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SummitTIMES

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

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UDHD reduces ground rent for urban areas by 50%

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Urban Development & Housing Department [UDHD] has reduced ground rent for urban areas of the State by 50%. This news was shared with media by Gangtok MLA, Pinto Chopel Lepcha, at a press meet held in the office of UDHD Secretary today.

A notification had been issued by UDHD on 21 Aug revising the ground rent in various bazaar areas.

The new ground rent [Dhuri Khajana] per 100 sq ft in Gangtok is Rs 200, for Deorali Rs 200 and for Tadong Rs 150.

Likewise, the new ground rent for Singtam, Rangpo, Ranipool, Jorethang, Namchi, Gyalshing, Mangan and Nayabazaar is Rs 100 per 100 sq ft. For other bazaar areas, it is fixed at Rs 25 per 100 sq ft. The revision by the



department has come after public dissatisfaction over a 2016 notification wherein the Dhuri Khajana had been increased by 10 times.

Gangtok MLA, Mr Lepcha, informed that the State Government has taken this pro-people decision following public

grievances shared by public in Gangtok and other urban areas of the State.

Another important notification has been issued by the UDHD on 21 Aug stating that the State Government has considered regularisation fee of unauthorised construction on both Government allotted

sites and private sites at a nominal rate of 50% of the existing regularisation fee within a window period of 60 days. All applications to this effect have to be submitted to the chief town planner within 60 working days of the notification.

Chief town planner,

Devika Sharma, during the press meet, highlighted on many unauthorized constructions on Government allotted lands and private lands without the submission of the blueprints. On payment of the regularisation fees, such encroachment and unauthorized

construction will come undone, she added.

"Beneficiaries vary in economic background and all applications will be welcomed. 50% reduction on current rates will be given to the land owners of urban areas and their registrations will be done," said Ms Sharma.



Governor conveys best wishes on the eve of his demitting office

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Governor Shrinivas Patil has conveyed his greetings and gratitude to the people of Sikkim on the eve of his demitting his office as Governor.

In his message to the people of Sikkim in a press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan, the Governor has said, "As I demit my office of Governor of this wonderful State of Sikkim, I am overwhelmed with emotions to put across my deep sense of gratitude for all the warmth, affection and respect showered upon me by Sikkimite from all walks of life.

The cooperation I received from every government agencies, departments, public representatives, members of NGOs and people in general have contributed immensely to my gubernatorial obligations and made my stay at Raj Bhavan truly memorable and worthwhile.

Sikkim has exemplified the cooperative federalism in letter and spirit and has remained in the forefront when it comes to the participation and implementation of central flagship schemes, ensuring optimum results. Sikkim has shown the rest of the country how national interest and the aspiration of the State can be synergized for common goal of economic growth, peace

and happiness.

Sikkim has enormous possibilities for future. The unparalleled natural endowments and its immensely talented youth population can propel this beautiful State to even greater heights of progress and prosperity. I call upon my dear young minds to expand your vision and start dreaming beyond the confinement of borders. You have what it takes to conquer the world if you start believing on yourself.

I also call upon my Sikkimite brethren to continue fostering the brotherhood, harmony and mutual respect among different sections and communities which has remained the hallmark of Sikkim's identity and has contributed to the State's phenomenal progress so far.

It was indeed a privilege to remain a witness as its first citizen, Sikkim's journey towards progress and prosperity over the last five years and share the joy and agony together with my Sikkimite brethren. I will cherish these fond memories of living in harmony with nature in true sense, which perhaps will be my biggest takeaway as Governor. Sikkim will always remain in my heart and I look forward to witness more stories of Sikkim's accomplishment and glory in the days to come. My heartiest greetings and best wishes to my dear Sikkimite once again."

Final batch of KMY Nathula yatris complete pilgrimage

GANGTOK, 24 AUG [IPR]:

The 10th and final batch of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra 2018 returned to Gangtok last night after completing their pilgrimage of Mount Kailash. All 46 pilgrims successfully completed the yatra.

Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation [STDC] and Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim organized a felicitation programme for the pilgrims at Hotel Mount Siniolchu today. Chairperson, STDC, RM Rai, handed over mementos and certificates to the pilgrims.

It may be mentioned

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United Sikkim FC lifts SFA Premier Div League Trophy for 3rd time

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

The defending champion, United Sikkim Football Club, has once again lifted the champions' trophy of the Sikkim Football Association Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 played here at Paljor Stadium. Former Indian football team skipper Bhaichung Bhutia's United Sikkim FC remained unbeaten in the league and secured 19 points from 6 wins and 1 draw to top the point tally.

United Sikkim FC has now become the champion of the State premier division league for the third time. USFC had earlier won the league in 2012 and 2017.

In its last crucial match of the Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 today, United Sikkim FC thrashed State Sports Academy 6-0 to finish the league on top. Bhaichung Bhutia was also pres-



ent to encourage the team.

Karan Rai scored a hatrick in the 9th, 21st and 86th min-

ute for United Sikkim FC while his teammate, Prashant Chettri [33rd], Sanjay Chettri [57th] and

Kilp Namgyal Barfungpa [60th], contributed one goal each to the

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Housing MoS reviews flagship GoI schemes in Sikkim

GANGTOK, 24 AUG [IPR]: Minister of State [Independent Charge], Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, HS Puri, reviewed the progress of various flagship schemes of the Government of India at a meeting held at the conference hall of Chintan Bhawan today.

The meeting was also attended by Sikkim UDHD Minister, NK Subba, and Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, among a host of senior officers of the UD&HD,

Government of Sikkim.

Among the schemes reviewed by the Union Minister were Swachh Bharat Mission [Urban], Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation [AMRUT], Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All [PMAY-HFA Urban], Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission [DAY-NULM] and Smart City Mission.

The Union Minister in his address

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Housing & Urban Affairs Union Minister calls on CM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep S Puri, called on Chief Minister Pawan Chamling at his official residence, Mintokgang, today.

This was a courtesy call by the Union Minister who is on an official visit to Sikkim.

Mr Puri was accompanied by Sikkim's Minister of Urban Development & Housing Department, NK Subba, and UD&HD Secretary, LB Chettri, along with officials from the Union Ministry.

Mr Puri congratulated the CM for being the longest serving Chief Minister of the country and commended the achievements made by Sikkim under his leadership.

He further praised Central flagship programmes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan which has been so successfully implemented by the State and also applauded the many unique practices that have been successful models for the other states to follow. He also congratulated for selection of Gangtok and Namchi as the two smart cities and gave various inputs about other schemes that the State can implement.

The Union Minister further highlighted on the need of good surface and air connectivity in or-



der to connect with the rest of the country.

"Although this is not under my ministry, I will extend every possible help and will surely pass the message to the Prime Minister," said Mr Puri.

Chief Minister Mr Chamling spoke about various policies towards environment conservation which has resulted in a record 4% increase in forest cover and hoped that Sikkim will be acknowledged with a Peace Bonus from the Centre for maintaining peace and

security.

"This will send a good message across to the rest of the States of the country," said Mr Chamling while apprising the Union Minister about the State Government's progress towards beautification and upgradation of bazaar areas.

The Union Minister thanked the CM for the hospitality and warm welcome and reiterated that the Centre will continue to extend all possible support to the State to sustain the high standards of development that it has set.



ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Sikkim Newar Guthi [SNG] is all set to organise State level Indra Jatra festival. The Newa Guthi has formed Indra Jatra Celebration Committee to celebrate and organise Indra Jatra with fitting grandeur under the chairmanship of Dilip Kumar Pradhan.

The three-daylong festival will be held from 21 to 23 Sept and will include a series of events, cultural performances and felicitations.

This was informed by the Newa Guthi during a press meet organised today at Press Club of Sikkim in Gangtok.

President, SNG, Dilu Kumar Pradhan, said that the Guthi is a

social organisation and has been engaged in organising Indra Jatras in the State since the year 2000.

He also highlighted the importance of celebrating Indra Jatra. This year's Indra Jatra is being celebrated on the theme 'Save Water', he informed.

The list of events includes tra-

turn to pg03

Sikkim Newar Guthi preps for grand Indra Jatra festival



Sensitization programme on drug abuse held at Dikchu SSS

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 24 AUG:

A sensitization programme on substance abuse and its impact on social life was held today at Dikchu Senior Secondary School in East Sikkim today. The programme was organised by the Rakdong-Tintek Gram Panchayat Unit.

Zilla member, BB Gurung, chaired the programme in the presence of Superintendent of Police, East, Hemraj Rai, Block Development Officer, Tintek, Indramani Adhikari, officials from Human Resource Development Department, heads of various schools of the GPU, Panchayat members and students.

The SP East highlight-



ed on the adverse effects of substance abuse, child labour and cyber crime with special focus on its legal aspects.

Similarly, Joint Di-

rector of Health Department, Diki Lhamu Lepcha, stressed on prevention of tuberculosis while Ward Panchayat, Hemlata Nepal, spoke on POC-

SO Act and mental health.

During the course of the programme, students of Dikchu SSS presented a play on substance abuse.

ENVIS Hub & WIPRO holds green teacher's orientation programme

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

ENVIS Hub at Forest Environment & Wildlife Management Department, in collaboration with WIPRO from Bengaluru, conducted green teacher's orientation programme for 80 schools from across the State under WIPRO's Earthian School programme, a press release informs.

The orientation programme was held for North and East district schools on 21 Aug at the conference hall of Forest Secretariat in Gangtok and on 23 Aug at Namchi DAC in South Sikkim for

South and West district schools.

The programme was inaugurated by Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, CS Rao, in the presence of Additional Director, Environment & Soil Conservation, BB Gurung.

Highlighting on several environment friendly measures taken by the State Government, Mr Rao stressed on the significant role of teachers for promoting environment protection and conservation through active engagement of school eco clubs.

WIPRO associate,

Ashish Shah, who attended the event as resource person, said that the Earthian School programme focusing on water and biodiversity sustainability at the school level is an ongoing effort to bring younger generation closer to nature and build knowledge and skills through action oriented projects.

Sponsored by the Bengaluru based IT giant WIPRO as a part of sustainable environment initiative, the Earthian Schools orientation programme was organised as part of National Green Corps School Eco-Club

programme, the release adds.

SCA announces trials for Vijay Hazare Trophy 2018

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Sikkim Cricket Association will be conducting trials to select the team for Vijay Hazare Trophy 2018 [Men's Senior One Day Tournament] on 27 Aug at Mining Cricket Ground in Rangpo, East Sikkim from 9 a.m. onwards, an SCA press release informs.

It is informed that only players born and brought up in Sikkim and students who have been studying in Sikkim for more than two years are eligible for the trial.

Interested players are required to bring the original as well as photocopy of their Birth Certificate, address proof, PAN Card and one cancelled cheque [required for future match fee payments].

Additionally, students who have been studying in Sikkim for more than

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Win a trip to Dubai through 'The Vodafone Travel Passport' contest

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Vodafone India has come up with month-long gaming contest 'The Vodafone Travel Passport' on MyVodafone App wherein one lucky winner can win a trip to Dubai. Vodafone India has partnered with EaseMyTrip for this campaign. This game will allow users to find new tourist attractions hidden in various pages of the app in different locations each day, a press release informs.

Each day, one lucky winner will receive a discount voucher worth Rs 400 from EaseMyTrip on finding the hidden tourist attraction. Lucky winners also stand a chance to win a daily reward of 3D/2N hotel stay anywhere in India. One lucky customer at the end of the contest will be eligible to win a trip to Dubai. The contest is open for both postpaid and prepaid customers.

LTVC unconvinced of central subject arguments for LT seats

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

The Limboo Tamang Voluntary Committee [LTVC] has alleged that the Chief Minister was trying to dodge accountability by constantly highlighting that the Limboo-Tamang seat reservation issue was a Central subject.

The committee has countered that if the seat reservation issue was a Central subject, then why was the govern-

ment trying to hold up the Burman Commission recommendations and proposal to increase the strength of the State Assembly to 40.

An LTVC press release questioned that if the seat reservation issue was a central subject, then the CM should not be assuring reservation of seats within two months and of retiring from politics if the seats are not provided before 2019.

KVK South conducts farmer training in Sumbuk

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Krishni Vigyan Kendra, South, conducted training and distribution programme on scientific and organic cultivation practices of Arhar and Moong Dal at Sumbuk in South Sikkim today, a press release informs.

Senior Scientist, IP Shivakoty, briefed the farmers about the importance of pulses in organic farming while Subject Matter Specialist [Agronomy], Dr Nation Chamling, detailed about packaging



practices of Arhar and Moong and pests and disease management.

United Sikkim FC lifts SFA Premier Div League Trophy...

contd from pg01

team's victory.

United Sikkim FC has also secured its berth in the upcoming Governor's Gold Cup Football Tournament 2018 and AIFF I-League second division.

Another strong contender in the league, Sikkim Aakraman Football Club finished the league on the second position with 16 points while State Sports Academy stood third with 14 points. Likewise, Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club finished the league with 8 points, Boys Club with 8 points, Unicorn Football Club with

7 points, SAI Namchi with 7 points and Pakyong United FC with zero points.

By finishing on the bottom, SAI Namchi and Pakyong United Football Club have been relegated to the second division Sikkim-League 2019.

The SFA also fined Pakyong United Rs 25,000 for missing five of its matches in the league.

Kilp Namgyal Barfungpa of United Sikkim FC was adjudged Man of the Tournament while Indra Dorji Tamang received the Best Goalkeeper trophy and Milan Chettri of State Sports Academy was presented with

the Highest Scorer trophy for his 10 goals in the league. Boys Club Gangtok received the Fair Play trophy of the league.

Secretary to Sports & Youth Affairs Department, SD Dhakal, who was present as chief guest, handed over the trophy, individual medals and cash prize of Rs 50,000 to the champion, United Sikkim FC.

United Sikkim FC coach, Mayal Dok Lepcha, expressed his happiness and satisfaction on the performance of the team throughout the league.

"We remain unbeaten in the

league and we won our matches with convincing margins. All players put their best efforts and played exceptionally well to finish the league on the top," he said.

After a break for a week, the team will again start training for the upcoming Governor's Gold Cup football tournament and I-League Second Division 2018-19, he added.

Mr Lepcha mentioned that if required some more players will be added to make a strong team to maintain good performances in upcoming tournaments and bring glory to the State.

Likewise, United Sikkim FC senior manager, Arjun Rai, expressed his happiness on finishing the league as the champion for the second consecutive time and three times so far. He complimented the efforts of every player of the team to remain unbeaten in the league. He informed that as the club plans to participate in the I-League second division 2018-19 it has already sent a letter for the same to the AIFF.

Mr Rai mentioned that the club will continuously work to promote local players by providing them better exposure in and outside the State.

**Gangtok on
Saturday,
25 Aug**

Temp: 25°C/18°C
Forecast: A couple
of morning thunder-
showers; cloudy.
Sunrise: 05:11 AM
Sunset: 6:04 PM

SCA announces...

contd from pg02

two years will need to bring proof of stay in the State for the said period.

Further, documents required for considering a cricketer as a local player on the basis of the employment /education/residential criteria will include Employer Certificate along with six months' salary slip starting from Aug 2017 [Employment], Bonafide Certificate signed by Principal of the School/College [Education] and Passport Copy/Aadhaar Card on the basis of address and date of issue [Residential].

All the documents mentioned are mandatory without any exception. The registration forms will be available at the venue, it is informed.

For further query, interested players have been requested to contact Sonam Palden Bhutia [9933445452], Nayan Tshering Bhutia [9002015145] or Roshan Prasad [8436614465].

Sikkim Newar Guthi preps for...

contd from pg02

ditional food exhibition, traditional Newari dress exhibition cum sale, photo competition and handicraft, handloom and art exhibition cum sale scheduled to be held at MG Marg and Titanic Park.

It is further informed that the festival will be inaugurated at MG Marg on 21 Sept and will conclude with a special function to be held at Manan Kendra on 23 Sept.

The final day of the festival will feature the Kumari Rath Yatra that will start from Bhanu Path move via Zero Point through Sonam Gytso Marg, Children's Park, Titanic, Hospital Dara and conclude at Manan Kendra for the mega event of Indra Jatra 2018.

The festival will also have open talent hunt, folk dance competition, pickle making competition and many more.

The audition round for the talent hunt competition will begin soon from Soreng in West Sikkim followed by other districts. The competition is open to all and interested participants of any caste, community or religion can take participate, it is informed.

Winners of various competitive events will be presented with certificates and cash prizes.

The press meet was also attended by SNG vice president, Hari Prasad Pradhan, and SNG secretary, youth affairs, Dr Sushen Pradhan.

The organising committee has invited all to join and support the State level Indra Jatra festival 2018.

INCONVERSATION WITH TEMI TEA MD, MRINALINI

Temi Tea and Mr Sikkim blend well together

**NITESH R PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 24 AUG:**

Temi Tea, one of Sikkim's most iconic brands, has tied up with Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt as its title sponsor. With both brands espousing similar ideals particularly creativity, the first if its kind event promises to bring forth talents that represents today's Sikkim.

Its Managing Director, Mrinalini Srivastava, spoke exclusively to Summit-times.

ST: Why choose Mr Sikkim?

MD: Established in 1969, the Temi Estate brings to the tea lovers a range of exclusive flavours. The estate stands for its tradition, history and exclusivity. The tea from Temi proudly retains its legacy, character and aroma. These qualities made it a natural alliance of the Mr Sikkim 2018 which aims to be an exclusive event showcasing the legacy of quintessential Sikkimese men who represent charisma, creativity, endurance, passion, knowledge, sensitivity, tenderness, truth wisdom and spiritual wealth all arising from the Sikkimese tradition way of living and sense of harmony and coexistence.

The men of this order are men who leave their positive imprint on the evolution of sikkim society towards the highest plane of Social delivery.

On similar lines, Temi Tea is known to be amongst the finest of teas and has today carved its niche. The distinct landscape of the Tea Estate gives each sip, a character that is wholly unmatched. Grown at elevations ranging



from 1400-2000 metres above sea level, each season at the Temi Tea Estate moulds every flush differently.

ST: What is the aim behind this mega event?

MD: Temi Tea Mr Sikkim powered by Sikkim Chronicle and Accelerator aims to bring about to its audience with organic, healthy, high quality standard of Sikkim's people and products. We believe that in the process we protect the environment, develop our society and strengthen the government in its purpose of disease free healthy holistic ORGANIC Sikkim.

Housing MoS reviews flagship GoI schemes...

contd from pg01

commented the implementation of flagship programmes in the State. He observed that the department is doing notably well in 'Ease of Living' aspect in Gangtok. He urged the department to expedite the project proposals for central assistance for all the central schemes and submit the same to the Ministry for timely sanction.

He assured to provide all possible assistance from the Ministry to support the State in creating and updating urban infrastructures. The Minister also made a call for improving road connectivity in terms of better quality road between Bagdogra and Gangtok.

Earlier, Chief Secretary, Mr Shrivastava, in his brief address, apprised the Union Minister on the stages of implementation of the flagship programmes in the State. He also highlighted about the awards and accolades received by the State in diverse areas under Urban Development.

Secretary, UD&HD, LB Chettri, in his opening address stated that the focus laid by the Central Government towards the development of North East region of India has brought about positive changes in the lives of the people of these States including Sikkim. He recorded his gratitude to the Government of India for sanctioning two Smart

City Projects for Sikkim.

Chief Town Planner, UD&HD, Rajesh Pradhan, made a presentation on the flagship programmes being implemented by the department.

Likewise, a presentation on Smart City Project, Gangtok, was made by Town Planner, UD&HD, Deeki Wangmu Bhutia, while presentation on Smart City Project, Namchi, was made by Joint Chief Town Planner of Namchi.

The meeting was also attended by Special Secretary, UD&HD, MT Sherpa, Chief Executive Officer, Gangtok Smart City Development Ltd, T Gyachho, CEO, Namchi Smart City Ltd, GT Bhutia, and senior officers of State UD&HD.

Holy Cross students among top 27 teams in News Wiz

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Rishal Pandey Chettri and Pareekshit Dahal of Holy Cross School, Tadong, have recently been selected among the top 27 teams in News Wiz, a quiz competition hosted by Rajdeep Sardesai.

The quiz will be telecast on India Today channel at 8 pm on 25 Aug while the repeat telecast will be at 9.30 am, 5 pm and 9.30 pm on 26 Aug, a press release informs.

It may be mentioned



here, Rishal Pandey and Pareekshit had gone to New Delhi to participate in the Quiz Show or-

ganised by India Today group which was hosted by newsmen, Rajdeep Sardesai, and produced by Siddharth Basu of KBC fame.

This Quiz is considered one of the top quiz shows of the country. Around 800 schools from all over the country had participated in the preliminary rounds to be selected for the televised rounds. The HCS team has managed to make it to the top 27 teams.



SMIT preps for 4th edition of TEDxSMIT

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 24 AUG:

Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology at

Majitar here in East Sikkim will be hosting the fourth edition of TEDxSMIT on 07 Oct this year on the theme, 'Audacity to Mould,' and preparations for the same have begun in earnest.

An organising committee has been set up for hosting the mega event with Atul Shrivastava in the lead along

with Abhishek Sharma as co-organizer for the event, a press release informs.

The core team for the event includes Bishal Chettri as finance lead, Areen Sahu as event management lead, Anjali Agarwal and Pranshu Dutta as editorial leads, Sudipta Das and Ronak Agarwal for the design-

ing team, Akash Singh on public relations and Shaubik Das and Ratul Ghosh in the technical team.

Organized by SMIT Alumni Association, the TEDxSMIT will feature Managing Director, Ericsson Global Services, Amitabh Ray, and author/poet, Sangeetha Param, as main speakers.

Final batch of KMY Nathula yatris complete pilgrimage



contd from pg01

here, the first batch of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra 2018 was flagged off from Gangtok on 16 Jun and included 10 batches this year. Out of a total

of 413 yatris, 408 yatris completed the pilgrimage successfully. Five pilgrims were not able to complete their journey due to personal/medical conditions.

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"MESSAGE"

Sikkim State Legal Services Authority is organizing National Lok Adalat on Saturday the 08th September, 2018 for the following types of pre-litigation and pending cases viz:

PRE-LITIGATION

- N.I Act cases under Section 138;
- Bank Recovery cases;
- Labour disputes cases;
- Electricity and Water Bills (excluding non-compoundable)
- Other (Criminal Compoundable).

PENDING IN THE COURTS.

- Criminal Compoundable Offences;
- N.I. Act cases under Section 138;
- Bank Recover cases;
- MACT cases;
- Labour disputes cases;
- Electricity and Water Bills (excluding non-compoundable)
- Matrimonial disputes;
- Land Acquisition cases;
- Service matters relating to pay and allowances and retiral benefits;
- Revenue cases (pending in District Courts and High Courts only);
- Other civil cases (rent, easmentary rights, injunction suits, specific performance suits) etc.

Any individual or any department having such matters either pending in Courts/Tribunals/Departments or in pre-litigation stage may approach directly before the Sikkim SLISA, District Lok Adalats or Taluk Lok Adalats for settlement on or before 25.08.2018 at the following address:

- Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim. E-mail: sikkim_slisa@live.com Phone No.03592-207753.
- High Court Legal Services Committee, Development Area, Gangtok, East Sikkim. E-mail: sikkim_slisa@live.com Phone No. 03592-207753.
- District Legal Services Authority (East) District Court's Complex, Sichey Gangtok, East Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 284462.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee (East), District Court's Complex, Sichey, Gangtok, East Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 284131.
- District Legal Services Authority (North) District Court Complex, Mangan, North Sikkim. Phone No. 03592 234502.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee (North), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, Pentok, Mangan, North Sikkim. Phone No.03592 234383/234514.
- District Legal Services Authority (South) District Court Complex, Namchi, South Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 264356.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee (South), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, District Courts Complex, Namchi, South Sikkim. Phone No.03595 263145.
- District Legal Services Authority (West) District Court Complex, Kyongsa, Gyalshing, West Sikkim. Phone No. 03595 250061.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee (West), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, Kyongsa, Gyalshing, West Sikkim. Phone No.03595 250061.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee, Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, Chungthang, Sub-Division, North Sikkim.
- Taluk Legal Services Committee (West), Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate, Soreng, Sub-Division, West Sikkim.

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SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Stand Up, Not Clamp Down

Sikkim needs to be brave, not prudish in tackling substance abuse and suicides

Sometime in early 2016, the Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department was handed over a detailed list of what was expected of it. Most of the directions were routine reminders of what a Department with an elaborate, self-explanatory name like "Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department" should have been doing all along. These included directions like working in close coordination with other related departments, preparing workable plans to make Sikkim malnutrition free etc. There were also some specific directions which one hopes the Department got working on. In fact, because the directions were issued more than two years ago, one hopes that some of these tasks have already been completed. For instance, one of the directions issued to the Department was to conduct/ commission a study on suicides and its causes in Sikkim. This was a necessary and welcome initiative, but since one has not heard any further developments on this count, the file to commission such a study is probably still being processed or maybe the study remains a work in progress.

Meanwhile, Sikkim continues to lose people to suicides. Worse still, it still does not know why the numbers are so disturbingly high. Hopefully, this newspaper is wrong in speculating that the study is caught in red tape; hopefully, the study has been undertaken and its findings submitted and are being deliberated upon.

Further, the Department was also asked to come up with programmes to fight drug abuse and alcoholism with special focus on high relapse rates. That was also a welcome intervention, but not one as easily delegated as, say, a study on suicides. This one requires much wider collaborations, a stronger will to take criticism and a more resolute commitment to address the challenge. It would be unfair to expect bureaucrats in a transferable job to get so invested in a cause/ issue, and it is unlikely that a problem as big as substance abuse can get solved through departmental interventions alone. It is a good sign that the government is seized of the matter and is consistently making policy-level commitments reiterating its willingness to address the issue as was recently reiterated by the Chief Minister as well when he put on record that addicts and peddlers need to be tackled differently and that the mission against substance abuse needs to be more nuanced and compassionate.

While this is a good place to begin from, it is never advisable for governments to get involved in all aspects of social interventions. As it is, there is too much government in all fields of activity in Sikkim and if even social responsibilities are passed on to it, what will the rest of the society contribute? Another important reason why the battle against substance abuse should not be led by the government is because government directives and orders lack the light touch required to address a problem as complicated as substance abuse. One of the proposals on how to address the problem, for instance, was to expel students from school after three warning if they still consume alcohol, and expel them straightaway if they abuse drugs! Alcoholism and drug abuse while on duty by government servants was also to attract termination from service! Apart from the legal minefield that such diktats are walking into, they are also highly insensitive because surely, there must be better ways to end addiction and alcoholism than removing addicts and alcoholics from the scene.

Sikkim needs to be brave, not prudish in tackling substance abuse.

WRITE US:

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

Mail us at: **letters@summittimes.com**

Kerala's monsoon: lessons from recent floods in India

HARINI NAGENDRA
theconversation.com

Media call it the worst flood of the century in the region. After more than two weeks of relentless rain, Kerala, a state at the southern tip of India, known internationally for its scenic green landscapes, touristic spots and backwaters, is left with over 1 million people in relief camps, and close to 400 reported dead – the number is expected to be much higher, as many areas remain inaccessible.

In the mountainous Coorg or Kodagu district in the neighbouring state of Karnataka, thousands of people have been marooned because of torrential rains. Exacerbated by landslides in hilly terrain, flooding has led to the destruction of homes, bridges, road networks and industries.

Far from being a surprise, the possibility of such devastation was highlighted several years ago.

THE NEED TO CHANGE OUR DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

In 2011, the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, chaired by the internationally renowned ecologist Madhav Gadgil, submitted a report to the Indian Ministry of Environment and Forests. The report warned that an ill-thought focus on development was impacting the sustainability of the Western Ghats hill chain, one of the world's most biodiverse areas that runs along the west coast of India. The expert report urged a number of states, including Karnataka and Kerala, to adopt an approach of thoughtful conservation, limiting activities such as quarrying, dams and construction near protected forests in hilly areas. The report was rejected by the Ministry as well as by both states.

With the experience of hindsight, it is clear that the worst flood damage took place in those regions where the Gadgil committee recommended protection.

In Kodagu, for instance, tens to hundreds of thousands of large trees were felled in 2015 to construct a high-tension electric wire line. Uncontrolled sand mining has constrained river flows, while the rapid spread of high-rise buildings on unstable hill slopes has weakened the soil. This unplanned development has left the area susceptible to flash floods and landslides, caused by a combination of tree felling on steep hillslopes and heavy rainfall.

AIRPORTS BUILT ON WATER BODIES

The flooding of the Kochi airport is another example of poor planning leading to disastrous outcomes. The airport was built on the paddy fields and wetlands adjacent to the Periyar river, and extends up to the banks of the river on one side.

The longest river in Kerala, it has a number of dams – some of which had to be opened to release



water during the rains. The airport was badly hit, with estimated economic costs of at least Rs 500 crores because of its forced closure for several days.

The Periyar river is not the only one that has been dammed. The state of Kerala has 44 rivers with a total of 61 dams. Many had to be opened across Kerala as they were dangerously full – a step that, while essential during a time of emergency, contributed to the heavy flooding. A 2017 report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India warned that not a single one of these dams had an emergency action plan in place for disaster management. Pre- and post-monsoon safety inspections had not been carried out for any of these dams either.

Given how likely it is that coastal and riverine cities will experience flooding in coming years, you would think we know better than to build airports near bodies of water. Yet Kochi airport is not an exception. The runways of the Mumbai airport have been built over the Mithi river, and the airport is located on a reclaimed pond. One of the runways of the Chennai airport extends over the Adyar river, affecting its long-term safety and stability.

It is no surprise that these airports, which are among the busiest in India, frequently flood when the rains are heavy – leading to large-scale economic losses. Yet the new Navi Mumbai airport is coming up in an equally unsuitable location on coastal wetlands.

REVERSING THE TREND

In the era of climate change we have just entered, extreme rainfall events are going to become increasingly common. Uncontrolled growth at the expense of the environment will severely exacerbate the impacts of climate change. Our cities are simply not prepared for extreme weather events. The recent collapse of a bridge in Genoa, killing at least 43 people, is linked to poor maintenance, but also to heavy rainfall.

Certain types of infrastructure may be less suitable to some contexts in a changing climate scenario. Wildfires in California cause extensive damage to private property because many cities are extend-

ing their boundaries into forest areas. As local climate becomes hotter and drier, with fires becoming more likely, new homes are being built in areas that are highly susceptible to fire instead of less exposed locations.

Some cities are seeking to reverse this trajectory of unplanned construction. Nairobi is in the midst of an extensive demolition drive, uprooting thousands of buildings built on riparian land that choke the flow of water and contribute to severe annual floods.

In Seoul, between 2002-2005, the city municipality tore up an elevated highway that had been built over the Cheong-

gyecheon stream. This internationally famous urban-renewal project reduced traffic, reduced air pollution and cut the urban heat-island effect. In Yonkers, New York, an ongoing project aims to restore the buried Saw Mill river.

Similar urban river daylighting projects are gaining traction in cities around the world. Zurich has been an early pioneer, developing the Bachkonzept (stream concept) to create, restore and uncover a number of streams and springs. London, which built over a number of famous rivers, has now uncovered and restored a number of these waterways, while Sheffield, having experimented with daylighting, is now considering uncovering sections of the local Sheaf river.

The demonstrated ecological and environmental benefits are clear – as are the social and economic returns. For example, Seoul's iconic Cheonggyecheon stream restoration led to a more than six-fold increase in biodiversity, a 35% decrease in air pollution and a growth in property prices that is double of that in other parts of the city.

The restored stream attracts tens of thousands of visitors daily who contribute significantly to local economy. Such ideas of restoration need to become more widespread, and embedded in routine climate change and disaster management planning. The investment made is amply repaid many times over in economic security and growth, biodiversity, local health and quality of life, and resilience against future disasters.

Once the emergency relief is attended to, Kochi and Kodagu would do well to use their recent experience as a warning of future disasters to come in a world of increasingly uncertain climate.

The focus must be on long-term restoration projects that can reverse some of the environmental and ecological damage that has led to the current situation. But such learning need not be confined to the areas that have experienced the worst. The rest of the world has much to learn as well.

[the writer is Professor of Sustainability, Azim Premji University]

Why Indonesia should stop sending drug users to prison

DIO ASHAR WICAKSANA
theconversation.com

Indonesia is locking up more inmates than it can handle. Prison overcrowding has become one of the government's top priorities under its legal reform policy. It has led to various problems, including riots and bribery.

As of June 2018, the government had detained almost 250,000 inmates in prisons across the country. The prisons' total capacity can accommodate only half of that figure.

The overcrowding problem is mostly due to Indonesia's justice system, which can easily send criminals to prison even for minor cases. Under the system, drug users are sent to prisons instead of rehab centres. They are even categorised as serious criminal offenders together with graft convicts and convicted terrorists. Recent data show that drug users account for a third of those jailed for serious crimes.

Given the huge numbers in prison, the government needs to stop sending drug users to prison and revisit its punitive approach to them.

INDONESIA'S DRUGS POLICY

As a starting point, we must understand that drug convicts are not necessarily drug dealers. When someone is a drug convict, he or she can be a drug user, or a drug dealer, or both in



some cases.

However, Indonesian law does not acknowledge this differentiation and tends to treat all drug convicts as serious criminal offenders. Under the law, drug abuse is considered a serious crime and the offenders will get a severe punishment. This potentially includes the death penalty.

Article 127 of the Law on Drugs states that a judge can offer rehabilitation programs for drug users after trials. However, the regulation is not effectively implemented yet. Most legal officers believe that sending drug

users to prisons is the common practice. Recent undisclosed research from the Indonesia Judicial Monitoring Society shows that of 21 cases involving drug users in Jakarta District Court in 2015, only six were sent to a rehab centre.

Inconsistencies in Indonesian law present another challenge. Even though there is an article that offers rehab, another article encourages jail time.

Article 112 states that a person who owns, keeps, controls and serves narcotics should receive a jail sen-

tence. This defines drug users as serious criminals, as logically the person who uses drugs also owns and keeps the drugs. Recent research from the Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (ICJR) shows that legal officers tend to rely more on article 112 than article 127 in handling drug cases, as the former is easier to prove than the latter.

President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's harsh approach in dealing with drug cases has only worsened the problem.

In another effort, Indonesia intro-

turn to 05

Arunachal tea variety fetches Rs 40,000 per kg

GUWAHATI, AUG 24 (PTI): A tea variety from Arunachal Pradesh has fetched a world record price of Rs 40,000 per kg at Guwahati Tea Auction Centre here breaking the record of an Assam tea variety auctioned last month.

A 1.1 kg lot of Golden Needles tea variety of Donyi Polo tea estate in Arunachal Pradesh sold at Rs 40,000 per kg yesterday, said a statement by Dinesh Bihani, Secretary of Guwahati Tea Auction Buyers Association.

The tea variety was sold to Assam Tea Traders, which is one of the oldest tea shop in Guwahati.

In July, an Assam tea variety was sold at Rs 39,001 per kg at an auction here.

“These types of specialty teas



are attracting more and more buyers and producers to come together and use the GTAC platform. We hope that these specialty teas will make us achieve our past glory in the world map,” Bihani said in the statement.

Assam Tea Traders Lalit Kumar Jalan was quoted as saying in the statement, “There is a rising demand for good tea and we are selling specialty tea regularly.

“This Golden Needles will be

sold through an online platform, Absolutetea.in.”

The Golden Needles variety of tea has small buds which are carefully plucked and the leaves, which have a coating of golden colour, are soft and velvety.

The liquor of this special tea is bright golden in colour, sweet to taste and has a rich aroma, Bihani said.

The manager of Donyi Polo tea estate, Manoj Kumar said, they made a lot of effort to make this type of tea and earlier their Silver Needles white tea had fetched Rs 17,001 per kg.

Kumar further said that such type of tea is made only when natural forces align with precise tea making skills.

Fish traders back in business as Meghalaya lifts import ban

SHILLONG, AUG 24 (PTI): Fish traders today resumed full-scale business across Meghalaya, a day after a 30-day ban on fish import was lifted by the state government.

The food safety authorities had enforced a ban on sale, storage and distribution of fish from Assam, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal following detection of formalin in imported samples.

Formalin, a toxic solution of formaldehyde, is chiefly used to preserve biological specimens.

The prohibition was initially imposed for 15 days on July 23, but was later extended till August 22 in view of the “fear psychosis” among the consumers, Food Safety Deputy Commissioner S N Sangma told PTI.

“The government has decided not to extend the ban any longer but would keep a close eye on the quality of products being sold to the consumers,” Sangma said.

Of the 92 samples tested at a Assam-based laboratory before July 23, 12 tested positive for formalin, Food Safety Commissioner P W Ingty said.

“The government will take a stricter call on the matter in case of fresh detection of unsafe chemicals in fish in the days to come,” he said.

Welcoming the state government’s decision to lift the ban, Khasi Jaintia Wholesaler and Retailer Association (KJFWRA) president Mitchel Wankhar said they would abide by the strictures of food safety authorities.

“We do not want to put the health of fish-eaters at risk. All traders here have decided to go by the strictures of the food safety authorities,” Wankhar said.

Meghalaya Fisheries Minister Comingone Ymbon had earlier said that the state imports about 21,000 MT fish, mostly from Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam.

Family seeks PM’s help in bringing back abducted man stuck in Bangladesh

TURA, AUG 24 (PTI): The family members of an Indian national lodged in police custody in Bangladesh after being allegedly abducted and taken there have sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s help in bringing him back.

Phalgun Arengh (66) was abducted from a Meghalaya village and was stuck in the neighbouring country for over three months now, a police official said.

Confirming the presence of the man in Bangladesh, West Garo Hills SP MGR Kumar said since the matter involved a foreign country, the BSF, the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and the IG, Special Branch, were being consulted.

“We are hoping for a solution to the matter soon,” Kumar said.

Arengh, a resident of Hatimara village in West Garo Hills, had been abducted by Bangladeshi miscreants from his residence on May 24, he said.

Subsequently, an FIR was lodged by his wife, Ponji K Sangma, at the Purakhasia Outpost in this matter.

The Achik Indigenous Justice Initiative Forum (AIJIF), a social organisation, which visited Arengh’s family, has recently sought help from the prime minister in getting the man back home.

Congress MLA Yamthong Haokip arrested in missing arms case: NIA

NEW DELHI, AUG 24 (PTI): Congress MLA from Manipur Yamthong Haokip was arrested today by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in a missing arms case, according to an official statement.

The NIA is probing the case pertaining to theft of 56 pistols and 58 magazines from the Director General (of Police) pool armoury located within the premises of 2nd Manipur Rifles Battalion, Imphal.

These weapons went missing between 2016 and early 2017.

“Yamthong Haokip was arrested today (August 24, 2018) for his involvement in procuring police pistols illegally and distributing them to different terrorist groups to wage war against the



State,” the NIA said in the statement.

Haokip, a member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Manipur’s Saikul, was produced before a special court in Imphal. He has been remanded to judicial custody, the probe agency said.

“Owing to his recent illness, the NIA judge ordered jail authorities to admit him in a government hospital,” it said.

During investigation by the NIA, one of the missing pistols, was recovered at Mantri Pukhri, Imphal on July 30, 2018 in the search conducted at the residence of Haokip besides other incriminating articles, the

statement said.

During investigation, sufficient material and other evidence has been collected which established the complicity of the MLA in the case, it said.

The NIA has recovered 14 weapons till date in the case and the investigation is continuing.

NSF rally in Kohima against entry of illegal immigrants

KOHIMA, AUG 24 (PTI): The Naga Students’ Federation (NSF) today took to the streets of Kohima to protest against alleged influx of illegal immigrants and demand inclusion of Dimapur district under the purview of Inner Line Permit (ILP).

The Inner Line Permit is required by non-Nagas to visit Nagaland and Dimapur is the only district in the state which is not under the purview of ILP.

The NSF, the apex students’ body of the state, described today’s rally as the second phase of protest against “influx of illegal immigrants into

the state”.

Addressing the gathering, NSF president Kesosul Christopher Ltu said the younger generation is worried that illegal immigrants would overtake the indigenous people of the state if the influx is not checked.

“Government machineries have miserably failed to monitor implementation of ILP in the state,” he alleged.

Ltu claimed that check gates in different parts of the state remained ineffective maintaining no record of outsiders entering the state with ILP and going back.

Because of this “failure of government mechanism”, the NSF was compelled to check the ILP of non-Nagas on August 8 in the first phase of its protest, he said.

“The government should take the NSF and civil societies into confidence in making the ILP regime efficient and effective,” said Neichute Doulo, a member of the NSF’s ILP committee.

The NSF members rallied through the main town of Kohima amid rain and submitted a memorandum on their demand to the chief minister’s advisor.

In the memorandum, the NSF said exclusion of Dimapur from the purview of the ILP has made the district a safe haven for illegal immigrants, posing the “biggest demographic threat to the indigenous inhabitants of the state”.

“It is without any doubt to assert that, overwhelming population of people with questionable identities inhabit Dimapur district which is evident as most of them do not possess any documents of their identification proof,” the students body said in the memorandum.

Why Indonesia should stop sending...

contd from pg04

duced a forced rehabilitation program for drug users in 2015. It has promoted a more lenient approach to addressing drug use. However, in practice, the state often forcibly detains suspected drug users.

JAIL TIME IS NOT EFFECTIVE FOR DRUG USERS

Sending drug users to jail only make things worse for them due to rampant corrupt practices inside prisons. Inmates can get everything they want for a price, including drugs.

Yale University researcher Gabriel J. Culbert revealed the rampant use of drugs in Jakarta’s prison. Based on his research in 2014, he found that 56% of inmates used drugs in prison. The respondents also claimed they still can get illegal drugs in prison. This means jail sentences are not effective in reducing drug use.

Inside jail, drug users are also exposed to wider drug communities. According to the National Anti-Narcotics Agency, 50% of drug trafficking is controlled from inside prisons.

THE BAD IMPACT

Sending drug users to prisons is not only ineffective but also creates many problems.

If the government decides to send every drug user to prison, this will only hurt the state’s budget as more inmates mean more

funding is required.

The state’s budget for prison was set at Rp 1.2 trillion (US\$83 million) in 2017, almost double the allocation in 2012.

If the government continues to lock up drug users in jail while the budget is limited, it will lead to two bad consequences. The first is the poor quality of the prison service. The second is rampant corruption involving both guards and prisoners. Underpaid guards will take bribes from prisoners whose needs are not being met.

Another problem arising from putting drug users in jail is overcrowding. Having more inmates than each prison can handle leaves them prone to riots and corruption.

Corruption is rampant in overcrowded prisons as the government’s limited budget means it fails to provide services that meet the basic needs of inmates.

LESSONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

Instead of sending drug users to prison, Indonesia should learn from how other countries handle drug cases.

The Netherlands has introduced a policy that doesn’t criminalise the use of marijuana. This policy allows the distribution of small amounts of cannabis in Dutch “coffee shops”. These coffee shops successfully avoid exposure to hard drug markets. Research shows that even though a quarter of Dutch people have consumed marijuana, the


Netherlands has the lowest number of narcotics addicts in Europe.

Portugal also provides an interesting lesson. In 2000, Portugal introduced a policy that does not criminalise drug use, which broke a global paradigm in handling drugs problems. Instead of a repressive approach, Portugal has chosen a new humane approach that focuses more on minimising harm from drug use.

In doing so, Portugal has stopped criminalising, marginalising and stigmatising drug users. Following the recommendation of the Global Commission on Drug Policy, Portugal has offered health and medical treatments to drug users who need them. Five years after decriminalising drug use, Portugal had decreased its overdose cases from 400 to 290 a year.

Knowing that Indonesia’s punitive approach to drug users is doing more harm than good, it is probably a good time for the government to evaluate its legal policy on drug issues. It is important to keep in mind that the government should emphasise drug policy to fight against drug addiction and illegal distribution and not drug users.

[the writer is Executive Director of Indonesia Judicial Monitoring Society (MaPPI), Faculty of Law University of Indonesia, Universitas Indonesia]



ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

GANGTOK

Memo No:-619/ED/R&B/2018

Date:-24.08.2018

POSTPONEMENT OF NIT/TENDER

This is for information to all the concern that the following NIT published vide (1) Memo No.600/ED/R&B Dated:-13/08/2018 and Ro.No. 277/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19 Dated: 14.08.2018 and (2) Memo No. 237/ED/R&B Dated: 23.07.2018 RO No. 218/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19 Dated:-23.07.2018 has been postponed till further order, please.

Sl.No	Name of work
1	Construction of link road from Mangkhim to Chandnay in East Sikkim.
2	Construction of link road from Lower Dalapchand Kafilaytar via Suntalay to Daragaon in East Sikkim.

Sd/-


DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (EAST-II)

ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT

GANGTOK

R.O. No: 302/IPR/PUB/Classi/2018-19

Date:24/08/2018



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

SIKKIM STATE TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT BOARD

GANGTOK – 737101

Ref No. 12/SSTRB

Dated: 23/08/2018

NOTICE

The following candidates have qualified for the viva-voce for the post of Graduate Teacher, Maths. The viva-voce (interview) shall be held at the Conference hall, SSTRB on 7th and 8th September, 2018.

SL.NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	SL. NO.	ROLL NO.
1	20200075	30	20200014	59	20200047
2	20200023	31	20200066	60	20200068
3	20200071	32	20200095	61	20200090
4	20200018	33	20200049	62	20200043
5	20200055	34	20200022	63	20200045
6	20200001	35	20200029	64	20200085
7	20200006	36	20200076	65	20200013
8	20200010	37	20200039	66	20200064
9	20200020	38	20200096	67	20200067
10	20200065	39	20200028	68	20200041
11	20200016	40	20200057	69	20200059
12	20200044	41	20200086	70	20200056
13	20200073	42	20200037	71	20200050
14	20200024	43	20200088	72	20200052
15	20200070	44	20200089	73	20200027
16	20200060	45	20200004	74	20200036
17	20200081	46	20200025	75	20200094
18	20200008	47	20200032	76	20200084
19	20200021	48	20200040	77	20200017
20	20200035	49	20200077	78	20200093
21	20200069	50	20200019	79	20200005
22	20200003	51	20200007	80	20200026
23	20200011	52	20200042	81	20200048
24	20200038	53	20200061	82	20200091
25	20200051	54	20200080	83	20200092
26	20200079	55	20200062	84	20200030
27	20200015	56	20200009	85	20200031
28	20200046	57	20200058	86	20200083
29	20200053	58	20200034	87	20200087

The candidates from Serial no 01 to 44 shall be present on 07th September, 2018 and the candidates from Serial no. 45 to 87 shall be present on 8th September, 2018 at the venue mentioned above.

Sd/-

CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS,

SSTRB, SYARI.

R.O. No. 300/ipr/pub/classi./18-19

dt. 23.08.2018

Bopanna-Sharan pair lands men’s doubles gold at Asian Games

PALEMBANG, AUG 24 (PTI): Top seeds Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan notched up their maiden men’s doubles gold medal at the Asian Games, dominating the final clash with a thoroughly clinical performance here today.

Bopanna and Sharan defeated Aleksander Bublik and Denis Yevseyev of Kazakhstan 6-3 6-4 in 52 minutes.

Less than 20 minutes into the match, the Indians were 4-1 ahead, breaking Bublik and Yevseyev at the very first opportunity they got.

In no time, the top seeds were serving for the set with a 5-3 lead and Bopanna’s booming serve wrapped it up in style for them.

The Kazakhs had their moments but were undone by erratic play -- a brilliant cross-court backhand winner one



moment and a powerless return buried in the nets the very next minute.

In contrast, Bopanna and Sharan’s easy camaraderie shone through in the match and they displayed near-perfect on-court coordination.

Bopanna was particularly formidable from the baseline, displaying a good range of strokes to pull off some tough win-

ners, helped by his brute power.

The second set went slightly better for Bublik and Yevseyev but they just could not rein in the unforced errors, including a double fault in the fifth game which could have cost them.

The Kazakhs had the faster legs between the two pairs but the Indians had the experience to ne-

gate that.

At 3-3, Bopanna and Sharan clinched the all-important break to go up and though they were pushed a bit in the very next game, the top seeds held serve to grab a 5-3 lead. The Kazakhs held on in the next game but it only delayed the inevitable.

Serving for the match at 40-0, Bopanna didn’t really come up with the

booming serve but the Kazakhs had been deflated enough and a feeble return went into the nets to give India the first tennis gold of the ongoing event.

India have claimed the men’s doubles gold on four occasions at the Games, the last pair being Somdev Devvarman and Sanam Singh in the 2010 Guangzhou edition.

Maresh Bhopathi and Leander Paes remain the most successful Indian men’s doubles pair in the Asian Games history, having claimed back-to-back gold medals in the 2002 and 2006 Games.

Paes had stunned the Indian team this time by pulling out on the eve of the Games after complaining of not getting a specialist partner of his choice.

In 2014, Saketh Myneni and Sanam had ended with a silver medal.



Indian rowers claim gold, 2 bronze medals

PALEMBANG, AUG 24 (PTI): Indian rowers won a gold and two bronze medals in an incredible start to the sixth day of competitions at the 18th Asian Games here, making up for the disappointment in the days gone by.

The team comprising Sawarn Singh, Dattu Bhokanal, Om Prakash and Sukhmeet Singh clocked 6:17.13 to win the gold medal in men’s quadruple sculls.

It was redemption of sorts for Bhokanal after yesterday’s forgettable show, when he failed to complete his event leaving the coach fuming.

Hosts Indonesia (6:20.58) and Thailand (6:22.41) were placed second and third respectively in the quadruple sculls.

Before landing the top prize, India bagged two bronze medals in the sport through Rohit Kumar and Bhagwan Singh in lightweight double sculls after Dushyant started the day with a third-place finish in lightweight single sculls. Rohit and Bhagwan clocked 7:04.61

to win bronze in their event at the JSC Lake.

Japan’s Miyaura Masayuki and Takeda Masahiro won the gold with a timing of 7:01.70 while Koreans Kim Byunghoon and Lee Minhyuk (7:03.22) bagged silver.

Earlier, Dushyant won the country its first rowing medal at the ongoing Games, claiming a bronze in men’s lightweight single sculls.

Korea’s Hyunsu Park and Hong Kong’s Chun Gun Chiu won the gold and silver medals respectively.

Dushyant, who was declared the best rower in the 2013 National Championships, finished third on the podium with a timing of 7.18.76 as India enjoyed a good beginning on the sixth day of competition.

The Indian, who began rowing in 2012 at an army training camp in Ro-orkee, had won a bronze in the last edition of the Games, too, in Incheon.

India now have 21 medals -- five gold, four silver and 12 bronze.

Atanu makes no excuse, differs with coach on disastrous show

JAKARTA, AUG 24 (PTI): Blaming himself for their disastrous outing at the Asian Games, Indian archer Atanu Das today admitted that he has not been able to perform at the big stage despite having everything at his disposal.

The 26-year-old from Kolkata crashed out from both individual and mixed team recurve event at the Asian Games.

He was the only Indian to reach the quarter-finals in the individual event but today lost in the first round in mixed event with Deepika Kumari.

While India’s coach Sawaiyan Manjhi had said the team did not come well prepared, Atanu called it a psychological issue.

“Who said we have not come with best



preparation. It’s not like this. We came here 4-5 days before and there is no problem. I don’t want to give any excuse. Something is missing and it keeps happening. Every time new mistakes come to fore,” Das told PTI in an interaction.

Asked to pinpoint the reason for his and re-

curve team’s poor show, Das said, “For me it’s psychological, I would say.”

“When I need to hit 10, I am getting 9. Half a millimetre is making all the difference. And that’s the game. We are working hard to cover this gap. We do not come here to lose. Last Asian Games also I lost in quar-

ter-finals. It hurts badly but I won’t give up until I achieve my objective.”

Atanu said he is not able to comprehend what is wrong with them.

“If I knew exactly, I would not have suffered such results in the last two years. If I knew, I would have won a lot of medals. Everywhere,

I am losing by just one point. I am trying to find out how to move forward to. I have got a clue but I won’t share it with you.”

While the other member of the team, Vishwas, said they struggle due to paucity of funds, Das chose not to use money as an excuse.

“I have everything that I need but still performance is not up to mark.”

Like a true team person, Atanu refused to blame his teammate Deepika for today’s defeat in mixed event. Deepika shot a poor seven in shoot-off, which resulted in India’s defeat against lower-ranked Mongolia.

“At the start, I also hit a six, I had just dropped that shot, it just came off my hands, so I won’t blame Deepika. It’s team event, so both are responsible not one individual.”

Asked if the team needs better coaching and if an expert from abroad would be able to lift the performance of Indian archers, Das said, “If there is only the tag of foreign coach, that won’t be enough. We need good training whether it comes from an Indian or a foreigner, it does not make a difference.

Now an app to rate, review your ‘neta’

NEW DELHI, AUG 24 (PTI): An app

that allows voters to rate and review their political representatives and aims to foster political accountability and transparency among leaders was launched here today.

Aptly called Neta app, which was unveiled by former President Pranab Mukherjee, the technology platform will let users rate their MLAs and MPs and is being billed as an instrument to gauge voter sentiment across constituencies in the country.

“A good democracy cannot function without informed voters, good leaders, accountability and complete transparency,” Mukherjee said said at the launch of the app created by 27-year-old entrepreneur Pratham Mittal.

Speaking on the occasion, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal noted that while India is a large democracy, there are people who give their votes based on caste, religion and other perceptions.

“There are many who have not even met their representatives... in such an atmosphere I think this initiative will give voters information about candidates and their work. It would help both the party



and people,” he said.

Mittal, founder of Neta App, said that the platform uses combination of Artificial Intelligence, advanced algorithms, one time password and Aadhaar numbers to ensure that the voters who rate leaders are genuine.

The app in its beta version has already seen over 1.5 crore verified voters rating and reviewing their local leaders across 543 parliamentary constituencies and 4,120 assembly constituencies over the last eight months.

The app is available on Andriod and iOS and web in 16 languages to cater to a diverse user profile. According to a statement, to ensure participation across demographics including rural areas, the platform uses a combination of mediums like the app itself, IVR calls, SMS and even offline activation leveraging ASHA and Aanganwadi workers to collate data on evolving political inclinations.

Plantable Rakhis: A bond of love that will live on

TANYA RAO

NEW DELHI, AUG 24 (PTI): More than a colourful, decorative silk thread, Raksha Bandhan has been a celebration of the lifelong bond between brothers and sisters, sprinkled with love, occasional fights and a dash of bitter-sweet nostalgia for a shared childhood.

While many brothers keep the rakhi on their wrists for weeks or even months to come, the festive thread eventually finds itself in a forgotten corner of a drawer or worse, a garbage bin.

But the advent of “plantable” rakhis with seeds strung together on a thread could bring in that element of longevity.

As the name suggests, the life of these rakhis won’t end with Rakhi season. Instead, they will find new life in the form of plants.

“In the past years, the import of plastic rakhis, mainly from China, has increased. All our products are made by men and women of village Tauli Budh in Uttarakhand. The raw materials are grown on our farms,” Nupur Agarwal of Evolve Foundation told PTI.

The rakhis, she said, are not just eco friendly but are also helping locals find employment.

The concept of plantable rakhis teaches one how to be patient and how to grow a plant, just like farmers do, she added.

Apart from a rakhi with seeds on it, the rakhi box also contains other plantable material like roli, rice, seed pencil, seed letter paper,



coir boxes and soil.

Divya Shetty of Plantcil believes in the idea of recycling and re-using, and her idea of eco-friendly rakhis has garnered deserving attention from customers.

“The relationship between a brother and a sister is an ever-growing one, just like a plant... The seeds on the rakhi last for a year and we have sold four lakh plantable rakhis boxes till now,” Shetty said.

Plantcil’s rakhi kit contains a rakhi, roli-chawal, a plantable message card and a plantable pencil ranging between Rs 499 and Rs 2,999 based on the number of rakhis.

The seeds on the plantable material include lupine flower, tomato, marigold, and tulsi.

Seeing rakhis stored out of guilt or simply thrown away led Divyanshu Asopa of 21 Fools to think of plantable rakhis with the aim of “restoring the essence of the festival with this sustainable switch”.

“Every year, we see innumera-

ble rakhis thrown away or stored out of guilt. This wastage of rakhis inspired us to create a seed paper rakhi which would turn itself into a plant,” Asopa said.

The prices of plantable rakhis range from Rs 251 for one rakhi to Rs 1,001 for a set of 10. It’s not just about plantable rakhis.

The festival market in India has, over the years, shown a gradual tilt towards a sustainable and eco-friendly model of business while trying to keep the essence of the festival alive.

After eco-friendly gulaal for Holi, fireworks manufacturer have dwelled on developing eco-friendly fireworks for Diwali, and for Raksha Bandhan, the market this year is filled eco-friendly rakhi to choose from.

Evolve Foundation, 21 Fools, Plantcil, TRIFED and Abhika Jewels are some of the organisations that have kickstarted the initiative of plantable and handmade paper rakhis.

31- BOOMTAR SALLEYBONG VILLAGE DMINISTRATIVE CENTRE BAC, NAMCHI, SOUTH SIKKIM

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

31-Boomtar Salleybong Gram Panchayat Unit invites sealed Tenders from the eligible & appropriate class contractors of the GPU for the work listed under:

SL. NO.	NAME OF WORK	VALUE PUT TO TENDER [Rs.] SANC-TIONED COST	COM-PLETION TIME [In months]	COST OF TENDER DOCUMENTS [Rs.]	AMOUNT OF EAR-NEST MONEY @ 2.5% [Rs.]
1	Const. of Juvenile Jus-tice Board at Boom-tar, Namchi	79,67,706/-	06 Months	2,500/-	1,99,193

TIME SCHEDULE:

1. Date of submission of application with the cost of Rs. 2,500/- for Tender Form.

2. Date of Issue of Tender Form: 16.08.2018 to 30.08.2018 up to 12.00 Hrs.

3. Date & Time of submission of Tender Form: 30.08.2018 at 13.00 Hrs.

4. Date of Time of Opening Tender: 30.08.2018 up to 14.00 Hrs.

Sd/-

SANCHI RANI RAI MEMBER

2 BOOMTAR TADONG WAR

31-BOOMTAR SALLEYBONG GPU, SOUTH SIKKIM.

UN summit on TB seeks to put spotlight on killer disease

UNITED NATIONS, AUG 24 (AFP): It's the world's number one killer among infectious diseases, but tuberculosis has been eclipsed by HIV/AIDS as a focus of global attention and donor funding.

When world leaders gather at the United Nations next month, they will be asked to change that by committing to end the tuberculosis pandemic by 2030 and come up with USD 13 billion annually to achieve that goal.

A row between the United States and South Africa threatens, however, to cast a pall over the first high-level meeting on tuberculosis, to be held on the sidelines

of the General Assembly meeting in New York.

Billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates whose global fund has done game-changing work to boost public health in poor countries will be among the headliners of the TB summit on September 26.

"TB is not a disease of the past, but if the world works together to fight it, I have no doubt it can be," Gates said in post on Twitter.

Two months of negotiations on a final declaration were scheduled to wrap up in July, but the talks have dragged on after South Africa opposed US proposals to delete language that recognizes the

right of poorer countries to access cheaper medicines.

Medical charity MSF has applauded South Africa's stance and urged countries to resist what it has described as "an aggressive push" by the US pharmaceutical lobby to restrict access to low-cost drugs.

Diplomats said negotiations were continuing on a possible compromise.

Last year, the World Health Organization sounded the alarm when it said tuberculosis had surpassed HIV/AIDS as the world's number one infectious killer and was the ninth cause of death

worldwide.

About 1.7 million people died from TB in 2016 out of 10.4 million worldwide who became ill from the severe lung infection, according to the WHO.

A 30-point final declaration under negotiation would commit governments to end the global tuberculosis epidemic by 2030 by stepping up investment and innovation to fight the disease.

Governments would agree to mobilize at least USD 13 billion a year by 2022 for treatment and care and an additional USD 2 billion to fund research at a time when tuberculosis is becoming

more resistant to antibiotics.

Five countries are the hardest-hit by the TB pandemic: India, which accounts for a quarter of cases, Indonesia, China, the Philippines and Pakistan, but it remains unclear whether these nations are sending high-level officials to the summit.

Non-governmental organizations say leaders from key donor countries like the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Canada must turn up for the meeting to be ground-breaking.

"TB is not just a health issue. TB is an economic issue, a development issue, a security issue and

we need leadership from heads of states," said Paula Fujiwara, the scientific director of the Paris-based International Union

Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. "If they don't deliver in September, we are going to do everything in our power to hold them accountable for the lives lost," she said.

About 33 heads of state and government have so far said they will attend, according to UN officials.

At the summit, leaders will pledge to provide diagnosis and treatment to 40 million people with TB from 2018 to 2022, including 3.5 million children.

Indonesian earthquake death toll reaches 555

JAKARTA, AUG 24 (AFP):

A string of deadly earthquakes that rocked Indonesia's Lombok island this summer killed 555 people and injured nearly 1,500, the disaster agency said Friday, with hundreds of thousands left homeless.

The picturesque island next to holiday hotspot Bali was hit by two deadly quakes on July 29 and August 5.

On Sunday, it was shaken by a string of fresh tremors and aftershocks, with the strongest measuring 6.9 magnitude.

Indonesia's disaster agency said Friday most of the deaths occurred in the northern part of Lombok, with several also killed in neighbouring Sumbawa island.

Many victims were killed by falling debris as the tremors rippled across the island, causing widespread devastation.

Whole communities were flattened, leaving cracked streets lined with rubble, caved-in roofs



and collapsed buildings.

Some 390,000 people remain displaced after the quakes, the disaster agency said.

Aid organisations have vowed to step up humanitarian assistance on the island as devastated residents struggle in makeshift displacement camps.

They warned that access to food, shelter and clean water has been insufficient for some residents displaced by the disasters.

"We've deployed troops to isolated villages that are difficult to reach," disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said in a

statement.

"There are many villages... that are hard to access with motorbikes. Some aid has to be delivered on foot." Rebuilding costs are estimated to top seven trillion rupiah (USD 478 million).

Indonesia sits on the so-called Pacific "Ring of Fire", where tectonic

plates collide and many of the world's volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur.

In 2004, a massive 9.1 magnitude quake struck off the coast of Sumatra and triggered a tsunami that killed 220,000 throughout the region, including 168,000 in Indonesia alone.



US-China trade talks end with no breakthrough

WASHINGTON, AUG 24 (AP): US and Chinese negotiators ended two days of meetings without breaking a deadlock over trade that has unnerved financial markets and disrupted global commerce.

The delegations "exchanged views on how to achieve fairness, balance and reciprocity in the economic relationship," Lindsay Walters, a White House spokeswoman, said in a statement. She did not mention further talks.

A Chinese Commerce Ministry statement said the talks were "constructive and frank" but gave no details. It said the two sides would "maintain contact."

The dispute over China's high-tech industrial policy escalated yesterday as the Trump administration and Beijing imposed taxes on an additional USD 16 billion of each other's goods.

The administration last month had slapped tariffs on an initial USD 34 billion in Chinese products, and Beijing responded in kind.

The Trump team is preparing tariffs on USD 200 billion more of Chinese products, and China has vowed to counterpunch by targeting USD 60 billion in American goods.

The US-China talks this week were the first since discussions in June failed to produce any agreement.

Sessions bites back as Trump says impeachment would sink economy

WASHINGTON, AUG 24 (AFP): President Donald Trump has warned the US economy would collapse if he were impeached, as legal chaos roiling the White House had experts saying his presidency is under threat.

Speaking on the eve of a closely watched meeting of central bank chiefs Friday, Trump also took aim again at his Attorney General, Jeff Sessions, prompting a rare retort from the embattled justice department chief.

Days after Trump's former fixer Michael Cohen told a federal judge he made illegal campaign contributions at the president's request -- to silence women alleging affairs with Trump -- the Republican leader told Fox News that an impeachment would only cause more turmoil.

"I will tell you what, if I ever got impeached, I think the market would crash. I think everybody would be very poor," Trump said on "Fox and Friends."

"You would see -- you would see numbers that you wouldn't believe in reverse."

The US president then launched into a rambling statement on job creation and other economic progress he said had been made during his presidency.

"I don't know how you can impeach somebody who has done a great job," Trump said.

Trump was dealt severe back-to-back blows on Tuesday when Cohen pled guilty to illegal campaign finance violations and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was convicted of tax and bank fraud within minutes of each other.

The Manafort conviction was the first case sent to trial by the special prosecutor probing Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

But an unchastened Trump ap-



pears intent on riding out the storm as Washington grapples with the latest upheaval in his tumultuous presidency.

The president has insisted he did nothing wrong after Cohen, his long-time private lawyer and fixer, implicated him in the illicit hush payments made before the 2016 election to two women who claimed to have had affairs with the Republican presidential candidate.

Although Cohen did not name them, the women were believed to be porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal.

Because the hush payments were intended to influence the outcome of the elections, they violated US laws governing campaign contributions.

In entering a guilty plea, Cohen said the payments were made "in coordination with and at the direction of a candidate for federal office," in clear reference to Trump.

Trump was evasive when asked in the Fox News interview if he had instructed Cohen to make the payments, saying that his former lawyer "made the deals," and insisted that Cohen's actions were "not a crime."

"Campaign violations are consid-

ered not a big deal, frankly," he said.

Trump then said the hush payments were financed with his own money -- to which Cohen had access -- and that while he had no knowledge of them at the time, he had since been fully transparent.

Despite Trump's defiant tone, Washington-based campaign finance expert Kate Belinski, of the Nossaman law firm, said to expect legal consequences for both Trump and his campaign -- most likely in the form of a civil complaint before the Federal Election Commission.

Trump praised Manafort for going to trial, in which the president's former campaign chief was found guilty of eight counts of financial fraud.

The president lauded the 69-year-old Manafort for leaving his fate to a jury rather than striking a plea deal -- a move that has sparked speculation Manafort hopes for a pardon.

Asked if he was considering such a move, Trump said only that he has "great respect for what he has done, in terms of what he has gone through."

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

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

**ESSAYS
ON TEESTA,
HYDEL
AND CLIMATE
CHANGE
IN SIKKIM**

**LOKTA
BOOKS**
Bengaluru - Sikkim
loktabooks@gmail.com
+91 8861 060 0280; +91 985 280 0763



UNITED FOR CHARITY! Matthew McConaughey, 48, and Ashton Kutcher, 40, greet each other at the 6th Annual Ping Pong 4 Purpose charity event hosted at Dodger Stadium.

Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh to fly down to Bengaluru for a grand pre-wedding puja

The world, as we speak, is rejoicing the news of Priyanka Chopra's roka to boo Nick Jonas just after months of dating. In fact, PC fans have already brought out the dhols to mark the occasion and the fact that they want to keep it a short engagement is not helping it. But whenever they decided to get married, rest assured it will be one of the biggest celeb wedding ever.

Speaking of celeb weddings, speculations about Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone tying the knot are now rife more than ever. Reportedly, the 'IT' couple of Bollywood is all set to embrace domestic bliss this year on 10 Nov. And the duo will exchange the wedding vows at Lake Como in Italy.

But right now, Bengaluru is the place to be at. That's right, apparently preparations are in full-swing and needless to say, it is going to



be one of a kind. In fact, according to SpotBoye, Ranveer Singh would be flying to Bangalore along with his family to attend a grand pre-wedding puja at Deepika's residence just 10 days prior to the wedding.

A source close to the Padukones confirmed the news to the portal and added that the Nandi Puja will be organised by Deepika's mother, Ujjala Padukone. She has already spoken to the officials of the temple regard-

ing the booking of pundits. In fact, Deepika will be seen sporting glass bangles after the puja.

While Deepika and Ranveer have never announced their relationship publicly, it doesn't take rocket science to see through their sparkling chemistry and adorable Insta PDA. While we're sure the preparations are in full swing, the wait to see their fairytale romance culminate into marriage seems longer than ever!

XXXTENTACION'S MOTHER REVEALS HE WAS EXPECTING A BABY BOY...

THE RAPPER - who was shot dead at the age of 20 in Deerfield, Florida back on June 18 - died knowing that he was going to be a father according to reports at the time. His mother Cleopatra Bernard took to her Instagram on Wednesday to post a snap of a baby bump which is assumed to be XXXTentacion's unknown girlfriend.

She captioned the snap: "It's a boy. baby x"

Since the rapper's death four suspects have been arrested in connection with the shooting.

The Instagram post comes just weeks after it was reported that the rapper knew weeks before his death that his girlfriend was pregnant per a Friday report from TMZ.

XXXTentacion had been dating the unidentified woman for months. According to the publication, the Instagram of an ultrasound shared by the late rapper's mother Cleopatra is 'definitely' his girlfriend's.

On Thursday, the mom took to Instagram to share the image as she hinted that the rapper "left... a final gift"



for the world.

The post came as Florida man Dedrick Devonshay William was arrested for the

Changes artist's murder. No other details were provided.

People are speculating about the identity of the

mother with some claiming it's ex-girlfriend Geneva Ayala, who accused the rapper of brutally assaulting her while she was pregnant in a 2017 case. Sources close to the rapper told TMZ, however, she is not the woman in question.

After the news of the rapper's death broke, the 20-year-old rapper's music rapidly climbed the charts.

On Tuesday, the recording artist's only two albums occupied the top two slots on Amazon's Movers and Shakers Digital Music list.

The rapper's most recent album, ? - which dropped in March - saw a 41,306% spike as it charged to number one on the Seattle-based company's digital list.

Meanwhile, his debut studio LP, 17, which was unveiled in August of 2017, was up about 9,000%. His move up the chart isn't limited to digital, as he is also receiving plenty of attention in the hard copy sales section.

He holds the number two and three spots on the CDs and Vinyl category, where the vinyl LP of ? jumped 542,566% and the CD spiked 54,057%.



Jennifer Lopez auctioning off wardrobe from Shades of Blue!

Shades of Blue may have just run its final episode. But that isn't stopping Jennifer Lopez from doing some good with the remains of the show.

The 49-year-old actress is currently auctioning off her personal wardrobe from the series in an effort to raise money for Puerto Rico.

The On the Floor singer partnered up with the Hispanic Federation and the UNIDOS Disaster Relief and Recovery Program for the auction.

TMZ reports that the funds raised will go to 'struggling communities in Puerto Rico that were decimated from Hurricane Maria last year'. The auction is currently taking place on Screenbid - a website dedicated to selling off costumes and other collectibles from hit shows and

movies.

Items available include Lopez's camel pants and silk striped blouse, her olive jacket and jeans outfit, and her parka, as well as literally hundreds of others. Each piece has starting bids of \$50, and TMZ reports 'the wardrobe is expected to fetch thousands of dollars each'.

The auction comes to a close on 09 Sept.

Shades of Blue's final episode aired Sunday, 19 Aug on NBC. The series hit screens in Jan 2016 and ran 36 episodes before leaving the air.

Ray Liotta, 63, co-starred with Lopez on the crime drama, which took place in New York City.

The Selena actress can still be seen on television as a host on World of Dance, which airs on NBC on Wednesday at 9pm.

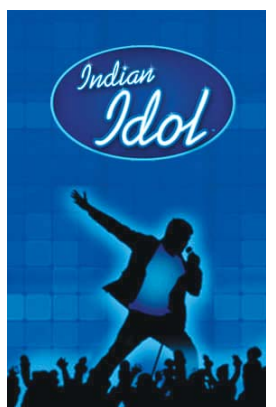
Indian Idol: Ex contestant talks about physical abuse on the show

Indian Idol is one of the popular reality shows of small screen and always grabs one of the top 20 positions in BARC India's viewership list. But the show is currently making headlines for all the wrong reasons. And this is because of a tweet by a former participant which went viral.

Nishant Kaushik, who had reached the third round in 2012 edition of this popular show, took to Twitter to express his grudge. He elaborated in detail about the abuse some contestants face during all these by the sheer lack of organisation on the part of the producers and organizers.

He wrote, "Brief, nonchalant threat about my auditioning experience at Indian Idol 2012 and why I think it is a perfect platform to destroy your dreams as opposed to its common perception as a breeding ground for talent." [sic]

He went on elaborating about all the tortures contestants go through in a number of threads. These instantly went viral and people couldn't stop flooding their opinions in it.



Amongst the many, former host Mini Mathur also responded to this Tweet.

She wrote, "This sucks. Thanks for forwarding me this thread. I wasn't part of the 2012 season but I know most of what he has articulated is known to happen on reality tv. One of the reasons I bowed out. This incessant need to create false emotion. RIP Organic, pure TV." [sic]

She hosted the show between 2004-2007 and then again on 2012.

Currently, Indian Idol season 10 is being judged by Anu Malik, Neha Kakkar and Vishal Dadlani. The show is hosted by Maniesh Paul.

ARIES: Money matters could prove obsessive today, Aries, as you might be trying to make an important purchase and need to revise your budget in order to do so. You'll be able to do it if you calm down and don't stress out. Be logical and methodical, and you'll probably accomplish what you want without too much frustration. Tonight, schedule a special date with a lover.

TAURUS: Today you should be looking especially good and feeling particularly passionate and sensual, Taurus. This is a great day to buy new clothes, as your fashion sense is probably right on target. Racy novels and romantic movies may seem more appealing than usual. This is a great day to be alone with a love partner. Try to do this early in the day so there won't be any conflicts.

GEMINI: Your imagination should

be flying high today, Gemini. Words, images, melodies, or whatever your artistic media are probably popping into your head faster than you can keep track of them. Write them down, record them, or do whatever you can to remember them or you could very easily forget them. You don't want that to happen. Take time to do this no matter what else is pressing.

CANCER: Your financial goals are probably on the verge of becoming reality, Cancer, but it might seem as if the few tasks remaining are too monumental to face right now. Don't fall into gloom and despair. Try to find some workable ideas to get these obstacles out of your way with minimal effort. Remember, there's always a way if you take time to plan. Good luck.

LEO: Conversations with a friend

whose good sense you trust could open your eyes to new career possibilities, Leo. You might think about transforming your working life. These opportunities need careful consideration, since you've never contemplated them before. There's no rush to make up your mind, so don't feel pressured. Do give it some thought. You'll probably be glad you did.

VIRGO: Strange dreams, insights, or visions could upend your spiritual orientation, Virgo. These new ideas could have your mind going a thousand miles an hour and shake up concepts that you've embraced for most of your life. Think about it without making yourself crazy. What you're receiving is nothing more Earthshaking than information to consider and then accept or reject.

LIBRA: A friend you may not have seen for a while could awaken strange new feelings for which you're unprepared, Libra. You may see this person as a potential romantic partner. What you do about it depends on your situation. It probably isn't a good idea to pursue this attraction today. It may pass. Wait a few days. If it's still there, who knows?

SCORPIO: The formation of a new business partnership might transform your working life, Scorpio. The benefits may not appear for a while, so don't quit your day job. Nonetheless, it's definitely worth considering. Make sure you have all the facts before making any formal commitment. It's important to be aware of every possible contingency before you start a new enterprise, especially now.

SAGITTARIUS: Unfinished job tasks might have you wanting to pitch in and get them done no matter what it takes, Sagittarius. This is likely to earn you a few brownie points with your colleagues, but take care that you don't stress yourself out. You probably woke up feeling pretty good this morning, but you won't finish the day that way if you exhaust yourself. Pace yourself.

CAPRICORN: Today you're apt to feel very sensual and passionate, Capricorn. Sexy clothes, racy novels, and romantic movies could be more appealing than usual. Don't be surprised if you attract admiring glances from strangers. This is an excellent day to schedule an evening alone with a lover, although you might not be able to get together tonight. You'll enjoy it when- ever it happens. Better late than never!

AQUARIUS: A powerful desire for a current or potential romantic partner might come over you today, Aquarius. This person could live far away or be on a trip, so you might have to be satisfied with a phone call or email instead of the meeting you'd prefer. Don't get frustrated. Distract yourself with an exciting novel or movie and look forward to when you can get together.

PISCES: A powerful need to reach someone either for business or personal reasons could have you spending a lot of time on the phone that may come to nothing, Pisces. You might call every place this person could possibly be, and this could prove frustrating. Your friend may be away. Leave a message or two and let him or her call you back. Find something else to distract you.