murder), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of an offence committed), 364A (kidnapping for ransom), 171F (undue influence at an election) of Indian Penal Code and under the Arms Act.

The court will deliver the quantum of sentence on July 3.

The case pertains to the kidnapping of a teacher, Manoj Kumar, on November 26, 2014. His body was found near a school the next day.

The police had arrested Ekka, on November 27, 2014, from Thakurtoli in Simdega district, in connection with the case.

Ekka is a member of Jharkhand Party and is the MLA from Kolibera constituency.

Record number of crocodile nesting sites found In Bhitarkanika

KENDRAPARA (ODISHA), Jun 30 (PTI): The Bhitarkanika national park has become the largest habitat of the endangered estuarine crocodiles in the country with a record number of their nesting sites spotted in it, a forest official said.

Altogether 101 nesting sites of estuarine crocodiles were found this time by enumerators, Divisional Forest Officer, Rajnagar Mangrove (wildlife) Forest Division, Bimal Prasanna Acharya told PTI.

Stating that the figure was 80 last year, he said the nesting spots had registered 25 per cent rise this year.

A female crocodile lays 50 to 60 eggs and the hatchlings usually emerge from the nests after 70 to 80 days of incubation period, he said.

At least 1698 crocodiles, including albino species, were counted this year along the water-bodies of Mahanadi delta region, while the figure recorded last year stood at 1682.

Estuarine crocodiles are also found in West Bengals Sundarban areas having the countrys largest mangrove cover.

Besides, the mangrove wetlands in Andaman Islands are home to these species, but those cannot match the density and population of crocodile available in the wild habitats of Bhitarkanika, he said.

Kalimpong Cheese, Churpees and Shared Taste

C K IEDCHA

his week I learned a lot about food. The fact that food is of much interest to historians, anthropologists and archaeologists. The fact that food has traveled long distances and improvises along the way to give new flavors and meanings to those who consume them. There is a whole genre of food studies that is doing interesting research and I had the opportunity to talk about Kalimpong cheese and churpees in general.

its name from the small town of Kalimpong where Swiss missionaries are credited to have introduced this dairy product. Most missionaries who came to Kalimpong were on their way to Tibet and ended up in Kalimpong or Darjeeling because they were denied entry to Tibet. The Canon Regulars of St. Maurice Abbey, Switzerland were told, "that is the very place for you Swiss people. Go and have a look at it and see for yourself what you can make of it." So the Swiss arrived and among them 35-year-old Father But-



ty was to make start a dairy that would produce Kalimpong cheese. Kalimpong cheese was mainly

produced for the non-local population. It was initially supplied to the British including various missionary boarding schools where students would be served cheese with breakfast. In 1975, when the late Prime Minister of India, Raijy Gandhi visited Kalimpong, he is reported to have bought a block of cheese. He liked the cheese so much that he ordered 30 kgs of Kalimpong cheese. It was also in demand to different embassies in New Delhi, shops in Puducherry, Mumbai, Bangalore, and Kolkata. It would be bought from Kalimpong and sold it at Kolkata's New Market so much so that it enjoyed the "cult status" among wine connoisseurs in this city.

Interestingly a different ver-

upree already existed among the local population of Kalimpong region. Churpee is fermented milk. Introduced by the Tibetan diaspora perhaps, milk produced in excess of family needs was processed by traditional methods to produce churpee. It is consumed not only in Kalimpong but in Sikkim, Bhutan, Darjeeling, Nepal, some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and the Western Himalayas too. The production and consump-

sion of local cheese known as ch-



tion of churpee is local knowledge and passed from generation to generation. Available in two forms; the soft and the hard type of churpees are a part of the local diet without fail.

The production of churpee allows us to think how local populations who were mostly lactose intolerant and could not consume dairy directly had devised their own means of consuming dairy in both hard and soft forms. While it shows an indigenous food habit system it also allows us to see what happens when cultures come in contact with each other as churpee is sold online as Himalayan Dog chew today. Most people in the hills would not know this but it is a popular dog food especially if your dog is lactose intolerant.

So the introduction of cheese from the West to the East and vice versa makes us think of the continuous exchange of food that hap-

pens on everyday basis. The case of Kalimpong is interesting because both versions of imported and local cheese continued to thrive in this town as both made its mark in market outside Kalimpong. However, it remained in separate spaces and it is not known whether the Jesuits ate churpee either in the soft or the hard form. But we know for sure that local people

sure that local people did not necessarily eat Kalimpong cheese. So much so that when the British left and the missionary institutions were handed to the local population, the demand for Kalimpong cheese decreased and the Swiss Welfare Dairy was soon to close.

Thankfully, local entrepreneurs are reviving the market and Larks Provision still continues to sell Kalimpong cheese to those who want to buy them although the large scale demand has ceased to exist.

It therefore makes us question how our foods are exchanged, transformed and consumed. It makes us ask the basic question of where our food comes and where we get our taste from. Is it inherited, acquired or shared? It makes food consumption interesting and exciting when we get to the bottom of why we eat what we eat.

Uber proposes

measures to regulate

pricing mechanism

Kolkata, Jun 30 (PTI):

Cab aggregator Uber today proposed measures to address concerns

expressed by the West

Bengal government over its fare policy, including

"self-regulation" of dy

namic pricing to mini-

Transport Department,

based on complaints

from users on exorbitant

fares during peak hours,

had reportedly sent a

30-point questionnaire to Uber and another ride

hailing firm Ola, seeking

The West Bengal

mise impact on riders.

[C. K. Lepcha, Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study]

Assam to give financial assistance to pregnant tea garden workers: CM

GUWAHATI, JUN 30 (PTI): Assam government would give financial assistance to pregnant tea garden workers. Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said today.

The state government would set up one hundred high schools in tea garden areas and would also provide smart mobile phones to the 'line sardars' in the tea garden areas, Sonowal said.

"The state government will extend financial assistance of Rs 12,000 each to around 47,000 pregnant tea garden workers per year for nutritional purpose during the period

of their pregnancy," the chief minister said while reviewing the implementation of programmes for the welfare of tea tribes. It was also decided in

the meeting to provide the financial assistance in phase manner upto two deliveries through direct benefit transfer to the beneficiaries. The chief minis-

The chief minister also emphasised on generating awareness amongst the tea garden workers about health and other government programmes.

Sonowal stressed on wider publicity of the Mobile Medical Units (MMU) which are being operationalised in the tea gardens and presently 80 MMUs are put into service to cover 320 tea gardens in the state.

The chief minister also asked the Education department to expeditiously transfer Rs six hundred each to girl students aged 12 to 20 years for procurement of sanitary napkins as announced in the state budget.

Stating that lack of proper educational infrastructure at the tea gardens affects academic interests of the tea tribes' students, Sonowal asked the Secondary Education department to take up speedy measures for setting up one hundred high schools in the tea gardens.

He also directed the department to develop the new schools as model institution and engage modern construction technology for early completion of construction work.

The chief minister

directed the tea tribes' welfare department to provide the line sardars with smart phones so that it could be utilised as a multi-purpose device.

"The smart phone will enable the line sardars to establish contact with concerned authorities to address any emergency situation and they should also be apprised about different welfare schemes of the government as well," he said.

The chief minister asked the department to introduce an app with information in Assamese.

He also directed the officials to take steps for setting up a new department to look after plantation and commercial issues of tea, rubber and other such products to conduct newer research and innovation and successfully project tea and other products in the global market.

response on the surge pricing mechanism. In a statement, the US-based Uber said, "We have submitted our response to the West Bengal Transport Department and enumerated the measures that we have decided to initiate to address the concerns of the government, and by extension, our riders."

"During periods when there is a high imbalance in the availability of Ubers vis-a-vis the number of people requesting a ride, we propose to self-regulate the

dynamic pricing multiplier between 1.9x to 2.9x to minimise impact on riders," Regional GM (India & South Asia) Prabhejeet Singh was quoted as saying in the statement.

The company also said it provides free trips to hospitals, ensures flat fares to public transport hubs and has introduced weekly or monthly subscription-based commuter passes.

Uber said that in the interest of expanding availability of transportation options for Kolkata, it has put forth a few suggestions to the state government around simplifying processes and costs for bike-taxi permits, as well as commercial four-wheeler permits.

Among other recom-

mendations, the cab aggregator said the state government should look at introducing more schemes like 'Gatidhara' to spur entrepreneurship, and consider deregulation of city taxis to equip them with the benefits of technology.

Jharkhand to send farmers to Israel for Agri exposure: CM

RANCHI, Jun 30 (PTI): Jharkhand would send one farmer from each of the 24 districts of the state to Israel for agriculture exposure, Chief Minister Raghubar Das said today.

Das said today.

Das said he has asked the Agriculture department to select one farmer from each of the 24 districts and send them Israel for agriculture exposure.

The farmers will visit Israel from July 23 to 28, an official release said quoting Das.

Israel is famous for producing maximum agriculture product using minimum water, Das said, adding the aim to send the farmers there, is to learn the technique.

The chief minister said it was important that farmers take such tours as they learn with experience, adding they will share their experience with other farmers in the state.

The farmers would also get opportunity to see the system of irrigation in dry zone, Das said.

SFI announces India squad for Asian Games

New Delhi, Jun 30 (PTI): An 11-member swimming squad, including Virdhawal Khade and Khelo India champion Srihari Nataraj, has been selected for the Asian Games by the Swimming Federation of India (SFI).

The selections were made after considering the performance and guideline issued by the IOA, a SFI media release said.

dia release said.

Senior swimmers
Sandeep Sejwal and Khade
had already qualified earlier while the younger

swimmers were selected after reviewing their performance at the Junior Nationals which concluded yesterday at Pune.

The Asian Games will be held from August 18 to September 2 in Indonesia. The SFI also announced the Water Polo and Diving teams for the Games.

Swimming: Vidhawal Khade, Sandeep Sejwal, Sajan Prakash, Srihari Nataraj, Advait Page, Aaron Agnel D'Souza, Anshul Kothari, Arvind Mani, Saurabh Sangvekar, Avinash Mani, Neel Roy. Diving: K. Ramanand

Diving: K. Ramanand Sharma, Siddharth Pardeshi, H. London Singh Water Polo: Aneesh

Water Polo: Aneesh
Babu (GK), Akshay Kumar Kunde, Ashwini Kumar Kunde, Adarsh V S,
Uday Uttekar, Prithish
Das, Sarang Vaidya,
Aneesh Kumar, Karthik
Ch. Das, Shibin Lal, Manimaran D, S Ratheesh Kumar, Monjith Hasan, Lal
Krishna, I Shreejith.

Shah holds meeting with NE states leaders in Manipur

NEW DELHI, JUN 30 (PTI): BJP president Amit Shah today held meetings with his party leaders who are incharge of 11 Lok Sabha seats spread across seven northeast states as part of a drive to ensure that it wins the maximum number of these constituencies in the general election next year.

Shah held separate meetings with Lok Sabha 'toli' (group) of Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Manipur in Manipur, the party's media

head Anil Baluni said.

Baluni said that Shah was in West Bengal for two days before he arrived in Manipur. The BJP chief would reach Odisha tomorrow. He described his vis-

its to these eastern and northeastern regions as part of his party's and the Modi government's "look east" policy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has often

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has often spoken about his government's emphasis on the development of these regions as India cannot be strong if some of its parts remain underdeveloped and Shah has been visiting there frequently to ensure their all-round development, he said.

Except for Mizoram,

the BJP is in power in all these states -- as the leader of an alliance or as a junior partner.

a junior partner.

West Bengal, Odisha and the Northeast have emerged central to Shah's plans for the 2019

Lok Sabha polls as he believes that the BJP can improve on its tally there and make up for any likely loss it may suffer in other states.

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Yuki finds Fabbiano in Wimbledon opener; 6 Indians in doubles

LONDON, JUNE 29 (PTI): India's top singles player Yuki Bhambri was today drawn to meet old nemesis Thomas Fabbiano in his Wimbledon opener and as many as six Indians will feature in the doubles main draw at the grass court Maior.

Bhambri has clashed with the Italian thrice but does not have encouraging results, having lost to him on all occasions.

The last time they met was at the Nottingham Challenger event in 2017. In fact, Yuki, ranked 85th, has managed to take only a set from Fabbiano, ranked 121, but the Indian is in tremendous form and is keen to change the stats.

difficult one Hope, I can change the result this time," Yuki said talking to PTI.

In the doubles, proba-bly for first time six players are featuring in the men's doubles with Grand Slam debutants Vishnu Vardhan and Sriram Balaji to open their campaign against Wesley Koolhof and Marcus Daniell.

Bopanna Rohan Bopanna and his French partner Edouard Roger-Vasselin, seeded 12th, are up against Alex De Minaur and John Millman.

Purav Raja and Fabrice Martin will take on Dusan Lajovic and Mirza Basic.

The left-handed Je-evan Nedunchezhiyan, playing at Wimbledon for the second year in a row, with American part-ner Austin Krajicek, have been drawn to meet Sand-Arends and Matwe

Middelkoop.

Divij Sharan and his Kiwi partner Artem Sitak will take on Radu Albot and Malek Jaziri.

Rohit Kumar signs two-year extension with FC Pune City

Pune, Jun 29 (PTI): Central midfielder Ro hit Kumar today signed a two-year extension contract with Indian Super League (ISL) club FC Pune City.

Kumar (21), who was drafted by the club in 2017, will remain with the 'Stallions' through the 2018-19 and 2019-2020 seasons.

"Rohit has been one of the most impressive voung talents we drafted last season. We had been following his growth closely during his time at the DSK Shivajians FC," FC Pune City CEO Gaurav Modwel was quoted as saying in a release.

"His attitude and work ethic has been exemplary, be it on or off the field. His ball distribution and game aware-ness allowed the team to build attacks on multiple occasions," Modwel said. In the last season,

Rohit played 14 matches scoring two goals, both against ATK.

Argentines caught between love and indifference for Maradona

BUENOS AIRES, JUNE 30 (AFP): Argentine leg-end Diego Maradona is a controversial idol, worshipped as a god for his World Cup-winning exploits but whose life of excess has left a tormented public back home torn between ven-

eration and derision.
The 57-year-old hit
the headlines in Russia this week when he was filmed making two-handed middle-finger gestures to fans during Argentina's narrow over Nigeria in their final

World Cup pool game.

How to take his attention-grabbing outbursts is a recurring theme back home in Argentina.

"He thinks that the love that Argentines lavish on him is so great that when he behaves badly we'll look the other way," said 55-year-old businessman Bruno Sollner.

Daniel Carballo, 56, agreed that Maradona "is not an example, at least not for me and most of my friends and my family, no.

"There are things that are not acceptable, but well, he's like that," Carballo added.

Other South Americans tend to perceive Argentines as arrogant, and Maradona's cockiness and



public anguish seem to personify a nation's suffering at its team's stuttering performance in Russia.

"He is arrogant, he gets out of control because of arrogance," said

Maradona got adoration for his goals against England in the 1986 World Cup, both the cheat goal he scored with his hand - he called it the "Hand of God" -- and another, when he danced past five English players to score what is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest goals of

day, he became a god. It was almost as if he had avenged with a football Ar gentina's painful defeat in the Falklands War against Britain four years earlier. - IDOL OF A NEW

GENERATION -

Irreverent, charismatic and provocative, Maradona remains an idol in Argentina, even for a generation too young to have seen him play, when his name became synonymous with footballing genius.

Paula Garcia Paz, a teacher, was six when Maradona lifted World Cup in 1986.

'I'll never forget it, that

goal against England is omething so memorable for Argentines," she said.

Sollner said love him because he has stood up to the powerful, because on the pitch he never gave up, and you can see how much defeat hurts him.

"That devotion for soccer fan is vital, it's called sweating for the

shirt," he added.

The antics at the
World Cup have been amusing and disturbing by turns, but for Argentines a distracting sideshow to the main event

Carried out of his seat in the VIP box after the match, he was forced to deny rumors he had been hospitalized, saying the next day that he was

"In Russia he's caused a stir, he's a guy who retired decades ago and who won things 30 years ago, but if he sneezes. we're all on tenterhooks, waiting. That's unique. That's Maradona," said Sollner.
- DIEGO, TO THE

'very alive.'

NTH DEGREE -Those who know Maradona describe him as

despite having reached a sporting Olympus.

"Diego was a kid in the slum, with a kite, on which he wrote the name Maradona. He started to run and the kite took flight, but he stayed on the ground," is how biographer Guillermo Blanco

Blanco said Maradona "just like everyone else has goodness, bad-ness, ego, solidarity... but when he does something, he's unlike others who are considered 'balanced.' He does it to the Nth degree.

Angry with his daughters, in a legal battle with his ex-wife, scammed by a relative or banned for doping at the 1994 World Cup, Maradona's turbulent front-page life makes him a figure of pity for many Argentines, particularly the middle class.

They still deride him for flaunting his friendships with late leftist leaders Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez.

He insists he no longer takes cocaine, a habit that began in his heyday with Italian team Napoli, but his behavior during the Nigeria match has given rise to some concern.

"He needs to continue

getting attention like in former times, but by giving an even worse example," said Laura Orsi.

"He is an icon of another time, but he erased all the glory with his behaviour: drugs, alcohol and fame went to his head," said the 56-yearold systems analyst

- MORE THAN MESSI -

There are inevitable comparisons between Mara-dona and Lionel Messi, but until the younger man wins a World Cup, Mara-dona remains a cut above for most Argentines.

"Messi is a phenomenon, but the world of football, until now, has not seen a player like Maradona," his old teammate Claudia Caniggia

said recently.

Another contemporary, Julio Olarticoechea, agreed: "Seeing him, not only in games, but in training, was something else. Diego was magic. That's the word."

"Messi still hasn't managed to give us the happiness Diego did,' said Garcia Paz, the

teacher.
"He thought he was a god and made many mis-takes, but I know that the day he leaves this world, Argentina will be

Sindhu, Srikanth Iose in Malaysia Open semifinals, Indian challenge over

KUALA LUMPUR, IUNE 30 (PTI): India's top shuttlers P V Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth went down fighting in their respective women's and men's singles semifinals the team's campaign at the USD 700,000 Malaysia Open Super World Tour 750 tournament

here today.

First, Srikanth failed to match the overall superior game of former world no 2 Japanese Kento Momota, who has been in sensational form since making a comeback after serving a one year ban

for illegal gambling.
Sindhu, too, met the same fate, against defending champion and world no 1 Tai Tzu Ying, who showed better technical acumen and physical ability.

Srikanth, who had reached world no 1 briefly in April, lost 13-21 13-21 to world no 11 Momota, who registered his 21st consecutive win, while Sindhu's fight ended with a 15-21 21-19 11-21 loss to the Chinese Taipei player in a



55-minute match

It was Srikanth's sixth defeat to Momota in nine meetings, while Sindhu has now lost nine times to Tai Tzu, this being her fifth successive reverse.

Tai Tzu moved swiftly

attack to defence, played some creative strokes to eventually outwit Sindhu. Sindhu and Tai played some high quality rallies, which were laced with

on court, switched from

drop shots and tight net The duo moved together initially before Tai Tzu opened up a 9-6 lead. Sindhu reduced the

deficit but in the end, Tai Tzu led 11-9 when she punched one precisely at the back line.
Tai Tzu looked su-

premely fit, extremely confident and played quick drops, smashes and also tried out some ambitious strokes to move to game point at 20-15. Another error from Sindhu and it was advantage Tai Tzu after the opening game.

After the change of

sides. Sindhu managed to zoom to a 5-0 lead. How-ever, Tai Tzu drew parity at 9-9 before leading 11-10 at the break.



Sindhu kept breathing down her opponent's neck and led 18-16 with

four straight points. However, Tai Tzu again erased the deficit and moved to a minor 19-18 lead when Sindhu went long. But the Indian grabbed a game point when Tai Tzu went wide. A similar error and Sindhu had bounced back into the contest.

In the decider, the

duo split the first eight points. But Tai Tzu again marched ahead to 10-6 before a lucky net chord handed the lead to the Chinese Taipei shuttler.

After the final change in sides, Tai Tzu played some perfectly timed shots at the backline to race to a 16-8 advantage. Tai Tzu simply toyed with Sindhu as the Indian made judgement errors and missed the lines. sandwiched with some brilliant returns.

Two weak returns from Sindhu ensured Tai Tzu reached her fourth fi-

nal at the Malaysia Open. In the other match Momota produced some excellent shots mixed excellent shots mixed with deception, to dominate the rallies. His smashes had power and precision to make life difficult for Srikanth.

Srikanth and Momota went neck and neck from 3-3 to 5-5 before the Japanese rode on his de-ception and better court coverage to open up a 10-7 lead. Srikanth won

a good rally but the Japanese had his nose ahead at the break when Srikanth was bamboozled by a tight net shot.

The left-handed Japanese produced some superb shots from the back of the court to move to a 13-8 lead. Momota continued to accumulate points, surging to 17-12.

Srikanth misjudged a shot at the back line to hand over game points to Momota, who sealed it with another precise net shot.

With Momota in full flow, the margin for error was miniscule and the Japanese pounced on every opportunity, before leading 5-1 after the change of sides.

Srikanth built the rallies well but often erred with the length or mis-cued strokes, helping Momota moved into the breather at 11-5.

The Japanese continued to rule the roost and quickly grabbed seven match points when Srikanth found the net. Anall over for the Indian.

Mumbai's Victorian Gothic, Art Deco buildings get UNESCO World Heritage tag Fort precinct situated to the east of the Oval Maidan.

KUNAL DUTT New Delhi/Mumbai,

JUNE 30 (PTI): In a double cheer for India, two building clusters of Victorian Gothic and Art Deco architectural styles in Mumbai were today joint-ly inscribed in the UNE-SCO World Heritage List, pushing the country's financial capital high on global cultural map.

This is the third such honour for the metropolis after the Elephanta Caves and the majestic Victoria Terminus -- rechristened Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus railway station railway station -- which earned the

coveted tag in 1987 and 2004 respectively.

"Just inscribed as @ UNESCO #WorldHeritage site: Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai, #India Congratu-lations!," UNSECO tweeted. The decision was tak-

en during the 42nd session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee (WHC), currently underay in Manama, Bahrain

Mumbai-based con-servation architect Abha Narain Lambah, who prepared the volumin nomination dossier torian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai'

said it is a great honour for the city and for India. "These buildings are of

iconic architectural styles.
They represent a living heritage of the country, and the evolution of the landscape of the city over nearly two centuries. It puts Mumbai, perennially described the 'financial city', high up on global cul-"All 21 countries in

the WHC supported the nomination which is very rare. Azerbaijan called it the 'perfect' dossier and France as observer country termed it 'magnificent', Lambah told PTI over

phone from Manama. India hailed the de cision as a "remarkable

achievement".

The Union Culture
Ministry said that with this UNESCO tag, the count of World Heritage Sites in the country has now risen to 37, of which 29 are cultural, seven nat-ural and one mixed site. In a statement, it said

ensemble consists of 94 buildings primarily of 19th century Victorian Gothic revival and early 20th century Art Deco style of architecture. "The Victorian build-

ings form part of the larger

These public buildings, include the Old Secretariat (1857-74), University Library and Convention Hall (1874-78), the Bombay High Court (1878), the Public Works Department Office (1872). Watson's Hotel (1869), David Sasoon Library (1870), the Elphinstone College

(1888)," it said.

Union Minister of
State for Culture Mahesh Sharma congratulated the residents of Mumbai and e entire country for this landmark achievement. "The

international

recognition to the heritage precinct of the city of Mumbai is a matter of great pride to the nation and it will boost the local economy in a number of ways.

"This achievement is expected to give a tremen-dous fillip to domestic and international tourism leading to increased employ-ment generation, creation of world-class infrastructure and augmentation of sale of local handicrafts, handlooms and heritage memorabilia," he said.

Lambah said Prince of Wales Museum (now Ch-hatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya) and

NGMA (National Gallery of Modern Art) are also in the Victorian Gothic list that would now be celebrated even more. "The buildings on the

first row of Marine Drive the Regal and Eros Cinemas count among the Art Deco structures that have earned the recognition. The city now has equal

number of UNESCO sites as Delhi which has three -- Red Fort, Qutub Minar and Humayun's Tomb, she said, adding Maharashtra now has a total of five such sites, including the Ajanta and Ellora caves in

NSA deletion of call records

questions WASHINGTON, JUN 30 (AP): The National Security Agency is deleting more than 685 million call

records the government obtained since 2015 from telecommunication companies in connection with investigations, raising questions about the viability of the programme.

The NSA's bulk collection of call records was initially curtailed by Congress after former NSA contractor Edward Snowden leaked docu-ments revealing extensive government surveillance.

The law, enacted in June 2015, said that going forward, the data would be retained by telecomnot the NSA, but that the intelligence agency could query the massive data-

Now the NSA is deleting all the information it collected from the que-

ries.

The agency released a statement late Thursday saying it started de-leting the records in May after NSA analysts noted "technical irregularities in some data received from telecommunication service providers."

It also said the irregularities resulted in the NSA obtaining some call details it was not authorized to receive.

That points to a failure of the program, according to David Kris, a former top national security official at the Justice Department. "They said they have

to purge three years' worth of data going back to 2015, and that the data they did collect during that time which they are now purging was not reli-able and was infected with some kind of technical error," said Kris, founder of Culper Partners, a consulting firm in Seattle. "So whatever insights they were hoping to get over the past three years from this program of collection . is all worthless. Because of that, they are throwing all the data away and basically starting over."

Christopher Augus-tine, an NSA spokesman, disagreed with the claim that the program had

This is a case in which NSA determined that there was a problem and proac-tively took all the right steps to fix it," he said.

The agency has reviewed and re-validated the intelligence reporting to make sure it was based only on call data that had been properly received from the telecommuni-cation providers, he said. The agency declined to assign blame, and said the "root cause of the problem has since been addressed.

Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., a staunch advocate of privacy rights, placed the blame on the telecom companies providing the NSA with call records.

"This incident shows these companies acted with unacceptable care-lessness, and failed to comply with the law when they shared customers' sensitive data with the government," he told The Associated Press in a

written statement Friday.
Under law, the government can request information, such as the type of details that might be printed on a phone bill the date and time of a call or text, a telephone calling card number, the duration of a call and to what phone number it was made

Canada announces billions in retaliatory tariffs against US

TORONTO, JUN 30 (AP): Canada announced bil-lions of dollars in retaliatory tariffs against the US in a tit-for-tat response to the Trump administration's duties on Canadian steel and aluminum.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government released the final list of items yesterday that will be targeted beginning July 1. Some items will be subject to taxes of 10 or 25 per cent.
"We will not escalate

and we will not back down," Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland said.

The taxes on items

including ketchup, lawn mowers and motor boats amount to 12.6 billion.

"This is a perfectly reciprocal action," Freeland said. "It is a dollar for dollar response." Freeland said they had no other choice and called the tariffs regrettable.

Many of the US prod-

ucts were chosen for their political rather than economic impact. For example, Canada imports just 3 million worth of yogurt from the US annually and most of it comes from one plant in Wis-consin, the home state of House Speaker Paul Ryan. The product will now be hit with a 10 per

cent duty.

Another product on the list is whiskey, which comes from Tennessee and Kentucky, the latter of which is the home state of Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell.

Freeland also said they are prepared if U.S. President Donald Trump escalates the trade war.

"It is absolutely im-

perative that common sense should prevail," she said. "Having said that our approach from day one of the NAFTA negotiations has been to hope for the best but prepare for the worst."

the steel and aluminum tariffs by saying imported metals threatened the United States' national security a justification that countries rarely use because it can be so easily abused. He is also threatening to impose another national security-based tariff on imported cars, trucks and auto parts. That threat could be a negotiating ploy to restart talks on the North American Free Trade

Agreement. Freeland said there are no grounds for further US tariffs in response to Canada's ac-

Canadians are particularly worried about auto tariffs because the industry is critical to Canada's economy. Freeland said such tariffs would be "absurd" because the North American auto industry is highly integrated and parts made in Canada often go to cars manufactured in the US and then sold back to Canadians. "Any trade action is disruptive on both sides of the border," Freeland said.

Freeland said an "intensive phase" of NAFTA renegotiations will resume quickly after Sun-

day's elections in Mexico. "I don't think we'll see any reaction from the Trump administra-tion. They are prepared for this," said Dan Ujczo, a trade lawyer in Colum-bus, Ohio. "Candidly, the Canadian retaliation is a drop in the bucket com-pared to the retaliation that we're going to see from China and else-

Ujczo doubts Trump will announce auto tar-iffs because that would be a "red line for the US Congress" before midterm election.

The US Department of Commerce is holding sequently release an investigative report about whether they threaten national security.

"I don't think Congress right now is expected to get engaged until after the midterm elec-tion. They've given the president a long leash and will continue to do so. The auto tariffs would disrupt that. It would change the calculus," he

The Canadian government also announced 1.5 billion in subsidies for Canada's steel and aluminum industries.

Sri Lanka: Anti-India rebel leader's wife approaches court to locate him 29 yrs after his arrest

Соломво, Jun 30 (PTI): The wife of an anti-India rebel leader in Sri Lanka has filed a petition to trace her husband, who has not been heard of since his arrest 29 years ago. Srimathi Wijeweera, wife of former Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) leader Rohana Wijeweera, yesterday filed a habeas corpus petition before the Ap-peal Court here, seeking an order for the government to produce her husband before court or release him. Wijeweera, who led two bloody rebellions in the south of the country in 1971 and from 1987 to 1989, was believed to have been extra-judicially executed in Nove ber 1989 during the then government's brutal crack down against the IVP. She has cited several former state officials and military commanders as respondents in the petition. But some of them are not among the living now after 29 years of his disappearance.

~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS

LOST: I, Shri Bal Hang Limboo son of Sancha Raj Limboo resident of Rimbik ward no 03 under 11 Darap Nambu GPU, West Sikkim have lost my Certificate of Identification (COI) and Tribal certificate in original on 30.7.2013. If found please contact: 7719319098.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Required Sales Boys & Girls for IT store. Experience in IT knowledge both in software and hardware required. Interested candidates contact: Ramolla Cellular: 7001204591, 9733015218.

Kutse Tshegu

The Kutse Tshegu (49 days) of Late Mrs. Urmila Gurung who left for her heavenly abode will take place on 4th July 2018 at PRAURMILA COTTAGE, MAJHIGO-AN JORETHANG. We

request all friends, relatives and well wishers and family to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on the said day.

We also like to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us at the time of our bereavement.

94340 57367/96098 95767 - Tika Gurung 7872209474- Jigme Tshering Bhutia

Anthyesthi Kriya

- 9733670372- Pravat Gurung 8145620806- Anula Gurung

Trump says Saudi king agrees to ramp up oil production

WASHINGTON, Jun 30 (AFP): US President Donald Trump said today that Saudi Arabia's King Salman had agreed to his request to ramp up oil production, a week after OPEC already announced an output rise.

"Just spoke to King Salman of Saudi Arabia and explained to him that, because of the turmoil & dysfunction in Iran and Venezuela, I am asking that Saudi Arabia increase oil production, maybe up to 2,000,000 barrels, to make up the difference," Trump announced in an

early morning tweet

"Prices too high! He has agreed!'

Trump has repeated-ly lashed out at OPEC on Twitter in recent months, piling pressure on Riyadh a major ally, to boost out-put as he hopes for lower pump prices before mid-

term congressional elec-tions in November.

His latest comments come a week after ministers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries -- of which Saudi Arabia is the major member -- had already agreed to raise output from July. Non-OPEC member

Russia on June 23 also

backed the effort, capping a week of tense diplomacy for the grouping that averted a damaging rift between arch foes Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The ministers an-unced they would nounced they would ramp up oil production by would around one million bar-

rels a day from July.

"I think it will contribute significantly to meet the extra demand that we see coming in the second half," Saudi Energy Min-ister Khalid al-Faleh told reporters at the time.

The talks had centered on whether to amend an 18-month-old supply-cut deal between OPEC members and allied countries, including Russia, that has cleared a global oil glut and lifted crude prices.
Saudi Arabia, backed

by non-member Russia, had argued strongly in fa-vour of increasing production as grumbles in major consumer countries like United States, India China have grown about high prices.

Iran opposed any changes to the original production-cut deal at a time when its oil industry is facing renewed sanctions over Trump's decision to quit the international nuclear

deal with Tehran.

In the end, both sides

Responding to a ques-tion on NATO, Trump re-

iterated that other coun-

tries had to spend more.

esting, we'll see what happens there. Germany

has to spend more mon-

ey, Spain, France, it's not

the United States," he said,

adding that the US is pay-ing much more dispropor-

tionately to anyone else.

what they've done to

From the beginning of his presidential campaign, Trump has insisted that he

wants a better relationship

with Russia, asserting that

it will be good for the US

and for the world.

However, he has been

facing backlash from the

Opposition Democrats and the think-tank community

who believe that Russia

under Putin interfered in the 2016 presidential elec-

tion. Moscow has denied

the allegations.

"NATO is very inter-

were able to save face. The current production curb pact calls for participating countries to trim output by 1.8 million

barrels a day.

But production constraints and geopolitical factors have seen several nations exceed their restric-tion quotas, keeping about 2.8 million barrels off the market, according to OPEC.

By agreeing to collect

tively raise output by a million barrels, member countries are simply committing to comply fully with the deal struck in late

On 25th of June. 2018, Mr. Karkidholi, Rajen son of late Arjun Karkid-holi left for heavenly abode. We the family members would like to thank every-one who was part of his story. We believe that he responsibly concluded his role as a husband, father,

brother, friend and a public servant. While we reminisce about him, we request every-one who cared and wished him well to join us in offering prayers and to bid him a final farewell. The ceremony will be held at our residence at **Maneydara**, **Lingding**, **below** Indira Byepass [SDF Bhawan], Gangtok on 7th July, 2018 [Saturday]. Munna Karkidholi [mother], Sonam

gchen Bhutia [wife], Ravi Karkidholi [brother], Aruna Karkidholi [sister], Anamika Karkidholi [daughter], Menka Karkidholi [sister]. Mob: 9609850052, 9609834107, 9609774878, 90345472, 7407385431



In a first, a Sikh man has been hired as an anchor by a news channel in Pakistan. Harmeet Singh, who is a resident of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province's Chakesar city, has joined the Public News channel. The official handle of the media house posted a video of Singh on twitter and captioned, "Pakistan's 1st Sikh News Anchor Harmeet Singh only on #PublicNews." Recently, Manmeet Kaur had become the first female Sikh reporter in Pakistan. Media veteran Yousaf Baig Mirza, who heads the Public News channel, said Singh was chosen as newscaster due to his flamboyant looks and voice pitch. Singh completed his masters in journalism from Federal Urdu University Karachi. He started his media carrier as a reporter. Though the immediate family of Singh is based in Pakistan, his extended family members keep on visiting from India.

Will talk about Syria, Ukraine and elections with Putin: Trump

LALIT K IHA

WASHINGTON, JUN 30 (PTI): US President Donald Trump has said he will talk about Syria, Ukraine, elections and other global issues when he meets his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Helsinki on July 16.

Trump and Putin will meet in the Finnish capi-tal to mend the bilateral relations and discuss a range of national secu-rity issues, the White House and the Kremlin

announced on Thursday.
"We're going to be
talking about Ukraine, we're going to be talking about Syria, we're go-ing to be talking about elections. We don't want anybody tampering with elections. We'll be talking about world events," Trump said yesterday.

"We'll be talking about peace. We may even talk



about saving millions of dollars on weapons...we are building a force like nobody's ever seen before," he told reporters when asked about his meeting

with Putin next month.

This would be Trump's first summit with Putin, even though the leaders have met twice in the last

one and half year. The announcement of the meeting had followed after President Putin met US National Security Adviser John Bolton, who was in Moscow this week to lay the groundwork

for the summit.

"Perhaps the world can deescalate with China, Russia...may be the world can somewhat deescalate. That would not be a bad thing. But I think having

a relationship with China, Russia...it's a good thing, Trump said.

Asked about lifting sanctions on Russia, Trump appeared to be

non-committal.

"We'll see what Russia does. We're going to be talking to Russia about a lot of things. We're going to be talking to them about Syria," he said.

Record-breaking start for 'Sanju'! Ranbir Kapoor starrer earns whopping Rs 34.75 cr on day-01

The Ranbir Kapoor starrer's box-office collection has turned out to be exactly like the movie's reviews – Outstanding! The much-awaited biopic of Sanjay Dutt surpassed what was expected and predicted as its first-day collection. Sanju has got the biggest opening on 2018 leaving behind the record set by Salman Khan starrer Race 3.

Sanju's box-office collection on day 1 stands at whopping Rs 34.75 crore. The figure was confirmed by Taran Adarsh on Saturday morning.

ure was confirmed by Taran Adarsh on Saturday morning. "Non-holiday... Non-festival release... Yet, #Sanju packs a PHENOMENAL TO-TAL on Day 1... Emerges the BIGGEST OPENER of 2018 [so far]... Also, Ranbir's HIGHEST OPENER to date... Expected to cross ₹ 100 cr in 3 days, as per trends... Fri ₹ 34.75 cr. India biz." he tweeted.

Earlier in the day, trade analyst Ramesh Bala had revealed that the film's collection stands at over Rs 32 crore.



"#Sanju takes the Biggest Day 1 Opening for a Movie in #India in 2018.. Early Estimates are ₹ 32 Cr+ NBOC..," he had tweeted.

Sanjay Dutt's biopic has also left the B-town celebrities in awe due to the sheer brilliance showed by the actors and the director. The celebrities took to their social media handles to praise the movie. Filmmaker and Producer,

Filmmaker and Producer, Karan Johar poured his heart out in his Twitter handle, describing "Sanju" as the number one mainstream film "of our times".

He tweeted, "Encompassing such a tumultuous and rollercoaster life in this duration...and still holding onto the emotional energy and nonstop humour is a mammoth achievement!! Please hail the NUMBER 1 Mainstream film of our times!!! RAJKUMAR HIRANI #sanju"

Appreciating Raju Hirani's direction and Ranbir Kapoor's



realistic acting in the biopic, legendary filmmaker and producer, Subhash Ghai urged the people to go and watch the movie.

He wrote, "Go and watch #Sanju to experience real Sanjay Dutton screen superbly performed by my favourite actor #Ranbir kapoor bringing real character alive: A heart touching film brilliantly narrated n directed by raju Congratulations @rajuhirani @abhijatj904

@ChopraVidur 4 superhit ??"

Interestingly, Anushka Sharma, who essays an important role in the movie, tweeted that it was a "fun" playing the role of a hiographer

role of a biographer.
She tweeted, "Playing @Ra-jkumarHirani sir's spirit character in #Sanju was so fun! This movie is his labour of love... go watch it guys ?? #RanbirKapoor @sonamakapoor @mkoirala @ deespeak @vickykaushal09 @

SirPareshRawal"

Actor Boman Irani, who has worked with Sanjay Dutt in the "Munnabhai" series, appreciated Hirani's direction.

Irani wrote, "Every 3 years this quiet unassuming man gifts us with his 'giant of a baby'. In 15 years this is his 5th. Glad you take your time Raju. Its well worth the wait! Its #Sanju day!!!!!"

Ranbir Kapoor plays the

role of the bad boy of Bollywood Sanjay Dutt in a film helmed by the sure shot success formula of Bollywood, Rajkumar Hirani. No matter how uncertain every Friday in the Hindi film industry is, a Rajkumar Hirani film never fails to connect with the audience. Sanju is Hirani's labor of love, it has a story, a star who perfectly fits the story and everything that makes a film legendary and a box office success.

of superstar Sanjay Dutt's turmoiled life. The ups and downs and the infamous Mumbai blasts the actor got embroiled in. His journey from a drug addict to a superstar in jail and his relationship with his father and late actor and parliamentarian Sunil Dutt. The movie alongside Ranbir Kapoor has an impressive ensemble cast of Paresh Rawal, Sonam Kapoor, Vicky Kaushal, Manisha Koirala and Anushka Sharma playing various characters in Sanjay Putte life.

Sanju traces the journey

BACK IN BLACK! Kat Von D shows hint of her

BACK IN BLACK! Kat Von D shows hint of her baby bump in black lace dress as she is joined by husband Leafar Seyer in LA.

Rafe Spall, Kumail Nanjiani Join Sony's 'Men in Black' Spinoff

Sony Pictures' "Men in Black" spinoff is coming together, adding Academy Award-nominated Kumail Nanjiani and "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" villain Rafe Spall to an ensemble cast that already includes Liam Neeson, Chris Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson, TheWrap has learned.

Nanjiani, last year, was

Nanjiani, last year, was nominated along with his wife Emily Gordon for a screenwriting Oscar for "The Big Sick," which he also starred in.

The newest installment in the "Men in Black" fran-



chise, which is to be directed by "Fate of the Furious" director F. Gary Gray, will also add brothers Laurent Nicolas

Bourgeois and Larry Nicolas Bourgeois, known as Les Twins, who have been backup dancers for Beyonce. The script for the film, which is without a title, was penned by Art Marcum and Matt Holloway, the writing team behind 2008's "Iron Man," among other things.

The springff slated for a

The spinoff, slated for a June 14, 2019 release, will begin in London and is expected to launch the franchise onto a much bigger, global scale.

Walter F. Parkes and Laurie MacDonald are producing, with Steven Spielberg is executive producing. David Beaubaire is overseeing for Sony.

Sophie Turner promises GoT final season to be 'more bloodier' and 'emotionally torturous'

Actress Sophie Turner has promised "more death and emotional torture" in the final season of fantasy series Game of Thrones.

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In an interview with an entertainment portal
Gold Derby, she said that the final season will be
bloodier, reports dailymail.co.uk.
"It's Game Of Thrones so it is going to be

"It's Game Of Thrones so it is going to be bloodier and more death and more emotionally torturous than all the years before," Turner said. Based on George RR Martin's novels, the

Based on George RR Martin's novels, the show is about the thrilling quest to claim the Iron Throne. Turner is seen as Sansa Stark, the eldest daughter of House Stark of Winterfell, in the show. An intricate and surprising tale, HBO's Game of Thrones has been internationally acclaimed for its plot twists and gore.

The series also stars Emilia Clarke, Kit Harington, Maisie Williams, Lena Headey, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Peter Dinklage in prominent roles.

Co-created by David Benioff and DB Weiss, the eighth and final season of Game of Thrones will premiere in 2019. It will air in India on Star World.

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Talking about the last season, Turner added, "I can tell you that there's definitely a coming together of people to fight the impending doom. There's a lot of tension between these little groups, battling for what they think is right."



ARIES: You may sense a nervous restlessness today that urges you to take action, Aries. A journey to one place may have you bouncing off to another place that may lead you on an adventure to someplace completely different. It might seem like you're on some crazy scavenger hunt toward a pot of gold. The energy of the day may leave you feeling ragged, but don't give up. Persistence will eventually pay off.

TAURUS: A good tip for you to remember is to be careful about what you say about others, Taurus. If you're talking about someone who isn't present, act as if he or she is. What is your motivation for saying those things? Is it necessary to speak in such a manner? A negative comment about someone else is going to resonate in the cosmos. People could lose trust in you.

GEMINI: You might need some time alone today to bring yourself back to center, Gemini. Independence is a keyword, so keep it in the back of your mind. Make sure you aren't the victim of a commitment you made long ago. As the landscape changes, we must also change. Stubborn actions will be extremely detrimental on a day like this. Be honest and grateful for the things you have.

think that beauty always has to be defined by old-fashioned standards, Cancer. It's time to create your own definition. There's no need to fit into some socially constructed mold that doesn't resonate with who you truly are. Your job isn't to try and make sure that everyone loves you. There's only one person you need to satisfy, and that is you.

LEO: Issues may get a little heavier than you'd perhaps like today, Leo. Your job is to infuse some amusement into the situation. Your powers of adaptability will be put to the test, as other people seem to be completely fixated on their opinions. Be extra conscious of how your words. Other people, especially superiors or elders, are apt to be offended by careless, offhand remarks.

VIRGO: If the doorknob doesn't want to turn today, Virgo, don't force it. You'll only succeed in breaking the key. Perhaps you just need to try another door. If things don't flow smoothly into place, then they probably weren't meant to be. Life shouldn't have to be a struggle. Our job is to be happy. Remember that the next time you're in a long line. View the situation as a rest period.

LIBRA: Your newfangled approach to things might get some serious flack from others today, Libra, but don't let that stop you. Realize that your independent and somewhat rebellious nature is a key ingredient in keeping the world in balance. Don't give up the fight when old, tired ways of doing things insist on taking the upper hand. Use your power from within to combat the forces from above.

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SCORPIO: You might be called upon to choose between two ways of handling a situation, Scorpio. The old ways of doing things are in conflict with the new. Which way are you going to proceed? Don't be thrown off course by fast talk and sleight of hand. Also, don't assume that the way that has worked forever is still the best solution. Use your intuition to choose the best route for you.

SAGITTARIUS: Unexpected events may be shuffling the cards when you least expect it, Sagittarius. If you have kept a close eye on the deck, counting the jacks as they turn up, you might get thrown for a loop. Don't be discouraged. Everyone else is subject to the same rules as you are. If the dealer seems crooked, go to another table. Don't fall for the same trick twice.

CAPRICORN: Your sense of self may be a bit challenged today, Capricorn. You might just have trouble getting out of bed at all. Remember that the way others see you doesn't necessarily mean that's the way you really are. Don't feel like you have to change in order to please anyone. Ultimately, your only responsibility is to you. Bizarre events could occur that prompt you to change your way of thinking.

AQUARIUS: As you follow the path toward acquiring the latest, greatest, fastest, and best, you might find that you're leaving behind some fundamental principles and values along the way, Aquarius. Don't lose sight of your foundation. Things could get shaken up today. Your ego might be on trial for pig-headed behavior. Keep yourself in check and be aware of the way you project yourself to others.

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PISCES: Key into your sensual, beautiful nature, Pisces. Take time each day to attend to your soul and make sure it's getting the nourishment it needs to radiate into the world. Unexpected people could pop up out of nowhere, so don't be surprised if a former lover comes knocking. Things from the past may be coming back to the present in order to teach you a valuable life lesson.

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