# Summit.TIME

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Pages 8 | ₹ **5** 

#### ED files fresh charge sheet against Mallya, prepares for fugitive tag

MUMBAI, JUN 18 (PTI): The Enforcement Directorate (ED) today filed a fresh charge sheet against embattled liquor baron Vijay Mallya, two companies linked to him and others on charges of money laundering for allegedly cheating a con-sortium of nationalised banks to the tune of over Rs 6,000 crore, officials

Rs 6,000 crore, officials said today.

The agency has filed the charge sheet, also known as prosecution complaint, before a special court here under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

It has parent Milking

It has named Mallya, Kingfisher Airlines (KFA), **UBHL** (United Breweries Holdings Limited) and others in the voluminous charge sheet, they said.

PTI was first to report yesterday that after this charge sheet, the central probe agency would im-mediately seek permis-sion from a court to "confiscate" assets worth more than Rs 9,000 crore of the beleaguered businessman and his firms under the recently promulgated Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance.
The ED had last year

### Public complains against delay in compensation for damage by Himagiri magazine house explosion

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

Mangan, 18 Jun:
The public and Panchayats The public and Lower Lingzya of Dzongu, North Sikkim, have placed their grievances before the District Collector North with regard to the delay in disbursement of compensation for damages incurred by houses due to an explosion at

the Magazine house of Himagiri Hydroelectric Power Project earlier this year on 24 Mar.

A total of 52 houses have suffered damages as per a survey conducted by the Land and Revenue Department in Upper and Lower Lingzya vil-lages amounting to Rs 95 lakh that includes major and minor

project developer has been delaying the disbursement of the said compensation stating that the amount is too high.

It may be mentioned here that while disposing of ex-pired explosives on 24 Mar an explosion had occurred at the Magazine house of Himagiri Power Project of 300MW Panan Project. These two villages that sit right above the Magazine house had faced direct impact of the explosion and many ekra houses, wooden structures and the build-ings had suffered damages.

The affected people have expressed dismay over prob-lems like water seepage through cracks developed due to the explosion. They have requested the District Collector North for his intervention in early disbursement of the compensation so that they may be able to repair their damaged houses.

The public and Panchayats added that they have waited for three months now and that they cannot wait anymore as the incessant rain

could lead to further damage to their houses.

The DC North assured that

he will look into the matter and urge the company for early disbursement of compensation. If the company does not follow the instructions, the North District Administration will be bound to take legal ac-

### Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate Court inaugurated in Rongli

of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate was inaugurated today at a ceremony held in Rongli Sub-Division under East district in the presence of Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest and Minister for Law, Legislative & Parliamentary Affairs Department, RB Subba, as guest of honour.

Also present were Chief Jus-Also present were Chief Jus-tice, High Court of Sikim, Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri, and Judges, High Court of Sikkim, Jus-tice Meenakshi Madan Rai & Jus-tice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan.

Chief Justice, Justice Agnihotri, spoke about the strategic importance of Rongli in his address. He added that with the open-

ing of the new court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate in the area, it will be convenient for the local people to now seek jus-





### North Sikkim gets its first all-girls' senior secondary school

MANGAN, 18 JUN [IPR]: The first Girls' Senior Se ondary School of North District was inaugurated today by Additional Dis-trict Magistrate, Somanth Adhikari, in the presence of Additional Director, Human Resource Development Department, Sonam Lepcha, at Mangan in North Sikkim.

This is the first all-girls' school in the district which co-educational schools and was inaugurated today as a major policy outcome of the State Government giving priority to women's empowerment

The school building had earlier housed the turn to pg02

### Where there is 'wheel' there is a way: Soccer fan cycles to Russia to watch WC

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 18 (PTI): As southern Indian state Kerala is in the grip of World Cup fever, a football crazy fan from the state has cycled all the way to Russia to watch the tournament and realise his dream of meeting Argentinas living legend Lionel Messi.

Clifin Francis, 28, flew to Dubai from Kerala on Febraury 23, bought a cycle, took a ship to the port city of Bandar Abbas, the capital of Hormozgan province on the southern coast of Iran, before embarking on his cycling odyssey to Russia.
"I am very happy. It was a four-month-

long journey," Francis told PTI from Tambov, a countryside town in Russia on Monday. He said he had bought a ticket for the

France-Denmark match on June 26 and was waiting to watch it with his fingers crossed.

"Every day you meet new people, see new landscapes, new culture...," he said, adding both good and bad experiences came his way during the journey.
Francis says though all his papers, in-

cluding visa, were in order, he was denied permission to enter Georgia through Azer-baijan, forcing him to take an alternative

"I felt sad at their behaviour as a German cyclist was allowed to take the route. But there were times when I saw the goodness in human beings as people whom I had never met gave me shelter, the warmth of their homes and offered food," the software engineer said.
Football had always been his first love

and watching the World Cup a long cherished dream.

After obtaining his B.Tech degree, Fran-

cis worked at the Infopark at Kakkanad in Kochi for some time, before taking up a



job as a mathematics teacher at a coaching

school, Saji, his paternal uncle said.
"He was always a hard worker and slogged at the coaching class without taking any leave and saved as much as he could to have his dream fulfilled. Relatives also chipped in (with money)," Sam told PTI by phone from Kochi.

Francis said he celebrated his birthday with the residents of Maymeh in Iran, enjoying the hot kebabs they served with Istak, a local drink, an experience he would never forget.

The local people there are great fans of Indian filmstars like Raj Kapoor, Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun Chakraborty, while the younger ones especially enquired about Salman Khan and Aishwarya Rai, he said. When I went into a house, the family was

atching an old Raj Kapoor starrer, he said. Francis, who hopes to reach Moscow by June 21, said it is his long cherished dream

to meet Messi.

When asked if he would be able to make it come true, he said, "I have reached this far. I am an optimist. My desire is to meet Messi. (I) Dont know if it is possible....I am a diehard fan of his."

Football fans in Kerala have painted roads, private vehicles and public transport buses in the colours of their favourite teams. Fans sporting jerseys with images of their heroes can be spotted in even small towns of the football crazy state.



### North Sikkim gets its first allgirls'...

contd from pg01

North Sikkim Academy and has well-planned spacious classrooms equipped with digital boards and e-learning software, ethnic rooms, music room, computer labs, auditorium and a proper playground

At the onset of the inaugural event, the Princi-pal gave a brief report on the available infrastructure and informed that the academic session will begin after the summer break. She thanked the AD, HRDD for helping in

setting up the school.

The AD, HRDD, in turn, informed that the State Government has given preference to the rights and education of women and North District, being winners of the Beti Bacho Beti Padhao Award for two consecutive years, the inauguration of the allgirls' school was another

feather in its cap.

He expressed gratitude on behalf of HRDD to the District Collector North, Karma Bonpo, for providing funds for the repair of toilets and roof of the building with an amount to Rs 7 lakh and other officers who provided the needed support.

"All logistics has been provided by the depart-ment and now a major responsibility on the teachers and students is to bring good results and excel in academics," he added.

Chief guest Mr Adhikari said that the school building was a community asset and that all should come for-

ward to help it grow.

He also said that the
North District Administration was available to provide all necessary support and fill in the infrastructure gaps in the school in the coming days.

### Civil Judgecum-**Judicial** Magistrate...

contd from pg01

tice and judicial help. He stressed on the importance of law and said that justice should be prompt and fair and thanked the CM for extending all help necessary in the comple tion of the said project.

Chief Minister, Mr Chamling, highlighted the geographical and historical importance of the location of Rongli and its close proximity to Bhutan and China.

He talked about the transformation of the town and the developments that have taken place. He hoped that with the coming up of this court, justice will be delivered efficiently and right at the people's doorsteps.

He urged the people to use their democratic rights by approaching the court if and when

necessary.
"We should all abide by the law and be responsible citizens and instil a sense of ownership and belonging," Mr Chamling added.

He thanked all the

people and expressed hope to work together selflessly in making the State better and secular.

### Inter-state exchange delegates attend **MGNREGA Social Audit**

**GYALSHING, 18 JUN [IPR]** The Inter State Exchange Pro gramme which had commenced on 16 Jun concluded today at Yangthang Village Administra tion Centre in Gyalshing with the MGNREGA Social Audit 'Jan Sunwai' facilitated by District Resource Institution [DRI] under the guidance of Social Audit Unit. Sikkim.

The Jan Sunwai was chaired by Zilla Panchayat Member, San Moti Subba, along with Additional District Collector [Development], Gyalshing, Surat Gurung, and other departmental representatives.

The Inter State Exchange

delegates of the seven North East States, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and the Ministry of Rural Development [MoRD] officials verified the MGNRE-GA documents maintained by the Block and Gram Panchayat Units as per the Sikkim Social Audit Module & MGNREGA



The team also visited the different on-going and com-pleted works undertaken under MGNREGA along with the convergence work in two GPUs viz Gyalshing Omchung and Yangthang.

During the 'Jan Sunwai' at

Training on pest and disease

management in West Sikkim

the Yangthang VAC, huge participation of public was seen where a large number of MGNREGA Job Card holders and public participated in the question hour and mostly demanded enhancement of daily wage rate under the

The Deputy Secretary, MoRD, assured to put forth the demand in the Ministry.

The delegates and the MoRD officials expressed appreciation of the Sikkim Social Audit Module and the book keeping technique by the GPUs.

### BJP stages protest against killing of party workers in Bengal

KOLKATA, JUNE 18 (PTI): The West Bengal BJP unit today staged protest rallies in various parts of the state against the killing of two party workers in Purulia district a few days back.

The BJP state unit

organized protest rallies in Murshidabad, Hoo-gly, Alipurduar and East Midnapore districts and submitted deputation to the district magistrates regarding the worsening law and order situation.

"Tomorrow we will organize protest rallies in other districts against the misrule of the TMC government and killing of two of our activists in Purulia few days back, BJP state general secretary Sayantan Basu.

has The The party has planned to organize

protest programs and demonstrations in West Bengal and New Delhi during the period of June 18-June 24, protesting against the alleged killings of two BJP activists Dulal Kumar and Trilo-chan Mahato, BJP national secretary Rahul Sinha had said.

Two BJP activists 35-year-old Kumar and 20-year -old Mahato were found hanging in West Bengal's Purulia district on June 2 and May 31 respectively in two separate incidents in a span of three days. The BJP's Delhi unit

today staged a protest against the alleged killing of two party workers in West Bengal and the deteriorating law the deteriorating law and order situation in

of Sikkim are still under developed and lack basic amenities

like good roads, water supply,

healthcare, etc.
"The CM should have under-

taken his on-going 32-day State tour immediately after winning the election in 2014. He should

have visited each constituency to

inquire about the problems, requirements and demands of the

people. Instead, he is doing it at a time when elections are near. It

is nothing but a campaign to beg

for people's votes. He has been

sanctioning many demands and

projects but the election code of

conduct will be active within 6-7 months and the works he has

sanctioned will not even be car-

ried out. He is just trying to entice people for votes," alleged the SRM president.

### The Accelerator organizes Social **Network Talent** Playoffs

YOUGAN TAMANG GANGTOK, 18 JUN:

he Second Chapter  $\Gamma_{
m of}^{
m he}$ of 'Social Network Talent Playoffs' was organized by the North-east Career Guide Mag-azine 'The Accelerator' in Gangtok on Sunday. The event saw the participation of 15 aspiring singers and dancers of Sikkim who were judged by Remanti Rai [Singer], Yougan Tamang [Journal-ist] and Pragya Satpathy [Founder/Creative Head,

The Accelerator].

"The prime motive of the event is to provide platforms to young bud-ding talents of Sikkim and also channelize their art, talent and potential," said Pragya Satpathy.

"The Accelerator had also organised a similar event last year where the team had felicitated young bloggers, vloggers and others. After the success of Chapter one and positive response from the young fraternity, the Accelerator team felt it is a must event for young people to get involved and showcase their talents," said Bhupendra Gurung [CEO/ Editor in Chief, The Accelerator].

Out of 15 contestants, the three winners of the playoffs were Pem Uzevla, Legion of Love and Ashna Pradhan. The winner and first runner up vere awarded with cash

The Accelerator also felicitated Aruna Lim-bu who is a student of Tashi Namgyal Academy elected under the Chief Minister's Meritorious Minister's Scholarshin Scheme

A prom was also organised after the playoffs and was judged by Devi-ka Gurung [Founder, Fid-gety Fingers]. The winners of the prom were Tashi Norbu and Anjana

### Mere statements not enough, implement Rule 4(4) properly: SKM

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 18 JUN:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha working president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, today called for the implementation of Rule 4(4) of Sikkim Government Services Rules 1974 in letter and spirit alleging that the State Government is only making mere state-ments regarding the matter on the floor of the Sikkim Legislative As-

Mr Lepcha said that if the Sikkim Democratic Front led government is serious about its implementation and protec-tion of Sikkimese people, it should have come with proper guidelines and rules and even made provisions for employment of local candidates in private the sector.

Mr Lepcha also brought up the allega-tion that students are being forced to attend political programmes. He informed that on 11 Jun. SKM had submitted a representation to the

Special Secretary urging for students to be excluded from political pro-grammes in view of their

It also said that the use of unparliamentary language by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling against the opposition parties in front of students attending his Jan Sampark Abhiyan is unfortunate

"Although the examinations of students commenced today, they were taken to politically motivated rallies till ly motivated rames un.

14 Jun last week. Orissa and Calcutta High Courts have already directed for stringent guidelines on the participation of students in politically motivated rallies or any rallies," he added.

SKM has also urged

the State Government to come up with proper guidelines and other notifications for monitoring and prohibiting locals from entering Golden Gaming outlets across

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

### Jan Sampark Abhiyan a campaign to beg for votes says RN Chamling opment but the remote areas

presence of Board of Secretary

from Mission Organic Value Chain

Developmen [MOVCD] of Darap Khechuperi Cooperative Society,

Tek B Limboo, Ward Panchayat,

Keshram Rai, and Mevedir master trainers, Tashi Lepcha and Santabir

Shanker, a press release informs.

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 18 JUN:
Sikkim Rajya Manch [SRM]
president, RN Chamling, today held an interaction session with the media on the party's on-going activities.

Speaking on the party's grass root level outreach initia-

GANGTOK, 18 Jun:

М evedir organized daylong

Ward level training for farm-

ers of West Sikkim on pest and

disease management at Nambu Ward under Darap Nambu Gram

Panchavat Unit on 16 Jun in the

tives, the SRM president said, "We are touring different parts of the State and meeting people in villages. We are doing ground work and setting up ties with the people. We have not conducted large public meetings as we want to focus on interacting with the people at the grassroot and at much more inter-person-al level. We have received good response from the public as they have expressed they want a leader with a clean image who wants to work in the interest



of the people of Sikkim and the

Regarding Chief Minister wan Chamling's claim made during his Jan Sampark Abhiyan Sikkim Democratic regarding Front's confidence on sweeping the upcoming elections, the SRM president said, "No matter how many Jan Sampark Abihyans the CM conducts, people are not positive about his party this time."

The SRM president further alleged that only areas near the district headquarters and Gangtok have seen some devel-

ing, Room No.7, 1st floor. Opp. Ganga Hotel. Hill Cart Road. Siliguri - 03. Ph. 9832318644/ 9800682989/ 9153035100 or mail at mani\_siliguri@yahoo.co.in.

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#### Gangtok on Tuesday, 19 June

Temp: 27°C/16°C Forecast: Intervals of clouds and sunshine, a thundershower in the afternoon. **Sunrise:** 04:41 AM Sunset: 6:33 PM

### SRCC releases first cut-off

NEW DELHI, JUN 18 (PTI): The Shri Ram College of Commerce College of Commerce (SRCC) today released its first cut-off for B.Com (Honours) and B.A. (Honours) Economics (Honours) Economics with the highest score for the general category

peing 97.75 and 98.50 per cent respectively. Last year, SRCC had pegged its highest cut-off at 97.75 per cent for both the courses.

The cut-off will be on the basis of the best of four subjects, according to the Delhi University criteria.

For the OBC category, it will be 95.50 per cent for B.Com (Honours) and 96.75 per cent for B.A. (Honours) Economics for the academic year 2018-19, according to a list put up on the college's website.

The cut-off for the SC candidates is 92.75 per cent for B.Com (Honours) and 94.25 per cent for B.A. (Honours) Eco-

For the ST category is 87.50 per cent for B.Com (Honours) and 92.50 per cent for B.A. (Honours) Economics.

#### ED files fresh charge sheet against Mallya, prepares for fugitive tag

contd from pg01 filed its first charge sheet against Mallya, now in London, in the al-leged Rs 900-crore IDBI Bank-Kingfisher Airlines (KFA) loan fraud case.

It has attached assets worth Rs 9,890 crore in

this case till now.

The fresh charge sheet revolves around the complaint received from State Bank of India (SBI) on behalf of the consortium of banks for causing loss of Rs 6,027 crore to them by not keeping repayment commitments of the loans taken during 2005-10, they said.

The ED has based its investigation in this in-stance after taking cognisance of a CBI FIR

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### Gov presents discretionary grants to 16 organisations

GANGTOK, 18 JUN:
Governor Shriniwas Patil today handed over discretionary

grants to representatives of 16 dif-ferent organisations at a special function held at New Raj Bhavan.

As has been the tradition, the cheques of annual grant were handed over to the organisations active in various fields such as sports, wel-fare of persons with special needs, orphanages, press and media among others in view of their services and activities in their sphere of work over the last one year. A few charitable organisations are being facilitated with furniture and furnishings also this time, a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs.

On behalf of all the NGOs and organisations receiving the grants, Jigme Y Lepcha who is associated with Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club, Gangtok, expressed gratitude to the Governor for extending as-



sistance to the organisations. He also said that this gesture from the Governor is a token of appreciation of their sincere work which will further motivate them to work harder

in their respective spheres. In his brief address, the Governor urged the members of the organisations and NGOs to be more forthcoming and dedicated to the cause

of society and those sections of the population which need support.

He further informed that Rai Bhavan, through the grants, though miniscule, wants to acknowledge and individuals who are sincere in their pursuit of serving the society, especially the vulnerable section.

Extending best wishes to the members of the organisations for their future endeavours, the Governor urged for more participation from the society in charitable initiatives and said, "We must develop the culture to give something back to society which has given a lot to us in our wellbeing."

He also lauded the work done by some of the organisations such as Sanieevani Rehabilitation Centre. Namchi towards de-addiction and reforming youngsters.

Earlier today, in a formal func-tion, the Governor and the First Lady joined by officers and staff of Rai Bhavan bid farewell to Commis sioner cum Secretary, Ravindra Telang, on his transfer to Election Department as Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim.



### Oyster mushroom cultivation training held in Samsing

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 18 JUN

Krishi Vigyan Kendra,
West Sikkim today conducted daylong training cum demonstration programme on oyster mushroom cultivation at Samsing, West Sikkim, under Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan the Aspirational District of West Sikkim. Fifty-one farmers along

with field functionaries Manager of ATMA participated in the programme, a press release informs. Subject Matter Spe-

cialists [Agriculture Ex-tension], Bhison Pradhan, explained in detail about organic packaging and practices of oyster mushcultivation while SMS [Plant Protection],

Rohini Silwal, informed the farmers about pest and disease management and post-harvest tech-

Demonstrations substract sterilization [hot water treatment], substract cutting size and cylinder/blocks prepara-tion were also conducted during the programme. the release adds.



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM COMMERCIAL TAX DIVISION** FINANCE, REVENUE & EXPENDITURE DEPARTMENT GANGTOK - 737101, SIKKIM MEMO NO: 206/GOS/CTD/2018 DATE: 11/06/2018

The Directors, M/S Flex Art Foil Pvt. Ltd. Bardang, Singtam East Sikkim.

Subject: Attachment of moveable and non-moveable properties of the company under section 7 of the Sikkim (Collection of Taxes and Prevention of evasion of Payment of Taxes) Act,

Whereas the notice of demand was served for payment of Rs.1,15,32,818/- (Rupees one crore fifteen lakhs thirty two thousand eight hundred and eighteen) only being the unpaid amount of assessed VAT tax for the period 2007-08 to 2015-16 and Rs.55,94,216/- on account of unpaid amount of assessed environ-ment cess for the period 2010-11 to 2015-16 (Total amount outstanding Rs.1,71,27,034/-(Rupees Once crore seventy one lakhs twenty seven thousand thirty four only).

The above outstanding amount of tax has not been paid within the stipulated time, therefore the amount shall be recovered under the provisions of section 7 of the Sikkim (Collection of Taxes and Prevention of evasion of Payment of Taxes) Act, 1987.

Now, therefore, this notice is served for initiation of action for recovery under the relevant Act as mentioned above through attachment of the movable and immovable properties of M/S Flex Art Foil Pvt. Ltd, situated at Bardang, 31 A NH Way.

Further, it is informed that (1) you shall not transfer the movable or immovable property or any interest therein (2) you may file objection for the same within 14 days of the service of this notice. After expiry of 14 days further action under section 8 of the Sikkim (Collection of Taxes and Prevention of evasion of Payment of Taxes) Act 1987 shall be initiated.

> TAX RECOVERY INSPECTOR **COMMERCIAL TAX DIVISION, FRED**

R.O. No. 146/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 18.6.2018

### Three dead, 200 hurt as strong quake jolts Japan's Osaka

earthquake rocked Japan's second city of Osaka today, killing three people including a nine-year-old girl and injuring more than 200, according to an official tally.

Television images showed build-ings swaying and burst pipes spew-ing water after the quake, which struck at the height of rush hour in the city of around two million.

However, there was no largescale destruction and no tsunami warning issued after the earthquake, although commuters were stranded and tens of thousands were left without power.

Among the casualties was a nine-year-old girl who died in the city of Takatsuki north of Osaka, reportedly trapped by a collapsed wall

Local officials told AFP that the other two dead were an 80-year-old man -- killed by a collapsing wall --and a 84-year-old man trapped un-

der a bookcase in his home The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said more than 200 people were injured in total.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told reporters the government was "working united, with its first pri-

ority on saving people's lives".

And government spokesman
Yoshihide Suga cautioned there was a possibility of strong after-shocks.

"Large-scale quakes are likely to happen in the next two to three days," he told reporters.

Japan sits on the Pacific "Ring

of Fire" where many of the world's earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are recorded.

On March 11, 2011, a devastating magnitude 9.0 quake struck under the Pacific Ocean, and the resulting tsunami caused wide-spread damage and claimed thousands of lives.

It also sent three reactors into meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear plant, causing Japan's worst postwar disaster and the most se-rious nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

Local residents described the moment the quake jolted the highly urbanised area at 8:00 am, when latforms would have been heav ing with passengers waiting to board their commuter trains.



#### **ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM GANGTOK**

Memo No: 63/AES/R&B

### **NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

For and on behalf of governor of Sikkim, Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department. Singtam Sub-Division, Government of Sikkim, invites sealed tenders under single bid system from the eligible contractors of CLASS IV GRADE enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department vide Notification No: 515/R&B/Secy, dated 12.06.2018, through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat where the work is to be executed

The details of works and time schedule are as under:-

SI. no.	Name of Work	Cost of Work put to tender (in Rs.)	Earnest Mon- ey @2.5% (in Rs.)	Cost of Ten- der docu- ments (in Rs.)	Com- pletion Time.
1	Construction of New Road from Ledung Turning to Changey Village KM 1st in East Sikkim	98,94,751.00	2,47,369.00	15,000.00	24 months.

#### TIME SCHEDULE:-

	1.	Date of submission of complete appli- cation with Bank receipt/ challan for issue of Tender Documents (exclud- ing Tender Form)	9th July 2018 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)  Office of the Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Singtam Sub-Division.
	2.	Date of issue of tender Form on sub- mission of TDR (as Earnest money)	10th July 2018 (10.00 am to 4.00 pm)  Office of the Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Singtam Sub-Division.
	3.	Last Date and Time for submission of Tender	12th July 2018 (10.00 am to 1.00 pm)  At the Office of the Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Singtam Sub-Division.
•	4.	Date and Time for opening of Tender:-	12th July 2018 (2:30 pm)  At the Office of the Assistant Engineer, Roads & Bridges Department, Singtam Sub-Division.

Any further queries i/c conditions of contract, office of the undersigned may be contacted during

ASSISTANT ENGINEER, **ROADS & BRIDGES DEPTT.** SINGTAM SUB-DIVISION.

ROADS & BRIDGES DE-

**DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (EAST-II)** 

GANGTOK. R.O. No. 145/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 Dt. 18.6.2018

**Opinion** SummitTIMES | 19 June 2018

## **SummitTIMES**

### Instead of Bans, Practice Better Management

To stop things is a short-term measure

 $T^{\rm he}$  monsoon is upon Sikkim and if the order banning (actually stopping, but this is a season of bans) on all ongoing construction works and unloading of construction material on roadsides, has still not arrived, it will in a few days. The decision will be welcome. At the same time, it will also be reflective of how little the State has learnt and prioritised its defence against monsoon-related calamities.

The move is welcome because construction sites are invariably poorly managed tinder boxes with the potential to amplify the damage that rains can wreck. Given that most roadsides already have buildings on them, the new constructions are coming up behind these, and this requires for construction material to be dumped on the road and then carried away by the head-load to the sites. Most of the drains run along the roads and sand and stone chips flow fast when it rains and add to the debris content of slush which tear up tarmac and clog drains. Trucks dripping construction material on the highway are potential disasters in the making and travel could become more relaxed without them on the highway at this time of the year. Construction sites, with their rudimentary safety measures, are other accidents in the making during wet weather that the State could do without.

For all these reasons, a direction to stop all construction works during monsoon is welcome. But it is not enough and it is too knee-jerk. To begin with, this, if past government press releases are to be believed, should have happened at least two weeks before they eventually did, with the arrival of the pre-monsoon showers. The decision that construction related works should desist with the arrival of monsoons was taken several years back, but every year, the order gets issued only after the rains have wreaked some damage. If the state is looking at long-term mitigation efforts as far as constructions are concerned, then the ban should be lifted and instead of that builders should be required to make their sites monsoon-proof. This would entail storing of all construction related material on site with proper care taken to ensure that none of it joins a water courses. A relaxation can be made to accommodate the time taken between unloading on the road side to transfer to work site.

Take a drive along the highway and one will invariably come across orphaned sand and stone chip dunes probably left over from a completed construction as well. They lie unattended and pose a larger danger than kitchen waste which shares the road side with it. A ban on construction during monsoons is a shortterm measure that Sikkim has been taking for the past decade, it is time that its officers prescribed and monitored the construction habits better. That will make the town safer than a row of incomplete buildings awaiting the dry winters.

What cannot be ignored either that it is not just

constructions, but also finishing works which require better material management, and when the focus is on "stopping" construction works, loopholes are found and potential risks continue to remain present, which is why the focus has to be on improved oversights and construction practices.



# Yemen: Understanding the conflict

#### KELLY MCFARLAND

theconversation.com

he military conflict now escalating in Yemen threatens the lives of more than 250,000 people in the port city Hodeidah while 8 million more people across Yemen already risk starvation. The country is also facing the "worst cholera outbreak

in modern history."

I am a scholar who has studied Yemen and worked as an Arabian Peninsula foreign affairs analyst for the State Department between 2011 and

Here is what is happening in Yemen, now in the

#### ORIGINS OF THE CONFLICT

Yemen lies on the southeastern edge of the Arabian Peninsula, buffered by the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden and bordered by Saudi Arabia and Oman. About 29 million people call Yemen home, and they are the poorest in the Middle East. Portions of the nation have a history of British and Ottoman colonial rule, it was divided into two separate countries and two civil wars - on top of the current one -

have been waged since the early 1960s.

To understand the current conflict, which began in January 2014, it's necessary to know some-

thing about the Huthis.

The Huthis are a Zaydi Shiite political movement. Zaydi Shiite Muslims are around a quarter of Yemen's population. Zaydis led much of Yemen until the 1962 overthrow of the Yemeni ruler. The government has since repressed their home region economically and culturally. More recently, the gov-ernment has charged that the Zaydis are proxies for Iran and an existential threat.

As a result of the popular uprisings unleashed

sition removed Yemen's autocratic President Ali Abdullah Saleh in 2011. The transition consisted of what was called a "National Dialogue," inclusive of all parties, that would provide recommendations for reforms, elections and the eventual writing of a new constitution. The Huthis initially participated, but became disillusioned.

So in 2014, disappointed that the transition had forced out Yemen's president but failed to enact meaningful change, Huthi rebels began moving southward from their northern Yemen stronghold of Saada.

They captured the capital of Sanaa in September 2014. This wasn't the first Huthi-government clash. Between 2004 and 2010, there were six rounds of fighting, the last of which briefly saw Saudi intervention.

The Huthis, allied for convenience with former President Saleh, quickly overran the capital and moved as far south as Aden in spring 2015. Yemeni President Abed Rabbo Manour Hadi fled to Riyadh.

#### OUTSIDE FORCES INTERVENE

Iran has provided aid to the Huthis for some time and has increased its equipping and training of the group since 2011.

The Saudis, viewing the Huthis as an Iranian proxy and fearful of an Iranian stronghold on its southern border, began an allied campaign against the group in March 2015. A coalition formed by the Saudis includes major United Arab Emirates participation and American intelligence, refueling and

Washington's main interest in Yemen stems from its goal of halting terrorism. Yemen is home to al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), so Washington seeks stability there in order to counter the AQAP threat

After pushing the Huthis out of Aden in 2015, the war stalled. Former President Saleh's attempt to switch to the Saudi side ended in his late 2017 killing by the Huthis. The international communi ty has voiced anger at continued Saudi bombing of civilian targets, leading to a failed bipartisan U.S. Senate attempt in 2018 to halt American military support.

Corruption, high unemployment, water shortages and a high reliance on imported food had made Yemen an impoverished country even before the war. The war and subsequent Saudi blockade have only made things worse, crippling infrastructure and disrupting many basic services. The lack of sanitation services and clean water led to a re-cent cholera outbreak, with over a million infected and more than 2,000 deaths.

Meanwhile, south Yemen, where some groups seek southern independence, is a jumbled political mess. U.N. peace efforts seeking a government return and Huthi disarmament have so far not succeeded and fighting has killed over 10,000 civilians.

Yemeni government forces, with support from the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, recent-ly began an assault on Hodeidah, the Red Sea port city, which the Iranian-backed Huthi movement controls. The assault marks an important point in the over four-year old civil war. Hodeidah, a city of 400,000, is the only entry point for international aid due to a Saudi-imposed blockade.

Things may get worse. The war has created a maanitarian disaster with no foreseeable end.

[the writer is Director of programs and

research, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University]

#### HANNAH DICKINSON

theconversation.com

The floodlights will soon be turned on at the newly built Volgograd Arena for the first World Cup match to be held there,

between England and Tunisia.

But, as an expert in the illegal caviar trade, I know Volgograd because the energy powering those same floodlights will be generated by the nearby Volgograd Hydro-Electric Station. This is the largest hydro power plant in Europe, and a dam which has played a pivotal role in driving sturgeon the source of the iconic Russian delicacy,

black caviar - to the brink of extinction.

The 725m long and 44m high concrete giant sits about 20km outside the city centre and dissects Europe's longest and most powerful river, the Volga. Construc-tion began in the 1950s, as part of postwar industrialisation initiatives known as the "Great Construction Projects of Communism". This in a city which during the World War II – when it was known as Stal-ingrad – was the site of one of the bloodiest battles in history. The dam was completed in 1961 and today produces around 12 billion KW-hours of energy a year.

The station was groundbreaking in both scale and energetic output. For a few years, it may have been the single larg-est power plant in the world. But despite the benefits to the climate of "clean" hy-dro-powered energy, the Volgograd station has been particularly damaging for the sturgeon species that attempt to migrate from the Caspian Sea to reproduce in the upper reaches of the Volga.

#### RUSSIA'S PRIDE

Sturgeon, affectionately referred to as "Tsar Fish" are perhaps more critically endangered than any other group of species on the planet. There are 27 species in

### Volgograd: how a dam on the mighty Volga almost killed off the caviar fish

all, of which four are found in the Volga: Russian sturgeon, sterlet, stellate, and the beluga which is famous for producing the world's finest caviar.

These fish are often described as "living fossils". They've been around since di-nosaurs walked the earth 150m years ago, and individual fish can live for more than a century. Sturgeon have attained a cultural and historical significance in Russia and are a source of national pride.

But socioeconomic change in Russia has been disastrous for these fish. Their rivers have been polluted, fragmented and dammed and this - along with overfishing and poaching for caviar – has caused populations in the Volga to plummet by 90% since 1970

A slow reproductive cycle means numbers cannot recover quickly. Females do not carry eggs annually, they take many years to reach sexual maturity and, of the 250,000 - 400,000 eggs they can release at one time, only two or three fish will survive.

DAMMING AND DECLINE

As the last of eight hydroelectric works in the Volga-Kama cascade of dams, the Volgograd Hydroelectric station is the first barrier sturgeon migrating upstream from the Caspian Sea will encounter. In theory

sturgeon can pass the dam thanks to a hydraulic fish-lift in the original design. However, it is not clear whether the lift is still operational and, even if it is, its benefits have been counteracted by further dams built upstream. Even if fish do man-age to cross the dam, the return journey can prove fatal, as it often requires passing

through turbines that can weigh as much as a 747 aeroplane.

The Volgograd Hydroelectric station not only blocks sturgeon migration, but alters the natural flow and temperature of the river. Sturgeon are very sensitive and rely upon signals such as flow speed and temperature to determine when and where to reproduce. Therefore, the dam is said to have directly reduced the spawning grounds of sturgeon from 3600 hectares to only 430 hectares. For beluga sturgeon in particular, 90% of their natural spawning grounds have disappeared as a result of the Volgograd dam.

### AN ILLEGAL CAVIAR TRADE IS FLOURISHING

It is undeniable that the Volgograd station has played a part in the demise of the Russian caviar industry. Due to rapidly declining wild sturgeon populations, Russia banned commercial sturgeon fishing and black caviar exports in 2002. Now, Russia allows just 9 tonnes of the delicacy to be sold on the domestic market annually, produced by a few government-regulated fish farms. These farms cannot come close to producing enough caviar to meet Russian,

let alone worldwide, demand. As a result an illegal trade meets the shortfall, with

reports suggesting that 250 tonnes of illegal caviar are produced each year.
Unsurprisingly then, almost all migrating spawners are poached below the Volgograd dam, and a particular hotspot is Russia's so-called "Caviar Capital", Astrakhan, around 400km downstream from Volgograd. There, illegal poaching of sturgeon and trade in caviar is said to be rampant – and beluga caviar fetches up to \$10,000/kg. This has devastating ecological impacts - when sturgeon are removed at this point in the river the fish have not had the chance to reproduce.

#### SAVE THE STURGEON

The situation looks bleak. Despite Russia releasing 50m or more sturgeon raised in hatcheries, there is sparse evidence that restocking is successful. In fact, despite such releases there has been an overall decline over the past decade. And it seems counter-intuitive to release millions of ju-venile sturgeon when the Volgograd dam still prevents their migration and spawn-ing – and given that downstream poaching is rife. Greater enforcement against poaching would be a good start, along with assertive efforts to help fish move along their natural rivers (something similar has

helped shortnose sturgeon in the US).
So, for football fans visiting Volgograd for the World Cup the best way to help sturgeon is to avoid the lure of purchasing any black caviar as souvenirs. But, if you are that way inclined, make sure to stick to customs regulations and try your utmost to ensure the caviar is from reputable farmed sources.

Ithe writer is PhD Researcher in Wildlife Traffick ing, University of Sheffield]



### 2 Koreas discuss how to cooperate in Asian Games

SEOUL, Jun 18 (AP): Sports officials from the rival Koreas are meeting at a border village to discuss how to cooperate in the Asian Games being held in Indonesia in August.

August.
A flurry of inter-Korean talks are underway after last week's landmark summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un extended a temporary detente on the Korean Peninsula.
South Korea's Sports

South Korea's Sports Ministry says Monday's talks will focus on whether to conduct a joint march and field joint teams in certain events in the Asian Games.

The ministry says holding friendly inter-Korean basketball matches will also be discussed.

The two Koreas had their athletes parade together during the opening ceremony of February's Winter Olympics in South Korea and form a combined Olympic team in women's hockey.

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# Arunachal CM requests Tata to set up cancer hospitals in state

ITANAGAR, JUN 18 (PTI): Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu today requested Ratan Tata, chairman of Tata Trusts to set up cancer hospitals in the state.

Khandu met Tata at Guwahati and said Arunachal Pradesh has been recording a very high rate of cancer cases.

"Our patients go all the way to Mumbai to Tata Memorial Hospital and Cancer Research Institute to get treatment for their ailments incurring huge expenditures. If such centers come up in Arunachal, it will be of much respite to the people," Khandu said, according to an official release.



Tata in principal agreed to set up two specialty cancer centres in Arunachal. He also agreed to visit Arunachal soon to finalise the project, the release said.

Khandu attended the ground breaking ceremony of cancer centers and launch of first of its kind cancer care programme in Assam being spearheaded by Government of Assam in collaboration with Tata Trusts.

Tata trust is putting up 19 new specialty cancer centres in Assam.

Khandu, honed, the

Khandu hoped the cancer centres would immensely benefit the patients from Arunachal Pradesh and other parts of Northeast, the release said. The Arunachal Pradesh chief minister said, the BJP government in the Centre and the state is focused completely towards the welfare and wellbeing of the people.

"The massive development in last couple of years is the result of the optimistic attention of the Centre towards northeast through Modis Act East Policy," he added.

Khandu also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP president Amit Shah under whose guidance and directions, the Northeast is witnessing the light of progress in all fields, the release added.

# Nepal PM Oli asked to raise Lipu-Lekh issue during China visit: Report

KATHMANDU, JUN 18 (PTI): Ahead of his China visit, Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli has held discussions with former premiers, one of whom urged him to take up the issue of the disputed Nepal-India-China tri-junction Lipu-Lekh with Beijing, according to a media report.

Oli, who begins his fiveday visit to China begins tomorrow -- his first since re-election, on Saturday consulted former prime ministers Sher Bahadur Deuba, Pushpa Kamal Dahal, Madhav Kumar Nepal, Jhala Nath Khanal and Baburam Bhattarai.

Bhattarai, the Naya Shakti Nepal party coordinator, presented a separate 10-point suggestion to Oli, the Kathmandu Post reported.

"Bhattarai urged Oli to raise the issues of Lipu-Lekh - the disputed Nepal-India-China tri-junction -that the two neighbours agreed to



develop as a transit point, opening more border points with China, settling border disputes by swapping land, seeking financial aid under the frameworks of the Belt and Road Initiative and the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank, and getting a grant for building a railway from border town Kerung to Kathmandu," the report said.

Lipu-Lekh, is the last point of Nepal's border with China and India and known as an ancient route for traders and pilgrims transiting between Nepal and Tibet. During the meeting, the former prime ministers also urged Oli to pursue projects and assistance from China so that Nepal can benefit from the giant neighbour's rapid development.

They have advised him to attract Chinese investments into Nepal, the report said, adding Oli has assured them that he would make efforts taking Nepal-China ties to a

for taking Nepal-China ties to a new high.

During Oli's visit, a host of

During Oli's visit, a host of projects under the Belt and Road Initiative as well as China's plans for an India-Nepal-China economic corridor are expected to be discussed.

The visit will further strengthen bilateral ties and promote cooperation between Nepal and China, a member of Communist Party of Nepal (NCP) Standing Committee had said earlier.



#### Mansarovar pilgrims airlifted to Gunji to avoid weather related risks

PITHORAGARH, Jun 18 (PTI):
A 57-member second batch of
Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrims was airlifted early today by IAF helicopters
from Naini Saini airstrip here to Gunji
base camp to avoid weather related
risks along the treacherous trek route.

Four IAF choppers ferried the 57 pilgrims to Gunji at around 7 AM this morning, Pithoragarh District Magistrate C Ravishankar said.

Though the trek route from Lakhanpur to Gunji is alright, pilgrims were airlifted to avoid weather related risks and also because it would save them some time which they could use to enjoy the homestay facilities at Nabhi and other high altitude villages, he said.

other high altitude villages, he said.

It is a hard 18-km steep trek from Lakhanpur to Gunji.

The second batch of pilgrims had reached Pithoragarh Tourist Rest Centre of Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN), the nodal agency for the Yatra via Almora last evening, the official said.

"The airlift is meant to facilitate home stay for pilgrims in high altitude villages on the route and avoid hard trek for the pilgrims" said KMVN GM T S Martolia.

SDM Dharchula said the trek route to Gunji from Lakhanpur is in good shape and the villagers and defence personnel are using it to reach Gunji.

"However, in high altitudes the risk of landslides at this time of the year is always there especially along a 670 metre sensitive stretch between Lakhanpur and Nazang," SDM Dharchula R K Pandey said.



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM RURAL MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT GANGTOK

#### **CORRIGENDUM TO**

Reference R.O. No. 137/IPR/PUB/Classi./18-19 Dated 13/06/2018 pertaining to the issue of Expression of Interest for the work "Construction of 404.0 mtr span Sakyong Pentok Suspended Foot bridge over Ringyang Khola at Dzongu, North Sikkim, wherein it is wrongly mentioned as "Extension of Interest". Hence the "Extension of Interest" may kindly be read as "Expression of Interest".

ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (N/E) RM&DD.

R.O. No. 147/ipr/pub/classi./18-19 dt. 18.6.2018

### India, China ties cannot take strain of another Doklam, says Chinese envoy

New Delhi, Jun 18 (PTI): Bilateral ties between India and China can't take the strain of another Doklam episode, Chinese envoy to India Luo Zhaohui said today, emphasising on the need to find a "mutually acceptable solution" on the boundary issue through a meeting of the Special Representatives.

The Chinese envoy said at an event here that "some Indian friends" had suggested a trilateral summit comprising India, China and Pakistan, which was a "very constructive" idea.

Dwelling on Sino-In-

Dwelling on Sino-Indianties, he said it is quite natural to have differences but they need to be controlled and managed through cooperation

through cooperation.

"We need to control, manage, narrow differences through expanding cooperation. The boundary question was left over by history. We need to find a mutual acceptable solution through Special Representatives' Meeting while adopting confidence building measures," he said.

"We cannot stand another Doklam (sic)," the envoy said.

He was delivering a keynote address on 'Beyond Wuhan: How Far and Fast can China-India Relations Go' at an event organised by the Chinese

Embassy here.

Indian and Chinese troops were involved in



a 73-day stand-off at the Doklam tri-junction of India, Bhutan and China between June to August last year.

One of the immediate fallouts of the Doklam stand-off was the suspension of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from Nathu-La side and the annual military exercise between the two countries. China also did not give the hydrological data of the Brahmaputra and the Indus river that originates in Chinese Tibet.

The envoy today said China will continue to promote religious exchanges and make arrangements for Indian pilgrims going to Kailash Mansarovar in Tibet.

Post-Doklam, there have been frequent high-level engagements between the leaders of the two countries.

This year alone, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping have met twice in the last two months in Wuhan and Qingdao.

Luo said the two leaders are also likely to meet on the sidelines of the

BRICS Summit and G20 Summit later this year.

He noted that security cooperation is one of the three pillars of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and eight-member grouping also comprising India, China and Pakistan.

The envoy said the proposal of India, China and Pakistan holding a trilateral summit was "very constructive". Leaders of China, Russia and Mongolia hold a similar meet, he noted.

"This is a proposal suggested by some Indian friends and it is a very a good and constructive idea. Maybe not now, but in the future, that is the great idea."

The envoy added that relations between India and China have gone beyond the bilateral scope.

"We need to enhance coordination and cooperation in SCO, BRICS and join hands to tackle social challenges," he said.

Responding to a question on India-China cooperation in Afghanistan, Luo said the two countries have identified a programme to train Afghan public servants and diplomats.

"This is a first step and in future, there is more...," he said.

In the informal summit between Modi and Xi at the Wuhan, the two countries had agreed to work jointly on an economic project in Afghanistan.





### FC Goa sign midfielder Lenny Rodrigues

MARGAO, JUNE 18 (PTI): Indian Super League side FC Goa has roped in the services of midfielder Lenny Rodrigues ahead

of the upcoming season.
The 31-year-old Goan started his career in Goa with Fransa-Pax and de-veloped further at local heavyweight clubs Salgaocar FC and Churchill Brothers SC.

The lanky midefielder went on to represent the senior team of Churchill Brothers from 2008 to 2014 before moving to ISL franchise FC Pune

City.

After a couple of loan spells at Dempo SC, Mohun Bagan SC, and Ben-galuru FC, the talented central midfielder made a permanent move to the ISL side Bengaluru FC.

Rodrigues has also been a regular in the In-dian national team, making his debut in February

2012 against Oman.

It feels great to be back home and back to where it all started for me. I'm absolutely buzzing to play for a club like FC Goa and I cannot wait for the season to get started, Rodrigues said.

#### German media sound alarm after **shock World Cup defeat**

BERLIN, JUNE 18 (AFP): Germany's media reacted with concern and worry to the World Cup holder's shock 1-0 defeat against Mexico on Sunday.

Hirving Lozano hit the winning goal after 35 minutes in Moscow when the German defence was

caught napping.

This was the first time Germany have lost an opening game at a World Cup finals since going down 2-1 to Algeria when Spain hosted the 1982 tournament.

Top-selling German daily Bild declared on their website: "Embarrassing performance against Mexico: this crash causes us World

Cup worry". Munich-based newspaper Sueddeutsche Zei-tung agreed with "There are reasons to worry" over a picture of the dejected German team. who need to beat Sweden and South Korea to

be sure of going through.
The Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper went for "Fiesta Mexicana: False start for Ger-

Magazine Sports Bild commented "There were no world champions to be seen on the pitch" in a damning verdict on the below-par performance.

### Far from madding crowd, Dhoni trains alone at NCA

BENGALURU, JUN 18 (PTI): The best in the business prepare quietly for tougher battles and Mahendra Singh Dhoni is no exception as he went through a rigorous net session at the National Cricket Academy (NCA), far from public gaze, ahead of England tour.

Legends at the business end of their careers prepare and follow a customised blue-print to increase their longevity.

Sachin Tendulkar during his

last few years in international cricket would train all by him-self at the Bandra Kurla Complex in Mumbai and Dhoni's training session at NCA today looked similar.

He faced hundreds of deliveries with 70 percent being throw-downs.

Dhoni, who took the YoYo test on June 15 with other limited overs specialist, had stayed back and perhaps waited for the hullabaloo around the team to die down before taking the field.

On what would have been the fifth day of the Afghanistan Test match (had it not finished in two days), Dhoni walked inside the National Cricket Academy nets team's throw-down



expert Raghu and speedster Shardul Thakur in tow

The next two and half hours was an intense session with Dhoni facing Raghu's customary throw-downs from 18 yards and Thakur's deliveries in between.

It was two hours at a stretch and after a short break, he again resumed batting and this time Siddarth Kaul also joined the

There wasn't too many people around to watch and experience a Dhoni net session.

Raghu started with usual length deliveries as he warmed up with usual knocking.

Slowly the pace increased and the veteran was peppered with short balls which reared from back of the length. He gingerly defended a few, confidently brought a few down and even swayed out of the line in case of

a few.

However, the moment there was some width. Dhoni would

slash it over point.

He would call up Shardul and ask him about his imaginary field placings. Shardul would be seen pointing at imaginary field positions like mid-wicket, extra cover and deep fine leg. Dhoni would play shots accordingly.

After every few deliveries, he had words of advice for Shardul, who listened intently.

The reflexes are certainly not the same as it used to be. There were a lot of play and miss deliveries but when he middled it, it did make a beautiful sound.
Once the session was over,

he found out a couple of scribes watching his session.

"Bhanak laag gaya (So you

got the whiff that I am here)," he smiled at one of them as he disappeared inside the confines of NCA dressing room. Watching an enjoyable train

ing session came to an end

### **Takale finishes 2nd** in Thailand Rallv

NEW DELHI, JUNE 18 (PTI): Sanjay Takale overcame a wrong selection of tyres to finish a creditable second in the 4x4 Open class in round 1 of the Thailand Pre-Rally Championship in Nakhon Ratchasima Province. bordering Cambodia.

Takale had come with hard-knobbed tyres, suited for muddy terrains, but had soft gravel roads to contend with. However, he managed to keep his Isuzu DMax utility vehicle under control despite struggling for grip.

The Pune rally driver drove for Delo Sport with experienced Thanyaphat Meenil as his navigator.

Choice of tyre made us pay early. Even though I struggled to find grip with hard and knobbed tyres, sometimes no grip on soft gravel terrain, we managed to put up a great show to finish second overall, said Takale.

Isuzu driver Wicha-t Chotrawee, who had no. 1 navigator Ch-upong Chaiwan of Thai-land by his side,won the 4x4 Open class ahead of



Takale.

Takale was up against a Tovota driver, whose car had gravel tyres that suited the soft and fast terrain of Huay Bong.

A total of 37 cars competed over nine special stages that comprised three stages going thrice over for a total distance of 72.48 km.

Our team came fitted with mud tyres of hard compound, but I still managed to keep my car clean on the fast lines and beat my teammate, who was seeded ahead of me, added Takale.

The two-day rally was the precursor to the fourround Thailand National Rally Championship 2018 that opens in the first week of July.

### India set to play Saudi Arabia, China in run-up to AFC Asian Cup

New Delhi, Jun 18 (PTI): The Indian football team is set to play international friendlies against higher-ranked Saudi Arabia and China in the run-up to next year's AFC Asian Cup, according to a top official of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

The 2019 Asian Cup will be held from January 5 to February 1 across eight centres in four United Arab Emirates cities.

India are clubbed with UAE, Thailand and Bahrain in Group A of the continental showpiece.

Talks with both the federations are in advanced stages, AIFF general secretary Kushal Das told PTI.

"We are in talks with them and it's almost 90 percent. We are trying to arrange one home and one away game around October-November," Das said.

Saudi Arabia, who are partici-

pating in the ongoing FIFA world Cup in Russia, are currently ranked 67, while China are placed 75th.

India are ranked 97th in the

The top 24 teams from all over Asia are drawn into six groups of four teams each.

The top AIFF official said they are looking to arrange matches for the national team keeping in line with FIFA's changed ranking sys-

gion, are high on confidence following their title triumph in the Intercontinental Cup recently.

Inspirational captain Sunil Chhetri scored a brace to lead the home side to a 2-0 win over Kenya in the summit clash at the Mumbai

India, ranked 14, in Asian re-

in the summit clash at the Mumbai Football Arena on June 10.

Teams in a group will play each other once and the top two from each group will qualify for the Round of 16 along with the best four third-placed teams.

The continental championship will be held across eight stadia in four cities in the UAE Abu Dhabi,

Dubai, Sharjah and Al Ain.

This is India's fourth qualification in the Asian Cup.

India had finished runners-up to Israel in 1964. In the 1984 edition, India crashed out at the group stage with one draw and three

For India coach Stephen Constantine and Chhetri, the Intercon-tinental Cup showing is only a step in preparation for the Asian Cup. The 33-year-old Chhetri's dou-

ble strike capped a brilliant tournament which saw him score eight out of India's 11 goals and put him on par with Argentine superstar Lionel Messi with 64 goals.

### India failed to emerge as football power by not quitting Commonwealth: Book

New Delhi, Jun 17 (PTI): Parochialism has been affecting Indian football over the years but things might have been different had India left the Commonwealth in 1950 to join the soccer world full time, a new book claims.

India won the Asian

Games football gold in 1951, again in 1962 and came fourth in the Melbourne Olympics in

"Had soccer grabbed its chance, and Jawa-harlal Nehru followed popular sentiment and left the Commonwealth, who is to say that to-day football, not cricket, would be the main

sport of India," UK-based sports commentator Mihir Bose says. "Had India left the

Commonwealth in 1950, making Indian cricket a world outcast, and the Indian football gone to Brazil to play in the World Cup the same year, that by itself would have made India a football nation like Saudi Arabia which does not see playing in the World Cup an impossible dream," he argues in his book "Game

"Had India gone to the World Cup in 1950, it would have been playing the best of world football. In the 1950s, that was not possible for India in cricket. Matching wits against the best would have been a tremendous boost for the sport," Bose also told PTI.

"Football then was more popular than cricket, had reached more parts of the country, had links with Indian nationalism in the way cricket did not and playing in the World Cup would have boosted the game," he adds.

He also says that football in India did not really follow the game as it was played in the rest of the world and has been "wretchedly" led.

" C r i c k e t administrators are bad but football have been

### Jaitley hints at no cut in excise on oil, asks citizens to pay taxes honestly

Minister Arun Jaitley today urged citizens to pay their due share of taxes "honestly" to reduce dependence on oil as a revenue source, and virtually ruled out any cut in excise duty on petrol and diesel saying it could prove to be counter-productive.

While salaried class pay their due share of taxes, Jaitley said "most other sections" have to improve their tax payment record, which is keeping India "far from being a tax-compliant society".

"My earnest appeal, therefore, to

political leaders and opinion makers would be that evasion in the nonoil tax category must be stopped and, if people pay their taxes honestly, the high dependence on oil prod-ucts for taxation eventually comes down. In the medium and long run, upsetting the fiscal maths can prove

upsetting the fiscal maths can prove counter-productive," Jaitley said. In a facebook post titled 'The Economy and the Markets Reward Structural Reforms and Fiscal Prudence'. Iaitley said in last four years. central government's tax-GDP ratio has improved from 10 per cent to 11.5 per cent. Almost half of this, 0.72 per cent of GDP, accounts for an increase in non-oil tax-GDP ratio.

The level of non-oil taxes to GDP at 9.8 per cent in 2017-18 is the highest since 2007-08 - a year in which our revenue position was boosted by buoyant international environment,

"This government has estab-



lished a very strong reputation for fiscal prudence and macro-economresponsible behaviour. We know what happened during the Taper Tantrum of 2013, Fiscal indiscipline can lead to borrowing more and obviously increase the cost of

"Reliefs to consumers can only be given by a fiscally responsible and a financially sound central govern-ment, and the states which are earning extra due to abnormal increase oil prices," Jaitley said.
In an apparent dig at senior Con-

gress leader P Chidambaram's re-

mark that tax on oil should be cut by Rs 25 per litre, Jaitley retorted "this is a 'trap' suggestion"

Without naming Chidambaram, Jaitley noted that the "distinguished predecessor" had "never endeavoured to do so himself."

"It is intended to push India into unmanageable debt - something which the UPA government left as its legacy. We must remember that the economy and the markets reward structural reforms, fiscal prudence, and macro-economic stability.
"They punish fiscal indiscipline

and irresponsibility. The transfor-

mation from UPA's "policy paralysis" to the NDA's "fastest growing economy" conclusively demonstrates this.

The government is aspiring to improve the tax-GDP ratio," Jaitley

Chidambaram had last week claimed that it was possible for the centre to cut tax by up to Rs 25 per litre on petrol prices but the Modi-government will not do so.

As per government estimates, ev ery rupee cut in excise duty on petrol and diesel will result in a revenue loss of about Rs 13,000 crore.

The price of Indian basket of

in April to around USD 74 currently.

Jaitley said despite higher com-pliances in new system, as far as the non-oil taxes are concerned, India is still far from being a tax complaint

"Salaried employees is one category of tax compliant assessees. Most other sections still have to improve their track record. The effort for next few years has to be to repli-cate the last four years and improve India's tax to GDP ratio by another

1.5 per cent.
"The increase must come from the non-oil segment since there is scope for improvement," he said.

These additions, Jaitley said,

have to come by more and more people performing their patriotic duty of paying the non-oil taxes to the State

"The tragedy of the honest tax payer is that he not only pays his own share of taxes but also has to compensate for the evader," he said.

laitley said the central government collects taxes in the form of income tax, its own share of GST and the customs duty. 42 per cent of the central government taxes are shared with the states.

State governments collect their 50 per cent from GST besides their local taxes. These are independent of taxes on petroleum products. The states charge ad valorem taxes on oil. If oil prices go up, states earn more, he said.

### US first ladies criticise Trump's controversial child separation policy

**ElseWhere** 

WASHINGTON, JUN 18 (PTI): President Donald Trump's policy of separating immi-grant parents and their chil-dren on the US border has evoked sharp criticism from his own wife, as well as a for-mer first lady, who described the move to warehouse children in detention centres as "cruel" and "immoral."

President Trump's "zero-tolerance" immigration policy, nearly 2,000 children have been separated from their parents and guardians and placed into holding facilities between April 19 and May 31 of this year, according to the Department of Home

The public outcry in the wake of images and stories of the children caught in the middle of Trump's controversial immigration policy has sparked fierce debate in the US. In a rare statement on a

policy issue, Melania Trump weighed in through her spokeswoman on the immigration crisis, saving she "hates to see children separated from their families".

'She believes we need to be a country that follows all laws, but also a country that governs with heart," the com-



munications director of the first lady Stephanie Grisham,

'Mrs. Trump hates to see children separated from their families and hopes both sides of the aisle can finally come together to achieve successful immigration reform," she quoted the 48-year-old Melania, herself an immigrant, who was born in Slovenia, as saying.

Meanwhile, Laura Bush, wife of the former Repub-lican President George W Bush, launched a rare attack on the policy of the current US President.

"This zero-tolerance policv is cruel. It is imm And it breaks my heart," the 71-year-old former first lady wrote in an opinion piece in the Washington Post.

"I live in a border state.

I appreciate the need to enforce and protect our inter-national boundaries, but this zero-tolerance policy is cruel It is immoral. And it breaks my heart," she wrote.

"Our government should not be in the business of warehousing children in converted box stores or making plans to place them in tent cities in the desert outside of El Paso," according to her.

"These images are eerily reminiscent of the Japanese American internment camps of World War II, now considered to have been one of the most shameful episodes in

US history," she wrote.

The Trump administration policy now charges every adult caught crossing the border illegally with federal crimes, as opposed to referring those with children mainly to immigration courts, as previous administrations did.

Because the government charging the parents in the criminal justice system, children are separated from them, without a clear procedure for their reunification aside from hotlines the parents can call to try to track their children

down, CNN reported.

The policy to refer all adults for charges was publicly announced May 7, but the Justice Department announced it would prosecute 100 per cent of the cases referred to it at the beginning of April, it said.

Laura Bush, who as first

lady championed a formal platform of childhood education and literacy programmes, blasted the current immigration situation un-folding in the headlines and on television news channels as not representative of the values of the United States.

"Americans pride our-selves on being a moral na-tion, on being the nation that sends humanitarian relief to places devastated by natural disasters or famine or war,"

"We pride ourselves on believing that people should be seen for the content of their character, not the co-lour of their skin. We pride ourselves on acceptance

"If we are truly that country, then it is our obligation reunite these detained children with their parents and to stop separating parents and children in the first place," Laura, who has sel-dom weighed in on politics since her husband left office, wrote in a rare public admonishment of current administration policy. She also called for "good people at all levels of government who

can do better to fix this."

President Trump has repeatedly blamed the Democrats for the situation despite his administration instituting the policy change.

"Democrats can fix their orced family breakup at the Border by working with Republicans on new legislation, for a change!" he tweeted on Saturday.

"This is why we need more Republicans elected in November, Democrats are good at only three things, High, High Crime and Obstruction. Sad!" Trump said.

#### Korea holds war games to defend against Japan

SEOUL, JUN 18 (AFP): South Korea today began two days of war games to practise defending the disputed Dokdo islands off its east coast --against an unlikely attack by Japan.

The drills come just days after President Donald Trump announced the suspension of long-run-ning US joint exercises with South Korea -- aimed at deterring North Korea -- calling them expensive and "provocative".

The two-day exercise -- tiny compared with the suspended US-South Korea war games -- will involve six warships and seven aircraft and had begun, Seoul's defence ministry said. A unit of marines will land on the largely barren rocky is-lets, inhabited by around 40 people -- mostly police officers."The Dokdo defence drill is a routine training conducted to prevent an invasion from external loice, said Choi Hyun-soo, a spokeswoman at Seoul's defence ministry.



Nearly 40 foreign fighters allied to Syria's regime were killed in an overnight bombing raid near the country's eastern border with Iraq, a monitor said today. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the strike was one of the deadliest on forces allied with Syria's government. Syrian state media reported the attack overnight, citing a military source and accusing the US-led coalition fighting the Islamic State group of carrying it out. It said several people were killed and wounded but did not give a specific number. The coalition did not respond to requests for comment, and the Observatory could not immediately identify who carried out the Al-Hari attack. US-backed fighters and Russia-supported regime forces are carrying out separate operations against small pockets of IS-held territory in Syria's eastern Deir Ezzor province, where Al-Hari lies. In May, a dozen pro-regime fighters were killed in an air strike on Syrian army positions that the Observatory and Syrian state media said was carried out by the coalition. The Pentagon denied responsibility.

### Afghan peace marchers arrive in Kabul as Taliban end ceasefire

Kabul, Jun 18 (AFP): Dozens of peace protesters arrived in Kabul today after walking hundreds of kilometres across war-battered Afghanistan, as the Taliban ended an unprece-dented ceasefire and resumed

attacks in parts of the country.
Exhausted after their
700-kilometre (430-mile) trek, most of it during the Islamic fasting month of Ramadan, the marchers walked double file through the Afghan capital shouting "We want peace!" and "Stop fighting!" "We want our people to stay united for peace and get rid of this misery for the next generation," Mohammad Naikzad, one of the marchers, told Tolo News.
"I am calling on both sides

-- the government and the Tal-iban -- for God's sake... find a way for peace and reconcilia-tion." The Taliban refused to extend their three-day cease-fire beyond Sunday night despite pressure from ordinary Afghans, the government and the international community.

Taliban fighters attacked security forces in numerous districts of eastern and south-

ern Afghanistan, officials told AFP, but there were no details on casualties.

Defence ministry spokesman Mohammad Radmanesh told AFP there had been "very few" reports of fighting since the government on Saturday extended its own ceasefire with the Taliban for another 10 days. "We hope the Taliban ac

we nope the Taliban accept the Afghan nation's call for peace," Radmanesh added.

The peace march, believed to be the first of its kind in Af-

ghanistan, emerged from a sitin protest and hunger strike in Lashkar Gah, the capital of the southern province of Helmand which is a Taliban stronghold

That demonstration, which began spontaneously after a car bomb attack in the city on March 23, triggered similar movements by war-weary Afghans nationwide.

But when the Taliban and security forces failed to heed their demands to stop fighting,

take their message directly to the country's top leaders.
Initially ridiculed for their

plan to walk to Kabul, the marchers now enjoy strong public support.

They are calling for an extended ceasefire, peace talks and a timetable for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan -- which is also a key demand of the Taliban.

The Taliban announced Sunday they would not extend their ceasefire with Afghan police and troops despite describing the truce as "successful" and a demonstration that the militants were united.

"The mujahedeen across the country are ordered to continue their operations against the foreign invaders and their domestic stooges as usual," the group said in a statement.

The first formal nation

wide ceasefire since the 2001 US-led invasion had sparked extraordinary scenes of Taliban fighters, security forces and civilians happily cele-brating the Eid al-Fitr holiday

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#### Anthyesthi Kriya



Anthyesthi Kriya of Late Phul Maya Khati who left for heavenly abode on 07 June falls on 19 June. All relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to join for the prayer at our residence at liner Syari above co-operative Upper Syari, above co-operative,

Govind Khati, Ashok Khati (sons) Laxmi, Neelu, Munna Khati ( daughters) Suraj & Mukesh Khati ( grandsons) 9732426291, 9476271747, 9832046831

### Zipchu Shegu



The 49 days Zipchu Shegu of Late Lham Dupla Singhi Lama son of Late Kam Chezung Lama who left for his heavenly abode on **3rd** May 2018 falls on 19th -20th June 2018 (Tuesday Wednesday). All families, relatives and friends are re-

quested to join us in offering prayers for departed soul at our residence at **Sang Phelong, East Sikkim**. We also like to express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during our time of bereavement.

Family members:- Phum Chung Doma Lharipa(wife), Sonam Lend up Lharipa(son), Rinzing Choden(daughter), Karma Chopel Lharipa(grandson), Pema Wangdi Lharipa & Norzang Lharipa.
Ph no. 8670409110,
8170028292, 7797885087.

#### SING



Name: Munni Age: 19 (aprox.) Complexion: Fair Missing from: Namchi. Kazitar. South Sikkim since June (Wednesday)

please seen contact: 9647854249 or nearest police

lf



### Huma Qureshi reveals why #MeToo campaign does not work in Bollywood!

Actor Huma Qureshi be-lieves the #MeToo campaign worked in Hollywood because a lot of senior female actors came forward with their stories of sexual harassment, something which has not happened in the Hindi film industry.

The campaign, which sparked off a movement in Hollywood late last year, top actors like Gwyneth Paltrow, Salma Hayek, Angelina Jolie, along with people from other walks of life shared their stories of sexual abuse.

In contrast, only a handful of Bollywood stars have spoken about sexual harassment prevalent in the industry and that too without taking any

Asked if it was disheartening that the movement never arrived in Bollywood, Qureshi told PTI, "It's not going to happen (in Bollywood) and the reason is, it worked in Hollywood because a lot of senior and respected actresses spoke about it.

'That's what really gives the #MeToo movement a lot of momentum. I really hope and pray it happens in India. But I feel we should not wait



for this campaign to happen just in the film industry, it should happen in all walks of

Oureshi says women are tight-lipped about abuse or assault because of a lack of safe environment.

She believes a number of factors are responsible in making the environment secure for women – be it their portrayal on screen or empowering them, ALSO READ: Huma Qureshi lends a sexy start to our Monday with her next outing at Cannes 2018. "It's a two-way thing

two-way thing.

First, we should look at the representation of women in films. How we are looking at them. Then, of course, better role models for young girls who would empower them rather than degrade. There's a 360 degree effort. It starts at home. The girls have to be equal to boys.

"If a woman comes out or assaulted, we should not start finding flaws in her character, or try to dig up her past for murky details. Those are the things we should

### **Anushka Sharma scolds passerby** for littering, man hits back

Anushka Sharma took a passerby to task when he allegedly threw garbage on the road and her husband Indian cricket skipper Virat Kohli record-ed the incident in a video that has now gone viral on social media.

In the 17-second-long clip, the actor can be seen scolding the man in a chauf-feur-driven dark sedan for littering the streets. The video, however, did not capture the man in the act.

'Why are you throwing garbage on the road, you cannot just throw plastic on the streets just like that," Sharma can be heard as saying in the video shared by Kohli on Twitter.

She then asks the man to use a dust-bin instead of throwing garbage on the

Kohli captioned the clip as: "Saw these people throwing garbage on the road & pulled them up rightfully. Travelling in a luxury car and brains gone for a toss. These people will keep our country clean? Yeah right! If you se something wrong happening like this, do the same & spread awareness. @ AnushkaSharma."

He further called out people for turning everything on social media into a meme.

"Lot of people who don't have the

courage to do something like this find it funny. Everything for people nowadays

is meme content. Shame," he wrote in

The person, who was admonished by Sharma, went on to criticise the actor for "ranting and yelling" at him "like a crazy roadside person".

The man who identified himself as Arhhan Singh shared a post on Face-book, saying though he is "apologetic" for his carelessness, the actor could use some etiquette in her speech.

"Horrible! So I happened to care-

lessly litter a square millimetre of plastic while driving! A car passing by rolls their window down and there we have our wonderful Anushka Sharma ranting and yelling like a crazy road-

side person!
"While I'm apologetic for my care ness, Mrs Anushka Sharma Kohli a little etiquette and politeness in your dialogue wouldn't have made you a less-er star! There are all kinds of manners and hygiene... verbal etiquette is one of

them!" he wrote.

Singh added the garbage mistakenly went out of the window of his luxury car.

"(It) was way less then the garbage that came out from your mouth... From your luxury car's window... Or the trashy mind Virat Kohli to shoot and post this online... For whatever gains..." he said.

Sharma is yet to publicly respond to

### 'Freaky Friday' musical to air on August 10

The musical adaptation of "Freaky Friday" will premiere on Disney channel on August 10.

Based on Disney's recent stage version of Mary Rodger's 1972 novel of the same name, this TV musical will star Heidi Blickenstaff as Katherine and Cozi Zuehlsdorff as her daughter Ellie, EW reported.

"This movie is a creative collaboration

with our Theatrical colleagues who developed an original stage musical from a beloved story.

Now we've added a fresh twist by adapting it again into a movie for kids and families - with Broadway talent on and off camera - that has the potential to be a classic (Disney Channel Original Movie) for years to come," Adam Bonnett, executive vice president of original programming at Disney Channel, said in a statement.

Directed and executive-produced by Steve Carr, the cast also includes Ricky He, Alex Desert, Jason Maybaum, Kahyun Kim, Dara R Moss, Jennifer LaPorte, Isaiah Lehtinen and Sarah Willey.
Pulitzer Prize-winning composers Tom

Kitt and Brian Yorkey are working on the music and lyrics. "Freaky Friday" has been made into two

movies. The 1976 version starred Barbara Harris and a young Jodie Foster, while the 2003 version featured Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan in the mother-daughter

### HAVE ONLY LEARNED FROM FAILURES. NOT SUCCESSES: RANBIR KAPOOR

He may be one of the most promising young stars of Bollywood, but Ranbir Kapoor says his failures have taught him more than his successes.

The 35-year-old actor, whose last release "Jagga Jasoos" did not do well at the box office, overtook Fox Star Hindi's official Twitter handle today for a Q & A with his fans ahead of the release of his film "Sanju".

When one of the users asked him how he handles failures and stays positive, Ranbir said, "I have only learned from my failures and not from my successes."

The actor added he always wanted to be in mov-ies and is "grateful" to be able to pursue acting as a

career.
"What I have learned since I became a star is that I am very grateful,

Asked how he celebrates success, Ranbir said, "By wiping the sweat off my forehead and muttering 'bach gaye (good save) to myself."

The actor, who essays the role of Sanjay Dutt in the upcoming film directed by Rajkumar Hirani, said it is both "terrifying and exciting" to star in neone's biopic.
Ranbir is not active on social me-

dia. So, when one of the admirers asked him how it felt to be on Twitter, he said it is "strange" but he is happy to

connect with fans on Father's Day.

The actor shared an exclusive snippet from "Sanju", in which he and Paresh Rawal, who plays veteran actor Sunil Dutt in the film, can be seen recreating the memorable 'Jaadu Ki Jhappi' moment from "Munna Bhai MBBS" Asked if he quarrelled with his re-

al-life father, Rishi Kapoor, Ranbir said he is scared of him and joked he does not even know his eye colour.

"I don't even know what his eye co-lour is because I've never looked into his eye. However, Happy Father's Day

nis eye. However, riappy rather's Day papa. I love you! (sic)" he wrote. The actor, who previously worked with Rishi in "Besharam", said he would love to collaborate with him

Ranbir shared some quality time with his father when they recently watched Argentina play Iceland at

2018 FIFA World Cup.
"I am a football fan and papa's a cricket fan! But we watched the Argentina-Iceland game together. It was fun educating him about the sport!" he

Also starring Dia Mirza, Vicky Kaushal, Sonam K Ahuja, Anushka Sharma, among others, "Sanju" releases June 29.

ARIES: Are you sure that other people ouldn't like you to be in another space wouldn't like you to be in another space than where you are right now, Aries, or even be a different person than the one you always thought you were? These questions are beginning to bother you. Devote some time to thinking about them. The answers you come up with won't be entirely meaningful for a few more weeks. Try looking at the essential things today.

few more weeks. Iry looking at the essential things today.

TAURUS: People will understand and appreciate your desire to stand out from the crowd today, Taurus. This isn't a sign of arrogance on your part. It's just that you're particularly perceptive right now, and people need your good. Just that you're particularly perceptive right now and people need your good advice. Since you're ready to step into the spotlight and shine like the stars that are giving you all this wonderful energy, go for it. You'd kick yourself if you let this opportunity pass. **GEMINI:** You love everyone on this planet, Gemini, and this isn't the day to planet, Gemini, and this isn't the day to come bothering you with all the little details of everyday life. You're in orbit, on a voyage to the stars, and this great feeling of freedom is pushing you to demand more justice for all. You might even find the perfect situation today to use your wonderful diplomatic skills use your wonderful diplomatic skills. It's the least you can do.

CANCER: Sometimes you make

cancers: Sometimes you make mistakes because of your lack of objectivity, Cancer. You have a certain tendency to wish that other people were just like you. Yet this won't be the case today. You're using your good the case today. You're using your good sense and reason, or rather your reason is doing the talking for you. It would be a great day for people to listen to you since your judgments have nothing to do with your personal feelings.

LEO: You were once a creature of

reason, Leo. For you, everything had an explanation, a reason to exist, and a place in the world. You never missed a place in the world. You never missed a chance to share your viewpoint. Then all of a sudden, silence. Perhaps you needed to get some perspective, not necessarily on the things you know, but on how you express that knowledge. Now words have come back into your life and your ideas are more moderate. life and your ideas are more moderate. VIRGO: How about changing roles today, Virgo? It's true that you aren't one for idle chat. You prefer taking action rather than talking about grandiose ideas that never go anywhere. Yet today you may actually feel like discussing things in depth. The stars' alignments are bringing out this other side of you, so take advantage of the energy. Other people will be grateful, since they've been waiting a long time for this day. life and your ideas are more moderate.

LIBRA: Scientists are sometimes pretty strange. They can be so engrossed in reality that they seem engrossed in reality that they seem almost absent from it, as if they float above the Earth. That's a bit how you feel about things, too, Libra. You like to explain the world in your own special way, the way you see it and not necessarily the way it really is. That's your secret. You know that no one else your secret. You know that no one else

your secret. You know that no one else can see the world the way you do.

SCORPIO: As the real Scorpio that you are, you aren't in the habit of talking without saying anything constructive. Sometimes people constructive. Sometimes people accuse you of having nothing to say. accuse you of having nothing to say. When you're just being patient, they say that you're ignorant. When you're demonstrating your tolerance, they say you're indifferent. Today it's time for those people to learn the real truth about you and understand just how

much you have to say about the world. **SAGITTARIUS:** The people around you would really appreciate it if you'd slow down and relax a little. You slow down and relax a little. You always seem to be running around, so much so, in fact, that you've been neglecting the people close to you, especially your family. They really need you. They have issues to discuss with you. They need to feel the comfort of your arms. Your arms need to open to them first

up to them first.

CAPRICORN: You did the right thing to put off those important decisions and not give in to pressure, Capricorn. You know well that sometimes it's You know weil that sometimes it's important to relax and rest for the busy times ahead. Today you'll feel refreshed and ready to tackle the world. You see your problems from a different point of view, and you're much more optimistic about things. Now you can

take a calm look at the situation.

AQUARIUS: You have a generous nature, Aquarius. You know how to give and devote yourself to solving the problems others that confide in you. This will still be true today, but not entirely in the same way. In fact, it wouldn't be wise for people to bother you with their problems if they really aren't all that important. It's high time for you to take care of yourself for a while.

PISCES: It's always like this at first with you, Pisces. You know something is happening but have no idea what. It's as if electricity flows

idea what. It's as if electricity flows through you. You're practically vibrating with emotion. You can feel other people's emotions, too. Begin by listening to your heart and feeling the sensation in your body. Only then will you be able to judge the intensity of your feelings. Could this be desire

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