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CONTINUES WEST  
DISTRICT TOUR**  
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LTVC, WILL BOYCOTT  
MEETING CALLED BY LTVC**  
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# SummitTIMES

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

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## North littered with landslides and damaged houses

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA  
MANGAN, 14 SEPT:**

A part from disrupting road connectivity, landslides triggered by incessant rainfall have also damaged several houses in North Sikkim.

The homes of Som Bahadur Sharma, Jagat Bahadur Limboo, Nar Bahadur Sharma, Som Bahadur and Tika Ram Sharma at Ralak, under Mangshila-Tibuk GPU, have been severely damaged.

Another landslide at Tareng village in Lower Dzongu has also damaged the house of Sherab Lepcha with his cattle also being washed away. The said landslide has also blocked the road leading to Gor and Sagyong-Sangtok.

Houses at Upper Tingzey and Upper Zusing Wards and the PMGSY road have also been damaged by landslides.

Similarly, landslides have been



triggered at Ringhim-Nampatam, Singhik-Sentam and Toong-Naga GPUs.

At Zusing, Man Kumari Sharma and her 15-year-old son were injured when a boulder smashed into

their kitchen on 13 Sept. They have been forwarded to the District Hospital in Mangan for treatment.

One ekra house belonging to Sherap Lepcha at Nom in Dzongu has also been severely damaged due to a landslide in the area.

Apart from these, houses in and around Mangan have reported damages and a retaining wall at Mangan Girls' Senior Secondary School has also collapsed.

One wooden house of Senpi Lepcha of Bringbong Dzongu was also washed away on 13 Sept.

Landslides have also hit Rafong Khola, Ambithang, Lanthey Khola, Meyong and Wang Khola making even transshipment of passengers at these spots very dangerous. However, the Forest Territorial Division has constructed log bridges at Rafong and Ambithang for commuters to cross the area.

Area MLA cum Deputy Speaker, SLA, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, Forest Minister Tshering Wangdi Lepcha, along with District Collector,

North, Karma R Bonpo, Divisional Forest Officer, Territorial, James S Lepcha, Zilla member, Zomin Limboo, and other Panchayat members visited these spots today to take stock of damages.

Many commuters have been stranded beyond Lanthey Khola which is one of the worst affected sections along the North Sikkim highway.

Road connectivity in the district has snapped at various places beyond Mangan and all of Upper Dzongu has been cut off due to landslides and the district is littered with damaged houses.

The DC North had directed all schools of North district to be shut today for the safety of the students.

The District Administration is monitoring the situation to provide relief and carry out rescue measures. Relief and ex-gratia

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### INFORMATION TO ALL CONCERNED

Today, the **15 of Sept 2018**, the concerned agency has decided to carry out repair works at the damaged road bench at 24.60 KM (in between 29th Mile and Geil Khola on NH10) from **12 noon to 2 pm** and then again from **5 pm to 6 pm**.

During this time, the road (NH-10) at this location will be closed for traffic to allow for emergency widening and back-cutting works.

Commuters are advised to plan their travel accordingly.

## Evidence of corruption can be found in CAG reports: HSP

**REBYNA RANA  
GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:**

Responding to the statement given by Sikkim Democratic Front spokesperson, KT Gyaltsen, published on a local daily with regard to demand of evidence to back corruption allegations against SDF government, HSP spokesperson, Biraj Adhikari, today said that the proof can be found in the Comptroller and Auditor General [CAG] reports of the past 25 years.

"CAG reports of the last 25 years point out high levels of irregularities in financial transactions, all of which have not been investigated till date by any independent body. Proof can

also be found in the thousands of "Burmaloote" and "Mahaloote" books circulated by the late NB Bhandari through which the CBI found enough prima facie evidence to register a case and approach the State Government for permission to investigate," Mr Adhikari stated.

He alleged that instead of allowing the CBI to investigate, the State Government issued a notification refusing permission for the same.

"This action of the State Govt can be considered as definitive proof. Since a lot of MLAs are to be investigated, even the sacrosanct Legislative Assembly has

been misused and that is why no case could ever come up to the courts," claimed Mr Adhikari.

On SDF's alliance with NDA, Mr Adhikari said, "We are not worried about that. In fact we want to caution other NDA allies in the interest of Sikkim that their alliance partner, SDF, has been misusing every democratic institution to stop the CBI from investigating the Chief Minister. Surprisingly, when we align with the NDA, we are shouted down saying that we are associating with 'outsiders' while when the SDF can align with the NDA, it becomes in the interest of Sikkim."



### SDF candidate declared elected uncontested for Tumin

**GANGTOK, 14 SEPT [IPR]:** On the last day of withdrawal of nominations by the candidates, Rohit Raj Luitel of Sikkim Democratic Front was declared elected uncontested for the 4-Namrang Gram Panchayat Ward of 47-Tumin GPU, East Sikkim. Ward No. 4 of Tumin

GPU has been declared uncontested as only one nomination was received and found correct.

The certificate of getting elected as Panchayat member was handed over today after the last date for filing nominations to Mr Luitel of SDF.

## Petrol, diesel rates scale new highs

**NEW DELHI, SEP 14 (PTI):** Petrol and diesel prices Friday scaled new highs as rates were increased on account of rupee depreciation and rise in international oil rates.

While petrol price was increased by 28 paise a litre, diesel rates went up by 22 paise, according to a price notification of state-owned oil marketing companies.

Petrol in Delhi now costs Rs 81.28 per litre and diesel is priced at Rs 73.30 a litre.

In Mumbai, petrol is retailed at 88.67 per litre, for Rs 84.49 in Chennai and Rs 83.14 in Kolkata. Diesel costs Rs 77.82 per litre in Mumbai, Rs 77.49 per litre in Chennai and Rs 75.36 per litre in Kolkata, according to the notification.

Delhi has the cheapest fuel rates

*turn to pg02*

## Mr Sikkim Manhunt partners with apparel brand Louis Philippe



**NITESH R PRADHAN/YOUGAN TAMANG  
GANGTOK, 14 SEP:**

Twenty-two finalists have converged in the capital to participate in the first ever Temi Tea Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt organised by GBT Entertainment, Sikkim Chronicle and The Accelerator.

The finalists from all the four districts of Sikkim have arrived in Gangtok vying for the coveted top three titles including the prestigious Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt title along with various subtitles that the grooming and personality development sessions will entail.

One of the largest apparel brands of India, Louis Philippe, has tied up with the competition as clothing partner.

Proprietors of the brand in Gangtok, Manisha Singhi and Ashok Singhi, have expressed happiness on their official tie up with the competition along with photoshoot

that followed at MG Marg which generated tremendous response in the capital today.

They stated that the tie up is for the shared vision of helping contestants to be confident young individuals with an aim to help local youth to blossom into citizens capable of representing the State in national and international platforms.

Official grooming partner, Karma Salon and Unisex Spa, who is providing support in hair and make up for the entire pageant, stated that they have partnered with the vision of turning dreams into reality and to create a perfect ecosystem for a thriving entertainment industry in Sikkim that the competition aims for and represents.

Founder, Karma Bhutia, added that new, young and dynamic Sikkim and the vibrancy of youth are some of the key factors contributing to the partnership.

Jonah Gurung, one of the most sought

after photographers in all of Sikkim and Darjeeling hills, has been roped in for photography of the final contestants.

Expressing satisfaction, Mr Gurung stated that the experience of honing young talents has been very rewarding.

He further added that he is very happy to see such talents come up from the State of Sikkim and thanked the organisers and stated that such platforms will help many young people across Sikkim and Darjeeling.

With photoshoot at Louis Phillippe store in MG Marg on 13 Sept and today at Hotel Denzong Shangrila, Development Area, the shoot took long grueling hours of work for organisers and contestants.

The organisers informed that in future, the competition will have more such photoshoots including modeling and personality development classes.



# SILTAC lashes out against LTVC, will boycott meeting called by LTVC

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:

Sikkim Limboo Tamang Apex Committee [SILTAC] has lashed out against Limboo Tamang Voluntary Committee [LTVC] for allegedly misleading people on the LT Assembly seat reservation issue. Filing RTI applications and disclosing information is not the solution for any issue, SILTAC has said further accusing LTVC of instigating and provoking people on this issue.

Addressing a press conference here today, SILTAC vice-chairperson, Sushil Tamang, stated that LT Assembly seat reservation is a sensitive issue but different organizations and political parties have been trying to take credit by accusing each other.

He alleged that different organizations have been trying to take advantage of the ignorance of Limboo and Tamang community members. He mentioned that LTVC has always been speaking against



SILTAC and SDF but has never come up with any solutions.

"We have never pointed fingers at anyone and instead, have always taken this issue to the right platform for its solution at the earliest. SILTAC and SDF government have always worked for its solution," Mr Tamang said.

He alleged that LTVC and political parties have always brought about confusion on this issue by placing only those provisions before the

people which can hamper Assembly seat reservation for LTs.

SILTAC has taken the opinion of experts on the Constitution and other such areas, and found that (f) of the Article 371F is the only key to a solution on the issue, said Mr Tamang. He added that Article 371F is the only hope for seat reservation in the earliest.

"No one should use the organization to make a political

career. Politically ambitious people should join political party and avoid using social organisations to fulfill their ambition," he said.

SILTAC chief advisor, Kalawati Subba, shared that SILTAC has plans to approach the Centre once again on this issue.

Speaking on the proposal of LTVC to hold a daylong all-Sikkim strike on this issue, SILTAC chairperson, CB Subba, said that it is import-

ant for the organization to justify such a step.

He mentioned that SILTAC will never support such an initiative which will affect the peace and tranquility in the State. He also clarified that SILTAC will not participate in the meeting called by LTVC on 16 Sept.

He mentioned that SILTAC is about to finish its ongoing constituency-level meetings and then it will organise district-level and State-level

meetings within this month on this issue. He informed that a SILTAC delegation has also met the new Governor on 07 Sept and that the Governor has assured to take this demand to the Centre.

SILTAC stands by the 40 seats formula of the State Government as it is scientific and in the interest of the people of Sikkim, Sushil Tamang stated further adding that National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has also

recommended the same formula to the Centre.

He asked LTVC to do research and homework before giving any statements on the issue. He also questioned SKM's Sangha leader, Sonam Lama's claims about giving LT seats in 10 days time if his party came to power. SKM is underestimating LT people, he added.

On a recent visit to Delhi, the SILTAC team found that the Centre has received 67 representations from different political and other organizations on this issue so far. He stated that some other organizations have also asked for more than 40 seats but LTVC has never talked about these organizations and has been blaming SDF and SILTAC for seat reservation.

Mr Tamang stated that presently, the file is with the Cabinet committee on political affairs chaired by Prime Minister and SILTAC is positive and hopeful that LT will get their constitutional right at the earliest.

## Man kills wife, hangs himself

SUMMIT REPORT

NAMCHI, 14 SEPT:

One Roshan Rai hailing from Nepal and presently residing at Salleybung in Namchi, South Sikkim allegedly killed his wife of four years with a sharp weapon and then ended his life by way of hanging this morning. It is alleged that the accused suspected his wife of having an affair with an unknown person following which it is said that he attacked and killed his wife out of anger. A case has been registered at Namchi Police Station.

## North littered with landslides and...

contd from pg01

as per norms will be released to the affected people, it is informed.

He further informed that the administration is assessing the damages of the houses after which the damages to private land holdings will be assessed. He added that the restoration of Mangan-Gangtok road will take at least a week and there is no certainty on road restoration beyond Mangan.

Due to inaccessibility and difficulties, inspection of the spots has posed a challenge for the administration. Officials from concerned Sub Division have been deployed, it is informed.

An emergency coordination meeting was also conducted today at the DC North's chamber after the visit which was attended by Deputy Speaker SLA, Forest Minister and heads of various departments.

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## SKM prez continues West district tour

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:

On the second day of his West Sikkim tour, Sikkim Krantikari Morcha president, PS Tamang [Golay], visited and interacted with residents of Middle Gerethang, Chongrang and

Tashiding under Tashiding-Yuksom constituency today.

An SKM press release mentions that in his interaction with the people, the SKM president urged people to give his party a chance to work for the State.

He also alleged that the SDF government has done injustice to Yuksom despite the town being the old capital of Sikkim. He also mentioned that due to the poor educational policies of the SDF government, dropout rate of students has been

increasing.

He added that schools did not have regular teachers, lacked libraries and laboratories and other basic facilities.

The release further claims that 40 families from the SDF, led by former Panchayat

of Middle Gerethang, Sanmaya Subba, and Ward Panchayat president, Leela Hang Subba, 21 families from Lower Labing, 13 families from Upper Labing and 34 families from Lower Arithang joined SKM today.

## SDF accuses SKM of misleading people

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:

Sikkim Democratic Front has criticised Sikkim Krantikari Morcha and its president, PS Tamang [Golay], for giving empty, false and senseless statements on different issues to mislead people of the State. The ruling party asserted that SKM was an irresponsible party having no policy, principles, vision or programmes.

An SDF press release issued by its publicity secretary, Divya Sharma, states that after completing his one year imprisonment, Mr Tamang appears to have lost his sanity and has been making senseless statements.

It is added that SKM has been playing with the sentiments of the people with the intention to come into power by

cheating them. The ruling party has also alleged that SKM has been trying to bring division and unrest in the name of community and religion.

The release states that SKM has been staging the pretense of being the Messiah of the poor and the aged, but people know about its real character.

On the same, the ruling party contended that although SKM is making announcements and promises, it does not have programmes. The SDF has also asked that SKM details its political, economic, social and people's welfare programmes. On the same, the ruling party asserted that SKM does not have a clear roadmap on these issues and was instead keeping busy deceiving and misleading people of the State.

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## Petrol, diesel rates scale...

contd from pg01

among all metros and most state capitals because of lower taxes. Mumbai has the highest sales tax or value added tax (VAT).

A combination of a dip in rupee value against the US dollar and rise in crude oil prices has led to a spike in pump prices since mid-August. Petrol price has since risen by Rs 4.20 per litre and diesel by Rs 4.53 - the most in any one-month period since the daily revision in fuel prices was introduced in June last year.

Rates vary from city to city and from pump to pump depending on local taxes and transportation cost.

While petrol at pumps of Indian Oil Corp (IOC) in Delhi cost Rs 81.28 per litre, the same at stations owned by Hin-

dustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) comes for Rs 81.37. Diesel at HPCL pumps in Delhi costs Rs 73.39 and comes for Rs 73.30 at IOC outlets.

IOC is India's largest oil firm with almost half of the market share.

In Mumbai, petrol at IOC pumps costs Rs 88.67, while it comes for Rs 88.72 at BPCL outlets and Rs 88.75 at HPCL stations. Diesel in Mumbai at BPCL outlet costs Rs 77.87, at HPCL pumps Rs 77.90 and at IOC outlets Rs 77.82 per litre.

While crude oil rates flirted with the USD 80 per barrel mark, the rupee has plunged against the dollar. The combination of the two makes imports costlier.

Domestic retail prices are benchmarked to international rates of the fuel.

## Organic Farming Certification trng conducted in Tingchim

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:

Farmers of Tingchim Chaday GPU, North Sikkim were briefed on Organic Farming Certification and Input Adoption during GPU level training programme organised by Organic Sikkim at Gram Prashashan Kendra in Tingchim on 13 Sept, a press release informs.

The programme was attended by Panchayat president, Tingchim Chaday GPU, Sarkee Bhutia, vice president, Chungsa Bhutia, Panchayat member, Satik Bhutia, Horticulture Development Officer, Namgyal Lepcha, Field Coordinator [Organic Sikkim], Menna Sharma, Block level in-charge, Leda Dorjee Lepcha, and over 40 farmers from the GPU.



Field Coordinator Organic Sikkim, Ms Sharma, highlighted the concept and principle of organic farming and benefits of Organic Certification. She also briefed on NPOP and NOP standards, importance of Farm Diary,

responsibility of service provider agency involved in certification and responsibility of farmers in group certification.

Stressing on the marketing procedure, she focused on transaction certificate and procedure

of marketing through Internal Control System.

Horticulture Development Officer, Mr Lepcha, briefed on the usage of off-farm seeds and inputs which has been distributed to the farmers by the Horticul-

ture Department earlier and urged farmers to increase the production of vegetables and crops in their farm.

A copy of Scope Certificate was also handed over to the GPU by Organic Sikkim.



### Gangtok on Saturday, 15 Sept

**Temp:** 26°C/15°C  
**Forecast:** A morning thundershower in parts of the area; otherwise, sun and clouds; not as warm.  
**Sunrise:** 05:20 AM  
**Sunset:** 5:41 PM

## Civil Aviation Secretary reaches Pakyong, oversees prep for PM visit



**PAKYONG, 13 SEPT [IPR]:** Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India, RN Choubey, reached the State on 12 Sept to take stock of the final preparations for the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Sikkim on 23 Sept. The Union Secretary was accompanied by DIG, Special Protection Group [SPG], Suryakant Sharma, Member Finance, Airport Authority of India, S Suresh, and other officials from the Ministry and the SPG.

The Secretary made his first stop at St. Xavier's School ground in Pakyong where he was received by State Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, and officers of the State Administration.

The Union Secretary and his team inspected the ground which will be the venue for the public meeting immediately after the inauguration of Pakyong Greenfield Airport on 23 Sept.

Specific directions were given regarding the stage, the dais plan and security arrangements as well as placement of LCD screens on both sides of the ground by the Airport Authority of India. Live streaming of the Airport inauguration programme will also be telecast by Doordarshan, it is informed.

The entourage then reached Pakyong Airport where the Secretary gave directions to the officials of Pakyong Airport regarding

the immediate repair of link road from St. Xavier's School to the Airport, the complete cleaning and illumination of the airport and signages, landing base for at least five helicopters, decorations, the inauguration plaque and its placement, VIP list and other intricate details.

Other officers present during the visit were Tourism Secretary, CP Dhakal, District Collector, East, Superintendent of Police, East, SP, Security, Additional District Collector [Development], Pakyong, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Pakyong, officers and engineers from Building and Housing Department and officers of AAI and Doordarshan.

## Sikkim stakeholders attend Ahmedabad's largest Travel & Tourism Fair

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:**

Ahmedabad's largest travel show, Travel & Tourism Fair [TTF], was held at the Gujarat University Exhibition Hall from 07-09 Sept. Travel & Tourism Industry stakeholders from 27 Indian States and from 21 countries converged at TTF Ahmedabad underlining the importance of Gujarat as the biggest source markets of domestic and international travellers. It is the largest in the 9-city TTF networks, having grown by 20 per cent consecutively over the last two years, a press release informs.

More than 661 exhibitors participated in the event, catering to the tourism industry in the region at a strategically important time that is, before the season of Dussehra and Diwali.

The opening day of the TTF was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Gujarat, Vijay Rupali.

"The TTF is being organized from 07-09 Sept at Ahmedabad and Surat. I am happy to know that TTF, with its profound presence, has emerged as a major platform to address tourism markets in major States," said Mr Rupali.

Sikkim Tourism took up a stall measuring 9 square metres which featured its products and services to the visitors. Tourism stakeholders from Sikkim availed the opportunity to promote their respective businesses through the TTF.



Stakeholders from Sikkim at TTF included Vik Khurana [CEO, Gangtok Drift Hotel & Restobar], Mount Kabru Tours & Travels, Dzong Retreat & SPA, The SIMVO Residency, Bhupendra Gurung [Business Developer, Dzong Retreat], Sky World Tours & Travels, Sikkimrooms.com and Green woody camp. Gujarat CM was accorded warm reception by Joint Director (I&P), Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Madan Kumar Pradhan, at the Sikkim Tourism stall with offering of khadas and brochures.

The CM congratulated Sikkim on being declared the only organic State in India and appreciated the efforts of Sikkim's Chief Minister in making Sikkim an ultimate tourism destination. The first day received around 6000 visitors in the stall of Sikkim Tourism. The final day witnessed overwhelming response from prospective tourists and is recorded to be over 15000, the release adds.

Some of the countries which participated in the TTF included Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bahrain, Korea,

China, Bhutan, Azerbaijan, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, UAE, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Among the Indian States, Gujarat made a huge presence as a host State. Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Goa, Odisha, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Rajasthan participated as partner States while West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Andaman & Nicobar and Meghalaya were the feature States.

A large number of hotels and resorts, travel agents and tour operators, airlines, cruise lines, railways Online Travel Agents, destination management companies, transport operators and travel technology providers among others also participated in the show.

The first two days of the show were reserved for the travel trade while the last day of the show remained open for all.

The TTF Ahmedabad has provided best platform for travel networking and business transactions between tourism industry stakeholders and the travel trade from the region. The general visitors and prospective tourists on the last day got ample opportunity to check out the thousands of destinations and options and got the best deals in package tours, accommodation and more to plan and book their next vacations.

## Sensitization programme on RTI Act at NB Bhandari College

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 14 SEPT:**

A sensitization programme on RTI Act and Rule of 2005 was conducted by Sikkim Information Commission today at Nar Bahadur Bhandari College in Tadong. The programme was presided over by Deputy Secretary, SIC, Abinash Rai, and Principal of the college as resource persons, a press release informs.

Resource person, Mr Rai, gave a detailed insight into the provisions of RTI Act and its rules. He apprised the gathering that for an organization to fall under the definition of Public Authority, the Government should either own or have substantial control over the management and affairs of the organization



or the organization should have been substantially financed by the appropriate Government. "Educational Institutes receiving 95% of funding may fall under the definition of Public

Authority. Repetitive RTI applications on the same matter with the same or slightly altered language cannot be entertained and the information seeker needs to seek the information in one

chance only," said Mr Rai. He also read out the judgment of Delhi High Court regarding misuse of RTI Act and urged Law students to use the Act judiciously for larger public interest.

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### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES AND VETERINARY SERVICES KRISHI BHAWAN, TADONG (SIKKIM)

#### WALK IN INTERVIEW

Application are invited from local domiciled COI and Sikkim Subject holders for filing **25 post of Farm Labours** required for various farm in the state under the AH, LF & VS Department. The selection and engagement of Farm Labours is purely temporary on contract basis for the period of 1 year subject to extension based on their performance during the succeeding year. The incumbents shall not have any right or claim for regular appointment in the Department.

NAME OF THE POST AND NO. OF VACANCY	MONTHLY PAY (CONSOLIDATE)	EDUCATION QUALIFICATION	AGE LIMIT
Farm Labours (25 vacancies)	Rs. 8000/- p.m.	Class IV and above	Minimum age 18 years & Maximum 40 years

**Date:** 29.9.2018

**Time:** 10:30 AM onwards

**Venue:** Conference Hall, Veterinary Council, Krishi Bhawan Complex, Tadong, Gangtok

Interested eligible candidates may appear for the interview on above mentioned date and venue. Candidate must bring all the documents in support of their essential qualifications, experience, age COI/ S.S Certificate etc. in original and submit the Xerox copy of this document at the time of registration before interview. A copy of Bio data may also be submitted in advance to the nearest Veterinary officer/ in-charge of the farm or Additional Directors or Joint Directors In-charge of the District at Gangtok/ Mangan/ Namchi/ Gyalshing.

The selected candidates are liable to be posted at various farms or offices established by the Department across the state and have to undertake various extensive labour oriented assignments. The decision of the Chairman of the walk in interview committee i.e Director Veterinary Services would be final and binding in all respect.

List of selected candidate shall be notified in the Notice Board of the Department at Krishi Bhawan, Tadong, Gangtok and District offices. No TA/DA will be paid for attending the interview.

Sd/-

**T. GYATSO**  
 DEPUTY SECRETARY  
 AH, LF & VS DEPARTMENT

R.O. No 346/ IPR/ PUB/ ClassII/ 18-19, Date: 14/09/18

### FUNERAL SERVICE



Funeral Service of **Late Norchuz Targain** will be held on **15.09.2018 (Saturday)**, Time: **9:30 a.m.** at our residence at Upper Sichey, Gangtok and 11 a.m. at **Gangtok EPCS Church & Last Memorial Service at Gangtok EPCS Church, Church Road, Gangtok East Sikkim** on **16.09.2018** at **3 p.m.**

Mrs. Ujwala Targain [wife], Mr. Uno Targain [son], Ms Mikenom Targain [daughter]

### SHEGU



The 21st Day Shegu of **Late Norbu Sherpa** son of Late Pemba Sherpa resident of **Bhanu Gram near Paljor Stadium** who left for his heavenly abode on 27/08/2018 falls in **16/09/2018 [Sunday]**. All the family members, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul at **Limbu Bhawan, DPH Road**. We would also like take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during our time of bereavement.

Doma Sherpa (Mother),  
 Passang Sherpa (Sister),  
 Ongyal Sherpa, Lakpa Sherpa and  
 Mingyur Sherpa (Brother).

### CHANGE OF NAME/SURNAME

I **Wangdak Desar Bhutia** son of **Mr. Jamyang Bhutia** resident of **Bhutia Busty** under PO & PS Namchi, South Sikkim would like to declare that henceforth my parents have changed their name/surname from **Jamyang Desar to Jamyang Bhutia** & from **Chunglah alias Tshering Yangjen to Chungla Bhutia** for all purposes.  
 Date: 07/09/2018  
 Place: Namchi

DEPONENT

### SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES

#### DEAR DIGNITY EVENING

**Draw No:5 DrawDate on:14/09/18**

1st Prize Rs.26.04 Lakhs/- 69H 57776

Cons. Prize Rs.9500/- 57776 (REMAINING ALL SERIALS)

2nd Prize Rs.9000/-

10969 33234 47397 78701 80997

85940 88879 90060 93950 95538

3rd Prize Rs.500/- 0019 0649 2388 3028 3074 3619 3893 5547 6705 9046

4th Prize Rs.250/- 0676 2336 2937 3243 3305 3801 4536 5157 8596 9916

5th Prize Rs.120/-

0032 0101 0122 0169 0292 0351 0502 0712 0795 0856

0962 0972 1039 1232 1328 1745 1897 1924 1944 2152

2181 2378 2456 2457 2558 2650 2827 3019 3137 3370

3442 3467 3489 3623 3649 3664 3681 3728 3798 4187

4615 4675 4909 4988 4989 5133 5160 5185 5415 5518

5753 5948 5978 5983 5986 6007 6215 6252 6284 6421

6447 6503 6590 6739 6792 6894 7130 7166 7216 7375

7477 7704 7713 7715 7721 7745 7795 7920 8145 8162

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# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Don't Burden Education with Employability

*There is already too much confusion in the classrooms*

In an aping of a national obsession, one gets to hear a lot about how the education system and the syllabus in schools need to be made more job-oriented. While there is no denying that the education system, like any other System we have inherited, could do with an overhaul, the clamour to make education 'job-oriented' is perhaps not as advisable as it appears convincing on first look.

As a nation, we already suffer an education system drafted by the British to keep a people subservient; to consciously start grooming people for jobs right from school would be a regressively disturbing pursuit of a colonial model, albeit for a different master and also possibly a new disaster. Of course, it would be wonderful to have education which also made students 'employable', but employability is too dispersed a spectrum to lend itself to any easy packaging into a curriculum. Come on, we already know that even secondary school is too early for students to decide their "stream," to also have them decide their jobs this early would just suffocate their dreams. Also, since it is not possible to fashion an 'employable' curriculum, it makes sense to let that aspect be left alone and concentrate instead on working towards an education that returns to its true purpose – grooming confident people who can apply themselves to learning and who have a thirst for knowledge. If we can pull this off, the schools will automatically churn out well rounded graduates who can adapt to the challenges and requirements of the job market, even in these fickle times of post-demonetization and GST-inspired recession.

The best way to ensure that education does not lose its focus would be to divorce it from any overt responsibilities of feeding employment. That should be an independent pursuit. Sikkim has made the right start by setting up an independent Directorate of Capacity Building which has thankfully not been clubbed with the Human Resource Development Department which looks after education in the State. The task for this Directorate is straightforward and it is required to groom the interested young for job openings within and outside the State. The focus for the planners of Education should thus solely be on education, as in learning. If education is delivered efficiently, then even the skill development trainings will end up being more effective, because it would be taken by youth who are inquisitive, willing and who respect knowledge. One does not get to see enough of that in the skill development programmes being dispensed across the State at present and that is probably because the schools are not successfully inspiring true learning. Deliver in the latter aspect and everything will fall in place, do not address this issue and burden classrooms with vocational learning as well otherwise the already stressed classrooms will prepare an even more confused generation.

Education should remain exclusively about learning and inspiring inquisitiveness. There are enough professional courses around for those who know what job they want to do. The regular schools and colleges should create minds that further understanding and discovery. Yes, the corporate world will want order takers and meek foot soldiers, but humanity requires the free thinkers and inquiring minds. Education should seek to groom more of these. Throw employability into the mix, and these minds will be lost.

**WRITE US:** Readers are invited to comment on, criticise, run down, even appreciate if they like something in this paper. Letters carrying abusive/ indecorous language and personal attacks, except when against people responsible in this newspaper (who are fair game), will have to be ignored. Letters which carry forward a conversation or initiate a dialogue will command immediate attention and receive prominence. Mail us at: [letters@summittimes.com](mailto:letters@summittimes.com)

MARK LACY  
*theconversation.com*

Traffic jams – or “jan-jot”, as locals call them – are a fundamental part of life in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. Sometimes the slowness of the traffic can give you a sense of claustrophobia, as you're trapped between vehicles that have become immovable objects. It's easy to see why there is a growing ride-sharing business for motorbikes, which can weave their way through the traffic more quickly. Upmarket apartment blocks even advertise helipad access, to help rich citizens deal with Dhaka's traffic problem.

Although slowness can feel like the norm there, when acceleration becomes possible, it can be deadly. Dhaka's notoriously overworked and underpaid bus drivers race each other to pick up passengers, and earn on commission. Reports of corruption in Bangladesh's transport sector suggest that poorly regulated private companies use bribery to obtain licences for unqualified and inexperienced drivers.

And so when two teenagers were killed by a speeding bus in July 2018, school children and college students took to the streets to do what – in their view – the government should have been doing all along: check the age and licences of drivers, and raise awareness of the dangers faced by citizens. The students set up blockades, and the traffic crawled through the streets at an even slower pace than usual.

At first, the government seemed willing to cooperate with the student demands. But there was mistrust on all sides: the government was concerned that a broader conspiracy was unfolding to undermine the regime,



while students believed that links between government and the bus companies would frustrate their demands. Social media shut down

As the protests continued for more than a week, the situation in Dhaka deteriorated. Conflict broke out: police clashed with protesters, and protesters with pro-government groups. Several journalists reported being attacked and harassed while filming in the streets. And a digital fog descended over the city, as the government blocked mobile internet access, making it harder to share images and information on social media.

Internationally renowned photographer and activist Shahidul Alam took to the street of his city to capture the protests. He shared videos to social media, and criticised the government's handling of the protests in an interview with Al Jazeera.

Days later, government personnel arrived at his apartment to arrest him for spreading “false” and “provocative” information. Appearing in court the following day, the photographer said he was beaten in custody. In his latest hearing, on September 11, he was reportedly denied bail.

**SPEED AND POLITICS**  
Control over movement through the

city has long been an obsession for governments the world over. Goods, vehicles and people must be able to move quickly, to promote business and development. But they must also be controlled and monitored, and in this sense the state becomes a system of brakes, imposing checkpoints, border controls, speed ramps, traffic lights and speed limits.

French philosopher Paul Virilio noted how politicians and bureaucrats agonise about the tipping point where they could lose control of the city, when the streets could be occupied, when the people put a break on circulation or when disorderly circulation results in chaos.

Virilio suggested that the development and design of Paris in the 19th century was orchestrated to ensure that streets could be policed as efficiently as possible – wide boulevards were intended to prevent blockades. Transparency was another obsession, making the city visible, with innovations such as street lighting (Paris, after all, is the city of lights).

Transparency makes city residents more secure – and offers up the urban landscape for surveillance by police and militaries. In recent years,

such activities have intensified. From the police car on the street, to CCTV cameras on buildings, to the drones in the sky, new vehicles and technologies have become vital in recording and deterring certain behaviour.

Yet in societies equipped with smart phones, surveillance is no longer the practice of the state alone. As civilians block the streets in revolt, they can simultaneously circulate information and imagery to inform their compatriots about events.

In Dhaka, and across Bangladesh, controlling the movement of information has become as critical to the state's authority as the movement of people, goods or vehicles through the city.

Artists and photographers have the ability to circulate images and information in ways that can change how people see the world – and evade the control of the state. As a result, the government has become increasingly paranoid about the rise of “digital Bangladesh”, introducing new laws which critics say can be used to silence opposition.

Now it seems the government has resorted to a strategy of deterrence. Locking up Alam sends a message: if this can happen to a well regarded, internationally renowned photographer, it can happen to you. But at a time when civilians can share information and take to the streets faster than ever before, the imprisonment of Alam does little more than add to the government's image as a vindictive state, desperate to maintain control.

*[The writer is Senior lecturer, Politics, Philosophy, and Religion, Lancaster University]*

## Is that ‘midlife crisis’ really Alzheimer’s disease?

CARMELA TARTAGLIA  
*theconversation.com*

Imagine you tell your 55 year-old mom you're going to get married and she's too disorganized to help you with the wedding preparations. Or you put your kids on the bus to elementary school and the 57 year-old driver forgets the route.

These are real scenarios, drawn from my clinical work with patients who have young-onset Alzheimer's disease.

This is the other face of dementia — no white hair or wrinkles. And it is relatively common. Approximately five per cent of Alzheimer's patients are younger than 65.

While the underlying pathology of both young-onset and late-onset Alzheimer's is the same — the abnormal accumulation of proteins called amyloid and tau in the brain — there are significant differences in how the two diseases are experienced.

Patients who are under 65, for example, often have difficulties with language, visual processing and organizing and planning. They have less of the classic memory complaints.

There is also accumulating evidence that young-onset Alzheimer's progresses faster.

**DEMENTIA CONFUSED WITH DEPRESSION**  
The path to a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or other dementia is often long, meandering and riddled with misdiagnosis.

A correct diagnosis is essential for every patient but especially important for younger people. They are often still working and at risk of losing their jobs. They may have young children. When they tell people that something isn't quite right, they are told they are depressed or must be going through a midlife crisis.

Many times, younger patients will notice changes in their cognition at very early stages. They may notice increased difficulty in organization or planning. They may forget how to do complex tasks or forget appointments. Cognitive impairment is more obvious when completing highly demanding tasks at work or co-ordinating family logistics.

When a young person goes to see their doctor and reports such changes in cognition, the “d” word brought up is usually depression and not dementia.

Until the correct diagnosis is made, there can be many misinterpretations of their changes in thinking — resulting in conflicts with family, friends and colleagues.

**DIVORCE BEFORE DIAGNOSIS**  
Initially, a change in personality can be misinterpreted by the partner as indifference, as a midlife crisis or as something else.

There can be a changing of roles within a couple and it is not uncommon for separation or divorce to occur before a diagnosis is even made.

If young children are involved, it can be difficult for them to understand the change in their parent's

personality.

Getting services for young-onset Alzheimer's can be especially challenging. There are very few programs that cater to people with dementia under the age of 65.

Support for caregivers and family members of these patients is also lacking. There is a dire need for specialized programs and long-term care facilities that can accommodate those under 65.

**‘USE IT OR LOSE IT’**  
Although we have no cure for any patients with Alzheimer's, there are clinical trials that are targeting the abnormal proteins that build up during the disease.

There is symptomatic medication — such as acetylcholinesterase inhibitors — that can help memory.

We also promote a healthy lifestyle that includes aerobic exercise because evidence shows this can slow neurodegeneration. We want people to remain cognitively active and go on learning to help their brain reserve.

Although patients with young-onset Alzheimer's are impaired in some activities, there are many other activities that they can participate in. “Use it or lose it” is the motto we should live by when it comes to the brain and preserving its function.

Young-onset Alzheimer's is not the only dementia that typically affects the young. Frontotemporal dementia also strikes young people. And although

there are differences in presentation in these two illnesses, many of the challenges facing patients are the same.

Ongoing research is required to better understand this disease. While we search for a cure, we need to appreciate the special needs of this population. We need to target research and services to better serve patients and their families.

*[The writer is Clinician-Scientist, University Health Network and Associate Professor, University of Toronto]*







# Chinese Shoe Stores in Shimla

**CK LEPCHA**  
Earlier this year, I finished reading Chinatown Days – a saga of the Indian Chinese population from Assam who got deported as they were seen to be enemies of the state and are separated from their loved ones. Written first in Assamese and translated into English by the author herself, this book tells the story of how India betrayed her own citizens and sent them to China but the latter was not too keen on having them either. In the process lives are lost, loves are separated and the identity of a people group is neither here nor there. The familiarity of the Indian Chinese population in our hills is not a new story either. I have cousins who are half-Chinese or grandmother’s sisters who have Chinese husbands. Rumor has is that a few Chinese families in our village actually changed their last names to “Lepcha” and stayed back after the Indo-China war. So the few Chinese shoe stores in Shimla have obviously gotten my attention since the time I got here. Ta-Tung and Fook Chong are the two prominent Chinese shoe stores located in Mall road, Shimla. While you don’t see a lot of people entering these shoe stores, there is a definite curiosity among tourists as one can find people taking pictures of their Chinese store signs from the outside and initially I did the same too. But I would eventually enter both the



stores more than once and make conversations that have only made me wonder more about these shoemakers. One afternoon Ta-Tung was closed for lunch and Fook Chong was open so I entered the latter.

Between the two, Fook Chong seems more current with their promotions and passive aggressive sales pitches. There is a banner in Fook Chong entrance that actually reads “make in India” while encouraging customers to buy genuine, handmade leather shoes. Their display of shoes is also neatly arranged and they have an “Indian” salesman while the “Chinese” owner sits behind the counter and takes care of the payments. They accept master cards so if tourists chance on the store, they need not worry about cash as they buy what some people might see as slightly expensive shoes because the asking price is usually between Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,000. And if you want to bargain, you are in the losing team. Because the owner is quick to say that their quality cannot be compromised and refuses to decrease the price.

Ta-Tung on the other hand is not a very welcoming sight. The shoes are piled on top of each other and their store looks dusty and that it has not been cleaned for a while. It looks like a store from the yesteryears. But if you ask me, this place has more character and is more popular among the locals –also because the owner used to train at Shimla’s open-air natural skating rink (another write-up on the rink when winter comes), apparently represented India at the Asian Winter Games held in Japan in 1986. There is a sense of history and lingering memory in Ta Tung’s store. There is often a young Chinese man at the store who does not seem too friendly nor eager to sell. But the last time I was there, there was a college-going girl who seemed very friendly and did not mind answering my many questions about the store. She said there were not many Chinese families in Shimla and there are only four shoe stores here. As I was checking out the shoes, she picked one and mentioned that it was her grandfather’s design. The workshop seemed close by as I saw shoe dummies, scissors and a sewing machine that is probably used to make those shoes. There were stacks of old files and red Chinese papers stuck in the shoe rack probably during some occasion. The shoe display racks also had Chinese vases and

one wondered if those were for decoration or just for sale. The more I looked around, it looked like a world waiting to be explored and I was only too excited to be in it. But I did not want to overstay her welcome and changed the topic to the leather boots she was wearing. It was calf length black leather boots and I asked if we could get those made here as well. She said yes but that her father was not around and asked me to come some other day. I look forward to going back to Ta-Tung and ordering my black leather boots before winter comes, but I am equally intrigued about these few Chinese families in Shimla. My historian friend tells me that the Chinese shoemakers were brought to Shimla to make shoes for the army (and I heave a sigh of relief that they did not suffer the same fate as Rita Chowdhury’s Assamese Chinese) but I need to go through colonial records to verify this. As for now, there reputation seems legendary as my friend adds how Sonia Gandhi also goes to Shimla to get her shoes made. I wonder if she goes to these Chinese shoe makers or some other shoe makers in Shimla. I am only hoping that when I go to order my leather boots, I get to hear more about the past, present and future of these Chinese shoe makers in Shimla. *[C. K. Lepcha, Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study]*


## WB govt to demolish Majerhat bridge, construct new one

**KOLKATA, SEP 14 (PTI):** The Majerhat bridge, a portion of which collapsed last week, will be demolished and a new bridge will be constructed, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said Friday. She said there was negligence on the part of PWD officials in the bridge collapse. “They cannot avoid responsibilities,” Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat. She said the new bridge would come up in a year’s time. A section of the over 50-year-old bridge on the arterial Diamond Harbour Road in south Kolkata collapsed on September 4 in which 3 persons lost their lives.

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## Group clash over social media post, police fire in air

**TINSUKIA (ASSAM), SEP 14 (PTI):** Two groups clashed in Tinsukia district Friday over a controversial post made in a social networking site, and the police had to fire in the air to control the situation, police sources said. The clash occurred in two adjacent localities Longsowal and Burra Hapjan under Doomdooma police station area where the policemen fired five rounds in the air to disperse the protesters. A police complaint has been made against one person over a social media post three days ago and a group of people Friday blocked NH 37 demanding arrest of the man who posted the matter and also gheraoed his house at Burra Hapjan, the sources said. Following this, a clash erupted between two groups in Burra Hapjan and adjacent Longsowal localities in which the group members pelted stones. Police went to the spot and brought the situation under control after firing in the air, the sources said adding that two companies of policemen were deployed in the area. The accused is absconding. The sources said there was no report of any casualty in the clash.



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**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**

Applications are invited from eligible local candidates for filling up of 05 (five) posts of Production Assistant under Printing and Stationary Department purely on Adhoc Basis.


Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Number of Posts	Nature of Appointment	Eligibility Criteria	Consolidated Pay
1	Production Assistant	05 [five]	Adhoc Basis	1. Sikkim subject / COI holder 2. Required Qualifications: i) Educational: Class VII/X passed. ii) Technical: i. Diploma in Printing Technology, or ii. Minimum 2/3 yrs experience as Professional Graphic Designer, or iii. Two years vocational training in Printing Technology. 3. Age: Should not cross 33 years as on 31/12/2018	(i) Rs. 18000/- pm for Diploma in Printing Technology (ii) Rs. 10,500/- pm for those having Minimum 2/3 yrs experience as Professional Graphic Designer, Or Two (02) yrs vocation training in Printing Technology.

The interested candidates are required to submit their application along with all the requisite documents / experience certificate etc. to the undersigned on or before 22/09/2018 between 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. No applications shall be accepted hereafter. Incomplete applications shall be summarily rejected.  
Date and the venue of viva voce interview will be intimated in due course through local newspaper and the same shall be displayed on the notice board of the department.  
No TA/DA is admissible for attending the interview.

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**EXTRAORDINARY**  
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**Gangtok**

**Monday 9th July, 2018**

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**  
**HOME DEPARTMENT**  
**GANGTOK**

**No: 35/Home/2018**

**GAZETTE**

**No. 354**

**Dated: 20/06/2018**


**NOTIFICATION**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (4) of section 3 of the Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 (Act No. 8 of 1993), Shri. T.N. Sharma is hereby deemed to have been appointed as Chairperson, Sikkim Commission for Backward with effect from 29/05/2018. By order and in the name of the Governor.

**Alok K. Shrivastava, IAS**  
**Chief Secretary**  
**Government of Sikkim**  
**File No. Home/Confid./202/2013/02**

**SIKKIM**

**GOVERNMENT**



**EXTRAORDINARY**  
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**Gangtok**

**Monday 9th July, 2018**

**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**  
**HOME DEPARTMENT**  
**GANGTOK**

**No: GOS/SJE&WD/L/18-19/6**

**GAZETTE**

**No. 351**

**Dated: 27/06/2018**

**NOTIFICATION**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes Act1993, the State Government is hereby pleased to appoint the following persons as members of the Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes to exercise the powers conferred on and to perform the functions assigned to it under the Act from the date of their assumption of Office, namely:

1. Shri Mohan Dungmali, Lingdum Ranka, East Sikkim	-	Member
2. Shri Dev Gurung, Sichey, Gangtok, East Sikkim	-	Member
3. Shri Chandra Khaling, Namchi, South Sikkim	-	Member
4. Shri K.B. Thapa, Sudunglakha, East Sikkim	-	Member

By order and in the name of the Governor of Sikkim.

**Sarala Rai, IAS**  
**Secretary to the Government**  
**Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department**  
*R.O. No: 343/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19 Date: 13.09.18*



## Delhi court orders framing of charges against former TERI chief RK Pachauri

**NEW DELHI, SEP 14 (PTI):** A Delhi court Friday ordered framing of molestation charges against former TERI chief R K Pachauri in a case of alleged sexual harassment lodged by his former colleague.

Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta ordered framing of charges under sections 354 (outraging modesty), 354 A (making physical contact, unwelcome and sexually coloured remarks) and section 509 (teasing and using vulgar gesture and actions) of the Indian Penal Code.

The court, however, discharged him of certain other sections and said it will formally frame the charges on October 20.

On February 13, 2015, an FIR was registered against Pachauri and he was granted anticipatory bail in the case on March 21.

The former TERI chief had earlier secured an interim order from Additional District Judge making it mandatory for media houses to publish or telecast the coverage of the case with a title that "In any court, the allegations have not been proved and they may not be correct."

This order had also said "when such information is published in any page of a magazine or report, then it should be in middle of the page in bold letters and it should be five times larger than the font in which the article is being published."

Over 1,400-page charge sheet was filed by the Delhi Police on March 1, 2016, saying there was "sufficient evidence" against Pachauri that he had sexually harassed, stalked and threatened the complainant.

A supplementary charge sheet was filed in March 2017 after the police said it had retrieved several deleted emails and chats exchanged between the accused and the complainant.

The final report had said the deleted WhatsApp chats, text messages, retrieved from the cell phones, computer hard disks and other devices, were "not fabricated".

The charge sheet, which was filed a year after the former research analyst of TERI lodged the complaint, had said Pachauri had committed offences under various sections of IPC. Pachauri has denied all the allegations against him.

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## Mumbai City FC end pre-season campaign with win

**MUMBAI, SEP 14 (PTI):** Mumbai City FC ended their pre-season campaign with a gallant 3-2 victory over Bangkok United FC on Thursday evening at Bangkok in Thailand.

Mumbai City began the onslaught early on, with Shouvik Ghosh providing the perfect cross to new recruit Modou Sougou as early as in the fourth minute. The former Olympique de Marseille star delicately back-heeled it over the keeper to give his side an early lead.

Bangkok United FC found gaps to exploit and bombarded Mumbai City's goal with a barrage of shots. However, Amrinder Singh produced a string of heroic saves to keep his team's lead intact.

In the 33rd minute, however, a vicious strike from Ekkachai Samre left him stranded, allowing the home team to restore parity.

Twenty two-year-old Raynier Fernandes produced his moment of magic when he caught the opponent's goalkeeper off the line and shot right into the top corner to regain the lead.

After the break, Mumbai coach Jorge Costa made a couple of changes - Milan Singh and goal-scorer Raynier - were rested for Sanju Pradhan and Bipin Singh.



Halfway into the second half, youngster Pranjal Bhumi, displayed his nimble feet as he beat two opponents and fired in a captivating shot to give his team a 3-1 lead.

But Bangkok United FC got one back in the 83rd minute as

Sathaporn Daengsee finished a well-constructed move to make it 2-3.

There were a few nervy moments right at the end, but the Mumbai pulled through, courtesy some stubborn defending to end their pre-season campaign

on a high note.

While the fifth edition of the Indian Super League begins September 29, Mumbai play their opening game against Jamshedpur FC on October 2 at the Mumbai Football Arena in suburban Andheri.

## Play Usain Bolt in defence, says Spain's World Cup-winning coach

**SYDNEY, SEP 14 (AFP):** World Cup-winning coach Vicente del Bosque has some advice for sprint king Usain Bolt's new Australian club -- play him in defence.

The Jamaican superstar has been handed the chance to train with the Central Coast Mariners for an indefinite period in a bid to prove he has what it takes to earn a professional playing contract.

The eight-time Olympic champion made his debut late last month in a 20-minute cameo as a substitute during a friendly, starting in his favoured left wing position.

He nearly scored but tired quickly and admitted he was not match-fit, with Australian pundits saying he had plenty of work ahead to make the grade.

Del Bosque, whose eight-year reign as Spain coach ended after their



last-16 exit at Euro 2016, said it was possible Bolt could fulfil his dream of becoming a footballer, despite being 32.

"For a team that counter-attacks hard and transitions quickly into open space, sure (he would fit in). It would be possible, of course," de Bosque, who guided

Spain to the 2010 World Cup title, told the Olympic Channel.

But he suggested the 100m world record holder would be better in defence than up front.

"With space, he could be a very good footballer," said del Bosque, who also steered Real Madrid to Champions League

success.

"He could be a full-back that covers a lot of space, but it depends, because it's not just about covering 100, or 60 or 70 metres of the pitch.

"It's about doing it many times over and that requires stamina which I don't know whether he has or not -- although I'm

sure he has prepared.

"Without a doubt as a full-back, with his back towards the crowd and the touchline, that's where he would be most useful."

Bolt, who retired from athletics last year, has previously tried out with clubs in Germany, South Africa and Norway, to no avail.

He has acknowledged the pace and rhythm of football is completely different to the athletics track and said it will take time to adjust.

Del Bosque believes that if Bolt makes it as a footballer, it will rank alongside his greatest achievements.

"To start playing professional football at the age of 32 isn't normal," he said.

"But he has won a lot during his 32 years of life and, he has earned the right to say: 'Hey, I want to be a footballer.

## SC modifies its order on dowry harassment cases

**NEW DELHI, SEP 14 (PTI):** The Supreme Court Friday modified its order that provided for setting up of a committee to deal with dowry harassment complaints by protecting the provision of pre-arrest.

The top court had on April 23 reserved its verdict on a batch of pleas seeking revisiting of a judgement that had reduced the severity of the anti-dowry law on the offence of subjecting a married woman to cruelty by spouse and in-laws.

"We have protected pre-arrest or anticipatory bail provision in dowry harassment cases," said a bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra and comprising Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud.

The apex court, while modifying the verdict given by its two-judge bench, said that there is no scope for the courts to constitutionally fill up the gaps in penal law.

"There should be gender justice for women as dowry has a chilling effect on marriage on



the one hand, and on the other hand, there is right to life and personal liberty of the man," the bench had said while reserving its verdict.

The bench was hearing a plea filed by an NGO 'Nyayadhar', an organisation formed by a group of women advocates

of Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district, seeking sharpness in section 498A, claiming that the otherwise "helpful instrument" in the hands of victim women has become "valueless".

The plea suggested that out of the three members in family welfare committees, at least

two should be women and one should have done Masters in Social Work. It had also suggested recording of facts at the time of counselling and said the committee should also consider the economic status of the parties.

A two-judge bench of the apex court in July last year had voiced concern over the "abuse" of section 498 A (subjecting a married woman to cruelty) and passed a slew of directions, including that no arrest should "normally be effected" without verifying allegations as violation of human rights of innocents cannot be brushed aside.

The bench had observed that many such complaints are not bonafide and "uncalled for arrest" may ruin the chances of settlement.

The apex court had issued notices to Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Women and Child Development and National Commission of Women and sought their responses while disagreeing with the July 27 verdict of the smaller bench.



## Asia Cup: World Cup combination, renewal of Indo-Pak rivalry

**DUBAI, SEP 14 (PTI):** Virat Kohli's absence might have taken some sheen off it but the general excitement surrounding Indo-Pak encounters will be the USP of the six-nation Asia Cup starting Saturday with a Bangladesh-Sri Lanka clash here.

While there are two assured India-Pakistan matches, one in the group league and the other at the Super Four stage, the organisers, broadcasters, and the supporters will be hoping for a possible summit showdown on September 28 too.

For India, it will be a chance to see how the team reacts to pressure situations in absence of Kohli, who has been rested after a gruelling England tour, which ended with a 1-4 Test series loss earlier this week.

The team will begin its campaign on September 18 against Hong Kong, followed by the much-anticipated clash against Pakistan the next day.

While Rohit Sharma has been a brilliant white ball player, his leadership skills haven't been tested against a quality side.

He led against Sri Lanka last December but it was a below par opposition. In fact, Bangladesh, with its resources, is a better 50-over side currently.

But the focal point would be how India India play a quality Pakistan side that has a world-class fast bowler in Mohammed Aamir, a solid all rounder in Hasan Ali, a prolific opener in Fakhar Zaman and talented batsmen such as Babar Azam and Harris Sohail.

India's main aim would be to settle their middle-order combination and also find a perfect batting position for Mahendra Singh Dhoni during the course of the tournament.

The Asia Cup has been a tournament where Bangladesh have done well over the years.

During the last edition at home, they were in final although the event was competed in T20 format.

In 2012, they played the finals in the 50 over format.

The side under Mashrafe Mortaza has the wherewithal to compete in the 50-over format with a good bowling line-up for slower decks like the ones that will be on offer in Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

The batting comprises a mercurial Tamim Iqbal and the seasoned Mahmudullah Riyadh. Mushfiqur Rahim and Shakib Al Hasan are fantastic on their days and the team would remain a dark horse in the tournament.

Sri Lanka is one team that India have been pitted against the most in the last 24 months across formats. The team's transition phase is taking too long and internal issues like administration of the Board and pay disputes have plagued them for quite a while now.

However, they have a lot of experience in Angelo Mathews, Upul Tharanga, Thisara Perera and Lasith Malinga with youngsters such as Akila Dananjaya, Dasun Shanaka and Kasun Rajitha.

Sri Lanka's problem has been their consistency and they will hope to do course correction.

For Afghanistan, it will be a tournament to show that there is more to their side than a global T20 superstar in Rashid Khan. With the likes of Mohammed Shahzad in the line-up, the Afghans will be hoping to create an upset or two.

Last but not the least is Hong Kong, led by a player of Indian origin Anshuman Rath.

It is a team of semi-professional players, who migrated to the country in search of greener pastures. Their main aim would be to remain competitive as their matches have now been accorded ODI status.

## Srikanth out, India's campaign ends in Japan Open

**TOKYO, SEP 14 (PTI):** Kidambi Srikanth crashed out of the men's singles event after losing a marathon three-game quarterfinal to draw curtains on India's campaign at the USD 700,000 Japan Open badminton tournament here Friday.

Just like his compatriots, fatigue seemed to have caught up with the seventh-seeded Srikanth as he squandered a game's lead to lose 21-19 16-21 18-21 against Korea's Lee Dong Keun in a duel that lasted an hour and 19 minutes.

Former world no.1

Srikanth, who won a silver at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, had earlier avenged his Asian Games loss to Hong Kong's Wong Wing Ki Vincent with a clinical straight game win in the previous round.

With Srikanth's exit, the Indian shuttlers' campaign at the Japan Open came to a halt as Olympic medallist and Asian Games silver-medallist PV Sindhu and HS Prannoy crashed out in the previous rounds of the women's and men's singles event respectively on Thursday.



# ‘Afghan conflict could be deadlier than Syria in 2018’

**KABUL, SEP 14 (AFP):** The Afghan conflict could overtake Syria as the deadliest conflict in the world this year, analysts say, as violence surges 17 years after the US-led invasion.

The grim assessment contrasts sharply with the consistently upbeat public view of the conflict from NATO’s Resolute Support mission in Kabul, and underscores the growing sense of hopelessness in the war-torn country.

It suggests that US President Donald Trump’s much-vaunted strategy for Afghanistan is, like those of his predecessors, failing to move the needle on the battlefield, observers said, as a generation of Americans born after 9/11 become old enough to enlist.

“The soaring casualties in Afghanistan and the potential end-game in sight in Syria... could leave Afghanistan as the world’s deadliest conflict,” said Johnny Walsh, an Afghanistan expert at the United States Institute of Peace.

“Most years have become the new ‘most violent year’.

This is continually getting worse.” The Syrian conflict -- which began a decade after Afghanistan’s -- has claimed the lives of more than 15,000 people so far this year, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

Graeme Smith, a consultant for the International Crisis Group, told AFP some indications “suggest the



Afghan war is on track to inflict more than 20,000 battle deaths in 2018” -- including civilians and combatants.

“That could exceed the toll of any other conflict, possibly even the war in Syria,” he added.

It would be a record high for Afghanistan, according to the respected Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP) in Sweden, which put the total number of deaths on all sides of the conflict at 19,694 in 2017.

Afghan civilian deaths have al-

ready hit a record 1,692 in the first six months of 2018, a recent UN report showed.

Interior ministry deputy spokesman Nasrat Rahimi estimated 300-400 “enemy fighters” were killed every week, but would not provide figures for civilians or government forces.

Data for casualties suffered by Afghan security forces are not available to the public after Washington last year agreed to Kabul’s request to classify the numbers.

Before the blackout, according

to figures published by the US Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), there were more than 5,000 each year.

Most analysts believe that number understates the reality on the ground.

This year’s death toll for government forces could be “horrific”, Smith said.

The total death toll has been rising steeply since 2014, UCDP figures show, the year NATO combat troops pulled out, leaving Afghan forces with the responsibil-

ity for holding back the resurgent Taliban.

This year, the violence has been fanned by long-delayed parliamentary elections scheduled for October 20 and renewed efforts to engage the Taliban, Afghanistan’s largest militant group, in peace talks.

The Taliban have made significant battlefield gains, and the smaller but potent Islamic State group, which first emerged in the region in 2014, has also ramped up attacks.

The conflict has been further fuelled by other countries in the region, particularly neighbouring Pakistan, said retired Afghan general Atiqullah Amarkhil, who warned the US had failed to rein in its wayward ally, which is widely accused of providing safe haven to Taliban leaders.

Despite the bloodshed, General John Nicholson, who until recently was the top US and NATO commander in the country, insisted last month that Trump’s strategy, which includes the deployment of thousands of additional US forces and increased air strikes, was working.

US Forces spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Pete Lupo told AFP: “US Forces Afghanistan is committed to being open and telling the truth about this war”

More troops means more fighting and therefore more casualties, Walsh told AFP -- but otherwise

the military situation “remains generally a stalemate”.

SIGAR data also suggests Trump’s plan has made little progress on the battlefield.

The Taliban and other insurgents control or influence 14 per cent of Afghanistan’s 407 districts, the watchdog said in July -- unchanged from last year, when Trump unveiled his strategy.

The government, meanwhile, controls or influences 56 per cent -- down from 57 per cent in August 2017.

The rest of the country is considered “contested”.

Despite the growing violence, an unprecedented ceasefire between the government and Taliban in June ignited fresh hopes of peace.

Efforts to convince the militants to negotiate an end to the war would continue, analysts said.

“The Afghan and US governments realise that a peace process is the only way to bring an end to all the violence and the broader war,” said Michael Kugelman of the Wilson Center.

US officials met with Taliban representatives in Qatar in July, and another meeting could be held this month.

“That’s how most talks happen -- against a background of violence and fighting,” a Western official told AFP.

Cold comfort for Afghans worn down by decades of war.

## Prepared to take strongest action for not complying with Iranian sanctions: US

**WASHINGTON, SEP 14 (PTI):** The US is prepared to take the “strongest action” against countries and entities who are found not complying with the Trump administration’s sanctions on Iran, including reducing to zero the purchase of crude oil from the country, a senior official has told lawmakers.

The US pulled out of the 2015 landmark nuclear deal with Iran in May and will reimpose sanctions on the country’s oil sector in November. The Trump administration says it wants to cut Iran’s oil exports to zero - which would deprive the Iranian government of its biggest source of hard currency.

“We are prepared to take the strongest actions possible on people who will not assist us in complying with this new range of sanctions that we are putting back into place,” Manisha Singh, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing Thursday.

Responding to a question from Congressman Eliot Engel, the Indian-American official said the Trump Administration has been talking to all its allies and partners and trying to convince them to fully implement the new Iranian sanctions which the US has imposed following its withdrawal from the Iranian nuclear deal.

The US has told India and other countries to cut oil imports from Iran to “zero” by November 4 or face sanctions, making it clear that there would be no waivers to anyone.

Iran is India’s third-largest oil supplier behind Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Iran supplied 18.4 million tonnes of crude oil during April 2017



and January 2018 (first 10 months of 2017-18 fiscal).

“If any of the major buyers of Iranian crude, which is China, India, Japan, South Korea, an Europe, if they refuse to sharply cut their purchases, are we really prepared to cut their banks off from the global banking system, which is the penalty under the US sanctions? Are we really prepared for that?” Engel asked.

“In response, we are prepared to take the most serious actions possible on Iran. We need to demonstrate to the Iranian regime that we will not tolerate its development of a nuclear programme for illicit purposes,” Singh said.

The flawed Iran nuclear deal was determined not to be the right vehicle to address the range of Iran’s malign behaviour, she said.

“We are having conversations with our allies, and our goal is to get purchase of Iranian crude oil down to zero by November 5. That’s a critical goal for us,” Singh said in response to question from Congressman Engel.

“We are talking with all of our allies, including the countries that you mentioned, helping them to understand that the only way that we can achieve this global goal of Iran’s nuclear

program not commencing is through partnership and cooperation with our allies as you have indicated,” she said.

“We are trying to explain to them that the bigger picture here is we need to work together on putting this pressure onto Iran, and the sales of oil are a critical way to do that. We are prepared to take the strongest actions possible on people who will not assist us in complying with this new range of sanctions that we are putting back into place,” Singh said.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin have directed teams from the State Department and Treasury Department to travel together, she said, adding that the team has visited over 30 countries so far and talked through with them US’ withdrawal from the Iran deal.

“We’re trying to help them understand what it means for them. We are trying to engage in all kinds of diplomatic conversations to make sure that our allies don’t feel like we are going it alone. We are explaining to them that we need to work as a global community to address Iran’s range of malign behaviour,” Singh said.

“China is Iran’s top, top oil purchaser. Will they get to zero by November?” Engel followed up with another question.

“We are working with all countries, including China, to get them to zero. We’ve made it clear that unless we act as a global community, Iran’s behaviour is not going to change,” Singh said.

The Iran nuclear deal “was not going to change Iran’s behaviour. We have a new strategy, a new list of behaviours that we are going to insist that they take, and we need cooperation from the global community in order to achieve this goal,” she said.

## Two Koreas open joint liaison office in North

**KAESONG (NORTH KOREA), SEP 14 (AFP):** North and South Korea opened a joint liaison office in the Northern city of Kaesong on Friday as they knit closer ties ahead of President Moon Jae-in’s visit to Pyongyang next week.

“A new chapter in history is open here today,” South Korean unification minister Cho Myoung-gyon told a ceremony, calling the office “another symbol of peace jointly created by the South and the North”. The nuclear-armed North’s chief delegate Ri Son Gwon responded in kind, calling it a “substantial fruit nourished by the people of the north and south”.

The two Koreas have sought to pursue joint projects in multiple fields since the April summit between Moon and the North’s leader Kim Jong Un in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula, even as US efforts to secure concrete progress towards Pyongyang’s denuclearisation have stalled.

Moon will fly to the North’s capital on Tuesday to meet with Kim as he seeks to rekindle the process.

The leaders’ first meeting as well as key events during the three-day visit will be shown live on television, Moon’s office said after a working-level meeting with the North on Friday.

Moon’s trip will mark his third summit with Kim this year after he orchestrated a rapid diplomatic thaw on the peninsula and brokered June’s Singapore summit between the North Korean leader and US President Donald Trump.

There Kim backed denuclearisation of the “Korean peninsula”, but no details were agreed and Washington and Pyongyang have sparred since over what that means and how it will be achieved.

The North was “willing to denuclearise”, Moon said Thursday, while the US was willing to “end hostile relations” and provide security guarantees, “but there is a blockage as both sides are demanding each other to act first”.

Last month, Trump abruptly cancelled a planned visit by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to Pyongyang, after the North condemned “gang-

ster-like” demands for what it called its unilateral disarmament.

But Kim has since sent Trump a letter seeking a second summit and held a military parade for his country’s 70th birthday without showing off any intercontinental ballistic missiles, prompting warm tweets from the US president and raising hopes of progress.

The liaison office stands in a city that was initially part of the South after Moscow and Washington divided Korea between them in the closing days of World War II, but found itself in the North after the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended in an armistice rather than a peace treaty.

The four-storey building includes separate Northern and Southern offices and a joint conference room, and Seoul’s unification ministry said it would become a “round-the-clock consultation and communication channel” for advancing inter-Korean relations, improving ties between the US and the North, and easing military tensions.

## Abe aims to rewrite Japan constitution as he seeks 3rd term

**TOKYO, SEP 14 (AP):** Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is vying for his third re-election as the ruling party leader next week, extending his stay in power to work on his long-cherished ambition - to revise his country’s war-renouncing constitution.

Abe reportedly has already secured about 70 per cent of support from parliamentarians of the Liberal Democratic Party, and clinching the re-election would allow him up to three more years to work on a possible charter change.

He has to tackle the economy and other priorities too.

He faced his only challenger, Shigeru Ishiba, a former defense minister, during Friday’s debate, which could be the only public discussion before the September 20 vote.

“I will take on the task of revising the constitution, a postwar challenge that has never been



achieved, in order to open a new era,” Abe told the nationally televised event.

The 63 year-old Abe, prime minister since December 2012, is poised to become Japan’s longest-serving leader with a historic

third term.

He reportedly has the support of at least five main factions of the Liberal Democrats, securing 300 of the 405 votes, as well as many others among local party members.

With Abe’s victory widely expected, the main focus has shifted to who would get key party posts and a Cabinet lineup, or his possible successor.

A revision to the US-drafted 1947 constitution has been the party’s decades-old pledge that none of Abe’s predecessors could achieve.

It includes Abe’s grandfather, former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, who also saw the constitution as humiliation following Japan’s World War II defeat.

Abe said earlier this week that he hoped his party could submit a draft revision to a parliamentary session later this year. His coalition government holds a two-thirds supermajority in both houses, whose support is needed for a national referendum on constitutional amendments.

Abe, the main force behind the revision, wants to rewrite Article

9, which allows the use of force for self-defense only and bans it for settling international disputes.

Abe’s party has adopted an interpretation of the article to allow Japanese troops to defend Japanese allies under foreign attacks.

Many Japanese are more concerned about their salaries, high cost of child care and education. Media polls have also showed a majority of the public oppose the constitutional change under Abe’s hawkish government.

Abe faces other important issues, including the country’s aging and declining population and the royal succession in the spring.

He also has to deal with security concerns stemming from North Korea’s nuclear and missile threats, as well as intensifying trade friction with the US, which could shake his friendly relations with President Donald Trump.

Abe has enjoyed strong backing from his party members, who credit him for leading the party to major victories in national elections amid a lack of viable opposition.

He has lasted so long in the absence of policy debates because many party members are primarily interested in getting his and other senior lawmakers’ backing in next elections, veteran political analyst Soichiro Tahara wrote in his blog.

“Many Liberal Democratic lawmakers have become ‘yes men’ of the leadership,” he wrote.

Abe has survived a series of scandals, including cronyism allegations against him his wife, Akie.

Despite attacks from opposition parties and criticism in the media, his support ratings have recovered to about 40 per cent, considered high for a leader after five years and eight months in office.





**THE QUEEN IS HERE!** Rihanna steals the show in an eye-popping white catsuit with VAST bow adornment as she leads the glamour at fourth annual Diamond Ball in NYC.

## 'FRIEDA PINTO'S MOTHER COULDN'T RECOGNISE HER IN LOVE SONIA,' REVEALS RICHA CHADHA

The critically acclaimed film, Love Sonia, has finally opened in theatres and if word of mouth translates into numbers, the movie should come out with flying colours.

Directed by Tabrez Noorani, who has produced Academy Award-winning movies like Slumdog Millionaire, Zero Dark Thirty and Life of Pi, the movie revolves around the search of the titular character, Sonia--played by new-comer Mrunal Thakur--that takes her through the dark lanes of the sex trade.

The movie also features Richa Chadha who is essaying the role of a sex-worker and Frieda Pinto in a pivotal role. Richa opened up about working with the Slumdog Millionaire actress.

Speaking about the synergy, she said, "Freida and I have a lot of scenes together. She is a fine actor and I think this film will give people an opportunity of seeing a different side of her."

She also recounted an episode where Frieda's mom couldn't recognise her in the film.

"She is done such a good job that I was sitting next to her mother in one screening and she told me you know that girl was also very good and I was like, aunty, that s your daugh-



ter! And she beamed, Oh my God, I didn't recognise. That's a big deal," she added.

Earlier, Richa had also told us about how the environment at the set was deliberately kept light and had said, "We kept the atmosphere on the sets quite relaxed and friendly because it was a hard film to make. If we had all gotten serious we'd have had a nervous breakdown."

Love Sonia has been produced by David Womark. The film features Riya Sisodiya, Demi Moore, Manoj Bajpayee, Anupam Kher, Adil Hussain, Rajkumar Rao, and Sai Tamhankar.

**ARIES:** You'll enjoy a day of high spirits and friendly interactions. The energy of the day is in your favor, although it may not seem like it. Your emotions may become cloudy and it might seem like people are working against you. Although this may be true to some extent, realize that much of this paranoia comes more from your emotional insecurity than another's plot against you.

**TAURUS:** Ask for help if you need it, Taurus. Your nature is to serve others, but in order to maintain that energy, make sure that you're taken care of as well. Offer extra hugs to the people you love. In work-related issues, make sure that you aren't biting off more than you can chew. Delegate tasks to others. Pamper yourself tonight with a hot bath and a good meal.

**GEMINI:** Expect some positive

changes in a current partnership, Gemini. If this is a business partnership, a new agreement between you shows promise of success and good fortune. If this is a romance, you might be so perfectly compatible that you're considering moving to the next level of commitment. Any new partnership begun today should be promising and bring you whatever you hope to gain.

**CANCER:** You may feel like you're running into a brick wall at every turn, Cancer, especially when it comes to emotions. The intensity of the day may have you feeling like you're in a pressure cooker. Try not to blow things out of proportion. Realize that much of the drama is more a figment of your imagination than reality. Clear away the clouds and get to the heart of the matter.

**LEO:** Bask in the sunshine of today,

Leo. Focus on the positive aspects of your life and work to expand these energies. There's a great deal of opportunity open at this time. The key to taking advantage of this is to stay close to the things that truly bring you the most happiness. The details will work themselves out with almost no effort. Have faith that you'll succeed and you will.

**VIRGO:** Make sure you're getting enough sleep, Virgo. You may seem groggy and your head could be a bit cloudy today, but try not to let this stop you from getting your work done. Much of what you perceive may not exactly correlate with reality. Your emotions could be especially distorted. You may have a strong desire to escape into a fantasy world. Try to keep both feet on the ground.

**LIBRA:** There may be an area of your life that seems completely fan-

ciful now, Libra. The issues regarding it have become a bit hazy. You may no longer be sure of the reality of the situation. Today's energies will bring these issues into focus. Your emotions are especially heightened, and they, too, will seem a bit cloudy. Try to stay balanced and gain a new perspective on the situation.

**SCORPIO:** Your fantasy life is especially active today, Scorpio, so enjoy this little break into your dream world. Coming back to reality may be difficult. Keep tabs on your emotions so they don't get the better of you. The impressions you receive from the outside world may not be accurate today. Keep your wits about you and try not to get caught up in drugs and alcohol.

**SAGITTARIUS:** You're in a fun-loving and jovial mood today, Sagittarius,

and you should make time to enjoy it with friends. The one caveat to the day is that your emotions may be a bit cloudy. You may not have the most accurate impression of a situation. You might feel that people have the wrong impression of who you are. Try not to feel insecure. Have confidence in yourself and take the lead.

**CAPRICORN:** You may have a strange paranoia that people are out to get you today, Capricorn, but don't let this feeling paralyze you. Your emotions are more than likely getting the better of you. The reality of the situation is much different than your sensitive emotions perceive. Avoid the tendency to escape even further into this fantasy world. Stay away from drugs or alcohol.

**AQUARIUS:** Your fantasy world is piqued today, Aquarius. Your imag-

ination is running wild. Maintain a certain amount of control over your emotions or they may get the better of you. You could find yourself in a cloud of confusion by afternoon. Avoid this by making an effort to ground yourself throughout the day. Make sure your actions result from an equal balance between thought and emotion.

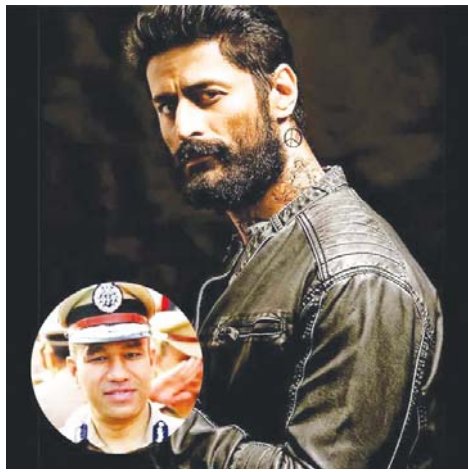
**PISCES:** You may get the feeling that you're operating in an emotional crossfire today, Pisces. On the one hand, you may have a "me first," selfish feeling that demands attention from others. You may also sense the need to work to serve others and bring like-minded people together. Realize that both of these energies are valid and deserve your attention. Balance is the key. Work to soothe your fluctuating emotions.

## Mohit Raina to play IPS officer Navniet Sekera in his biopic

Applause Entertainment is currently making a biopic on IPS officer Navniet Sekera. Tagged as the real life Singham, the man is a quite popular in the northern belt of the country, especially Uttar Pradesh. The project is a web-series helmed by Applause entertainment and is in the making for quite some time now.

However, the makers were not able to find an apt face to play Sekera on screen. BollywoodLife has this exclusive information that the makers' hunt for the actor has finally come to an end. According to a reliable source, TV's popular actor Mohit Raina has been finalised to play the real life Singham on screen.

Raina became TV's star after playing the titular role in Devon Ke Dev Mahadev. However, his last show 21 Sarfarosh: Battle of Saragar-



hi validated the powerhouse of talent that he is. The actor was highly appreciated for his portrayal of Havildar Ishar Singh in the historical series.

Keeping his acting flair in mind, the makers of the

biopic were convinced that no one else could pull off Sekera's character better than Raina. A little birdie close to the show reveals that Raina has been finalised and the makers are quite excited to

work with him. The other cast members of the project would be finalised soon.

For those who are not much aware, Navniet Sekera is an UP based IPS officer. Also known as real life Singham, he is the man behind the eradication of gangsters and mafia in Uttar Pradesh. With almost 60 executions to his credits, he is known as the execution specialists of the state. When BL contacted Mohit, he replied, "It is too early to talk right now, so I won't be able to say anything."

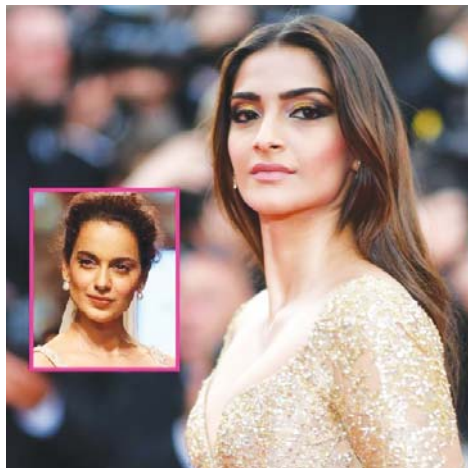
This will be Raina's second biopic after the Discovery Jeet's show as he makes his digital debut. With the kind of laurels that Sekera carries with his name, it is indeed going to be a character of lifetime for the very talented Raina. Soon the actor would also be seen on the big screens.

## Sonam Kapoor calls Kangana Ranaut a 'troublemaker'

Sonam Kapoor is among those actors who don't hesitate before speaking their mind. This is the exact reason why the Veere Di Wedding actress has landed herself in trouble many a times in the past. While Sonam stopped doing the same eventually, she still indirectly takes potshots at her fellow actors.

Recently when Sonam visited the sets of Anaita Shroff Adjanian's chat show, she made quite a few interesting revelations. From revealing which co-star she has mentally murdered, to naming the troublemaker of B-town, Sonam answered each question unapologetically.

When asked if the actress has ever mentally murdered her co-stars, Sonam surprised us with her answer as she said, "Yes, several times. I can even name them, because



they are my friends. I think it was a competition between Shahid [Kapoor] and Ayushmann [Khurrana] who takes longer to do their hair."

Moving on, when Anaita, wife of director Homi

Adjanian, asked her opinion regarding troublemaker, Sonam was quick to name, Kangana Ranaut.

"Kangana Ranaut, in the best way possible. She wants to break the glass ceiling and

you need to be a troublemaker to do that. Not a troublemaker, but someone who stirs the pot. She does it in the most incredible way, so kudos to her," said Sonam.

Well, Sonam was not wrong when she named Kangana Ranaut as the actress hits the headlines quite frequently and that too for all the wrong reasons. It was only a few days back, when Kangana lashed out at Sonu Sood for leaving her project Manikarnika- The Queen Of Jhansi at the last moment.

Kangana hit back at the actor and said that Sonu walked out of the project as he did not wish to work under a female director. Much before that, Kangana had sparked the debate of nepotism in Bollywood when she termed filmmaker Karan Johar as the flag bearer of nepotism on his own chat show, Koffee With Karan.

## Stree sees a huge jump on Ganesh Chaturthi, earns Rs 95.53 crore

And Stree continues its winning streak at the box office. The film already looked poised to join the Rs 100 crore club soon enough and now thanks to Ganesh Chaturthi yesterday, the target has become a lot closer than expected.

On its second Thursday, the film has earned a massive Rs 3.76 crore which has taken its cumulative total to Rs 95.53 crore. To think that it was only Rs 91 crore on Wednesday, this surely is a huge boost. The holiday definitely worked in its favour. Plus, there weren't any other film which the audience could prefer over Stree.

Rajkumar Rao will get his first Rs 100 crore film with it. We have already started cheering for him.

## Saif Ali Khan's Baazaar gets a release date; will hit the cinemas on 26 Oct

It's been a while since we have seen Saif Ali Khan on the silver screen. Though the actor impressed us as Sartaj in Netflix India's original series Sacred Games and his brilliant part in the same has us excited to watch the Kaalakaandi actor's upcoming films which include Hunter and Nikkhil Advani's Baazaar. The film which has been in the making since a long time has finally got its release date and we are glad.

Producer Nikkhil Advani of Emmay Entertainment, announced October 26 as the film's release date on his Twitter handle.

He wrote, "Baazaar chalu che!! Excited to announce our next in born, in bred and in house chokras step into the world. @gauravkhawla you re up!!! @Emmay-Entertain @monishaadvani @madhubho-



Singh and Radhika Apte.

Talking about his film, Saif had told PTI, "The intention of Baazaar was to create a human drama against the backdrop of the stock market. My character is like a nasty antagonist. Rohan Mehra [his debut film] is the hero. It is exciting to play strong and powerful roles. I don't distinguish between roles, it is funny. The idea is even if you play bad, if it is well-written, people don't think actors are being evil or nasty."