



**'BOND 25' PRODUCTION UNDERWAY IN LONDON**

pg 08

**HOW MUCH POWER CAN ONE IMAGE ACTUALLY HAVE?**

pg 04

**FROM MALAIKA ARORA TO TROLLS WHO CALL HER 'DESPERATE' FOR DATING YOUNGER ARJUN KAPOOR: 'TAKE A FLYING...'**

pg 08



# Summit **TIMES**

Vol 04 | Issue 176 | Gangtok | Tuesday | 02 July 2019

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5



## Indra Hang pays tribute to Shaheed Durga Malla

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 01 JUL:**

Lok Sabha MP, Indra Hang Subba, attended a prayer meet, offered khadas and flowers on the 106th Birth Anniversary of Shaheed Durga Malla at the Parliament, Delhi,

informs a press release.

Shaheed Durga Malla was the first Gorkha soldier from the Indian Gorkha Khas ethnic group in the Indian National Army (INA) to sacrifice his life for the cause of the Indian Independence movement.

Other MPs from various states, Kiren

Rijiju (MP, Arunachal Pradesh), Raju Bistha (MP, Darjeeling), Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah (MP Tehri) also met the Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla, the release mentions.

## Bimla Pradhan enthalls at Kathmandu's 'Palethi'



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 01 JUL:**

Renowned artist from Sikkim, Bimla Pradhan, impressed all with her performance at a popular musical platform, Palethi in Kathmandu, over the weekend.

She performed with her guru, popular and respected Nepali artist, Shanti Thatal, on 29 and 30 June.

Maha Kavi Lakshmi Prasad Devkota's immortal Poetic work, 'Muna Madan', composed by Shanti Thatal was performed by Ms Pradhan.

'Palethi' is a prominent and prestigious platform for established and signature marked artists to preserve and keep alive their creations through live performances. The event is held on the last Fridays of every month followed by per-

formances on Saturday and Sunday at "r-sala" in Kathmandu.

This was the first time that a singer from Sikkim performed in Palethi.

At the last Palethi held from 31 May to 02 June, Ms Pradhan had performed Shanti Thatal's classic compositions as well super hit numbers from the film, Banchna Chahane Haru [1980].

She performed songs like, Naya Naya Gham ko Kiran, Mitho Mitho Timro Saath Mitho and other from this film.

After the success of the last Palethi, the organizers, Nepalaya, booked Shanti Thatal Guruma and Bimla Pradhan this Palethi held from 28 to 30 June.

Ms Pradhan is attached with Shanti Thatal in a Guru-Shishya Parampra since 1979.

## Football veterans put up thrilling contests



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 01 JUL:**

Sikkim Boys Veterans Soutplayed Kalimpong Veterans at the ongoing Veteran's Football Invitational Tournament 2019 here at Paljor Stadium on Monday registering and

easy 4-0 victory.

Meanwhile, the full time of the second, more contesting match between Darjeeling Veterans and Namcheybong Veterans ended in a goalless draw.

In the tie breaker through penalty shoot-out

Darjeeling Veterans won 3-2.

The full time of the third match of the day - between UKFC Veterans and Gyalshing Veterans ended in a high-scoring 3-3 draw. In the tie-breaker, Gyalshing edged past UKFC 3-2.

## After four-decade battle, 95-yr-old freedom fighter finally secures pension

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):** A 95-year-old freedom fighter, who had to fight for nearly 40 years to secure his pension, succeeded on Monday with the Delhi High Court directing the Centre to pay him pension along with Rs one lakh cost.

The court said people have forgotten the agonies of those who suffered the thorns of ignominy and incarceration so that they could strew the path behind them with roses for generations to follow, like ours, to tread upon.

"Complacency and inertia are endemic to mankind, and the instant case presents a classic example thereof. Ensnared in our ivory towers, we have become blind, and deaf, to the plight of those who made a cosy existence, for us, possible," Justice C Hari Shankar observed.

The court noted that freedom fighter Heera Singh had applied for grant of pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman (SSS) Pension Scheme in 1982 and he had to fight a battle for nearly 40 years to secure his entitlement.

It said out of this period, 25 years were taken by the Centre to reject his application in June 2007, which was filed in March 1982, and "there is no explanation, whatsoever, for this delay".

Singh, in his petition, said during the freedom struggle, he along with other compatriots had captured a railway station, post office and police station which disconnected avenues of communications, for the British, of Madhubani town from Darbhanga headquarters as well as from Patna.

Following this, criminal proceedings were initiated against him and others by the British government. As he was absconding, a non-bailable warrant was issued against him and he was declared a proclaimed offender.

Singh said he had remained underground from August, 1942 to December, 1946, which exceeded the requisite period of six months as prescribed under the SSS Pension Scheme, and for this reason, he was declared a proclaimed offender by the competent court in 1944.

## CM attends thanks-giving ceremony by DSA



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 01 JUL:**

Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang (Golay) attended a thanks-giving ceremony organised by Denzong Sherpa Association (DSA) at Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco-Tourism, Chemchey today, as per an IPR press release. The event was also attended by Deputy Speaker, Sangay Lepcha, Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister, BS Panth, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, various other dignitaries and public.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister thanked members of DSA for arranging this thanks giving ceremony for the new Government.

He said that under his government the Sherpa as well as people of other communities in Sikkim

will be provided equal rights and opportunities. Sikkim will set a benchmark in preserving communal harmony, he added.

The CM stated that his cabinet is an amalgamation of intellect from various sections of the society including the Sherpa community.

On Hydel Power Projects in Sikkim, the CM said that strict action and proper enquiry is being undertaken with regards to revenue collection and employment generation in these projects.

Sikkim will soon earn the rightful revenue from the hydro projects located in the state as it was the Sikkimese people who gave their land for setting up of these mega projects, he stated.

He also urged the youth to equip themselves with required

qualification and experience needed to work at hydro power projects.

Summing up the one month achievement of the State Government, the CM highlighted that a commission for identification of genuine BPL families for formulation of suitable schemes will be set up soon.

Minister Energy and Power Department, MN Sherpa spoke about the "constructive assistance provided by the State Government for the upliftment of the Sherpa community". He expressed gratitude on behalf of the Sherpa community for considering the demands placed by the community.

During the programme, DSA felicitated the Chief Minister, Cabinet Minister and other dignitaries.

## Centre launches water conservation campaign

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):**

With some parts of the country reporting water shortage, Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Monday launched a conservation campaign, with an emphasis on 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts.

The 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan' will focus on five aspects -- water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other wa-

ter bodies, reuse of water and recharging of structures, watershed development, and intensive afforestation, Drinking Water Sanitation Secretary Parmeswaran Iyer said. Officers from the central government, led by additional secretaries and joint secretaries, have been assigned to these 256 districts, he said.

The district administration will also nominate two members to join these teams.

The conservation efforts will be supplemented by initiatives like developing block and district water conservation plans and 'krishi vigyan kendra melas' to promote efficient water use for irrigation and better crop choices.

In urban areas, plans with time-bound targets will be developed for waste water reuse for industrial and agricultural purposes.

turn to pg02

**DEAR READERS, IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR COPY OF THE SUMMIT TIMES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD, PLEASE MESSAGE OR WHATSAPP US YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS AT 7001622863 AND WE WILL ENSURE THAT THE NEWSPAPER REACHES YOU.**

## Training on Off-Farm Inputs at Mabong



**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 01 JUN:**

Training cum demonstration program on off-farm inputs was held at Upper Mabong, West Sikkim, under MOVCDD (Mission Organic Value

Chain Development), a press release informs. The training was organized by FPO in collaboration with HCC&DD and Service Provider Agency Mevedir. Farmer Interest

Groups affiliated with the FPO were invited as participants to this training program to receive off-farm inputs and learn about the use of these organic certified inputs in their major cash crops.

The training session was chaired by DK Rai (Field Assistant, HCCDD) who welcomed all the participants and briefed about the training agenda. Thereafter, Jason Nim Sherpa from Mevedir explained the importance of macro nutrients like NPK (Nitrogen Phosphorus & Potassium) and how these nitrogen fixing bacteria improves the growth and yield of plants.

In the next session, Diwash Chettri explained about the role and the use of bio fertilizers and bio pesticides in controlling diseases that affect the productivity of the crops.

More than 40 farmers attended this training program.

## Prince Charles charity makes education impact in India with new bond

**ADITI KHANNA**

**LONDON, JUL 1 (PTI):** A Development Impact Bond (DIB), launched by Britain's Prince Charles last year to help improve education for children in India, on Monday said that it had enabled 30 per cent more students to overcome learning gaps and achieve basic literacy and numeracy skills.

At the one-year mark of the initiative, British Asian Trust found that 40 per cent of participating schools met or exceeded their targets in improving proficiency levels, outperforming non-DIB comparison schools in India.

Working across four programmes in the states of Delhi and Gujarat, the DIB helped deliver programmes to 600 schools, reaching over 100,000 students aged 5-11 in year one.

"In many ways, year one was a start-up year for both the DIB and NGOs testing the concept and allowing for adjustments to make improvements along the way," said Richard Hawkes, Chief Executive, British Asian Trust founded by Prince Charles in 2007 to fight poverty in South Asia. "The ambition remains that the learnings from the DIB will be used to create an education rate card, an assessment of costs for tried-and-tested delivery outcomes against funding, to improve the quality of education, he said.

The Quality Education India DIB, launched in September 2018, set out to improve the quality of literacy and numeracy. The DIB seeks to develop a new funding approach that is focused on learning outcomes, ensuring the maximum impact is achieved for the investment provided. It is a four-year programme, set to finish in 2022. The governance of the DIB is led by a Steering

Committee comprising of British Asian Trust, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, UBS Optimus Foundation and Tata Trusts, together with Comic Relief, the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID), steel tycoon Lakshmi N. Mittal's Mittal Foundation, BT and the Lawrence Ellison Foundation.

"The ultimate goal is to improve education standards in India, with the DIB paving the way for developing an outcome-based funding approach that has the potential to improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of children," a statement from the Steering Committee noted.

Geeta Goel, Country Director, India, Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, said: "The early signs are that outcome-based funding models, with an incentive attached, have the potential to drive quality in education and attract new forms of capital to sustain it.

"The key test for this DIB has been on proving the scalability of education programmes, without diminishing the quality of outcomes. There are a number of key learnings from year one, which will help to inform the remainder of the programme, as well as future DIBs and government policy decisions."

The results for year one were independently assessed and analysed by Gray Matters India (GMI). The DIB, claimed to be the largest of its kind for funding education, raised USD 11 million in its first phase of funding. The structure includes a results-based finance mechanism, where the outcome funders only pay for successful results. If the outcomes are not fully achieved, funders will pay proportionate to the results achieved.

### Centre launches...

Plans will be developed for at least one urban water body for groundwater recharge in the block or the city. Scientists and IITs will also be mobilised at the national level to support the teams, he said.

The government plans to run a water conservation, similar to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan with Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday pitching for conservation of rain water, saying there is a pressing need to make it a mass movement on the lines of the cleanliness drive.

In his first address in the second edition of monthly show 'Mann ki Baat', the prime minister also said 'one-size-fits-all' approach is not required in conservation of water.

## Mamata calls for meeting of SC, ST MLAs in Assembly



**KOLKATA, JUL 1 (PTI):** In a first, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has convened a meeting of all Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) MLAs in the Assembly on Tuesday.

According to sources in the party, the CM on Monday called for the meeting in view of the unprecedented rise of the BJP in tribal-dominated areas of the state.

Around 80 out of 294 Assembly segments are reserved for SC and ST legislators in the state.

"The chief minister will be meeting all SC and ST MLAs in the Assembly, irrespective of their political affiliation, and discuss various developmental projects in the tribal areas of the state," said a senior TMC leader.

Taking a dig at the Banerjee-led government, Leader of Opposition and senior Congress leader Abdul Mannan said it took the Trinamool Congress (TMC) eight years to convene a meeting of opposition MLAs.

"After eight long years, they (TMC) suddenly realized that op-

position MLAs matter. Our SC and ST MLAs will surely attend the meeting," Mannan said.

The senior Congress leader also alleged that leaders of opposition parties were never invited to join the administrative meetings by the TMC government. "Efforts were made to poach elected representatives, but the TMC government never made an attempt to invite leaders of opposition parties in administrative meetings," he said.

Welcoming the move, BJP legislative party leader Manoj Tigga said he will attend the meeting and support any positive step taken by the government for the welfare of the state and its people.

The BJP has registered a stupendous performance in the recently held polls in West Bengal by bagging 18 of 42 Lok Sabha seats in the state, four less than the TMC.

Buoyed by the performance, the saffron party leaders have now claimed that they plan to overthrow the TMC from power in the 2021 Bengal polls.

### AFFIDAVIT

I Raj Kumar Chhetri, son of late chandra Bahadur Chhetri, aged about 46 years Resident of Khorlong Rateypani. P.O. Rateypani and P.S.Melli, South Sikkim do hereby

Solemnly affirm on oath and declare as under:

1. That Smt. Doma Lepcha is my legally wedded wife.
2. The Lepcha is a caste of my above named wife.
3. That the name of my wife as Doma Lepcha as been found recorded in her birth certificate bearing registration number: 92/222 Dated: 2.9.92, Electoral identity card vide IDNo. NVC0019935 and adhar card bearing no. 432437853573.
4. That further, the true and correct date of birth of my wife is 25.12.1978. (25th day of December Ninety hundred Seventy Eight)
5. That I have sworn this affidavit to declare that Smt. DOMA LEPCHA is my legally wedded wife and further to declare that LEPCHA is a cast of my wife and also the true and correct date of birth of may wife is 25.12.1978.

**Deponent**

## Summer Football tourney begins in Chota Samdong



**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**SORENG, 01 JUL:**

The 6th Summer Football Tournament kicked off at Chota Samdong Playground, here in West Sikkim today.

The 17-day tournament is being organized by Young Boys Club of Chota Samdong.

Press advisor to the CM, CP Bhattarai, was present as chief guest accompanied with senior advocate, Roshan Tamang, SMC members, SKM CLC youth etc.

Addressing the gathering, Mr Bhattarai appreciated the club's initiative and their consis-

tent approach which has led to the tournament being organized for the sixth consecutive year.

On matters of the area, he commented that although the Chota Samdong school has been upgraded to senior secondary level, it has been running with very poor infrastructure for the past two years. In this regard, he assured to take up the matter with the Chief Minister and bring some relief.

Pointing out that the people of Chota Samdong, like the rest of the State, have been grappling with substance

abuse problems, he stressed that sports and games played a vital role in keep the society safe from this problem and urged the people to support initiatives like the one taken by the Young Boys Club.

Meanwhile, on the field today, the first match was played between Rana Academy and Chukung Lepcha Gumpa which the former won 3-2.

The second match was played between Arubotey DSS and Rupsang which the latter won 0-2.

A cultural programme was also part of the inaugural day's festivities.

## 2,100 officers left armed forces voluntarily in 2016-18: Govt

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):** As many as 1,148 officers left the Army voluntarily from 2016 to 2018, followed by 575 officers from the Air Force and 377 from Navy, the government informed the Rajya Sabha on Monday.

In a written response to a question on attrition in the three armed forces, Shripad Naik, Minister of State in the Defence Ministry said the Army saw 353 officers voluntarily leaving the force in 2016, followed by 383 in 2017 and 412 officers in 2018.

In 2016, 186 officers left the Air Force fol-

lowed by 205 in 2017 and 186 in 2018, he said.

As many as 138 officers left the Navy in 2016 followed by 137 in 2017 and 102 in 2018, the minister said.

Naik said recruitment in the armed forces is a continuous process and the government has taken a number of measures to reduce the shortages.

"These include sustained image projection, participation in career fairs and exhibitions and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a

challenging and satisfying career. "Further, the government has taken various steps to make jobs in the armed forces attractive including improvement in promotion prospects," he said.

Replying to a separate question, the MoS said recruitment in the Army is done regularly through Army Recruiting Offices (AROs) spread across the country, including the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The recruitment from each district of the country is done at least once in the recruiting year (April to March).

## CSR non-compliance: Prosecution sanctioned in 366 cases

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):**

The government has sanctioned prosecution in 366 cases for non-compliance with CSR norms under the companies law during the 2014-15 period. Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Anurag Thakur Monday said in the Lok Sabha that India is the first country in the world to make Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) mandatory for all profit making companies meeting certain threshold under the Companies Act, 2013.

In 2014-15, as many as 16,785 companies shelled out Rs 10,065.93 crore towards CSR activities. During the Question Hour, Thakur said the entire CSR architecture is disclosure-based and companies are required to file CSR initiatives in annual filings to the corporate affairs ministry.

The ministry has also set up the centralised scrutiny and prosecution mechanism to monitor compliance with CSR norms. "So far, sanction for prosecution has been accorded in 366 cases for FY 2014-15 and 5,382 call for information notices have been issued in FY 2015-16.

"All CSR-related offences are compoundable. So far, 60 applications for compounding have been received," Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a written reply. In 2017-18, as many as 3,117 companies spent Rs 8,365.35 crore towards CSR activities, as per data up to October 20, 2018.

"Given that the obligation under the CSR provisions has been in existence from FY 2014-15 only, there has been considerable progress both in terms of number of companies contributing to CSR and overall CSR spent," Sitharaman said in the written reply.



## SIKKIM GOVERNMENT GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

Gangtok Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019

No.269

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
MOTOR VEHICLES DIVISION, TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
YATAYAT BHAWAN, GANGTOK: 737101

Ph No. 03592-201073, Fax No: 03592-201074, Email: [headoficemvd@gmail.com](mailto:headoficemvd@gmail.com)

No. GOS/MVD/2010-11/ADM/150/Part(III)/144

Dated : 12.06.2019

### NOTIFICATION

The draft of certain rules which the State Government proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (XXVIII) of sub-section (2) of section 96 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (59 of 1988), is hereby published as required by sub-section (1) of section 212 of the said Act for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that the said draft rule would be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of 45(forty five) days from the date on which the copies of notification as published in the Official gazette are made available to the public. Any objection or suggestion, which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft rules before the expiry the period so specified will be considered by the State Government.

	DRAFT RULES
Short title, extent and commencement	1. (1) These rules may be called the Sikkim Motors Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 2019. (2) They shall extend to the whole of Sikkim. (3) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the official Gazette.
Amendment or rules 90 (A)	2. In the Sikkim Motor Vehicles Rules, 1991, in rule 90 (A), for the exiting clause (V) of sub-rule (1), the following clause shall be substituted, namely, "(V) Registration certificate in case of Association along with Sikkim Subject Certificate or Certificate of Identification of each and every member of the Association".

(S.B.Subba)

Secretary to the Government of Sikkim  
Transport Department

S.G.P.G. 269/Com.6/Gazette/100 Nos/ Dt. 19.06.2019

R.O NO. 72/IPR/Pub/Classi./19-20

Dated:01.07.2019

**Two NSCN (IM) hideouts busted in Arunachal Pradesh**

**ITANAGAR, JUL 1 (PTI):** Security forces have busted two temporary hideouts of outlawed NSCN (IM) in Tirap and Changlang districts of Arunachal Pradesh and recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition.

Acting on a tip-off, the Changlang battalion of the Assam Rifles along with district police officers destroyed the two camps in two separate operations on Sunday evening, Kohima-based defence spokesman Col Chranjeet Konwer said.

The troops have seized AK-series rifles, ammunition, cooking utensils, jungle boots and water containers among other things from the hideouts, he said.

According to the spokesman, the camps were used for temporary stay by the insurgents during transit.

Sunday's operation was part of the ongoing crackdown by the Army and the Assam Rifles on insurgents in south Arunachal Pradesh, he said.

"Security forces are conducting sustained operations in the region to weed out insurgents. The outfit has been actively involved in extortion, forcible recruitment and other unlawful activities in Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts," Konwer added.

**We need our A-game to get closer to maiden WC trophy: Morgan**

**BIRMINGHAM, JUL 1 (PTI):** Pushed to the wall, England bounced back in style to stay alive and skipper Eoin Morgan says that the hosts are very much in contention for a maiden World Cup trophy, provided they produce their 'A-game' in the remaining matches.

Back-to-back defeats to Sri Lanka and Australia threatened to derail England's World Cup campaign but they came up with a great show when it mattered and defeated India by 31 runs on Sunday to stay afloat.

"Yeah, it is. The closer we can get to playing our A-game, the more of a chance we have of going the whole way. If we're scraping our way along, not playing the type of cricket we played in the last four years, I wouldn't be as confident," Morgan said at the post-match press conference. "I think the manner in which we played today, particularly with the bat, was outstanding. It certainly resonates with everybody in the change room to the identity which we wanted to play with in this tournament. It's come at a really good time and against an extremely strong team. So we're delighted."

England have jumped to the fourth spot with 10 points from eight games and will need to beat New Zealand in their last league match on Wednesday to be assured of a semifinal spot.

The Indian wrist spin duo of Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav were taken to the cleaners by English batsmen on Sunday.

**ICFAI sets up Pranab Mukherjee Chair**

**SHRAVAN CHETTRI GANGTOK, 01 JUL:** Under the "Pranab Mukherjee Chair for Sustainable Development, Research, Skill Advancement and Education" at ICFAI University, economically backward students along with those belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and other backward classes can get 55% concession in course fee.

The Pranab Mukherjee Foundation has agreed to set up the "Pranab Mukherjee Chair for Sustainable Development, Research, Skill Advancement and Education" at The ICFAI University in the beginning of 2019. It has been launched with the objective of promoting sustainable development, research and consultancy projects to strengthen democracy and promote peace harmony and happiness in the North East region of India.

This initiative will support the creation and dissemination of innovation, knowledge and novelty that will improve the quality of life in rural and semi-urban areas of Sikkim and North-East Region through skill development, research and education.

Speaking at a recent press conference, Vice Chancellor, Jagannath Patnaik, ICFAI said that ICFAI has around 11 uni-

versities in the country among which 9 business schools and 5 law schools. He added that the University is regarded as one of the best institutions in the Asia Pacific region.

"The college is known for quality education, innovative programmes and for enhancing the capabilities of the students," he said.

He further added that the university collaborates with top recruiters in the nation and achieved 100% placement last year.

The Pranab Mukherjee Chair will play a major role in helping the students financially, said Mr Patnaik.

"The college students along with the faculty of Information Department are working on a website on paying guest accommodation which will be soon launched. They are also working on a Sikkim Nationalised Transport mobile application for the welfare and comfort of the people which shall also be out soon," he informed.

The college has also planned to further expand the courses available including courses for Paramedics, pharmaceutical science and Integrated B.Ed. The institution is also planning to expand its infrastructure.

**Secy RMDD chairs meeting on Jal Shakti Abhiyan**

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 01 JUL:** Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), a time-bound and mission-mode water conservation campaign, will be implemented in South District. In this regard, a meeting chaired by Secretary RMDD was held today in the Conference hall of RMDD, an IPR press release informs.

In the meeting one senior level officer each was assigned to the eight blocks in South district. They will be responsible for co-ordinating with the block level officials in the implementation of JSA.

Further, line Departments have been identified for the implementation of the JSA and a meeting of the concerned Departments is scheduled to be held on 05 Jul, 2019 to discuss issues and draw an Action Plan, the release mentions.



Under this campaign, targeted activities shall be undertaken under 5 areas of intervention namely, (i) Water conservation and rainwater harvesting, (ii) Renovation of traditional water bodies/tanks, (iii) Reuse, borewell recharge structures, (iv) Watershed develop-

ment, and (v) Intensive afforestation. Rural Management & Development Department is the nodal Department for the implementation of Jal Shakti Abhiyan in the State.

JSA will run in two Phases: Phase 1 from 01 Jul to 15 Sept, 2019 for all States and Union Territo-

ries; and Phase 2 from 01 Oct to 30 Nov, 2019 for States and UTs receiving the retreating monsoon (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu)

During the campaign, senior officers, groundwater experts and scientists from the Govern-

ment of India will work together with State and District officials in India's most water-stressed districts. JSA aims at making water conservation and promotion of irrigation efficiency a Jan-Andolan through asset creation and communication campaigns.



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM**

**Office of The Pr. Chief Engineer Rural Management and Development Department**

**E Procurement Notice**

**Bid ID No. SK-PMGSY II Batch I Re-tender 04 Online (2019-20)**

The Pr.Chief Engineer, RM &DD on behalf of Governor of Sikkim invites percentage rates bids through e-procurement. The bid should be submitted online in web site [www.pmgstenderskm.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenderskm.gov.in) for construction of respective work as detailed in the above website by contractors of appropriate class with the state government for execution of Civil works. The bidders should have necessary portal enrolment with his own Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender online for bidding		Last date of time for seeking tender clarification	Date & time of Opening of tender.
		From	To		
Chief Engineer, RM&DD	SK-PMGSY II Online (2019-20)	02/07/2019	31/07/2019 upto 4.30 PM	23/07/2019 upto 4.30 PM	01/08/2019 from 11.00 AM

Sd/-  
Pr.Chief Engineer -cum- Empowered Officer  
Rural Management & Development Department  
Government of Sikkim  
Gangtok.

**PMGSY - II(Batch-I) RE-TENDER 4 2019-20**

Sl	District	Pkg No.	Block	NAME OF ROAD WORKS	Road Length in kms	Tender amount	Grade of Contractor	Jurisdiction	Ear-nest Money	Tender form cost	Completion Time	
1.	North and East	SK01 C2 RT4	Mangan	DAC road to North Sikkim Academy	1	79.94	All class I-B Contractors enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department	Within the STATE through e-tendering system	20.02	50000	1 YEAR	
2			Gangtok	MRL04-Rumtek Rey Ranka road to Falay Busty via Tyempem Busty	2.3	178.18						
3												
4			Pakyong	T01-Link road from Chandupul to Chettri Goan	2	153.19						
5				T08-Andheri to Gakcha	2.5	196.34						
				MRL23-Pakyong Machong SPWD road KM2 to Pachey via Theeng dara	2.5	193.29						
				<b>TENDER VALUE</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>800.94</b>						
6.	South	SK03 RT4	Jorethang	MRL04-Link road from Mungram to Golitar Tamley Pokhari	2	167.47	All class I-B Contractors enlisted with the Sikkim Public Works Department	Within the DISTRICT through e-tendering system	11.98	50000	1 YEAR	
7												
8			Namchi	MRL01-Phongla Mamring to Kanam Busty	2	158.22						
				T10-Phongla Mamring Road to Pamphok	2	153.38						
				<b>TENDER VALUE</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>479.07</b>						

Sd/-  
Principal Chief Engineer  
Rural Management & Development Department  
Government of Sikkim.

**R.O. No. 74/IPR/Pub/Classi./19-20 Date:01.7.19**

**~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS**

**URGENTLY REQUIRED:**  
Urgent Recruitment for a waiter with atleast 3 years experience and one kitchen helper. Contact: Hotel Paramount, Dentam, West Sikkim- 9735909625 / 8348285444

**PLOT FOR SALE:**  
Vacant plot measuring 0.38 Acres for sale at Amdo Golai, Deorali. Contact: 09717191985/097474651223

**INTERESTED TO BECOME A YOGA TEACHER?**  
**CRITERIA** - Academic qualification of minimum higher secondary pass  
Complete yoga syllabus will be provided by SYVC Gangtok absolutely free of cost. After one year of basic training and service (karma yoga)/ volunteering in the Centre, the candidate would be sent for Yoga Teacher Training Course at Shivananda Yoga Ashram. After TTC, the candidate would be appointed on part time basis at the Yoga Centre in Gangtok. College students can also apply. If required, food and accommodation would be provided.  
**Interested candidates may contact : Deepa Yoga Centre at Mob: +91 7432043719/ +91 8170953919.**

**LAND FOR SALE**  
A vacant plot measuring 0.38 Ha. (16552.80 sq - ft) is for sale at Amdo Golai (above the main road), Gangtok. For more information please contact - 9717191985/9474651223.

**WANTED**  
HOUSEKEEPER/BABYSITTER.  
Contact: 9933443442/9800500696.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**  
This is for general information of all concerned that Hotel Parasol Residency, Panihouse, Deorali East Sikkim shall remain closed for a period of six months for carrying out necessary repairs. All concerned tour operators and clients are requested to refrain from booking or deal with any sort with regard to Hotel Parasol Residency, Panihouse, Deorali, East Sikkim.

**Mr. Subash Lama Proprietor Hotel Parasol Residency, Panihouse, Deorali, East Sikkim**

**BUILDING FOR SALE**  
A 5 storied building with 3 floor completed having a land area of 30x70 at DABUWA, Melli road (2km from Namchi) is for sale. Rate reasonable. Interested party please contact: **6296370905, 9733284142, 8597088755.**

## Allow Local Adaptations of Centralized Models

*The top-down model needs tweaking to deliver better*

Given the energy with which Sikkim is still hosting programmes under the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme, it would appear that the State has a major problem when it comes to ensuring access and care for its daughters. Sikkim has many problems, some even gender related, but letting the girl child be born, survive and receive an education is not one of them. An important issue no doubt if the national scenario is taken into consideration, but in a State with no reported case of female infanticide, one might wonder at the necessity of such elaborate events and robust funding on what, let us accept it, is a redundant issue as far as Sikkim is concerned. The government agencies too realize this awkward emphasis and do, it appears, try and work around it to ensure that the earmarked funds end up coming to some use. So one has ingenious ways in which the BB-BP funds are being utilized. Or the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan obsession in what is the country's first Nirmal Rajya!

This is shared here to highlight the disconnect with which centralized planning looks out for the country. India's daughters, by and large, need saving and access to education, but that is not necessarily the case everywhere that the programme is being force-fed. In areas like Sikkim, it could have easily been ratcheted up some notches to speak more about gender equality, empowerment and rights; it could have moved beyond the unimaginatively routine official events and roped in activists and women leaders to push the envelope of gender rights a little further. But that did not happen. May be its time will come too, but this reference was made not to speak only about the BB-BP initiative, and is cited here to highlight how the pressures of implementing imported models saps everyone of the energy to work out local solutions for local issues. For example, while a girl-child's right to live is not threatened in Sikkim, her right to education often gets compromised; securing the best education for the daughters when a choice has to be made is quite often sidestepped. It is in this direction that Sikkim's energies need to be focused more and it would be unfortunate if the BB-BP was deployed only to reinforce an existing access to literacy. In that sense, it would help more if centralized planning provided the overall ideology and allowed local adaptations to build on them.

Something on these lines was attempted a few years ago when Delhi announced that it was looking at releasing funds directly to the gram panchayats based on developmental agendas set up by these micro units in line with the developmental push. That said, the decentralisation process already underway in some states, including Sikkim, will achieve little if the decentralised components are not allowed the freedom to change, adapt and modulate projects and schemes to suit the needs, aspirations and ground realities of the areas they represent. Agreed, if this happens, the control that central agencies have over line organisations will weaken, but that is how things should be when one is decentralizing anyways. The parent body should decide policy and leave the implementation to the grassroots level workers who understand the severity of the problems and know which solutions will work. They are not handicapped for initiative or skill, it is only access to funds that limits their effectiveness; as does a more trusting environment which is why they are straitjacketed with guidelines and instructions. Give them the funds and an overarching policy framework to work under and see how everything that the top-down model failed to deliver can actually be rather easily achieved.

### 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: [news@summittimes.com](mailto:news@summittimes.com)

## How much power can one image actually have?

NICOLE SMITH DAHMEN & PAUL SLOVIC  
*theconversation.com*

When the Associated Press published Julia Le Duc's photograph of a drowned Salvadoran man, Óscar Alberto Martínez Ramírez, and his 23-month old daughter Valeria, it sparked outrage on social media. According to Le Duc, Ramírez had attempted to cross the Rio Grande after realizing he couldn't present himself to U.S. authorities to request asylum.

But beyond raising awareness via Twitter and Facebook feeds, does an image like this one have the power to sway public opinion or spur politicians to take action?

As journalism and psychology scholars interested in the effects of imagery, we study the ability of jarring photos and videos to move people from complacency to action. While graphic imagery can have an immediate impact, the window of action – and caring – is smaller than you'd think.

### A POLITICAL CATALYST?

Photographs and videos – through their perceived authenticity – can have an effect on people.

Research suggests that the graphic photo of slain Emmett Till in his open casket served as a "political catalyst" in mobilizing Americans to action in the civil rights movement. Similarly, news images have been credited as playing an important role in ending the Vietnam War.

But not all scholars agree. A recent article argued that it was a "myth" that the iconic "napalm girl" photo swayed public opinion and hastened the end of the Vietnam War.

We must also look to psychology to understand the impacts of emotional news content. Research demonstrates that audiences need an emotional connection – and not merely a "just-the-facts" reporting approach – as "prerequisite for political action" when it comes to appreciating the impor-

ance of distant mass suffering. And imagery can trigger this emotional connection by overcoming the psychic numbing that occurs when casualties mount, images blur and lost lives become merely dry statistics.

### IMAGES FROM SYRIA

In April 2017, gut-wrenching images seem to have awakened the world to the human atrocities happening in Syria. Following a chemical bomb attack in the town of Khan Sheikhoun, graphic photos and videos documented the horrific effects of the banned nerve agent sarin. Millions bore witness to excruciating human suffering: gasping, choking, writhing and dying. More than 500 people were injured, with at least 86 deaths, including 28 children.

The vivid, closeup images of sarin attack victims were resonant enough to break through the complacency of people and politicians accustomed to bad news emerging from the war-torn nation. In President Trump's response – which included a retaliatory missile strike – he seemed to recognize the value of the Syrian lives depicted in the horrific photos and videos.

"When you kill innocent children," he said during a news conference, "that crosses many, many lines, beyond a red line – many, many lines."

### THE LIMITS OF AN IMAGE

Nonetheless, even though the attacks may have briefly heightened U.S. concerns over the wars in Syria, the photographic documentation of the suffering in Syria wasn't new.

The 2015 photos of a tiny Syrian boy's lifeless body resting face down in the sand similarly stirred the world's collective consciousness. Within hours of its release, the photo had reached 20 million people through Twitter, with many more millions seeing it on the front pages of newspapers the next day. Afterwards, government restrictions on accepting refugees were loosened while private donations to organizations like the Red Cross

spiked dramatically.

A year later haunting images of a young boy in the back of an ambulance, caked in dirt and blood, galvanized the world.

But the emotional and compassionate responses to both photographs were short-lived. The bombing of civilians in Syria continued. Refugees continued risking their lives to escape the war zone.

Since the publication of Le Duc's photo of the dead migrants, supportive politicians may feel emboldened to sound the alarm on the plight of Central American migrants. Donations to immigrant aid organizations might briefly spike.

But it seems that a photograph, no matter how emotionally devastating, can only do so much.

Yes, it can create a window of time when we're motivated to act, and we'll usually do so if we have effective options to pursue. This could mean a charitable donation at the individual level or, collectively, a surge of political will. However, psychology research from the "arithmetic of compassion" suggests that sympathy for distant human suffering declines when we're presented with rising body counts. Sometimes we're discouraged by the scope of the problem and this stops us from doing things that actually make a difference – even if partial solutions can save lives. Other times, if the options for helping others seem too narrow or ineffective, we'll turn away and stop caring.

Images can alert us to the horrors of violence, mass migration and poverty. But as we have seen time and again, photographs and news footage of human suffering generally precipitate a short-term emotional reaction, rather than a sustained humanitarian response.

*[Nicole Smith Dahmen is Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon; Paul Slovic is Professor of Psychology, University of Oregon]*



## The Maasai legend behind ancient hominin footprints in Tanzania

ELGIDIUS ICHUMBAKI & MARCO CHERIN  
*theconversation.com*

In 1976 paleoanthropologist Mary Leakey and other scientists reported that they'd found ancient hominin footprints at a site in Laetoli, northeastern Tanzania. The footprints were frozen in volcanic deposits from the Pliocene, an epoch that lasted from 5.333 million to 2.58 million years ago. The team hypothesised that the footprints belonged to an extinct hominin species famously known as Lucy. The species' scientific name is *Australopithecus afarensis*.

Additional footprints were reported in 2016 by a research team made up of scientists from Tanzania and Italy. These footprints are about 150m away from the original discovery. This new trackway is surrounded by hundreds of footprints belonging to other mammals and birds; there are even frozen raindrop impressions. The hominin footprints were left by two bipedal (that is, walking on two legs) individuals walking on the same surface, at the same time, in the same direction and at the same moderate speed as those reported by Leakey and her colleagues.

Taken together, the two groups of footprints testify to the presence of at least five bipedal early hominins moving as a group through the Laetoli landscape. Both the new and the older footprints have provided scientists with some clues in the search to understand human biological evolution.

But while the science is crucial, it is also important to know what the people who live in and around Laetoli make of these ancient footprints. What do they think the footprints represent? My colleagues and I wanted to find out. So we interviewed lo-

cal Maasai with whom we were working at the Laetoli and organised some focus group discussions with others within the area as well as nearby villages of Essere, Enduleni and Kakesiyo. There are about 35,000 residents in these villages and they have been living in the area for generations.

The Maasai people connect Laetoli footprints to the tale of Lakalanga, a strong hero who helped them win a battle against a neighbouring community. According to the story – which is consolidated into the local community oral tradition – Lakalanga was so big that wherever he walked, he left visible tracks on the ground. Although there is no time reference regarding the legendary Lakalanga, interviewed elders said the story is deeply rooted among the Maasai.

Since the legendary Lakalanga occupies a unique position among the Maasai community and because there is a myth linking him with the footprint maker, there is a need to incorporate these perceptions in the interpretation and preservation of footprints. This undertaking will reduce the chance of people harming the footprint site and increase the link between local people and their history.

### WHY FOOTPRINTS MATTER

Fossil bones and teeth can provide palaeontologists with a great deal of data about various aspects of human evolution. Footprints are potentially much more informative. Footprint sites can be interpreted as prehistoric snapshots of the deep past, having been formed in a relatively short time span.

In fact, after being impressed on the ground, these ephemeral traces of past life can fossilise only under extremely rare geological conditions. Using footprints, scientists can reconstruct locomotion, body size, speed, and variability

of extinct creatures.

Generally, fossil footprints are very useful palaeontological tools. Their features can help identify their makers and also to infer biological information. Nearly all the fossil human tracks discovered so far have been referred to species of the genus *Homo*. Laetoli is the only exception to the record.

Laetoli is in northern Tanzania at the southern margins of the Serengeti Plains in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The area has several other world-famous palaeoanthropological localities: Olduvai Gorge, Lake Ndutu, and Naseru Rock.

From a scientific point of view, one of the most sensational results of the 2016 study that identified the second trackway at Laetoli concerns one track maker's body size. One individual's footprints are surprisingly larger than those of the other members of the group, suggesting an estimated stature of about 165cm, or about 5 feet 4 inches.

This exceptional body size, which falls within the range of modern *Homo sapiens* maximum values, makes it the largest *Australopithecus afarensis* individual identified so far.

### THE MAASAI'S INTERPRETATION

The large body size aspect is also reflected in the local community's interpretations of the Laetoli hominin footprints.

The Maasai we spoke to and hold discussions with knew about the footprints. They mainly knew about the animal footprints because they are scattered over various volcanic tuff on the Laetoli landscapes. The Maasai who live at Laetoli and on the outskirts visit and pass through the area regularly as they herd their livestock. The narratives about Lakalanga's footprints have also become part of the folk lore of Maasai living

further away.

It was during our discussions with the local community that we learned of the story of Lakalanga, his big strides and visible tracks. They believed that Lakalanga was energetic and bigger than any other member of the society.

The myths do not comply with a part of our scientific interpretation suggesting a social group of one large male, two or three female and one juvenile. The narratives do not interpret the footprints to belong to Lakalanga and his family. Instead, the narratives link the the footprints with Lakalanga and other Maasai warriors but who were not as large and energetic as him (Lakalanga).

The discovery in 2016 of the second set of footprints – and particularly the large footprints in that set – offered further confirmation to the Maasai that the hero warrior Lakalanga really existed.

Linking footprints with the story of Lakalanga is not unique at Laetoli. There are similar stories from other sites across the world where local people associate footprints with gods and heroes.

For example, in about 450BC, Herodotus reported that footprints found along the banks of Tyras River in Moldavia were associated with gods and heroes visualised as giants. Also, footprints from the Gallipoli Peninsula in north-eastern Turkey are linked with the great hero-athlete from the Trojan war.

This just goes to show that local people curious about footprints will always seek explanations on who made them. Hence local interpretations.

*[Elgidius Ichumbaki is Senior Lecturer in Heritage Studies, University of Dar es Salaam; Marco Cherin is Post-doc, Department of Physics and Earth Sciences, University of Perugia]*

## Nagaland to prepare register of indigenous inhabitants

**KOHIMA, JUL 1 (PTI):** The Nagaland government will soon prepare a register of all the indigenous inhabitants of the state, an official said on Monday.

The exercise to prepare the Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN) will start from July 10 and will be completed in 60 days, according to a notification issued by Home Commissioner R Ramakrishnan on Saturday.

The RIIN is to prevent issuance of indigenous inhabitant certificates to ineligible persons. Only those persons whose names will figure in the RIIN will be issued indigenous inhabitant certificate, the official said. The list will be prepared after an extensive survey of village-wise and ward-wise list of indigenous inhabitants, based on official records, under the supervision of district administration, he said.

The notification directed the district deputy commissioners to ensure that all the RIIN teams were constituted by Saturday and information about the teams made public and also communicated to authorities concerned.

The RIIN teams will visit each house



and make a list of the indigenous inhabitants actually residing there.

Each family member will be listed in the village of their original residence and mention will be made of any member living elsewhere, the notification stated.

It also said the provisional lists prepared by the teams constituted would be published in the villages and wards, as well as on the website of the district and the state government on September 11.

Claims and objections can be filed for a period of 30 days, that is on or before October 10, 2019.

Based on this, the list of indigenous inhabitants will be finalised and each

indigenous inhabitant will be given a unique ID, it said. Accordingly the final list of indigenous inhabitants, the RIIN will be created, the home commissioner said.

Once the process is complete and all genuine indigenous inhabitants are issued certificates and RIIN is notified, all existing indigenous inhabitant certificates issued by any authority will become invalid, the notification said.

This will be done as a feature to be incorporated in the online system, which will have a component for RIIN also, Ramakrishnan said, adding that the database would be updated with latest

photographs and other details every five years.

The notification also stated there would be a complete ban on issue of fresh indigenous inhabitant certificates. In case there is anyone who is left out from the RIIN, he/she will need to file an application before the home commissioner, who will get the matter verified and take necessary action for updating the RIIN, if needed.

The notification warned that any deputy commissioner or any other officer or authority that issues any indigenous inhabitant certificate in violation of the guidelines will attract disciplinary action.

## Mamata Banerjee meme case: SC issues notice to WB govt on delay in release of BJP activist

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):** The Supreme Court Monday issued a show cause notice to the West Bengal government on a contempt plea over the delay in releasing the BJP activist who was arrested last month for allegedly posting a meme on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on social media.

In the petition, it has been alleged that there was a delay in releasing activist Priyanka Sharma,

despite the apex court's order granting bail to her.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi issued notices to the state government and others on the contempt plea filed by the activist's brother Rajib Sharma.

Priyanka Sharma, a BJP Yuva Morcha leader, was arrested on May 10 by the West Bengal Police under section 500 (defamation) of the Indian Penal Code and under provisions

of the Information Technology Act.

The arrest was made on a complaint by a local Trinamool Congress leader.

On May 14, a vacation bench of the Supreme Court had granted bail to Priyanka Sharma.

Rajib Sharma has approached the apex court alleging that there was a delay of over 24 hours in releasing his sister from jail, despite the court's May 14 order.

**CBI carries out searches at 22 locations in West Bengal in chit fund scam case**

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):** The CBI is carrying out searches at 22 locations in West Bengal which are the premises of directors and promoters of New Land Agro Industries, one of the accused companies in a ponzi scam case, officials said.

The company was booked in May 2017 on the orders of the Supreme Court, they said.

The apex court had directed the agency to probe all the companies allegedly involved in the ponzi scam being probed by a Special Investigation Team of West Bengal, the officials said.

It was alleged in the complaint that over 250 agents, who had deposited approximately Rs 1 crore each, were cheated by the promoters and directors of the agency by promising them lucrative return.

But the maturity amounts were not paid to the gullible investors, it was alleged.

## 20-year-old man lynched in Malda; 2 arrested

**MALDA (WB), JUL 1 (PTI):** A man who was allegedly beaten by locals for stealing a bike has died, triggering a protest when his body reached here from a Kolkata hospital on Sunday.

Two persons have been arrested in connection with the lynching of 20-year-old Sanaul Sheikh, Malda Superintendent of Police Alok Rajoria said.

Sheikh was assaulted allegedly by some locals at Baishnabnagar Bazar on Wednesday, after he was found stealing the bike, the SP said.

A purported video of the attack went viral, on the basis of which some of the culprits could be identified.

Sheikh was initially taken to Bedrad primary health centre, from where he was referred to Malda Medical College and Hospital. He was shifted to SSKM Hospital in Kolkata, but Sheikh died



on Saturday.

A senior functionary of Malda Zilla Parisad, Chandana Sarkar said, no communal angle should be given to the incident.

Describing the incident as "unfortunate", she said, "The person was a history-sheeter and had earlier been arrested on charges of theft."

"His wife met me today and we are trying to help the family on humanitarian grounds."

Following a written complaint by his mother, the police have started

a case under several sections of the IPC, the SP said. When the people were proceeding towards Baishnabnagar police station after staging a blockade on NH-34 on Sunday, the police requested Congress MLA of the adjoining assembly segment of Sujapur, Suja Khan Choudhury, and other party leaders to pacify the mob, the MLA said.

"We managed to convince the mob not to proceed further and take the body back home for religious rites and burial," he said.

## SpiceJet starts daily direct flight between Guwahati & Dhaka

**GUWAHATI, JUL 1 (PTI):** Budget carrier SpiceJet Monday started the first daily direct flight between Guwahati and Dhaka. The first flight 'SG 78' was flagged off by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport here. The Bombardier Q400 aircraft will depart Guwahati at 11:55 am, while it will leave Dhaka at 2:10 pm (local time) every day.

Hailing the new mode of connectivity as landmark, Sonowal said: "We are now looking to connect all the capitals of the ASEAN and BBIN countries with Guwahati. For that, we have already requested the Civil Aviation Ministry to do the needful." SpiceJet Chief Marketing Officer Debojo Maharshi informed the daily flight has been launched under the International Air Connectivity Scheme (IACS). "We believe the tremendous success of Regional Connectivity Scheme can be replicated in IACS as well thereby making international air travel much more affordable and convenient for Indians," he added.

Bangladesh Assistant High Commissioner in India Shah Mohammad Tanvir Monsur said this new flight will be a turning point in the history of connectivity between the two regions.

"Before 1947, Bangladesh and Assam were part of the same region. Every day, 4,000 patients come to India for treatment, but they go to Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi.

## Mayawati attacks UP govt for inclusion of 17 OBCs in SC list

**LUCKNOW JULY 1 (PTI):** BSP chief Mayawati Monday attacked the Uttar Pradesh government for including 17 Other Backward Classes (OBC) in the Scheduled Caste list, terming the move a "big fraud" and demanded its immediate withdrawal.

Mayawati claimed that a similar "unconstitutional and illegal" move was made by the previous Samajwadi Party government to cheat these castes, but her party had opposed it even then.

"This is a big fraud with the members of these 17 castes. They will neither be able to receive benefits under 27 per cent quota of the OBC, nor under the SC category as the state government cannot list

or remove them from any of the categories through its orders," she said.

She said that in 2007 her government had requested the Congress dispensation at the Centre to include the 17 castes in the Scheduled Caste list.

"We had demanded that SC quota be increased so that benefits for the category do not get harmed due to the inclusion of the 17 castes. It is unfortunate that neither the Congress, nor the BJP government at the Centre did anything about it," she said.

The BSP president demanded that the state government immediately withdraw the "undemocratic order" and increase the SC quota to ensure that the category's interests were not harmed. Last week

the state government had issued a directive to include 17 OBCs in the Scheduled Caste list. They are Nishad, Bind, Mallah, Kewat, Kashyap, Bhar, Dhivar, Batham, Machua, Prajapati, Rajbhar, Kahar, Kumhar, Dhimar, Manjhi, Turaha and Gaudia.

The move can steal the opposition's thunder, especially of the SP and the BSP which have tried to sympathise with these 17 Other Backward Classes in the past by attempting to bring them in the SC bracket.

It will also enable these socially and economically backward classes the benefits of reservation after removing legal irritants. The move will leave greater space in the OBC quota for the remaining OBC caste groups.

## Speeding train knocks down elephant, injures another



**JALPAIGURI (WB), JUL 1 (PTI):** A male adult elephant was run over and killed and another was injured by a running train in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal, forest department officials said on Monday.

The Dhubri-New Jalpaiguri Intercity Express hit the pachyderms at around 8.30 pm on Sunday when the train was passing through an elephant corridor.

While one elephant died on the spot, the injured one was found this morning some distance away from the spot which falls between Reti and Moraghat forests, the officials said.

The carcass has been sent for post-mortem examination and the injured elephant is being treated.

Train driver Prakash Kumar said he noticed the elephants only after coming close to them and applied emergency brake but it was too late.

Wildlife Warden Seema Chowdhury said it is unfortunate that the drivers never run trains in a low speed in forests as has been decided in meetings with the railway authorities.

It is the same area where six elephants were mowed down by a speeding train in 2013.

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

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

**THE BIRDS HAVE LOST THEIR WAY**  
Edited by TSHERING EDEN AND PEMA WANGCHUK

ESSAYS  
ON TEESTA,  
HYDEL  
AND CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
IN SIKKIM

**LOKTA BOOKS**  
Lokta Books Pvt. Ltd.  
Lokta Books@gmail.com  
+91 981960 0200; +91 983 288 0763

**HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?**  
email us:  
news@summittimes.com

# Alex Morgan and USA resolve to put Ellen White in the shade

SUZANNE WRACK  
theGuardian

England's wingers, Ellen White, Fran Kirby, the Lionesses' speed, a resilient defence ... the way the United States side talk about their opponents for Tuesday's semi-final in Lyon, you could be forgiven for thinking Phil Neville's side are the world champions rather than the team from across the Atlantic.

Yet the Americans are right to highlight some concerns, given the way England strolled past Norway last Thursday and could even afford the luxury of Nikita Parris missing a penalty with the score at 3-0. By contrast, USA expended a fair deal more energy – not just because of the weather – in getting past France a day later.

For Alyssa Naehar, the US goalkeeper, concerns are understandably centred on White, the tournament's joint-top scorer. Their game three months ago against England in the SheBelieves Cup will provide a valuable blueprint. The teams drew 2-2 but England won the competition. Naehar said: "Ellen White is in great form and scoring goals and we'll move on to shift our focus and figure out a gameplan to stop that. We played them back in March so we'll go back and look at that and we've watched a few of their games throughout this tournament. It's going to be another hard-fought



game." Alex Morgan, one of those tied with White in the scorers' chart on five goals, believes the danger does not stop with England's in-form striker. "Ellen White is obviously coming into this next game really confident," she said. "She has gained that starting spot and that's huge. We have to look at her because of the goals she is scoring. We also know we have to look at the wingers and the speed that they have, and the 10 spot, looking at [Fran] Kirby. They have a lot of talent on the team."

Morgan will be trying to break down the meanest defence left in the tournament – "stingy" is how Becky Sauerbrunn describes it – but the she knows England are on the up.

"They obviously dominated against Norway, it was a great game for them so we were watching pretty closely knowing that we could very well face them. Now it's all about recovering for them. They've really evolved their game over the last couple of years and we've been fortunate enough to play them every single year [at the SheBelieves Cup], so I think we'll see something that we've seen quite a bit of, but now it's who is going to show up to play." Morgan, though, despite a tough schedule, "feels good". "Playing this many 90-minute matches and playing in the last group, meaning we had the least amount of rest, is not ideal. But we feel great and we will be ready," she said. The USA defender

Abby Dahlkemper agrees that Neville's side have a number of strong features to their play. "England are a really good side," she said. "They play well and it will be a good match-up. They're athletic and tactically flexible. Their wingers are very pacy and they like to attack from their full-backs as well. We have to be aware of that and the threat. We have to be good in transition on Tuesday."

The midfielder Sam Mewis didn't mention Lucy Bronze, scorer of that brilliant strike against Norway, by name but she knows which side the Lionesses prefer to attack down.

She said: "England are dangerous down that right flank but they have a lot of threats. We are

going to take everything into consideration and of course we will continue to try to play our game."

On facing another top three team within five days Dahlkemper is unfazed: "I think pressure makes us step up even more. We're prideful. We have this winning mentality – whatever it takes. We definitely showed that and put in a gritty performance because that was what it was going to take to win."

The trouble they have is trying to predict Phil Neville's side. With 22 of the 23 in the squad having played appear, and the team employing both 4-3-3 and 4-2-3-1 formations, deciding on how best to cope with their threats is a tough task. But with England posing so many

problems, what can the US offer in return? Many things, of course, but like Neville's team, the Americans have like to ensure their gameplan is fluid and unpredictable. The move to a back five after an hour against France in their 2-1 win surprised many and they have used every outfield player at some stage so far.

"We want to be a hard team to scout," explained Sauerbrunn. "We have a variety of formations and ways of playing. We want to make it hard for teams to prep for us." Mewis added: "We can do better. France posed us a lot of challenges and had a lot of the ball. I give us credit for grinding it out and getting the win but we know we have more to offer and want to show that in the next game."

## Dhoni criticised for "baffling" innings but gets Kohli's backing

**BIRMINGHAM, JUL 1 (PTI):** Former cricketers came down heavily on Mahendra Singh Dhoni for his "baffling innings" during India's maiden defeat in the ongoing World Cup to England but the veteran wicketkeeper-batsman continued to get the backing of skipper Virat Kohli.

Set a target of 338 by England, India could manage 306/5 in their 50 overs with Dhoni and Kedar Jadhav remaining unbeaten on 42 (31 balls) and 12 (13 balls) respectively.

Former India skipper Sourav Ganguly, who was doing commentary during the match, questioned the batting approach.

"I don't have an explanation for that...I can't explain these singles. It's also the length and the bounce that has deceived the Indian batsmen. You can't be chasing 338 and still have five wickets in the end," Ganguly said.

"It's about mindset and the way you look at the game. The message had to be clear: no matter where it comes and no matter where the ball lands you have to find the boundary," he added.

After the departure of young Rishabh Pant (32) and Hardik Pandya (45), India needed 71 runs from the last five overs. All eyes were on Dhoni, known to be one of the best finishers of the game, and Kedar Jadhav but they couldn't pull it off for the side.

Despite the criticism, Kohli was steadfast in his defence of Dhoni and said the wicket got slower towards the end of the game which made big shots quite difficult.

"I think MS was trying really hard to get the boundary but it wasn't coming off. They bowled in good areas and the ball was stopping, hence it was difficult to bat

towards the end," said Kohli after the game.

Dhoni scored four boundaries in his innings before hitting India's only six in the penultimate over. But with the asking rate shooting to 15, the Indian duo opted for singles and doubles instead of playing big shots as Virat Kohli's side slipped to a 31-run defeat.

Former England captain Nasser Hussain was severe in his criticism and felt the fans would have been disappointed seeing India's approach which seemed passive towards the end of the innings.

"I am completely baffled. What's going on! This is not what India needed. They need runs. What are they doing? Some Indian fans are leaving now. Surely they must want to see Dhoni go for his shots, even if he slogs it off in the air," Hussain said while commenting during India's chase.

"It's a World Cup game, top two sides, give it a go! Indian fans would want their side to do a little bit more. They want their side to go down with a fight. Risk it to win it," he added.

Former Indian cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar echoed Hussain's sentiment.

"If there was any team that had the ability to stop India's winning run. It was England. Dhoni's approach in the last few overs however was baffling," he tweeted.

The World Cup-winning former captain, however, got some support from Indian Tennis veteran Mahesh Bhupathi.

"Reading what the arm chair experts say on Twitter about the game having never played professional sport under pressure is as entertaining as watching a tough run chase," Bhupathi tweeted.

## Trump says many Koreans were in tears as he stepped into North Korea

**BY LALIT K JHA WASHINGTON, JUL 1 (PTI):** US President Donald Trump has said many North Koreans were literally in tears when he stepped into their country before his historic meeting with Kim Jong-un in the demilitarized zone dividing the peninsula.

Trump travelled to the demilitarized zone (DMZ) with South Korean President Moon Jae-In and met with troops stationed there before meeting Kim at a marker delineating the border between the two states. The North Korean leader then invited Trump to cross into his country. Trump accepted his offer and walked over the demarcation line, becoming the only sitting US president to set foot inside North Korea.

After posing for photos, Trump and Kim held a bilateral meeting at the Freedom House in border town of Panmunjom, South Korea.

"I actually stepped into North Korea and

they say it's a very historic moment," he told American soldiers at Osan Air Base after his meeting with Chairman Kim. "Many people, I noticed, from Korea were literally in tears," he added. Trump on Sunday returned to the White House. The New York Times described the meeting between Trump and Kim as a masterpiece of drama.

"President Trump's largely improvised third meeting on Sunday with Kim Jong-un, the North Korean leader, was a masterpiece of drama, the kind of made-for-TV spectacle that Mr Trump treasures," the daily said.

Trump and Kim held a historic first summit in Singapore in June, which concluded with a vague joint statement where Kim pledged to work toward denuclearisation.

Then they met in Hanoi, Vietnam in February, but talks broke down without any joint agreement as Kim pushed for sanctions relief and the US pushed for denuclearisation.

## 'Bangla Test': Changes on cards as no end to India's middle-order woes

**BIRMINGHAM, JUL 1 (PTI):** Kedar Jadhav and Yuzvendra Chahal could find their names struck off the final XI as India aim for a quick turnaround in their penultimate World Cup group league game against a battle-hardened Bangladesh, which is trying to stay relevant in a fight for the last-four berth.

The seasoned Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Ravindra Jadeja are in contention for the first XI berths keeping the odd dimensions of the Edgbaston ground in mind.

India are currently on 11 points from seven games and a win on Tuesday will ensure a smooth passage to the semi-finals unlike Bangladesh, who must win their last couple of league games in order to make their maiden entry into the last four stage.

Having received a rude shake-up from England, India will have very little time for recovery as they seek immediate course correction against a team, which boasts of the world's No.1 all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan in its ranks.

Mahendra Singh Dhoni's poor show as a finisher in a wobbly middle-order has already made the Indian team look vulnerable more



than ever and insult to injury was the first lacklustre bowling day in the tournament, that led to an implosion.

India scored only 39 runs in the last five overs against England, with Dhoni and Jadhav at the crease. More than their inability to hit big shots, which was certainly the primary factor, the lack of intent was an eyesore.

However, the team management has rallied around their senior-most player and that makes Jadhav the possible fall guy, making Ravindra Jadeja's case for inclusion stronger by the day.

The primary logic could possibly be Jadeja being better at big-hitting compared to Jadhav, when batting at Nos.6 or 7. His wicket-to-wicket left-arm spin is a restrictive option and to top it all, his outstanding

ability to field at any position.

The other factor that could play a massive role in this decision is the dimension of the Edgbaston ground, where the boundary on one of the sides is less than 60 metres.

The England troika of Jason Roy, Jonny Bairstow and Ben Stokes exploited the shorter boundary against wrist spinners Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav, hitting the reverse sweep effectively.

Similarly, when England bowled, all their pacers were seen bowling to a field set on the side of the longer boundary, which helped them cut the number of sixes to a mere one.

After being outplayed tactically, the team management are eager to set things right and have understood that

two wrist spinners could be a risk against the likes of Tamim Iqbal, Shakib, Mushfiqur Rahim, Liton Das and Mahmudullah.

With Bhuvneshwar Kumar being fit and available for selection, India for the first time in the tournament, could go in with three frontline pacers and in that case, Chahal may have to cool his heels after recording worst ever World Cup figures (0/88 in 10 overs) by an Indian bowler.

If Bhuvneshwar is included in the playing XI against Bangladesh, it will definitely bolster the lower-order batting.

For India, the important thing will be that Bangladesh's bowling won't have the same potency as England and they will heavily depend on Shakib's all-round exploits (476 runs and 10 wickets) that has

got them so far in the tournament.

Bowling will be Bangladesh's weak link and Virat Kohli will certainly want to bat first on a placid track piling up more agony for the 'Tigers'.

Bangladesh's biggest problem is their skipper Mashrafe Mortaza, who has taken only one wicket in six games so far. Mashrafe has lost the zip and is in the team because of his acceptability as the Bangladesh captain.

Squads: India: Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Vijay Shankar, Hardik Pandya, Mahendra Singh Dhoni (wk), Kedar Jadhav, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Ravindra Jadeja, Dinesh Karthik, Rishabh Pant

B a n g l a d e s h : Mashrafe Mortaza (captain), Tamim Iqbal, Soumya Sarkar, Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim (wk), Mahmudullah Riyadh, Sabbir Rahaman, Mehidy Hasan Miraj, Mosaddek Hossain, Mohammed Saifuddin, Mustafizur Rahaman, Rubel Hossain, Liton Kumar Das, Abu Jayed, Mohammed Mithun.

Match Starts 3pm (IST).

Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav wins WBC Asia title

**NEW DELHI, JUL 1 (PTI):** Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav became the WBC Asia silver welterweight champion after defeating Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak in the title bout held in Pattaya, Thailand.

Yadav, a cousin of Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Vikas Krishan who has also turned pro now, clinched a third-round knockout over Singmanassak.

The fight, which took place on Sunday night, was conducted by the Asian Boxing Council and approved by the World Boxing Council (WBC).

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email us @ news@ summit-times.com

# 44 young Indian scientists attend Nobel Laureates meet in Germany

BY SHAKOOR RATHERSHAKOOR RATHER

**LINDAU (GERMANY), JUL 1 (PTI):** Seeking fresh perspectives about research and innovation, as many as 44 next-generation Indian scientists have gathered here on the banks of the Lake Constance for extensive discussions with 39 Nobel Laureates from around the world and share their vision.

The select group is a part of the 580 young scientist contingent from 89 countries attending the 69th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting which officially opened on Sunday at this Bavarian Island.

The eminent speakers called on the next-generation of scientists to play an active role in shaping societal developments.

The meeting, being attended by 44 young Indian scientists associated with several research institutes in India and abroad, offers a lifetime opportunity to them to closely interact with Nobel Laureates from their discipline over seven days.

This year's meeting dedicated to physics, with laser physics being the core topic, in keeping with the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics. Other topics include dark matter and gravitational waves, which were first detected in 2016.

"Selection to this meeting was a dream



come true for me as it is a lifetime opportunity to interact with the peers in my own research area and learn from all the Nobel Laureates," Megha Jain, who is pursuing PHD in material sciences from Patiala University in Punjab told PTI on the sidelines of the event.

"I knew about this meeting ever since I was in my masters, and have been trying to be in this august gathering for the past seven years and finally it feels great to be here," Aditi Toshniwal, who pursued her PHD from National Institute of Technology (NIT) Surat in Gujarat, told PTI.

"Such meetings provide a boost to researchers like me by learning from the dedication of the Nobel Laureates to stay focused on your work and not to lose hope which is key to research," said Toshniwal.

Her research is mostly based on renewables such as perovskite solar cells. Toshniwal and Jain noted that they are looking forward to interacting with Canadian scientist Donna Strickland, who won the Nobel Prize in Physics 2018 for generating high-intensity, ultra-short optical pulses.

The host, Countess Bettina Bernadotte, President of the Council for the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings, picked up on an appeal made by Nobel Laureate Elizabeth Blackburn in 2018 in Lindau, in which she urged scientist to adopt a global, sustainable and open approach.

"Share your vision with us and become involved!" she said. She explained that the Lindau Meeting was

conceived for exactly this purpose: as a forum for dialogue and exchange. The meeting offers ample opportunity for the participating Nobel Laureates and young scientists to engage in extensive discussions.

A variety of programme formats will facilitate face-to-face dialogue, such as the Agora Talks, Laureate Lunches and Science Walks. The German Federal Minister of Education and Research, Anja Karliczek emphasised the special nature of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings.

"They represent an international and globally unique forum at which scientists come together from every corner of the earth." In his keynote address, Australian Nobel Laureate Brian Schmidt encouraged young scientists to play a greater role in tackling societal challenges. "There's a multitude of problems out there," Schmidt said. "We scientists are the ones who must confront them. Let's talk them out!"

The scientific programme got underway Monday, with a lecture from Strickland. Last year, she became just the third woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics. Yemen's Tawakkol Karman, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011, will speak about her experiences as a human rights activist on the last day of the meeting on Friday on Mainau Island.

The host country of this year's Lindau Meeting, South Africa, presents itself as a research-focused nation.

carry out whale hunting off Japan, but will end the most controversial hunts in the Antarctic. "The resumption of commercial whaling has been an ardent wish for whalers across the country," Shigeto Hase, the head of Japan's fisheries agency, said at the departure ceremony in Kushiro.

He said the resumption of commercial whaling would ensure "the culture and way of life will be passed on to the next generation." Whale meat was a key source of protein in the immediate post-World War II years in Japan, when the country was desperately poor.

But consumption has declined significantly in recent decades -- with much of the population saying they rarely or never eat whale meat -- and activists have pressed Japan to ditch the practice. Some believe that Japan's return to commercial whale hunting will effectively sound the death knell for the industry.

"Japan is quitting high-seas whaling... that is a huge step towards the end of killing whales for their meat and other products," said Patrick Ramage, director of marine conservation at the International Fund for Animal Welfare. He said commercial whaling in Japanese waters was unlikely to have much of a future given dwindling subsidies and the shrinking market for whale meat.

Whaling has long proved a rare diplomatic flashpoint for Tokyo, which says the practice is a Japanese tradition that should not be subject to international interference. As an IWC member, Japan was banned from commercial hunts of large whales, though it could catch small varieties in waters near its coastline. But it also exploited a loophole in the body's rules to carry out highly controversial hunts of whales in protected Antarctic waters under the banner of "scientific research".

Activists said the hunts had no scientific value, and Japan made no secret of the fact that meat from whales caught on those hunts ended up sold for consumption. Humane Society International slammed the resumption of commercial hunts. "This is a sad day for whale protection globally," said the group's head of campaigns Nicola Beynon, accusing Japan of beginning a "new and shocking era of pirate whaling".

With its withdrawal from the IWC, Tokyo will

# Civilians among 15 dead in Israeli strikes in Syria: monitor

**BEIRUT, JUL 1 (AFP):** Israeli air strikes in Syria left nine mostly foreign pro-regime fighters and six civilians including three children dead, a Britain-based war monitor said Monday.

The raids near Damascus and in Homs province late Sunday killed the fighters, but it was not immediately clear exactly how the civilians died -- whether in the strikes or in the aftermath, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

It said the strikes hit several Iranian positions

near Damascus and targeted a research centre and a military airport west of the city of Homs where the Lebanese Shiite movement Hezbollah and Iranians are deployed.

One of the pro-regime fighters killed was Syrian, while the rest were of other nationalities, Observatory chief Rami Abdel Rahman said.

State news agency SANA earlier said four civilians had been killed after its air defences responded to an Israeli attack.

"Our air defences

confronted enemy missiles launched by Israeli warplanes... towards some of our positions in Homs and in the vicinity of Damascus," SANA said, quoting a Syrian military source.

An Israeli military spokeswoman declined to comment on the report.

Israel has carried out hundreds of air strikes in Syria since the beginning of the conflict in 2011, targeting forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and the regime's allies Iran and Hezbollah.

# Whaling ships set sail as Japan resumes commercial hunts

**KUSHIRO, JUL 1 (AFP):** Whaling ships set sail Monday on the first commercial hunts in decades, as Japan brushed aside global outrage over its decision to resume what conservationists say is a cruel and outdated practice.

Five vessels from whaling communities left port in northern Japan's Kushiro with their horns blaring and grey tarps thrown over their harpoons.

Japan's decision to withdraw from the International Whaling Commission and resume commercial hunts was slammed by activists and anti-whaling countries, but has been welcomed by Japanese whaling communities, who celebrated the departure from Kushiro with a send-off ceremony.

"My heart is overflowing with happiness, and I'm deeply moved," said Yoshifumi Kai, head of the Japan Small-Type Whaling Association, addressing a crowd of several dozen politicians, local officials and whalers.

"This is a small industry, but I am proud of hunting whales. People have hunted whales for more than 400 years in my home town." Whaling vessels were also leaving Monday morning from other ports including in Shimonoseki in western Japan.

The country's Fisheries Agency said Monday it had set a cap for a total catch of 227 whales through the season until late December -- 52 minke,

150 Bryde's and 25 sei whales.

"I'm a bit nervous but happy that we can start whaling," 23-year-old Hideki Abe, a whaler from the Miyagi region in northern Japan, told AFP before leaving.

"I don't think young people know how to cook and eat whale meat any more. I want more people try to taste it at least once."

Whaling has long proved a rare diplomatic flashpoint for Tokyo, which says the practice is a Japanese tradition that should not be subject to international interference.

As an IWC member, Japan was banned from commercial hunts of large whales, though it could catch small varieties in waters near its coastline.

But it also exploited a loophole in the body's rules to carry out highly controversial hunts of whales in protected Antarctic waters under the banner of "scientific research".

Activists said the hunts had no scientific value, and Japan made no secret of the fact that meat from whales caught on those hunts ended up sold for consumption.

Humane Society International slammed the resumption of commercial hunts.

"This is a sad day for whale protection globally," said the group's head of campaigns Nicola Beynon, accusing Japan of beginning a "new and shocking era of pirate whaling".

With its withdrawal from the IWC, Tokyo will

# Pak govt extends deadline for declaring undisclosed assets

**ISLAMABAD, JUL 1 (PTI):** The cash-strapped Pakistan government has extended till July 3 the deadline for its citizens to declare their undisclosed assets under an amnesty programme, as it ramps up efforts to fix the country's economy.

The tax amnesty scheme, launched on May 15, was scheduled to end on June 30, but there has been immense pressure on the government to extend the deadline.

Prime Minister Imran Khan's Adviser on Finance, Abdul Hafeez Shaikh, announced on Sunday that the deadline for the amnesty scheme, also known as the Assets Declaration Scheme 2019, has been extended until July 3. "There's been a lot of interest in the Asset Declaration Scheme," he said. "We are giving people a final opportunity [to take advantage of the scheme] in case some people are still in the process or are facing difficulties wrapping it up," he said.

The grace period gives Pakistanis both living in the country and abroad three more days to declare their undisclosed assets by paying applicable taxes.

Prime Minister Khan has repeatedly warned Pakistanis to declare their hidden assets and secrets accounts to avoid strict legal action.

# Protests escalate as Hong Kong marks handover to China



**HONG KONG, JUL 1 (AP):** Combative protesters tried to break into the Hong Kong legislature Monday as a crowd of thousands prepared to start a march in that direction on the 22nd anniversary of the former British colony's return to China.

With a crowd of a hundred or so people around them, a small group of people repeatedly rammed a cargo cart into a glass panel of the building, wedging the cart partially through the damaged safety glass.

The unexpected disruption stalled the start of the march Monday. The crowd has started filing out of Victoria Park but police asked the marchers to change their route or cancel the march.

Both the combative protesters and the marchers oppose a government attempt to change extradition laws to allow suspects to be sent to China to face trial. The proposal has increased fears of eroding freedoms in the territory that was returned to China in 1997.

The embattled leader of Hong Kong pledged to be more responsive to public sentiment in a speech at a flag-raising ceremony.

Carrie Lam has come under withering criticism for trying to push through the legislation. She said a series of protests and marches that have attracted

hundreds of thousands of students and other participants in recent weeks have taught her that she needs to listen better to the youth and people in general.

"This has made me fully realize that I, as a politician, have to remind myself all the time of the need to grasp public sentiments accurately," she said in a five-minute speech to the gathering in the city's cavernous convention center.

She insisted her government has good intentions, but said "I will learn the lesson and ensure that the government's future work will be closer and more responsive to the aspirations, sentiments and opinions of the community."

Security guards pushed pro-democracy lawmaker Helena Wong out of the room as she walked backward shouting at Lam to resign and withdraw the "evil" legislation. She later told reporters she was voicing the grievances and opinions of the protesters, who could not get into the event.

The annual march starting in the afternoon was expected to be larger than usual because of the proposed extradition bill has awakened broader fears that China is eroding the freedoms and rights guaranteed to Hong Kong for 50 years under a "one

country, two systems" framework. Two marches in June against the legislation drew more than a million people, according to organizer estimates.

The government has suspended debate on the bill indefinitely, but protest leaders want it formally withdrawn and Lam's resignation. They also are demanding an independent inquiry into police actions during a June 12 protest, when officers used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse protesters who blocked the legislature on the day debate on the bill had been scheduled to resume. The police say the use of force was justified, but have largely since adopted softer tactics, even as protesters besieged police headquarters in recent days, pelting it with eggs and spray-painting slogans on its outer walls.

The area around Golden Bauhinia Square, where the flag-raising ceremony took place, was blocked off from Saturday to prevent protesters from gathering to disrupt it.

Before the morning ceremony, protesters trying to gain access to the square were driven back by officers with plastic shields and batons, the retreating protesters pointing open umbrellas to ward off pepper spray.





**IT'S A CELEBRATION!** The actress, Victoria Justice enjoys her time in New York City celebrating WorldPride.

## Wish I grew up in the 1980s, says Millie Bobby Brown

**LONDON, JUL 1 (PTI):** Millie Bobby Brown says she has always been jealous of people who grew up in the 1980s.

The "Stranger Things" star believes children in that decade had more "freedom".

"I'm always very jealous of everyone that was born in the 80s. They had so much freedom. They could ride their bikes around the neighbourhood. Nowadays I can't even go out of the house too far, but even before 'Stranger Things' I couldn't do that because it's dangerous," Brown, 15, told HELLO! magazine.

She said she also loves the fashion and music of the era.

"The '80s had some great fabrics too! The bright colours and the big hairstyles and fun and I love the old Coca-Cola cans. And this show got me into David Bowie."

The actor said she may be a public figure but she leads a life like a regular teenager.

"I'm not in to diamonds and pearls. I go more for sneakers. I wore sneakers on the SAG Awards red carpet last year. I'm not trying to act like a 25 year old. I'm going to act like a 15 year old."

"People don't seem to think I have a childhood but my life at home is full of baking and burning cakes, going to the park with my little sister Ava and swimming. I have three dogs and a cat, so I'm also very into animals. I'm dedicated to my school work, too," Brown said.

## From Malaika Arora To Trolls Who Call Her 'Desperate' For Dating Younger Arjun Kapoor: 'Take A Flying...'



After making it Instagram official with Arjun Kapoor, actress Malaika Arora opened up about her love life in an explosive interview with HT Brunch and particularly addressed her stance on trolls commenting on her age difference with Arjun. "The age difference doesn't really pop up when you are in a relationship. It is about two minds and hearts connecting. Unfortunately, we live in a society that refuses to progress with time. An older man romancing a younger girl is hailed everywhere, but when the woman is older, she's called 'desperate' and a 'buddhi'. For people who think like this, I have just one line: 'Take a flying f\*\*\*'," was Malaika response, quoted HT.

Malaika Arora, 45, and Arjun Kapoor, 34, have never really confirmed their relationship status in as many words but made it apparent in their recent interviews and media interactions. On Arjun's birthday last week, Malaika Instagrammed a loved-up photo with the 2 States actor for the first time and wrote: "Happy b'day my crazy, insanely funny and amazing Arjun. Love and happiness always." Arjun Kapoor has also been spotted bonding with Malaika's son (with ex-husband Arbaaz Khan) in Mumbai.

Malaika Arora, 45, and Arjun Kapoor, 34,

have never really confirmed their relationship status in as many words but made it apparent in their recent interviews and media interactions. On Arjun's birthday last week, Malaika Instagrammed a loved-up photo with the 2 States actor for the first time and wrote: "Happy b'day my crazy, insanely funny and amazing Arjun. Love and happiness always." Arjun Kapoor has also been spotted bonding with Malaika's son (with ex-husband Arbaaz Khan) in Mumbai.

When asked about Arhaan's take on her equation with Arjun, Malaika told HT: "I believe the best way to approach any situation is with honesty. It's important to tell your near and dear ones what's happening in your life and then give them time and space to understand and process things. We have had that conversation and I am so glad that everyone is in a much happier and more honest space today."

Malaika Arora and Arjun Kapoor often feature in gossip columns for reports over an impending wedding, about which the model actress refused to comment but did not really deny the possibility: "It's really personal."

Arjun Kapoor and Malaika Arora were recently spotted in New York together

## Easy to lose yourself in fame: Carly Rae Jespen

**LONDON, JUL 1 (PTI)** Singer Carly Rae Jespen says the fame she received after her the success of her single "Call me maybe" made it tough for her to enjoy music.

The 33-year-old singer said performing on stage felt more of a "responsibility" than something pleasurable, reported Contactmusic.

"After 'Call Me Maybe', my life was such a blur. It was a new thing to be recognised everywhere and I started to feel the pressures of the way my life had changed.

"You have to be careful, it's easy to lose yourself in fame and be swallowed up by people's perception of you. I was losing my happi-

ness. My idea of joy - singing on stage - started to feel like a great responsibility," Jespen told Q magazine.

The singer said she decided to take a break from the spotlight to focus on herself and to regain her passion for music.

"That's why I took so much time making (2015 album) 'Emotion'. I wanted to get back to what connected me to music in the first place.

"I've learned to seclude myself with the people that know me so I can keep the authentic relationships going that matter in my life," she added.

## 'Bond 25' production underway in London



**LONDON, JUL 1 (PTI):** The shooting of "Bond 25" is officially underway in London, the makers of the film announced.

The currently untitled movie was previously filming in Jamaica.

The official James Bond Twitter account on Sunday shared an image of a clapperboard in front of The Queen's Horse Guards, where Daniel Craig's Bond in an Aston Martin V8 car.

Another post followed which was a 13 second-long clip of Daniel Craig's Bond in an Aston Martin V8 car.

"Daniel Craig and the @astormartin V8 on location

for #Bond25," the video caption read.

In the next tweet, the makers revealed that the cast and crew filmed at several locations in the English capital, including Whitehall.

"007 star Daniel Craig,

director Cary Fukunaga and the #Bond25 crew were out in the sunshine today shooting across a number of London locations, including Whitehall, where Daniel filmed a scene with a classic

@astormartin V8, first seen in a Bond film in "The Living Daylights," the post accompanied Craig's photo dressed as Agent 007 for the fifth and final time. A behind-the-

scenes video of the new film, set to the 'Boom Shot Dis' track by Kully B and Gussy G, was shared last week, with director Cary Fukunaga and Craig at work from the sets in Jamaica, where the "Spectre" star was injured.

Production on the film has been hit by issues in recent weeks, with a "controlled explosion" causing damage to the filming stage at iconic Pinewood Studios in Buckinghamshire, which also left one crew member injured.

Reports of delays also surfaced which were denied by both the director and film's antagonist Rami Malek.

## Playing Sansa toughened me up: Sophie Turner

**LONDON, JUL 1 (PTI):** Sophie Turner says playing Sansa Stark in "Game of Thrones" prepared her to face the world.

The actor was 14 when she started filming the show in 2010.

She was "forced" to grow up faster as her character went through lot of arcs -- from a starry-eyed girl of nobility to the Queen in the North -- by the end of season eight in 2019.

"When you're starting your career at a young age, you're forced to grow up much faster. Also, playing a character like Sansa and having to endure all the things she did, toughens you up," Turner, 23, told Psychology magazine.

The "Dark Phoenix" actor said her "GoT"

co-star Maisie Williams, who played her on-screen Arya, has been her rock.

"Maisie has been the most wonderful friend to me over the years. We grew up together on 'Game of Thrones' and we have shared so many things and talked about everything.

"We both leaned on each other during those times when we felt out of place and a little lost. It's been so good to have such a great friend like her around and we are still very close," she said.

Over the weekend, Turner tied the knot with singer Joe Jonas, 29, for a second time, in France. The couple is yet to make an official announcement.

### DEAR READERS,

**IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR COPY OF THE SUMMIT TIMES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD, PLEASE MESSAGE OR WHATSAPP US YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS AT 9832556698 AND WE WILL ENSURE THAT THE NEWSPAPER REACHES YOU.**

**ARIES:** Stop and smell the antique roses. Aries. Saturday's sensuous alignment of the moon and Venus encourages you to be powerfully present. Romance lives in the here and now, not the elusive fantasy of "someday." If you want to capitalize on the heart-expanding vibes, do less, not more.

**TAURUS:** Look at all the pretty, shiny things! Saturday's beauty-boosting alignment of the moon and Venus makes you restless, mercurial and bubbling over with curiosity. Who you, unreliable? Inconceivable, Taurus! But don't forget that you still own the prerogative to change your mind. Variety is the spice of your day. Flit from brunch and a matinee to a gallery opening, then shopping before a night of dancing.

**GEMINI:** Letting go is shockingly easy Saturday, whether you're saying goodbye to a dying romance or simply giving up control of where you'll meet a friend for brunch. Although it's your preference to play cultural curator, surrender and go with the flow. Surprise! You'll have a far

better time when you stop trying to direct the universe and let spontaneity lead. Pay attention to synchronicities.

**CANCER:** Ask, believe, receive. Today, the soulful moon unites with intuitive Neptune in Pisces and your broad-minded ninth house. This is the day to imagine what you want, because you can magnetize your dreams to you through creative visualization. The ninth house is all about expansion, so don't just aim for the "safe," low-hanging fruit. Go bigger, Cancer! Feeling out of touch with your power to manifest? Try writing up a gratitude list. When you recall all the things you're thankful for, you'll begin to attract more abundance.

**LEO:** You SAY that you want happiness, love and freedom, but do you actually believe that your desires are possible, Leo? Today's moon-Neptune conjunction in your mystical eighth house encourages you to examine your own limiting beliefs. Since you may need tangible proof to REALLY change your mind, hunt for people who are living

the life you want for yourself.

**VIRGO:** Relationships can be hard work, we know, we know. But they can also be a haven from stress and struggle so stop telling yourself that you don't need people. Today, the moon and compassionate Neptune align in Pisces and your partnership house. The tranquilizing effect can be beneficial to your bonds with the ones who matter most. Soften your stance with your partner, and be gentler in your interactions with close friends.

**LIBRA:** Arm candy can be fun to play with, but you need more than empty calories to satisfy your romantic appetite. On Saturday, reserve your final rose for someone with style AND substance. It's a lot easier to teach someone the finer points of fashion than it is to imbue them with a great character. With the right raw materials—a caring heart, a sense of integrity, compatible interests—you'll have more than enough to work with.

**SCORPIO:** Still musing over the weekend's romantic escapades? Don't rush to "back to business" mode. Today, the moon

and quixotic Neptune embrace in your fifth house of passion, adding a sensual spin to your agenda. An attraction could spark, or you could be feeling especially amorous. Nobody to sidle up to (yet)? Get glamorous for yourself, Scorpio.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Home is where your heart is today, as the moon conjoins with sensual Neptune in your domestic fourth house. If you must trek into the office, bring the cozy vibes with you. Keep an open-door policy so coworkers can plop down and share tales of their weekends. (That expense report can wait).

**CAPRICORN:** Straight to the point? Not today, Capricorn. The reflective moon and compassionate Neptune meet in Pisces, your communication house. Doling out tough love and stern reprimands will get you nowhere. Validating the other person's emotions and experience? That will help you feel connected. Sometimes, a person just needs to be heard before you rush them into problem-solving mode. Instead of being emphatic, be empathetic. Catch yourself if you're being too hardcore, and dial back the intensity.

**AQUARIUS:** Bring more intimacy to your exchanges Saturday and don't be afraid to bare your soul. Thanks to a cozy alignment between the moon and Venus, conversations could quickly accelerate from weather talk to tales from your recent vacation and latest dating escapades. Don't just entertain; investigate! People will be warmed by your interest in what's bubbling below the surface in their lives. Plan for a languid movie night or a dinner date with a favorite plus-one.

**PISCES:** A beautiful mind is the ultimate turn-on this Saturday, as the moon and Venus mesh in your mentally agile third house. Go deeper in discussions, Pisces. The sparks of an intellectual connection could fan the flames of romance. A word to the wise: You don't have to impress anyone by interjecting your own stories into the mix. Let others hold the talking stick a little longer. Then, allow your journalistic curiosities to take hold. The more interested you are, the more interesting you'll become. Hand the wheel to your poetic side on Sunday, as artsy Venus and seductive Pluto align in your communication houses.