

# SummitTIMES

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T O P

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#### Indian men's TT team achieves best ever ranking

NEW DELHI, NOV 3 (PTI): The Indian men's table tennis team on Monday achieved its best ever ranking by moving up to the ninth spot in the ITTF rankings.

The Indian team comprising World No. 30 G Sathiyan and World No. 36 Sharath Kamal, is tied with 10th-placed Austria on 272 points but is ranked ninth. They are the only two Indians in the top-100. India number three Harmeet Desai is ranked 104.

China are the expected number one in the team rankings, followed by Japan and Germany.

#### Majlis celebrating Hindu-Muslim brotherhood turns 50

LUCKNOW, NOV 4 (PTI): An annual majlis' first held in 1970 by a Hindu professor to strengthen relations between Shia Islam and Hinduism will be organised here to mark its 50th anniversary on Tuesday. The daylong event, popularly known as Guptaji ki Mailis', is held every year at the Shia PG College here.

A majlis' is a social, cultural or religious gathering usually associated with the followers of Islam. In this particular case the majlis' was started by P S Gupta, a Hindu, who was a professor at the college. The event is held on the last day of the mourning period of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar.

This year the last day of the mourning period is November 5, said Yasoob Abbas, spokesperson of the All India Shia Personal Law Board. Speaking to PTI, 80-year-old Gupta said, "Hazrat Imam Hussain had the desire to go to Hindustan and was fascinated by the humanity of the people from here. He got martyred along with his family members in Karbala. This reposed my deep faith in Hussain.

"It is with this thought that I got the motivation to start the 'majlis' in the memory of Imam Hussain," Gupta said. "Almost 1,400 years ago, when the Army of Yazid had stopped Hazrat Imam Hussain in Karbala, he had expressed the desire to go to Hindustan saying that Muslims may not reside there, but humans do reside there. Even today, wherever humanity is found, Imam Hussain is remembered," he said.

"There are many similarities between Hindus and Shia Muslims. There has been no fight between them. One of the reasons behind organizing the 'majlis' is to enable people to know that Shias and Hindus are brothers," Gupta added.

## CM SWORN IN AS AN MLA

## Golay highlights SKM support for BJP victory in bypolls as historic

SIDE-SWITCHING **MLAs STILL NOT** OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS MEMBERS OF THEIR **NEW PARTIES** 

**SAGAR CHHETRI** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

Thief Minister Prem Singh Tamang ☐[Golay] was sworn in as a Member of Sikkim Legislative Assembly on Monday along with Sonam Tshering Venchungpa and YT Lepcha, all three elected at the recently-held by-election.

Mr Tamang contested and won from Poklok-Kamrang after the Election Commission of India reduced his disqualification period [following the jail term he served on a corruption conviction] while Mr Venchungpa and Mr Lepcha won on BJP tickets from Martam-Rumtek and Gangtok respectively, victories ensured by a seat-sharing alliance entered into with the party in office.

Interestingly, while many speculations had abounded about what shape the BJP-SKM seat sharing ar-



rangement will grow into after the by-elections, with many convinced that a BJP-SKM alliance government would be formalized, events today suggest that such an announcement is not coming in a hurry.

Referring to the seat sharing

arrangement in his valedictory remarks, Mr Tamang highlighted that history had been made.

"This is for the first time in the political history of Sikkim that a ruling party supported an opposition party contest the elections and

win the mandate of the people," he explained.

What cannot be lost in the observation is that BJP has been clearly referenced as an Opposition party and not an alliance partner in government. While SKM has never ad-

mitted to the seat-sharing arrangement being anything more than a seat-sharing alliance, the messaging from BJP had hinted otherwise.

It did not help matters that BJP, which had arrived at the special assembly session believing that it had 12 MLAs in the House, left realizing that it officially has only two members in the House. The 10 MLAs who had defected to the BIP from the SDF shortly after being voted into the Opposition are still not recognised as the saffron party's MLAs.

While announcements had been made that some national-level BJP leaders would be attending the swearing-in ceremony today, none of them made it to the visitors' gallery. Also deciding to skip the special session was former Chief Minister Pawan Chamling from whose second seat released for by-elections, Mr Tamang recorded a landslide victory.

During the assembly session, the Speaker informed the House that Members who had switched to other parties [12 SDF MLAs, 10 of whom had joined BJP and two who had jumped ship to SKM] have not submitted all turn to pg 02

#### Chief Minister along with two MLAs sworn in





Gangtok, 04 Nov (IPR): Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang, Sonam Tshering Venchungpa and YT Lepcha were sworn in as Members of Sikkim Legislative Assembly today.

Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, LB Das administered the oath or affirmation to the three Members of Legislative Assembly who were recently elected in By-Election from 10-Poklok Kamrang, 24-Martam Rumtek and 27-Gangtok Constituen-Assembly cies, respectively.

The First Session (Part-III) of the Tenth Assembly of Sikkim Legislative Assembly was specially convened by the Speaker to administer the oath or affirmation to the three Members.

Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang in his valedictory remarks thanked and congratulated the Speaker for successfully conducting the one-day Session of the Assembly.

He thanked all Ministers, MLAs, Chief Secretary, DGP, Advisors, All Heads of Departments and officers, Secretary, officers and staff of Sikkim Legislative Assembly, retired bureaucrats, police, and members of the press and media.

He expressed special thanks to the people of Sikkim for their resounding mandate and sincere commitment for the development of Sikkim.

Referring to the seat sharing in the recent By-Elections, the Chief Minister stated that it was the first time in the political history of Sikkim that a ruling party supported an opposition party to contest elections and win the mandate of the people.

The Chief Minister also congratulated MLAs, Sonam Tshering

## **World-famous Pushkar Fair begins**

JAIPUR, NOV 4 (PTI): The famous annual Pushkar fair of Rajasthan started on Monday with a large number of people from the country and abroad taking part in it.

It is for the first time that the nine-day international fair started with the worship of Pushkar Sarovar.

Additional District Magistrate Kailash Lakhara told PTI that after wrship at the pond, the fair was thrown open with a flag hoisting ceremony at the stadium amid the beating of drums.

Ornamental camel display and group dance by school children also marked the occasion, said Lakhara, adding a football match too would be played between villagers and foreign tourists during the fair.

He said a Maha Aarti with 'Deepadan' too was held on 52 ghats of the Pushkar Sarovar.

Coinciding with the nine-day fair, a five-day turn to pg 02 religious congregation



too takes place during the occasion, said the ADM, adding it would start from the day of taking holy dip in the pond on Kartik Ekadashi falling on November 8.

The fair will conclude on November 12 on Kartik Purnima.

Besides people from various parts of the country, a large number of foreign tourists also visit the fair, which is of the world fame for sale and purchase of livestock and various animals, including cows,

camel and horses.

Lakhara said usually three to four lakh people, including foreigners, participate in the fair, but the number of participants reaches up to five lakh during the days of religious congregation.

He said during the fair, a film on Mahatma Gandhi would also be screened at the fair ground at 6 every day.

He said singers Ravi Panwar and Kailash Kher will perform on November 11 at the fair.

Animal Husbandry Department's Joint Director Ajay Arora said

about 5,000 animals of different species have reached the cattle fair. The animals that came to the fair till Sunday evening include 2,580 camels, 1,923 horses and 32 cows.

He said after camel was declared state animal in 2016, the number of camel buyers from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh at the fair has become negligible as it cannot be transported outside the state.

He said the animals had started coming for the fair from October 28.

### Summittimes IN NEPALI



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## **We are helpless, says Punjab farmers on stubble burning**

GHARUAN (MOHALI), NOV 4 (PTI): Despite the ban on stubble-burning that is choking Delhi and other areas in northern India, farm fires continue around this Punjab village, just 20 km from the state capital Chandigarh.

We are helpless, says a farmer, citing the cost of equipment meant to tackle crop residue without burning it.

The 35-year-old did not wish to be named, fearing action by enforcement agencies against the practice in Punjab and Haryana that is seen as a major cause of the spike in pollution levels in Delhi and the National Capital Region. The farmer, who cultivates four acres of land he has taken on contract, said he cannot afford any delay in getting his fields clear of stubble from the previous crop before sowing the next one.

If we do not burn the residue, wheat sowing will be delayed and that will ultimately affect the yield, he said. He said buying specialised equipment like Happy Seeder and other machines described as paddy straw chopper, super straw management system or rotavators is not economically

viable for a small farmer like him. Happy Seeder costs about Rs 1.50 lakh and requires a 65 horsepower tractor. Together, they will cost him an unaffordable Rs 8 lakh, he said. Such equipment should be rented out by cooperative societies, he added.

Happy Seeder is a tractor-mounted machine that cuts and lifts paddy straw, sows wheat, and deposits the straw over the sown area as mulch.

Mehar Singh Theri, a leader of the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Sidhupur), demanded Rs 200 per quintal as government bonus on paddy for pollution-free

management of stubble. Otherwise farmers will not stop burning crop residue, he said, accusing the Punjab government of harassing farmers with penalties. He alleged that some empanelled suppliers had inflated the prices of recommended equipment for paddy straw management.

Theri claimed that the super straw management system which is used with combine harvester is sold at Rs 1.05 lakh by suppliers on the government panel, but can be bought for Rs 75,000 in the market.

turn to pg 02

#### **District** Level Annual School Sports Competition and talent hunt

MANGAN, 04 NOV (IPR): District Level Annual School Sports Competition and talent hunt 2019-20. under-17 boys and girls kicked off in North Sikkim here at Mangan Public ground today.

The sporting event was organized by the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim. The competition features eight disciplines- Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Football, Karate, Table Tennis and Taekwondo.

The event was attended by the Councillor, MNP, Ugen Palden Kazi, who was accompanied by Deputy Director, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sikkim, North, Janim Lepcha, Assistant Director, Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim, North, Dathup Lepcha.

A large number of boys and girls from Junior High Secondary schools, Secondary schools and Senior Secondary schools from the district participated in the competition.

The sports competitors were selected from all the schools of North District. These competitors have been drawn from all four Blocks of the District viz. i) Mangan BAC. ii) Dzongu BAC. iii) Kabi BAC. iv) Chungthang BAC.

This three days long annual school sports completion will be held in various disciplines at different venue on 4th football selection will be played at Mangan Public Ground, on 5th Tae-Kwondo and table tennis at Mangan School Hostel and on 6th Athletics at Mangan Public Ground and all selected (winners) players will represent the forthcoming state level competition.

## NISHTHA training begins for school heads and elementary school teachers

GANGTOK, 04 NOV (IPR): A 5-day day capacity building programme for school heads and teachers of elementary level as part of the National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) was simultaneously launched in Sikkim at 11 venues covering all the four districts on Monday.

The programme is being organized by the State Project Office of Samagra Shiksha in collaboration with SCERT-Sikkim. A team of six resource persons, comprising of School Principals, senior teachers, faculty from SCERT and DIET, will conduct the programme.

The main inaugural event, held at Modern Senior Secondary School here, was attended by 129 elementary school teachers from Ranka, Martam and Rakdong-Tintek BAC.

NISHTHA aims to cover around



teachers in Sikkim and 42 lakh teachers across the country.

The prime objective of the programme is to equip teachers with knowledge, understanding and required competencies on new pedagogic perspective not only to improve but to achieve learning outcomes of students specified for every class in all the major subject areas at elementary level. It is also aimed at orienting and enabling Principals and Kev Functionaries to Assessment in schools, and achieve intended learning outcomes at the school level.

Inaugural session of the programme had Education Minister Kunga Nima Lepcha as chief guest accompanied by Additional Chief Secretary, Education Department, GP Upadhyaya, Director SCERT, Dr Rabin Chhetri, SPD Samagra Shiksha, Bhim Thatal, Director School Education, Hondala Gyaltsen, Joint Director (East), AD Chhetri and oth-

District and resource persons from SCERT, DIETs and Schools.

In his inaugural address, the Minister expressed concern regarding the quality of education and urged teachers to work hard and help students excel in every possible field.

The Additional Chief Secretary highlighted the importance of this programme and urged teachers to be punctual and derive maximum benefit from the programme.

Director SCERT. Dr Rabin Chhetri gave an

overview of the NISHTHA programme as one of the major initiatives to build capacity of teachers and Heads of Institutions. SPD Samagra Shiksha, Bhim Thatal, in his welcome address, mentioned that NISHTHA is the largest teacher training programme in the world today.

Since the programme is entirely supported by the Samagra Shiksha, MHRD and being carried out by the SCERT and School Education, the SPD also urged upon the participants to be committed and earnest in participation for they are chosen by the Department especially for this purpose.

The programme, which is being jointly co-ordinated by Joint Director School Education, K Inbaraj and Joint Director SCERT, Dr Shanti Ram Adhikari, ended with the vote of thanks proposed by Director School Education, Hondala Gyaltsen.

#### **Chief Minister...**

Venchungpa and YT Lepcha for being elected to the Sikkim Legislative Assembly.

Speaker, LB Das, in his valedictory address congratulated the Chief Minister and the two MLAs who were sworn-in as Members of the Legislative Assem-

The Speaker thanked the Chief Minister, Ministers and all MLAs for their support and guidance in conducting the one-day Session of the Assembly.

After the oath or affirmation, all Members of the House offered khadas and congratulated the three Members of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly.

The Session came to an end with the Speaker announcing the House adjourned Sine Die.

#### **We are helpless...**

"The government should give us subsidy on machinery which we buy from other than the empanelled suppliers, he said.

The BKU leader also had doubts over the use of machinery like Happy Seeder.

The constant use of Happy Seeder will bring down the wheat crop yield, and this has been witnessed in fields here, he said, a claim trashed by the state government's agriculture department.

A Gharuan farmer claimed he has seen wheat yield drop by 10 quintals per acre with its use last year.

But Punjab Agriculture department officials accuse some farm union leaders of misleading small

We have been giving a subsidy of 50 per cent to individual farmers and 80 per cent to cooperative societies for buying farm machines, an official said.

Officials said if stubble is disposed of with the recommended machinery, the soil's fertility actually

The state's wheat yield would go up by one million tonnes per season if the practice is universally adopted, they claim.

Officials said about 20,000 pieces of farm equipment have been supplied to Punjab farmers this year under a centrally sponsored scheme to promote mechanisation. Last year, 28,000 machines were given out.

According to official data, Punjab has witnessed over 22,000 incidents of stubble burning so far this year.

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#### **ANYESTHI KRIYA**

Anthesti Kriya of late. Kiran Rai (Shyakri) who left his heavenly body on 1st of November falls on 6th day of November 2019 at Temi bazar near Oralay homestay at Rajalim Khim.



Contact no: 9733275092, 8509758180, 7363877415

**ANYESTHI KRIYA** The 13th day Anyesthi Kriya of late K.B Chettri (Orient Studio) falls on 9th November 2019.

All relatives, well wishers and friends are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on 9/11/2019 at our residence at Upper Shyari, Opposite New Bishal Hotel.

We would like to express our gratitude to all those who



Tina-Avinash, Yougal -Koshi, Yozna -Milan, Adarsh, Ananya, Aviral, Akshata (grandchildren)

## ~ SummitTIMES ~

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#### 8,000 implement School Based er officials from East SJA organizes Bill Analysis Compt for law colleges



#### **SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

Cikkim Judicial Acad-**J**emy organized a Bill Analysis Competition for Law Colleges of Sikkim.

The Bill/ Act to be analysed was "The Protection of Children From Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (in short POCSO Act)," including the recent amendments.

competition

was judged by Advocate Jorgay Namkha and Roshnila Gurung, District Child Protection Officer, South District.

Seven teams participated in the competition, one from Sikkim Government Law College, two from IC-FAI University and four from Sikkim University.

The participants made 25-minute presentations and were asked questions by the judges and the audience for 5 minutes.

College comprising of Udai Kunwar and Lila Sharma were adjudged winners.

The team from ICFAI

Mohan Sharma and

Deependra Shanker from Sikkim Government Law College, Burtuk, were first runners-up and the second runner up was Rohan Giri from Sikkim University.

## ICAR-NOFRI observes Vigilance Awareness Week and Ekta Diwas

Theme: Integrity: A Way of Life

GANGTOK, 04 Nov (PIB): ICAR-National Organic Farming Research observed Vigilance Institute Awareness Week from 28 Oct - 02 Nov, 2019. During the week, various activities/events were organized on the theme "Integrity - A way of Life" given by the Central Vigilance Commission.

Joint Director, Dr RK Avasthe administered the Integrity pledge to the staff members of the Institute and Krishi Vigyan Kendra on 30 Oct, 2019. On the same day a lecture series was organized on the given theme. The deliberation started with

the address of Joint Director, who underlined the need of the hour that everyone should refrain from corruption and corrupt practices in the society and its long-term adverse affect on the people and society as well.

Principal Scientist, Dr Rafigul Islam highlighted the role of civic society in eradication of corruption from the Society. Scientist, Dr Sudip Dutta revealed that we should create healthy environment at our work place with the positive mindset.

Similarly, Dr PK Pathak, SMS, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, East Sikkim advocated for corruption free society and cited many examples on the given theme. Sr Technical Officer, Surendra Mohan Kandwal gave a brief introduction about the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week and Ekta Divas being organized at this Institute every year to

commemorate the birth anniversary of Late Ironman Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel with a great deal of enthusiasm. Further, he explained about the various events being organized during the week.

An extempore speech competition was organized for the staff member of Institute and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, East Sikkim particularly on the topics of vigilance and national integration on 30 Oct, 2019. The participants expressed their view on the topics.

Senior Technical Officer, Surendra Mohan Kandwal detailed about the Ekta Diwas or National Integrity Day. He also spoke about the various administrative reforms initiated by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel in the Indian Administrative Services.

A Debate Competition was organized for the staff members of this Institute and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, East Sikkim on the "Whether the Dream of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel for united India is fulfilled?" The participants spoke on the topic on 01 November.

A valedictory programme was

organized in the Conference Hall of the Institute on 02 November. Addressing the function Joint Director. Dr RK Avasthe expressed satisfaction over organizing the Vigilance Awareness Week and Ekta Divas at this Institute and appreciated the participation of the staff in the competition/events etc.

Further, he pointed out that organizing such type of programme/ events will give us opportunity to expose our inherent strength and resilience to the world and motivate us towards inculcating patriotic feelings. Sr Scientist, Dr Ashish Yadav and Scientist, Dr Sudip Kumar Dutta also shared their views on this occasion.

At the end of the programme certificates and prizes were distributed by the Joint Director to the winners of different competitions held during the Week. The entire Vigilance Awareness week was coordinated by Surendra Mohan Kandwal, Sr Technical officer of the Institute. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Sr Technical Officer, S M Kandwal.

#### BJP forms mandal committee for Temi Namphing Thendup Bhutia and

**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

↑ meeting of the Bhara-**A**tiya Janata Party was held at the residence of YB Limboo at Upper Tokal under Temi Namphing constituency today.

The meeting led to the formation of a Mandal Committee for the constituency with Shiv Kumar Sharma as president and Rinzing Bhutia, Naina Kala Baniya, Emanil Tamang, Karma

Kazambo Rai as vice presidents, a BJP press release informs. YB Limboo

Binod Chettri Karki were nominated as general secretaries.

The meeting was presided over by BIYM state general secretary, Bikash Dahal and Mandal Pramukh, Shiv Kumar Sharma in presence of other active BJP members from the constituency.

#### Golay highlights...

required documents to the Assembly and have been asked to do so before the next assembly session. It is informed that if any MLAs leaves the original par-

ty and joins another party, then a petition with proper evidence of resolution or leaving the original party and resolution of acceptance by the new party have to be submitted to the Speaker.

The 10 SDF MLAs who have joined BJP have submitted a plain application with no evidence of their resignation from SDF or their acceptance by BJP, hence on their request, the Speaker has given them temporary separate seating arrangement in the assembly.

It is informed that after the submission of their evidence the Speaker would scrutinise and make a decision. As things stand then, SKM currently has 17 MLAs, BJP

has two, SDF one and there are 12 unattached MLAs, who, on paper, are still SDF. Speaking to media person after the session, BJP state-

unit spokesperson, MLA Raj Kumari Thapa, one of the 10 who had joined BJP, said that their documents were now ready and will be submited before the next assembly session. This was echoed by MLAs DT Lepcha and Ugen T

In his valedictory remarks, the CM thanked and congratulated the Speaker for successfully conducting the one-day Session of the Assembly and also thanked all Ministers, MLAs, Chief Secretary, DGP, Advisors, All Heads of Departments and officers, Secretary, officers and staff of Sikkim Legislative Assembly, retired bureaucrats, police, and members of the press and media.

He registered a special thanks to the people of Sikkim for their resounding mandate and assured sincere commitment for the development of Sikkim.

The Speaker, in his address, congratulated the Chief Minister and the two MLAs who were sworn-in as Members of the Legislative Assembly today. He also thanked the CM, Ministers and MLAs for their support and guidance in conducting the one-day Session of the

After the oath or affirmation, all Members of the House offered khadas and congratulated the three new Members of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly. Responding to media queries after the assembly ses-

sion, the CM stated that SKM government would work on all promises it has made to the people. On his plans to travel to Delhi, the CM informed that

he was also leaving to attend an investors' meet with the

Prime Minister in Himachal Pradesh scheduled to be held

on 07 and 08 November. Clearly inspired by the Prime Minister who had bowed down and prayed before he entered the Parliament as an MP for the first time, Gangtok MLA YT Lepcha took off his shoes outside the State Legislative Assembly and attended

The Assembly was the temple of the democracy and was the place to give the justice to the people, he ex-

the swearing-in ceremony barefeet.

Likewise, Martam-Rumtek MLA, Mr Venchungpa said, "It is a big moment for me to enter into the State Assembly as an MLA and receive this opportunity to work for the people for the next four and half years."

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

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### 28 schools take part in **UDAAN**

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

Inner Wheel Club of **L** Gangtok and Rotary Club of Gangtok organized their mega event UDAAN - the flight of creativity, at Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School in Gangtok on 03 Nov, 2019, a press release informs.

This year is the 9th edition of UDAAN which is an annual program of the Clubs which is gaining more and more importance in the school calendar of Schools.

This year 28 schools participated in the event from all over the State, some from as far as Mamring. Udaan is a perfect platform for all the private and government schools of Sikkim to come together in a spirit of healthy competition and showcase their talents.

Around 500 students from classes 2 to 12 participated in the event. There were 3 categories – junior. middles and seniors with thirteen events.

The main events were Painting, Spell Bee, Word Building, Antakshri, Painting, Poster Making & Slogan Writing, Elocution, Math Magic, Skit and Quiz. In addition the accompanying teachers participated in a fun quiz.

Education Minister, Kunga Nima Lepcha, was the chief guest on the occasion. He highlighted the importance of participation in such events and feted the Inner Wheel Club of Gangtok & Rotary Club of Gangtok students on their achievements.

"Besides Classroom education, extracurricular activities are also an integral part of the education system. The State Government will see to it that students get quality education and students are competitive as education is an important sector," he said.

Besides medals, best performing school trophies were given to the following: Juniors - Manjusri Public, Middles - Holy Cross School, Seniors - Holy Cross School.

Rotary Club of Gangtok and the Inner Wheel Club of Gangtok are NGOs engaged in multiple activities aimed at literacy and children under the banner of TEACH.

## 138 labourers arrive in Kolkata after fleeing Kashmir

KOLKATA, NOV 4 (PTI): A total of 138 labourers, working in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir, arrived in the city on Monday by Jammu Tawi Express, an official said. Of them, five are from Assam, he said.

The labourers were received by Kolkata mayor and minister Firhad Hakim at Kolkata railway station. The state government had arranged for a special coach for the workers, who expressed their desire to return in the wake of the brutal killing of labourers in Kashmir on October 29, the official said.

Five state-run buses have been pressed into service to take the labourers to their respective hometowns -- most of them being residents of Birbhum, Jalpaiguri and Dakshin Dinajpur districts, he said.



## 4th Mile JHS declared champions of State Open Athletic Meet

**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 Nov:

4th Mile Junior High School in East Sikkim has become the overall champion of the 13th State Open Athletic Meet 2019 held on 02 and 03 November at Khelgaon, Reshithang in East Sikkim. The two-day event was organised by

Sikkim Amateur Athletic Association [SAAA] in different athletic events. The meet saw the participation of athletes from different schools, colleges and universities and athletic clubs of the State.

4th JHS lifted the champion's title with 42 points. The Best Athletes of the championship are Titus Simon Raj of SRM University in Open Men and Chandra Kala Sharma of Gangtok Club in open women category. Likewise, Einchen Lepcha of Gangtok Club in U-17 boys and Ranjana Tamang of Enchey senior secondary school in U-17 girls were adjudged the Best Athletes.

## Army Red through to Gold Cup quarter-finals



**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

Army Red made it to the quarter-finals of the 39th All India Governor's Gold Cup Football Tournament 2019 here at Paljor Stadium today after an own goal by Kidderpore Sporting Club of Kolkata ended the match 1-0 in Army Red's favour.

The keenly contested first half ended in a goalless draw but the flurry of attacks and counter-attacks saw the Kidderpore defence lose concentration and concede and own goal in the 75th minute and that is what the scoreboard reflected when the final whistle blew.

Army Red will now take on Md Sporting Club, Kolkata, in the quarter-final scheduled for 08 November.

The first quarter-final match of the tournament will be played between ISL club, Jamshedpur Football Club [Reserve], and Royal Football Club, Siliguri, on Tuesday afternoon.

## Arm wrestling tourney at Nampong



**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

The 1st Open Arm-Wres-■ tling Senior & Master's Men & Women's Championship 2019 attracted the participation of 25 contestants here at Nampong in East Sikkim on Sunday. The daylong event was organised by Nampong Homestay and had former Rajya Sabha MP, PT Gyamtso, as the chief guest.

In above 55 Kg category, Sherap Loshar Bhutia emerged the champion while Ongdup Chewang Lepcha and Karma Ongyal Lepcha stood on the second and third positions respectively.

In above 64 kg, Jigmee Dorjee Bhutia stood on the first position followed by Sonam Chogyal Lepcha and Sonam Wangdi Bhutia on second and third positions.

Similarly, Kunsol Bhutia became champion in 64 kg with Hishey Gyatso Bhutia and Tshering Pintso Lepcha on the second and third positions.

In 72 kg, Tensung Gvatso Bhutia, Rinzing Tsewang Bhutia and Suren Rai stood on the first, second and third positions respectively, while Ongdi Pintso Bhutia and Sangay Bhutia stood on the first and second positions respectively in 78 kg.

Kinga Tashi Lepcha became the champion in 85 kg, while in 65 kg Khamboo Bhutia and Nima Bhutia stood on the first and second positions respectively.

Homnath Siwakoti stood first in 75 kg with Pem Chatan Lepcha on the second position.

In the Masters' above-50 years category, Wangchuk Dorjee Lepcha and Loday Lepcha stood on the first and second positions respectively.

### 18 finalists shortlisted for SNG Talent Hunt 2019



**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 Nov:

 $E_{
m have\ got\ selected\ for}$ the Sikkim Newar Guthi State Level Open Talent Hunt Show Season 2 to be held at Manan Kendra, Gangtok, on 09 Nov, a press release informs.

The two-day program held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the formation of Sikkim Newar Guthi will have various events including Bhaju-Meiju Competition, Newari Dance Competition, and other competitions. Different popular artists will entertain the crowd at Gangtok.

Sixty-seven participants participated in the semi-final that was held in two rounds. Thirty-two participants were selected after the first round and in the next round Top 18 candidates were finalized for the grand finale.

The selected categories that were passed for the grand finale were singing, dancing painting, acting, and cubic art. President. Sikkim

Newar Guthi, DK Pradhan, was the chief guest of the day. The other distinguished guests of the day were CP Pradhan, LN Pradhan, Advisors-Newa Bhay Bowneykutti, Sushen Pradhan, Secretary, SNG Youth Affair, Binod Pradhan, President, Newa Bhay Bowneykutti and others.

The judges of the day were Komal Gurung, Manoj Rai and Praja Pradhan while Rajendra Pradhan was the Observer.

Regan Chettri, actor, music director from Singtam based in Nepal was also invited for the show. Mr Chettri had recently won best lyricist at Sagarmatha Award function for his Nepali film Chi Musi Chi.

The talent hunt show is organised by Sikkim Newar Guthi Youth Affairs in collaboration with Inspire Academy, Arithang and Sang-Martam Jan Sewa Sangathan on the occasion of Silver Jubilee Celebration of Sikkim Newar Guthi to promote the local talents of Sikkim.

#### Nationalism without economic growth is a hollow idea: Sushmita Dev

KOLKATA, NOV 4 (PTI): Senior Congress leader Sushmita Dev Monday lashed out at the BJP government at the Centre for the "economic mess" in the country, which she said, has pushed it towards financial emergency.

Dev, who is the president of All India Mahila Congress, also criticised the Centre over the recent snooping scandal and said the "authoritarian government has been caught red handed".

"Nationalism without economic growth is an hollow idea that will ultimately lead the nation to disaster," Dev told a press conference here.

"The economic poli-

cies of the BJP govern-

ment since 2014 has

ruined the Indian econ-

omy. The economic growth is at an all time low, unemployment is at an all time high. The Modi government is trying to deflect attention from the economic crisis. We won't allow them to do that," she said.

Claiming that economic slowdown dominated the elections in Haryana and Maharashtra, she said there is acute farmers distress and the rural economy is at an all time low. The proposed Re-

gional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RECP) pact would be the "third jolt" to the country's economy after demonetisation and the flawed implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST), Dev said.

## BCCI assignment for two Video Analysts from Sikkim

**SUMMIT REPORT** GANGTOK, 04 NOV:

Video analysis is the modern technique used in sports to boost the performance of players and teams. Coaches and trainers analyze video from live-action and training, and the results of their careful analyses provides helpful feedback to the players. In cricket, it is used for team performance analysis, individual player techniques analysis, competitor game analysis, track and monitor game and individual progress, strength and weakness recognition of players and teams. Every year the Board

of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) conducts Video Analyst Course cum Examination and invites all the cricket associations to send their interested candidates having cricketing knowledge. Seven candidates from Sikkim Cricket Association (SICA) attended the Video Analyst Course cum Examination on March this year, out of which four passed and



were designated as "Junior Video Analyst". All of them are traveling with the various categories teams of Sikkim to the camps and tournaments, as the cricketing season 2019-20 has started in September.

Out of the four certified Video Analysts, Karma Gelay Bhutia and Bivash Lamichaney of Gangtok have been appointed by the BCCI as a Junior Video Analysts for the ongoing Men's Under-23 One Day Tournament 2019-20 in Odisha.

This is for the first time that anyone from the state of Sikkim has been assigned such roles at national level tournaments. Before this assignment, both of them were traveling with the Senior Men's Cricket team of Sikkim and were part of the Specialized, Conditioning Camp at Bhubaneshwar, Odisha and Vijay Hazare Trophy 2019 at Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

It is a big achievement for SICA that after the BCCI has given SICA an opportunity to host the Men's Under 23 One Day Trophy, now they have appointed two of our Video Analyst for such an important role. This assignment will give both the analysts a big exposer and an opportunity to learn from the best in the country.

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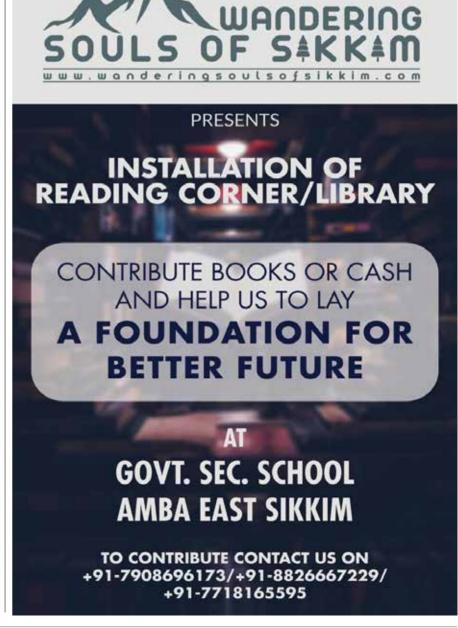
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## SummitTIMES

## Young & Vulnerable

## The wrong people appear to be catching 'em young. And we don't mean the cops

Not so long ago, a 13-year-old found himself among cops. A "routine checking" of vehicles, which appears to the stop-and-frisk standard that passes for policing in the State, allegedly found the lad in possession of a fistful of Spasmo-Proxyvon, a common prescription drug of abuse. The incident immediately raises several flags, starting with the disconcerting confirmation that it appears "routine" for cops to suspect even 13-year-olds to be peddlers. This belies the claim the force is mindful of differentiating between peddlers and addicts. It is unlikely that they have reached such refined levels of mindful concern that they are pulling out minors from jeeps to counsel them. So the kid was obviously "intercepted" on suspicion of being a peddler and even interrogated to ferret out the source of his supplies. As for the supplies, he had six capsules of SP, a volume that anyone can purchase over the counter in Siliguri. There is also the possibility that these were prescriptions he had picked up for someone because is six is neither enough for a peddler nor even a day's supply for a habitual user.

The incident also raises the much bigger worry on the age of initiation among the young to begin experimenting with substances of abuse. If the kid is indeed a user, then Sikkim better start deploying more than just cops to combats "drugs". There have been instances when much younger children have turned up in school under the influence of prescription drugs. These would earlier be dismissed as one-off incidents of a ragging gone bad or copy-cat experimentation. But, if children as young as those who have barely stepped into the teen-years are into the habit without alarm bells having gone off everywhere, one worries about how deep disinterest has seeped into societal conscience.

The police action should also have everyone shuddering at the thought that there is a very real possibility that the very young are being used as 'mules' to transship substances of abuse. Agreed, six capsules do not a consignment make, but the fact that cops picked the child out from a jeep-full of passengers suggests that this mode of smuggling is being used and that even the police are aware of it now. Maybe the teen was being used as a 'mule' because his age would not rouse suspicion among the personnel manning the check-posts who have become rather effective interceptors of substances of abuse. Maybe this was a dry run. Too much speculating? Can there be too little hyperventilating when it comes to news-reports of a 13-year-old "caught" with drugs in a vehicle coming into Sikkim?

The vehicle was stopped, the lad picked out, checked and the substances confiscated. While the fact that children as young as 13 are abusing or are being abused as couriers might come as a shock for the sanitised distance that most readers have from such incidents, but, as already mentioned, the fact that the cops thought it necessary to check, suggests that this is not a very new strategy of the peddlers or even a very young age for people to use. Given the increased policing at the check-posts, peddlers have constantly been devising new ways to ferry in contraband - from using women as couriers to filling tyres and tubes with contraband to opting for keeping it in plain sight on the dashboard, hoping that the obvious would be overlooked, they have tried everything; and the cops have learnt to expect ingenuity in how drugs are brought in. But the desperation of the peddlers is not necessarily a positive. For one, the fact that they continue bringing in stuff despite the risks [SADA is a cruel act] is proof that addiction has not gone down in Sikkim, neither have addiction levels.

The deployment of innocents as couriers or the conversion of minors into the habit is also suggestive of the depths of depravity the business is willing to fall to. This should worry everyone concerned. The children are already disadvantaged in Sikkim where an elder generation pursues different priorities and rarely makes the time or funds for the young. The underprivileged, who should be receiving more societal attention, are left exposed to the wily mechanisations of peddlers and their ilk and hence vulnerable to exploitation as couriers or initiated into addiction. Both of these are happening and a blatant abuse of what children deserve plays on. The fact that at a time when government schools across the state are having their final exams, a 13-year-old was "caught" with "drugs" at an inter-state check-post raises too many more distress flags than the State is apparently willing to even notice.

A closer introspection by the State and its people is urgently required to question how such young children are being left exposed to the temptation of drugs...



## Science as we know it can't explain consciousness – but a revolution is coming

PHILIP GOFF theconversation.com

Explaining how something as complex as consciousness can emerge from a grey, jelly-like lump of tissue in the head is arguably the greatest scientific challenge of our time. The brain is an extraordinarily complex organ, consisting of almost 100 billion cells – known as neurons – each connected to 10,000 others, yielding some ten trillion nerve connections.

We have made a great deal of progress in understanding brain activity, and how it contributes to human behaviour. But what no one has so far managed to explain is how all of this results in feelings, emotions and experiences. How does the passing around of electrical and chemical signals between neurons result in a feeling of pain or an experience of red?

There is growing suspicion that conventional scientific methods will never be able answer these questions. Luckily, there is an alternative approach that may ultimately be able to crack the mystery.

For much of the 20th century, there was a great taboo against querying the mysterious inner world of consciousness – it was not taken to be a fitting topic for "serious science". Things have changed a lot, and there is now broad agreement that the problem of consciousness is a serious scientific issue. But many consciousness researchers underestimate the depth of the challenge, believing that we just need to continue examining the physical structures of the brain to work out how they produce consciousness.

The problem of consciousness, however, is radically unlike any other scientific problem. One reason is that consciousness is unobservable. You can't look inside someone's head and see their feelings and experiences. If we were just going off what we can observe from a third-person perspective, we would have no grounds for postulating consciousness at all.

Of course, scientists are used to dealing with unobservables. Electrons, for example, are too small to be seen. But scientists postulate unobservable entities in order to explain what we observe, such as lightning or vapour trails in cloud chambers. But in the unique case of consciousness, the thing to be explained cannot be observed. We know that consciousness exists not through experiments but through our immediate awareness of our feelings and experiences.

So how can science ever explain it? When we

are dealing with the data of observation, we can do experiments to test whether what we observe matches what the theory predicts. But when we are dealing with the unobservable data of consciousness, this methodology breaks down. The best scientists are able to do is to correlate unobservable experiences with observable processes, by scanning people's brains and relying on their reports regarding their private conscious experiences.

By this method, we can establish, for example, that the invisible feeling of hunger is correlated with visible activity in the brain's hypothalamus. But the accumulation of such correlations does not amount to a theory of consciousness. What we ultimately want is to explain why conscious experiences are correlated with brain activity. Why is it that such activity in the hypothalamus comes along with a feeling of hunger?

In fact, we should not be surprised that our standard scientific method struggles to deal with consciousness. As I explore in my new book, Galileo's Error: Foundations for a New Science of Consciousness, modern science was explicitly designed to exclude consciousness.

Before the "father of modern science" Galileo Galilei, scientists believed that the physical world was filled with qualities, such as colours and smells. But Galileo wanted a purely quantitative science of the physical world, and he therefore proposed that these qualities were not really in the physical world but in consciousness, which he stipulated was outside of the domain of science.

This worldview forms the backdrop of science to this day. And so long as we work within it, the best we can do is to establish correlations between the quantitative brain processes we can see and the qualitative experiences that we can't, with no way of explaining why they go together.

#### MIND IS MATTER

I believe there is a way forward, an approach that's rooted in work from the 1920s by the philosopher Bertrand Russell and the scientist Arthur Eddington. Their starting point was that physical science doesn't really tell us what matter is.

This may seem bizarre, but it turns out that physics is confined to telling us about the behaviour of matter. For example, matter has mass and charge, properties which are entirely characterised in terms of behaviour – attraction, repulsion and resistance to acceleration. Physics tells us nothing about what philosophers like to call "the intrinsic nature of matter", how matter is in and of itself.

It turns out, then, that there is a huge hole in our scientific world view – physics leaves us completely in the dark about what matter really is. The proposal of Russell and Eddington was to fill that hole with consciousness.

The result is a type of "panpsychism" – an ancient view that consciousness is a fundamental and ubiquitous feature of the physical world. But the "new wave" of panpsychism lacks the mystical connotations of previous forms of the view. There is only matter – nothing spiritual or supernatural – but matter can be described from two perspectives. Physical science describes matter "from the outside", in terms of its behaviour, but matter "from the inside" is constituted of forms of consciousness.

This means that mind is matter, and that even elementary particles exhibit incredibly basic forms of consciousness. Before you write that off, consider this. Consciousness can vary in complexity. We have good reason to think that the conscious experiences of a horse are much less complex than those of a human being, and that the conscious experiences of a rabbit are less sophisticated than those of a horse. As organisms become simpler, there may be a point where consciousness suddenly switches off – but it's also possible that it just fades but never disappears completely, meaning even an electron has a tiny element of consciousness.

What panpsychism offers us is a simple, elegant way of integrating consciousness into our scientific worldview. Strictly speaking it cannot be tested; the unobservable nature of consciousness entails that any theory of consciousness that goes beyond mere correlations is not strictly speaking testable. But I believe it can be justified by a form of inference to the best explanation: panpsychism is the simplest theory of how consciousness fits in to our scientific story.

While our current scientific approach offers no theory at all – only correlations – the traditional alternative of claiming that consciousness is in the soul leads to a profligate picture of nature in which mind and body are distinct. Panpsychism avoids both of these extremes, and this is why some of our leading neuroscientists are now embracing it as the best framework for building a science of consciousness.

I am optimistic that we will one day have a science of consciousness, but it won't be science as we know it today. Nothing less than a revolution is called for, and it's already on its way.

[the writer is Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Durham University]

## To die well, we must talk about death before the end of life

TAMARA SUSSMAN theconversation.com

would like to tell you an all-too-familiar story. It begins with a long-term care home resident, Laura, who has multiple chronic conditions and gets an infection that doesn't get any better.

Her health has been declining for months, but no one has talked to her about her preferences for end-of-life care. In the absence of that knowledge, she is sent to the hospital where she undergoes stressful tests.

The story ends with Laura dying in the hospital, alone and frightened. Her family is traumatized, and so are the staff who have cared for her over the past year.

It's a simple fact that 100 per cent of us will die. Conversations about our future health care and what's important to us — called advance care planning — have shown distinct benefits.

In fact, research shows that as many as one third of seriously ill, hospitalized older people are receiving invasive treatments they don't want at end-of-life, because no one has talked to them about their wishes for future care. This is true even in long-term homes, where the average lifespan is less than two years.

PAMPHLETS HELP STIMULATE CON-

VERSATION

How do we change those statistics and give our older people the care they want — and deserve? My team's research has focused on answering that question over the past six years.

We recently developed a series of pamphlets and distributed them in long-term care homes to try to get the conversation started.

The pamphlets were disease-specific (for example, focusing on dementia), and included information about life-limiting illnesses, what to expect and tips for talking about wishes for the future.

In our study, 84 per cent of residents and families who received a pamphlet felt encouraged to think about their future care and 70 per cent felt clearer about what to talk about.

#### PLANNING DEATH IS A GREAT RELIEF

Moving from thinking to discussion, however, was a different matter. Family members worried that bringing up the subject would destroy hope. Residents thought they should protect their families from thinking about their death.

And many long-term care home staff indicated that they did not feel trained to participate in these conversations — in fact, only 21 per cent handed out the pamphlets, preferring

instead for families or residents to take them from a display board.

Encouragingly, the 56 per cent of residents and families who did have conversations after receiving a pamphlet expressed great relief. A typical response from families was: "It makes it easier for me right now because now I don't have to guess."

#### DEATH IS TABOO, GLOBALLY

The problem goes beyond long-term care homes. A striking 93 per cent of Canadian participants in a recent poll think it's important to communicate their wishes for future care should they become seriously ill, but only 36 per cent have actually done so.

That may seem shocking. But according to the World Health Organization, Canada is actually ahead of most European countries.

Clearly, talking about death and the end of life is still taboo around the world

Informational resources such as our pamphlets can be a great first step in helping all parties gain clarity on what to be thinking and talking about. But because residents and families tend to protect one another, staff need to take more active roles in supporting such conversations.

CARE HOME STAFF NEED TRAINING

That means we need to clarify roles and provide the necessary training to support long-term care home staff, especially those who develop strong relationships with residents.

We have an aging population, and thanks to technological advances, more of us are living longer with frailty and chronic conditions. We need to find ways to communicate what's important to us, so that we receive the care that's right for us.

I would like to be able to tell you a different story. It begins with a care home resident, Sam, who gets an infection and is not getting better, even with antibiotics.

Sam has been living with multiple chronic conditions for some time and his family knew frequent infections could be a sign that the end of life was near. The family also knew that he wanted to die in the long-term care home and not in a hospital — because they had talked about this when he was healthier and could communicate his desires.

Sam dies, but with dignity and in peace and, most importantly, in keeping with his own wishes.

[the writer is Associate Professor, School of Social Work, McGill University]

## Death toll in Tripura Bru camp rises to six, blockade continues

AIZAWL, NOV 4 (PTI): With the death of a fourmonth- old baby on Monday, six people have died so far in Bru relief camps in North Tripura district, which a forum for displaced Brus claims to be a result of "starvation".

Three persons are admitted to a hospital and the Bru refugees continued to stage road blockade in an area in Tripura bordering Mizoram since Thursday, demanding resumption of free ration and cash-dole to them.

Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF) alleged that the people died of "starvation" after the Centre "stopped providing free ration and cash-dole" to the inmates of the relief camps from last month following commencement of the ninth and final repatriation process from October 3. The exercise is scheduled to be completed by November 30.

MBDPF general secretary, Bruno Msha, told PTI over phone from a relief camp in Tripura that the four-month-old baby, Pigili Reang, daughter of Khondro, died in Hamsapara relief camp on Monday morning.

Sexagerian Bistirung, one-year-old Akosha and three- month-old Ojitrai, all of them inmates of Naisingpara relief camp, had died of starvation on Sunday, Msha claimed.

Two inmates of Naisingpara camp had died on Thursday, he said.

The MPDPF general secretary said that three persons - Ramjoy Reang (65) of Ashapara relief camp, Reang Khumbarboti (60) of Naisingpara relief camp and Dobo-



kumar (55) of Ashapara camp have been admitted to hospital. "Six people died and three persons were hospitalised due to deprivation of free ration and cash-dole by the Centre from October due to the ongoing repatriation scheduled to be the repatriation process. concluded on November 30," he said.

Senior district officials of North Tripura district could not be contacted despite several attempts.

Mizoram officials on duty at Kanchanpur said that the agitating Brus were not blocking the road targeting trucks carrying essential goods but trying to stop Mizoram officials who are to bring back Bru families.

Sub Divisional Magistrate of Kanchanpur Sub Division Abhedananda Baidya had said on Saturday that an enquiry was being conducted to ascertain the cause of death of the two inmates of Naisingpara relief camp on Thursday.

Protesting the suspension of the free ration and cash-dole by the government, Bru refugees were staging road blockade between Dosda in Kanchanpur and Anandabazar area in North Tripura district since Thursday, which forced the Mizoram government to discontinue

However, officials associated with the process were camping at the Mizoram-Tripura border village of Kanhmun.

Brus lodged in the relief camps have been demanding resumption of free ration and cash-dole to inmates of the camps. It was stopped by the Centre from last month as the ninth and final repatriation process commenced from October 3, officials said.

The ongoing repatriation is scheduled to be completed by November 30.

Each adult in the relief camps used to get Rs 2.67 and a minor Rs 1.33 a day as cash-dole while the quantity of rice was 450 gm for an adult per day and 225

gm for a minor per day as free ration before the commencement of the repatriation process.

The Centre had made it clear that the relief camps of Bru refugees in Tripura would be closed down and the displaced persons must be repatriated to Mizoram during the ongoing exercise, Special Secretary (internal security), Ministry of Home Affairs, A P Maheshwari, had said on October 16.

Over 4,000 Bru displaced families, lodged in the relief camps at Kanchanpur and Panisagar sub-divisions of North Tripura district, are scheduled to return to neighbouring Mizoram from where they had fled since 1997 following ethnic clashes.

The Bru community, also called Reangs in Tripura, is among the 21 scheduled tribes in the country. They are scattered across Assam. Mizoram and Tripura.

Officials said that 216 Bru families have returned to Mizoram

from the relief camps since October 3.

They also alleged that the "anti-repatriation elements have been instigating the agitation and hindering the process".

The Centre has approved Rs 350 crore for the ninth phase of repatriation and the amount covers transportation and rehabilitation packexpenses, which age include Rs 5,000 per month for each resettled Bru family in Mizoram and free ration for them for two years.

The vexed Bru problem started when the Bru people, spearheaded by an organisation, Bru National Union, demanded a separate autonomous district council by carving out areas of western Mizoram adjoining Bangladesh and Tripura in September, 1997.

The situation was aggravated by the murder of a forest guard in the Dampa Tiger Reserve in western Mizoram by Bru National Liberation Front insurgents on October 21, 1997.

## DTC bus marshal beaten up by policeman

NEW DELHI, NOV 3 (PTI): A Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus marshal was allegedly beaten up by a policeman in Burari after an argument, police said on Sunday.

The policeman was inside his Scorpio car when Parvez came to move the vehicle's rearview mirror to avoid contact with the bus in a congested road around 2 pm on Saturday, an officer said.

The accused came out of his car and an argument took place, the police said.

In a video of the incident, the men can be seen arguing over the matter and threatening each other. The policeman is seen hurling abuses at Parvez and later beating him inside the bus that was at halt.

A woman marshal and some passengers are also seen trying to stop the fight, following which the policeman leaves the marshal, who suffered minor injuries on his limbs and face.

Recounting the incident, Parvez said: "The bus stopped near the car. There was congestion on the road and the mirror was close to the bus. To prevent an accident or clash, I went and moved the mirror inwards."

"The man stepped out of the car and hurled abuses at me. I tried to explain to him that the bus was going to move in a minute and that the mirror was coming in the way. He got angry and then pushed me. I went inside the bus, but he followed me and beat me again," Parvez said.

Police are probing the matter to verify the claims. A case has been registered against the policeman, who works in the security unit of the Delhi police.

Preliminary inquiry suggests both the men had beaten up each other, police said.

## I am a radical humanist, says Aparna Sen



KOLKATA, NOV 4 (PTI): Known for being vocal on socio- political issues, film-maker Aparna Sen said she has always been a believer in issue-based politics and would love to call herself a 'radical humanist'.

Sen said, she would talk about the right or wrong steps committed by any party or organisation, if she felt the need.

"I am basically a radical humanist, a believer in secular ideals. But I have never come to the support of any particular party or group because I am a believer in issuebased politics only," Sen told PTI.

She said she was supportive of the ushering of market economy in 1991 director was also a sigas it was needed at that time, or Indira Gandhi's backing of the 1971 Bangladesh liberation war.

Sen said she also opposed the 1984 violence against Sikhs after the murder of Indira Gandhi and the comment of Rajiv Gandhi on the issue.

"I had also been shaken after the demolition of Babri Masjid in 1992. I mean, I feel I should talk about the right or wrong step committed by any party or organisation whenever I feel there is such need," she said. Sen was also one of

the celebrities who had campaigned against the Left government during the Nandigram and Singur movement, which helped the TMC come to power in 2011. She also termed the murder of a school teacher, his pregnant wife and child in Murshidabad district of West Bengal last month as "gruesome act" and said it was "shame on us".

The 'Mr and Mrs Iver' natory to an open letter written in July to Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking him to stop the lynching of Muslims, Dalits and other minorities while stressing that there was no democracy without dissent. The 'Mr and Mrs Iyer' director said, "I

was not born with political consciousness, and my political consciousness has slowly evolved during my life's journey." Sen said there is a new

phrase 'pseudo-secular' which is tagged when someone comes to the support of the minority community on any issue. "But I have equally

spoken for the Dalits, for the residents of enclaves near Bangladesh, who comprise members of both Hindu and Muslim communities," she pointed out. Sen said when she protested on one issue, some people questioned why she was silent on another. "If I have to speak on each and every subject, I will become a professional protestor wnich i am not. I have other things to do as well," she said.

To a question, Sen said she does not believe in preaching in films. "I would rather want to deal with human psychology in my cinematic works".

### **CBI** interrogates IPS officer in Rose Valley scam

KOLKATA, NOV 4 (PTI): The CBI on Monday interrogated Deputy Commissioner (port division) Waquar Raza in connection with the multi-crore Rose Valley scam, agency sources said. The IPS officer, though not an accused, was summoned by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to its CGO complex office in Salt Lake to ascertain the role he had played as a CID officer, when the alleged financial irregularities were committed by the Rose Valley group, the sources said.

According to the Enforcement Directorate, the group defrauded investors to the tune of Rs 15000 crore, including interest and penalties.

The company has also been accused of making "cross investments" in its various sister firms to suppress its liabilities towards investors. The central agency had in 2015 arrested its chairman Gautam Kundu and attached assets worth Rs 2,300 crore, including hotels and resorts.

Trinamool Several Congress leaders and Bengali film industry actors have been questioned by the CBI as part of its investigation into the scam.

## Delhi HC orders judicial inquiry into clash between police and lawyers at Tis Hazari court

New Delhi, Nov 3 (PTI): The Delhi High Court on Sunday ordered judicial inquiry by one of its retired judges into the clash between lawyers and police at Tis Hazari court complex here.

A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar, which sat on Sunday after taking suo motu (on its own) cognisance of media reports of the incident, said that former high court judge Justice (retd) S P Garg would hold a judicial inquiry into the matter.

The bench directed the Delhi Police commissioner to transfer Special Commissioner Sanjay Singh and Additional DCP Harinder Singh during pendency of the investigation.

It also made clear that no coercive action would be taken against any lawyer.

Lawyers and police had clashed at Tis Hazari Court complex here on Saturday afternoon during which at least 20 police personnel and several lawyers were injured while 17 vehicles vandalised, according to officials and eyewitnesses.

During the hearing, Delhi Police told the bench that a special investigation team (SIT)



has been formed to look into the clash.

Advocate Rahul Mehra, representing the Delhi Police, told the bench that one assistant sub inspector has been suspended and another transferred for alleged involvement in the clash.

He said that 21 police officials and eight advocates were injured in the clash.

The special investigation team of the crime branch will probe the matter, he said, adding that four FIRs have been lodged in connection with the incident under relevant sections, including charges of attempt to murder.

Two station house officers (SHOs) and an additional commissioner were among the 20 personnel injured, police said and claimed that eight lawyers were hurt in the incident.

Lawyers, however, said more of their colleagues were injured than the number claimed by police. They also claimed that two advocates were injured in police firing, but police said they fired in the air.

Registrar General (RG) Dinesh Kumar Sharma said a closed-door meeting was held on Sunday morning by the chief justice and senior most judges of the high court.

The meeting was also attended by senior police officers and additional chief secretary of the Delhi government, he said.

After the meeting, the court decided to hold a hearing at 1 pm, he said. During the 1 pm hear-

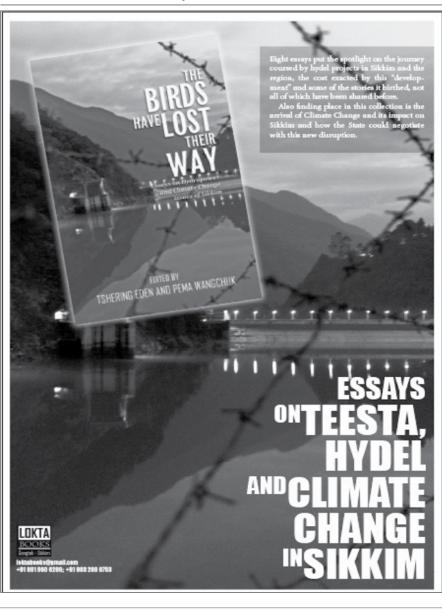
ing, the high court issued

notices and sought responses of the Centre, the Delhi Police commissioner and the chief secretary on the clash between lawyers and police.

It also asked the police officers, who were allegedly involved in the clashes, to be present in the court at 3 pm.

Separately, the Bar Council of India has written a letter to the high court seeking a direction to the Delhi lieutenant governor and other authorities to lodge an FIR under Section 307 (attempt to murder) and other relevant provisions of the Arms Act against the police officials. The letter also sought

immediate arrest of responsible police officials and initiation of a judicial enquiry by a retired Supreme Court or high court judge.



#### Asia Pacific Golf Summit gets underway in Gurugram

GURUGRAM, NOV 4 (PTI): The Asia Pacific Golf Summit (APGS), which has come to India for the first time, began here on Monday and is supported by the Ministry of Tourism.

The 13th edition of the summit is being held at the DLF Golf & Country Club till November 6.

see international speakers discuss various operational and business aspects of golf in the context of the summit's theme which is "A 5G Mindset For Golf's Future In Asia."

India as a possible venue since 2012 and are delighted that it's finally happening in a nation as vast and diverse as India," said Mike Sebastian, Chief Executive Officer of the Asia Pacific Golf Group, the owner and

have a venue and a country that is going to lead the thrust and growth of golf in Asia and together with China and the rest

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Tokyo, 04 Nov [theGuradi-

The annual event will

"We have considered producer of APGS.

"We believe that we of Asia," he added.

## World Cup offered timely reminder of rugby's values, on and off the pitch

**ANDY BULL** 

■ an]: So in the end Jack did not kill the 15 giants. But still the Rugby World Cup had a different kind of fairytale finish. Siya Kolisi, South Africa's first black captain, a kid from a township outside Port Elizabeth, led his team to a famous victory. And a team that once epitomised the apartheid regime was reborn, at last, as one offering the promise of togetherness. It was not long ago that the Springboks were jeered by black South Africans. Now they are being cheered by them. They have made good on Nelson Mandela's words from 1995. "Sport has the power to unite people in a way that little else does," Mandela said, "Sport can create hope where once there was despair." We should not garnish it

any more than that. If anything, this may be the moment to offer a timely reminder that we should not overreach or strain to explain the significance of all this. South Africa's coach, Rassie Erasmus, was absolutely clear about the limits of what his team had achieved. The World Cup final had bought his country 80 minutes of togetherness, Erasmus said, and a couple of happy hours after the match when people back home had put aside their differences. Nothing more than that. The social problems he and Kolisi spoke so openly about this week will not be fixed by this victory. But it will give some succour and a hint, too, of what is possible.

There is also hope there for England. This was all at their



team, the youngest to play in a World Cup final with 25 twenty-somethings in their squad of 32. And what they have achieved these last six weeks has to be set against the way they embarrassed themselves, and everyone else, in 2011 and 2015. England were never, have never been, better than they were on the weekend they beat the unbeatable All Blacks. It may turn out, when they finish their debrief, that they were still suffering from the hangover of that when they played South Africa.

They would not be the first. New Zealand have lost four World Cup knock-out matches in the last 20 years now. None of the teams who beat them went on to win the final. It is one thing to perexpense, but they are a young suade yourself the fabled All

Black aura does not make any difference in the week before playing them but another really to believe it the week after, too, when you are sure you are already on top of the world. There are always new lessons, then, even for a wily old dog like Eddie Jones. As one of his young standout performers, Sam Underhill, said when he was asked if he had heard of the theory that you have to lose a World Cup final before you learn how to win one: "No. but I'm a fan of it now".

Even the English may agree that South Africa's victory was a fitting way to finish a tournament that was, after all, about opening the game to new audiences. It is easy to forget in the wash of it all what a risk World Rugby took by bringing their marquee tournament to Japan, where the game is - or was - a minority sport. There has been nothing quite like it since Fifa decided to hold the 1994 football World Cup in the US. And it has paid off. They filled almost every seat in every stadium and at the tournament's peak won an audience of 54.8m TV viewers in Japan alone.

That was during Japan's game against Scotland at the end of the pool stages. It was one of those matches which meant more than can be conveved in facts and figures like that, when the sport became about something much larger and more important than itself. It was the day after typhoon Hagibis had blown through and, around the country, they were still reckoning the damage. The official death toll was 24 when the match started, 28 when it finished. Days later it finally reached 89. Some of those deaths were just miles up the highway from the stadium.

What was that match but a gesture of pride and defiance and togetherness? They were pumping floodwater out of the changing rooms on the morning of the game. One could hear the plain truth in Mandela's words then. And one could hear it again in the little town of Kamaishi, the smallest place to host a World Cup match, where they had built their new stadium on the site of the school that was swept away in the tsunami in 2011. There never was a town that seemed as happy to be hosting a match. It was, the manager of the local rugby

team said, their way of thanking the world for its support after the disaster.

They never did get to play the second game that was scheduled there. It was one of the three matches cancelled because of the typhoon. It would have been the biggest fixture of the tournament for the two teams who were due to play, Namibia and Canada. But instead they got on with helping the people who lived there clear up the damage. Rugby loves to talk about its values and there they were again for everyone to see in the footage of the Canadian players shovelling mud off the roads.

It was a timely reminder of

the best of the game because there was some of the worst on show too, in the backstage bickering between the unions about who was to blame for the cancelled matches. It was a flash of the sport's narrow-minded side. If the World Cup offered a glimpse of what the game might become, it also showed some of what is holding it back. In Europe the game is being taken over, piece by piece, by the private equity firm CVC Capital Partners, who were recently accused of "raping the sport" of F1. Let us see how those traditional values and this newfound drive to develop the game, this desire to prioritise player welfare, hold up in partnership with a firm whose biggest worry is the bottom line.

In many ways the game has changed these last few weeks. This tournament could be the beginning of something. And in many others the game remains the same. It could also be its end.

### Six-times world champion Lewis Hamilton is the best driver I have seen

**JOHNNY HERBERT** THEGUARDIAN

↑ sixth world champi-**H**onship is an extraordinary achievement by It is something that only as a person. Some people any standard but in reach- comes around very, very say he can be difficult ing it Lewis Hamilton has rarely and right now is sometimes but I underindisputably proved he is the best driver I have ever seen. People speak about the greats but the way Lewis has gone about racing I believe makes him the greatest. I am in awe of what I see, even as an ex-racing driver.

From everything I know from the history of F1, from competing and watching racing, from Juan Manuel Fangio through Jimmy Clark and Graham Hill and Jackie Stewart, Niki Lauda, Nelson Piquet, Nigel Mansell, Ayrton Senna, Alain Prost, Michael Schumacher and all the other guys in between, I

think Lewis is the best. It is his ability to drive on the edge which captures me. He is, simply, exciting to watch and just gets everything out of the car, while possessing a mental strength that I have not seen in other drivers. He is different, special and has the "wow" factor. There is more "wow" to Lewis than all of the other drivers I know. The best driver I have ever watched on track, he has the ability to dig something special out, to pull it out of the bag when needed but his race craft and race brain have simply got better and better. He might make it look easy. It most definitely is not.

Nor has it come easily to him, the natural talent he possesses has

not been wasted, only worked on and improved. People should enjoy what they are watching. probably the peak of Lewis Hamilton.

He has always been able to pull off extraordinary laps and races but Lewis now does it with formidable regularity. He has found a balance in life off-track that allows him to perform exceptionally on it. He is thoughtful, he feels the tyre, he feeds back information, when there are choices that are marginal he questions them. This is a driver thinking of every aspect of a race even in the heat

Nor has he gone about his business without a fundamental sense of sportsmanship. He is the toughest man and the fairest man on track. He wants to do it in a way where he does not get an advantage. He wants a good battle. Lewis has the mentality to want to beat people in the fairest way he can, just to show how good he is. Which is a very powerful mindset. That aura he gives off means it is tough to beat him and as his rivals have discovered, even match him.

He has of late also delivered with daunting consistency. He is consistent through the whole year. If he has a bad weekend he might be fourth at worst and that is deceptively impressive, to keep that mental strength going for a whole season and especially when going for his fifth title in six years.

Moreover I like Lewis stand how difficult his life must be. I won three grands prix and not many people wanted a real piece of me but every single media person and every single fan wants a piece of him and he has to manage that. I know what it means from what Damon Hill has told me. It changes your life in a big way and people forget that. Lewis has had to deal with it and at the same time always tries to make sure he has time for the fans and in doing so he has been very good for F1.

Yet I think there is still more to come. At only 34 years old he is still strongly motivated and I believe he wants to beat Michael's record of seven titles. I know for a driver in the form he is in now it must feel almost effortless. From my experiences, when you are in the zone that he is in, this bubble, it seems easy and that is hard to explain when watching from the outside. He knows it is there, everything he touches in the cockpit will work for him, that's how he goes out on track and does the job.

Next year will possibly be tougher. Ferrari should challenge but does Lewis want that challenge? Absolutely. Does he want a wheel-to-wheel battle? Absolutely. Just to prove he is the best again.

### Dortmund to sustain 'feel-good' factor against Inter goals. "The fun is back again",

BERLIN, NOV 4 (AFP): Borussia Dortmund and their under-fire coach Lucien Favre hope to maintain the 'feel-good' factor from back-to-back wins as they chase Champions League revenge at home to Inter Milan on Tuesday.

A below-par performance saw Dortmund crash to a 2-0 defeat in Milan nearly a fortnight ago, sparking reports Jose Mourinho was waiting in the wings to replace Favre unless results improved, which the club subsequently denied. The German media piled into Favre after forward Lautaro Martinez give Inter a first-half lead, then had a late penalty saved, before winger Antonio Candreva raced clear to seal Dortmund's defeat at the San Siro.

Dortmund were short of ideas against a water-tight defence and only Roman Burki's fine save from Martinez's penalty attempt prevented a rout.

However, Dortmund have since improved.

A goalless draw at Schalke last weekend was backed-up by dumping Bundesliga leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach out of the German Cup in midweek before trouncing Wolfsburg 3-0 on Saturday in the league. With one eye on Inter, Favre said it was "nice to see"



of conceding late goals amidst nervous defending.

- JOY ELEMENT -

"In the end, there was almost an element of joy back in our game again," enthused sports director Michael Zorc.

Now Favre needs a win over Antonio Conte's Inter to get Dortmund's Group F campaign back on track and maintain confidence with a crunch Bundesliga tie at Bayern Munich looming on Saturday.

Both Inter and Dortmund come into Tuesday's tie level on four points from three games, each with a win, a defeat and

draw. Dortmund must repeat the rock-solid defending in their goalless draw at home to Barcelona in September to contain Inter's attack and Saturday's win over Wolfsburg suggests confidence is high.

"We played at a higher tempo, were better between the lines. The combinations worked better and we created a lot of goals," insisted Favre.

For once, there were no whistles of displeasure from home fans, no awkward postmatch questions and no frustrated out-bursts from players, as in previous weeks due to Dortmund's habit of leaking late Prague on Tuesday.

stated midfielder Julian Weigl. Saturday's home win was

also a timely confidence booster for goal-scorers Thorgan Hazard, who bagged his first goal since joining from Gladbach, and Mario Goetze, who converted a late penalty after starting most games this season on the bench.

"I could have scored two or three goals, my first goal at home is a good feeling for the head," beamed Hazard. However, the news is not all good for Favre. Chief playmaker and Germany star Marco Reus, who also missed the away defeat in Milan, limped off in the first-half on Saturday and is doubtful with a knock to the foot. Both clubs meet at Signal Iduna Park second in their respective league's after Inter's burly Belgian striker Romelu Lukaku scored twice in Saturday's 2-1 win at Bologna to leave his side a point behind Juventus in Serie A.

Despite two wins inside a week, Dortmund must take three points at home to Inter to calm fears of a group stage exit.

"Now Favre has to win," demanded Germany's top-selling daily Bild, especially with group leaders Barcelona at home to bottom side Slavia

## Indian women level series, beat West Indies by 53 runs

NORTH SOUND, NOV 4 (PTI): Punam Raut on a shaky note with openers Priya Punia starred with the bat before spinners put up a fine performance to set up India's comfortable 53-run win over West Indies in the second ICC Women's Championship ODI here.

India were able to defend a modest 191 by bowling out West Indies for 138 in 47.2 overs and level the three-match ODI series 1-1 here on Sunday night.

The spin troika of - left-arm orthodox Rajeshwari Gayakwad (2/27), legbreak specialist Poonam Yadav (2/26) and off-spinner Deepti Sharma (2/25) returned with two wickets each to restrict the hosts to below-par score. Opting to bat, India began

(5) and Jemimah Rodrigues (0) departing cheaply, leaving the side reeling at 17 for 2 in nine overs. However, Punam (77), who was the top scorer for India, and skipper Mithali Raj (40) and vice-captain Harmanpreet Kaur (46) steadied the ship putting up a modest target on the board.

Punam and Mithali shared a 66-run stand, scoring four boundaries each before Sheneta Grimmond dismissed the latter in the 29th over.

Punam then joined forces with Harmanpreet. The duo kept the scoreboard moving with a 93-run partnership before the Indian

vice-captain was bowled off an Aalivah Alleyne delivery in the 48th over.

For West Indies, Alleyne (2/38) and Afy Fletcher (2/32) picked two wickets each, while Shabika Gajnabi (1/23) and Grimmond (1/22) scalped one a piece.

Chasing 192, West Indies got off to a bad start losing opener Stacy-Ann King (6) in the fourth over. The home side was struck with a major blow in the 25th over when opener Natasha McLean (15) retired hurt.

Captain Stafanie Taylor (20) then joined Shemaine Campbelle in the middle but was unable to lead her side to victory as she was caught in front of the wickets by Poonam Yadav.

## British MPs vote on new speaker after Bercow's departure

LONDON, NOV 4 (AFP): British MPs will on Monday select the new speaker of the House of Commons, once an unremarkable event but one now charged with significance following the previous occupant's role

Eight MPs are running to replace John Bercow, who placed himself front and centre of the Brexit saga by choosing amendments and introducing procedures that Leave-supporting MPs claimed were designed to frustrate Britain's departure from the European Union.

Bercow also faced accusations that he fostered a culture of bullying within parliament. But his colourful personality and eccentric performances in parliament gave him an international profile and raised the status of the office. Lindsay Hoyle, Bercow's deputy since 2010, is the odds-on favourite to fill his shoes but other political heavyweights are also vying for the job.

Hoyle has been a Labour MP for 22 years and was Bercow's deputy from 2010, since when his distinctive Lancashire accent has rung out from the speaker's chair.

In a sign that he may follow a different path



from Bercow, he recently rejected amendments that would have made it more difficult for Prime Minister Boris Johnson to force a general election, now due on Decem-

The 62-year-old is as unimpressed as his predecessor by rowdy MPs, once chastising Scottish Nationalists for humming the EU anthem "Ode to Joy" in the chamber.

Hoyle pledged in an interview published in the Sunday Times to repair what he claims has become a "toxic parliament".

"I don't want the abuse of each other and I think we have got to close that down quickly and make sure it is a calmer place to be," he said.

His closest rival appears to be veteran Labour MP Harriet Harman, parliament's longest-serving female MP.

She entered the Commons in 1982 and served as the Labour Party's deputy leader 2007-2015, leading the party twice, in 2010 and 2015, between leaders.

The former justice minister is known for her ardent feminism and has been a long-time crusader on social justice issues.

Another woman in the running is Eleanor Laing, Bercow's number two deputy since 2013.

61-year-old Conservative entered parliament in 1997 and previously served as the party's spokeswoman

on Scotland. One of the more colourful characters in contention is former Church of England vicar, and now Labour MP Chris Bryant. The openly gay 57-year-old's civil partnership ceremony in 2010 was the first held in the Houses of Parliament.

stepped Bercow down on Thursday after 10 years as speaker.

The man in the middle of more than three years of fiery parliamentary debates has proved a controversial figure, loathed by pro-Brexit supporters and hailed by its foes.

A social media mashup by German television of Bercow trying to calm down rowdy MPs has been seen more than a million times. A Belgian newspaper called him "irreplaceable".

Johnson paid guarded tribute to the outgoing speaker, likening Bercow's glare to a "trademark Tony Montana scowl", after Al Pacino's character in the 1983 film "Scarface".

Opposition Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn added: "You've done so much to reform this House of Commons and our democracy is the stronger for the way you have done it." Bercow will not stand in next month's general election.

## **Russian scandal clouds WADA summ**

Twenty years after its I formation, the world anti-doping agency WADA meets for its fifth world conference in the Polish city of Katowice from Tuesday to Thursday.

Officially, the business of the meeting is to adopt a new anti-doping code and to elect a new president.

However, it is the long-running over Russian statebacked doping and institutionalised cheating which will dominate proceedings.

AFP Sport looks at the business in hand in Poland.

-- Shadow of Russia doping --

It's the scandal which refuses to die but the burning issue over potential new sanctions for Russia is not even on the agenda of WADA's executive committee on Monday and Thursday in Poland. The affair, which has dominated the global anti-doping fight -- as well as creating splits in how to deal with it -- for the past five years, reappeared in September due to suspicions of manipulation of the electronic data from the former Moscow laboratory handed over to WADA investigators in early 2019.

The new revelations could lead to new sanctions such as a ban from the 2020 Tokyo Olympics as the fight against doping is ramped up after

Russia was already found guilty of state-sponsored cheating between 2011 and 2015.

Russia's Athletics Federation has been banned from international competition since 2015.

The latest allegations are still under investigation and WADA hopes to reach a decision by the end of the year.

Last month, the picture became even murkier when Microsoft revealed that Russian hackers, Fancy Bears, had tried to attack the computer systems of several global anti-doping agencies.

-- New thinking over 'recreational drugs' --

The next World Anti-Doping code, to be adopted Thursday, is expected to be more flexible when it comes to positive tests from the use of so-called recreational drugs, such as cocaine or cannabis.

When it is shown that the substances were taken out of competition and without an attempt to boost sporting performance, the suspension will be just three months, or even a month if the athlete agrees to undergo a detoxification programme. Currently, the use of cocaine is theoretically punishable by a four-year suspension, like any other prohibited substance.

> However, penalties

are often lighter -- for example, Peruvian football star Paolo Guerrero was handed a 14-month suspension in May 2018 although that ban was lifted in time for him to play at the World Cup in

This planned change is likely to be controversial among those for whom anti-doping is a mission to protect public

Director general of WADA, Olivier Niggli told AFP: "Our role is anti-doping, so it has to have something to do with sport, and the protection of health is for countries more than us."

-- Home Banka for new WADA president --

Barring a huge surprise, the current Polish Minister of Sport, Witold Banka, will be elected WADA's new president on Thursday.

He will succeed Britain's Craig Reedie, who came from the ranks of the Olympic movement and steps down at the age of 78 after two terms overshadowed by the Russian doping crisis.

This will be the last time that the principle of the rotating presidency between the two pillars of WADA applies, the agency having now adopted the principle of an independent presidency from 2022, to head off any accusations of political interference in its operation.

## Chinese state media urge 'tougher line' on Hong Kong

BEIJING, NOV 4 (AFP): Chinese state-run media on Monday called for a "tougher line" on democracy protesters in Hong Kong, after a weekend of violence following Beijing's plans to tighten control over the semi-autonomous city.

Hardcore demonstra tors in the financial hub smashed the windows of the official Xinhua news agency's regional bureau on Saturday, capping another weekend of unrest that also saw scores of arrests and a gruesome attack on a pro-democracy lawmaker.

"Intensifying violence in Hong Kong calls for tougher line to restore order," the state-run China Daily, an English-language mainland newspaper, said in an editorial.

The protesters "court the indulgence extended to them by friendly local and Western media outlets, while seeking to silence those trying to put the protests in the spotlight of truth," the daily said.

"They are doomed to fail simply because their violence will encounter the full weight of the law." The nationalist tabloid Global Times called in an editorial on Sunday for "Hong Kong's law enforcement agencies to bring the mob to justice as soon as possible" for vandalising Xinhua's office.

Neither editorial mentioned a knife attack on Sunday in Tai Koo Shing, a middle-class neighbourhood on Hong Kong's main island where a rally had been taking place, which left at least five people wounded.

Eve-witnesses told local media that a Mandarin-speaking man attacked people on Sunday shortly after shouting pro-Beijing slogans.

Live footage showed Andrew Chiu, a local pro-democracy councillor, having his ear bitten off after trying to subdue the attacker, while a second man was seen unconscious in a growing pool of blood as bystanders desperately tried to stem wounds to his back.

The city has been rocked by months of unrest from protesters who say those rights are being rolled back by an increasingly authoritarian Chinese rule.

Beijing warned on Friday after a four-day meeting of Communist Party leaders that it would not tolerate any challenges to its authority over Hong Kong, while laying out plans to boost patriotism in the city and change how its leader is chosen or removed.

China Daily also noted that the party plans to strengthen Hong Kong's legal system to "safeguard national security".

"Those Hong Kong residents whose lives have been disrupted by the intensifying violence of intimidation - instigated and organized by those hoping to use Hong Kong as a means to destabilize the nation - will be glad when life returns to normal," the newspa-

## England say 'makes sense' for Jones to coach them at 2023 World Cup



England are set to begin talks with coach Eddie Jones about the prospect of the Australian leading them at the 2023 World Cup in France when the beaten finalists return home from Japan.

Jones, appointed after England's woeful first-round exit on home soil at the 2015 edition, almost achieved his fouryear plan of turning them into world champions only for South Africa to overwhelm the Red Rose brigade 32-12 in Saturday's final in Yokohama.

But the way a largely youthful side -- with 25 members of a squad of 32 in their twenties -- beat Australia and defending champions New Zealand in knockout play won plaudits.

Jones's current contract runs until 2021 and Bill Sweeney, the chief executive of England's Rugby Football Union, has no doubt the 59-year-old coach will see out that deal. "Eddie's one of the world's best coaches -- if not the best -- despite the result against South Africa," Sweeney said.

"One of the first pri-

orities when we get back will be to sit down and have a chat. "We will do it as a matter of urgency.

"Eddie is committed to his contract through to the end of August 2021 and he is fulfilling that."

But Sweeney accepts the logic that if the RFU and Jones are both happy for him to go halfway through a World Cup cycle, he should see it through to the next edition. "It makes sense doesn't it?" he said. "If you're going to go through to France 2023 it's nice to have that unbroken stretch, but both parties have got to be completely happy with it."

- 'He'll be looking longterm' -

There have been reports Australia are looking to lure Jones back home after Michael Cheika stepped down following their quarter-final loss. The 59-year-old Jones was the coach of his native Wallabies when they lost to England in the 2003 final and Sweeney said: "When you're in Eddie's position, you're going to have people sniffing around and you can imagine the story Australia would put together. "We can only control our relationship with him and we can only control what we will wrap around him to enable us to perform at our best."

England have won a Grand Slam and a Six Nations since Jones took charge and Sweeney believes they can get even better under his guidance. "Yeah, I do think so. He's done a fantastic job with this squad -- look where we were at the last tournament," he said.

"He's unearthed some fantastic players who have huge careers ahead with England. He gets on well with that squad, he's committed to England rugby, so he's got an awful lot more to offer yet."

Sweeney added: "It's not job done yet, it's a bit like a pipeline and there's other players out there who need to be brought on.

"He's probably going to look to get a pool together of 50-55 players who can go the entire distance so he'll be looking long-term."

## **UK airline giant IAG agrees** to buy Spain's Air Europa

**D**ritish Airways owner IAG agreed Monday to buy Spain's Air Europa for 1.0 billion euros to expand routes to Latin America and the Caribbean. boosting Madrid as a key hub.

The London-listed company said in a statement that it has signed a transaction agreement with Air Europa owner Globalia in a deal worth the equivalent of \$1.2 billion that it aims to complete in the second half of next year.

IAG added that Air Europa will complement existing Spanish divisions Iberia and Vueling -- and help Madrid take on the four largest air hubs in Europe, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London Heathrow and Paris Charles De Gaulle.

The deal, which is subject to regulatory approvals, will further expand IAG's portfolio that also includes Ireland's Aer Lingus and low-cost European carrier Level. The British company added that it will fund the deal with debt, and anticipates that the transaction will generate significant savings in terms of costs and sales.

"Acquiring Air Europa would add a new competitive, cost effective airline to IAG, consolidating Madrid as a leading European hub and resulting in IAG achieving South Atlantic leadership, therefore generating additional financial value for our shareholders," said IAG Chief Executive Willie Walsh in

Monday's statement. "IAG has a strong track record of successful acquisitions, most recently with the acquisition of Aer Lingus in 2015 and we are convinced Air Europa presents a strong strategic fit for the group."

Iberia boss Luis Gallego added that the move was a boost for Madrid.

"This is of strategic importance for the Madrid hub, which in recent years has lagged behind other European hubs," Gallego said.

"Following this agreement, Madrid will be able to compete with other European hubs on equal terms with a better position on Europe to Latin America routes and the possibility to become a gateway between Asia and Latin America." Air Europa flies to 69 destinations around the world, including the Caribbean, Latin America, North Africa and the United States.

It flew 11.8 million passengers last year, with revenues of 2.1 billion euros and an operating profit of 100 million euros. IAG meanwhile carries about 113 million passengers per year to a total of 268 destinations.

The company had decided at the start of 2019 not to make a formal bid for low-cost airline Norwegian Air Shuttle, after its informal approaches were rejected as too low.



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WE HEART YOU! The actress, Hailee Steinfeld looks lovely in New York City.

#### Jack White's record label think they've cracked a code on Kanye West's new album cover

they have cracked a code on the cover of Kanye West's new album, 'Jesus Is King.'

The label's archivist, Ben Blackwell, found an Easter egg on the cover via a serial number, 'AR 1331 A', which he found refers to a 1970's and Sister Orr.

Blackwell discovered that the serial number links to a pressing plant code from Archer Records. Speaking to Pitchfork, Blackwell said: "I knew the past decade spent in the deepest, loneliest recesses of Archer Record Pressing nerd-dom would eventually lead me to the biggest recording artist in the world. But enough about Jack White... who is this Kanye guy?"

The label's archivist, Ben Blackwell, found an Easter egg on the cover via a serial number, 'AR 1331 A', which he found refers to a 1970's Detroit gospel recording by Rubye Shelton and Sister Orr.

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Speaking to Pitchfork, Blackwell said: "I knew the past decade spent in the deepest, loneliest recesses of Archer Record Press-

Tack White's record label, Third Man, think ing nerd-dom would eventually lead me to the biggest recording artist in the world. But enough about Jack White...who is this Kanye guy?"

co-organiser Emily Eavis recalled how she : Shukla. The music is by Tushar Bhatia, Detroit gospel recording by Rubye Shelton faced death threats for booking West as a cinematography by Ishwar Bidri, and headliner in 2015.

> Eavis speaks about securing the rap star for the Pyramid Stage in the newly published Glastonbury 50 book, which celebrates the Worthy Farm event's half-century milestone : is inspired from a Telugu movie called and contains contributions from the likes of Dolly Parton and Chris Martin.

In an extract published by The Guardian, Eavis wrote: "As soon as we announced that [West] was playing, a petition sprang up started by someone who had never been to Glastonbury - saying Kanye shouldn't play because he wasn't right for us."

Discussing the impact of the "negative" media coverage surrounding the controversial booking, she explained: "Again, we had to reassure the people around the artist that it would all work, that these stories don't reflect the attitude of people coming to the festival - or in the UK, for that matter. It's just a load of hot air."

## **Charlize Theron on the One Role That Changed Her Career (Exclusive)**

he's only 44, but Charlize Theron will wood Film Awards on Sunday.

ET's Lauren Zima spoke with the actress at the event's red carpet in Beverly Hills, California, where she reflected on her impressive career, which included playing "a lot of wives and a lot of girlfriends" before she was able to break the mold with 2003's Monster.

"I mean, it's hard -- they really are like your children. But I think Monster was definitely a moment in my career where I realized the opportunity that I was given was a chance to show that I was capable of more and it did change my career," Theron said of the film, in which she played real-life sex worker-turned serial killer, Aileen Wuornos. The role earned her an Oscar for Best Actress in 2004.

"After that, I didn't have to fight so hard for those interesting parts anymore, and more opportunities came my way to get outside of my comfort zone and do things that were maybe not expected for me," she continued. "I think from that moment on, I built a career that has kind of defined what I really wanted

my career to be -- not typecast, not stereotypical roles, but to really do things that are interesting and challenges the psyche of how we look at people."

be honored with the Career Achieve- bit of a box before her total transforma-

Theron remembers being put into a just more interesting," she explained.

Two years after Monster, Theron was ment Award at the 23rd Annual Holly- tion for the Patty Jenkins-directed film. "I nominated for another Academy Award

for her role in North Country. She's since starred in everything from blockbusters to dramas to romantic comedies -- and jokes her kids have seen the full spec-

trum. "They've seen Prometheus. Monster... I'm trying to think of other R-rated films," she said with a laugh. "I started with the good stuff. I just feel like I want their level of taste to be challenged."

"No, they see all the kids movies I've done. They really like this movie I did a long time ago called Mighty Joe Young. They're finally -- they go, 'We want to see the big monkey.' I'm like, 'It's an ape."

Theron is "not going anywhere" anytime soon.

"I mean, I thought of it as just like, my career up to now," she told ET of being honored with a career achievement award at such a young age. "No, I'm not going anywhere, sorry guys! I've only begun."

"Listen, I'm always like, 'Somebody made a mistake!' So, let's not talk

about it too much before somebody's like, 'Wait a second, she should not be getting this career achievement award," the actress joked.



think we all get labeled, and I played a lot of wives and a lot of girlfriends. And then after that, I got to play people who were going through serious things, and it was

## 25 Years Of Andaz Apna Apna: This Aamir-Salman Starrer Has No Right To Be This Good But It Is!

There is no formula for making a movie because there are so many moving parts in it that it's a miracle every time a movie turns out to be a cohesive piece of art. There is no formula for making a good movie. There is definitely no formula for turning any movie into a cult classic. And 1994's Andaz Apna Apna is a shining example of that notion. I am sure that numerous other directors, writers, and actors have tried to recreate its charm and have failed. So, on its 25th anniversary lets try to understand why it works.

Andaz Apna Apna is a 1994 comedy movie directed by Rajkumar Santoshi. Last week (October 30) Glastonbury: It is written by Aditya Sohoni and Dilip editing by V.N. Mayekar. It stars Aamir Khan, Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon, Karisma Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, and Shakti Kapoor. The story of this movie Allullostunnaru and follows the lives of two daydreamers, Amar and Prem, who have a common aim: getting rich by marrying a rich heiress. But we'll come back to that later. The script was written with the intention of creating the human versions of Tom and Jerry. And the Muhurat shot was done by the one and only Sachin Tendulkar.

Okay, so coming back to the plot. Try and summarise the plot of the movie without re-watching it and or looking at the movie's Wikipedia page. I'm sure you can't even if you are one of the most hardcore fans of the movie. It is that chaotic and all over the place. Just think about it. They are after a girl called Raveena who is not the real Raveena but played by Raveena Tandon. The real Raveena is the fake Raveena's secretary, Karishma and played by Karishma Kapoor and she has done it so that a boy can love her and not for her money. Then there's Ram Gopal Bajaj who has a twin brother called Shyam Gopal Bajaj, played by Rawal, who wants to kidnap Ram and then pose as Ram. In the meantime, Amar and Prem get into the Bajaj household, where their true intentions are exposed by Ram. So, they plan to fake kidnap Ram and then rescue him to show their heroism. However, before they can do that Ram is kidnapped by Shyam/ Teja. Ram manages to escape Shyam's lair before Amar and Prem can rescue him for real. Shyam manages to convince Amar and Prem that he is actually Ram and the real Ram is imprisoned again.

Is your brain melting out of your ears yet? Well, it should. And if you are thinking 'why the f\*ck does Andaz Apna Apna work?', in my opinion, it's because of the chemistry between Aamir and Salman, the dedication of the rest of the cast to the absurdity of their roles, and the dialogue writing. But mostly the chemistry between Aamir and Salman.

Just think about it. The movie has lines like "Crime master Gogo naam hai mera... aankhen nikaal kar gotiyaan khelta hoon main", "Woh humein teeley par mila tha isiliye humne iska naam teelu rakh diya", "Do dost ek hi pyaale mein chai peeyenge, isse dosti badhti hai", and "Sorry sir, galti se mistake ho gaya". And in any given day, these lines would've fallen flat. But the whole cast dove so hard into their comedic abilities and emerged out of the proverbial pool with a tone that elevated those very lines from just funny to rip-roaringly hilarious. I don't think it's talked about enough but Shakti Kapoor's physical comedy in the movie is as good as what we've seen someone like Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. In addition to that, it's such a great parody of vigilantes before Bollywood even came up with the concept of parodying superheroes and villains.

Also, Andaz Apna Apna and Ishq are proof that Aamir Khan is so good at crafting bromances and should do more of them even now. From the very first point where they go Aaila! and Oimaa, you know that this is something special, and FYI they do deliver something more than special. I know that Salman Khan has become synonymous with bad Bollywood movies and acting. But here his comedic timing is so on point that it is unbelievable and, in retrospect, kind of sad because it makes you think that why doesn't he get into this mood again and deliver some good comedy movies again. And it is their balancing act that ties the movie together and keeps it from falling apart due to its haphazard plot and storytelling.

In conclusion, all I want to say that Andaz Apna Apna is an unique movie that should be celebrated for years to come. I know that there's a seguel in the pipeline. But I think it should remain in that pipeline because there's now way something so perfect should be tarnished with anything.

Tip: Look your fears in the eye.

VIRGO: Overthinking is like a slow poison. It makes us physically and mentally weak over a period of time. The more we engage in mental gymnastics, the less we are able to resist the trap our mind lays for us. Virgo, stop making excuses for yourself. You're being asked to awaken to your true power and potential.

Tip: Awaken to your power and potential. LIBRA: "How and when did my life transform into a soap opera?," you find yourself wondering as you walk into the office on Monday morning. Expect lies, deceit and drama. Not to mention, long-held secrets being exposed. Keep your head high and your dignity intact, even if you find them engaging in idle gossip that concerns you. Tip: Take the high road.

SCORPIO: Planning to get into a business with a friend or an acquaintance? Set up 'work dates' to see how compatible you are. If you prefer working by yourself, seek a worthy sounding board. You and your friend could take turns providing valuable feedback and

motivating each other. Those who are already working in pairs will find themselves thriving. Let trust and mutual understanding continue to

**SAGITTARIUS:** Do your squats, eat your greens, and keep your thoughts clean. Yes, that means disengaging from the haters and the naysayers. You are in the process of building your empire, and you're going to need razor-sharp focus in order to achieve your dreams. Believe in the impossible, de-

**CAPRICORN:** Endings are never a bad thing, Capricorn. It just means something certain; suffering is optional."

#### Tip: Allow yourself be transformed.

AQUARIUS: Aquarius, you know what you're doing and how you're doing it. You're both practical and resourceful, and you don't need validation from anybody outside of yourself. Continue to stay grounded. This will help you create from a space of knowing and pay attention to intricate details. When in doubt, choose quality over quantity. It's better to take on fewer projects and give them your best shot, rather than to try and do everything at once.

Tip: Choose quality over quantity.

PISCES: Things may or may not have worked out according to your plan. Don't let the past weigh you down. You are transitioning to a better place, Pisces, and leaving the darkness behind as you do. As you heal from past turbulences, you will be filled with a new sense of clarity. Feeling inspired to steer the wheel in a direction previously unexplored? Trust what your higher self is telling you.

Tip: Let your intuition be your guiding light.

ARIES: In his 1750 Poor Richard's Almanac, Benjamin Franklin wrote: "There are three things extremely hard: steel, a diamond, and to know one's self." Your thoughts exactly. Today, you're being called to traverse inwards. The more you get in touch with the universe inside of you, the more connected you will feel with the universe outside.

Tip: The journey is to the self.

TAURUS: It does not matter what you think of the glass: half empty or half full. You are missing the whole point. There is enough in the glass to drink from, and you can refill it whenever you want too. Don't let your pessimism be the reason you miss out on what's good in your life.

Tip: Choose to focus on the good in your life. **GEMINI:** When the workplace starts to feel like home, you know you've created something precious for yourself. Gemini, you are surrounded by an amazing cast and crew, one that supports your dreams and visions and wants to see you grow. See how you can empower them in return. Those of you who are transitioning into a 'work from home' set-up, focus on curating a space that both inspires and motivates you.

Tip: Acknowledge those who have supported you on this journey.

**CANCER:** The tussle between the mind and the heart continues. It's not about favouring one over the other. It's about finding a middle ground between logic and intuition. Operating from a space of higher wisdom will make you invincible. Some of you may turn to a mentor or guide for counsel. Again, you don't have to apply everything they say. Just the bits that apply to you.

Tip: Yes, you can get the heart and mind to agree. LEO: The only thing holding you back today is you, Leo. While winning battles instills pride and confidence, losing them is often synonymous with guilt and shame. How we transform our wounds into wisdom is what determines our character. You can either let the fear of failure hold you back from trying again, or you can approach your demons with the determination of a firefighter. Choose courage over fear, wild one.

be the secret sauce to your success. Tip: Partner up.

spite others may say. Tip: Talk less, do more.

has served its purpose, and is now making room for you to move on to something bigger and better. This is a period of transformation and it requires you to practice non-attachment. Accept what comes and allow it to leave when it is time. What is meant to be yours, will be effortlessly. Let this quote by Buddha be your guiding light today: "Pain is