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# SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 206 | Gangtok | Sunday | 05 August 2018

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

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

## 3 North dist GPUs host Pre Tendong Lho Rum Faat celebrations

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Pre-celebration of Tendong Lho Rum Faat festival was organized in a grand manner at Ringhim Nampatam GPU, Singhik Sentam GPU and Lingdong Barfok GPU in North Sikkim today.

Forest Minister, TW Lepcha, attended the prayer ceremonies by Bongthings at Ringhim Nampatam GPU and later at Singhik Sentam GPU while Deputy Speaker SLA, Sonam Gyatso Lepcha, attended the functions at Lingdong Barfok GPU, a press release informs.

Likewise, District Collector [North], Additional District Collector [North], ADC [Development], Sub Divisional Magistrate [Mangan] and other district officials attended the festival organized at Ringhim Helipad in North Sikkim.

A brief session outlining the history and significance of various places at Ringhim Nampatam GPU was also presented during the event. Students and youth of the GPU also presented a cultural programme to mark the festival.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC-North spoke on the importance of preserving culture and traditions of a community for safeguarding the unique identity of the people of Sikkim. He further urged people to work towards an alcohol free district.

During the occasion, outgoing Panchayats of the GPU were also felicitated by the organizers for their role in the development of the GPU.

It may be mentioned here, Ringhim Nampatam GPU is a Sansad Aadarsh Gram adopted by Member of Parliament, Hissey Lungchupa.



## Govt school girl students being used as guinea pigs: SKM Nari Morcha

**SAGAR CHETTRI  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Nari Morcha of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party has slammed the State Government on starting the Human Papilloma Virus [HPV] vaccination without creating mass awareness among the people in the State. The SKM Nari Morcha has accused the State Government of treating girl students of Government schools like guinea pigs for an experiment.

It may be mentioned here, Department of Health Care, Human Services & Family Welfare launched the Human Papilloma Virus [HPV] vaccination programme earlier this week in the State. The State introduced HPV vaccines to protect girl children aged between 09-14 years from cervical cancer.

Addressing a press conference here today, SKM Nari Morcha general secretary, Pavitra Bhandari, questioned the sudden urgency for the State Government to launch the vaccination programme without prior mass awareness in the State. She informed that parents of students have to sign a bond before vaccination is administered to the student. On the same, she questioned the need for such a bond.

"Bonds are signed when life is at risk. So if the government is not so sure about the safety of the vaccination then why has it started giving this vaccination to young girl students? The government is playing with the lives of young girls of Sikkim," Ms Bhandari stated.

On the programme being implemented only

in government schools, she alleged that children of rich people go to private schools so the government has chosen government schools for this experiment. The state government, Health Department and the school authority have to be answerable and responsible regarding the safety of the vaccination, she added.

Cervical cancer accounts for only around 1.75% of cancer cases, she claimed adding that more people are dying of other cancers and the government should do something about that as well.

The State Government had decided not to implement this vaccination programme during 2014-15 after facing lot of protest and criticism, and MLA Dr Mechung Bhutia, who was then with SKM, had also pro-

tested against this vaccination but now he is supporting the same vaccination programme, said Ms Bhandari.

She also demanded that the State Government issue a white paper on its works and initiatives for women's empowerment. SDF has not worked in the interest of Sikkimese women, she added.

She further lashed out against the State Government for failing to address issues of missing cases, rape and sexual exploitation of women, high rates of depression and suicides in Sikkimese women and others. She demanded that the State Government and SDF Cheli Morcha present programmes of the Government that will help tackle these issues.

Nari Morcha chief coordinator, Mingma

Lhamu, alleged that the SDF government only provides opportunity to

women in raising slogans for the party and does

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## National Commission for SCs seeks clarification on reduction of SC reservation

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

With regard to the State Government's recent move of reducing the reservation for Scheduled Castes from 07% to 04% [vide notification no. M (14) 35/GEN/DoP], the Singtam Scheduled Caste Welfare Association [SSCWA] had written to the National Commission for Schedule Castes [NCSC], Government of India seeking their intervention to redress the matter.

An SSCWA press release informs that the NCSC, on 31 July, served notice to the State giving 40 days time to the State Government to clarify the reduction of reservation for SCs in Sikkim.

As per an SSCWA

press release, the NCSC, in its notice to the State Government, has asked for the provision of the Constitution of India under which have they reduced the reservation and that if the State Government has sought any views from central agencies before taking the decision to reduce the reservation.

The SSCWA has urged Scheduled Caste MLAs to remain vigilant and alert while formulating the State's reply to the National Commission.

The association has further requested the State Government to restore the original 07% reservation of SCs to uphold the sanctity of the Constitution of India.

**HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?**

email:

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**India suffer  
heartbreaking  
loss in series  
opener**

**BIRMINGHAM, AUG 4  
(PTI):** India suffered a heartbreaking 31-run loss to England as skipper Virat Kohli's heroics went in vain amid yet another abject batting capitulation in a riveting opening Test at the Edgbaston today.

It was virtually Kohli versus England and when the Indian captain was trapped lbw off Ben Stokes

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## SAATHI workshop for 90 Govt school teachers

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Sikkim Against Addiction towards Healthy India [SAATHI] organized a training programme for 90 teachers selected from 30 Government schools for 'Basics of Counselling and SAATHI Methodology' today at Sidlon Residency in Gangtok, a press release informs.

The workshop included technical sessions on Basics of Counselling conducted by Professional Counsellor, Pragnan Deep Dewan, while Clinical Psychologist, Davendra Singh, explained the medical aspects of substance abuse including women's health.

The SAATHI team



also explained activities, resources available and the procedures to conduct such programmes at school level.

The 90 participating teachers were trained on various physical and emotional aspects of substance abuse during the workshop.

They will be playing key roles in SAATHI's operating model of creating strong peer educators within school system to reverse the peer pressure which leads to substance abuse among youths, the release adds.

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# SDF refutes and condemns SKM allegations and claims

## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Sikkim Democratic Front has strongly condemned the negative statements of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha on the State's education system. SDF has strongly criticised SKM for trying to mislead and deceive students of Sikkim.

An SDF press release issued by its publicity

secretary, Chudamani Mishra, mentions that the SDF government has been working tirelessly to take the State's education system to international level by spending more than 20% of the State's budget in the education sector.

The State Government has given equal priority to primary, secondary, senior secondary,

college and university education system in the State. Sikkim has been leading the nation in the construction of classrooms and school buildings wherever required and in providing scholarship, uniforms, books, midday meal and free education in the State, the release adds.

"SKM should be aware of the fact that ge-

ography, history, environment, tourism and other required knowledge and details on Sikkim have already been included textbooks," the party states in the release.

Further, SDF has asserted that its government has been addressing and solving various issues and grievances of Sikkimese students.

The party has also

strongly criticised SKM for giving false information about SDF families joining SKM.

In another SDF press release issued by its publicity secretary, Krishna Kharel, the party has registered its strong objection to a statement given by SKM on 340 SDF families joining SKM during a meeting under Melli constituency held on 03 Aug.

SKM failed to give the names and addresses of any family that joined the party on Friday, the release states. Those who joined were already SKM members and the whole event was staged, SDF has alleged.

The ruling party has also criticized allegations of stealing SKM manifesto and programmes.

## Rangpo I-Day Open Football tourney



## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Renzong FC emerged victorious against Siniolchu Namchi 1-0 in the first match of the ongoing Rangpo Independence Day Open Football Tournament played today at Rangpo Bazaar playground in East Sikkim. Suren Chettri of Renzong FC was adjudged man of the match, a press release informs.

The second match of the day was played

between Sikkim Truck Drivers' Association, Rangpo and Morning Club, Matigara wherein STDA Rangpo thrashed its opponent by 5-0 goals. Ankur Tamang of STDA Rangpo was adjudged man of the match.

On 05 Aug, Sevoke FC will take on Temi FC in the first match with Himalayan Sporting Darjeeling and Ghum Jorbangla playing the second match of the day.

## Tashiding I-Day celebration commences



**GYALSHING, 04 AUG**

[IPR]: The 72nd Independence Day Celebration 2018 organised by Tashiding Independence Day Celebration Committee [IDCC] themed "Beat Plastic Pollution" kick started at Tashiding under Yuk-som-Tashiding Constituency in West Sikkim with a GPU level Open Football tournament today.

Advisor, Social Justice Empowerment & Welfare Department, CB Gurung, attended the inaugural match as chief guest along with former Zilla

and Panchayat members, school heads, NGO representatives, staff and students of Tashiding Secondary School.

The inaugural match had Labdang FC battling it out with Tashiding Secondary School wherein Tashiding SS emerged victorious with a score of 2-1.

The second match was held between Young Boys Tashiding and Limbang Boys wherein the former team beat the latter with a score of 5-4 in a penalty shoot out.

## Indian mission submits Nirav Modi extradition request to UK authorities

**LONDON, AUG 4 (PTI):** The Indian High Commission in London has handed over the extradition request documents for fugitive diamondaire Nirav Modi, wanted in India as a prime accused in the USD 2 billion loan fraud scam at Punjab National Bank, to the UK Central Authority, according to official sources here.

The unit within the UK government's Home Office will now process the request, which falls under mutual legal assistance requests, to assist in criminal investigations or proceedings, before an extradition warrant can be issued against Modi.

The whereabouts of the billionaire jeweller remain unknown, but the Indian government had been informed by the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) in June that it can initiate extradition proceedings despite the uncertainty.



## SDF holds co-ordination meet for Zoom Salghari

## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Sikkim Democratic Front held its co-ordination meeting for Zoom-Salghari Constituency, West Sikkim at Garib Uthan Bhawan in Jorethang, South Sikkim today. The meeting was organised by West District Working Committee [WDWC] of SDF party, a press release informs.

The meeting was attended by WDWC president, Sher Hang Subba, as chief guest accompanied by Minister cum Area MLA, AK Ghatani, MLA, Daramdin Constitu-



ency, DN Sherpa, West District Zilla Adhyakshya, Devika Subba, and other party functionaries.

Addressing the gathering, chief guest Mr Subba said, "Massive development in every

sector without any discrimination of caste, creed and colour at a cost of Rs 1000 crore has

## Contract of 2 agencies undertaking NH 10 repairs terminated due to slow progress of work

## SUMMIT REPORT

**KALIMPONG, 04 AUG:**

Due to slow progress of work on National Highway 10, the contracts of Divya Shakti and Jagbandhu Ghosh Agency, agencies which were carrying out work on NH 10, have been terminated. Both the agencies had been given the work amounting to Rs 32 crore on Feb 2017. However, even after 16 months only 18% of the work has been completed due to which the highway is in very bad shape.

Kalimpong District administration recently sent a letter to the PWD, Executive Engineer in charge of NH 10 regarding the repair and renovation of NH 10.

Both the agencies

had been given the work of repairing NH 10 from Baggul to Kalijhora [4.4km stretch] and 14 km stretch from Lohapul to Teesta in Feb 2017.

The agencies were given 18 months to complete the said work, but only 18% of the work has been completed after 16 months which means it is not possible for the remaining 82% of work to be completed in 2 months, said Executive Engineer, AK Maity.

Mr Maity said that due to pressure from the district administration and media, the decision to terminate the contract of the said agencies was taken. He said that work on the highway will begin soon.

## Stating facts not instigating drivers: SKM

## SUMMIT REPORT

**GANGTOK, 04 AUG:**

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha has criticized Sikkim Democratic Front for accusing it of instigating drivers of the State. The party has said that all its statements are based on facts and figures and has placed these issues to the government as a responsible opposition.

An SKM press release states that SDF should seriously compare the increased rate of taxes from 1995 till date. It is added that drivers have been facing lots of problems due to enhanced taxes.

Further, SKM has challenged SDF to carry out an independent survey among drivers to learn about the ground reality. 80% of the roads in the State are in pathetic condition but the State Government has been collecting huge taxes from drivers, the release adds.

## Govt school girl students being used as guinea pigs: SKM Nari Morcha

*contd from pg01*

not offer any programme for the overall development of women in Sikkim. She added that SKM has various programmes for empowering women of the state.

Ms Lhamu also accused SDF of using anonymous leaflets for character assassination of women which, she said, needs to be immediately stopped.

## Assam flood situation worsens, toll rises to 43

**GUWAHATI, AUG 4 (PTI):**

The flood situation in Assam deteriorated today with two more deaths reported in Sivasagar district, taking the toll to 43, while nearly 1.1 lakh people remain affected across

six districts in the state.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), two persons lost their lives in flood-related incidents at Sonari revenue circle of Sivasagar.

With this, the total number of persons losing their lives in the two waves of flood this year in different parts of the state rose to 43.

The ASDMA said over 1.09 lakh people are affected at present in Dhemajai, Lakhimpur, Darrang, Golaghat, Sivasagar and Charaideo districts.

Till yesterday, around 87,000 people were affected in the six districts.

As per the ASDMA report today, Golaghat is the worst affected with over 91,000 sufferers, followed by Lakhimpur with almost 6,000 people affected in the deluge.

A Golaghat district official said heavy landslide has

formed an artificial lake on upstream of Doyang river and the situation may worsen if it breaches, which will bring more water to Doyang and Dhansiri rivers.

Currently, 163 villages are under water across the state and 10,991 hectares of crop areas have been damaged, the ASDMA report said.

## India suffer heartbreaking loss in series opener

*contd from pg01*

in the 47th over, the absorbing game was only heading the home team's way.

Resuming on overnight 110 for five, India folded up for 162 in 54.2 overs despite Kohli's combative 51 off 93 balls and Hardik Pandya's 31.

All-rounder Stokes (4-40) came to the party on the morning of day four by removing Kohli and Mohammad Shami in the same over. James Anderson (2-50) and Stuart Broad (2-43) took a brace each as England drew first blood in what promises to be an engrossing five-match series.

The Indian bowlers did their job in both the

innings but the batsmen, with the exception of Kohli, let the team down again.

The second Test begins at Lord's on August 9.

The sun was out at Edgbaston but the ball was doing enough to trouble the batsmen. India got off to a poor start as Dinesh Karthik (20) fell on the sixth ball of the day, caught at second slip off Anderson.

It brought Pandya to the crease, but Kohli was not yet ready to farm strike and trusted his partner. It meant that Pandya hogged majority of the deliveries early in their partnership, but the skipper didn't mind.

Kohli only faced six

balls in the first 15 minutes of play, but Pandya grew in confidence as the duo put on 29 runs for the seventh wicket as he struck some lusty blows off Broad.

The skipper reached his 17th Test half-century off 88 balls.

Thanks to those boundaries off Pandya, the bowling changes came and they worked for England. In the 47th over then, Stokes trapped Kohli lbw as the batsman moved too far forward and across to counter the incoming delivery. The skipper did check for DRS review but it went in England's favour.

Surprisingly, Shami (0)

came out to bat next and Stokes made it a double blow in four balls as the batsman was caught behind.

Ishant Sharma (11), who has a county half-century this summer, came down as low as number ten, and looked more comfortable than Shami immediately. Two fours off his blade meant that England had to rethink their plans once again.

Adil Rashid (1-9) then was brought on after the drinks break and for the second time in this Test, he trapped Sharma lbw with a googly.

At nine down, it was but a matter of time even as Pandya tried to stay at the wicket and fight until

the very end. He tried rotating strike with Umesh Yadav and attacked Rashid as well.

But Stokes, who might not play the second Test owing to his court case, managed to nick out the edge England wanted. Pandya was caught at first slip to signal India's defeat in a seesawing Test.

On day one, Joe Root's 80 runs helped England score 287 runs in their first innings. On day two, Kohli scored a masterful 22nd Test hundred to rescue India from 169-7 as they finished with 274 in reply. On day three, Ishant's 5-51 saw England bowled out for 180 runs and setting up a 194-run target.



**Government of Sikkim**

**CENTRAL HEALTH STORES ORGANIZATION**

**Health Care, Human Services & Family Welfare Department**

**Government of Sikkim**

**Convoy Ground, Tadong.**

## CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

*Memo No. 294/CHSO/18-19*

*Date: 4.08.2018*

Ref to NIT vide memo no. 239/CHSO/18 dated 14/07/2018 regarding "THE SUPPLY OF CR-100 MA X-RAY MACHINE AND ULTRASOUND MACHINE "for various Health Institutions for the year 2018-19. The details of corrigendum so approved following the Pre-bid Meeting held on 02/08/2018 may be seen at the Sikkim Government website [www.sikkim.gov.in](http://www.sikkim.gov.in).

Sd/-

Joint Director

Central Health Stores Organisation

R.O. No. 247/ipr/pub/classi./18-19

dt. 4.8.2018



Gangtok on Sunday, 05 Aug

Temp: 25°C/17°C  
Forecast: Cloudy, a couple of thundershowers.  
Sunrise: 05:01 AM  
Sunset: 6:22 PM

GoAir puts 1 mn seats up for sale at Rs 1,099 starting fares

MUMBAI, AUG 4 (PTI): Budget carrier GoAir today offered up to 10 lakh seats for sale at a heavily-discounted ticket price, starting as low as Rs 1,099 for a one-way travel across its network.

Besides, customers can avail an extra five per cent cashback of up to Rs 250 on payment made through digital wallet company Paytm for all bookings under the 'festival season' sale, GoAir said in a release.

These tickets are on sale for purchase from today and will remain available till August 9 for a travel period that starts today and goes up to December, the company said. "GoAir announces special low fares promotion across all sectors with ticket starting as low as Rs 1,099 (all-inclusive) for the travel period from August 4 to December 31, 2018," the airline said in the release.

Customers can also avail exclusive deals of up to Rs 3,000 if booked on GoAir website or mobile app, the release said.

The discounted ticket offer comes with some other additional benefits such as an extra five per cent cash back of up to Rs 250 on payment done through Paytm wallet as well as Rs 750 discount on the Mynta app or website on spends of Rs 2,500 or more, it added.

The Wadia Group-owned airline currently operates over 1,544 weekly flights to across 23 domestic destinations -- Ahmedabad, Bagdogra, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Guwahati, Jaipur, Jammu, Kochi, Kolkata, Leh, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Port Blair, Pune, Ranchi, Srinagar and Hyderabad.

## SSA thrashes SAI-Namchi 6-0 in SFA Premier Div League



SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:

State Sports Academy thrashed SAI Namchi 6-0 in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 here at Paljor Stadium today. Assisted by four goals by Milan Chettri, SSA bagged three more points from this convincing victory.

Milan Chettri scored an early lead for the State Sports Academy in the 14th minute while his teammate doubled the lead in the 39th minute. Milan Chettri completed his brace during injury time of the first half to end the first half with

SSA 3-0 ahead.

While the SAI-Namchi players were still struggling to bounce back into the match, Milan completed his hatrick in the 57th minute.

The unstoppable State Sports Academy players kept constant pressure on SAI with continuous attacks. Budhi Rai further extended the lead for the State Sports Academy to 5-0 in the 79th minute. Finally, Milan Chettri sealed a 6-0 victory for SSA with his fourth goal in the 83rd minute of the match.

On 05 August, Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club will take on Pakyong United Football Club.

## SIC holds sensitization programme on RTI at Burtuk Law College



SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:

Sikkim Information Commission [SIC] organized sensitisation programme on RTI Act and Rule of 2005 at Burtuk Law College in Gangtok on 03 Aug in the presence of Chief Information Commissioner, MB Gurung, as chief guest and Secretary, SIC, JD Bhutia, as guest of honour, a press release informs.

Deputy Secretary, SIC, Abinash Rai, while addressing the gathering as resource person, gave detailed insights on provisions of the RTI Act and its rules.

He informed that for an organization to fall under the definition of Public Authority, the Government should either own or have substantial

control over the management and affairs of the organization or should be substantially financed. Private educational institutes receiving 95% of funding may fall under the definition of Public Authority, he added.

Mr Rai stressed that repetitive RTI applications cannot be entertained and the information seeker needs to seek the information at one go only.

He also read out the judgement of Delhi High Court regarding misuse of RTI Act and urged Law students to use the Act judiciously for larger public interest.

Burtuk Law College extended gratitude to SIC for providing in-depth analysis on RTI Act and Rule of 2005.

## SLSA conducts awareness programme for Legal Literacy Clubs of East district

SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 04 AUG:

Sikkim State Legal Services Authority [SLSA], under the directions of Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, who is also the Executive Chairperson of Sikkim SLSA, organized an awareness programme for Legal Literacy Clubs [LLCs] of schools of East district on the importance of Fundamental Duties as envisaged in Article 51A of the Constitution of India at the auditorium of High Court of Sikkim in Gangtok today, a press release informs.

In his welcome address, Member Secretary, Sikkim SLSA, Suraj Chettri, informed that LLCs have been established in schools for disseminating information about law and to make people aware about their rights and duties through various activities of the LLC so that the students become law abiding citizens.

The programme aimed at not only boosting legal literacy but also to help in strengthening the aim of legal services



institutions of access to justice for the vulnerable and marginalized section of the society, he added.

He also mentioned that there are altogether 38 LLCs in schools, colleges and universities across Sikkim. The LLC in Law College, Burtuk was established in 11 Jun, 2012 while LLCs for the schools of East district were established in 2013, for South district in 2014, North district in 2016 and

for West district in the year 2013. Legal Literacy Clubs function under the supervision of "Teacher-in-Charge" of the respective high school/college, he added.

Panel Advocates, Sikkim SLSA, TR Barfungpa and Zangpo Sherpa, attended the programme as resource persons and addressed the gathering of 150 student LLC members along with their teacher-in-charge.

Mr Barfungpa spoke on ways to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem while upholding and protecting the Sovereignty, Unity and Integrity of India.

Likewise, Mr Sherpa highlighted on preserving the rich heritage and culture of the country and protecting the natural environment including Forests, Lakes, Rivers

and Wildlife.

The programme concluded with an interaction session held between the students and resource persons.

## Breast Feeding Week at Phodong PHC



SUMMIT REPORT  
MANGAN, 04 AUG:

World Breast Feeding Week was observed at Phodong Primary Health Centre in North Sikkim today in the presence of Zilla Panchayat, Gaching Bhutia, as chief guest.

Resource person, S Lhamu [Deputy Director, Nutrition], spoke on the importance of breast-feeding and demonstrated preparation of complementary food.

The programme also included quiz and cooking competitions.

Before the Oath Commissioner East Sikkim at Gangtok

### AFFIDAVIT

I, Mewang Wangchuk Atuk son of Thinlay Norbu Atuk, aged about 45 years, Buddhist by faith, resident of Naya Bazar, Gangtok, P.O. & P.S. Gangtok, East Sikkim do hereby solemnly affirm and declare on oath as follows:

1. That my correct name is Mewang Wangchuk Atuk and the same has been recorded in my Passport, bearing No. K611650, dated: 17.01.1992, issued by Republic of India.
2. That my name has been recorded as Wangchuk Atuk in the Migration Certificate bearing Rill No. 3201798 issued by Central Board of Secondary Education.
3. That I am swearing this affidavit to state and declare that the names Mewang Wangchuk Atuk and Wangchuk Atuk are the names of one and the same person i.e. myself.

Sd/-  
DEPONENT



### GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM ENERGY AND POWER DEPARTMENT VEHICLE AUCTION NOTICE

Sealed tender are invited from the interested person(s)/ parties for the purchase of 08 (Eight) Nos. of condemned Government Vehicles pertaining to Energy & Power Department of the Government of Sikkim on metallic value and on 'as it is where it is basis'. These vehicles can be located at DPH Complex/Gangtok. The details of the vehicles are as below:-

SL.NO.	VEHICLE REGISTRATION NO/TYPE	METALLIC VALUE
1.	SK-01-G-0908/Gypsy	Rs.11210.00
2.	SK-01-G-0915/Gypsy	Rs.10797.00
3.	SK-01-G-0961/Gypsy	Rs.11623.00
4.	SK-01-G-0935/Gypsy	Rs.10797.00
5.	SK-01-G-0950/Gypsy	Rs.10797.00
6.	SK-01-G-0905/Gypsy	Rs.10797.00
7.	SK-01-G-6281/Gypsy	Rs.10797.00
8.	SK-01-G-0976/Gypsy	Rs.11387.00

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. Cost of tender form is Rs.500/- (Rupees Five Hundred) only for each vehicle, payable in any branch of the State Bank of Sikkim, obtaining Bank Receipt (B/R) under the Revenue Head '0801-Power-80-general 800-other receipts'.
2. Tender Forms can be obtained from the office of the Assistant Engineer (Mech.) AWS, DPH, Gangtok during the working hours from 10 to 4 PM.
3. The tender form should be submitted within 10 working days from the date of publication.

Sd/-  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MECH)  
ENERGY & POWER DEPARTMENT.

R.O. No. 245/IPR/Pub/Classi./18-19 dt. 3.8.2018



## The Beautiful and the Damned

Life in New India

Siddhartha Deb

in conversation with Pema Wangchuk

Born in north-eastern India, Siddhartha Deb is the author of two novels and *The Beautiful and the Damned*, a work of narrative nonfiction that was a finalist for the *Owens Prize*, the winner of the *PEN Open Award* and that will be published in India this year in its full, uncensored version after a seven-year court case.

A columnist for the "Bookends" section of *The New York Times Book Review* and *The Baffler*, and a contributing editor to *The New Republic*, he is the recipient of grants and fellowships from the Society of Authors in the UK, the Nation Institute, the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Studies at Harvard University, and the Howard Foundation at Brown University. His journalism, essays, and reviews have appeared in many publications, including *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Baffler*, *The Nation*, *n+1*, *Caravan* and *The Times Literary Supplement*.

The author of an extensively researched, fiercely critical profile of Narendra Modi for *The New Republic* and, more recently, of a reported account of the killing of Gauri Lankesh for *Columbia Journalism Review*, Deb will be in conversation with Pema Wangchuk about the targeting of minorities and dissenters in India and the violence that ranges from lynchings and riots to systematic disenfranchisement by the state as in the case of 40 lakh people declared foreigners in Assam. On his second visit to Sikkim, Deb will discuss the role of imagination and writing when faced with such sweeping violence and what we must do to fight back against the new authoritarianism that dominates India today.

Pema Wangchuk is a senior journalist and co-author of *Khunchendzongpa: Sacred Summit and The Birds Have Lost Their Way*.

Rachna Books | 5:00 pm | 5 August 2018

REVOLVER

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# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Avoid the Babel Syndrome

*Resuscitate languages and the rest will follow*

One of the more encouraging signs when it comes to the vibrancy of languages is to see the young make lists in the mother tongues. It is a rarity, because even speakers of the lingua franca nowadays take notes in English and they are already conversing on the smart-phones in emojis. The worry then is that the mother tongue, the language they would be expected to be the most fluent in when conveying emotions and ideas, has now become the formal language – something they can write exams in or maybe use to speak with elders, but cannot joke or share ideas in. So, when the mother tongue becomes the language of casual conversations and spontaneous note-taking, it becomes a special moment, underlining a community's success at keeping their culture alive because no culture can survive once its language is lost.

In fact, a major concern exists in communities all over the world over the preservation of native languages and cultures. While earlier, indigenous communities could rely on traditional educational systems to ensure their cultural survival, this support system does not exist anymore. Earlier, the language would get passed down around kitchen fires and along with it would slip through the essence of ethnic cultures and traditions. As Sikkim grows more cosmopolitan, outside influences have edged out this form of education. The formal education system which includes many indigenous/ local languages in its curriculum does not include the subtlety with which cultures were instinctively fostered earlier. At best, the schools can equip the students with the language, which they should then utilise to learn. Unlike the present trend where the learning curve ends with the schooling years, the learning should in fact begin once the basics of a language have been picked up and then should launch the process of mastering it. This becomes necessary because indigenous languages are finding fewer and fewer people using them anymore and the few who have mastered the tongue need to record whatever it is they can cull from the older generation so that some element of their identity survives the march of time. In fact, this is one aspect of the cultural revivalism afoot all over the Hills that needs to be paid more attention to.

While it is all too easy to play the role of the victimised and collect sympathy, it is in proving real concern and engagement that the Hill communities are failing. This applies not just to the minority Lepchas and Bhutias of the Hills but also the Nepalese. It needs no reiteration that language is the link to identity. It is the language that keeps cultures alive. The nuances of each language highlight the influence of the past which shapes the present of individual communities. That said, let's look at the state of ethnic languages among the speakers themselves. When a language is being taught in school, it has to mean more than just a medium of communication. It has to become the tool of learning and discovery. One does not know whom to blame here, but few in Sikkim have proven that they can deploy their language skills for this purpose.

Blame it on the influence of television or now access to affordable broadband which has wiped out the reading habit or the confusion of being exposed to too many languages [Nepali, English, Hindi and the mother tongue, in Sikkim's case], but fact remains that we are grooming a generation of students who are not proficient in any language. We are talking here in terms of reading, understanding and writing. Anyone can communicate, but a student is expected to do better.

The previous generation has to shoulder most of the blame. They relied too much on tokenism. A language day here, a smattering of language skills there and they thought they had done enough. They were wrong. A language has to become relevant to survive. It can be made relevant if important and interesting books are written in that language, if popular music uses it. Just look around, how many interesting books can a lay person find in Bhutia or Lepcha which is not available in other languages. Even Nepali language essentially survives only as the lingua franca. To prove the point – can anyone recall the last work in fiction in Nepali which was a runaway hit that everyone wanted to read and possess? Fact remains, we are wiping out our cultures because we are not serious enough about our languages.

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# Why the mainstream media should stop giving extreme views a platform

CHRIS ALLEN  
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In recent weeks, a number of quite astounding articles have appeared in the British press. These have included among others, a Times column opining the benefit to Britain in the current climate of having a political leader like Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin or Recep Tayyip Erdoğan; referred to as “strongmen”. In the Daily Telegraph, a similarly toned piece contemplated the reinstatement of the death penalty after Brexit.

Somewhat appealing to the lowest common denominator, these and similar articles prompt questions about the extent to which Britain's mainstream media is shifting towards the right of the political spectrum. Even more worrying is the extent to which it is “normalising” extreme right-wing ideas and ideologies.

A recent Sunday Times article by Andrew Gilligan referred to “hipster fascists” with their penchant for New Balance trainers and skinny jeans. So their views might be out where the buses don't run, but at least they have a decent dress code.

It's not just the print media. Mainstream broadcasters have been giving significant airtime to various prominent far-right identities. These have included the former Breitbart London editor Raheem Kassam appearing on BBC Radio 4's Today programme to discuss the release of Tommy Robinson, the former leader of the anti-Islam English Defence League, on bail after winning an appeal against a contempt of court conviction. Meanwhile Ezra Levant, Robinson's former employer at the Canadian far-right website Rebel Media, appeared on BBC 5 Live's Breakfast Show.

Steve Bannon, the former executive chairman of Breitbart News and Donald Trump's former strategy guru, was invited onto LBC and told Nigel Farage: “I don't think Robinson's a bad guy. I think he's a solid guy and I think he's got to be released from prison.” This followed an extensive interview with BBC Newsnight in May.

It is worth noting that prior to his conviction, Robinson himself was something of a darling of the mainstream media. He has been a guest on ITV's Good Morning Britain, BBC Radio 4's Today, BBC's Newsnight and BBC1's The Big Questions, among others.

Given the recurrence of Robinson's appearance

es in the mainstream media, it can be argued that not only has this played down the highly divisive and dangerous views and ideologies he has espoused but so too has it legitimised his claim to be voice of the people. That has the potential to have quite dangerous and dire consequences.

### A 'NEW NORMAL'

Indeed, one of the goals of right-wing extremists has always been to appear “normal”. In recent years, the British National Party (BNP) was transformed under the leadership of Nick Griffin. By trying to look more like mainstream politicians, Griffin believed that the BNP would become more electable. Despite the outward change, its national agenda remained constant.

While the BNP achieved relative success in local and European elections, Griffin's appearance



Many people have criticised the BBC for inviting alt-right ideologue Steve Bannon on to Newsnight.

on BBC1's Question Time pretty much destroyed his credibility both inside and outside the BNP. Describing the treatment he received as being akin to a “lynch mob” highlights the stark difference between then and now.

If seen to be complicit in the process of “normalisation” then – through playing down or trivialising the very real and detrimental impact bigotry and hate can have on the lives of individuals, communities and wider society – the mainstream media could be accused of conferring acceptability on some of these views.

### WORKING-CLASS HEROES?

Focusing upon the style, clothes or brands worn by far-right activists or having debates about the extent to which they might be a “working-class hero” fails to acknowledge the highly politicised agendas and ideologies those being focused on seek to disseminate. It also has the potential to embolden

strengthen their supporters and act as a recruiting tool – making them appear as the “true voice” of certain communities, groups or constituencies.

You could argue that the mainstream media did much the same with the unprecedented platform afforded to the now-imprisoned Islamist extremist, Anjem Choudary. Not only did he reinforce negative stereotypes about Muslims and Islam in the wider community – but the mainstream media's endorsement of him as a key Muslim leader caused consternation among the vast majority of British Muslims for whom his views were extreme and not in the least representative of them.

### HAIL STRONGMEN

The same can be said by the “strongman” article by Clare Foges, a former speechwriter for David Cameron. Her article massively plays down the more unpalatable policies of leaders such as Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines and Turkish president Erdoğan. Foges in fact praises them, as well as Trump and Putin, for getting things done.

But it also overlooks the very real fact that under their leadership, values that are held dear by democracies including the UK – among them democracy, free speech and justice – have at times been restricted, constrained or completely removed.

Knowing that the murder of Jo Cox and the attack on Finsbury Park Mosque were perpetrated by individuals aligned to extreme right-wing ideologies should be itself warning enough that affording greater legitimacy to and normalising such views is

extremely dangerous.

Put this in the context of the sharp rise in the number of people being referred to Prevent for holding extreme right-wing views and the fact that levels of hate crime last year reached record highs and the seriousness of the matter is unquestionable.

I'm not advocating censorship or limiting free speech – far from it. What I am saying is that the mainstream media has a responsibility for ensuring objectivity and impartiality. The zeal to maintain what is obviously a false balance by giving a platform to such extremists is not part of that remit. Big media organisations must be aware that legitimisation of the far right is not acceptable. They cannot normalise nor be seen to give permission to what are, in truth, hateful ideas and ideologies.

[the writer is Associate Professor in Hate Studies, University of Leicester]

# Zimbabwe's historic elections: a case of leopards not changing their spots

CHERYL HENDRICKS  
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Zimbabwe's general elections on July 30 were being labelled as “historic”. For the first time since independence in 1980, the ballot paper featured the faces of new presidential candidates, Emmerson Mnangagwa and Nelson Chamisa. And, prior to the poll, there was no large scale violence by security institutions and youth militia, as had happened previously.

Indeed, the elections were peaceful and voters turned out in large numbers. But that's where the good news ended as violence broke out after the release of the parliamentary results.

Supporters of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) Alliance led by Chamisa marched to the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission's command centre protesting against the slow release of the presidential election results. The parliamentary results were released early in the day, giving Zanu-PF (68%) of the seats. The MDC Alliance was insinuating that the presidential results were being rigged.

The day before any results were released MDC-Alliance leaders had upped the ante by announcing they'd won, and saying that they wouldn't accept any other result.

The army and police responded to protesters with the familiar brutality, leaving three people dead. In the space of two hours Zimbabwe went from having peaceful, free and fair elections, to ones marred by violence and accusations of fraud. The promise of a new dawn seemed to vanish instantaneously.

What went wrong? Are the parliamentary election results a reflection of voter rigging or of the MDC-Alliance's own weaknesses?

Zimbabwe needed these elections

to be credible, no matter who won. A legitimate government – with a strong mandate – can develop and implement a much needed national development plan to fix the country's shattered economy.

Both presidential candidates and political parties promised peace and a new beginning. But, when the chips were down and the votes began to show a familiar trend of Zanu-PF dominance, both parties resorted to old tactics. MDC-Alliance resorted to disruption and discrediting the elections while Zanu-PF, through the security establishment, used undue force.

Accusations and counter accusations of who was to blame became the order of the day as they both plunged the country back into familiar chaos. These leopards were now revealing that they had not changed their spots, in full view of an international community they were hoping would come and invest after an election.

### ZANU-PF

Last November the governing Zanu-PF ushered in a new political dispensation, via a military assisted transition that ousted former president Robert Mugabe. The party was never going to hand over power on a silver platter and would have been preparing for a win in what they no doubt expected to be a competitive race.

Zanu-PF always had the upper hand given its 38 years in power since independence. It had access to more funding, including state resources, that enabled it to run a more effective campaign. Its many huge billboards, advertising a re-imaged Mnangagwa, new vehicles and a flood of green party paraphernalia all indicated that it had invested large amounts of money in these elections.

The party also benefited from a biased state media. And it could also

still ride on the wave of the sweeping changes it had brought about from November 2017, which included opening up the democratic space in terms of freedom of speech and association and movement.

The fact that these elections were held in full view of international and regional observers, that political parties were allowed to campaign freely, and that the run up to the polling day was largely peaceful, could all be credited to their new form of governance.

### MDC-ALLIANCE

The MDC-Alliance went into the elections on a weak footing. They were fractured, having brought five parties together very recently in an alliance through the efforts of the young Chamisa. They didn't have enough resources, nor time to mobilise effectively, though they still attracted thousands to their rallies in urban areas.

But the MDC-Alliance ran a campaign that focused mainly on the presidential elections. They pinned their hopes on Chamisa being able to woo a predominantly young Zimbabwean population eager to see change.

But after votes had been cast, the behaviour of the alliance's two leaders left a lot to be desired. Tendai Biti and Chamisa declared themselves the winners of the presidential poll well before election results were announced by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission. They also said they would not accept any result that did not declare them the victors.

This could have been partly responsible for the violence that erupted.

At a time when they needed to show good leadership, they employed the usual tactics of discrediting electoral processes before results were even announced. The situation wasn't helped by the fact that the electoral

commission took a long time to release the presidential results (citing procedures for the delay). This was bound to exacerbate tensions in a country with such very low trust in the electoral process.

The electoral commission has always been accused of being biased towards Zanu-PF. It should have developed mechanisms to alleviate distrust, and come up with a strategy to ensure that results were released without delay and through proper channels, and not through social media.

There were a few irregularities that were noted by all the observer missions. These included the voters' roll not being available on time, too many assisted voters, the lack of an effective communication strategy by the electoral commission, media bias, and intimidation of voters, especially of women candidates.

It was certainly not a level playing field. But, the environment and irregularities were not deemed to be at a scale big enough to jeopardise the credibility of the elections.

### WHAT NOW?

It's time political parties and individuals put their narrow self interests aside and act on behalf of Zimbabwe as a whole. This is the only way for the country to move forward.

If the MDC-Alliance claims Zanu-PF rigged the elections with the help of the electoral commission, the onus is on them to prove it. Till then, both parties need to sort out their differences as quickly and as peacefully as possible for the sake of the people of Zimbabwe, who have endured much hardship because of political elites intent on serving their own interests.

[the writer is Executive director, Africa Institute of South Africa, Human Sciences Research Council]



# Verification of WB migrants' identities for Assam NRC to take couple of months more

**Kolkata, Aug 4 (PTI):** The verification of identities of the people, who have migrated from West Bengal to Assam, for the National Register of Citizens (NRC) may take another couple of months to be completed, a senior state government official said here.

The process is a "long-drawn one" and reports on the NRC verification from officers concerned are being awaited, he said.

"There is not a single paper lying with us right now. All those which were not sent for updating the NRC are awaiting verification. It (verification) is a long process and we are working on it. It may take another couple of months to be completed," the official

told PTI on condition of anonymity.

He said that there was pressure from the Assam government in returning the NRC verification documents expeditiously.

West Bengal is the biggest defaulter in the NRC verification process, Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India Sailesh, who is overseeing the entire exercise of the NRC, had said last week.

"The largest number of documents that we have not received among all states was from West Bengal. We had to struggle. We had to follow up. But we have not received substantial number of documents from West Bengal. The response (of

West Bengal) in terms of results was not satisfactory," Sailesh had said.

According to the state government official, nearly 15,000 responses were sent to the Assam government out of the total about 1.14 lakh requests and "we are working on the rest".

The NRC verification is faster in areas like Kolkata but is "pretty slow" in the rural areas, he said.

Stating that less manpower is a reason for the delay, he gave the example of cases which needed to be verified from the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education.

The official said that the home department was also helping those departments short of in-

frastructure in expediting the process of NRC verification.

"We had asked other departments to check the authenticity of the people concerned and the rest of the verification was done by our officers. So we did everything to speed up the process," the official said.

In the districts, a verification request was needed to be referred to the district magistrate who would then send the file to the SDO.

"The file will move from the SDO to the BDO who will refer it to the gram panchayat for verification. The file will be returned through the same channel. So the verification is taking a long

time in the rural areas," he said.

Sailesh had said that the he had made an exception by deputing his own staff to assist the state government.

"But West Bengal was the only state where all required documents for the draft NRC was not received," Sailesh had said.

Out of about 1.14 lakh cases sent to Bengal government, only 7,438 responses have been received, Sailesh had said.

The final draft NRC was published on July 30 and it had excluded more than 40 lakh residents.

Most of the names were excluded due to lack of proper documents proving Indian citizenship, Assam officials

had said.

Dubbing the process of identification for the Assam NRC as a ploy of the BJP-ruled central government to do vote bank politics, West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee has been protesting against the exclusion of over 40 lakh people from the NRC. She had sent an eight-member TMC team, comprising six MPs, one MLA and West Bengal minister Firad Hakim to Assam to take stock of the situation on August 2. The team of TMC leaders was detained at the Silchar airport by state police. They later returned from Assam.



## CBI raids nine locations of chit fund company

**KOLKATA, AUG 4 (PTI):** The CBI has conducted raids in nine locations as a part of their probe into the ATM Group's chit fund case in several areas of West Bengal, the investigation agency spokesperson said today.

The raids were conducted at the offices and residential premises of the chairman and managing director and other directors of the company in nine different locations on Thursday, he said.

During the searches, several documents were seized.

A case was registered in June 2017 against the ATM Group of companies' officials under IPC 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 120B (criminal conspiracy), 323 (punishment for voluntary causing hurt), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 34 (act done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) against the CMD and other directors of ATM group of companies following orders of the Supreme Court.

As per the complaints, the accused persons had allegedly collected from the public an amount of Rs four to five crore (approx) as deposit on assurance to repay the amount with high rate of interest.

"The accused persons, however, did not repay and misappropriated the invested amount and thereby cheated the investors," he said.

## NDFB member beaten to death in Meghalaya

**TURA (MEGHALAYA), AUG 4 (PTI):** A member of the National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) was allegedly beaten to death by a mob at Baringgre in East Garo Hills district, police said today.

Aita Boro, who escaped police firing in an encounter at Tarasin yesterday, reached the village under the Rong-

jeng police station and was caught by locals, Superintendent of Police R Momin said.

Soon, a mob gathered around him and allegedly beat him to death, he said.

A member of the NDFB was killed in an encounter with police at Tarasin yesterday.

## IMD forecast heavy rainfall in Odisha in next two days

**BHUBANESWAR, AUG 4 (PTI):** Forecasting formation of a low pressure area over West Bengal and neighbourhood during the next 48 hours, the IMD today predicted heavy rainfall in the next two days in Odisha.

According to the latest bulletin issued by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), there will be rain and thundershower in most places in the districts of north coastal Odisha and in many places in the districts of the rest of the state.

The IMD forecast heavy rainfall in the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Puri, Ganjam and Khordha on August 5.

Similarly, the met office forecast heavy rainfall in Sundergarh, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Keonjhar, Angul, Mayurbhanj, Kalahandi and Kandhamal on August 6.

The fishermen are warned not to venture into the sea on August 5 and 6. "Whoever in the out coast on deep sea, are advised to return to the coast by morning of August 5, 2018," the IMD said.

Meanwhile, a report issued by the special relief commissioner office said while 28 districts had received sporadic rainfall, two districts of Khurda and Puri had not received any rainfall during the past 24 hours.

With this, the cumulative average rainfall of the state from June one till August 4, comes to a surplus of three per cent over the long term average rainfall, it said.

## Major Leetul Gogoi likely to be indicted by Army Col for hotel incident

**NEW DELHI, AUG 4 (PTI):** Major Leetul Gogoi, who was detained by police in a Srinagar hotel after he was seen with a local woman in May, may face punitive action as a Court of Inquiry ordered by the Army into the incident is likely to indict him in the case, official sources said here.

They said the Col has found that he violated the Army's rule against developing relationship with a local woman in a conflict zone and breaching the standard operating procedure of staying away from place of duty.

The sources said the findings of the Col



are being placed before the top brass of the Srinagar-based XV corps for approval following which charges against Gogoi may be slapped under relevant sections of the Army Act.

On May 23, Gogoi was detained by police

following an altercation at the hotel in Srinagar where he was allegedly trying to enter with an 18-year-old woman.

Days later, the Army had ordered the Col into the incident after Army chief Gen Bipin Rawat said in Pahalgam that

exemplary punishment would be given to Gogoi if he was found guilty of "any offence".

"If any officer of the Indian Army is found guilty of any offence, we will take strictest possible action," Gen. Rawat had said.

## Tripura to fill up 9,424 posts under new recruitment policy

**AGARTALA, AUG 4 (PTI):** The Tripura government today said it will fill up 9,424 vacant posts in different departments soon by strictly adhering to the new employment policy it introduced after coming to power in March this year.

Minister for Education and Law, Ratan Lal Nath said Tripura's Council of Ministers introduced a fair recruitment policy replacing the old flawed one to provide jobs to the deserving candidates alone.

We would strictly adhere to the new employment policy of the state. All new appointments would be made through

examinations conducted by the Tripura Public Service Commission (TPSC), he told reporters here yesterday.

The BJP-IPFT government headed by Chief Minister Biplab Deb imposed embargo on all ongoing recruitment processes on March 10, the very next day after it assumed office, citing grounds for review.

Restriction on recruitments has been revoked recently. We sent a letter to TPSC to conduct recruitment procedure for 182 Assistant Professors. Recruitment would also be done in over 9,000 other posts in different government de-

partments, Nath said.

The minister also said the previous Left Front government withheld recruitment in over 8,000 posts though many of them were notified by TPSC. Many of them were sanctioned by the finance department as well, he added.

He also said that recruitment processes initiated by the previous Left Front government now stand cancelled and the process will be started shortly. Any candidate who has exceeded upper age limit for government service would be able to avail a one-time relaxation of age bar, the minister said.

## TMC observes 'black day' in WB against manhandling of its leaders

**KOLKATA, AUG 4 (PTI):** The Trinamool Congress today observed a 'black day' in various parts of West Bengal in protest against the alleged "detention and manhandling" of its leaders in Assam's Silchar airport.

The protest will continue tomorrow too, party sources said.

TMC ministers, leaders and activists hit the streets in the districts and blocks across the state to protest against the alleged assault on the eight-member TMC team at the Silchar airport on Thursday when they tried to enter Assam's Cachar



district to assess the situation in the wake of the publication of the final draft of the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Carrying placards and sporting black masks and badges, TMC activists shouted slogans against the BJP governments at the Centre and

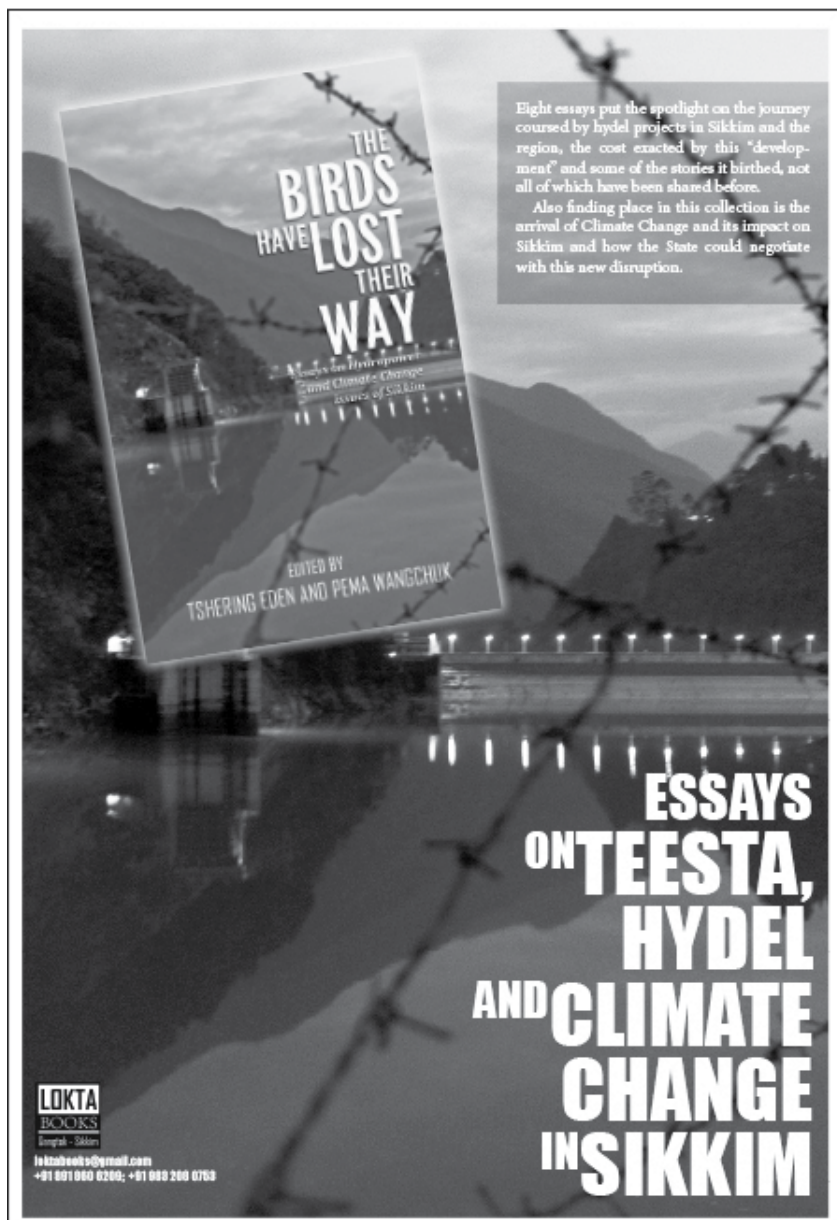
Assam and the final draft of the NRC, published on July 30 and touted to be

The eight-member TMC delegation had comprised of six MPs, an MLA and West Bengal minister Firhad Hakim. They were stopped at the Silchar airport and put under preventive detention.

They returned to the city yesterday.

TMC chief and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had alleged that the members of the delegation, including women, were manhandled at the airport and accused the BJP of imposing a "super emergency" in the country.

TMC secretary-general Partha Chatterjee had yesterday said, "What happened to our party delegation is not only shameful but also undemocratic. Our slogan will be 'we don't need this monstrous government anymore'.





# Kohli is not invincible, slip catching let us down: James Anderson

**BIRMINGHAM, AUG 4 (PTI):** England pacer James Anderson says Virat Kohli is not "invincible" and poor slip fielding from his team mates has allowed the Indian skipper to get off the hook in the first innings of the opening cricket Test here.

It was an engrossing duel between Test cricket's second most successful pacer, Anderson and Kohli on the second day when the Indian skipper was dropped twice off the bowler on 21 and 51 by Dawid Malan.

Kohli went on to score 149 and was batting on 43 not out in India's second innings score of 110 for 5 with the visitors still needing 84 more to win first Test.

Anderson rued his side's poor catching and said England need to take their chances against a batsman of Kohli's calibre.

"I've been encouraged the way I've bowled at him (Kohli) in this game so far, found the edge a few times in the first innings. On another day I could have got him for 20, and then we're not talking about how brilliant he is," Anderson said last night.

"You can't drop Virat



Kohli on 21, because he's one of the best players in the world, and he'll capitalise on that and which he did. We could have been in a much different position now. We've just got to go away and know we can get him. No one is invincible in world cricket. We can get him out," he said.

Anderson said that Kohli can shield his tail very well, like he did in the first innings, and thus England need to find a way to quickly get him out if the hosts desire to win the Test.

"To be a part of it is

great, and tomorrow we've got a really good chance of winning the game. If we recover well and come back fresh in the morning, we know it's going to be 25-30 overs max one way or the other, so we can give it all we can," said Anderson.

"If he (Kohli) bats like he did in the first innings India will win. Even batting with the tail, he just managed to find the gap, or get down the other end - the way he batted with the tail was brilliant.

"We need five wickets, simple as that, fair-

ly quickly - otherwise, they'll get the runs. We've just got to give it everything we've got for the first 15-20 overs - leave absolutely nothing out there," he said.

Anderson said the ongoing match was a brilliant example for Test cricket.

"It's been really exciting, if not a bit frustrating at times. What's been great is the way the momentum has shifted. Test cricket at its best the way we dominated the first two sessions of the match, then India wrestled back

as slip catching is an area where they have struggled for quite sometime now.

"The personnel in the team has changed quite a lot, so it's been difficult to get a set cordon. But we're just going to have to keep working harder and harder, pushing ourselves to be better, because you can't keep creating the chances and not taking them," he said.

Anderson was also full or praise for young Sam Curran, who brought England back into the game with a maiden Test half-century after they were reduced to 87 for 7 in the second innings at one stage.

"He's (Curran) a really impressive lad. I remember me as a 20-year-old, and I didn't know what was going on. I was in awe of everyone. But he's been around quite a bit, he knows his game really well for a young lad, and his skills are brilliant with the ball," he said.

"He has obviously got a little bit of fight in him as well, to go out in that situation and show the guts and determination he did to get us back into the match," Anderson signed off.

Anderson said this was a matter of concern



## Aditi makes cut for first time at Women's British Open

**LYTHAM ST ANNES (ENGLAND), AUG 4 (PTI):** India's Aditi Ashok continued to battle with links golf but at least managed to overcome one hurdle by making the cut at the Ricoh Women's British Open for the first time in three attempts, here.

Aditi, who had missed the cut in previous two British Open appearances and the Scottish Open last year, made the cut at Scottish Open, but finished way down at tied 59th spot.

This week with two successive rounds of even-par 72, she assured weekend action. At even-par for 36 holes, Aditi is now tied 41st.

This week at Lytham, Aditi, a three-time winner on Ladies European Tour, has not found too many fairways, but still battled to 72-72. She had four birdies and four bogeys on the first day and two each on the second.

Meanwhile, Thai Pornanong Phatlum took sole lead with a second successive five-under 67 to get to 10-under. She is one ahead of, Minjee Lee,

Mamiko Higa and Georgina Hall.

Phatlum has not dropped a bogey in 36 holes as she took a one-stroke lead in search of her first win on Tour. Rookie Georgina Hall, the JLPGA's Mamiko Higa and four-time winner Minjee Lee sit one behind at nine-under par.

Phatlum achieved her earlier fame in India at the Hero Women's Indian Open which she won a record three times in 2008, 2009 and 2012. The first two times it was on Ladies Asian Tour, while the third time it had moved to being a co-sanctioned event with Ladies European Tour.

Phatlum has never finished better than tied seventh in any of her previous 20 Majors and if she wins, she could become the fourth Thai to win on the LPGA this year.

Sisters, Ariya Jutanugarn (2) and Moriya Jutanugarn and Thidappa Suwannapura have won once each. Curiously, Thidappa has also won the Hero Women's Indian Open in 2013.

## Bhullar back in contention, takes sole lead in Fiji

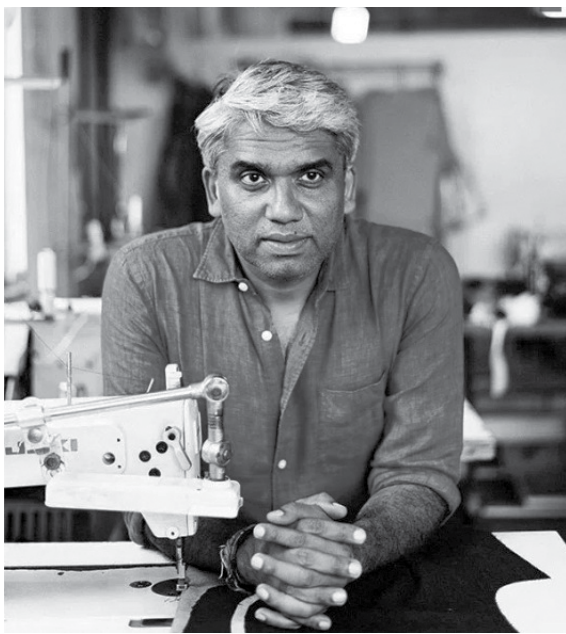
**NATADOLA BAY (FIJI), AUG 4 (PTI):** Gaganjeet Bhullar turned in yet another steady round of three-under 69 to overturn a six-shot deficit into a one-shot lead on a blustery day at the Fiji International here today.

The 30-year-old Bhullar moved to eight-under 208, one stroke adrift of Terry Pilkadaris (71), Andrew Dodt (72), Jarryd Felton (71) and Jake McLeod (70), who is yet to taste a win as a professional.

Overnight leader Ben Campbell had a major meltdown dropping four shots between fourth and eighth followed by a double on 16th and a bogey on 17th.

His five-over 77 saw him slip to fifth, but is only two behind the new leader Bhullar and one behind the second placed bunch of four.

Ajeetesh Sandhu shot 72 with one birdie, one eagle, one bogey and one double bogey.



## Rajesh Pratap Singh to create his first ethnic collection using TENCEL fibres

**MUMBAI, AUG 4 (PTI):** Renowned Indian designer Rajesh Pratap Singh and international sustainable fibre brand TENCEL are collaborating to present an eco-collection for Lakme Fashion Week Winter/Festive 2018.

For the first time, the designer will be creating an Indian ethnic style collection with womenswear and menswear, the first look of which was revealed at an exclusive preview hosted at MASQUE in Mumbai last evening.

The designer is using a variety of TENCEL yarns and fabrics for his collection 'Welcome to the Jungle TENCEL 2.0' and will be incorporating iconic Indian crafts

such as Chanderi, Benarasi, Jamdani, hand-block prints and more.

"Super excited and happy to make a meaningful contribution. I sincerely believe that sustainability is not niche driven fashion. It has to be inclusive and have a wider objective," Singh said in a statement.

Austrian company Lenzing's TENCEL branded lyocell fibres are extracted from natural raw wood which comes from socially and environmentally responsible forests in Europe.

The fibre earns the eco-friendly tag owing to its innovative closed loop production system. This special process received the Euro-

pean Award for the Environment from the European Union.

"We are happy to partner with Rajesh Pratap Singh and Lakme Fashion Week who are at the forefront of conscious clothing movement. Through the latest Welcome to the Jungle TENCEL 2.0 collection by RPS, we are seeking to provide the mainstream audience with discerning taste with an alternative," said Vineet Singhal, SVP (Regional CEO), Asia, Middle East & Africa (AMEA), Lenzing AG.

LFW Winter/Festive 2018 is scheduled to happen from August 22 to 26.

# Book records ways how women responded to coming of English into their lives

**NEW DELHI, AUG 4 (PTI):** The post-Independence period saw a gradual rise in the number of Indian women writing in English and female writers have now started to own and acknowledge that the language is the best medium to express themselves, argues a new book.

The anthology "Influence of English on Indian Women Writers: Voices from Regional Languages" is edited by K Suneetha Rani, professor at the Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad.

The aim of the book is to record the different ways in which women responded to the debates around English in different languages and genres. It brings into discussion Indian women's choice of writing or not writing in English in the context of identity movements, says Rani.

English as a symbol of

modernity in India was first accessed by men, giving them a new image of masculinity while Indian languages were 'feminised' - seen as meant for women. Among upper-caste women, English was a vehicle for social reform and for lessening seclusion, invisibility and economic dependence, the contributors argue.

For the so-called lower castes, the language was aspirational, indicating emancipation and empowerment possibilities, and threatening upper-caste dominance. English formed its own language of gender and made women's voices stronger in regional languages, which can be seen in the flowering of women's articles, fiction, biography and letters, they say.

The book, published by Sage, records the different ways in which women responded to the coming of English into their lives.

The beginnings of the English discourse in India in the 19th and the early 20th centuries, as many critics have observed and argued, seems to have been built majorly around the category of gender, says Rani.

Such discourse also presented contradictory approaches to the English argument, but they were all intricately connected, she says.

"English helped in moulding better family women; English provided a garb of modernity to reiterate traditional gender stereotypes; English contributed to the creation of the world of dichotomies but English also created a hope for the outcastes deprived of entry, education and employment," the book says.

The onus was on women to access the benefits of modernity and also to prove themselves. This proving was limited to their capability in education but extended to their loyalties and roles. So, women started to debate English as education and as lifestyle, grounded in their con-

text and crisis, it says.

According to Rani, the regional languages became vibrant platforms for the discourse around the English question, closely connecting it with the questions of tradition, modernity, colonialism, nation and especially gender.

"English became an agency for women to express themselves and to explore the domains of knowledge that they were not allowed to access earlier: Such women's voices are heard more extensively and powerfully in regional languages in their fiction, personal narratives, essays, columns and editorials of the journals," the book says.

The articles in the volume examine the English debate from various angles as debated by women in their articles, speeches, fiction, biographies and letters. The essays take the identities and specificities into consideration instead of essentialising the debates around English.

C Vijayaree argues in "Language, Reform and Nationalism: Indian Women's Writing

in the Nineteenth Century" that the intersecting sites of English education, rhetoric of reform and nationalist discourse provided a larger context within which the literary production of Indian writers took shape in the 19th century.

In "Women and Reform", Alladi Uma introduces the woman question in term of reform and the nautch question focusing on the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Sanjukta Dasgupta presents "Colonized: The Bengali Woman Writer in British India", drawing attention to an interesting anti-colonial notion in the 19th century that women's education, their ability to read and write and publish their writing in regional languages and English were considered serious subversive acts.

Somdatta Bhattacharya's "Rokeya's Dream: Feminist Interventions and Utopias" attempts to locate the Bengali Muslim educator and feminist writer Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain in the larger context of women's education in colonial Bengal and India in the 1900s.

Meera Kosambi argues in "Marathi Women Novelists and Colonial Modernity: Kashibai Kanitkar and Indirabai Sahasrabuddhe" how reform in 19th century western India was a direct result of English education and was a male project with women presented as passive recipients of benefits of the reform movement.

In "Mukta Salve: The Early Emergence of a Protest Voice in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Bombay Presidency, 1855", Omprakash Manikrao Kamble continues the discussion on the discourse of women and English in Marathi by focusing on a very important voice from the 19th century.

Uma's discussion of reform as visualised and carried out by the women writers is taken forward by Paromita Bose in "Writing Self: Writing for Others" by choosing to discuss personal histories, identity politics and their close connection with women's movements.

Jinju S tries to shift focus of the anthology to pre-Independence era by discussing two novels in "Reconfiguring

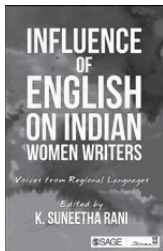
Boundaries: Education, Modernity and Conjugalinity in Lalithambika Antharjanam's 'Agnisakshi' and Zeenuth Futehally's 'Zohra'.

In "Securing Pass Marks: Education for Women in the Early Modern Kannada Novel", Nikhila H focuses on the changing meanings of women's education in the Kannada context during the 20th century.

Sowmya Dechamma's "Women and English Education in Coorg/Kodagu: A Discussion of Alternate Modernities during 1834-1882" discusses how Coorgs/Kodavas as a community volunteered to educate their children, especially daughters.

Yogitha Shetty's "Nation, Ideal Womanhood and English Education: Revisiting the First Tulu Novel 'Sati Kamale'", focuses on the first Tulu novel "Sati Kamale" by S U Paniyadi.

In "Between Langue and Parole: The Forked Road to Development", Jasbir Jain touches upon language in the context of education, pedagogy and culture.





## Pak polls: 1.67 mn votes rejected, says report

**ISLAMABAD, AUG 4 (PTI):** A total of 1.67 million votes cast across Pakistan in the 2018 general election were rejected, which was 11.7 per cent more than that of the 1.5 million ballots discarded in the 2013 polls, according to an independent election watchdog report.

A ballot is rejected from the count if it does not clearly show which candidate has been marked by the voter or more than one candidate have been marked.

As per the Election Commission of Pakistan, there were over 100 million registered voters but only about 51 per cent exercised their franchises.

The Free and Fair Elections Network (FAFEN) report released yesterday was based on its monitoring of the entire polling process in the four provinces of Pakistan as well as the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

The report stated that the number of ballots rejected from the count is more than double than that in the 2013 elections in the ICT region.

There was a 40 per cent increase in the number of rejected votes in Balochistan, 30.6 per cent in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), 7 per cent in Sindh and 6.6 per cent in Punjab, it said.

The votes rejected from the count surpassed the margin of victory in 49 (18.1 per cent) of the 270 contested seats of the National Assembly. These include 26 seats in Punjab, 11 in Sindh and six each in KP and Balochistan.

Similarly, the number of ballots excluded from the count exceeded the margin of victory in 120 (21 per cent) of the 570 provincial assembly constituencies where elections were held.

These include 58 constituencies in Punjab, 24 in KP, 22 in Sindh and 16 in Balochistan, the report said.

The victory margin in 79 national and 169 provincial assembly seats is less than 5 per cent of the total votes polled, it said.

According to Pakistan's election law, a candidate can demand recounting of ballots if the margin of victory is less than 5 per cent of the total votes polled in the constituency, or 10,000, whichever is lesser.

## UN chief's spokesperson declines to comment on UN report on Kashmir

**United Nations, Aug 4 (PTI):** A spokesperson for UN chief Antonio Guterres has declined to comment on the UN Human Rights High Commissioner's report on Kashmir, saying it is for the human rights chief to speak for himself and up to the Member States of the Human Rights Council to evaluate its content.

India had rejected High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Husein's report in June in which he had called for a commission of inquiry by the Human Rights Council to conduct an independent, international investigation into the human rights situation in Kashmir.

When asked to comment by a Pakistani journalist on a recent New York Times report on Kashmir that appeared to affirm the UN Human Rights High Commissioner's report on Kashmir, UN Deputy Spokesperson Farhan Haq said, "Well, I'll let the High Commissioner speak for himself. I know he spoke to the press here yesterday.

**SEEMA HAKHU KACHRU**

**HOUSTON, AUG 4 (PTI):** Indian-origin US astronaut Sunita Williams is among the nine astronauts named by NASA who will fly the first missions into space on commercially provided rockets and capsules, starting next year.

After years of vehicle development and building anticipation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has now put the crew in commercial crew spacecraft.

The space agency announced yesterday that the nine astronauts will launch on the first crewed test flights and missions of new commercial spacecraft built and operated by The Boeing Company and SpaceX.

"Future Commercial Crew astronauts will be riding to space on partner vehicles built by SpaceX & BoeingSpace," NASA said in a tweet.

"We are on the brink of launching American astronauts on American rockets from American



soil," said NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine during the 'Launch America' announcement.

The eight active NASA astronauts and one former astronaut-turned-corporate crew member will launch on Boeing CST-100 Starliner and SpaceX Dragon capsules to the International Space Station beginning in 2019.

The missions will mark the first crewed launches from US soil since the end of the space shuttle programme in 2011.

"Today, our country's dreams of greater achievements in space are within our grasp. This accomplished group of American

astronauts, flying on new spacecraft developed by our commercial partners Boeing and SpaceX, will launch a new era of human spaceflight," Bridenstine said.

He said the announcement advances "our great American vision" and strengthens America's leadership in space.

NASA has worked closely with the companies throughout design, development and testing to ensure the systems meet its safety and performance requirements.

"The men and women we assign to these first flights are at the forefront of this exciting new time for human spaceflight,"

said Mark Geyer, director of NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"It will be thrilling to see our astronauts lift off from American soil, and we can't wait to see them aboard the International Space Station," Geyer said.

In addition to naming the crews of the test flights, NASA also announced the four astronauts who will fly aboard the first operational Starliner and Dragon missions to the space station. Both vehicles were developed in cooperation with NASA to deliver crew members to and from the orbiting laboratory.

Josh Cassada, 45, will fly with Sunita ("Suni") Williams, 52, aboard NASA's first contracted Starliner mission. It will be Cassada's first spaceflight. Williams previously logged 321 days in orbit on two stays aboard the space station, most recently returning to the Earth in 2012.

The commercial crew members took to the stage during an event led by Bridenstine at the

agency's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

NASA astronauts Robert Behnken, 48, and Douglas Hurley, 51, will fly together as SpaceX's first Dragon crew.

Veterans of two spaceflights each, Behnken and Hurley will lift off atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center's Pad 39A the same Florida launch pad where the space shuttle left Earth for the last time in July 2011 with Hurley as pilot.

NASA astronauts Eric Boe, 53, and Nicole Mann, 41, will join the commander of that same final space shuttle mission, former astronaut and now Boeing executive Christopher Ferguson, 56, as the crew of the Starliner test flight, launching atop a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Complex 41 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.

Ferguson, who has been involved from the start in the Starliner's development, flew three shuttle missions as a

NASA astronaut. Boe piloted two shuttle flights. This will be Mann's first launch, having joined the astronaut corps in 2013.

Behnken, Hurley, Boe and Mann are NASA's first astronauts to be named to the test flights of new US spacecraft since the March 1978 announcement of the space shuttle's first orbital flight test crews. Ferguson will become the first former NASA astronaut to return to orbit as a company's crew member when he flies.

Prior to their maiden crewed missions, both Boeing and SpaceX plan uncrewed test flights in late 2018 or early 2019.

Both companies will also conduct abort system test flights to ensure the astronauts can safely escape should their rockets go awry.

Victor Glover, 42, and Michael Hopkins, 49, will fly on the first operational mission of SpaceX's crewed Dragon. It will be Glover's first time in space. Hopkins logged

166 days aboard the space station in 2014.

The two pairs of NASA crewmates will fly to the station with Russian cosmonauts and international astronauts to be announced at a later date. Between the end of the space shuttle program and the start of commercial crew operations, NASA's crew members have and are continuing to launch to the space station on Russian Soyuz spacecraft.

Behnken, Boe, Hurley and Williams were named in 2015 as NASA's "commercial crew cadre" and have been working with Boeing and SpaceX on the development of the spacecraft and the simulators that will be used to train astronauts to fly.

Boeing's and SpaceX's commercial spacecraft may also open the space station and more broadly, Earth orbit to more privately-funded visitors and spaceflight participants from countries that do not have their own domestic crewed spacecraft and rockets.

# Zimbabwe prez calls for unity as oppn cries foul

**HARARE, AUG 4 (AFP):** Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa has called for unity in the wake of allegations his election victory was tainted by fraud, hailing the vote as a fresh start for the country after the repressive rule of Robert Mugabe.

As defeated opposition leader Nelson Chamisa decried the official results as a sham, Mnangagwa, a former Mugabe ally, defended the vote.

"With the eyes of the world on us we delivered a free, fair and credible election," Mnangagwa told reporters yesterday.

He added that while "no democratic process is flawless", Zimbabwe's first post-Mugabe election was a far cry from the fraud-tainted polls seen during Mugabe's 37 years in power.

His plea for unity came after allegations of foul play sparked a deadly crackdown on protesters in Harare on Wednesday when troops opened fire, killing six.

Mnangagwa, who is seeking to end Zimbabwe's international isolation and attract badly needed foreign investment, said he would set up an independent commission to investigate the bloodshed.

The United States yesterday said the election was marred by violence in



the aftermath of the vote and called on the winner to show "magnanimity" and the opposition to show "graciousness in defeat".

Final results showed Mnangagwa won 50.8 per cent of Monday's vote against Chamisa's 44.3 per cent -- a knife-edge 0.8 per cent above the threshold needed to avoid a run-off.

But Chamisa has insisted he was the winner of an election he condemned as "fraudulent, illegal, illegitimate".

"We are not accepting fake results," he said, vowing to challenge the results through the courts.

Mnangagwa stretched out a hand to Chamisa, telling him: "You have a crucial role to play in Zimbabwe's present and in its unfolding future."

Mnangagwa was allegedly involved in state violence during the 2008 elections when then opposition leader Morgan

Tsvangirai pulled out of the run-off after at least 200 of his supporters were killed in attacks.

Apart from Mugabe, who ruled with an iron fist since independence from Britain in 1980 until last year, he is the only president that Zimbabwe has known.

Chosen to lead the ZANU-PF party in November after the brief military intervention that deposed Mugabe, Mnangagwa had promised a free and fair vote to turn the page on years of brutal repression.

Mugabe left Zimbabwe's economy in disastrous shape, presiding over the seizure of white-owned farms and hyperinflation, and Mnangagwa has made investment a priority.

"Zimbabwe is now open for business," he told reporters. "We want to leapfrog and catch up with other developing countries."

Charles Laurie of analysts Verisk Maplecroft said that after taking over from Mugabe, "Mnangagwa's task was not just to win the election, but to convince the international community of a new Zimbabwe by winning it cleanly and fairly.

"The killing of six protestors and questions over his government's conduct at the polls, means Mnangagwa drags virtually all of Mugabe's baggage into his presidency," he added.

President Cyril Ramaphosa of neighbouring South Africa was the first key partner to congratulate Mnangagwa, calling on all Zimbabweans to accept the result.

Chamisa has alleged flagrant vote-rigging under the Zimbabwe Election Commission, a body which under Mugabe was frequently accused of helping to fix elections in favour of ZANU-PF.

"Mr Mugabe was at least sophisticated," Chamisa complained. ZEC officials have robustly denied allegations of bias or rigging, and international observers have largely praised the conduct of election day itself.

But EU monitors said that Mnangagwa, who enjoyed tacit military support and control of state resources, benefited from an "un-level playing field".

The Zimbabwe Election Support Network, a non-partisan observer group, estimated Chamisa could have won up to 47.8 percent of the vote based on its monitoring work.

Chamisa urged opposition supporters to refrain from violence as he pursues the legal route -- though such a challenge appears to offer opposition party MDC little hope of overturning the outcome.

Soldiers and police came out in Harare in force on Thursday after the deadly unrest, clearing the city centre, but by Friday the streets and markets were crowded as usual.

In the suburb of Mbare, jubilant ZANU-PF supporters waved party banners as music blared from a car.

"This is a new Zimbabwe, we are happy," said Tendai Mugadzi, a 32-year-old IT specialist.

He was untroubled that Mnangagwa had won by a wafer-thin margin. "It just shows that this was a free and fair election," he said.

ZANU-PF also won a large majority in parliamentary elections held alongside the presidential vote.

Nearly 21 people arrested today during a raid on MDC headquarters are due to appear in court in Harare charged with "public violence" during post-election protests.

## Pak anti-graft body approaches Interpol, seeks Red Corner Notices against Sharif's sons

**ISLAMABAD, AUG 4 (PTI):** Pakistan's apex anti-graft body has approached Interpol seeking issuance of Red Corner Notices against jailed former premier Nawaz Sharif's sons Hasan and Hussain, a media report said today.

Sharif's sons were declared as absconders by an accountability court after they failed to appear in either of the three cases launched against them along with their father following a Supreme Court decision on July 28, 2017.

The decision to issue Red Corner Notices was taken after National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Chairman Justice (retd) Javed Iqbal had asked the interior ministry to initiate the process of bringing back Hasan and Hussain, who have been living in London to take care of their ailing mother Kulsoom Nawaz, The Express Tribune reported.

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has submitted an application to the Interpol headquarters in France with the request to issue the red warrants of Hasan and Hussain, the report said, quoting sources.

The application submitted through the FIA headquarters states that Hasan and Hussain are wanted in Pakistan in cor-

ruption cases and court has already issued permanent arrest warrants against them.

Previously, the court had issued directions for separate trials of Hasan and Hussain from their father after they failed to appear before the court despite repeated orders to face the charges in line with the Supreme Court's direction in the Panama Papers case.

Earlier, while separating their trial and declaring them as "proclaimed offenders", the court ordered non-bailable perpetual warrants of arrest against them.

The court on July 6 had also sentenced former prime minister Sharif to 10 years in prison, his daughter Maryam Nawaz to seven years and son-in-law captain (retired) Safdar to one-year jail term.

The court also imposed a fine of 8 million pounds on Sharif and 2 million pounds on Maryam. No fine was imposed on Safdar.

Sharif was disqualified as Prime Minister in July 2017 by the Supreme Court following a challenge to his office by Cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan on the basis of publication of the Panama Papers.

# India third Asian nation to get STA-1 status from US

**LALIT K JHA**

**WASHINGTON, AUG 4 (PTI):** India has become the third Asian country after Japan and South Korea to get the Strategic Trade Authorization-1 (STA-1) status after the US issued a federal notification to this effect, paving the way for high-technology product sales to New Delhi, particularly in civil space and defense sectors.

India is the 37th country to be designated the STA-1 status by the United States.

The federal notification, issued yesterday, gains significance as the Trump Administration made an exception for India, which is yet to become a member of the Nuclear

Suppliers Group (NSG).

Traditionally, the US has placed only those countries in the STA-1 list who are members of the four export control regimes: Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA), Australia Group (AG) and the NSG.

In its federal notification, the Trump Administration notes that India is a member of three of the four multilateral export regimes.

Mainly because of the political opposition from China, India's membership application has been pending before NSG, which takes decision by consensus.

By placing India in the STA-1 list, the United States has acknowledged that for all practical purposes India

adheres to the export control regimes of the NSG.

This exception for New Delhi is intended to send a strong political message to China and the world, taking into account that America's closest ally Israel is yet to be given this status, primarily because it is not a member of these multilateral export control regimes.

"This action benefits India's status as a Major Defence Partner and recognises" the country's membership in three of the four export control regimes -- the MTCR, WA and AG, the federal notification said.

This rule is another in the series of rules that implement reforms to which the US and India mutually agreed to promote global

non-proliferation, expand high technology cooperation and trade, and ultimately facilitate India's full membership in the four multilateral export control regimes.

According to the notification, the US and India continue their commitment to work together to strengthen the global non-proliferation and export control framework and further transform bilateral export control cooperation to recognise the full potential of the global strategic partnership between the two countries.

This commitment has been realised in the two countries' mutually agreed upon steps to expand cooperation in civil space, defense, and other high-technology sectors

and the complementary steps of the US to realign India in US export control regulations, and support India's membership in the four multilateral export control regimes, it said.

To date, with the effective support of the US, India has been admitted to three of the four multilateral export control regimes, the MTCR on June 27, 2016, the Wassenaar Arrangement on December 7, 2017, and the Australia Group on January 19, 2018.

These memberships, important to the two countries' global strategic partnership, are enhanced by the US' recognition of India as a Major Defence Partner in the India-US Joint Statement of June 7, 2016 titled, "The

United States and India: Enduring Global Partners in the 21st Century."

"This recognition facilitates and supports India's military modernisation efforts with the US as a reliable provider of advanced defense articles," the notification said.

As a result, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), formally recognises under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) India's membership in the WA multilateral export control regimes and revises the EAR accordingly, the federal notification said.

"In addition, to export control-related benefits for India as a result of prior amendments to the EAR in furtherance of the US-India global strategic

partnership, BIS places India in Country Group A:5, which provides the benefit of greater availability of License Exception Strategic Trade Authorization (STA) for exports and reexports to, and transfers within India under the EAR," it said.

Membership in favoured country groups generally reduces the number of licenses required and increases the number of license exceptions available.

Significantly, the US did away with the public notification period before issuing this notification.

India so far was listed in STA-2 category along with Albania, Hong Kong, Israel, Malta, Singapore, South Africa and Taiwan.





**FAMILIAI** Set to storm Brighton for its annual Pride Festival on 04 Aug, Britney Spears, 36, took time off from her hectic schedule to take in the historic sights of London with her adorable son.

## Jodhpur court asks Salman Khan to seek permission before travelling overseas



Salman Khan landed in trouble when a Jodhpur Court convicted him in a 1998 Kankani blackbuck poaching case. He was sentenced to 5-years imprisonment but is out on bail. The court was to hear the actor's plea against the judgement on 03 Aug and 04 Aug.

Now, adding a twist to the tale the court has asked the actor to seek their permission, every time, he needs to travel overseas. Salman moved an application in the sessions court on Friday seeking exemption from the order that mandates him to take permission for going abroad. But the court ruled against the application.

Public prosecutor P.R. Bishnoi objected to the application, saying that since ar-

guments would close soon, a permanent exemption would not be appropriate. Khan's counsel Mahesh Bora told the court that the applicant's profession demands him to travel abroad frequently.

Bora cited an earlier exemption by the High Court. He also recalled the grounds on the basis of which Khan was earlier acquitted by the High Court in two other poaching cases and by the trial court in a case against him under the Arms Act.

Salman Khan was granted bail in the poaching case on 07 Apr, after spending two nights in the Jodhpur Central Jail. He was sentenced to five years in jail on 05 Apr by the CJM court in the case.

## Chris Rock to star in fourth season of FX's Fargo!

He's won multiple Emmys for his stand up specials. And now it appears like Chris Rock will have a chance to take home a trophy for a scripted drama, as E! is reporting that he will star in the fourth season of Fargo.

The 53-year-old SNL alum seemed to be looking forward to the experience, saying in a statement "I'm a fan of Fargo and I can't wait to work with [creator] Noah [Hawley]".

According to a release from FX, the latest season will take place back in the 1950s.

"In 1950, at the end of

two great American migrations — that of Southern Europeans from countries like Italy, who came to the US at the turn of the last century and settled in northern cities like New York, Chicago—and African Americans who left the south in great numbers to escape Jim Crow and moved to those same cities — you saw a collision of outsiders, all fighting for a piece of the American dream," read the networks statement, before it got more detailed in what audiences can expect.

"In Kansas City, Missouri,



two criminal syndicates have struck an uneasy peace. One Italian, one African American. Together they control an alternate economy — that of exploitation, graft and drugs. This too is the history of America. To cement their peace, the heads of both families have traded their eldest sons."

According to E!, Rock will apparently play a boss of the African American crime family who has exchanged sons with his Italian counterpart. Each must raise the other's progeny in order to keep the peace.

However, that peace is

threatened when the Italian boss heading up Kansas city dies, throwing the criminal underworld into chaos. Of course, Rock will be in the running for an Emmy nod, as Fargo has already become an awards darling.

Season one, which starred Billy Bob Thornton garnered three Emmys and two Golden Globes, and subsequent seasons have also scored awards.

The new season will begin filming sometime in 2019 but does not have a release date as of yet.

## Adam Levine apologizes for mistakenly criticizing MTV VMAs nominations



WAS nominated for 07 VMAs."

Adam's original post read: "This year, Childish Gambino released one of the most impactful, thought provoking and intelligent videos

ever made."

The post went on: "I'm sure he doesn't care that he wasn't nominated for a VMA because he's cool as f\*\*\* and everything. But I care. Because I'm NOT that cool."

Fully exposing his blistering anger, the Maroon 5 singer closed: "And I still want MTV to mean something again. But it won't. Ever. K bye."

In his subsequently apology post, he began: "S\*\*\*. I don't usually put my foot in

my mouth. But this time I did," then explained what his flub had been.

"How I didn't get the right info is beyond me. I stand corrected. I'm sorry MTV. Still hate you though. but Mostly.. I'm Sorry."

Childish Gambino, a.k.a. Donald Glover, gave his debut rendition of This Is America on Saturday Night Live this May, dropping the video on YouTube at the same time.

The video, a satire of rac-

ism and gun violence in the United States, earned a string of VMA nods including Video of the Year, Billboard reported. It has also received nominations for its direction, editing, choreography, cinematography and art direction, and for being a Video With A Message.

Adam has been married to the Afrikaans Namibian model Behati Prinsloo since 2014, and they share two daughters - Dusty, one, and Gio, five months.

**ARIES:** Things are sporadic today, Aries. You may find a thousand things on your plate, and all of them look delicious. There's a great deal of wind to fuel your fire, so let it burn red hot. You might get caught up in a frenzy of activity. Have a good time but realize that it might not last forever. The royal carriage is likely to turn back into a pumpkin at some point.

**TAURUS:** Don't get pulled off track by empty promises today, Taurus. Someone may try to sell you oceanfront property in the middle of Iowa. Beware of things that sound too good to be true. People may be talking quite a bit, but in reality they probably have nothing to say. Don't waste your time trying to make sense of useless drivel. You've got more important things to do.

**GEMINI:** Catch the wave of activity that's spinning in your direction today, Gemini. You'll find prosperity and good fortune within your reach. Expand your horizons and connect with others intellectually. Hurdles will shrink to nothing as long as you maintain a positive attitude. It will be tremendously easy for you to make great strides in any project you're working on.

**CANCER:** You may find it hard to trust others today, Cancer. Trust your instincts - they're probably right. Don't take anything at face value. There's a fanciful frenzy that's threatening to lure you into its madness. Approach things cautiously. You may discover that people are full of hot air. If it doesn't have real meaning for you, don't waste your time.

**LEO:** There may be a bit of opposition coming at you, Leo. There's a light, airy feeling that's prevalent everywhere. This is definitely the kind of energy you can connect with today. There's a great deal of strength in numbers. Don't let anyone try to stand in your way. It could very well be that they are operating on incorrect information.

**VIRGO:** What seems like the perfect plan today may not necessarily seem like the perfect plan tomorrow, Virgo. Don't put all your eggs in one basket. There's an expansive feeling in the air that's working to catch you up in its net and pull you into its plan. Beware of get-rich-quick schemes. The wool could get pulled over your eyes on a day like this.

**LIBRA:** There's a flurry of activity around you today that you should

latch onto, Libra. You'll be on a magic carpet ride that takes you into the clouds. The most difficult thing to remember is to not get so carried away that you lose sight of the ground. Keep in mind that things aren't always exactly the way they seem. What appears to work perfectly today may not work at all tomorrow.

**SCORPIO:** You'll find yourself working well with any group today, Scorpio. There will be a great connection between you and the people around you. Make sure you ground your relationships in something meaningful or else you could find that you've built a whole reality out of something that doesn't exist. Be true to yourself and try not to get fooled by anything that seems too good to be true.

**SAGITTARIUS:** There's an incredibly expansive feeling in the air that you should latch onto, Sagittarius. Things are moving rapidly. You'll find long-term trends come together quite well. The thing to be aware of today is making sure you're operating based on facts you know to be true. Check your sources. Be cautious, but if you see an opportunity that looks good, run with it.

**CAPRICORN:** Sticking close to home may leave you feeling like you're missing the boat on certain things, but you're probably better off, Capricorn. People may make outlandish promises that sound good today but will basically flop tomorrow. Stay safe and don't invest a great deal of time or money in risky ventures. Keep moving at a steady pace. You'll find success your own way.

**AQUARIUS:** You're riding a wave of prosperity and things are looking up for you, Aquarius. The situation today may appear too good to be true. The bad news is that's probably the case. It may be that the truth is being masked, and that there's a great deal of speculation and hype causing a frenzy of activity. Feel free to join the frivolity, but realize that the bubble may burst tomorrow.

**PISCES:** The wind is blowing quite strongly today, and you'll find that things are flying around in a frenzy, Pisces. This whirlwind of activity is threatening to pick you up, spin you around, and take you away. Be cautious of anything that suggests this. People may take on unrealistic attitudes that lure you into grand schemes. Beware of fanciful promises.