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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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The Week journalist wins IPI-India Journalism award

NEW DELHI, NOV 3 (PTI): Namrata Biji Ahuja, a senior journalist at The Week has been chosen for the International Press Institute-India award this year for her story on "Naga underground camps" that explored the "parallel and secret" functioning of a 'state within a state', the forum said Saturday.

The IPI-India Award for Excellence in Journalism which carries a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh, a trophy and a citation, will be given to Ahuja at a function later in Delhi, it said.

"The award is for her exclusive story on Naga underground camps, providing the parallel and secret Naga State functioning with all ministries inside Nagaland, interviews and first personal accounts of Naga 'ministers' and officials," the IPI-India said in a statement.

She has been chosen for the "fact-based approach" she adopted to gather information about the "state within the state" functioning in the border state, and its implications for the state of Nagaland and for the country, it said.

The first-hand account reporting has contributed for a "better understanding of the long pending Naga issue", the forum said.

After considering the entries received for the Award, the jury of editors and publishers headed by former Attorney-General of India Soli Sorabjee, unanimously selected Ahuja for the award.

The other members of the jury were -- N Ravi, Chairman, IPI -India & Director, The Hindu; M K Razdan, former Editor-in-Chief, Press Trust of India; Riyad Mathew, Chief Associate Editor, Malayala Manorama; and Sanjaya Baru, former Chief Editor, Financial Express and Business Standard, the statement said.

IPI-India had instituted the annual award in 2003 to recognise and honour the best work done by an Indian media organisation or journalist working in print, radio, television and internet medium, in furtherance of public interest, including safeguarding of freedom of the press and other freedoms such as human rights.

The first Award for Excellence in Journalism, 2003 was given to The Indian Express for its reporting of the Gujarat riots and its aftermath. NDTV won the award in 2004 for its expose of the baby-swapping racket in Hyderabad, and the cor

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Namchi Mahotsav gets underway; Should go on for longer, CM suggests

NAMCHI, 03 NOV (IPR): Sikkim is the only state in India to start 'Organic Revolution' in the country and attain global recognition at a platform as big as the United Nations, highlighted Chief Minister Pawan Chamling while addressing the Namchi Mahotsav celebrations at Central Park here today.

He inaugurated the three-day event organized by the South District Administration in collaboration with Namchi Mahotsav Organising Committee under the guidance of South Sikkim Tourism Development Society (SSTDS).

The Chief Minister also extended warm Diwali greetings to the people of Namchi on the occasion of Namchi Mahotsav 2018.

He lauded the persistent efforts of the organising committee, DC South and his team of officers for successful-



ly initiating the daylong cultural festival.

The CM spoke about the significance of Mahotsav and proposed a month-long celebration of Sikkimese culture through Namchi Mahotsav to give further impetus to tourism in and

around Namchi.

Citing the immense value of both showcasing and preserving the unique aspects of Sikkim's tradition and culture through the showcasing of traditional cuisine and cultural conventions, the Chief Minister

advocated agro-based industries to benefit the budding entrepreneurs of the state.

He also asserted that Namchi Mahotsav should be hosted for more days to boost business prospects.

He also lauded the progressive farmers of

Salleybong and Bul GPU of South District who have set milestones in the field of Organic Farming for the youth to follow.

The Chief Minister announced that the Namchi Passenger Ropeway will be inaugurated in November itself.

He added that the state government will also be establishing a city centre in every town of the state to promote tourism.

The CM also put forth the concept of South-West pilgrimage circuit which will bring numerous employment avenues for the youth of the state and make them self-reliant.

In terms of development initiatives in Namchi, he announced the construction of bazaar temple, augmentation of Community Centre with a parking facility.

Shifting focus to the health sector, the Chief Minister reiterated the

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Sikkim wins its first-ever Ranji Trophy match



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 NOV:

Sikkim won its first-ever Ranji Trophy match today when it downed Manipur in Kolkata by an innings and 27 runs. The match was played in JU Second Campus, Salt Lake, Kolkata.

Sikkim, along with eight others team, playing its first Ranji Trophy in the Plate Division.

It was Milind Kumar's 261 runs that helped Sikkim reach 372 in the first innings and brilliant bowling by Sikkim bowlers restricted the opponents to 79 runs. Ishwar Chaudhary took 4 wickets with Bipul Sharma

taking three, Lee Yong Lepcha two wickets and Palzor Tamang one.

Sikkim decided on a follow-on to Manipur and in the second innings they managed 266 runs on the backs of Yashpal Singh's 132 and Lakhan Arjun Rawant's 70 runs.

In the second innings too Sikkim showed a magnificent game temperament and swept-out Manipur 27 shorts of Sikkim's first inning's score. Bipul took 4 wickets, Ishwar 3 wickets, Palzor, Milind and Padam one wicket each.

It is a historic win by Sikkim and a proud

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SFA felicitates veteran footballers



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 NOV:

Ten prominent veteran footballers from Sikkim and the neighbouring hillswere felicitated by Sikkim Football Association during the finals of the 38th All India Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament 2018 here

at Paljor Stadium today.

SFA felicitated ex-footballers Nim Tshering Lepcha and Chamba Dhendup Bhutia from Kalimpong, Mahindra Subba and Suren Pakhrin from Darjeeling, Kushal Subba, Thakur Rai, Tashi Chopel Lepcha, Sonam Lepcha, Suresh Mukhia and Puspa [Chettri] Gurung from Sikkim.

MMC-Nepal lifts Governor's Gold Cup

SAGAR CHETTRI

GANGTOK, 03 NOV:

Manang Marshangdi Club [MMC], Nepal, lifted the 38th All India Governor's Gold Cup here at Paljor Stadium today, downing a strong Army [Red] by a solitary goal.

The teams were evenly balanced and both played attacking football right from the start and through the match. With equal possession of the ball, both teams maintained constant pressure on each other with constant attacks and counter-attacks. There were

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Pollution in Delhi akin to smoking 15-20 cigarettes a day

NEW DELHI, NOV 3 (PTI): Doctors in the national capital Saturday said the impact of air pollution on public health can be compared to smoking of 15-20 cigarettes a day.

To showcase the ill effects of air pollution, an installation depicting human lungs was unveiled at a city hospital Saturday.

"I have seen a change in the colour of lungs over the past 30 years that I have been operating. Earlier, I used to see black deposits only in smokers and others would have pink lungs."

"But, nowadays, I only see black lungs. Even teenagers have black spots on their lungs. This is frightening. With this unique installation, we hope to show people the reality of what's happening to their lungs," said Dr Arvind Kumar, founder trustee, Lung Care Foundation, Chairman - Cen-



tre for Chest Surgery, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

"The impact of the foul air on public health can be compared to smoking 15-20 cigarettes a day," he said.

The lungs in the installation are fitted with white Hepa Filters, which due to exposure to Delhi air will turn black, demonstrating the impact of air pollution on healthy lungs, a statement issued by Sir Ganga Ram hospital said.

The installation is a part of a campaign

launched by the Help Delhi Breathe initiative, the Lung Care Foundation and the hospital, it said.

Air pollution has reached alarming levels in Delhi and is causing severe damage to the health of the citizens. We have to act immediately to control this menace, otherwise the health consequences will be disastrous. We are already seeing an increasing number of patients in our hospital continuously complain about cough,

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A pop-up by Anupa Rai



We welcome you to CLAY PLAY, an exhibition cum sale of clay art by home grown artist Anupa Rai from Pakyong, Sikkim. The solo event showcases an array of home decor items and accessories, handcrafted with love. Anupa mostly draws her inspiration from nature.

Date: 2/11/2018 - 4/11/2018

Time: 9:00am - 6:00pm

Venue: Green Gangtok Boutique, Forest Colony Road, Gangtok.

+91 97758 77317 greengangtok@gmail.com

CM flags off Namchi Marathon

NAMCHI, 03 Nov (IPR): Chief Minister Pawan Chamling flagged off the Men's Open half marathon 21 Km and Namchi Marathon 10 Km for both men and women below 25 years of age at the inaugural ceremony of Namchi Mahotsav, today.

In the girls category for 10 Km marathon the first position was secured by Pem Lakhi Bhutia from Upper Ghurpisey followed by Sushma Tamang and Mamata Gurung in the second and third position from Salleybong and Sumbuk Senior Secondary School.



Likewise, in the boys category for 10 Km Narbu Tamang from Salleybong, Songit Baraily from Ponglong and Sudarshan Rai from Namchi grabbed the

first, second and third position respectively. The CM also distributed the certifi-

cate and prize money of Rs. 25,000, Rs. 15,000, and Rs. 10,000 to the winners.

The winners of Men's Open half marathon 21 Km are Puran Rai, Uttam Bhujel and Bikash Bhujel from Kalimpong who secured the first, second and third position. Additionally, the Chief Minister gave certificate and prize money of Rs. 50,000, Rs. 35,000 and Rs. 25,000 to them.

Moreover a sum of Rs 2000 along with certificates were handed over to 4th to 10th position holders in both the marathons.

Singalila Academy celebrates annual day

YOGEN THATAL SINGTAM, 03 NOV:

Singalila Academy today celebrated their third annual day function at the community hall of Singtam Nagar Panchayat. President, SK Pradhan, vice president and all councillors of SNP attended the function amongst others.

The function started with lighting of lamp and singing of the National Anthem while the welcome speech was given by Principal, Priyanka Rani Chettri. Cultural performance



was presented by the students which included poetry recitation in different languages. Mothers danced along

with their children aged between 4 to 5 years on stage. The program concluded with the distribution of certificates by the guests.

SKM state-wide outreach continues



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 NOV: Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party workers and president PS Tamang [Golay] kept a busy day today as the party continued its state-wide outreach efforts with SKM events held at different places.

At Ralang-Namlung under Barfung constituency, 11 families affiliated to SDF joined SKM during the WLC formation there, an SKM press

release informs.

At Hee-Sapung ward, another six SDF party workers joined SKM at a function attended by senior party office-bearers.

The party's WLC formation for Gangtok constituency was completed at Namnang while a WLC was also constituted at Raksey Kedangthang Ward under Tumlin Lingee constituency.

A public interaction programme was also

held at Sumbuk GPU Kameray Ward under Melli constituency and elsewhere, undertook an intensified door to door contact and flag hoisting program in Temi Namphing constituency.

The SKM president meanwhile hosted an interaction with people of Siktam under Daramdin constituency at his residence in Singling.

He is scheduled to begin a statewide tour on 15 November.

CJ chairs sensitization prog under NALSA at Chungthang

CHUNGTHANG, 03 NOV (IPR): A sensitization programme for Senior Citizens/Retired Government Officers/Officials under NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme was held today at Panchayat Bhawan, Chungthang North Sikkim. The program was organized by the State Legal Services Authority in coordination with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) North Sikkim.

The sensitization programme was chaired by Justice Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Vijai Kumar Bist, who is the patron in chief of SLSA, Sikkim. The programme was also co-chaired by Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson of Sikkim SLSA. The programme was attended by the Judges from the District Court, North Sikkim, District Collector North, SP North, SDM Chungthang, DIO, officials from Chungthang sub-division, Panchayats of Chungthang, Pipons of Lachen and Lachung and local public of the sub-division.

The Chief Justice of Sikkim who was attending the first programme in Sikkim after his swearing in recently stated that he was happy to visit Chungthang sub division. Speaking on the topic of Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007 he stated that it is a duty of the children to accept the responsibility of taking care of their parents. As

per the Indian traditions and customs parents are considered as "Pitri Devta" and their contribution to the welfare of the children cannot be compensated. The role of the mother and father in raising the kids despite their difficulties cannot be forgotten. He urged the para legal volunteers to help the Senior Citizens in getting Redressal to various legal issues being faced by them. He also urged the district officials to give a sympathetic and helping attitude while dealing with the cases involving Senior citizens.

Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai while addressing the gathering stated that the main role of the SLSA and DLSA was to provide awareness to the people on various acts and laws. She urged the public to make full use of these camps for making themselves aware on various provisions of different laws. She stated the intention of the today's session was to provide awareness on the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007. Today when there is rising number of cases of diseases such as dementia and Alzheimer's in senior citizens, it is the duty of the children to provide care to their parents. As per the Act, it was the duty of the children to maintain their parents and if a person fails to maintain their parents then the senior citizens can approach the tribunal of Sub Divisional

Magistrate for providing Redressal. The District Magistrate is the appellate authority and can be approached if they are not satisfied with the order of the SDM. She also advised the Panchayats and Pipons not to settle cases under POC-SO and other grievous crimes and the elected representatives should not mediate in such cases. She stated that such non compoundable cases should be strictly dealt only by the courts.

During the programme, Liladhar Ghimerey, Accounts Officer from Finance Revenue and Expenditure Department explained the state pension scheme and benefits under the scheme to the retired employees of the state Government. The Joint Director Social Justice, Northern Lepcha provided an overview of the pension schemes under the National Old Age Pension (NOAP) scheme admissible to the senior citizens and Widow Pension Scheme and Family Pensions Scheme. The Sr Superintendent of Police, K Shanderpa briefed the gathering on the do's and don'ts regarding the safety of senior citizens.

The Chief Justice also visited the construction site of sub-divisional Judicial Complex at Chungthang and inspected the progress of the work. He directed the concerned engineers and contractors to make rapid progress and hand over the complex on the scheduled time.

Training on oyster mushroom cultivation



SUMMIT REPORT

RANGPO, 03 NOV:

A daylong training on oyster mushroom cultivation was conducted by krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Sikkim, under the Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan -II at Tingling-Kheche-

opalri today.

SMS, Horticulture, Sangay Palmoo Bhutia, was present as the resource person for the day and highlighted the nutritional and economic aspects of mushroom cultivation, preparation of mushroom

blocks, cultivation and pest management.

The programme concluded with distribution of waste decomposers, bio pesticides and neem-based products to the 50farmers who took the training.

Vigilance Awareness Week at KVK-South



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 NOV:

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, South Sikkim, observed Vigilance Awareness Week 2018 from 01 to 03 November on the theme, "Eradicate corruption- Build a New India".

Vigilance Awareness Week is observed every year to generate awareness among people at large about the ill-effects of corruption.

Activities such as essay writing, drawing

and poster completions were organized participated in by students from Namthang Senior Secondary School, St. Paul's School, Greenfield School. Department officials also took active part in the programme, a press release informs.

To mark the end of the Awareness Week, a day-long programme was organized today with Amit Pradhan, Branch Manager of State Bank of India (Namthang Branch) as chief guest.

Namchi Mahotsav...

introduction of an integrated 24x7 ambulance service for expecting mothers. The toll free number '102' is designated for womenfolk of the state and anyone in need of this service can avail the facilities by calling the toll free number, he added.

The program also saw the presentation of a memento to the Chief Minister by the organising committee followed by a book on 'Namchi Mahotsav'.

Namchi Mahotsav, a three daylong cultural event themed 'Explore Ethnic Beauty' has a host of attractions which include tug-of-war contests, ethnic cultural programs, flower exhibition cum sale, ethnic food stalls, rural handicrafts and handlooms, display and sale of organic vegetables, helicopter joy rides, local art gallery, adventure activities and performances by local artists.

The cultural festival will also feature musical programs every evening.

The inaugural function was also attended by SLA Speaker KN Rai, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, Zilla Panchayats and Panchayat members, HODs, various dignitaries, stakeholders of Namchi Mahotsav, public and students at large.

Sikkim wins...

moment for all the Sikkimese, a Sikkim Cricket Association press release highlights.

Sikkim has 7 Points on the table of Plate Division of Ranji trophy.

"I congratulate the entire team for this historic win today and would like to thank all the past Office Bearers of SCA, who worked tirelessly for this day to come. It is every Cricketers dream to play in the most prestigious tournament of Indian Domestic League and with this win their dreams have been fulfilled. This dream SCA and BCCI has finally fulfilled for all cricketers in Sikkim. Today's innings defeat has been given to the people of Sikkim by the players and the SCA family," conveys Lobzang G. Tenzing (President of Sikkim Cricket Association).

MMC-Nepal lifts...

many misses and some great good opportunities created, but the first half ended in a goalless draw.

Again in the second half, both teams missed some good chances and the match appeared headed to a goalless regulation time until the referee awarded a penalty kick to MMC when an Army defender made a rough tackle on Anjan Bista of MMC in the D-box area in the 80th minute of the match.

MMC striker, Sujal Shrestha converted this golden opportunity into the winning goal of the match. The referee's decision was strongly protested by Army players.

In return, Army players played their hearts out to net the equaliser but could not stop MMC-Nepal from winning the tournament with this 1-0 victory.

Sushil Shah of Army Red was adjudged the Man of the Final Match.

The final match had Governor Ganga Prasad as chief guest and Minister for Sports & Youth Affairs Department, RB Subba, present as the guest of honour. The winning team was handed over a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh along with the trophy, while runners-up received Rs 1 lakh and a trophy.

The Week journalist...

ruption trail of the Telgi stamp scam.

The jury did not find any entry eligible for the award in 2005 and 2008.

In 2006, the Award was given to The Indian Express for its investigations into the Bihar flood scam and vanishing tigers. In 2007, the Outlook magazine was selected for the investigation into two defence scams relating to purchase of Scorpene submarines and the leaks from the Navy war room.

The Award in 2009 was jointly given to Bidisha Goshal of The Week for her investigation into the sexual victimisation of the widows of farmers who committed suicide in Vidarbha, and to The Indian Express for its investigation into the Hindu terror links in the Malegaon and Modasa blasts.

Tehelka was the recipient of the Award in 2010 for its graphic expose of the cold-blooded execution of an innocent bystander by the security forces in Manipur.

Previous recipients of the award include Karan Thapar, M Shajil Kumar of Malayala Manorama and Ritu Sarin of Indian Express.

Founded 69 years ago in New York by a group of editors from 15 countries, International Press Institute has grown into a truly global organisation committed to the furtherance of the freedom of press.

"Vienna-based IPI is committed to promotion of free exchange of accurate and balanced news among nations. It has also been in the forefront of safeguarding the freedom of the press through protests to governments and organisations against any violation of press freedom and restrictions imposed on the free flow of information," the statement said.

The Indian Chapter of the IPI is an active forum of editors, publishers and senior executives of newspapers, magazines and news agencies, all of whom are members of the International Press Institute.

Pollution in Delhi akin to...

irritation in throat and nose, said Dr SP Byotra, vice-chairman, Board of Management, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

Inspired by the World Health Organization's (WHO) first-ever global conference on air pollution held recently in Geneva, the campaign hopes to raise awareness on the effects of air pollution in the capital and to urge policy makers to take prompt remedial action, the statement said.

According to the organizers, the installation is a reminder of a warning issued by WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus: "The world has turned the corner on tobacco. Now it must do the same for the 'new tobacco' the toxic air that billions breathe every day.

"The impact of air pollution on our health is evident. Yet both the Delhi government and the central government have failed the citizens. We need to take bold steps to course correct this deadly path India is on.

"In the name of development, industries are polluting without consequence. As citizens, we need to hold our representatives accountable for the environment. This election year citizens should say loud and clear: 'saans nahin toh vote nahin', said Reecha Upadhyay, Campaigns Director, Help Delhi Breathe.

The growing concern is reflected in the notification by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, of the National Clean Air Programme that focuses on the prevention, control and abatement of air pollution and on augmenting the air quality monitoring network across the country, Upadhyay said.

In addition, the Delhi government has put in place the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to respond to high air pollution days, he said.

"A key objective of our campaign is to ensure that the remedial programs at state and central levels are implemented and the benefits communicated to citizens, Upadhyay said.

ICPS sponsorship provided to 39 children

ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 03 NOV:
Under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), 39 children were awarded Sponsorship support cheque of Rs 24,000 for the year 2017-2018. The Sponsorship amount is provided at the rate of Rs 2000 per month per student.

Gangtok on Sunday, 04 Nov
Temp: 20°C/10°C
Forecast: Mostly sunny, a thunder-shower in spots in the afternoon.
Sunrise: 05:44 AM
Sunset: 04:54 PM

The Sponsorship support cheque was distributed during a programme held at the conference hall of the Social Justice Department which was organised by the Integrated Child Protection Scheme under the Department of Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim.

The programme was attended by Phurba Sherpa (Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee, East District) as the chief guest. The function also had the presence of District Collector (East), Kapil Meena and the Director of ICPS, Kinchok Doma.

This year the beneficiaries include 25 children from BPL category, Semi-Orphan 11, Orphan-1, Physically Challenged-1, and Broken Family-1.

Speaking on the occasion, DC East, Kapil



Meena highlighted the ICPS scheme and objective behind providing the Sponsorship Support to the underprivileged and needy children of the society.

He urged parents to utilise the Sponsorship amount only for the purpose of educating their children.

Addressing the function, chief guest, Phurba Sherpa also urged parents to make the best use of the Sponsorship amount for educational purposes.

He said that the State Government is tirelessly working for the benefit of the people and upliftment of underprivileged and needy people of the society.

The function was also addressed by the District Child Protection Officer, Dipak Kiran Rai, Amit Sharma and other Officers.

The programme had the presence of beneficiary students, parents and departmental officers.

It may be mentioned here that the Sponsorship is provided to underprivileged children selected by the department till they reach the

age of 18.

The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is a governmental program implemented by the Government of India, to help secure the safety of children, with a special emphasis on children in need of care and protection, juveniles in conflict or contact with the law and other vulnerable children.

Its primary purpose is to create a central structure to provide oversight and standardization for pre-existing and evolving child protection schemes in India. Proposed in 2006 and implemented in 2009, the ICPS is administered at the state level by state child protection committees and societies and at the district level by district child protection societies, among other institutions.

KUTSHE SHEGU

The Kutshe Shegu of Lt. Dorjee Bhutia, R/o of Gangkha, Kartok Busty, Pakyong, East Sikkim, who left for heavenly abode on 22nd September, 2018 falls on 9th November, 2018.

All family, friends, relatives and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul at residence Kartok Khim, Pakyong, East Sikkim. We also express our gratitude to all those who stood by us during our time of bereavement .

**Mr. Phurba Wangdi Bhutia (Son),
Mrs.Ongu Bhutia (daughter-in-law),
Mrs.Tshering Diki Bhutia (eldest daughter),
Mrs.Changchup Doma Bhutia, (daughter),
Mr. Sonam Dorjee Bhutia (son-in-law),
Ms. Yangchen Diki Bhutia (daughter),
Mrs. Sangay Diki Bhutia (daughter),
Mr. Lobsang Chumbi Bhutia (son-in-law),
and all grand daughters and grand sons.**

(Contact No. 7407820652,8116142598,9647892 122,9609868993,7557824132)

Drum workshop at Remanti Sangeet Academy



SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 03 NOV:
Remanti Sangeet Academy organised a workshop on drums for its students at the Tadong annex of the institute today.

The workshop was conducted by renowned Bangalore-based drummer, Nagen Mongrati, the drummer of the band, Girish & the Chronicles.

Students go to learn about new different techniques as they were taken through practical and theory lessons. The workshop also included a question & answer session which drew some energetic participation from the students. Students also played along with the instructor.

Mr Mongrati also played for the students.

Police on high alert in Sabarimala, 1500 cops, commando team deployed

SABARIMALA, NOV 3 (PTI): With the Lord Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala set to open for monthly poojas on November 5, the police is on high alert and tight security arrangements are in place in the backdrop of violent protests over entry of women of menstrual age last month.

According to a Kerala police release, 1,500 personnel, 100 of them women, are keeping vigil at Sabarimala and nearby areas.

A 20-member commando team has been deployed at Sannidhanam, Nilackal and Pamba, the release said.

Meanwhile, the BJP's state unit said its president P Sreedharan Pillai has received a death threat.

Tantri Kandararu Rajeevaru and chief priest Unnikrishnan Namboodiri will open the temple doors and light the lamp at the 'Sreekovil' (sanctum sanctorum) on November 5 at 5 pm.

Besides the usual poojas, "Sree Chitira Atta Thirunal" special pooja, will be held on November 6 and the shrine will be closed at 10 pm.

Prohibitory order under section 144 CrPc banning assembly of four or more people will come into force at Pamba, Nilackal, Elavungal, and Sannidhanam from midnight Saturday till November 6 midnight.

Barricades have been erected at many places en route to Nilackal and police personnel are allowing vehicles only after checking.

The temple complex and nearby areas had wit-

nessed violent protests by Ayyappa devotees against the entry of young women when it was opened for last month's poojas from October 17-22.

At least 12 women had made a vain attempt to trek the hills soon after the Supreme Court verdict permitting women in the 10-50 age group to offer prayers at the shrine.

They had to retreat following the protests and demonstrations by devotees.

Comprehensive traffic arrangements have been made by police in Pathnamthitta district where the shrine is located.

Private vehicles carrying pilgrims would be allowed to proceed only up to Nilackal, a base camp, police said.

The Kerala police has introduced online booking for pilgrims, which would enable them to conveniently choose the day and time of darshan.

According to officials, Kerala State Road Transport Corporation tickets are compulsory for all pilgrims, whomever they go by foot. The devotees can avail the ticket booking facility and choose the darshan time also.

The KSRTC has also made arrangements for the pilgrims who reach for darshan on foot, to avail online tickets from Pamba at the foothills.BJP and various Hindu outfits against the left government over its decision to implement the Supreme Court verdict

SummitTIMES

He left a struggle, returns a star

THINGS HAVE GONE SOUTH IN NORTH SIKKIM

Pokemon Go: Best Game of 2016

SummitTIMES

informed, inquisitive, relevant

SummitTIMES

Syok! Bhiri collapses, blocks Kanaka completely

For Sikkim's Patron Saint

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HORTICULTURE & CASH CROP DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
KRISHI BHAWAN, TADONG

No: 451/HCCD/Engg/2018-19 Dated: 03 Nov 2018

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Eoi) for Leasing Out of AGROMART at Zero Mile, Tarku, South Sikkim

Expression of interest (Eoi) are invited from eligible bidders for Leasing out of AGROMART at Zero mile, Tarku, South. The document for Expression of Interest can be downloaded from the websites www.sikkim.gov.in and www.sikkimagrisnet.org. The following time schedule given below shall be adhered to:

1	Document Sale start date	12 th Nov '18	from	10:00 A.M
2	Document Sale end date	3 rd Dec '18	till	3:00 P.M
3	Date and time for submission of EOI	17 th Dec '18	till	1:00 P.M
4	Bid opening date and time	17 th Dec '18	at	2:00 P.M
5	Address for downloading Bid Form & Tender Documents	www.sikkim.gov.in and www.sikkimagrisnet.org		
6	Cost Of Bid Form	Rs 1000.00 through DD/Demand Draft, in favour of Chief Accounts Officer, H&CCD Department		
7	Bid Security Value	Rs 50,000.00 through DD/TDR in favour of Chief Accounts Officer, H&CCD Department		
8	Site Inspection Date, Time & Place	Government working day Time : 10 am to 4 pm		
9	Letter of Award	Within 7 days signing of Lease Agreement.		

HCCD Department reserves the right to reject any offer without assigning any reason

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
FSAD/HCCD Department
Tadong-737102

R.O. No: 451/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19, Date: 03/11/2018

Water Security and Public Health Engineering Department
Government of Sikkim
Gangtok- 737101

NO. WS&PHED/1806/SEW/18-19/178 Gangtok, dated: 30/10/2018

CORRIGENDUM FOR E-TENDER

Reference invitation for e-tender vide Memo No. WS&PHED.1806/SEW/18-19/01, dated 4.10.2018 floated by Water Security & Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Sikkim for the work "Setting of Sewer collection and disposal system and construction of approach road to Sewerage Treatment Plant for Gangtok Town, Zone III, East Sikkim under National River Conservation Plan". It is to inform all the bidders that there has been change in the dates of e-tender, which is re-scheduled as follows:

1.	Last date for submission of bids online by the bidders	:	12/11/2018	1300 hours
2.	Date of opening of bids	:	14/11/2018	1400 hours
3.	Declaration of result	:	17/11/2018	

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
Water Security & PHED

R.O. No: 445/IPR/PUB/Classi/2018-19
Date: 01/11/2018

SIKKIM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OLD TOURISM COMPLEX, M.G.MARG, GANGTOK, SIKKIM - 737101
Fax: 03592-207572.
Email: spsc-skm@nic.in Website: www.spscskm.gov.in

No: 60/SPSC/EXAM/2018 Date: 01/11/2018.

NOTICE

The date for conducting the written examinations for filling up of 06 (six) posts of Assistant Professor in the various subjects in the Sikkim Institute of Higher Nyingma Studies (SHEDA) under Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim through Direct Recruitment are hereby scheduled as under:

SL. No.	Subject	Mode of Examination	Date	Time
1.	Paper – I (General English & General Knowledge)	MCQ/Conventional	03.12.2018	10:00 am to 11:30 am
2.	Paper – II (Tibetan Grammar)	Conventional	03.12.2018	12:30 pm to 03:30 pm
3.	Paper – II (Buddhist Astrology)	Conventional	04.12.2018	10:00 am to 01:00 pm
4.	Paper – II (Nyingma Philosophy)	Conventional	04.12.2018	02:00 pm to 05:00 pm
5.	Paper – II (Buddhist History)	Conventional	05.12.2018	10:00 am to 01:00 pm
6.	Paper – II (Buddhist Philosophy)	Conventional	05.12.2018	02:00 pm to 05:00 pm

All the candidates who have applied vide SPSC advertisement No.02/SPSC/EXAM/2018 dated: 12.03.2018 are directed to report to the office of the Sikkim Public Service Commission for scrutiny of their documents w.e.f. 15.11.2018 to 17.11.2018 subject wise in the following order:

Sl. No.	Subject	Date
01.	Buddhist History	15.11.2018
02.	Buddhist Astrology	15.11.2018
03.	Nyingma Philosophy	16.11.2018
04.	Buddhist Philosophy	16.11.2018
05.	Tibetan Grammar	17.11.2018

The candidates are required to produce all the valid documents on the date of scrutiny along with the filled up Form 'A' to be downloaded from the official website of the Commission. Only the candidates whose documents are found in order will be issued admit cards. The venue of the examination will be mentioned in the Admit Card.

Admission to all the stages of examination for which candidates are admitted by the Commission viz: Written Examination and Viva-Voce will be purely provisional subject to the satisfying the prescribed eligibility conditions. If on verification at any point of time before or after the Written Examination and Viva-Voce, it is found that the candidates do not fulfill any of the eligibility conditions, their candidature for the examination/post will be cancelled by the Commission.

(Birma Rai. Smt)
Controller of Examinations
Sikkim Public Service Commission

R.O. No: 449/IPR/PUB/Classi Date: 03/11/2018

SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

Disinterest Feeds Ignorant Outrage

Trust deficit inspires blind faith

The disturbing levels to which disinterest/ fake pride has gripped the nation is evident in the docility with which the renaming of Allahabad to Prayagraj was accepted, or the disinterest with which a statue constructed at great cost, both financial and social, was celebrated without even a raised eyebrow towards the collateral damage, or how a group of Ronhigys were deported to Myanmar which does not even recognize them as citizens or the ignoring of the frightening trend in which a rightwing students' union browbeat an institution and a scholar away from the classroom.

Yes, the previous paragraph is recounting incidents from the previous fortnight alone. Push the timeline back a bit and more incidents of prejudice-driven shallow stereotypes and the worrying absence of disgust in the public domain tumble out. The trust deficit mentioned here is the now common attitude towards the established system – the same system which the country wanted upended when they handed a thumping victory to Narendra Modi in 2014. The same condition is what could have manifested in Brexit in the UK and Trump in the US. There may be several reasons why people across the world are behaving in ways which can only be called irrational, and one of the dominating reasons zeroed in on by analysts has been the near universal frustration with status quo.

While the frustration is real, the reasons are not always based on facts and almost always inject a deeper sense of being persecuted and ignored. As these feelings fester, there comes along a leader who manages to infuse pride where imagine and manufactured insecurities have been seeded and convince constituents of his disruptor abilities to deliver a fitting reply to everything that the people have an issue with.

The trust deficit, the distrust of the old order, is now so strong that when people are told that their government will take over control of their finances to fight the big, bad black money hoarders, everyone lines up meekly outside banks and ATMs, often fighting among themselves, but not asking how this will happen and how much black money the government will be able to "bring back" thanks to the privation that the people are embracing will. The trust deficit which we have allowed ourselves to get so deeply infected by, makes us blind adherents of the counter-narrative, and this is why we need to be able to do better.

We need to begin by accepting that there is a disturbing trust deficit in the society, and that this is essentially a community affliction even though the noises are mostly screamed individually and in private. Most people, for instance, have reservations about how the politicians function, seeing "hidden agendas" behind everything. We have arrived at a situation where people who are expected to decide policy matters, drawing their decisions from years spent honing statecraft in the public domain, are rarely taken at face value any more. Every decision, move and promise is slotted to fit an ulterior political motive, and because there is this staggering suspicion we have of the traditional models, we fall in line when that Order is challenged, even if the challenge is only in claims and not explained in any detail. Remain unquestioning, and we invite in more of the same Big Brother, but this time one which is jacked up on the steroids of complete public endorsement and a dangerous sense of righteousness.

The issues which we face are not just about corruption or poor service delivery, but more about our own incompetence as citizens. As a people, we have consistently failed to address issues in time and have noticed situations only after they have become so enmeshed, entangled and complicated that perspective and context have been lost. We get "inspired" by slogans when we should be looking for arguments that convince us. Instead of collaborating and building consensus, we look for leaders and then look away when the same leaders exploit the situation or compromise solutions with either their incompetence or, even more dangerously, their conspiracies. It is when we play into such cycles that we end up in easily irritable mind-spaces, applauding grotesque politicking as instances of nation-building, ignoring sellouts as inspired deal-making, ugly majoritarianism as reclaiming history and aspiring for privilege as a matter of right...

WRITE US:

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

Mail us at: news@summittimes.com



Bitcoin turns ten – here's how it all started and what the future might hold

JACK ROGERS
theconversation.com

A mysterious, anonymous entity known as "Satoshi Nakamoto" posted a white paper on October 31 2008 entitled "Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System". It was the first time that the concept of Bitcoin entered the world. But outside of the cypherpunk mailing lists – those promoting the use of privacy-enhancing technology – this event was hardly noticed. Ten years on, who hasn't at least heard of the cryptocurrency?

On just nine pages, the white paper explained how the Bitcoin system would work. Many attempts at electronic cash had already been made going right back to computer scientist David Chaum's "Digicash" developed in the 1980s. Using an intricate dance of cryptography, Digicash enabled people to pay each other online anonymously, yet prevented users from sending the same money to two different people at the same time (the so-called "double spending problem").

For a while, Digicash caught on. Even the likes of Deutsche Bank adopted it, and a growing list of merchants started accepting it. Compared to the credit-based systems of Visa, Mastercard and later Paypal, at least some people could see the benefits of a currency that allowed micropayments with extremely low transactions fees. Anyone with libertarian tendencies loved the idea of using a currency outside the control of any authority.

But Visa and Mastercard upped their game and won the battle for payment dominance. It seemed the struggle was over, but some cypherpunks refused to give up. Adam Back created "Hashcash" in 1997, which together with Wei Dai's "b-money" (both cited in Nakamoto's white paper) and Nick Szabo's "Bitgold" were the last significant efforts to create an online cash system before Bitcoin. The idea fizzled out following the dotcom bust of 2000-02. It was only brought back to life by Nakamoto in 2008.

NAKAMOTO'S VISION

Previous attempts came close to creating secure digital cash, but there was always one major problem they encountered: the need for a trusted third party like a bank to maintain the system in some way. Nakamoto's white paper solved this problem by distributing the process of maintaining a totally transparent public ledger (known as the blockchain) among a network of competing "miners". As long as one miner does not control more than half of the whole network of computing power, the system is secure.

Cryptography, computer science, and now crucially an elaborate system of economic incentives all came together into a mindblowing overall piece of ingenuity. The cypherpunk vision to enhance privacy, limit government power and increase its transparency had finally been realised.

Or had it? If there was any lesson to be learned from the failure of Digicash, it was that you could invent a brilliant system, but you had to convince people to use it, despite them

never being able to come close to understanding how it actually works. With Bitcoin, we have seen extraordinary hype, with astronomical price booms and busts, and thousands of spin-off cryptocurrencies and private blockchains that are all just variations of the original.

Ethereum is arguably one of the most significant spin offs. It shows how blockchain technology can be combined with smart contracts, potentially providing a costless, decentralised way of replacing the colossal global army of trust-based service industries that conventional money relies on.

There is, however, one existing blockchain that is consistent with Nakamoto's vision: Bitcoin Cash, a so-called "hard-fork" of Bitcoin that generally shares the same history and protocol, except for two crucial details. The blocks on its chain are a massive 32-times larger than the original Bitcoin, and growing. More transactions per block, means lower fees per transaction, paving the way for global adoption. Plus, built-in codes that were switched off in the original Bitcoin, have been reignited, potentially allowing all the smart contract capabilities of Ethereum.

VISION ACCOMPLISHED?

The white paper itself is not explicit about goals, but the main implicit aim is clear: to create a secure form of online cash that does not depend on a trusted third party. This has already been demonstrated as a concept. The only question that remains is, to what extent will it be adopted?

A recent clue to that question may

lie right in the heart of London's financial centre, Canary Wharf. Here, the Brewdog company recently launched a promotional event accepting Bitcoin Cash as payment. It is cheaper for them to process payments compared to credit cards, even allowing for the cost of them having to convert Bitcoin Cash back to pounds sterling. Recently, computer companies Newegg and Microsoft have also started accepting Bitcoin Cash as payment.

Further afield, more and more developing countries like South Africa are experimenting enthusiastically with new apps that store Bitcoin Cash like Centbee, which may help people who can't open bank accounts. A new app developed in Spain called HandCashapp and an even bolder concept called The Money Button hint at a whole new paradigm of automatic click-based micropayments that could also spell the end of pop-up adds appearing on popular content online.

Nakamoto's vision, in some sense, may have already been achieved, but will Bitcoin Cash permanently replace all fiat currencies and become one global money? The world wide web arrived in 1990, and you could argue it took a dramatic collapse and 20 years before its true commercial potential could be realised. In 2028, maybe it's not unfeasible that the technology underlying Bitcoin will do the same for global money and all trust-based financial, legal and other services.

[the writer is Senior Lecturer in Economics, University of Exeter]

Chelsea is using AI research for smarter football coaching

VARUNA DE SILVA
theconversation.com

The best footballers aren't necessarily the ones with the best physical skills. The difference between success and failure in football often lies in the ability to make the right split-second decisions on the field about where to run and when to tackle, pass or shoot. So how can clubs help players train their brains as well as their bodies?

My colleagues and I are working with Chelsea FC academy to develop a system to measure these decision-making skills using artificial intelligence (AI) – a kind of robot coach or scout, if you will. We're doing this by analysing several seasons of data that tracks players and the ball throughout each game, and developing a computer model of different playing positions. The computer model provides a benchmark to compare the performance of different players. This way we can measure the performance of individual players independent of the actions of other players.

We can then visualise what might have happened if the players had made a different decision in any case. TV commentators are always criticising player actions, saying they should have done something else without any real way of testing the theory. But our computer model can show just how realistic these

suggestions might be.

If a critic says a player should have dribbled instead of passing, our system can look at the alternative outcome, taking into account factors such as how tired the player was at that point in the game. Our hope is that coaches and support staff will use the system to help players reflect on their actions after a match and, over time, improve their decision-making skills.

MODELLING DECISION-MAKING

Measuring these skills is extremely difficult for several reasons. First, a human can't keep track of all the events that take place during a match. Second, it's difficult to isolate one player's actions from that of another. For example, if one player passes the ball and a few seconds later the team loses possession, did the player pass at the wrong time to the wrong person, or was it someone else's fault?

To tackle this problem, we're using a specific branch of AI known as imitation learning. This technology can learn computer models of behaviour, such as footballers' actions on the field, by analysing massive amounts of historical data. In simple terms, the computer model learns to imitate human experts.

Most decision-making systems in AI, such as those used to play board games like Go, are based on reinforcement learning. This is where a computer learns to make



decisions by repeatedly trialling moves until it receives feedback that it has done the correct thing, much like we train a dog to do something by giving it rewards. But most real-world scenarios don't have a specific reward like victory in a board game.

Imitation learning, on the other hand, tries to understand the underlying decision-making policy by looking at how an expert performs a task, and then tries to mimic the expert. Modelling football experts (players) is very difficult because they make decisions with advanced skills that are hard to program in to a computer, such as choosing what to pay attention to, selecting the right response and anticipating what other players are going to do.

So for the computer model to be realistic, the historical data it's based on needs to reflect the real world as much as possible. It shouldn't

just show how players move in relation to each other and the ball, but also capture how tired they are and the game situation. For example, do players want to attack or are they trying to defend, or even if they want to win or lose. (In some tournaments, a team might want to lose a match so their position in the next round gives them an easier opponent.)

CHANGING POST-MATCH ANALYSIS

We've already built a system that can create a model of players' movements relative to each other and the ball that can be used to study performance. We now plan to make the model more realistic by adding details of players' body poses, heart rate (to represent tiredness) and game conditions. We will then develop the system to measure current players' skills and hope to have a fully functional system within two years.

We expect it will be a step

change in the way players and coaches analyse games, especially post-match analysis. This will aid players to be more reflective by being able to see how their actions could have made a difference. Scouts and clubs would be able to select players and identify talent using data about these vital decision-making skills.

Extending AI from controlled, board game-style environments to complex real-world applications remains a monumental challenge. But humans are very good at adapting to and making decisions in complex, changing environments. So by learning to imitate human decision-making, AI will be able to tackle all sorts of unfamiliar environments where people don't always follow the rules.

[the writer is Lecturer, Institute for Digital Technologies, Loughborough University]

Walk if you can – else, ride with pride

CK LEPCHA

My friend didn't want to visit me in Shimla because her memories of this hill station involved a lot of walking. The only thing she remembered from her childhood trip with her family was walking and getting tired.

Indeed, you need to walk a whole lot especially if you want to visit the mall and all the landmark places in Shimla town. Unauthorized vehicles cannot ply these areas and there are no taxis that take you from one end of the hill to another. So when my mother showed interest in visiting me, I wasn't sure if she could manage all the walks as well.

But that is often our first impression. First time tourists' can be seen dragging their feet as they walk around the mall and there are tons of prams on hire for the children they bring. One could either rent the pram and push the child around or one could even hire the pram-pusher as well. Depends how tired one gets while walking around town.

"The locals must be very fit because they have to walk so much" is a sentence I have heard quite often. And those like me who have made a temporary home in Shimla can be heard discussing if we should get two-wheelers, then further asking why the locals don't invest in two-wheelers for more efficient travels

around Shimla. Truth is, a two-wheeler is not really practical in a place where it rains for almost four months and snows for about two months or more.

So the locals know it best. They rely on public transport. Of course, the Himachal Pradesh Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) is probably the best we have in our country. And I don't only mean local buses from Summer Hill to Shimla town but the ones that run from Delhi to Shimla, Shimla to Dharamsala and so on. They seem to be regular and reliable and that's all that is needed for people who need to get from one destination to another. But buses are too big and bulky to make their way to the Mall road. They have no entry to this exquisite space that encompasses all that is to do in Shimla. So how do we get there without having to walk too much?

There is a local secret. There is something called "Ride with Pride" – a shared taxi service that runs from Summer Hill, CTO Chakkar, old bus stand, Sanjauli, and Lakkar Bazar- basically from all directions around Shimla town and brings them to the center point. They have access to the "restricted and sealed roads" of Shimla and can be dropped off where the mall begins.

Run by the HRTC, these white vehicles are battery powered electric vans aimed to reduce carbon emissions in the



state. It is a good initiative to promote an eco-friendly state and its colorful inscriptions of "ride with pride" is a good message indeed. For about Rs. 20 and less per person, one gets dropped off in different locations and there are discounted rates for senior citizens and children. It is helpful for those who cannot walk far and makes the mall accessible for them. It also avoids traffic because there are only so many number of these vans.

It comes and goes at half hour intervals, barring lunch time from 1:00-2:00pm and is the best way to get to the mall. But like I said earlier, there are only



so many vans and many more people. It is a tough tussle getting into these vans during weekends and at certain hours when everybody is either going to town or coming back. There aren't always enough seats and those standing also find themselves squashed - especially during peak time. So, how do people manage to travel still?

It is pretty simple. When one enters the van, no one occupies the senior citizen seats. And if an elderly or a lady is seen to be standing I have seen plenty of people offer their seats to them. It is a healthy gesture.

Also, there is mad rush when one enters the van especially when you are coming back from town. So, people fill up the van fast and pay later. Before starting, the

driver stands in front and asks people to pass their fare and repeats, "did everyone pay for their fares?"

One can see two things in this situation –first is the trust the driver has and second is how honest the passengers are. I find this reciprocity astounding because the driver cannot see everyone and even the young man in the back of the seat is seen to be sending his fare towards the front. It is inspiring.

But of course there isn't always room for everyone. And I have seen people start walking after the van fills up. This too is a noble idea and I am reminded what I read long ago about how "everywhere is walking distance (if you have the time)".

[the writer Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study]

12-hr bandh affects normal life in some Assam districts

GUWAHATI, NOV 3 (PTI): Protestors squatted on railway tracks, pelted stones at vehicles and burnt tyres on roads in some districts in Assam during a 12-hour state-wide bandh Saturday called to protest the gunning down of five men in Tinsukia district.

The shutdown, which began at 5 am, mostly affected life in Barak Valley, which is predominantly inhabited by Bengali-speaking people, and parts of the Brahmaputra Valley, officials said.

The bandh was called by the Sadou Asom Bengali Yuba Chatra Federation and several like-minded organisations to protest the incident on Thursday night, when five Bengali-speaking men, including three of a family, were killed by gunmen at Kheronibari village.

The Congress is supporting the bandh in Barak. The BJP has extended its support to the stir in Hailakandi, district BJP president Subrata Nath said in a release.

Tinsukia and Dibrugarh were exempted from the purview of the bandh as the two districts had observed a strike on Friday. Shops, business establishments, educational institutions, private offices remained closed and vehicles kept off the roads in the Barak Valley districts of Cachar, Karimganj and Karimganj.

Congress MLA Kamalakhya Dey Purkayastha, who came out to impose the bandh in Silchar, was picked up by the police. He was released later, the officials said.

In Brahmaputra Valley, demonstrators shouting slogans and holding placards demanding security for Bengalis came out in large numbers in the railway town of Lumding in Hojai district and squatted on the train tracks near the station.

FIELDWORK REFLECTIONS



Living amidst pine trees and finding shade under coconut trees

MONGFING LEPCHA

Anthropology is one of the most interesting subjects which can be defined briefly as the study of humankind. So, basically any study which is related to human kind is directly or indirectly a subject matter of anthropology. What makes the subject even more interesting is the fieldwork which is the backbone of the subject. Fieldwork is conducted in order to get the facts or the data directly from the people and from the place which is chosen for research. Of course, a researcher needs to plan, prepare and conduct the fieldwork accordingly but going into the field area is always a challenge.

Every fieldwork reflects different lives, different people, different culture, and so forth but the most challenging one is how the researcher reflects those attributes. The researcher may have a sound theoretical knowledge but that should never be seen enough for any anthropological study. The actual facts always lie in the field and it is the task of the researcher to extract those facts and interpret it. It is said that when the researcher goes to the field their minds should be a "tabula rasa", which means a blank slate, so that it can be filled with the things that the researcher encounters in the fieldwork area and interpret it accordingly.

Having preconceived notions will always reflect biasness and ethnocentrism in their work. One of the greatest things that the subject teaches us as humans is to be a cultural relativist. Based on my own personal experience of understanding different cultures through anthropological lenses, there is no culture that is rich or poor rather every other culture is unique in its own ways. There are always some aspects

of uniqueness in every other culture due to which it cannot be compared as rich or poor.

One might face culture shock learning about different cultures and that should be dealt with sane mind without hurting the sentiments of those people. When it comes to understanding and interpreting the facts, language plays a vital role. When one is unfamiliar with the language of people being studied, there comes the difficulties in knowing the facts and interpreting it. As such, it is always advisable to crosscheck the data using different methods before interpreting it in order to avoid manipulation of facts.

My fieldwork experience in South India, covered the above mentioned points which helped me in understanding the essence of the subject even more. In one of the cold wintery mornings of December, I set out for my fieldwork area along with other fellow researchers who were working on same fieldwork area covering different topics. This research was conducted for our master's dissertation. It was a train journey of two days reaching Visakhapatnam and two hours' further journey via local cab reaching the fieldwork area.

As we approached our destination our clothes changed from warm jackets to cotton apparels as it was so hot even in winters. For the first time I realized that winter only happens in the mountains and in places near the ocean, it's just the sun and the storm. The fieldwork was conducted among the Vadabaliya (fishing) community of Annavaram village in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

The village was situated in an isolated place near the banks of Bay of Bengal. So it was totally an alien place for us or rather we were aliens walking among them. They were

surprised and inquisitive to see us and all we were thinking was how to get our data. As I mentioned that language is an important aspect of any research and this time I was in place where the only language they used was Telugu and for me Telugu is like Arabic because I don't have any clue about both. So the first challenge was to beat the extremely hot weather followed by how to communicate with the people.

To initiate any research at any place, the researcher must build a good rapport with the people. It is important for them to understand that the stranger (researcher) living among them is there for good reason and they need to be made comfortable with it. So the initial phase of this fieldwork was devoted to understand and interact with the people in bits and pieces. Thankfully, the women of the village were very kind as we tried interacting with them. For few days we tried learning few basic words but the interaction usually progressed through actions. That was an interesting way of interaction though. After few days our supervisor managed to provide interpreters for us. Things were easy after that but even if there were interpreters, I always preferred interacting with them directly because that is how we can connect with the people. Moreover, after spending some days trying hard to understand their language, I could already understand some simple sentences which even my fellow researchers could do so.

When we go and live with a totally different group of people with different culture, everything we encounter will be unfamiliar. For instance, the attire of the people of the field area was something that caught our eyes. Since, it was a traditional fishing community, men covered

the lower part of their bodies with a small piece of cloth, so they were barely wearing any clothes and women draped themselves in saris without the blouse. One of the reasons behind that attire must be based on their environment and occupational needs, as men goes for fishing, minimal clothes is helpful in water and for women they carry the basket of fish on their heads when they set out to sell the fish; so wearing a blouse might not be comfortable, also the weather make them stay in minimal clothes. There is always meaning behind everything we encounter in the field, so that was how we saw it rather than judging them or feeling uncomfortable seeing people with such minimal clothes. So should we judge different cultures based on the perception of the culture they are brought up? I leave this question to be answered each individual alone.

The next thing to be noticed was the simplicity of life that existed there. People relied on fishing which was an everyday task. Men catch the fish and women sell the fish in the market. One of the perks of living with them was we got to taste different kinds of fish most of the days. Although there were many coconut trees along with the coconut fruit but they never offered us that and I always wondered why. Probably because coconut tree takes time to bear fruit and they can catch fish every day, that's why coconuts are more precious. Or another reason could be simply because they did not feel like giving us but I would like to stick to the former assumption.

Another very important thing which we as researchers should keep in our minds when we go to the field relates to the saying which is "When in Rome, do as Romans do". Right from the way how we dress to following

certain rules and regulations of the community, everything has to be kept in mind. Like in our field area women were not allowed to touch or step over the fishing net. The women of the village were fond of grooming and would often tell us to stick bindi on our foreheads and wear bangles. I remember one fine morning when I was taking a stroll in the village after taking bath. Since my hair was still wet I did not tie it. One of the ladies from the village called me and plaited my hair and asked me not to leave the hair open. We should always respect the very essence little things because that is what that makes different cultures unique from one another.

Living near the ocean was a totally new and wonderful experience the imprints of which will last forever in my memory. This fieldwork which took me straight from the mountains to the ocean helped me to understand my subject at a practical level. It made me more aware of differences one can find in different cultures among different people in different places. It polished me little more as a researcher and the polishing always happens in the field area where one goes and comes out knowing and understanding more about lives, people and about own self.

As a researcher we tend to find differences among different cultures and with those differences we try to build a link between one culture and the other. But looking it in a simpler way, we tend to find that oneness among each other as humans despite all the differences that exists and existed because of many reasons, and one of those reasons could be living amidst the pine trees or finding shades under the coconut trees.

[the writer is Research Scholar, Department of Anthropology, Sikkim University]

India face T20 test sans MSD the colossus, WI seek redemption

TAPAN MOHANTA

KOLKATA, Nov 3 (PTI): The 'end of Dhoni era' notion has been dismissed unequivocally but then India, for the first time, will still be without the figure with a monumental body of work when they face West Indies in the opening T20 International Sunday.

Less than a week after two-time World Cup-winning skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni was left out of India's T20I squad, captain Virat Kohli has said he remains an integral part of India's plans. Chief selector MSK Prasad also said that it was not the end of the road for Dhoni in T20Is.

With Kohli rested for the three matches, Rohit Sharma will lead the side against the reigning T20 champions.

Under Jason Holder, West Indies were mauled 0-2 in the Test series in six days' of action. In the following five-match ODI series, they posed some challenge before being thrashed 1-3 with a nine-wicket loss in Thiruvananthapuram in the final one-dayer.

But it will not be an easy task for India against the Carlos Brathwaite-led team as the two-month long series begin its final leg, giving the visitors a chance to regain some pride.

Brathwaite will be back at the same venue where he hit four consecutive sixes off Ben Stokes to break the hearts of English fans by winning their second World Twenty20 title in 2016.

The Windies, who missed the big names in

the Test and ODI series, will be bolstered by the arrival of star players Darren Bravo, Kieron Pollard and Andre Russell, who will be back at his IPL home venue.

The stats also favour the World T20 holders who have a five-two record from eight exchanges from 2009-17.

India failed to overcome Brathwaite's men in their last four encounters and the Windies ended the home team's campaign in the 2016 T20I World Cup, defeating them in the semi-finals in Mumbai.

India's last win against West Indies came way back on March 23, 2014 in the World T20 in Bangladesh, and Sharma will have his task cut out in his quest to start well at his happy hunting ground.

The 31-year-old has a world record score of 264 in ODIs at the Eden Gardens in 2014, besides winning two IPL titles, in 2013 and 2015. He would look to carry his fine form from the ODI series, in which he finished behind Kohli, with 389 runs, at a staggering average of 129.66.

Captaincy seems to bring out the best in Sharma who notched up 317 runs (average 105.66) in five innings in their title-winning campaign at the Asia Cup.

The Windies, on the other hand, will look forward to their youngster Shimron Hetmyer, who scored 259 runs in the ODI series, including a century in Guwahati. Kohli's absence would mean KL Rahul will come into the picture while Dinesh Karthik and

Rishabh Pant are expected to add firepower in the middle order alongside Krunal Pandya.

Pant is expected to fulfil the wicket-keeping responsibilities while Karthik could take on one of the positions in the outfield.

The Indian seam attack will be led by Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Jasprit Bumrah, which now includes additional variation in the form of left-arm quick Khaleel Ahmed.

In the spin department, Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav will look to continue their chemistry, and India have also named uncapped Krunal Pandya and Shahbaz Nadeem, who returned with a record List A figures of 8/10 for Jharkhand in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

The Eden centre strip

promises to be full of runs, and batsmen from both sides will look to make merry.

Squads:

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt), Shikhar Dhawan, KL Rahul, Dinesh Karthik, Manish Pandey, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant (wk), Krunal Pandya, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah, K Khaleel Ahmed, Umesh Yadav, Shahbaz Nadeem.

West Indies: Carlos Brathwaite (Capt), Fabian Allen, Darren Bravo, Shimron Hetmyer, Kemo Paul, Kieron Pollard, Denesh Ramdin (wk), Andre Russell, Sherrane Rutherford, Oshane Thomas, Khary Pierre, Obed McCoy, Rovman Powell, Nicholas Pooran.

Match starts 7 pm. IST.

Mourinho hopes Martial will sign new Man Utd deal



MANCHESTER, Nov 3 (AFP): Jose Mourinho is keen for Anthony Martial to commit his long-term future to Manchester United by signing a new contract, with the French forward emerging as one of the key players at Old Trafford.

Martial has been one of the most impressive performers in a disappointing season for the club, with five goals from five Premier League starts, and four in his past three appearances.

He has a contract until the end of the season, on terms that give the club an option to extend it for a further year, with discussions under way to agree a deal beyond that.

The 22-year-old's future at Old Trafford looked uncertain during the summer, with his agent Philippe Lamboly indicating in June that the forward wanted to leave the club, having missed out on a place in France's World Cup squad.

Mourinho, at the time, was apparently willing to consider a sale, although executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward made clear he wanted to keep him.

Martial's recent form, including two goals against Chelsea in a 2-2 Premier League draw at Stamford Bridge, has impressed his manager, who feels now that the forward is worth a new contract, despite urging him to be more consistent.

"Obviously, I hope they will agree," Mourinho said. "Obviously I hope. One thing is that he's a talented player that everybody knows he is. Everybody knows since he was in Monaco that he is a talented player."

But he added: "One thing is being a top talent, another is being a top player. He is now much closer to being a top player."

Mourinho is concerned about United's

blunt attack -- they went into the weekend with a goal difference of zero, having both scored and conceded 17 goals in 10 matches.

United, in eighth place, have scored 10 league goals fewer than leaders Manchester City, although they have managed one more than Tottenham, who started the weekend in fifth.

"I don't like to say we don't score many goals because our strikers aren't scoring, I don't like to say we concede too many goals because my goalkeeper does not save anything," Mourinho said.

"I think it is about the globality (the overall picture). It is about the team. We need obviously to score more goals."

Mourinho pointed to United's failure to be more ruthless in their past two league matches, the draw at Chelsea and the 2-1 home win over Everton, as evidence of a problem that is costing them points.

"We were punished against Chelsea because we didn't score the third goal and we could," he said.

"We went to minute 96 against Everton because we didn't score the third, the fourth, the fifth before that."

"Yes, we need to score more goals but I think the team with more confidence, the players individually with more confidence, will have more goals."

Mourinho is continuing to offer public support to Romelu Lukaku, who was restricted to a substitute's appearance against Everton, having failed to score for United since September 15.

"Lukaku doesn't score for nine matches," he said.

"Do I think in the next nine matches he's going to score zero goals? No, I think in the next nine matches he's going to score a few goals."

Mertens hat-trick as Napoli back to second in Serie A



MILAN, Nov 3 (AFP): Dries Mertens scored a hat-trick as Napoli warmed up for next week's crucial Champions League game against Paris Saint-Germain with a 5-1 thrashing of Empoli to go back to second place in Serie A and put the pressure on champions Juventus.

Napoli, with 25 points from 11 games, move three points behind champions Juventus who host Cagliari on Saturday with Inter Milan a further three points back before their game against Genoa.

Lorenzo Insigne opened the scoring for the hosts after nine minutes in the San Paolo Stadium with Belgian Mertens also scoring in the first half.

Mertens added two more after the break in the 64th minute and in stoppage time with Poland's Arkadiusz Milik also getting on the score-sheet in the last minute.

It got Carlo Ancelotti's side back winning after consecutive draws against Paris Saint-Germain (2-2) and AS Roma (1-1).

Francesco Caputo, who scored the opener against Juventus last weekend, pulled a goal back for Empoli, but it failed to spark a revival for the Tuscan side who

remain winless since their the opening match of the season against Cagliari.

Ancelotti rotated his squad ahead of Wednesday's game against the French champions, bringing in French defender Kevin Malcuit and young midfielders Amadou Diawara and Marko Rog, but he stuck with the trusted forward attack of Insigne and Mertens.

Insigne got the first after nine minutes after good work by Kalidou Koulibaly with the Senegalese defender breaking through from his own half.

Luca Antonelli thought he had scored the equaliser for Empoli on 15 minutes but the goal was ruled offside.

Insigne then intercepted a reckless Giovanni Di Lorenzo back-pass to set up Mertens, who slotted in a low drive from a distance on 38 minutes.

Caputo gave Empoli hope when he beat the offside trap with a diagonal shot after 58 minutes, but six minutes later Mertens got his second.

Insigne and Mertens were instrumental in Milik's fourth on 90 minutes, with Insigne then setting up Mertens for his 75th Serie A goal deep into injury time.

Mbappe, Neymar unlock Lille as PSG lay claim to new win record

Paris, Nov 3 (AFP): Kylian Mbappe and Neymar scored late goals to give Paris Saint-Germain a 2-1 win over nearest challengers Lille as the French champions extended to 12 games their perfect start to the season at the end of a troubled day for the club.

The Qatari-owned club were forced to release a statement shortly before kick-off to deny allegations made by a Football Leaks investigation that they had worked with UEFA to cover up breaches of the organisation's Financial Fair Play (FFP) rules.

However Mbappe restored smiles at the Parc des Princes with a magnificent strike from just outside the box 20 minutes from time after getting the break of the ball, and Neymar then gave PSG a two-goal buffer before Nicolas Pepe pulled one back for the away side from the penalty spot.

PSG extend their lead at the top of Ligue 1 to 11 points after a 12th straight league win that means they have now beaten Tottenham Hotspur's old record for consecutive wins at the start of a season.

Spurs emerged victorious from their opening 11 matches in their double-winning 1960-61 season, a performance that had stood since a record in Europe's so-



called big five leagues -- Spain, England, Italy, Germany and France.

The result is a boost for PSG ahead of their crucial Champions League trip to Italy to face Napoli next Tuesday, when a defeat could leave Thomas Tuchel's side on the brink of an early exit, unthinkable for a team with their ambitions.

"We deserved the result and the win record. Ligue 1 is not that easy. It is down to our hard work. We give everything on the field," skipper Thiago Silva told Canal Plus.

Mbappe was back in the PSG starting line-up after being left on the bench against Marseille last weekend for arriving late for the pre-game team talk, only to come on and score the opener in a 2-0 win.

Marco Verratti also started, despite PSG confirming earlier on Friday that the Italian had been caught drink driving over-

night Tuesday to Wednesday on the ring road around the French capital.

PSG needed to put the off-field noise behind them but also try to break down a Lille side enjoying their best start to a season in 66 years.

Christophe Galtier's side have been excellent so far in this campaign, but their lively attack did not give Gianluigi Buffon much to worry about on his return to the PSG line-up.

With Edinson Cavani not involved as he struggles to shake off a thigh injury, Mbappe and Neymar were the biggest threats to Lille throughout, after arriving at the stadium disguised as characters from the Netflix show Money Heist.

Neymar almost scored direct from a corner five minutes before half-time, with Lille goalkeeper Mike Maignan doing well to get his body in the way of the ball and

divert it onto the frame of the goal.

Mbappe had a shot deflected just wide as PSG stepped up the pressure after the break, and it was the 19-year-old who broke the deadlock in the 70th minute, beating Maignan after Neymar's pass was kindly deflected into his path by Jose Fonte.

That was his 11th goal in eight Ligue 1 games since winning the World Cup with France, and Neymar then got his ninth in the league this season to seal the win.

The Brazilian played a one-two with Mbappe before firing home from 18 yards with six minutes left, before Lille reduced the arrears in stoppage time, Pepe emphatically converting a penalty awarded for a Thilo Kehrer handball.

Montpellier can leapfrog Lille and go second if they beat Marseille on Sunday.

Fearing for life, Asia Bibi's lawyer flees Pak; requests govt to protect family

SAJJAD HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD, Nov 3 (PTI): The lawyer of Asia Bibi fled Pakistan early Saturday after fearing for his life amid countrywide protests by hundreds of radical Islamist hardliners against the acquittal of the Christian woman who was sentenced to death for committing blasphemy, media reports said.

Bibi, a 47-year-old mother of four, was convicted in 2010 after being accused of insulting Islam in a row with her neighbours. She always maintained her innocence, but has spent most of the past eight years in solitary confinement. Her lawyer Saiful Malook claimed that he was facing life threats from sections of lawyers and it was difficult for him

to practice in the prevailing situation, the Express Tribune reported.

He, however, clarified that he would return to Pakistan to represent his client at the hearing of the review petition if the army provided him security.

"My family is also facing immense security threats and the federal government should provide security to them," Malook said.

It was not immediately known as to which place he was headed for in his bid to evade life threats and how long would he stay there.

Meanwhile, the complainant in the case, Qari Muhammad Saalam, has requested the Supreme Court for the early hearing of a review pe-

tition against its October 31 order acquitting Bibi, who was booked for blasphemy in 2009.

Saalam said Bibi is planning to leave the country and an application has already been filed to place her name on the Exit Control List (ECL).

In case this review petition is not fixed, he said, the application/petition shall suffer an irreparable loss and injury.

It is learnt that the review petition, which was filed in the Supreme Court Lahore registry, has been transferred to the Islamabad registry where all judges are sitting. A number has also been allotted to the review petition.

The legal team of the petitioner expects that the review petition may be fixed for the

next week. However, review petitions are rarely heard on a priority basis.

Several "lacunas and factual legal contradictions" have been raised in the review petition filed through Ghulam Mustafa Chaudhry and Azhar Siddique.

Highlighting the "inordinate delay, defective investigation and other technicalities" in the review petition, the petitioner has asked whether these should be made hurdles in dispensation of justice.

The petitioner has asked whether the country's top court had jurisdiction to overrule a peculiar fact like the confessional statement of Bibi.

He asked whether the apex court met the standards of jurisprudence set in this re-

gard in view of the history as well as Islamic provisions and normal principle of justice with reference to application in blasphemy laws.

The apex court's judgement, which was pronounced last Wednesday, triggered protests across Pakistan with protesters led by Islamic political party Tehreek-i-Labaik Pakistan and other groups blocking major highways and roads in different parts of the country.

Educational institutions were closed in many parts of the country. Many universities across Pakistan announced cancellation of papers due to the ongoing tense situation.

The mobile phone and internet services also remained suspended in major cities.

2699	2755	2858	2963	2990	2619	2682	2698	2864	2918
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Work harder when I think I am not good enough: SRK

MUMBAI, NOV 3 (PTI): He may be a superstar for his fans and critics alike but as per actor Shah Rukh Khan, there are moments in his life when he feels like a "loser", something that only pushes him to work harder.

"I feel like a loser over everything. I was with Aamir Khan the other day. And he asked me 'Why are you like this, Shah? Why do you think this way?' I got to know after talking that he was also thinking the same way. He wasn't asking me out of surprise, he wanted to know the answers for himself," Shah Rukh said on Friday at the trailer launch of his upcoming film "Zero".

The 53-year-old superstar believes it is "always important to have lack of over confidence".

"Over confidence is worse than feeling like a loser. I feel I work harder when I think I am not good enough. I always feel I'm not good enough. I sometimes joke that I don't know how to dance, I've five expressions but I genuinely believe them, that I'm not good at everything, so I've to work harder," he said.

Shah Rukh plays the role of a vertically-challenged person in Aanand L Rai's film, which is set to be released on December 21.

He said when he was shooting for the film there were moments of doubts which he believes every creative person experiences.

"All of us had moments where we used to wonder if this is right, should we do this or not? There are so many issues actors and stars have, me the most. I'm insecure at times, over-confident at times, happy and extremely sad at times.

"I'm happy with what I've done and I am happier and even sadder what I shouldn't have done and what has gone out of my hands, what is coming to my hands and all these things come together and make you feel loved when you do the right film."

When asked how he deals with stress in his life, Shah Rukh said stress and anxiety will always be there at every stage in one's life.

"There will be stress in life. I am 53 today and half my life is over, I am in a profession where every Friday life changes.



Some of my films have done well, some have tanked. Some things have went well, some haven't. It does feel bad. Maybe out of 70 films of mine only 30 have worked. It is not that there is success rate. But at the end, everything goes well," he said.

The "Jab Harry Met Sejal" actor said he usually spends his birthday meeting friends and fans.

"One should not own anything. I don't own my birthday also. I don't get to be with family much. I usually have bath, meet friends, media and fans. It feels good that everyone loves me so much."

Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio Join Forces for Voting PSA

Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio want you to vote!

The Once Upon a Hollywood stars teamed up with NowThis to film a voting PSA just ahead of the midterm elections.

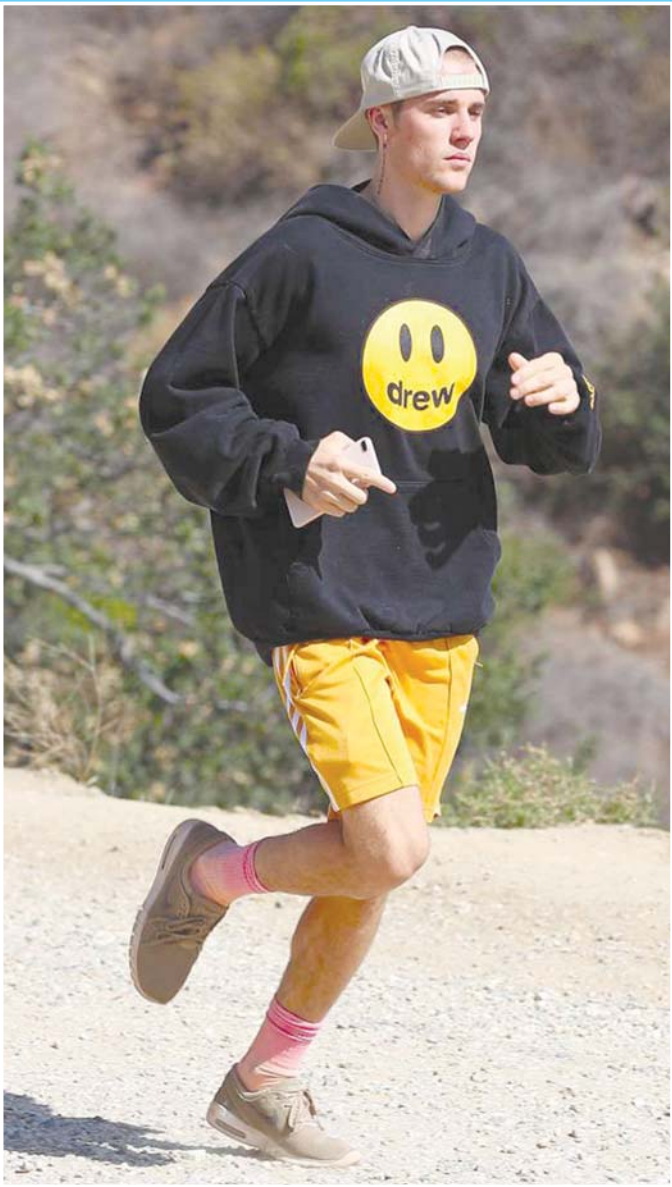
"The future of our country will be decided this week," Leo, who is a big figure in political activism, explained. "Elections don't just matter when voting for president."

He added, "This election might be the most consequential of our lifetime."

"So much is at stake. From gun safety laws to immigration policy, clean water and air, and whether or not millions of people have access to health care."

Pitt then chimed in to say why midterm elections are just as important than presidential elections. "These issues will be decided from the House of Representatives, to the Senate, to dozens of governor's races," Brad shared. "Statehouse elections will determine the future of climate change, criminal justice reform, education funding, LGBTQ equality and even your ability to vote."

"All of these races and ballot measures are a chance to decide on the direction of our country. Right now people are turning out in record numbers for early voting. But that's not enough," Leo declared.



JOGGING JUSTIN! Singer Justin Bieber works on his fitness while hiking in Los Angeles.

Jennifer Lopez Says It's Easier to Date Alex Rodriguez Than Ben Affleck

Compared to her ex-boyfriends, Jennifer Lopez says dating Alex Rodriguez is a breeze.

In the December issue of InStyle (on newsstands Nov. 9), the 49-year-old Second Act actress ruminates on how dating in Hollywood has changed since the dawn of social media. Take, for example, Lopez's high-profile relationship with Ben Affleck, which ended in 2004. The extensive media coverage surrounding their romance was intense, but the former couple fed into it by doing joint interviews and lambasting



the media in her "Jenny From the Block" video.

"Jennifer and Ben were asking for it with not great here" or "I could do better there."

that video," says Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas, who runs Lopez's company, Nuyorican Productions, and also wrote Second Act. "I told her, 'I'm selling you as a maid [in the film Maid in Manhattan], and you guys are driving around in Bentleys?'" But, as Goldsmith-Thomas points out, "It's 16 years later. I'm sure Ben Affleck is more mature, too."

Life with Rodriguez is just easier, Lopez says. "When we met, we'd both already done a lot of work on ourselves. Everybody has flaws, and the people I want in my life are the people who recognize that and are willing to work on those flaws," she says. "It's super-important: someone who's willing to look at themselves and say, 'OK, I'm

THE DAY AHEAD

ARIES: You could feel extremely passionate today, Aries. You might want to connect with a love partner but be prevented by circumstances. You might be attracted to racier novels or movies. Repressed anger could bubble up from your subconscious and seek an outlet. This is a great day to channel that anger into some artistic activity. Don't be surprised if you use a lot of red!
TAURUS: Electrical or plumbing problems with your house might come up. Call a professional, Taurus. Don't try to fix it yourself, because you could make it worse. Friends might want to visit, but tell them to wait until another day. Discussions could quickly deteriorate into arguments today. This is a great day to work quietly alone on whatever interests you the most.
GEMINI: Stay close to home today, Gemini. Spending too

much time in the car could lead to stress or, in extreme cases, minor accidents. On the job, this could turn out to be one of those days. Avoid office politics and stay out of arguments. Try to sequester yourself and do your work alone. Days like this are best used to take care of your affairs quickly and efficiently.
CANCER: Money matters might take a turn for the worse today. Don't fly off the handle because of this, Cancer. Use every bit of financial savvy you have to put things straight. Try to remain calm and collected when dealing with stubborn people. Don't be drawn into arguments. You will be able to pull everything together again, but only by your ingenuity. Don't depend on others.
LEO: Leo, check your house to make certain everything is in working order. There are indica-

tions that small hazards could exist that need correcting. Tension might run high among family members, and quarrels could result. Don't waste time trying to mediate. They will have to work it out for themselves. This is a great day for study and solitude, since your mind is especially sharp.
VIRGO: Short visits in your neighborhood could catapult you into some negative situations, Virgo. It's best to stay close to home if you can. An angry letter or call could put you in a shaky mood. This isn't a day to socialize. Days like this are best spent keeping to yourself and throwing your energy into taking care of whatever you're working on.
LIBRA: Today you might be a bit worried about your financial affairs, Libra. A past mistake could have led to some rather

upsetting consequences. Now you need to harness every bit of skill you have in order to set things straight. Your knowledge of modern technology could help. A friend might try to pick a quarrel with you, but it's best to stay cool, neutral, and out of the discussion.
SCORPIO: Your physical energy is very high today, Scorpio. You're likely to want to get out and exercise, perhaps jog through the park or attend an aerobics class. Be careful! You might not be as fit as you think, and trying too hard could cause minor injuries. Someone you know professionally might not be in a great mood. You could get swept up in their anger. Try to stay out of it.
SAGITTARIUS: Uncertainty about spiritual matters and doubt about your insights might

have you down in the dumps today. Don't try to force any solutions - it won't work. This isn't a good day to be out and about, because travel of any kind could pose problems. This is also a bad day to plan or start a vacation. Stay close to home and take care of practicalities, Sagittarius. That way you will be calm by evening.
CAPRICORN: If a friend or acquaintance gives you advice about money or investments today, don't take it. To follow this unknowledgeable person's lead might prove to be disastrous. Participation in group activities also isn't advisable. They could get out of hand, and you could find end up in the middle of an angry crowd. This is a great day to stay home, Capricorn. Work on your own project.
AQUARIUS: Gossip and bad

feelings among co-workers or in a group could occur today, and there might be some political shenanigans that it would be in your best interests to avoid. This isn't a good day to go to lunch with co-workers. Get away by yourself. Don't believe anything you hear. Chances are it isn't true. Keep to yourself and don't offer any opinions, Aquarius. To do so might be unfortunate.
PISCES: Too much running around might have you feeling exhausted and under the weather today, Pisces. You may have been exercising a little too much. Therefore, this is a good day to avoid exercise and get some rest. Don't push yourself too hard! This isn't a good day to plan or start a vacation. Wait a few days, as trips planned at this time could be fraught with glitches.