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AT SYARI** *pg03*

SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 177 | Gangtok | Friday | 06 July 2018

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

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

Cabinet Sanctions

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:**

A cabinet meeting held today at Samman Bhawan decided to increase the reservation in jobs for Scheduled Castes (SC) from 4% to 5%.

The cabinet further approved/sanctioned the following proposals.

ENERGY AND POWER DEPARTMENT

1. Approval of draft Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Employees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

2. Approval and sanction of Rs57,83,000 for expanding Sonam Tshering Marg (Kazi Road) from Keepsa Hotel to Power Station, Gangtok.

3. Approval and sanction of Rs 63 lakh as Central Share and transfer Rs 25.20 lakh as first installment for construction of 42 new houses under Beneficiary -Led Construction at Namchi under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All (Urban).

4. Approval and sanction of Rs 3, 99, 99,000 for construction of Open Car Park and allied facilities at Namthang.

5. Approval and sanction of Rs 1, 99, 35,000 for infrastructure development and beautification of Tashiding Bazaar.

6. Approval and sanction of Rs 1330 lakh for im-

Manipur encounters: Human rights violations can't be tolerated, says SC

NEW DELHI, JUL 5 (PTI): The Supreme Court today directed the CBI to file final reports in four cases of alleged extra-judicial killings and fake encounters by the Army, Assam Rifles and police in Manipur by July 27, saying violation of human rights cannot be tolerated.

The apex court said what had happened in Manipur appeared to be "widespread" and the issue must be given "far more importance" as people have lost their lives.

A bench of Justices Madan B Lokur and U U Lalit issued the direction after the CBI's special investigating team (SIT) told the court that they have completed investigation in four cases and final reports were in the process of being finalised.

"There are two things. We are not talking about violation of human rights only. We are talking about deaths. Death could be murder or could

not be murder. This has to be given far more importance than violation of human rights," the top court said.

"What has happened here, it appears to be widespread," the bench said, adding, "violation of human rights cannot be tolerated."

The bench also directed two officers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Senior Superintendent of Police Mahesh Bhardwaj and Deputy Superintendent of Police Ravi Singh, to be made members of the SIT which would probe the remaining encounter cases.

It said these two officers "are co-opted to be a part of the SIT and will be entitled to access all record including the investigation reports".

The court, which is hearing a PIL seeking a probe into as many as 1,528 cases of extra-judicial killings in Manipur,

DEPTT INSISTS
ROLL BACK
NOT FORCED
BY PROTEST

**ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:** "THE DEPARTMENT officially withdraws the regulated rates of organic vegetable in the state, which was recently implemented by the department," said Secretary, Department of Horticulture, Government of Sikkim, Khorlo Bhutia on Thursday evening during a press conference held in Gangtok.

Earlier in the afternoon, a group of around 90 persons claiming to be farmers from South Sikkim had staged a protest at Lall Bazaar in the Capital against the regulated rates. According to this group, the regulated rates which were recently announced by the state government did not do justice to the hard work they put in and they demanded that rates be left to the market supply and demand forces to determine.

The group also tore down the banner carrying the regulated rates put up in front of Lall Bazaar.

The Agriculture and Horticulture department had issued a notice last week stating that no vendors are allowed to sell their produce at prices above the prescribed rates.

However, the Horticulture Department insists that the rollback of regulated rates is not due to the protest but

has been done taking into consideration the feedback taken from all stakeholders.

The press conference had the presence of Horticulture Director, DK Bhandari, MD-SIMFED, Pawan Awasthy and Executive Director, Sikkim Organic Mission, Dr. S Anbalagan and other Officers.

The Secretary informed that the department has decided to withdraw the decision after getting feedback from all concerned, authorities, farmers' representatives, villagers and others.

"Now the market is open and the rates will be fixed as per the

demand and supply principle, and now the SIMFED is not obliged or forced to buy products from the farmers which we were doing in the past," said the Managing Director SIMFED, Pawan Awasthy.

"The department is in favour of farmers and will look into their problems. The department decided to regulate the rates of vegetables since middlemen were manipulating the rates," said the Secretary.

"SIMFED will now buy products only if it is profitable and the farmers are free to sell their produce at their own price," said the MD.



Farmers protest regulated rates for veggies, Horticulture Dept rolls back decision



Explosion on TPTL line damages electronics in Salebung

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA
MANGAN, 05 JUL:**

Electronic items belonging to 37 families of Salebung Ward, under Pathuk-Singbel Gram Panchayat Unit, East Sikkim were damaged due to an "explosion" that occurred on the power transmission line of Teestavalley Power Transmission Ltd [TPTL].

Televisions, refrigerators, washing machines, ceiling fans, music systems, etc have been totally damaged, it is informed.

According to the local people, an explosion occurred on the line followed by a power cut at around 9 p.m on 04 Jul.

"Apart from damages to electronic items, four persons including one pregnant woman fell unconscious due to the explosion. They are currently undergoing medical treatment," informed Ward Panchayat, Salebung, Muktinath Khatiwara.

Block Development Officer, Tintek, Indramani Adhikari, along with the Panchayats and the officials of Power Grid Corporation visited the spot today to take stock of damages.

The local public and Panchayats have demanded proper compensation and safety measures to be taken.

However, another explosion occurred at Singbel Ward at around 2 p.m today, informed the Panchayat but no damages have been reported.

The high transmission line supplies power from the 1200 MW Teest Urja Project of North Sikkim which was commissioned last year.

DSA 'rejects' HSP's statements on land protection bill, will hold meet today

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:**

Denzong Sherpa Association in a press release issued today has rejected the statements of Hamro Sikkim Party vice-president, Ran Bahadur Subba that the State Government should amend the Sikkim Regulation of Land [amendment] Bill.

It may be mentioned here that Mr Subba had on Wednesday called out the State Government for not seeking public opinion before passing the land regulation bill.

turn to pg03

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Assam flood situation deteriorates

GUWAHATI, JUL 5 (PTI): The overall flood situation in Assam deteriorated today as two new districts were hit by the deluge, taking the total number of flood-affected districts in the state to seven, the Assam State Disaster Management Authorit(ASDMA) report said.

According to the ASDMA, over 50,000 people were affected by the flood in seven districts - Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Barpeta, Chirang, Kokrajhar, Majuli and Dibrugarh.

Lakhimpur was the worst affected as over 26,000 people are reeling under the impact of the deluge in the district.

Five districts - Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Barpeta, Dibrugarh and Karimganj districts - were affected by the flood yesterday while the number of affected villages were 56.

With no fresh loss of life reported today the death toll stands at 32, including three in landslides, in the first wave of flood this year, the ASDMA said.

Anmol KC arrives in town to shoot ‘Captain’

SUMMI REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Nepali Actor Anmol KC, who is in Gangtok to shoot for the upcoming movie ‘Captain,’ today said that he finds Sikkim as a “Home Away from Home”.

The 23-year-old actor is accompanied by his father, the acclaimed Nepali cine star, Bhuwan KC. “We are here to shoot a football match sequence of the movie. Everyone knows that the Paljor Stadium is the best in North East India, and hence became an obvious choice,” said Bhuwan KC.

The team is also scheduled to shoot a song



sequence at Tsomgo.

Anmol said, “I was a small kid when I first



visited Sikkim. I don't remember anything from that time, but now after

coming here I am surprised to see this small state with such a beautiful

people.”

He added that the love for Nepali cinema in Sikkim has left him even more surprised.

“I am surprised to see so many people liking Nepali movies. It means that our industry is moving in the right direction,” he said.

Anmol plays a footballer in the movie captain.

“I love playing and watching football. I am enjoying the character which I am playing in the movie,” he added.

His message for young Sikkim, “Stay away from substance abuse and imbibe positivity.”

TMC is trying to wipe out every sign of opposition in Bengal: Ghosh

MURSHIDABAD (WB), JULY 5 (PTI): The West Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh today accused Trinamool Congress of trying to “wipe out” every sign of opposition in Bengal and urged the masses to unite against the “anti-people” TMC government of the state.

Ghosh today met the family members of deceased Dhormo Hazra, whom BJP claims as its man, in Taldanga area of Murshidabad district, said TMC’s terror tactics won’t be able to scare BJP and its activists.

The body of a 52-year-old Hazra was found floating in a pond in Murshidabad district on July 3.

Hazra was missing since Sunday, and his body was found floating in a pond close to his village in Taldanga area of the district on Tuesday last.

The incident coming close on heels of killing of three persons, claimed by BJP as its supporters, at Purulia had triggered fresh face-off between the saffron party and the TMC in the West Bengal.

HSP holds meeting in South Sikkim, reiterates focus on youth

REBYNA RANA
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Hamro Sikkim Party [HSP] today held an indoor meeting at Bul Singtam under Namchi-Singithang constituency, South Sikkim.

HSP senior leaders along with vice president, Bhaichung Bhutia addressed the gathering.

Mr Bhutia, in his address, highlighted the aims and objectives of Hamro Sikkim Party and why it was formed.

He further reiterated that HSP focuses on the youth of Sikkim and wants to develop youth leadership in Sikkim.

“Our top priority would be to facilitate employment for the youth and give them skill-training in many sectors so they can earn well. We will also give government stipend to the educated unemployed youth so that they are able get jobs. Our main agenda would be to bring down



the unemployment rate in Sikkim by empower-

ing the youth with skill development and train-

ing,” he said.

Mr Bhutia also said

Cabinet Sanctions...

contd from pg01

plementing projects approved under State Annual Action Plan under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).

ROADS AND BRIDGES DEPARTMENT

7. Approval and sanction of Rs1,79, 66,813 for up-gradation of Aritar to Hathichirey road (1.5KM) under Pakyong Sub-Division.
8. Approval and sanction of Rs 1, 77, 21,410 for construction of diversion road from Yangang to Helipad PMGSY road.

TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT

9. Approval of draft Sikkim Tourism Policy 2018.
10. Approval and sanction of Rs 68,23,000 for implementation of Technology Up-gradation Project by Sikkim Handloom and Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd. Under the project, handloom-loom and their accessories are distributed to 455 beneficiary weavers during the project period of three years

FOREST, ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

11. Approval and sanction of Rs 191.14 lakh for implementation of Management Action Plan for Conservation and Management of Khecheopalri Wetland in West District under National Plan for Conservation of Eco-System.

12. Approval and sanction of Rs 310 lakh for implementation of Management Action Plan for conservation and management of Tamzey Wetland in North/East District under National Plan for Conservation of

Aquatic Eco-System.

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES & VETERINARY SERVICES

13. Approval and sanction of Rs 03 crores for construction of trout rearing-cum-production farm at Temchi, North Sikkim under BADP.
14. Approval and sanction of Rs 49, 57,110 for distribution of 88 buffalo heifers under State Earmarked Schemes for 2018-19.
15. Approval and sanction of Rs 99,34,395 for distribution of 173 Milch cows, chemical free feed, milking cans etc under State Earmarked Schemes for 2018-19.

RURAL MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

16. Approval and sanction of Rs 30.41 lakh for construction of 2.50 M RCC culvert along the PMGSY road from Lower Dorop to Assangthang, South Sikkim.
17. Approval and sanction of Rs 3020.76 lakh to be released as grants-in-aid to SIRD, SRDA, Zilla and Gram Panchayats.
18. Approval and sanction of Rs 133.64 lakh for restoration of damaged PMGSY road from Lower Rumbuk to Moonewgan to be met from State fund.

SOCIAL JUSTICE EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

19. Approval and sanction of Rs 02 crores for providing supplementary nutrition to Anganwadi Centres and Child Care Institutes under State Special Nutrition Programme.
20. Approval and sanction of Rs 01 crore and transfer the same to Sikkim State Child Development

Society for construction of 204 Anganwadi Centres.
21. Approval and sanction of Rs 1199.20 lakh for the projects sanctioned under Multi-Sectoral Development Programme.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND HERITAGE

22. Approval and sanction of Rs10 crore for construction of Shakti Sthal at Mungram, South Sikkim.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

23. Approval and sanction of Rs 31,88,494 for construction of six-roomed school building at Rongli Junior High School.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

24. Approval and sanction of Rs 2, 29, 47,804 for acquisition of three 9 KL Tankers and four 19-seater AC luxury buses.

FINANCE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE DEPARTMENT

25. Approval and sanction of Rs152.42 lakh for development of new Sikkim Integrated Management System Version 2.0 duly replacing the existing Sikkim Integrated Financial Management System.

26. Approval and sanction of Rs 25.84 lakh for OFC- Network Connectivity services on rental basis for running of live Sikkim Integrated Financial Management System.

ROADS AND BRIDGES DEPARTMENT

27. Approval for dissemination of information through signboards and milestones/kilometer posts in English, Devnagari and State Language of the majority

community in a particular area. For example, in Dzongu, apart from English, signboards will also be in Devnagari and Lepcha language.

HOME DEPARTMENT

28. Approval and sanction of Rs18, 66,644 for construction of additional barracks and toilets for IRBn at Wazirabad, New Delhi.

SOCIAL JUSTICE EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

29. Approval and sanction of Rs 69.66 lakh for implementation of National Nutrition Mission.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

30. Approval and sanction of the following with regard to Gangtok Smart City to be implemented by M/S Gangtok Smart City Limited:

- Approval and sanction of Rs 555.50 crores.
- Approval and sanction to transfer the amount of Rs 17 crores to the account of Gangtok Smart City Development Limited (GSCDL).
- Approval and sanction to transfer the subsequent release of the Smart City Grant from MoH &UA, GOI amounting to Rs483crores to the account of GSCDL.

HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

31. Implementation of State flagship programmes (Sikkim State Illness Assistance Fund & Mukhya Mantri Jeewan Raksha Kosh), Grants-in-aid to various Councils amounting to Rs 29 lakh, Rs125 lakh and Rs 571 lakh respectively and approval and sanction to withdraw the amount for credit to the captioned

nity in Sikkim.

“As per surveys, most of the suicide victims in Sikkim are from the Rai community and the most economically backward group is the Rai community in Sikkim. Chief Minister Pawan Chamling is unable to take care of his own community. Only those close to him have prospered but most of the Rai community members are poor in the villages,” said Bhaichung.

A number of people are said to have joined the party on the day.



15 SDF families of Mabong join SKM

SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Fifteen families of Mabong under Zoom Salghari Constituency in West district have quit Sikkim Democratic Front and joined Sikkim Krantikari Morcha during the constituency level coordination meeting held at Mabong today, an SKM press release informs.

South district president, SKM, Ganesh Rai, attended the programme as chief guest in the presence of SKM party advisor, PT Lucksom, and

other party dignitaries. “SDF party holds no sincerity towards common people of Sikkim. It has established itself as a party with fake assurances and promises intending to grab votes at the most. Their single target is to keep Chief Minister's chair reserved for Pawan Chamling and fulfill personal benefits through means of hero worship. SDF does not have any agenda for total welfare of Sikkim and Sikkimay Janata. Pawan Chamling

continuously claims people of Sikkim to be wealthy as compared with other States but sadly people are still aspiring for pressure-cooker as highest level of State benefits,” alleges SKM in the release.

Similarly, SKM senior leaders officially welcomed Tika Ram Sharma of Chujachen Constituency, East Sikkim who is a retired Office Attendant of Health Department to the party at its party headquarter in Gangtok.

Manipur encounters: Human rights violations can't be tolerated, says SC

contd from pg01

sources,” it said.

The court also observed that the number of incidents and the victims mentioned in its July 14 last year's order, were quite different from the figures given in the order of March this year, which reflected a reduction on both these counts. It said that for the purpose of clarity, there should be clear identification of the incidents and number of victims

The court asked the ASG to file a written statement in this regard so that it could be shared with the NHRC, as well as the counsel appearing for the petitioner.

It also sought a response from the SIT on an application filed by

the petitioner regarding four diaries, which as per their claim contained details of 100 more such encounters in Manipur, and posted the matter for hearing on July 27.

The ASG said the CBI had “no hesitation” if NHRC officers are associated with the SIT, but they have reservations regarding sharing the draft final report and the materials collected during the probe in four cases, in which investigation is over now.

Referring to an earlier verdict of the apex court, he said the court had decided that final reports cannot be shared with anyone before it was filed in the competent court.

He also said that

within two months, probe in another 20 cases was likely to be over and as of today, the SIT was probing 41 cases.

Regarding the court's query about reduction in the number of incidents and victims, he said the SIT has explained it in their status reports filed in the apex court.

The court had earlier provided a four-point blueprint to the SIT and asked it to expedite investigation in these cases which had come under the scanner of the NHRC, the Gauhati High Court as well as some commissions of inquiry.

It had in January pulled up the SIT for not registering the required number of FIRs as directed by it earlier.

Gangtok on Friday, 06 July

Temp: 26°C/18°C

Forecast: Mostly cloudy, a thunder-shower; not as warm.

Sunrise: 04:46 AM

Sunset: 6:34 PM

DSA 'rejects' HSP's statements on land protection bill, will hold meet today

contd from pg01

tion bill at the Assembly and suggested that the bill be amended to offer adequate protection to land belonging to the Sherpa community before being passed.

"At a time, when entire Sherpa community of Sikkim is demanding the protection of land under Revenue Order No. 1, the statement of HSP to provide land protection for Sherpa community by bringing an amendment to the Sikkim Regulation of Land (amendment) Bill is totally misleading," states the release.

"He must not forget that it was the Sherpas who voted him to power thrice. We warn him to refrain from giving misleading statements and stop playing doctor and witch game with the Sherpa community," the release reads.

The association has further requested other political leaders to refrain from giving misleading statements by 'subscribing to the ideas of feudal forces'.

Meanwhile, DSA has also announced that it will conduct an awareness meeting for the Sherpa community of Sikkim at Perbing ground in South Sikkim on Friday.

The meeting will discuss the present social and economic conditions of the Sherpa community of Sikkim and also on bill on regulation of transfer of land passed by the Assembly recently.

DSA spokesperson, Passang Sherpa said the meeting is for generating awareness among members of the Sherpa community.

"We have invited all members of the Sherpa community of Sikkim irrespective of their political affiliation or religion. We want to stand together for our main demand which is land protection of the Sherpa community under Revenue Order No 1," he said.

"Sherpa community falls under Bhutia-Lepcha definition based on historical facts and as such their land should be protected as should ours under Revenue Order No. 1. A resolution on this would be passed on Friday and then it will be submitted to all MLAs seeking their support on our demand," said Mr Sherpa.

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Monkey menace at Syari

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Monkey menace at Syari Road in Deorali, East Sikkim is turning out to be a major problem for residents of the area.

A horde of monkeys in the area have created panic among the residents forcing them to stay indoors and avoid direct confrontation with the mischievous creatures.

Reports of monkeys entering homes through the windows have increased. Residents have also complained of damage to property.

"They come to the terrace and create havoc. They have damaged water tanks and clothes lines in many homes," a local resident said.

"The monkeys have not harmed any person nor have they done major destruction but we are scared to move around outside, as they may attack us. For our own safety, everyone in our society is taking safety measures," said Eden Bhutia, a resident of



side, as they may attack us. For our own safety, everyone in our society is taking safety measures," said Eden Bhutia, a resident of

Syari Road. The residents are now planning to lodge complaints with the concerned authority.

According to the residents,

the monkeys are coming from the forest area below Chorten Gumpa in Deorali, which falls just above Syari.

Three-day refresher course on Mediation for Advocate Mediators begins

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Sikkim State Legal Services Authority [SLSA] under the directions of Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA/Judge-in-Charge, Mediation Monitoring Committee, Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai organized a three-day refresher course on Mediation for Advocate Mediators from today at SLSA premises in the capital, a press release informs.

Registrar, High Court of Sikkim/Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA/Central Coordinator of District Mediation Centers/Member, High Court Mediation Monitoring Committee, KW



Bhutia highlighted the introduction of Mediation in Sikkim in the year 2009, establishment of Mediation Centres in all the four Districts of Sikkim and the nine training/sensitization programmes conducted for Mediators under

the aegis of Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, Supreme Court of India, since 2009.

Senior Trainer, G Saseedhevi from Tamil Nadu Mediation and Conciliation Centre and Potential Trainers, Anuradha SR

and Vaishali Hegde from Bangalore Mediation and Conciliation Centre were deputed by the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee for the course.

Twenty-eight Advocate Mediators from all the four Districts of Sikkim including Senior

Advocates, High Court of Sikkim, General Secretaries, BAR Associations of Gangtok, East Sikkim and Namchi, South Sikkim and Members of the BAR attended the event.

The training programme will wrap up on 07 Jul, informs the release.

Voice India Kids finalist Shekainah Mukhia in Gangtok to thank supporters

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

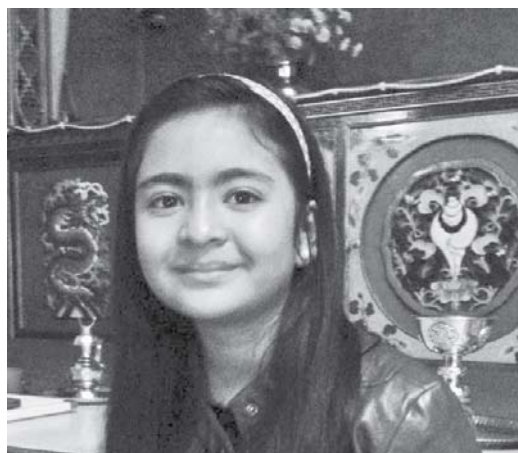
The Voice India Kids 2018 finalist, Shekainah Mukhia addressing a press conference at Sambhala Ashram here in Gangtok thanked the people of Sikkim and viewers for their support in her journey.

Shekainah had previously embarked on a tour to Mirik and Darjeeling to thank her viewers and voters.

She is scheduled to go to Dooars, Jaigaon and Bhutan as a part of her ongoing thanksgiving tour.

The 12-year-old is from Dehradun and was among the top six finalists in the singing reality show, The Voice India Kids 2018.

Interacting with the media,



Shekainah said that she had not received any professional train-

ing prior to her participation in the show.

She is presently training under her father Bikash Mukhia in western music.

"The competition was tough but I gave my best. It was a thrilling experience as I got to meet celebrities like Katrina Kaif, Neha Kakkar, Manish Paul, Baadshah, among others. Musicians like Papon and Himesh Reshamiya always gave me good advice," she said in the press conference.

She wants to pursue a career in music. I cover all genres of music in Hindi, English and also Nepali, she said.

She is studying in class 6 in a private school at Dehradun.

Addl Secy for Panchayati Raj Ministry calls on CS

GANGTOK, 05 JUL [IPR]: Additional Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Dr Bala Prasad, rounded off his four-day official visit to the State by calling on Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, at his office today.

Secretary, Rural Management & Development Department, DR Nepal, along with senior officials of the Directorate of Panchayati Raj and State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj [SIRD&PR] accompanied the dignitary.

Dr Prasad apprised the Chief Secretary about the first leg of his visit to Sikkim which started from West Sikkim - also the Aspirational District mandated with observance of Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan. The campaign period that will culminate on 15 Aug, 2018 will witness the saturation of seven GOI interventions and acceleration of thematic several Human Development parameters, he added.

Essentially launched as a Governance strategy and large-scale community connect, the impact of the Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan has been found remarkable with the exception of the Banking Sector which is yet to record its visibility for saturation of the three crucial schemes such as

Positioning agriculture for economic growth with vital inputs from Krishi Vigyan Kendras for scientific inputs and cropping patterns and cultivation of medicinal plants for farmer income were some of the suggestions placed by Dr Prasad.

Chief Secretary, Mr Shrivastava, highlighted on the good practices created by the State Government in the field of environmental and water conservation via many State initiatives & Missions like State Green Mission and Dhara Vikas among others. Measurable benefits afforded by Chief Minister's CATCH programme to promote general well being of the citizens were also explained in detail.

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Memorial Service



The Memorial Service of **Late Jonathan Muktan (Jonu)**, who left for his heavenly abode on 02 July 2018, will be held on **07 July 2018 (Saturday)**. All friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in the Memorial Service at our residence in **College Valley, Tadong in East Sikkim**.

We would also like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who stood by us in the time of bereavement.

Simon Muktan (father), Karma Dichen Bhutia (Mother), James Palden Muktan (brother) & entire family members. Ph. 8906512599, 9434191791

West Bengal govt to slash expenses of various departments: CM

KOLKATA, JUL 5 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today said her government plans to cut down on the expenses of various departments, and effectively utilise them for repaying loans and on schemes for public benefits.

Banerjee, however, said that keeping a check on the expenditure would not have any affect on public schemes like 'Kanyashree'.

"We have to keep a check on the expenses by different departments. We must not spend money where there is no purpose for that. But, that does not mean that we will curtail funds meant for public services. We won't compromise on public schemes," she told report-

ers after a meeting on expenditure.

The meeting, the first of its kind by the Trinamool Congress, was attended by Chief Secretary Malay De, besides other senior officials of departments, including financial advisors and directors.

The state government had earlier this week issued a notification, asking its officers to curtail "avoidable expenditure".

The notification asked for curbs on frequent travel of officials to Delhi and other states, and holding conferences and meetings at star hotels.

The 'Circular of Economic Measures' spelt out measures such as using video conferencing, instead of

calling district officials to Kolkata.

It proposed restrictions on the creation of new posts, purchase of new vehicles and offering expensive gifts.

Stressing that the West Bengal government has to shell out Rs 5,000 crore to pay the DA for employees as well as Rs 46,000 crore to repay loans to the Centre, Banerjee said that the excess funds could also be utilised for these purposes.

So far, the state has repaid loans to the tune of Rs 2.24 lakh crore to the Central government.

The CM also highlighted that the total state Budget rose from Rs 11,000 crore in 2011 to Rs 80,000 crore this year.



**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
BALUWAKHANI, GANGTOK - SIKKIM
NOTICE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION**

As per the Schedule of Special Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls of intensive nature with reference to 01.01.2019 as qualifying date pre-revision activities has started from 15th May 2018. During the Special Summary Revision, Election Department will initiate the process of removal of Repeated/Multiple Entries/Demographic similar Entries (DSE) from the Photo Electoral. It is therefore informed to the entire citizens that if anyone has duplicate entry/ multiple entries in the Photo Electoral Roll, he/she may inform the concerned BLO/AERO/ERO for necessary deletion of multiple / duplicate entry by filling up form 7. The above exercise will continue till 30.09.2019. Citizen can visit the CEO website www.ceosikkim.nic.in to find out the contact numbers of Booth Level Officer (BLO), Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO) for any further enquiry. List of names may also be checked at the CEO website under Election related column on left side of the page and click on Demographic Similar Entries (DSE) to see the entries.

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, SIKKIM

R.O. No. 175/IPR/Pub/class/18-19 dt. 4.7.18

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Get Involved, or Live With the 'Politics'

Politics is not inherently 'bad', but politics in everything is unhealthy

It is ironic that people will continually foist leadership roles in even social and cultural organizations on politicians, and then complain that the leaders are playing politics. When politicians get involved things are bound to be 'politicised.' While there is nothing wrong in career-politicians taking up social, cultural or environmental causes, it is also true that political presence in such initiatives compromises the core issue since the engagements invariably get decided by political positions and debates digress to personal attacks and arguments eventually get adjusted to consolidate vote-banks. One sees such approaches in the current clash of ideas between pro and anti Stage-IV groups in North Sikkim, and this being Bhanu Jayanti season, ask around the organizing committees and they will attest that while a politician heading the group opens doors for funds and assistance, his/ her political position also shuts down some options for purely political reasons.

Does that mean that politicians be distanced from concerns of the society?

They cannot be, because it is the people that politicians represent and their involvement should ideally be automatic and spontaneous. But involvement should not immediately translate to influence. Maybe a conscious decision should be taken to not have them head apolitical organizations or efforts, especially so in a Sikkim where, unfortunately, political positions are too straitjacketed. Such a segregation was attempted some years ago, for all the wrong reasons, disallowing government functionaries from sitting in any non-governmental group. This diktat has since been revoked, but it might be worth the while to consider keeping elected representatives away from holding office in social, cultural or sports organizations.

One of the problems with the duality of roles is that while those who raise an issue might have no political affiliations, but the only response they receive is from political circles. As mentioned earlier, there is per se nothing wrong with political presence, what disturbs is that this ends up becoming the only involvement that stakeholders receive because a politician sucks up all the air in which free interaction can happen. This is not only about protests, even required social interventions await political patronage to reach deliverance. What people sacrifice when they invite a politician to head, say a Bhanu Jayanti organizing committee, is the opportunity to felicitate fiery writers who have captured not just the mood of the people but also their readership with their incisive literary skills sharpened in the whetstone of anti-establishment sentiments. You invite a politician to get involved in aid and relief and of course political alignments will influence beneficiary lists. Get them to head social interventions and you cannot complain if the debate targets people instead of ideas and arguments.

Why, really, should environmental concerns be the preserve of only the affected people receiving outside support from Opposition parties who will attach themselves to anything challenging the establishment? Why should ways and means to improve the quality of education [we talk of solutions here, not criticism] be deliberated only in seminars and workshops initiated by the State Government? Or, why should the proper functioning of cooperatives or promotion of organic farming be an obsession only of the establishment?

Those who rue the 'over politicization' of the affairs of the State need to also recognize that 'politics' is merely occupying the vacuum created by the absence of a coherent Civil Society. In an almost instinctive reaction, Sikkim looks towards the Government [and the very thinly separated ruling party] to deliver not only development, but also to engineer social reforms, and the Opposition to lend weight to dissenting voices. This is a common situation across the country, but most parts of the nation also have a reasonably mature civil society which moderates the voices and issues in the public domain. This civil society is sorely missed in Sikkim. In its absence come inferred fears and postured stands, both rather unhealthy trends. Surely, there must be many individual members of the Sikkimese society who notice the absence of a community feeling/ response at times. Is the State, or even the capital, anywhere near getting itself a Civil Society? A Civil Society is not an organised body that one can register and elect office bearers to; it is a level where individuals start thinking of more issues than just those that their immediate circles experience. It is a state where the society's reaction to issues and developments is spontaneous and free of prejudices. Simply put, it is a society that cares and is willing to get involved. Till Sikkim can do that, it will have to live with 'politicization' of all its affairs; not something that is inherently wrong or evil, but still something that leaves the public space incomplete and the people only partially represented.

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Why the new citizenship law is so controversial – and why some regions are angrier than others

SABA SHARMA
theconversation.com

Citizens of India's north-eastern states have been protesting vigorously against a proposed new citizenship regime that they claim will "destroy their culture" in the region. The protests have been diverse and dramatic – petitions, hunger strikes, effigy-burning, a rebel militant group threatening to end talks with the Indian state.

The source of their anger is the Citizenship Amendment Bill, first tabled in the lower house of the Indian Parliament in 2016. It is set to change the Citizenship Act of 1955, which has formed the basis of India's citizenship regime since it gained independence from the British Empire in 1947. The amendment seeks to allow select "persecuted minorities" (Hindus, Christians, Parsis, Sikhs, Buddhist and Jains) from the neighbouring countries of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan citizenship status in India after six years of residency. Other groups must wait 11 years to become naturalised citizens.

In the north-eastern states, the fear is that this amendment would legitimise migration of Hindus from neighbouring Bangladesh in particular, potentially affecting the demographic make-up of the region.

When the bill's parliamentary committee began touring the north-east in May, protests grew steadily larger, stronger and more widespread. As almost 99% of their boundaries are international borders, the citizens of these states have been quick to point out that they would be the first "victims" of the new amendment if it makes it easier for minority immigrants to travel across the border, settle in and become full citizens. The complaints are loudest in the state of Assam, which has waged a four decade struggle against the Indian state to prevent what some there call "unchecked infiltration" from neighbouring Bangladesh.

The committee's decision to visit the north-east – and the media coverage of the protests – have framed this as a north-eastern issue, not a national concern. But in fact, the Citizenship Amendment Bill will change the character of citizenship not just

for this region, but for India as a whole.

BIRTHRIGHT AND BLOOD

When India achieved independence, its citizenship regime was established on the basis of jus soli (birth within a territory), meaning that people were members of the political community regardless of their religion or ethnicity. While mistrust of Muslims has persisted into present-day India, particularly in recent years with growing Hindu right-wing populism, the law has so far upheld the secular, non-religious character of the Indian state. The Citizenship Amendment Bill would fundamentally alter this basic tenet, shifting the basis of citizenship towards jus sanguinis (by right of blood).

But, as historians such as Joya Chatterji and Ornit Shani have documented, there have been frequent challenges to the principle of citizenship by birth – especially in the period immediately after the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947.

In contrast to Muslims, Hindus were from the start considered "natural citizens" of India. Muslim citizens of pre-independence India were ostensibly given a choice between the two countries, but in practice they were subjected to arbitrary processes to "prove" their loyalty to the Indian state. Similar demands were not made of Hindu citizens crossing the border from the newly-formed Pakistan back into India.

Regardless of which states or regions would be most affected by a sizeable influx of migrants, the bill changes the character of Indian citizenship and the basis on which it is granted, moving from



secular to overtly favouring specific groups – particularly Hindus. It opens the door for the creation of second-class citizenship for non-Hindus and most of all Muslims – not just in the extra-legal practices of discrimination and violence that exist today, but in the law.

SLIPPING AWAY

Given that India repeatedly fails its own minorities, perhaps it's not surprising that it is only prepared to offer refuge and asylum on the basis of ethnicity, not humanitarian need. It's no coincidence that this amendment was introduced by the ruling Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP), led

by the prime minister, Narendra Modi, which has an abysmal track record in protecting India's minorities, whether they are Muslims, Christians or Dalits. Nor has it shown any inclination to help rehabilitate South Asia's largest persecuted minority, the Rohingya.

Furthermore, the bill also leaves out Muslim minorities in Pakistan, such as Shias and Ahmadis. There is also speculation about whether the bill is a means to appease India's Hindu diaspora abroad – an important funding base for the ruling party.

Even the relatively hardline BJP is not immune to public resistance. The protests in the north-east prompted India's government to backtrack and table discussions to address what it euphemistically referred to as "people's concerns". But by framing the amendment as a regional issue, the government has managed to confine public opposition to the people of the north-east. Because the region is already marginalised in Indian politics, the rest of the country is often apathetic about its concerns, which rarely become pan-Indian ones.

Still, that the citizens of the north-east are protesting so vehemently – whatever their precise grievances – is currently the only sign of dissent. Unless it feels the heat of visible and vocal public outrage, the Indian state is likely to continue its slide towards becoming a very different, less inclusive, and increasingly more unjust country.

[the writer is PhD Candidate in Geography, University of Cambridge]

How to take a penalty like a pro

TIM BENNETT
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World Cup fever is well and truly underway – there have already been highs, the lows, and definitely a few penalties. And scoring a penalty can be the deciding factor of many important football matches.

Previous major championships, such as the 2006 FIFA World Cup final and the 2012 UEFA Champions League final have been decided by penalty shootouts. And evidence from World Cup and European Championships has also shown that teams have a considerably greater chance of winning – than drawing or losing – when awarded a penalty within match play.

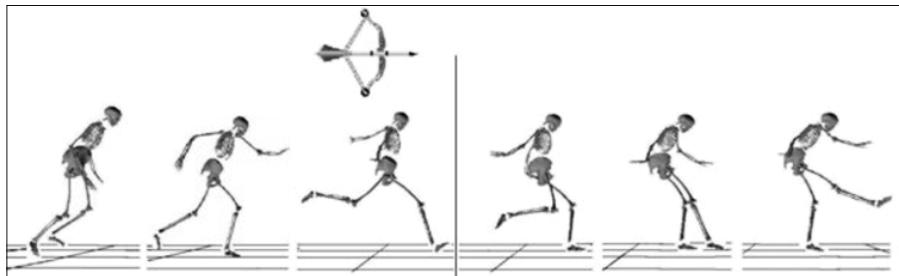
Research which looked at previous World Cups and European Championship tournaments shows that the successful conversion of a penalty resulted in a 61% increased chance of winning – this decreased substantially to 29% if the penalty was missed. All of which makes the ability to score a penalty kick in a competitive match of critical importance – especially considering the low number of goals scored during a typical game.

DON'T BE DISTRACTED BY THE GOALIE

Kicking a stationary ball from the penalty spot was first introduced in 1902 with the ball situated 12 yards (11 metres) from the goal. In 1997 the kick rules were amended to allow goalkeepers to move sideways along the goal line prior to the ball being kicked.

The importance of this rule change has been highlighted in kicking research – which shows that if the goalkeeper has a greater opportunity to distract the player – think waving arms – it results in a higher percentage of saved penalties. This is particularly the case in situations that provoke higher levels of anxiety for the penalty shooter – like a World Cup deciding penalty kick.

In this sense then, it's important the kicker isn't distracted by the goalkeepers tactics when lining up to take



a penalty kick – which can take less than 400 milliseconds in flight time to the goal mouth.

Former Polish goalkeeper, Jerzy Dudek, used the distraction strategy very effectively in the 2005 Champions League final – he saved two penalties from Andrea Pirlo and Andriy Shevchenko, and distracted Serginho enough for him to strike his effort over the bar.

HOW TO KICK

The most important kicking skill in football is the instep kick or the "laces" kick. Here, the player drives using the quadriceps muscles of the thigh to provide the most powerful technique in football.

Because of its power, this kick is commonly used for scoring penalties. But research that has focused on instep kicking accuracy, shows that something of a "speed accuracy trade off" occurs.

A classic example of emphasising speed over accuracy was Chris Wad-

dle missing one of England's penalties in the 1990 World Cup semi-final against West Germany. But it's also worth noting that placing greater emphasis on accuracy to the detriment of speed can also give the goal keeper enough time to react and save the penalty.

THE PERFECT SHOT

So with all this in mind, how do you take a penalty like a pro? It all starts with the run up phase, skilled players typically approach the ball at an angle of about 45 degrees (0 degrees being directly behind the ball). This facilitates maximal ball speed.

Approaching the ball at such an angle also helps the player to incline their kicking leg away from the support leg. This is thought to improve the foot-to-ball contact – by enabling the kicking foot to be placed further underneath the ball.

The speed players approach and run up to the ball will be different for each person. This is important,

as research has shown that footballers produce their highest ball speeds when using a self-selected speed of approach.

Next up is the backswing phase of the kick. This is crucial for stretching the muscles of the upper and lower body to an optimal length to help generate greater muscle forces. Elite footballers perform this phase of the kick by extending the kicking leg, rotating the torso, and extending the non-kickside shoulder backwards through a large range of motion. This phase is analogous to drawing back the bow in archery.

Now to the forward phase of the kick. Here, the muscles contract rotating the torso and flexing the non-kickside shoulder towards the kicking leg. On top of this, the kicking leg is coordinated in a specific sequence: the hip is flexed first, followed by fast knee extension, resulting in the foot accelerating through to ball contact.

The position and speed of the foot at ball contact determines the quality of the foot-to-ball impact and the resultant ball speed and accuracy. To optimise ball speed in a penalty kick scenario it is important to kick the ball as close to the centre as possible.

What all this shows, is that scoring a penalty kick is no mean feat. So as you watch the World Cup, keep in mind the level of skill needed to get that penalty on point.

[the writer is Senior Lecturer in Sports Biomechanics, Leeds Beckett University]

Miss Mega North East 2018, Mariam Longri returns home

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 05 JUL:

Residents of Kharsang in the Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh was in a celebratory mood on Wednesday morning as they geared up for the homecoming of Mariam Longri who was recently crowned Sunsilk Mega Miss North East 2018.

A press release informs that Mariam was accompanied by the winner of Garnier Men Mega Mister North East 2018, Pawan Chhetri and Founder of Mega Entertainment, Abhijit Singha who has been organizing the Mega Miss North East pageant since the past 16 years.

Speaking on the occasion, Mariam Longri said, "This is such a heart-warming moment, I am truly grateful! So many people, elders as well as kids from various schools had gathered to welcome me, this is truly overwhelming. I was expecting to return home to my normal life, but the reception I received here



was beyond my wildest imagination."

The youngest of nine siblings and daughter of retired police officer Chatu Longri, Mariam won the coveted title of Sunsilk Mega Miss North East 2018 at the grand finale of the event held in Guwahati on 30 Jun.

Mariam's mother Rina Longri runs an NGO. Her family belongs to the conservative and peaceful Tangsa community, which makes up the majority of population there. One of the major industrial towns of Arunachal Pradesh, Kharsang is laden with

tea, coal and petroleum.

Speaking about the responsibility she holds towards her community as a youth icon, Mariam said, "I hope my victory will motivate my sisters from Kharsang to believe that if a simple girl like me can make it big in the world of fashion, even they can. I

will be more than happy to guide them to go forward in the same journey that I went. Even I was inspired by Licha Thosum from Itanagar, who was the first runner-up of Mega Miss North East 2016. There is a lot of potential among the youth here, and pageants like these will help

them get the stage that they deserve. I want to see my tribe achieving everything they deserve, not just in the regional platform, but nationally and internationally as well."

Mariam added that she has always been a decent student and a good multitasker, hence balancing her responsibilities as Mega Miss North East and education will not be a difficult task for her.

Mariam's felicitation and welcome programme was attended by Circle Officer, Kharsang, R.K. Rai, ex-Zilla Parishad member, Korong Longri and members of Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society, Tangsa Youth Association (Miao and Kharsang Unit), Kharsang Circle Unemployed Youth Association, Kharsang Badminton Club.

In addition, many school students and people from different parts of the town also attended the felicitation programme, reads the release.

Vietnam seeks larger share of Indian tourists



KOLKATA, JUL 5 (PTI): Vietnam wants a larger inflow of Indian tourists, who are yet to show as much interest in this far eastern country as they do in its neighbours like Thailand and Malaysia.

Nguyen Le Thanh, deputy chief of mission at Vietnam Embassy, today said 20 million Indians travel overseas every year, while only 90,000 of them go to visit Vietnam.

"India has a very important place in our foreign policy and we have a comprehensive strategic partnership. The bonding will strengthen further with more people to people contact and this can be boosted through tourism," she said.

There are, however, no direct flight to any Vietnamese destination from Indian cities.

Thanh said the first direct air service between Vietnam's most populous city Ho Chi

Minh City and New Delhi is likely to commence by the last quarter of this financial year.

She said Vietnam has seen a rapid rise in tourist inflow from the other parts of the world with an average 25 to 30 per cent increase in numbers every year compared to the previous year.

"From just 2.5 lakh overseas tourists in 1990, Vietnam has registered 13 million tourist arrivals in 2017," she said.

Thanh said that the country has a great heritage with a 4000-year-old history.

With a very long coastline, the S-shaped country has 125 beaches including the popular Nha Trang, Da Nang and Phu Quoc island, she said.

She said the country is peaceful and safe with friendly people and boasts of an exquisite cuisine.

Power tariff remains unchanged in West Bengal

KOLKATA, JUL 5 (PTI): The power tariff in West Bengal remained unchanged for 2017-18 despite rise in fuel costs, the state's Electricity Regulatory Commission (WERB) said today.

"After review, we have not increased the tariff for 2017-18 keeping the interest of consumers in mind, in spite of huge pressure from the major utilities to increase the tariff," WBERC chairman R N Sen told PTI.

Private utility the CESC and the state run West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Com-

pany Limited (WBSEDCL) have put pressure on the Commission to hike the tariff due to rise in fuel costs, he said.

The CESC covers Kolkata and Howrah, while the WBSEDCL caters to the consumers of rest of the state.

The WBERC had earlier declared the 2017-18 tariff as per multi-year tariff scheme, but based on demand by the utilities, the tariff is reviewed but the tariffs remained unchanged.

The CESC had asked for a revised tariff of around Rs 8.40 per

unit and WBSEDCL had sought about Rs 7.70 per unit.

But the average power tariff of WBSEDCL remained unaltered at Rs 7.12 per unit, while that of the CESC remained unchanged at Rs 7.31 per unit.

Tariff for the 2018-19 is yet to be announced.

State Power Minister Shobhandeb Chatterjee said, "We are happy that the Commission has not put any additional burden on consumers. We will still be paying subsidy for earlier rise, upto 300 units."



Maintain 'Pan Arunchal view' for all dev work: Guv to officers

ITANAGAR, JUL 5 (PTI): Arunachal Pradesh Governor Brig (Retd) B D Mishra today urged the government officials to maintain a 'pan Arunachal view' while carrying out development work in the state, an official release said here today.

The governor also stressed that any initiative taken by the officials should be able to address the challenges faced by majority of the population in Arunachal.

Addressing a meeting of the state's senior officers at Raj Bhavan here, Mishra stated that "every paisa spent" from the public funds on any programme or project should be utilized to bring about development, the release said.

The meeting was convened to discuss issues that could be raised at a ple-

nary conference of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Shillong on July 9 and 10, it said.

The governor, during today's meet, also shared his concerns about the alleged corrupt practices and absence of government officials from their offices.

He asked the bureaucrats to suggest issues that could be taken up for discussion at the plenary meeting.

"The state must make best use of the NEC forum to solve problems related to road connectivity, law and order, infrastructure, education and health," the release said quoting Mishra.

The governor also advised the officers to explore institutional mechanism to expedite the implementation of NEC-sponsored projects, it added.

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To stop lynchings, police provide WhatsApp helplines, rope in fact-checking sites

MUMBAI, JUL 5 (PTI): Following the lynching of five men in Dhule district, Maharashtra police are taking several preventive steps, including publication of WhatsApp numbers of police control rooms where help can be sought.

Police are also roping in fact-checking websites to verify rumours on social media and debunk fake news.

"We have issued WhatsApp numbers where people can send messages to seek help (or to verify rumours)," said Special Inspector General of Police (Cyber Crime) Brijesh Singh.

WhatsApp messages can be sent to following numbers: Maharashtra State Police Control Room 7506777100/ 7506888100, Navi Mumbai Police 8424820665, Thane City Police - 9769724127 / 9969365100, Thane Rural 7045100222, Palghar 9730811119 / 9730711119, Raigad 7057672227 / 7057362226, Mumbai Railway Police 9833312222.

Police are also taking the help of fact-checking websites such as SM HoaxSlayer, Boom Facts and Alt News to do a forensic analysis of viral rumours and debunk fake news, Singh said.

"The government's publicity department, in association with the Cyber Cell of police, is devising short messages for radio, television and social media platforms about how people should deal with rumours.

"We have put up 1,000 hoardings in the state, giving local WhatsApp numbers (of police control room)," he said.

A massive awareness campaign has been launched, he said, adding that police officials have been holding press conferences at the district level about how to deal with viral rumours and situations involving angry mobs.

Superintendent of Police, Cyber Cell, Balsing Rajput said that anyone found spreading rumours on social media to create tension between two groups or communities can be booked under the stringent provisions of the IPC and Information Technology Act.

FIFA condemns Maradona comments about England-Colombia referee

MOSCOW, JULY 5 (AFP): FIFA condemned comments by Diego Maradona, after the Argentinian legend claimed that Colombia only lost to England in the World Cup last 16 because of the appointment of referee Mark Geiger for the match.

The 1986 World Cup winner said England's win was a "monumental robbery" after Gareth Southgate's men edged through a bad-tempered encounter on penalties on Tuesday.

"I apologise to all the Colombian people, but the players are not to blame -- here is a gentleman (FIFA referees boss Pierluigi Collina) who decides to choose a referee who, by googling him, can't be used for a match of this magnitude," Maradona told Venezuelan TV channel Telesur.

Maradona was at the match as a guest of FIFA and was pictured before the game wearing a Colombia shirt.

Football's world governing



body responded, saying it was "extremely sorry" to read the comments from "a players who has written the history of our game".

"Following comments made by Diego Armando Maradona in relation to yesterday's round of 16 game, Colombia v England, FIFA strongly rebukes the criticism of the performance of the match officials which it considers to have been positive in a tough and highly emotional match," a FIFA spokesperson

said in a statement.

"Furthermore, it also considers the additional comments and insinuations made as being entirely inappropriate and completely unfounded." Colombian captain Radamel Falcao also criticised American official Geiger, calling his performance a "disgrace".

Geiger awarded England a second-half penalty after midfielder Carlos Sanchez wrestled Harry Kane to the ground,

but also punished an apparent headbutt by Colombia's Wilmar Barrios on Jordan Henderson with only a yellow card.

"It was clear that in the 50-50 calls, he always sided with England and this is a disgrace in the round of 16," said Falcao.

Geiger was suspended from international football for six months after several controversial decisions during a 2015 Gold Cup semi-final between Panama and Mexico.

He also refereed Colombia's 3-0 group-stage win over Greece at the 2014 World Cup.

Former England striker Gary Lineker laughed off Maradona's comments on Twitter, referencing the Argentinian's infamous 'Hand of God' goal against England in the 1986 quarter-finals.

"The sheer effrontery from the fella who punched one in. You've got to hand it to him."

England face Sweden in the last eight in Samara on Saturday.

West Indies dismiss Bangladesh for record Test low of 43

North Sound (Antigua and Barbuda), Jul 5 (AFP): Kemar Roach led the demolition of Bangladesh with a five-wicket haul as the tourists were dismissed for 43, their lowest total ever in Test cricket, before lunch on the opening day of the first Test against the West Indies at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

By stumps the West Indies top-order had built on that dominant bowling effort in reaching 201 for two, a lead already of 158 runs with eight wickets in hand.

Opening batsman Kraigg Brathwaite played his usual sheet-anchor role to perfection in compiling an unbeaten 88 from almost five hours at

the crease.

He put on 113 for the first wicket with Devon Smith (58), while Kieran Powell stroked his way to 48 in an 81-run stand before falling just before the close of play.

Their serene progress through two sessions contrasted sharply with Bangladesh's woe-ful batting performance.

Apart from being their lowest Test innings total and lowest for any team in Test cricket in the Caribbean, it was also the second shortest first innings of a Test match -- 18.4 overs - in the game's 141-year history, bettering by just one delivery Australia's dismissal for 60 off 18.3 overs by England at Nottingham in 2015.

2nd T20I: India look to wrap up early series win

CARDIFF, JUL 5 (PTI): A dominant opening win has set the tone and India would look to ensure that a spin-wary England remains on the back-foot when the two sides clash in the second T20 International, here tomorrow.

Kuldeep Yadav took 5-24 and KL Rahul scored an unbeaten second T20I ton as the Men in Blue produced a fine all-round display to stun the hosts by eight wickets in Manchester for an early lead on this tour. A win tomorrow would seal the three-match series for Virat Kohli and Co.

In fact, India stand on the cusp of a sixth successive T20I series' win -- a run stretching back to their 2-1 win over New Zealand at home in November 2017. In all, they have been unbeaten in bilateral T20I series since September last year.

In terms of ICC Rankings, a 2-0 series' lead will allow India to close the gap with second-placed Australia, while a 3-0 whitewash will help them overleap to second behind top-ranked Pakistan.

Australia will have to win both their next two games in the ongoing tri-series in Zimbabwe to stay above India.

A loss on Friday will see England drop down to rank seven below New Zealand, South Africa and West Indies, respectively.

It will be a surprising downturn for the high-flying English team, one of the better in limited-overs' cricket at the moment. It is a stark reminder of their poor winning ratio nevertheless, having won only 5 out of their last 10 T20 internationals.

The big question facing England is how to contend with the unorthodox wrist spin of Kuldeep Yadav.

In the aftermath of their loss on Tuesday, both skipper Eoin Morgan and ace batsman Jos Buttler have urged their teammates to show more patience at the crease and watch the ball carefully.



But with such a short turnaround in the fixtures' list, it is easier said than done.

The English camp will deploy the services of spin-bowling machine 'Merlyn' at Cardiff. A scarcity of unorthodox wrist spinners to practice against is one of the key reasons for this move, as the spin-bowling machine is capable of replicating every style of delivery.

An English team last used it ahead of the 2005 Ashes, when they were practicing to contend with Shane Warne.

A key reason underlined by Morgan after the first defeat was that the middle-order batsmen, Jonny Bairstow and Joe Root, who both got stumped off successive googlies, needed more time to settle in.

Despite the loss, one of the key strengths for England is their top-

order's ability to handle pace and they would like another fast start at Cardiff.

It is perhaps the only real concern for India emanating from that first game as the enforced new-ball pairing of Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Umesh Yadav was proven ineffective at Old Trafford.

Even with Kuldeep causing all sorts of trouble for the hosts, India wouldn't like to pull things back after a high-flying English start once again.

The visitors are unlikely to make a change and disturb their winning combination and the pacers will have to learn from the experience of bowling on such batsmen-friendly pitches.

England's top-order, in particular Jason Roy, doesn't enjoy facing spin in the powerplay overs, and India

might opt for Krunal Pandya, who is proficient at bowling economical left-arm spin.

However, it is tough to see the Indian team management making space for him in the eleven after just one game. Instead, they might back Yuzvendra Chahal to deliver any initial spin overs, despite being taken for runs in Manchester.

Weather could play a part in the game here at the Sophia Gardens. After enjoying a sunny welcome both in Dublin and Manchester, the team was greeted to typical English grey skies, light rain and chill when they arrived in Cardiff on Wednesday.

It is expected to clear out for match day, but rain curtailed the last game these two sides played here in 2014.

India had won that ODI with an all-round performance from Suresh

Raina.

England pacer Tom Curran has been ruled out of the remaining T20Is and the ODI series owing to a left side strain. For the ODIs, his brother Sam has been named as replacement.

Teams:

India: Virat Kohli (c), Shikhar Dhawan, Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Suresh Raina, Manish Pandey, MS Dhoni (wk), Dinesh Karthik, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Krunal Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Deepak Chahar, Hardik Pandya, Siddarth Kaul, Umesh Yadav.

England: Eoin Morgan (c), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Jake Ball, Jos Buttler (wk), Sam Curran, Alex Hales, Chris Jordan, Liam Plunkett, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason Roy, David Willey, Dawid Malan.

Match starts at: 10 pm IST.

Draws for Asiad football announced, India not part of it



NEW DELHI, JUL 5 (PTI): It's official now. The Indian football teams have no chance of competing in the upcoming Asian Games in Indonesia as the country didn't feature in the event's official draws released today.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had decided against sending the men's and women's football teams to Indonesia this time after they failed to meet the qualifying criteria set by the Olympic body.

The IOA chose not to clear Indian men's and women's football teams after deeming them "incompetent" to win any medals.

The Indian men's football team was hoping to use the Asian Games as a build up for next year's AFC Asian Cup.

The decision has led to a controversy with All India Football Federation (AIFF) calling IOA's decision "myopic".

The move can be seen as a retrospective one given that Indian football has been witnessing a steady rise in the past few years.

The national side has jumped from 173 to 97 in the FIFA rankings, qualified for the AFC Asian Cup 2019 and has successfully hosted the FIFA U-17 World Cup.

The 'Blue Tigers' are currently ranked 14th in Asia, after a string of recent good performances in international matches.

Meanwhile, according to the draw, 24 teams will be competing in the men's event while the women's category will have 11 nations.

Hosts Indonesia drew Hong Kong, Laos and Chinese Taipei in Group A of the U-23 men's tournament, which allows each country to field three overage players.

Group B has Thailand, Uzbekistan, Bangladesh and Qatar, while Group C will see 2014 bronze medallists Iraq, China PR, Timor-Leste and Syria.

Japan were the seeded team in Group D and they were drawn with Vietnam, Pakistan and Nepal.

DPR Korea, the 2014 silver medallists,

will face Saudi Arabia, Islamic Republic of Iran and Myanmar in Group F.

The top two teams in each group along with the four best third placed teams will advance to the Round of 16.

Men's football will be contested from August 14 to September 1 in Jakarta and Palembang.

The women's competition, meanwhile, saw hosts Indonesia drawn with 2014 bronze medallists Korea Republic, Chinese Taipei and Maldives in Group A.

The 11-team competition will see 2014 champions DPR Korea in Group B with China, Hong Kong and Tajikistan while Group C has 2014 silver medallists Japan, Vietnam and Thailand.

The top three teams from Group A and B, together with the top two teams from Group C, will advance to the quarter-finals.

Women's football competition will be held from August 16 to 31.

Tata Motors-owned JLR warns against a bad Brexit deal

ADITI KHANNA
LONDON, JUL 5 (PTI): Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover has issued a stark warning against a "bad Brexit deal", saying it could hit the Britain's biggest carmaker's annual profits by over 1.2 billion pounds and may even force an exit from the UK.

Britain is set to exit the 28-member European Union in March next year.

"A bad Brexit deal would cost Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) more than 1.2 billion pounds profit each year. As a result, we would have to drastically adjust our spending profile," JLR CEO Ralf Speth warned in a statement yesterday, as British Prime Minister Theresa May prepared for a crucial meeting with her Cabinet at her country retreat of Chequers to hammer out the contours of a new post-Brexit customs arrangement with the European Union (EU) tomorrow.

"I don't want to threaten anybody, but we have to make transparent the implications of the move. We want to stay in the UK. Jaguar Land Rover's heart and soul is in



the UK," he said.

"We urgently need greater certainty to continue to invest heavily in the UK and safeguard our suppliers, customers and 40,000 British-based employees," he said.

JLR is the UK's largest carmaker, which has witnessed a complete turnaround in its fortunes since Tata Motors acquired the traditional

British brands from Ford 10 years ago.

Speth said that under Indian ownership, the company has spent around 50 billion pounds in the UK in the past five years, with plans for a further 80 billion pounds in the next five. However, all that could be put in "jeopardy" with a bad deal with the EU as Britain prepares to exit the 28-member economic

bloc in March next year.

"We, and our partners in the supply chain, face an unpredictable future if the Brexit negotiations do not maintain free and frictionless trade with the EU and unrestricted access to the single market," said Speth.

In comments to "The Financial Times" the JLR CEO even indicated the prospect of a UK exit: "If I'm forced to

go out because we don't have the right deal, then we have to close plants here in the UK and it will be very, very sad.

"This is hypothetical, and I hope it's an option we never have to go for."

Business Secretary Greg Clark said that the UK government is determined to ensure JLR can remain in Britain.

"JLR is a great British

success story. We are determined to make sure that it can continue to prosper and to invest in Britain," Clark tweeted.

More than 40,000 workers are employed by JLR in the UK, with a further 260,000 jobs in the UK supply chain. In 2017, the company sold 621,000 cars, with 80 per cent of them going to 130 countries. One in three cars exported from the UK are Jaguars or Land Rovers, with Europe one of JLR's largest markets at 20 per cent of all cars being sold there.

"If the UK automotive industry is to remain globally competitive and protect 300,000 jobs in JLR and our supply chain, we must retain tariff and customs-free access to trade and talent with no change to current EU regulations," Speth said.

"Electrification and connectivity offer significant economic and productivity opportunities - get Brexit wrong and British people, businesses and broader society lose the chance to lead in smart mobility," he added.

Uncertainty over Brexit,

as well as the future of diesel cars, has already led the carmaker to announce a series of changes to its UK business. At the beginning of the year, JLR said it would cut production at its plant in Halewood, Merseyside, where it builds three of its Range Rover models.

In April, it said that it would not renew the contracts for 1,000 temporary workers at its operation at Solihull in the West Midlands region of England. But the company had also revealed plans to invest in the Solihull site to allow it to build its new Range Rover models, some of which will be electric-powered, from 2020.

Last month, JLR said it would shift production of its Land Rover Discovery SUV to a new plant in Slovakia, potentially leading to some job losses in the UK.

The company's Brexit intervention comes in the wake of similar statements by other manufacturing giants like BMW and Airbus, warning of a UK exit in the event of a "no-deal" Brexit that demolishes the current free trade regime.

China welcomes Air India's decision to change Taiwan's name on its website

BEIJING, JUL 5 (PTI): China today welcomed Air India's decision to change Taiwan's name to Chinese Taipei on its website and asserted that foreign companies operating in the country must obey China's law and respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

China views Taiwan, an island which has been independent since 1950, as a rebel region that must be reunited with the mainland - by force if necessary.

China had raised concerns about Taiwan being described as a separate region by some airlines worldwide, following which carriers like Singapore Airlines, Japan Airlines and Air Canada have changed description of Taiwan on their websites.

Responding to Air India's decision to change the name of Taiwan on its website, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said Beijing welcome the move.

"Our position on this issue is quite clear. The Indian side and other countries must be clear about our position on this issue,".

"Air India is respecting the basic fact that there is one China and Taiwan is part of China. We approve of that," Lu said.

"Respecting China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and obeying Chinese law is a basic principle that foreign companies need to follow in China," Lu added.

Earlier, Air India's spokesperson said it followed the procedure as advised by the Ministry of External Affairs in updating its website with respect to changing name of Taiwan. Air India operates flights to two destinations in China - Shanghai and Hong Kong.

China has claimed sovereignty over Taiwan since the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949, when the defeated Nationalist government fled to the island.



A British cave diver who helped find a missing football coach and 12 boys has been honoured by Thai authorities. Robert Charles Harper was one third of the British cave diving team who found the twelve teenagers and their coach, who had been trapped in a Thai cave in pitch darkness without food or water for nine days by monsoon rains. Rescuers are still trying to save the group - who may have to dive more than a mile to safety. Mr Harper, from Wells in Somerset, received a warm farewell at Suvarnabhumi Airport and was given a certificate of appreciation by Thailand's tourism and sports minister as he left the country.

Cave rescuers setting up internet, drain water

MAE SAI (THAILAND), JUL 5 (AP): A Thai official says rescue teams are still busy trying to install an internet cable to the cave so that parents can talk to their trapped children.

Korbchai Boonorana, deputy director of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, also says today rescuers are continuing to drain water from wells near the cave complex to reduce water levels inside in order to make the extraction of the 12 teammates and their coach possible.

He says: "The water continues to be drained out. The more the better." Chiang Rai provincial Governor Narongsak Osatanakorn said earlier that not all the boys may be extracted at the same time depending on their health.

He said any extraction has to be "100 per cent safe."

The Thai official overseeing the rescue operation of a soccer team trapped in a flooded cave says the boys and their coach may not all be extracted at the same time depending on their health.

Chiang Rai provincial Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn said Wednesday that "all 13 may not come out at the same time. If the condition is right and if that person is ready 100 per cent, he can come out." He said authorities will evaluate their readiness



each day, and if there is any risk will not proceed.

He said the team is currently recuperating.

Authorities are still determining the best way to get the team out of the cave, options that include diving.

Thai authorities are working to with navy SEALs to run a fiber optic internet line into a flooded cave in northern Thailand where 12 young soccer players and their coach are trapped.

Communication technician Phooanart Keawdum said Wednesday that once the cable is installed, phone calls to the cave will be possible.

Authorities tried to do the same Tuesday, but the equipment was damaged by the water.

In latest videos released by the Thai navy, the boys and coach say they're fine. The

group entered the cave in northern Thailand on June 23 before flooding cut off the main entrance. Rescuers are studying how to extract them safely.

Thailand's navy is continuing to release videos of the young soccer players trapped in a flooded cave in northern Thailand.

The two latest videos posted to a navy Facebook page late yesterday morning show a navy SEAL treating minor cuts on the feet and legs of the boys with antibiotic ointment. Several of the boys are seen smiling as they interact with the navy SEAL, who cracks jokes.

Other boys are seen sleeping under foil warming blankets. A previous video released early yesterday showed the boys saying they were healthy.

The Thai official overseeing the rescue operation of a soccer

team trapped in a flooded cave says the boys have been practicing wearing diving masks and breathing.

Officials have said that teaching the 12 boys and their coach to dive may be the only way to get them out of the cave, but other options are being explored.

Chiang Rai provincial Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn said Wednesday that while the team has been practicing with masks, he doesn't believe they have attempted any practice dives.

He said it is unknown when an extraction could be attempted, but it is unlikely to be yesterday. He said any extraction has to be "100 per cent safe."

The soccer teammates stranded more than a week in a partly flooded cave say they are healthy on a new Thai navy video.

The boys and their coach introduce themselves individually with the camera turning to show a Thai navy SEAL with them. They smile at times and interact with the SEAL who asks questions.

Some appeared to be wearing a change of clothes since they were found late Monday and most were wrapped in foil warming blankets.

The video lasting about a minute was recorded sometime Tuesday and was posted on the navy SEAL Facebook page yesterday morning.

~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS

LOST: I, Sangay Chenzom Bhutia daughter of P.T. Bhutia & P.D. Bhutia has misplaced/lost my Class X ICSE Mark Sheet in original against Uid no. 6113440 and passed out from Tashi Namgyal School, Gangtok.

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

OBITUARY

John 14:1-4 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God: believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going."



Late Elder Andrew Rai, former Assistant Engineer, Central Public Works Department, Government of India, passed away peacefully on July 3, 2018 (Tuesday) at 07.50 p.m. His Funeral Service will be held on **July 6, 2018 (Friday)** as

per the following schedule;
09.30 a.m. Residence "Lulam Khim" to Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Sikkim (EPCS), Church Road, Gangtok.
11.00 a.m. Funeral Service at EPCS, Burial at Bakthang Burial Ground, Gangtok.
06.00 p.m. Memorial Service at Residence "Lulam Khim", **Development Area, near State Bank of India Zero Point Branch, Gangtok.**

Mrs. Srikumari Rai, wife (Bulu Guruama) and family

Anthyeshi Kiya



On 25th of June, 2018, **Mr. Rajen Karkidholi**, son of late Arjun Karkidholi left for heavenly abode. We the family members would like to thank everyone who was part of his story. We believe that he responsibly concluded his role as a husband, father, brother, friend and a public servant. While we reminisce about him, we request everyone who cared and wished him well to join us in offering prayers and to bid him a final farewell. The ceremony will be held at our residence at **Maneydara, Lingding, below Indira Bypass (SDF Bhawan), Gangtok on 7th July, 2018 [Saturday].**

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



SUMMER IN THE CITY! Model Alessandra Ambrosio is seen out for a stroll in her daisy dukes during a warm day in the Big Apple.

STRENGTH AND LOVE: BOLLYWOOD TO SONALI BENDRE AFTER CANCER DIAGNOSIS

MUMBAI, JUL 5 (PTI): Sonali Bendre Behl, who yesterday revealed that she is fighting cancer, has found support and encouragement from her peers and friends in Bollywood.

Celebrities such as Karan Johar, Sonam Kapoor and Rishi Deshmukh took to social media to wish the actor a "speedy recovery".

"Godspeed, love and strength to a true fighter and a solid soul!" Johar, who worked with the actor in "Kal Ho Na Ho", wrote.

Deshmukh said he was "deeply saddened and shaken" by the news, and was praying for her speedy recovery and good health. He also extended his support to Sonali's husband Goldie Behl, tweeting that he was "sending all the positivity and best wishes."

Ileana D'Cruz also extended "strength and love" to the actor, while Rajkumar Rao



wrote "wishing you a speedy recovery ma'am. Sending you all my love and prayers."

Actor Vivek Oberoi called her "one of the strongest women" he knew.

"Cancer will surely lose this fight! Our love and prayers are with you always," he added.

Comedian Aditi Mittal wrote: "Sonali, like everything else you do, we are confident that you will conquer this as well. Sending so much love and positivity your way."

Divya Dutta said she remembered Sonali as "a girl with so much strength and will power," adding that her prayers and wishes were with her.

Arjun Kapoor took to Twitter to tweet his

encouragement.

"Fight that bastard Sonali, don't let it win," he wrote.

Kapoor and his cousin, actor Sonam also commented on Sonali Bendre Behl's Instagram post, sending her love and

positivity.

Designer Manish Malhotra commented on her Instagram post, writing "Wishes and strength and love with you Sonali."

Actor Neelam Soni, who worked with Sonali in "Hum Saath Saath Hain", commented, "You are the strongest girl I know. My superwoman."

Other members of the industry like Ekta Kapoor, Karan Wahi, Mandira Bedi and Sophie Choudry also extended support to the actor on various social media platforms.

Sonali, in a statement on Twitter, wrote that she is fighting a "high grade" cancer and is currently in the US for treatment.

JK ROWLING TROLLS DONALD TRUMP OVER 'POUR' SPELLING

JK Rowling has mocked Donald Trump on Twitter, pointing out an unfortunate typo in a tweet he posted to brag about his writing ability.

The bestselling Harry Potter author, who has sold over 500 million books across the world, was so amused by Mr Trump's error she filled her Twitter feed with laughter - writing "hahaha" for lines on end.

Her hilarity was prompted by a tweet the US president posted attacking "Fake News" and explaining his idiosyncratic use of capital letters.

Mr Trump wrote: "After having written many best selling books, and somewhat priding myself on my ability to write, it should be noted that the Fake News constantly likes to pour over my tweets looking for a mistake. I capitalize certain words only for emphasis, not b/c they should be capitalized!"

In a series of tweets, Rowling wrote "pour" (again followed by lots of laughter), before mocking his claim to have "written many best-selling books", suggesting Mr Trump may use a ghostwriter.

A biographer of the president, Tim O'Brien, quickly backed up her theory, tweeting: "President Trump didn't write any of his books. Ghostwriters on all of them."



Rowling also found Mr Trump's evident pride over his writing ability very amusing, tweeting: "*wipes eyes, tries to control breathing* Seriously, @realDonaldTrump is the Gratest Writer on earth."

The official account for Merriam-Webster Dictionary gave a tongue-in-cheek explanation of the definitions for "pore over" and "pour over", adding in a cheeky third option: "pore over" "to read or study very carefully" - "pour over" "to make expensive coffee" - "comb over" "to comb hair from the side of the head to cover the bald spot".

Chat show host Jimmy Kimmel and



Guardians Of The Galaxy director James Gunn were also quick to flag the president's error.

It is not the first time Mr Trump has been publicly outed for his Twitter typos.

In December 2016, he tweeted about the "unpresidented" act of China capturing a US Navy research drone. He later deleted the post to replace it with the correct spelling - but not before he was widely mocked on social media.

Last May, Mr Trump's infamous mid-night "covfe" tweet spawned numerous memes, its own entry in the Urban Dictionary and a whole host of conspiracy theories.

FILM ON CHINESE MAN CHARGED WITH SELLING "FAKE" INDIAN DRUG SET TO TAKE THEATRES BY STORM

BEIJING, JUL 5 (PTI): A film on a Chinese merchant, charged with selling "fake" Indian generic cancer drug to hundreds of leukemia patients four years ago, is ready to hit theatres and expected to win big at the box office as the movie has set social media abuzz with its "moving" story.

Directed by Wen Muye and co-produced by renowned directors Ning Hao and Xu Zheng, Chinese noir comedy 'Dying to Survive' earned an estimated 115 million yuan (USD 17.3 million) from advanced limited release screenings that ran from Saturday to yesterday.

The film has also become one of the most discussed topics on Chinese social media, where moviegoers have passionately described the story as a "moving and realistic five-star work" and how they used up "packets of tissues" to wipe away their tears while watching the film.

The film is loosely based on the story of Lu, who has been regarded as a hero of sorts for importing and selling less expensive generic anticancer drugs from India to Chinese mainland chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) patients who couldn't afford the exorbitant licensed drug produced by a Swiss pharmaceutical giant.

SCARLETT JOHANSSON FACES BACKLASH OVER TRANSGENDER ROLE

Scarlett Johansson is facing a barrage of criticism after being cast in the role of a transgender man who ran a chain of American brothels.

Rub & Tug tells the true-life story of Dante "Tex" Gill who managed an empire of illicit massage parlours in Pittsburgh during the 1970s. Transitioning from female to male during the film, Gill flourishes in the male dominated mob world of prostitution and crime.

However, some people have called Johansson's casting highly problematic.

People on Twitter were quick to react, with nefer-tary writing: "So first scarlet johansson, a white cis woman, takes the role of ghost in the shell and now she's playing as a transgender person with the same director?"

Cisgender, or cis for short, is the term for people who identify as the sex they were assigned at birth.

Another Twitter user, Taylor, imagined a conversation between the trans community and Hollywood directors.

They wrote: "trans actors: nobody will hire me cuz they only want cis people / film industry: hey, we gon make a movie about a trans person / trans people: finally! a role perfect for me / film industry: no sorry lol we got scarlett johansson / this time haha maybe the next one?"

User Antioni wrote on Twitter: "Roles portraying members of oppressed communities should be played by actors from those communities. It's really not that hard. Scarlett Johansson has done



this twice now. There's no excuse."

After an influx of comments on his post, he later added: "I'd love to see more LGBT roles. I'd love to see more trans actors in cis and trans roles. I do think casting directors should look for actors that fit the character's description. I just don't think it should be mandatory."

Johansson herself has addressed the controversy, giving a comment to online magazine Bustle via a representative: "Tell them that they can be directed to Jeffrey Tambor, Jared Leto, and Felicity Huffman's reps for comment."

The three actors mentioned all received acclaim for their portrayal of transgender characters.

Tambor won an Emmy for his portrayal of Maura Pfefferman in Transparent. Leto won an Oscar playing a trans woman in Dallas Buyers Club

and Huffman was nominated for an Oscar for her role in Transamerica.

This is not the first time Johansson has faced a backlash over her choice of role, nor is it the first time she has worked with director Rupert Sanders.

The 33-year-old actress faced accusations of "white-washing" after being cast as cyborg soldier Mira Killian / Major Kusanagi - a role originally written as east Asian - in futuristic crime drama Ghost In The Shell.

The 2017 film was also directed by Sanders.

Rub & Tug is due to go into production early next year, and lists both Johansson and Spider Man actor Tobey Maguire among its producers.

Gill, who was born Lois Jean Gill but lived her life as a man and married her long-term partner Cynthia Bruno, died in 2003.

ARIES: Things might get a bit confusing for you today, Aries. Don't feel like you need to make sense of it all. In fact, this task may be impossible. Just be yourself. Let your creative nature shine through. Other people are quite malleable, and you should feel free to take the lead in just about any situation. Make sure, however, that you consider other people's needs.

TAURUS: Mix your reality with a bit of fantasy today, Taurus. Allow your feet to come off the ground for a little while. Give yourself a rest. Take some time to meditate and clear your mind of your daily worries. Calming, relaxing activities are the best way to spend the day. Spend time taking walks with friends and feel free to go deep into conversations regarding outlandish subjects. Allow yourself to dream.

GEMINI: Let yourself go into high creative mode and drift into a whole other world, Gemini. Escape your present reality and explore your fantasies through any sort of artistic endeavor. Dream as big as your mind allows. There's no limit to the things that can manifest on a day like today. Push your limits and test your boundaries. You may be able to soar much higher than you think.

CANCER: You'll find that things are slipping nicely into place for you today, Cancer. Your persuasive manner and gentle nudges are just enough to get people where you want them. Control is all yours if you want it. Remember that you need to be willing to accept the blame for failure as well as praise for success. Any risks you take today, however, are likely to work out in your favor.

LEO: When faced with ten entrees on the menu, it might be hard for you to choose just one. Feel free to order two or more, Leo. Don't let indecisiveness slow you down. At the same time, don't view it as something negative. The key for today is to go with the flow. Expand your dreams as far and wide as you wish. Have fun as long as you're willing to take full responsibility for your actions.

VIRGO: Your dreams won't come true unless you believe in and act on them, Virgo. No one else is going to do it for you. Unless you have a fairy godmother, you need to take matters into your own hands. Realize, however, that you can get there many different ways. The first step is to believe in yourself. Anything is possible. Today is a great day to let your imagination call the shots.

LIBRA: If people hassle you or give you a hard time about your appearance today, pay them no mind, Libra. You have the right to live your life any way you want to. If that means you want to go around the house in a grubby T-shirt and tattered sweat pants that haven't been washed in months, then so be it. Feel free to be whoever you want to be.

SCORPIO: Reach for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, Scorpio. It's closer than you think. Indeed, your dreams are completely within your reach, and there are huge forces at work helping you achieve your goals. You should find yourself in a favorable mood all day. People will be more sensitive than usual to your emotions. Let your fantasies lead the way.

SAGITTARIUS: Today is your day

to dream and dream big, Sagittarius. Think about what it is that you want most out of life. Aim your arrow to the stars and pull back your bow as far as possible. There's no limit to how far you can go. Your only limitation is your imagination. Don't worry if your plan doesn't seem to make any rational sense. Worry more about what you want and less about how you're going to get it.

CAPRICORN: Expand your mind to its furthest reaches today, Capricorn. There's an incredible opportunity opening up for you in which you can make great strides in a creative realm. Follow the music. Pick up an instrument, go to the record store, or listen to a live band. Let the artist within have room to play. Shoot for a goal and don't stop until you reach it.

AQUARIUS: Your mind may seem rather cloudy today, Aquarius, but don't let this hinder you. In fact, you'll find that you can use this feeling of fantasy to your advantage. Try to bring more magic into your life. You'll discover that the more you accept your bizarre feelings and ideas, the more things will fall into place. Don't think that everything in life has to be completely rational.

PISCES: Today is an excellent day for you, one in which you'll find a great deal of strength in your emotions, Pisces. Trust that your instincts are serving you well. You have nothing to lose by following your heart. This is an important time for you to rekindle the dreams that you've let smolder. Bring more of your fantasy world into your everyday life.