



HAVE NEVER THOUGHT OF MYSELF AS A QUINTESSENTIAL HERO: DIVYENNDU

pg08

STUDENTS ARE INCREASINGLY TURNING TO RELIGIOUS LEADERS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

pg04

AMITABH BACHCHAN, EMRAAN HASHMI-STARRER THRILLER TITLED 'CHEHRE'

pg08



SummitTIMES

Vol 04 | Issue 126 | Gangtok | Saturday | 11 May 2019

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5

Chinese Ambassador lobbies for people-to-people exchange between Sikkim and Tibet



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Luo Zhaohui, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to India, called on Governor Ganga Prasad today at New Raj Bhavan, an official press release informs.

The Ambassador was accompanied by Commercial Counsellor to the Ambassador, Li Baijun, and Director of Political Section at the Chinese Embassy, New Delhi, Yang Tianwen.

This was a courtesy call by the Chinese Diplomat on arrival in Gangtok from Yadong county of Tibetan Autonomous Region of China via Nathula today afternoon, the release adds.

The diplomat had crossed over to Yadong yesterday from Nathula as part of his four-day official visit along Sikkim's border with TAR.

During the interaction, the Ambassador suggested that bilateral border trade through Nathula be enhanced by increasing the number of permissible items and also stressed on the greater need of people-to-people exchange

between Sikkim and TAR alongside trade and tourism and called for an efficient communicative mechanism for smooth flow of goods and people along the trade route.

Mentioning that the opening of border trade and Kailash Manasarovar Yatra through Nathula has brought both nations closer, he further suggested relaxation of certain regulations for greater and smoother flow of people from both sides.

Referring to China as a big market for organic goods and Sikkimese handicrafts, the diplomat also showed keen interest in exploring collaboration in organic horticulture and floriculture in Sikkim.

The Chinese diplomat further invited the Governor to visit TAR China in a bid to increase diplomatic exchanges between the two regions.

The Governor expressed his delight over the invitation and thanked the Ambassador for his concern towards bringing both nations closer in terms of economic and technological collaborations.

turn to pg02

Suicide Prevention Action Network Project launched for Sikkim

GANGTOK, 10 MAY (IPR):

The SPAN (Sikkim Suicide Prevention Action Network) Project, Sikkim, in partnership with NIMHANS, Bangalore was launched today at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, in a launch programme organized by Healthcare, Human Services and Family Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim.

The Chief Secretary of Sikkim, AK Shrivastava was present at the function as the chief guest. Joining him on the dais were Secretary-cum-Commissioner/ HC, HS & FWD, Vishal Chauhan, Director General/Health Services, Dr. P.T Bhutia, Principal Director/Health Services, Dr. Uttam Pradhan, eminent personalities of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) Bangalore, namely; Dr. B.N Gangadhar/ Director



NIMHANS, Dr. Naveen Kumar C/ Professor NIMHANS and Dr. Senthil Reddi/ Addl.Professor NIMHANS who were all present at the function which was attended by officials of stakeholder departments, organizations and students and teachers from various schools and colleges.

Secretary-cum-Com-

missioner/HC, HS & FWD Vishal Chauhan informed that the HC, HS & FWD in partnership with NIMHANS, Bangalore has come up with the SPAN project to reduce morbidity due to suicide and to enhance efficiency of general health care service and response to suicidal behavior and substance abuse and also

to deliver multi-level suicide prevention strategies.

The Chief Secretary in his address said that the whole state looks forward to understanding, learning and dealing with mental health issues under the elite guidance and expertise of NIMHANS. He expressed that Sikkim anticipates a positive result

and progress to counter suicides under them. The Chief Secretary stated that awareness and a strong community sensitization is core towards understanding issues of mental health.

He remarked that the patient's first point of contact is the general duty medical officer and hence all health care providers should be sensitized and trained to deal adeptly with mental health issues. He also stated that distress helplines should be kept active and utilized.

In conclusion, the Chief Secretary requested all the stakeholder officials from various departments to kindly co-operate and work towards a productive case study and implementation of methods and procedures at the earliest in the larger interest of the state of Sikkim.

turn to pg02

Gor school makes waiting shed from plastic bottles

WANGCHUK BHUTIA
MANGAN, 10 MAY:

The Government Secondary School Gor in Lower Dzongu, North Sikkim has been making utility items using garbage in an effort to contribute towards the conserving the environment. The school initiated these activities last year under the guidance of the Headmistress of the school. The school garden is now decorat-



ed with various items made from waste and

also has a waiting shed made of plastic bottles.

SKM holds another coordination meet at Gyalshing



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha convened another coordination meeting at Gyalshing community hall in West Sikkim on Friday. The meeting was attended by party president, PS Tamang [Golay], working president, MP Subba, West District vice-president in-charge, DB Gurung, members of West District working committee, candidates of assembly elections from West District and the party's Lok Sabha candidate, Indra Hang Subba. An SKM press release informs that the party president claimed that real democracy was established in the State only after SKM came into being. SKM has empowered people to speak, he added. He thanked people of

Sikkim for their support to the party and said that the SKM government will give justice to the people and will not have any place for exploiters.

Mr Golay stated that the SKM government will make a law for legislators to work from their constituency. SKM will help the youth find their place in the world, he added.

SKM spokesperson, Jacob Khaling stated that after coming to power, SKM will ensure that the voice of every party worker reaches the government. Not just SKM but entire Sikkim wants to see PS Golay as the Chief Minister, he said.

In case of any foul play in counting of votes, the people will launch a movement, said Mr Khaling.

The release states that the party workers also placed their suggestions in the meeting.

Ayodhya case: Panel seeks extension for mediation process, SC grants time till Aug 15

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

(PTI): The Supreme Court Friday extended till August 15 the time for a panel of mediators, headed by former apex court judge Justice F M I Kalifulla, to explore an amicable solution to the politically sensitive Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute at Ayodhya.

A five judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi said they have received the report from Justice Kalifulla in which the panel has sought extension of time till August 15 to complete mediation proceedings.

"If the mediators are optimistic about the result and are seeking time till August 15, what is the harm in granting time? This issue has been pending for years and years. Why should we not

grant time," the bench also comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer told the counsel appearing for the parties.

The counsel appearing for both the Hindu and Muslim parties expressed confidence over the ongoing mediation proceedings and said they are fully cooperating with the process.

At the outset the bench said they have received the report on May 7 from the chairman of the panel and they have requested the court to consider extending the time till August 15 to complete the mediation proceedings.

"We have perused and considered the report of May 7 of Justice F M I Kalifulla indicating the progress made in the mediation proceeding."

Class 10 CBSE results: Maximum girls appeared from Delhi, least from Guwahati

NEW DELHI, MAY 10

(PTI): Maximum girls appeared from Delhi for the CBSE class 10 examination while the Guwahati region had the lowest number of girls, according to the board's statistics.

"While 3.2 lakh girls appeared from the Delhi region for the class 10 exam, the lowest number was from Guwahati with 23,301 girls," a senior board official said.

Panchkula and Prayagraj regions followed Delhi with the higher number of girls appearing for the Central Board of Secondary Education with 2.54 lakh and 2.08 lakh girl candidates respectively.

From the Trivandrum region, which scored the best pass percentage, a total of 36,908 girls appeared for the exam.

BJP candidate in West Bengal booked under POCSO

KOLKATA, MAY 10 (PTI):

BJP candidate for Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency, Nilanjan Roy has been booked under the POCSO Act for allegedly sexually molesting one minor girl inside a house at Falta in West Bengal, police said Friday.

The West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR) sources said the body received a complaint from the alleged victim against the inactivity of the state police in arresting the accused.

It asked the state chief electoral officer Friday to take necessary action against Roy within 24 hours and the police to arrest him under the POCSO Act.

The alleged incident took place on April 26 when the girl had reportedly gone to meet the BJP candidate at a house in Falta in South 24 Parganas district to complain to him about the misbehaviour of some of his party workers, a member of her family said.

"The next day a complaint was lodged at



the Falta police station. Medical examination of the girl has been completed and her statement recorded but the police are yet to arrest the BJP candidate who has been booked under POCSO Act," West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR) chairperson Ananya Chatterjee Chakraborti told PTI.

She said the WBCPCR has taken cognizance of the complaint as the modesty of a minor girl of 17 years was allegedly outraged.

Chakraborti along with other members of the WBCPCR visited the victim at her home Friday.

The Election Commission is yet to take a

decision in connection with the case.

"We have received a communication from the WBCPCR and are looking into it. We have sought the police report in the case and will take necessary step as per law," an official at the CEO office said.

Roy, when contacted rubbished the allegations and described it as a "conspiracy" hatched by the Trinamool Congress candidate from the seat- Abhishek Banerjee.

"It's (the complaint) absolutely a fabricated one.

There is political conspiracy behind this by Abhishek Banerjee, the nephew of Mamata Banerjee. There is no truth in it," he asserted.

New species of pit viper found in Arunachal Pradesh

ITANAGAR, MAY 10

(PTI): A new species of snake has been found in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district, an official said Friday.

The new species of reddish brown pit viper - a venomous snake with a unique heat-sensing system - was found in a forest in West Kameng district by a team of herpetologists led by Ashok Captain, the Forest department official said.

The discovery was published in the March-April volume of Russian Journal of Herpetology. Captain said India had four brown pit vipers - Malabar, Horse-shoe, Hump-nosed and Himalayan - before the Arunachal Pradesh dis-

covery.

"We don't know anything of the Arunachal pit viper's natural history as only one male has been found so far. More surveys and sightings of this species would gradually give us an idea of its habits, diet and breeding, whether it lays eggs or bears live young," he said.

A research team from Pune-based Indian Institute of Science Education and Research found the snake while conducting biodiversity surveys in Eaglenest region of Arunachal Pradesh. A resident of the area had first shown the snake to the team in a forest patch near



Ramda village.

Comparative analyses of DNA sequences and examination of morphological features suggested that the snake belonged to a species not described before.

The specimen was donated to the museum of the State Forest Research Institute in Itanagar, the official added.

Meeting on Vote Counting Procedure held in North

MANGAN, MAY 10 (IPR): District Election Officer-cum-District Magistrate, North, Raj Yadav conducted a meeting on Vote Counting Procedure to all political parties at DAC, Mangan today.

The meeting took place in the presence of Kunzang Dorjee Shangderpa (Superintendent of Police, North) Samdup Bhutia, SDM, Mangan, Santosh Pradhan (Under Secretary, Election) and representatives of all political parties of the district.

The DM/ informed that the counting will begin from 8.00am on May 23rd at conference hall of strong room, DAC, Mangan. At first counting of Electronic Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ET-PBS) will be done which will be followed by Postal Ballot counting. Both the counting process will be verified three times by a scanner and any mismatches on the Postal Ballot envelope serial number will be accounted as an invalid vote. The 3rd counting will take



place on the Control Unit (CU) and the final counting will be done on Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips. There will be separate counting tables for CU and VVPAT.

District Magistrate (DM), Raj Yadav, stated that there will be restrictions of people entering the Counting hall during the day of counting. Only exclusive agents and staffs with ID cards and authorization letter will be allowed to enter the hall. There will also be restriction of vehicles entering into the DAC

compound. Only 2 vehicles belonging to political party/candidates will be able to enter the DAC compound. He also added that only media person will be allowed to use phone within the DAC but no one will be allowed to use counting table. It was also informed that only the IPR Department will be allowed to take video inside the Counting hall.

He also said that the vote counting process of one constituency may take couple of hours as it has to go through multiple verifications. It

was also informed that the election result will be declare after the VVPAT counting is done as the number of votes on CU should match the VVPAT slips. He urged to the political parties to extend their best cooperation in making counting process a peaceful one. After the result declaration, the CU and the VVPAT machines will be re-sealed and kept in safe custody for 45 days in Strong Room to address any form of complaint by the political parties.

The counting process will begin Con-

stituency wise starting from 29-Kabi-Langchuk to 31-Lachen-Mangan and finally 30-Dzongu. The counting of the last constituency 32-Sangha will take place in East Sikkim.

The DM asked to all political party supporters and officials to maintain peace and discipline on the day of counting.

SP North, briefed about the traffic and transportation arrangements for the counting day. He declared that the political parties will be kept separately at Zilla Bhawan and Mangan Hospital to avoid any form of violence. He informed that only two vehicles for candidates will be allowed for a touch and go at the DAC Office. Mobile phones will be kept outside with a token system. It was also informed that frisking will be done. In the end, he told all the political parties to direct their supporters to celebrate responsibly without any form of violence.

Jeevika project launched in North Sikkim

SUMMIT REPORT MANGAN, 10 MAY:

The NABARD, LEDP Jeevika project for Self Help Groups in North Sikkim was launched today with a special function held at Singhik Secondary School by Bhavishya Bharat, an NGO funded and operated by Teesta Urja.

The main motive behind the initiative is to enhance the livelihood of 160 households touching about 1m000 people in eight villages of the district, officials informed.

The State coordinator for Bhavishya Bharat added that the project would support households undertake mush-

room farming, candle making and cushion making.

The SBI-Mangan General Manager underlined that the bank was eager to sanction loans for positive projects under livelihood projects.

The launch programme was chaired by ADC, Development, RMDD, KR Limboo.

Organic farming training at Yangtey



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 09 MAY:

The farmers of Yangtey GPU in West Sikkim were provided training on various aspects of organic farming by Mevendir at Upper Omlok.

An interactive session was also held where queries raised by the farmers were addressed by the resource persons. Before dispersing, the farmers were provided seed

samples of coriander and spinach and also given a bio-fungicide called Daman Fasal Rakshak.

More than 25 farmers attended the training program, a press release informs.

UK watchdog opens inquiry into Tamil Hindu charity

ADITI KHANNA

LONDON, MAY 10 (PTI): UK's Charity Commission Friday opened a statutory inquiry into the Hindu Community Society over alleged economic irregularities and failure to file its financial accounts.

The independent charities watchdog said the Society's stated aim was to benefit the Tamil community in Coventry in central England, particularly by advancing the Hindu religion.

"The Commission has serious regulatory concerns regarding the management and governance of the charity. Despite being previously included in a class inquiry in 2017 for failing to file its financial accounts, the charity's trustees have failed for the sixth consecutive year to submit the char-

ity's annual financial information on time," Charity Commission said.

"Additional concerns arose around the potential loss of 500,000 pounds of charity funds spent on a leased property, from which the trustees were subsequently evicted. The Commission also has concerns about potential private benefit arising from payments made to trustees for employment within the charity," it said in a statement.

The inquiry had been opened back in June 2017 to examine serious concerns of potential misconduct and mismanagement at the charity, but the Commission was unable to proceed as Hindu Community Society was facing a separate tax-related investi-

gation by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

As the tax investigation has now closed, the Commission said it will now proceed with its investigation.

The inquiry will examine the extent to which the trustees are complying with their legal duties to administer, govern and manage the charity, in particular their compliance with legal obligations to prepare and file the charity's annual financial information.

It will also examine the extent to which the trustees have complied with previously issued regulatory guidance.

It will explore if a properly appointed board of trustees is exercising proper and

adequate oversight of the charity's affairs, in particular whether the trustees have avoided or adequately managed potential conflicts of interest and whether there has been any direct or indirect benefit.

The Commission will also probe the trustees' decision making regarding the expenditure on property leased by the charity.

After it has concluded the inquiry, it will publish a report detailing what issues it looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what were the outcomes.

The watchdog has a remit to regulate charity trustees' compliance with the UK's charity law framework and breach of duties can lead to appropriate legal action.

Restoration work picks up in cyclone-hit Odisha

BHUBANESWAR, MAY 10 (PTI): Relief and restoration work in cyclone-ravaged coastal Odisha has gained pace, and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday said government offices in the five severely affected districts will remain open during the weekend.

The state government has been able to ensure supply of drinking water in most parts of the 14 districts, including Puri and Khurda, affected in cyclone 'Fani', officials said.

However, power supply is still to be restored as 1.56 lakh electric poles were either uprooted or severely damaged in the cyclone. Of them, 30,000 electric poles were damaged in Bhubaneswar.

While about 50 per cent of Bhubaneswar residents have been provided power connection, entire Puri district continues to remain in darkness.

The state government claimed that it would be able to fully restore power in Bhubaneswar by May 12 while a part of Puri town may get electricity by the same time.

Lack of electricity is adding to the misery of the people who have to

bear the mid-summer heat.

"We have engaged skilled manpower both in Puri and Khurda districts for speedy restoration of power. However, the process is taking time due to the massive devastation caused to the power infrastructure," said Odisha Energy Secretary Hemant Sharma.

Exactly a week ago, the 'extremely severe' cyclone Fani made its landfall near Puri affecting more than 1.5 crore people in 14 districts and destroying all power infrastructure and telecommunication.

A situation report released Friday by the special relief commissioner's office said at least 41 people were killed in the calamity and 5.08 lakh houses were damaged.

Casualty to over 34.56 lakh livestock casualty has also been reported from the 14 cyclone-ravaged districts.

An order issued by the chief minister's office said all government offices in cyclone-hit districts of Puri, Khurda, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara will remain open on Saturday and Sunday despite being holidays.

"The aim is to aug-

ment the ongoing relief and restoration work," it said.

An inter-ministerial team is being sent by the Centre to assess the situation in view of the huge damage caused by the mid-summer cyclone that struck with a wind speed of 200 kmph and battered the state's coastal region.

The team is mandated to submit a field report to the Home Ministry, the officials said.

The central team will be led by the additional secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Vivek Bharadwaj. It will arrive in Bhubaneswar on the evening of May 12 and hold a meeting with senior officials, said Special Relief Commissioner B P Sethi.

The central team will pay a three-day visit to the cyclone-hit districts from May 13 for an on-the-spot assessment of the damage.

Before returning to Delhi, the team will hold a meeting with state government officials on May 15, the officials said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made an aerial survey of Puri and Khurda districts on May 6 and the Cen-

tre had thereafter released Rs 1,000 crore as interim assistance to carry out relief and rescue operation.

Meanwhile, Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who took stock of the situation, said of the 234 filling stations in Puri, Khurda and Cuttack districts, 232 have become operational and two others will start working from Saturday.

He said the department has made provision for two mobile tankers to distribute petrol and diesel to consumers in Puri town.

"We have been able to bring 100 per cent normalcy in the supply of diesel and petrol within a weeks time," Pradhan said, adding that there is enough stock of kerosene, petrol and diesel in the cyclone-hit areas.

An East Coast Railways (ECOR) official said services of Memu trains between Puri-Talcher and Puri-Angul resumed on Friday.

Only four trains from Puri remain cancelled and the others are now running as per the schedule.

"There will be total normalcy in train services from May 12," he added.

Chinese Ambassador lobbies...

The Governor also sought assistance from China to promote tourism, organic farming and indigenous products from Sikkim.

He conveyed the country's gratitude to the Chinese Government for supporting India's stand and proposal

to designate Masood Azhar a global terrorist through the United Nations. The Governor further assured to take up the issues raised by the Ambassador at the appropriate forums including the Union Government and underlined the need to capitalise on the potential.

Suicide Prevention Action....

Dr. Senthil Reddi/Addl.Professor, NIMHANS, gave a power point presentation through which he briefed the attendees on the objectives of the SPAN Project and the targets that have been set to achieve and the modules that will be undertaken for the purpose. He said that suicide remains a complex and poorly understood phenomenon and listed out some core module of the WHO for suicide prevention and intervention.

Dr.Reddi added that the goal of NIMHANS is capacity building for the nation and it offers clinical services, trainings, education and research on mental health. He said that the objective of the SPAN project is to reduce morbidity and mortality due to suicides, which arise, from psychological stress, substance abuse and depression.

The SPAN project will work to deliver multi-level suicide prevention strategies, enhance efficiency of general health care service responses to suicidal behaviors and substance abuse/ dependence and facilitate and strengthen multi-sectoral and inter-sectoral collaboration. He also informed about the NDA (NIMHANS Digital Academy), Community Mental Health and Telemedicine Service and Emergency Psychiatry and Acute Care.

Dr. B.N Gangadhar/Director NIMHANS, highlighted that the media needs to be extremely cautious while dealing with any news related to mental health and not indulge in sensationalizing news of anybody committing suicide as it goes a long way in influencing those already dealing with mental health challenges and in most cases, the influence is negative and a trigger for them.

He spoke about the vulnerable groups and that the SPAN Project will equip the state to identify and deal with this threat to the society. Dr. Gangadhar thanked the state for inviting NIMHANS and congratulated the stakeholders for recognizing that suicide and drug abuse is a problem that needs immediate attention and deliberation.

It may be informed here that the SPAN Project is an evidence based program which defines patterns of suicidal behavior and its prevalence in Sikkim. It identifies risk factors for suicidal behavior prospectively, identifies specific interventions effective for the reduction of suicide. A Sikkim specific suicide prevention and intervention plan will be formulated and delivered in joint collaboration with stakeholders of Sikkim. The SPAN Approach will be a Joint Multicenter project in Sikkim, it was informed.

visit us at
www.summit-times.com

High-pitched poll campaign in Delhi ends as city votes on Sunday

NEW DELHI, MAY 9 (PTI): The high-pitched poll campaign in the national capital that ended on Friday had all the elements of a political soap opera.

It witnessed an attack on Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, acrimonious exchanges between the AAP and the BJP over allegations of horse-trading, rivals jabbing at one another over alleged discrepancies in affidavits and even a candidate of the ruling party in Delhi breaking down in a press conference.

As many as 164 candidates, including 18 women, are in the fray in for the seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi which goes to polls on Sunday. It is expected to be three-cornered fight involving the BJP, AAP and the Congress in all the seats.

Over 400 polling booths have been identified as critical, for which special security measures have been put in place.

The campaign which got off to a slow start as alliance talks between the AAP and Congress lingered on till the last days of nomination, gained momentum over the last fortnight with senior leaders drawing huge crowds at mega rallies and road shows in the national capital.

The campaign reached a crescendo in its last lap with Prime Minister Narendra Modi holding a massive rally at the iconic Ramlila Maidan here, Congress President Rahul Gandhi addressing two public meetings, while his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra taking out two road

shows in the city.

BSP supremo Mayawati, BJP president Amit Shah and his party's Chief Ministers Yogi Adityanath, Vijay Rupani, Pema Khandu, Sarbananda Sonowal, Union ministers Rajnath Singh, Sushma Swaraj, Nitin Gadkari and Giriraj Singh canvassed for their party candidates.

The campaign also saw cine stars -- Hema Malini, Sunny Deol, Prakash Raj, Swara Bhaskar -- garnering support for the candidates.

From trying to strike a personal chord with the voters in parks at six in the morning to holding door-to-door campaigns till late night, the candidates literally sweated it out in the oppressive heat as mercury crossed the 40-degree Celsius mark.

While the BJP's cam-

paign revolved around the party's high-pitched nationalism narrative and the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Congress kept him in the cross hairs and sought to hard sell its minimum income guarantee scheme -- Nyay.

The AAP, on the other hand, focussed on the demand for full statehood for Delhi.

Candidates also tried to out-manoeuvre each other before the poll body. AAP candidates Atishi and Raghav Chadha sought rejection of nomination papers of their BJP rivals Gautam Gambhir and Ramesh Bidhuri, respectively.

Poll officers were also hard-pressed as several Model Code of Conduct violations were reported.

In a security breach, Chief Minister Kejriwal

was slapped by a man during a road show in Moti Nagar. Allegations of horse trading flew thick and fast as two AAP MLAs -- Anil Bajpai and Devinder Sehrawat -- crossed over to the BJP.

The campaigning also saw South Delhi BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri using a Hindi slur against Kejriwal. On the penultimate day, the AAP and the BJP sparred over a derogatory pamphlet that targeted Delhi's ruling party candidate Atishi.

The AAP alleged her rival Gautam Gambhir was behind it, a charge the former cricketer vehemently denied.

Campaigning stops 48 hours before the beginning of voting hours. Known as the silence period, it is aimed at giving the electorate a chance to think about whom to vote for.

Green Teachers Training for 200 schools of Sikkim



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 10 MAY:

ENVIS Hub at Forests, Environment & Wildlife Management Department, Government of Sikkim organized a two-day green teachers training programme on 09 and 10 May, 2019 at Sidkeong Tulku Forest Conference Hall here in Gangtok for 200 schools of the State. The training programme was conducted as an ongoing effort for strengthening the implementation of the National Green Corps (NGC) School Eco-Club programme being implemented in Sikkim since the year 2000, a press release informs.

The training was held in batches, with 100 teachers from North and East District schools on the first day and another batch of 100 teachers from South and West District schools. The training programme was based on green schools auditing focusing on water and sanitation at schools. Green schools auditing is a nation-wide programme based on the Green Schools Audit manual titled 'How Green is your School' published by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi. Resource persons from CSE, Ms Aditi Sharma and Ms Shristi Jha imparted the training.

The inaugural programme had Chief Conservator of Forest, BP Pradhan, Director of Forests, BB Gurung, Joint Director (ENVIS), Kusum Gurung of each district in an event coordinated by Senior Programme Officer (ENVIS), Rajen Pradhan.

The training programme was intended to help the eco-clubs develop an efficient environment management system at schools through action oriented projects. On successful completion of the environment audit, CSE will issue green school certificate to schools depending on

school's resource efficient initiatives.

The participating schools will also be registering for the National and State level Green Schools competitive programmes for 2019 session. It is also to mention that, several schools from Sikkim have been awarded amongst the top 10 green schools of the country by CSE in the past.

The Forest department is also providing token grant of Rs 5000 each to eco-clubs along with resource materials like eco-club handbook, green school manual, cleanliness tools etc to 856 eco-clubs of the State annually.

Campaigning ends for sixth phase of LS polls in Bengal

KOLKATA, MAY 10 (PTI): The high-pitched campaigning by different political parties for eight Lok Sabha constituencies going to the polls in the sixth phase on May 12 came to an end Friday evening.

Election in this phase will cover Jangal Mahal - the forested region of Bankura, West Midnapore, Jhargram and Purulia districts which used to be a Maoist hotbed during the erstwhile Left Front regime.

Seats in which elections will be held on Sunday are Tamluk, Kanthi, Ghatal, Jhargram (ST), Medinipur, Purulia, Bankura and Bishnupur (SC), where an electorate of 1,33,69,749 will decide the fate of 83 candidates, the EC said.

The EC will deploy a total 770 companies of central forces, which will cover almost 100 per cent polling booths in the eight constituencies to ensure free and fair polling, officials in the poll panel said.

All the eight seats spread across the four Jangal Mahal districts and East Midnapore, will

see mostly a four-cornered contest between Trinamool Congress, BJP, Congress and the Left Front. Only Bankura seat will have a triangular fight, since Congress did not put up any candidate there.

The campaign saw poll meetings by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP president Amit Shah, Congress president Rahul Gandhi, West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee and her Andhra Pradesh counterpart N Chandrababu Naidu. Banerjee also participated in a number of roadshows.

In Tamluk seat, BJP fielded Siddhartha Shankar Naskar against sitting TMC MP Dibyendu Adhikari. The Left Front constituent CPI(M) has nominated Sk Ibrahim Ali, while the Congress has nominated Lakshman Seth, who was earlier in CPI(M).

In Kanthi, the TMC MP Sisir Adhikari is contesting against BJP's Dr debasis Samanta. The Congress has nominated

Deepak Kumar Das and CPI(M) Paritosh Pattanayak.

Ghatal Lok Sabha seat will see TMC's sitting celebrity candidate Deepak Adhikari (Dev) locking horns with BJP's Bharati Ghosh, a former IPS officer. Congress has nominated Khandakar Md Saifullah and the Left Front constituent CPI Tapan Ganguli.

In Jhargram (ST) seat TMC's Birbaha Soren (Tudu) will contest against Kunar Hembram of BJP. The Congress has fielded Jageswar Hembram and CPI(M) Deblina Hembram.

Manas Ranjan Bhunia is the TMC candidate from Medinipur seat against BJP's state president Dilip Ghosh. The Congress has nominated Sambhunath Chattopadhyay and the Left Front constituent CPI has fielded Biplab Bhatta for the seat.

In Purulia, sitting MP Mriganka Mahato of TMC will contest against BJP's Jyotirmoy Singh Mahato. The Left Front constituent All India Forward Bloc has nominated Bir Singh Mahato and the Congress Nepal Mahato

litical gains," Lal told PTI. Delhi Democratic Alliance (DDA), a coalition of activists, trade union leaders, and a few civil society groups working for the downtrodden, have fielded Lal and four other candidates for elections in Delhi, in an "act of defiance" against existing parties.

"We actually fielded candidates for all the seven seats. But for some reason, applications of two of our candidates were cancelled," said Lal. Valmiki belong to the SC community and spread across Delhi, from Mongolpuri to Sultanpuri and Trilokpuri to Tughlaqabad.

litical gains," Lal told PTI. Delhi Democratic Alliance (DDA), a coalition of activists, trade union leaders, and a few civil society groups working for the downtrodden, have fielded Lal and four other candidates for elections in Delhi, in an "act of defiance" against existing parties.

litical gains," Lal told PTI. Delhi Democratic Alliance (DDA), a coalition of activists, trade union leaders, and a few civil society groups working for the downtrodden, have fielded Lal and four other candidates for elections in Delhi, in an "act of defiance" against existing parties.

Singtam students on donation drive for Bandana Limbu



YOGEN THATAL SINGTAM, 10 MAY:

Students of Sumin Lingchey Government Secondary School, East Sikkim, led by Premika Gurung and Mingma Eden Sherpa, are raising funds for a cancer patient currently undergoing treatment

at AIIMS, New Delhi. Despite the blazing heat, the students divided themselves into four groups to raise donations. They are hoping to facilitate the treatment of Bandana Limbu, a student of Nar Bahadur Bhandari Memorial College, Gangtok, who is battling leukemia.

AAP takes dig at Gambhir for using look alike during campaigning



New Delhi, May 10 (PTI): The AAP took a dig at BJP's East Delhi candidate Gautam Gambhir Friday, alleging that the cricketer-turned-politician had used a look-alike during a roadshow to save himself from scorching heat.

The BJP rubbished the charge, saying the AAP was trying to create a controversy over a "minor" thing.

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the incident is an example of the "mahamilwat" between Congress and BJP. Tweeting a picture of Gambhir sitting inside a car, Sisodia said "Gambhir is sitting inside an AC car due to scorching heat, while his lookalike who is a Congress leader is campaigning on his behalf."

In a video, AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj asked what was cooking between the

BJP and the Congress.

In the clip, Bhardwaj can be seen wearing a cap and dark sunglasses to show how the look-alike could fool the people from a distance.

BJP Loksabha In-charge for East Delhi Rajiv Babbar said it is very sad that a particular political party which has lost connect with the people of Delhi, tries to create controversy around Gambhir every other day.

"In this series of spreading misinformation they today said that a party worker campaigned in place of Gautam Gambhir which is absolutely false," he said.

Babbar said that for 10 to 15 minutes during the campaign, Gambhir felt giddy due to heat, and sat on the front seat of the campaign vehicle. Meanwhile, party workers atop the vehicle kept waving at people.



KUTSE SHEGU

The 49th day Kutse Shegu of our beloved mother Late Pempa Bhutia who left for her heavenly abode on 26.03.2019 falls on 13.05.2019. All friends, relatives & well-wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul at our residence at Tin Taley, Metro, Lower Tadong. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us during the time of bereavement.

PEOLO LEPCHA (HUSBAND), BHAICHUNG LEPCHA, RINCHEN LEPCHA (SONS), TASHI ONGMU LEPCHA (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW), TSHERING DOMA LEPCHA (DAUGHTER), PHUCHUNG NAMCHANGKORPA (SON-IN-LAW), GRAND SONS & GRAND DAUGHTERS.

9679361640 / 7797717403

~ SummitTIMES ~ CLASSIFIEDS

Required for Summit Times

Two field reporters for Gangtok (East) and one for West District. Should be fluent in english. Have basic knowledge in journalism. Walk in interview:

**Summit Times office
Church Road, Gangtok
03592-208698**

URGENTLY REQUIRED:
Urgent Recruitment for a waiter with atleast 3 years experience and one kitchen helper. Contact: Hotel Paramount, Dentam, West Sikkim- 9735909625 / 8348285444

PLOT FOR SALE:
Vacant plot measuring 0.38 Acres for sale at Amdo Golai, Deorali. Contact: 09717191985/097474651223

INTERESTED TO BECOME A YOGA TEACHER?

CRITERIA – Academic qualification of minimum higher secondary pass

Complete yoga syllabus will be provided by SYVC Gangtok absolutely free of cost. After one year of basic training and service (karma yoga)/ volunteering in the Centre, the candidate would be sent for Yoga Teacher Training Course at Shivananda Yoga Ashram. After TTC, the candidate would be appointed on part time basis at the Yoga Centre in Gangtok. College students can also apply. If required, food and accommodation would be provided.

**Interested candidates may contact
: Deepa Yoga Centre at
Mob: +91 7432043719/ +91 8170953919.**

LAND FOR SALE

A vacant plot measuring 0.38 Ha. (16552.80 sq – ft) is for sale at Amdo Golai (above the main road), Gangtok. For more information please contact – 9717191985/9474651223.

Munna Lal: The little known Aam Aadmi of Chandni Chowk constituency

MANIK GUPTA

NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): Sitting on a cot next to a shoe stand in a Valmiki temple, Munna Lal discusses his campaign with a handful of supporters, but he is unlike other candidates whose faces are splashed on newspapers or TV channels.

Neither do loud-speakers blare his political slogans in Chandni Chowk, from where he is contesting as an independent, nor are there garlands around his neck.

In fact, his only semblance to a political lead-

er is the starch-white kurta-pyjama he wears, an attire that is widely seen as trademark of netas in India. But then he is not a cut from the same cloth, he claims.

"This is the first time I am standing for any election. My aim here is to raise the pressing issues of Valmiki community.

"It is a shame that we continue to remain oppressed even after 70 years of Independence. I stood for this election to give a message that Valmiki community can fight its own fight and that parties can no more exploit us for their po-

litical gains," Lal told PTI.

Delhi Democratic Alliance (DDA), a coalition of activists, trade union leaders, and a few civil society groups working for the downtrodden, have fielded Lal and four other candidates for elections in Delhi, in an "act of defiance" against existing parties.

"We actually fielded candidates for all the seven seats. But for some reason, applications of two of our candidates were cancelled," said Lal. Valmiki belong to the SC community and spread across Delhi, from Mongolpuri to Sultanpuri and Trilokpuri to Tughlaqabad.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GIRLS TO SERVE INDIAN ARMY

Indian Army offers an opportunity for Girls to join this most respected forces under women Military Police. Large numbers of vacancies have been released by the Army headquarters. Those who have appeared /passed class XII may apply online. Online Registration and submission of application is mandatory. The online Registration process has already opened since 25 April 19 and will remain so till 12 June 19. The online Registration through website: www.joinindianarmy.nic.in Start your online Registration immediately.

Now is the time that every eligible girl students must give a try instead of repenting later.

Eligibility

- | | |
|------------|---|
| (a) Age | - Born between 01 Oct 1998 to 01st Apr 2002 |
| (b) Height | - 142 cms |
| (c) Weight | - proportionately to height |

For any further information & assistance, please visit our Sainik Board Office at Gangtok at any time for online registration.

Contact Numbers – 8170005757 / 8145837898 / 9593268469

You must have following documents ready during online submission of application:-

- | |
|---|
| (a) Class X mark sheet and Certificate (with 45% Aggregate marks) |
| (b) Date of Birth Certificate |
| (c) Aadhar Card |
| (d) Passport size photograph |
| (e) E-mail ID (your own email ID) |
| (f) Your mobile number (for OTP) |

Sd/
Col D N Bhutia
Secretary

Allow Education to Perform Even Better

Allow the young to grow better lettered

So, work on the Sikkim University campus is finally underway on a “war-footing.” High time. Meanwhile, Sikkim has been collecting best performing state awards in the field of education for a while now. Congratulations! The awards are obviously about government schools and in recognition of government policies aimed at education. There is no denying that the spread of schools and the outlay of budgets for education are impressive in Sikkim, easily outstripping what other states can afford or deliver for the people. The challenge then should be to ensure that the infrastructural and financial investments deliver quality education to the students. That remains a service which has still not been planned, structured or delivered with any consistency thus far. One hopes that the increasing dazzle of Sikkim Government’s trophy shelf also lights up the path towards such delivery at schools. Let us for now accept that a reasonably earnest commitment has been made towards school education in Sikkim, and that brings one to the follow-up query about what is being done by way of college and higher education here.

From a time when it was a one night-college state, Sikkim sure has come a long way. Once North Sikkim gets its college, all four districts will a degree college each. There are also some private institutions of higher education around. Apart from these, the State also has a State university to compete with the central university and an interestingly high number of private universities. In fact, higher education has been around for long enough to also have a failed, scam-riddled private university in the bouquet of degree options available in Sikkim. As the number of students and the size of their aspirations grow, so have the number of coaching institutes and colleges offering professional courses. And then there is the state-sponsored enrolment at coaching institutes in Delhi for Sikkim students wishing to compete in UPSC and other national level exams. Safe to say then that students now have more options, more opportunities and bigger ambitions to reach out for.

Of course, none of this necessarily guarantees quality; but before one starts tearing apart the quality of institutions of higher education [or vocational courses], Sikkim needs to collectively look into how it educates its young in school, and even earlier, in pre-primary and primary levels. Inspire learning in the children and they will extract phenomenal results even from mediocre institutions. That has to be the priority, and good place to begin would be with a clearly spelled out educational policy.

Education needs to be fashioned to deliver students with sound logic and reasoning skills, not necessarily high marks and definitely not learning by rote. Do this, and the young will grow with stronger survival skills, more adaptive traits and as prepared as anyone from anywhere else for the job market. The present format of education fails us because instead of opening the minds of the students it ties them down to the curriculum. While a syllabus is required for the discipline that is also a part of education, it has unfortunately been allowed to become supreme. A syllabus is designed to present an outline, and should not be seen as a fixed boundary wall within which education should be limited. But that is how learning has been compromised and students nowadays have little time to pursue interests beyond the learning of their books. Sikkim needs institutions of learning that open the mind, not bolt it in; schools that let the young minds breathe. This approach becomes more important now than ever before because now such schools, colleges and institutes are coming up in Sikkim itself; earlier, the young had to go out of the State to receive such education/ training, and if nothing else, benefitted at least from the experience of living and surviving outside their comfort zone. At least in the cities, they are exposed to more stimuli even if the college they go to is the same as the one back home. And that brings us back to basics of starting them on the learning curve early, inspiring them towards learning, stimulating a learning environment from kindergarten itself and abandoning spoon-fed, hand-held classroom lessons. The young will grow better lettered in the real sense and will make even mediocre institutes deliver quality products. Won’t that be nice?

WRITE US:

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

Mail us at: news@summittimes.com



Students are increasingly turning to religious leaders for mental health support

MATHEW GUEST
theconversation.com

High rates of mental ill health among students, including some tragic cases of suicide, have highlighted the vulnerability of many young people facing the pressures of higher education while away from home for the first time.

University leaders have affirmed their commitment to strengthening student support, and counselling services are busier than ever. But one resource is often overlooked: chaplaincy. Chaplains are representatives of religion or belief organisations who work within universities to support the religious and pastoral needs of the communities.

In our recently published study, Kristin Aune, Jeremy Law and I, mapped and examined the work of university chaplains across the UK’s universities. The results reveal an aspect of university life that is rarely acknowledged – and one that challenges the image of the university as a space where the pursuit of knowledge leaves no place for religion. Indeed, our findings reveal how chaplaincy is an integral part of campus life within many universities.

GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

There are at least 1,000 chaplains working in universities across the UK, representing all the major faiths – as well as humanism. But it wasn’t always this way. Before the 1960s, higher education chaplaincy was mainly confined to the ancient universities like Oxford or Cambridge, who appointed Anglican clergy as chaplains to their colleges. By the mid-1980s, most universities had an Anglican chaplain.

Chaplaincy originated as a Christian tradition, based around the placement of clergy in non-parish ministry. Historically, chaplains have been appointed to serve senior officials like monarchs or bishops or in public institutions such as prisons,

hospitals, schools, universities and the armed forces. The appointed religious officials – most often representatives of the established Church of England – served the spiritual and pastoral needs of these institutional bodies and those within them.

As the religious diversity of the UK has grown, so its universities have sought to serve the needs of other faiths, including Jewish, Muslim and Hindu students. Chaplaincy teams have expanded into a range of specialist support. More recently, humanist chaplains have become increasingly popular.

A SUBSIDY FOR STUDENT SUPPORT?

Our research found that each year, university chaplains contribute around £4.5m of volunteer labour to the higher education sector. Volunteer university chaplains – which make up over 40% of the total – give around 3,500 hours of free labour each week. Provision varies widely across the sector, both in the number of chaplains appointed and the facilities available to them. And in many universities, chaplaincy work has expanded into “multi-faith” provision – which includes prayer spaces, interfaith dialogue and relationship building with local religious communities.

But while part of chaplains’ role is the facilitation of religious practice among students of faith, it is not the most important part. Chaplains spend the largest portion of their time on pastoral activities. This includes one-to-one support and counselling for students – and sometimes for staff as well. Our research found that this support is not confined to students of faith, but is extended to and received by a cross-section of individuals, of all faiths and none.

Our findings also show that many chaplains see their role as serving the entire institution of the university, rather than simply those with whom they share a faith. This includes offering support to socially marginalised students or those in crisis,

but it also involves building relationships and community across university departments.

Some university managers see chaplains as especially valuable colleagues because they offer a view that takes account of staff and students across the institution and beyond, rather than one confined by a specific department or set of professional relationships. As one commented to us:

“I think we have been a much more open and accepting university because our chaplain has brought that wider community and has taught tolerance and respect.”

This positive institutional profile is reflected in how chaplains describe the work they do. Half of those we surveyed had generated increased university support or investment in their work during the previous 12 months. And just under half had contributed to changes in organisational practice. Some professional support departments at universities have also begun to work collaboratively with chaplains to ensure students get the support they need.

THE SECULAR UNIVERSITY

It’s clear, then, that chaplains do a huge amount of varied work for universities, which makes a major difference to the lives of students. And this demand for pastoral support is likely to increase with rising levels of mental health and pastoral problems within the student population.

But it’s important to remember chaplaincy is subsidised massively by religious organisations. So while university education is often presumed to be a major driver of secularisation – the process whereby religion becomes less socially significant – it may well be that, over time, universities will come to rely on religious representatives even more to deliver the support needed by their students.

[the writer is Professor in the Sociology of Religion, Durham University]

How humans interact with the changing environment is affecting the spread of infectious disease

KONSTANS WELLS & NICHOLAS J CLARK
theconversation.com

Some of the world’s most notorious infections – including Lyme disease, rabies, and Ebola come from zoonotic diseases. These illnesses are caused by pathogens (bacteria, viruses, or other parasitic organisms) which can be passed from animals to humans. But, even though they can lead to serious health problems, there is a gap in our knowledge when it comes to these diseases. We don’t yet fully understand how pathogens “shift” between different host species and cause epidemics – and research is starting to show that the changing environment could be a factor.

The number of animal species that a pathogen infects is an indicator of its capability to shift to other host species and infect them, too. Pathogens that infect more animal species should be more likely to jump to a new host. Rabies viruses, for example, are seemingly capable of infecting virtually any mammalian species they encounter, putting humans worldwide at risk of spillover.

Research has also found that how infected animals are related to one another is important. If a pathogen infects monkey and ape species, for example, it will probably have a better chance of infecting humans than one that primarily infects birds or fish.

Our new study highlights that there is a growing body of evidence showing that host shifting is inexorably linked to the environment, too. Studies have found that the environments around us – including different habitats as well as climate conditions – provide new opportu-

nities for humans to pick up different pathogens from wildlife.

WILDLIFE AND DISEASE SPREAD

The world’s growing human population and the way we utilise and modify our planet means that we are living closer to wildlife than ever before. Hardly any wildlife lives alone in a pristine environment. In addition,



invasive species are also rising unprecedentedly, with animals such as rats spreading their parasites across former biogeographical borders. Now, previously isolated wildlife and their pathogens have become embedded in a global and ever-changing network, spreading diseases further than seen previously.

This new line of thinking – that pathogens could infect more hosts if they had access to them – is important for how we address emerging diseases in times of global change. The spread of multi-host pathogens has already become a worldwide phenomenon, with wild animals often playing a big role in zoonotic events. Even seemingly benign holiday wild-

life encounters can cause problems. For example, since 2012, tourists from Europe and elsewhere have been contracting Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) from camels in Saudi Arabia.

But the threat is not just about wildlife pathogens infecting humans. Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Many pathogens have been intro-

duced by us and our pets to new areas. Of the nearly 400 parasitic worm species recorded in people, almost 50% have been found in a diverse range of animals, including dogs, cattle, and wildlife such as primates, rodents and deer. Research has found that this shifting of parasites has likely been intensified by globalisation as humans and their companion animals move around the world.

Smith has got his timing and class back:

Aaron Finch

MELBOURNE, MAY 10 (PTI): Steve Smith's "timing and class" is back and it seems that he had never left the Australian set-up, skipper Aaron Finch said Friday as the national team gears up for the World Cup on a war-footing. Back after a year's suspension for his involvement in ball-tampering scandal, Smith was scratchy during Indian Premier League but found his mojo back with unbeaten 89 and 91 against New Zealand in two warm-up games.

"His [Smith] timing and class was back again," Finch was quoted as saying by ESPN Cricinfo.

"It was like he hadn't left. His drives down the ground on a really difficult wicket to time off the front foot was so impressive, just the amount of time he spent in the middle and how he went through the gears was very impressive," Australian skipper said.

Finch is happy that both Smith and David Warner have done incredible work during their time off the field which is showing off. Warner finished his IPL campaign with 692 runs.

"They are two of the best players in the world which is valuable to have at your disposal. The boys have been brilliant, all the work off the field with the team has been great. It's an interesting time, no doubt, when they are coming back in but still a great opportunity for everyone to learn off them as well. They have so much experience and what they bring to the group is really valuable." With the likes of Smith, Warner and Mitchell Starc in the line-up, the skipper is confident that they will regain the trophy as most of them know what it takes to win one.

"I think it's a big advantage, just to know what it takes to win a World Cup and what it takes to manage your way through a campaign which can be difficult," Finch said. "You have to be at your best at the business end but you can't afford to let anything slip at the start. Six guys, who have been there (2015) and done that will give a lot of experience to the others of what to expect, what to feel walking out there because it is different," he said.

Amitabh Bachchan, Emraan Hashmi-starrer thriller titled 'Chehre'

MUMBAI, MAY 10 (PTI): Megastar Amitabh Bachchan and actor Emraan Hashmi's upcoming mystery thriller is titled "Chehre". Directed by Rumi Jaffrey, the film goes on floors Friday.

The project is produced by Anand Pandit Motion Pictures and Saraswati Entertainment Private Limited.

The film releases on February 21, 2020.

It also features Kriti Kharbanda, Rhea Chakraborty, Siddhanth Kapoor, Dritman Chakraborty, Raahgir Yadav and Annu Kapoor

Curfew clamped in Assam's Hailakandi town, 15 injured



HAILAKANDI, MAY 10 (PTI): An indefinite curfew was clamped in Assam's Hailakandi town on Friday following a communal clash which left 15 people injured, a senior district official said.

The curfew was imposed at 1 pm and would remain in force till fur-

ther orders, Hailakandi Deputy Commissioner Keerthi Jalli said.

A group of people had decided to hold the Friday noon prayers on a road in front of a mosque, located at Kali Bari point of the town, in protest against the seats of some motorcycles being damaged by people

belonging to another community, the official said.

A clash broke out between members of two communities after some people protested against the prayers being held on the road, injuring 15 persons. Police opened fire in the air to disperse the protesters, the DC said.

"A tense situation arose that necessitated immediate action and speedy action for the maintenance of public peace," Jalli said.

Though the situation was brought under control, tension continues to prevail in the town, the official added.

12 years on, locals in Nandigram feel 'disenchanted, betrayed'

PRADIPTA TAPADAR

NANDIGRAM (WB), MAY 10 (PTI): Twelve years after the anti-land acquisition movement changed the political landscape of West Bengal when the three-decade-long Left rule ended and the TMC came to power, many locals in the cradle of change, Nandigram, feel "disenchanted and forgotten" and are yearning for another change.

Nandigram in East Midnapore district along with Singur in Hooghly district, were considered to be two pillars which laid the foundation of the TMC government led by Mamata Banerjee in 2011.

But now, many people here not only feel disenchanted but also betrayed as they count on the losses of the violent anti-land acquisition.

Nandigram falls under Tamluk Lok Sabha constituency and will go to polls on May 12.

The bloody agitation over land acquisition for a 14,000-acre chemical hub project by Indonesia's Salim Group which started in January 2007 led to the death of 14 people in police firing in March during the then Left Front government's rule. Riding on anti-land acquisition protests, the TMC dislodged the 34-year-old Left Front government from Bengal in 2011.

But eight years down the line, social disparity, development and fortune for a "selected few" have not only angered the locals but also forced some to think of an alternative.

"What did we get out of the anti-land acquisition movement? We were used as pawns in TMC's political fight. We still live in abject poverty. Had there been an industry, we would have got jobs," says Haripada Mondal, a sharecropper who was part of the Bhumi Uchhed Pratirodh Committee (BUPC) when it was formed in 2007 to protest against the land acquisition.

The BUPC was backed by the Trinamool Congress. After the TMC came to power most of BUPC's leaders joined the party.

Mondal represents more than 80 per cent of farmers of Nandigram who are marginal and en-

gaged in subsistence agriculture and earn Rs 200 daily. They live in abject poverty, with most of their children venturing out of the state in search of jobs in Gujarat, Mumbai, and Odisha.

But the picture is different for the rest of the 20 per cent of farmers' large landholding, who have doubled their income in the last few years by engaging in shrimp farming. Co-incidentally, most of these farmers are active supporters of the TMC in the area.

The farmers with large landholding have converted their agricultural land in water bodies and have started shrimp farming since 2012 leading to huge profits.

"Most of them who now roam around in SUV cars and have made three-storey buildings, earlier used to had a tough time in getting two square meals a day. Where from did they get so much money? We feel betrayed," says a farmer, pointing at the house of a local TMC leader.

Although there has been development in the area such as readily available drinking water, 100 per cent electrification, bridges, metalled roads, hospitals and schools, but the alleged corruption by some TMC leaders seems to have angered the masses.

"Almost all the local TMC leaders are now leading a lavish lifestyle. Where from are they getting so much money? Our living standards have not changed much. To avail government benefits we have to bribe local TMC leaders. Did we fight against CPI(M) for this day," says Rezaul, a local shop owner of nearby Khejuri block, which too saw action during the heydays of the movement.

The local TMC leadership dubbed the anger of masses as nothing but a result of "false propaganda by the BJP and the CPI (M) in the area".

This anger against the local TMC leadership in the last few years may come as a positive news for BJP in the East Midnapore district, which has two Lok Sabha seats Tamluk and Kanthi.

"It is a baseless allegation

against TMC. We have worked tirelessly for the development of the area. We will defeat this propaganda and win with a much higher margin," says Dibyendu Adhikari, TMC candidate from the Tamluk Lok Sabha seat.

The BJP in 2014 Lok Sabha polls secured 6 per cent votes in Tamluk but in 2016 during a by-poll in this seat, the saffron party secured nearly 16 per cent votes.

In nearby Kanthi South assembly constituency bypoll, the BJP increased its vote share by leaps and bounds from 8 per cent in 2016 to 31 per cent in 2017. In last year's panchayat polls too, the BJP made some nominal gains in the face of complete whitewash by the TMC in the polls.

Local TMC MLA and state minister Suvedu Adhikari, one of the main architects of the Nandigram movement, says the party has nothing to worry as its vote share is intact.

"It is CPI (M) which is losing its votes to BJP. If CPI (M) can't hold on to its support base, then it is not our fault," Adhikari, who is also a former MP from this seat (2009-2014), told PTI.

According to the BJP leadership, in order to stall its growth, the TMC had allowed the CPI(M) to reopen its party offices in Nandigram after a gap of 12 years. The allegation has been denied by both the TMC and the CPI(M).

"It's an open secret that TMC is helping CPI(M) in the area to cut into anti-TMC votes. But it will not help TMC rather it would do more damage as people would get to see their true colours -- joining hands with CPI(M), the architects of Nandigram carnage," says BJP state president Dilip Ghosh.

The local CPI(M) leadership, however, dubbed the reopening of its party office in the area a result of its regaining its ground in the district, once an impregnable Left bastion.

The Congress has fielded expelled CPI (M) leader Lakshman Seth, a three-time MP from this seat, who had recently joined the party after a short tenure in BJP.

HC allows accused to take Manipur Civil Service exam in custody

NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): The Delhi High Court has allowed a man lodged in jail, facing prosecution in a murder case, to take the Manipur Civil Service examination.

The court said that as the exam is scheduled on May 12, the accused be taken to Imphal by economy flight on Saturday and brought back to Delhi on May 13.

"Accordingly, Superintendent Jail is directed to have the petitioner taken to Imphal by economy flight. The cost of the ticket of the petitioner shall be borne by him. However the cost of travel, boarding and lodging of the officers accompanying the petitioner shall be borne by the prison Department of the Delhi Government," Justice

Sanjeev Sachdeva said.

Benzi Takhellambam sought interim bail on the ground that he has to take the Manipur Civil Service (Combined) Competitive Preliminary Exams 2019 which are scheduled to be held on May 12 between 10 AM to 12 PM and 2 PM to 4 PM. The examination centre is a school in Imphal-West, Manipur.

The prosecutor had said there was sufficient material to show his involvement in the murder case and there was an apprehension that he may abscond if granted interim bail.

However, the prosecutor had submitted that he may be permitted to take the examination in police custody.

The court said that

on reaching Imphal, the man be taken to a police station closer to the examination centre and lodged in the lock-up there. It also directed the Superintendent of Police, Imphal-West to ensure that boarding and lodging is provided to the police personnel accompanying the accused, either in the police station where the lock-up is situated or in close by Police Lines.

The police personnel be allowed to sit at a place in the examination centre from where they can see the accused.

The court made it clear that this order has been passed keeping in view of the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case and it shall not be treated as a precedent.

Rani to lead 18-member Indian women's hockey team in Korea tour



NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): Striker Rani Ramapal returns to lead a 18-member Indian women's hockey team for the three-match series against Korea, starting on May 20, Hockey India announced on Friday.

Goalkeeper Savita will be deputy to Rani, who returns after missing Malaysia tour due to injury, in the team under chief coach Sjoerd Marijne.

The matches will help the Indian team in preparing for the FIH Women's Series Finals, which is scheduled to be held from June 15-23 in Hiroshima, Japan.

Since the start of the year, the Indian team has toured Spain and Ireland. India won two matches, drawn three and lost one. The team also toured Malaysia where they registered a 4-0 series victory.

Savita and Rajani Etimarpu will be guarding the goalpost in the three-match Korea tour while defender Gurjit Kaur makes a return to the team after having missed the Malaysia tour due to injury.

Salima Tete, Sunita Lakra, Deep Grace Ekka, Karishma Yadav and Sushila Chanu Pukhrabam are the other defenders, while Monika, Navjot Kaur, Nikki Pradhan, Neha Goyal and Lilima Minz will command the midfield for India.

Captain Rani will be joined by Vandana Katariya, Lalremsiami, Jyoti and Navneet Kaur in attack.

"I am happy with the return of experienced players like Rani and Gurjit Kaur in the squad, and pleased that they are fully fit to play these matches. This tour will

give us the chance to take a good final step against a strong opponent in our preparation for the FIH Women's Series Finals Hiroshima 2019," Marijne said.

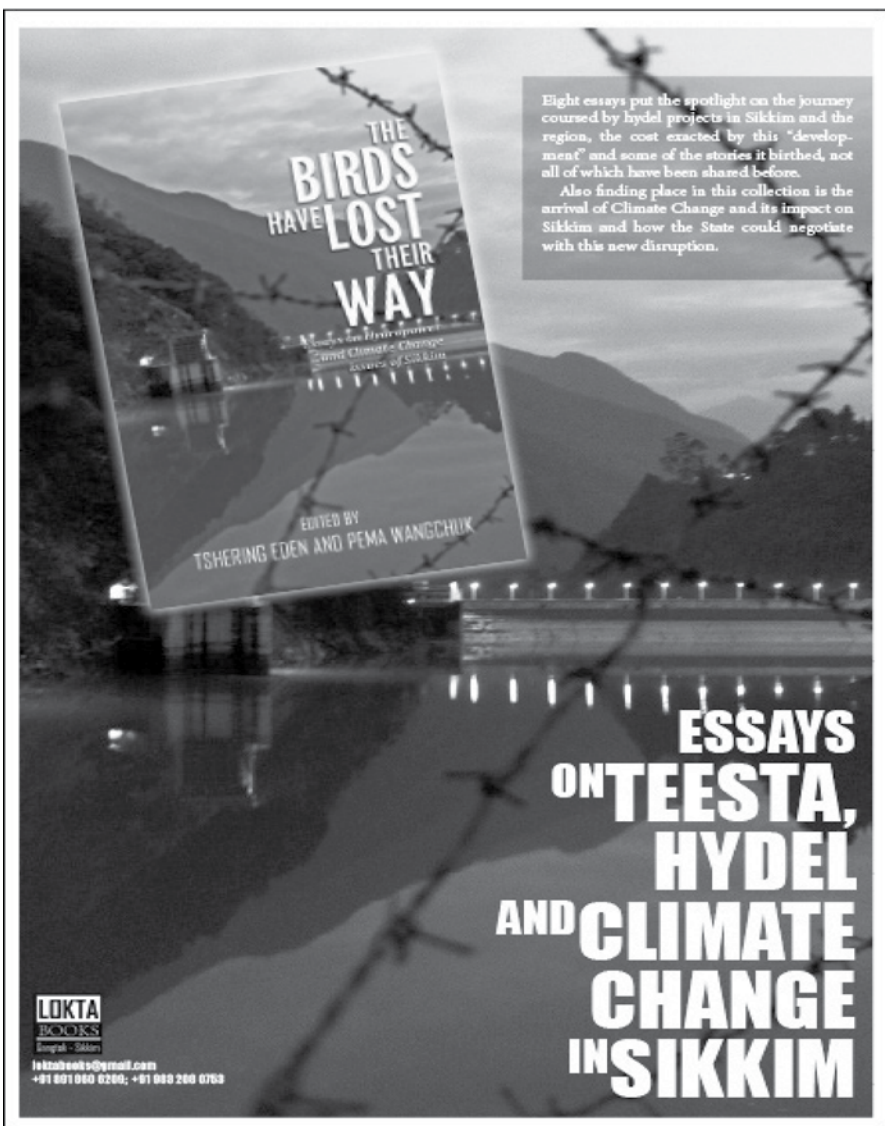
"We have identified areas in our game that needed improvement from our past two tours this year, and have worked on them in training, and it is now time to show the improvement in the matches."

The Squad: Goalkeepers: Savita, Rajani Etimarpu

Defenders: Salima Tete, Sunita Lakra, Deep Grace Ekka, Karishma Yadav, Gurjit Kaur, Sushila Chanu Pukhrabam

Midfielders: Monika, Navjot Kaur, Nikki Pradhan, Neha Goyal, Lilima Minz

Forwards: Rani (captain), Vandana Katariya, Lalremsiami, Jyoti, Navneet Kaur.



Contact Summit TIMES at
9832556698, 9832369520
news@summittimes.com advertse@summittimes.com
summittimes16@gmail.com

Ankita moves to semifinals in Luan



NEW DELHI, MAY 10 (PTI): India's Ankita Raina quelled a strong challenge from lower-ranked Eudice Wong Chong to make it to the singles semifinals of the USD 60,000 ITF women's event here Friday.

The second seeded Indian, ranked 175, came back from a one-set deficit to beat her Hong Kong rival 2-6 6-4 7-5 in a nearly two-hour long quarterfinal.

It turned out to be a very close game, with Ankita winning 88 points, just two more than Eudice, ranked 497.

They broke each other seven times in the match. "It was a tough

match, happy that I pulled off this one. In first set she started well and was not missing much. When I moved her around, I started coming back, so I persisted with the strategy," Ankita said from Luan.

"She played really well. I enjoyed the match and was in control in second and third sets," the 26-year-old added.

Ankita now has a chance to make her third final of the season as she faces seventh seed Chinese Shuyue Ma.

The gritty Indian had won a USD 25k event in Singapore and ended runner-up at a USD 60k tournament in Istanbul.

Mohun Bagan ropen with Spaniard Vicuna as head coach

KOLKATA, MAY 10 (PTI): Mohun Bagan on Friday announced the appointment of 47-year-old Spaniard Kibu Vicuna as their head coach for the 2019-20 season.

An UEFA Pro Licence holder, Vicuna was at the helm of Wisla Plock in the Poland First Division league 'Ekstraklasa', and he will succeed Khalid Jamil.

Vicuna has a wealth of experience in coaching in Spain and Poland and won the Polish League and the Polish Cup in 2012-13 as part of Legia Warsaw coaching staff.

"We have spoken with Kibu and he is happy and excited about the challenges of coaching in Mohun Bagan," directors of Mohun Bagan FC, Srinjoy Bose and Debashish Dutta, said in a statement.

"Kibu has the ability, knowledge and experience. He promotes young players and has a style and a way of working similar to ours. He has a philosophy of the game that is very much like Mohun Bagan's philosophy and is a hard work-

er. Also, he is passionate about applying advanced technology to both training and matches."

In 2015-16, Vicuna won the Polish Super Cup as part of the Lech Poznan coaching staff and has worked extensively as an assistant with Jan Urban, an experienced Polish coach who represented Poland in 1986 World Cup.

He was also an integral part of Legia Warsaw coaching team which was beaten in final play-off round of UEFA Champions League and subsequently played UEFA Europa League group stage in 2013-14.

He has coached prominent footballers like Raul Garcia, C sar Azpilicueta, Nacho Monreal and Javi Martinez and was involved with youth teams of former La Liga club CA Osasuna, the statement read.

Vicuna also has acquired several professional coaching titles from Spanish Football Federation such as Professor of Tactics, Master of Physical Preparation.

Suarez undergoes surgery for knee injury



VALENCIA, MAY 10 (AFP): Barcelona striker Luis Suarez underwent surgery on a knee injury on Thursday and could be a doubt for their Copa del Rey final against Valencia later this month. Suarez played the full 90 minutes of Barca's shock 4-0 defeat to Liverpool on Tuesday, which ended their hopes of reaching the Champions League final.

But the club announced on Thursday that Suarez needed an operation, with the cup final just over a fortnight away on May 25. "Luis

Suarez has an internal meniscal injury to the right knee and will be subjected today to an arthroscopy," read a club statement. Suarez is unlikely to face Getafe at home in La Liga on Sunday before Barcelona play away to Eibar the following weekend in their last league game of the season.

Ernesto Valverde's side have already been crowned champions and could seal consecutive domestic doubles by beating Valencia, even it is unlikely to make amends for the collapse against Liverpool.

Man City on brink of Premier League glory as Liverpool cling to hope

LONDON, MAY 10 (AFP): Manchester City and Liverpool have slugged it out in one of the most gripping Premier League title races of all time, going toe to toe in a monumental battle for the ages. But it will all be decided on Sunday when City travel to Brighton and Liverpool host Wolves, with Pep Guardiola's team firm favourites to get over the line ahead of Jurgen Klopp's charging team.

The bare statistics from both sides this season are phenomenal.

City, on 95 points, have won their past 13 Premier League matches to wipe out a seven-point lead for Liverpool and are on the brink of becoming the first team to retain the title since Manchester United in 2009.

Klopp's men, with 94 points, have recovered from a mid-season stumble to record eight straight victories and are agonisingly close to their first English top-flight title since 1990.

The 18-time league winners face the scarcely credible scenario of ending the season with the third-highest points tally in Premier League history and a single defeat yet still missing out on the title. City look almost certain to finish off the job on the south coast but Guardiola, speaking after a nervy 1-0 win against Leicester on Monday, is taking nothing for granted.



"The players are mature, and we have one more game," said Guardiola. "It will be tough in Brighton. They took a result at Arsenal. We played a few weeks ago against them (in the FA Cup semi-final) and it was tough.

"They will play for pride but it's in our hands. We were seven points behind but we never give up. We are still there and we win 13 games in a row."

City cannot quite match the record 100 points they mustered last season but they have shown their ability to dig deep in recent weeks. Guardiola's side

have been free-scoring for the majority of the campaign, racking up 91 goals, but three of their past four wins have been 1-0 victories. A second consecutive title for the club, who remain on course for a historic domestic treble, would underline their status as the dominant force in the English game. A Vincent Kompany thunderbolt settled the match against Leicester, although that astonishing moment has since been overshadowed by breathtaking Champions League comebacks for Liverpool and Tottenham.

- CHAMPIONS LEAGUE -
Klopp will have to re-focus his players'

minds on their clash with Wolves at Anfield after their semi-final heroics against Barcelona as they cling to the hope that City will slip up. "We will again try to collect the bones and go again against Wolves," said Klopp, who also has fitness doubts over Mohamed Salah, Roberto Firmino, Jordan Henderson and Andy Robertson to deal with. The Liverpool narrative has changed dramatically since they overturned a 3-0 first-leg deficit against the Spanish champions to reach the Champions League final 4-3 on aggregate on Tuesday.

They now know that even if they fall short they have the chance to become champions of Europe for a sixth time if they can get past Tottenham in Madrid on June 1.

But despite their European adventure, the Anfield faithful are desperate to see their team at the top of the domestic tree again.

"Now I know the atmosphere will be brilliant again and they will need to push us again because it is a difficult game on Sunday," added Klopp.

"We have to win, which is already difficult enough, and then we will see what happens in the other stadium." Behind

the runaway front two, all the issues in the Premier League are virtually done and dusted.

Barring a spectacular swing in goal difference, Tottenham will finish above Arsenal and mathematically seal the remaining Champions League spot alongside Chelsea, while the highest Manchester United can finish is fifth. Wolves, in seventh place, cannot be caught and will earn a Europa League spot provided Watford do not beat City in the FA Cup final.

At the bottom of the table, Huddersfield, Fulham and Cardiff are already preparing for life in the second-tier Championship.

Barcelona expect frosty return to Camp Nou with recovery a long way off

VALENCIA, MAY 10 (AFP): Barcelona's recovery begins against Getafe on Sunday but the pain felt from their Champions League collapse at Anfield is likely to get worse before it gets better. For Getafe, who stand on the brink of their own meteoric upset of finishing in La Liga's top four, the game at Camp Nou is pivotal but for Barca's hurting players, it could feel more like a wake.

"There are going to be some difficult days ahead, but we have to go again," said coach Ernesto Valverde. A week before, their fans had roared them off, ecstatic after a 3-0 victory over Liverpool put them within touching distance of their first European final since 2015. When the names of the players, and coach, are read out before kick-off this weekend, the reaction will be instructive, pointing to just how much Tuesday's 4-0 defeat has spoiled an otherwise excellent season that could yet end with a domestic double.

"We have to be really self-critical about what happened," Luis Suarez said. "There are a lot of things to evaluate and to think about. "We have to apologise for our attitude and realise the criticism is going to rain down on us now. We're really upset, we're hurting a lot. We're humans and we feel the pain."

After Getafe, comes a trip to Eibar for the last league game before the Copa del Rey final against

Valencia in Seville on May 25. Win at the Benito Villamarin and there will be celebrations, history made too, but nothing now can make amends. Like 12 months ago, two trophies will be seen as a failure and, like 12 months ago, there are reports that defeat in the cup final will see Valverde sacked.

The way Barcelona respond in these last three games will not save Valverde but, however unfairly, it could condemn him. Any suggestion the players have stopped believing will enthuse those anxious for change. "I don't know how this affects my future," Valverde said on Tuesday.

"But here we are and the coach has to take responsibility." Patience could wear thinner too with those seen to have underperformed. After they beat Liverpool, Lionel Messi criticised the fans for their treatment of Philippe Coutinho, who was whistled off in the second half. But Messi then was speaking from a position of strength.

Valverde made 11 changes for the defeat to Celta Vigo last weekend and could rotate again, sparing his players potential censure from the fans and offering them a longer period of recuperation. Getafe could be the beneficiaries given Barcelona are the biggest obstacle left between them and the remarkable feat of Champions League qualification. They play at home to 15th-placed Villarreal on the last day.

Allegri's future in spotlight as Juventus travel to Roma

MILAN, MAY 10 (AFP): Massimiliano Allegri's future as Juventus coach is in the spotlight as the champions travel to Roma in Serie A on Sunday with mounting speculation over his position.

Juventus have already wrapped up their eighth consecutive title, and Allegri's fifth in as many years since replacing Antonio Conte in 2014.

The 51-year-old had insisted that he was staying despite the team's flop quarter-final Champions League exit at the hands of Ajax, which led to criticism of his management after the arrival of Cristiano Ronaldo had boosted hopes of a first Champions League in over two decades.

They were also boot-ed out of the Coppa Italia by Atalanta.

Having nothing left to play for with three games to go this season has given Allegri time to take stock, with a meeting reportedly set to take place with club president Andrea Agnelli.

"We'll sit down with the club and think about the future, analyse this season and what could be done better; to have a team ready to aim for success in all competi-



tions next season," Allegri has said.

The former AC Milan and Cagliari coach still has a year left on his contract with his annual salary 7.5 million euros (8.4 million).

Paris Saint-Germain, another club looking to break their Champions League curse, are reported to be interested in Allegri, while Antonio Conte, has been linked to a return to Turin where he won the first three of this current run of league titles, along with current Conte's successor at Chelsea Maurizio Sarri.

Juventus travel to Roma having being held in the two games they've played since claiming the league title -- 1-1 draws with both Inter Milan and Torino.

Roma have lost just one of their last seven

home games against Juventus -- drawing three and winning three. Their last defeat was back in May 2014.

Juventus will also have a role in who qualifies along with them and second-placed Napoli for the Champions League next season.

Five teams are in the chase with Inter Milan third on 63 points, followed by Atalanta (62), AC Milan (59), Roma (59) and Torino (57).

Juventus host Atalanta the following week.

Ronaldo will also be hoping to finish the season as the top scorer, with the Portuguese currently on 21 goals, four short of Sampdoria's Fabio Quagliarella.

"Cristiano Ronaldo wants to finish the season as top goalscorer," said Roma forward

Edin Dzeko.

"In the Italian league no-one gifts anyone anything."

Dzeko added: "In football anything can happen, we saw that again with what Liverpool did in the Champions League this week."

Unheralded Atalanta host Genoa after last week's 3-1 win at Lazio, but not at their stadium but Sassuolo's Mapei Stadium, because of work on their stadium.

Inter Milan host relegated Chievo desperate for a win after three draws, with fellow Champions League hopefuls AC Milan at Fiorentina and Torino at home against Sassuolo.

Napoli travel to SPAL after Carlo Ancelotti's side secured second place in the league last weekend.

Contact Summit TIMES at
9832556698, 9832369520
news@summittimes.com advertse@summittimes.com
summittimes16@gmail.com

Gunman told 911 ‘I just shot up a synagogue’ after attack



SAN DIEGO , MAY 10 (AP): As the 19-year-old college student sped away in his 2012 Honda Civic, he dialed 911 and said: “I just shot up a synagogue.”

He told the dispatcher that he thought he had killed some people and that he did it “because Jewish people are destroying the white race.”

The chilling account in a federal affidavit unsealed Thursday was the most detailed yet of a gunman’s attack on a Southern California synagogue that killed a woman and wounded three others during Passover service last month in the San Diego suburb of Poway.

It describes a deeply disturbed man filled with hatred who claimed to be inspired by the attacks on the mosques in New Zealand and the shooting at the Pittsburgh synagogue last fall.

The Department of Justice filed 109 hate

crime and other charges against the suspect, John T. Earnest, who could face the death penalty. The federal charges include murder for the killing of 60-year-old Lori Kaye, who was hit twice as she prayed in the foyer of the synagogue. It also includes charges for the attempted murder of 53 others.

In a court appearance last month, Earnest pleaded not guilty to state charges of murder and attempted murder and in a separate case to an arson charge tied to a mosque fire. During the 911 call, Earnest said he killed because he was “trying to defend my nation from the Jewish people ... They’re destroying our people,” according to the affidavit.

He then told the dispatcher where he was at, that he would surrender to authorities and leave his semi-automatic rifle in the car. He also said he was wearing a chest rig

with additional ammunition, which the dispatcher asked him to remove.

Shortly after that, police arrested Earnest.

Police would later learn it was not the first attack on a house of worship by the suspect, according to the affidavit.

The nursing student and gifted pianist had tried weeks earlier to burn down a nearby mosque in Escondido, where seven people on a spiritual retreat were sleeping, according to the affidavit. They awoke to flames licking at the door and managed to extinguish the fire, which charred a wall.

Outside the mosque, the suspect had scrawled the name of the man accused of carrying out shootings at two mosques in New Zealand that killed 50 people.

In his online postings, Earnest said he was inspired by those attacks and the one last fall on the Tree of Life

synagogue in Pittsburgh, and boasted about how “easy” it is to burn down or shoot up a mosque, synagogue, immigration center, or “traitorous” politicians, according to court documents.

A copy of the web posting of the New Zealand suspect Brenton Tarrant was found on his laptop, authorities say.

A month after his failed attempt to burn down the mosque, authorities say, Earnest bought an AR-15 rifle from a licensed dealer in San Diego. The next day, a Saturday, marked the last day of Passover, a major Jewish holiday.

Just as the service was getting started, Earnest pulled up to the synagogue in his Honda Civic and walked in firing his AR-15, which was fully loaded with a 10-round magazine. Kaye fell to the ground. Then Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, who was leading the service, was shot as he rushed

to get the children out, including his own grandchildren.

Also hit by shrapnel were an 8-year-old girl and her uncle.

The shooter emptied his magazine and stopped as he struggled to reload it, according to the affidavit. That’s when several members of the congregation, including an off-duty Border Patrol agent, chased Earnest from the synagogue.

His family has said they will not pay for his defense and that he represents none of the values they taught him and are stunned at his embrace of white supremacy. Authorities said Earnest frequented dark corners of the web that often post extremist, racist and violent views. In his online postings, he said, “As an individual, I can only kill so many Jews.” The Chabad of Poway applauded the federal charges Thursday but said more must be done to prevent people from being led astray by such hatred.

“We are grateful to our country’s dedicated law enforcement authorities for taking the appropriate measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of its citizens,” the synagogue said in a statement. “As a society we must surely focus on the preventive measure of instilling in our youth a sense of personal accountability to a Higher Being, in whose image every human being was created.

Trump accuses China of renegotiating a negotiated deal



BY LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON, MAY 10 (PTI):

US President Donald Trump Thursday accused China of trying to renegotiate a trade deal that has been negotiated after months of efforts and asserted he will not let that happen. The Trump Administration Friday imposed increased tariffs on import of Chinese products over USD200 billion worth from 10 percent to 25 percent. Trump told reporters earlier in the day that such a move is necessary to hold China to previous commitments.

“We were getting very close to a deal, then they started to renegotiate the deal. We can’t have that,” he told reporters at the White House.

Later in the day, the Chinese Vice Premier held meetings with the US Trade Representatives Robert Lighthizer.

“We cannot have that. So, our country can take in USD120 billion a year in tariffs, paid for mostly by China, by the way, not by us. A lot of people try and steer it in a different direction. It’s really paid, largely, by China. And businesses will pour back into our country. So instead of making the product, it’ll be old fashion way, the way we used to do it. We made our own product,” Trump said defending his decision.

The US president appeared to be fine with the situation wherein his country does not enter into a trade deal with China. “I think things are going along pretty well there. But a large group delegation, headed by one of the most respected men and highest officials of China, will be coming in today. They start at 5 o’clock. And

they’ll see what they can do,” he said.

“But our alternative is an excellent one. It’s an alternative I’ve spoken about for years. We’ll take in well over 100 billion a year. We never took in 10 cents from China. Not 10 cents. I think it will be a very strong day, frankly. We’ll see. We’ll see. It was their idea to come back,” he said in response to a question. At the same time, he said that it is possible that the US and China will enter into a trade deal.

“Once the tariffs went on, they upped the meeting. It was supposed to take place originally on Thursday. Then, about five weeks ago, they said, ‘How about Friday? How about next week?’ I said, ‘What’s this all about?’ And I said, ‘That’s okay, let’s -- don’t worry about it. Let’s take in USD100 billion a year. And we put the tariffs on, we made the statement, and then they upped the meeting. ‘How about let’s go back to Thursday?’” Trump said referring to the conversation his administration is having with the Chinese.

Trump said last night he received a letter from the Chinese President Xi Jinping. “I have no idea what’s going to happen. I did get, last night, a very beautiful letter from President Xi. ‘Let’s work together. Let’s see if we can get something done.’ But they renegotiated the deal. I mean, they took -- whether it’s intellectual property theft, they took many, many parts of that deal and they renegotiated. You can’t do that,” he said. Trump reiterated that the US is having trade imbalance with China, which he will not let happen any longer.

“I’m different from a

lot of people. I happen to think that tariffs for our country are very powerful. You know, we’re the piggybank that everybody steals from, including China. We’ve been paying China USD500 billion a year for many, many years. China rebuilt their country because of us,” he said. “They couldn’t have done what they’re doing. They’re building a ship every three weeks. They’re building aircraft like you’ve never seen. Fighter jets. I respect it. I don’t blame them. I blame our past leadership for allowing this to happen,” he said.

Trump said what he is doing now with China should have happened many years ago. “Not just Obama; long before Obama. I always say, you know, if you look, NAFTA is one of the first deals ever made -- trade deal. But the worst trade deal ever made is the WTO, because China was flat-lining for many, many decades. It was flat, right here. The WTO came along. We allowed China into the WTO, and they became a rocket ship,” he said.

“We are not going to be taken advantage of anymore. We’re not going to pay China USD500 billion a year. So we put very heavy tariffs on China, as of Friday, and we put them on, also, eight months ago,” he asserted.

Judd Deere, a White House spokesman, said, “This evening, Ambassador Lighthizer and Secretary Mnuchin met with President Trump to discuss the ongoing trade negotiations with China. The Ambassador and Secretary then had a working dinner with Vice Premier Liu He, and agreed to continue discussions tomorrow morning at USTR.

Venezuela’s Maduro tightens pressure on opposition

CARACAS, MAY 10 (AP): The arrest of a top opposition leader in Venezuela unleashed fears of a wider crackdown on Thursday, even as members of the opposition issued renewed calls for weekend protests in a month long campaign to oust President Nicol s Maduro. The Wednesday arrest of Edgar Zambrano, the vice president of the opposition-controlled National Assembly in Venezuela, was the latest move in a protracted, increasingly murky struggle between two camps vying for support of the military, which has seen some defections but whose loyalty to Maduro has preserved his grip on power.

Maduro’s chief adversary, opposition leader Juan Guaid, portrayed the arrest and targeting of members of the assembly as acts of desperation by a government whose leaders don’t know who to trust. The US-backed opposition leader also announced new nationwide protests on Saturday, following clashes between police and protesters last week that left six people dead.

“They won’t get us out of the streets,” said Guaid , whose public appearance in Caracas reflected his belief that Maduro does not have the confidence to arrest him. Maduro has ap-

peared to let Guaid wage a campaign against him following US warnings that there would be severe repercussions if he took action against his foe. The United States says Russia-backed Maduro was elected illegitimately and that Guaid should lead Venezuelans to free elections after years of turmoil. Maduro describes Guaid as a collaborator in a US-engineered coup plot.

Now, the government is chipping away at the National Assembly, the key Venezuelan institution demanding Maduro’s resignation. Diosdado Cabello, a leading political ally of Maduro, suggested Thursday that the government is being methodical in its battle with the opposition.

“We’re not in a rush,” Cabello said.

Venezuela’s top court has announced investigations of Zambrano and nine other congress members for alleged roles in supporting Guaid ‘s failed appeal for a military uprising on April 30, as others have come under increasing pressure.

“This is clearly fallout from the uprising last week. It amounts to a reassertion of hardliners within the Maduro government,” said David Smilde, a senior fellow at the Washington Office on Latin America, a non-governmental group.

US warns Iran of ‘swift, decisive’ response in case of provocative behaviour

BY LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON, MAY 10 (PTI): The US has warned Iran of a “swift and decisive” response in case of any attacks by Tehran or its proxies of any identity against American interests or citizens.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo’s statement came a day after US President Donald Trump imposed tougher-than-ever sanctions on Iran’s iron, steel, aluminum and copper sectors, a move aimed at stopping Tehran from acquiring a nuclear weapon and intercontinental ballistic missiles and to counter its “malign influence” in the Middle East. Pompeo, in a strongly-worded statement said: “The regime in Tehran should understand that any attacks by them or their proxies of any identity against US interests or citizens will be answered with a swift and decisive US response.”

“Our restraint to this point should not be mistaken by Iran for a lack of resolve. To date the regime’s default option has been violence, and we appeal to those in Tehran who see a path to a prosperous future through de-escalation to modify the regime’s behaviour,” he said. Pompeo referred to the statement of Trump on Wednesday in which he said that he “looks forward to someday meeting with leaders of Iran in order to work out an agreement and, very importantly, taking steps to give Iran the future it deserves.”

Iran, Pompeo alleged, has engaged in an escalating series of threatening actions and statements in recent weeks.

The response of the United States and its partners and allies has been clear: “We do not seek war.”

“But Iran’s 40 years of killing American soldiers, attacking American facilities and taking American hostages is a constant reminder that we must defend ourselves,” Pompeo said.

Acting Defence Secretary Patrick Shanahan described it as a “very well-coordinated and crafted” statement. Democratic Senator Chris Murphy criticised Pompeo for his statement on Iran. “This statement is a big trouble. Who decides what an Iranian proxy is? Does that include the Houthis? Every single Iraqi Shia

militia? Assad? “And FYI the President cannot take military action without Congressional authorisation just because a ‘US interest’ is attacked,” Murphy said.

Last year, the US withdrew from the “fatally flawed”, “one-sided” Iran nuclear deal and began the process of reimposing sanctions on Tehran. Iran on Wednesday threatened to enrich its uranium stockpile closer to weapons-grade levels if Europe, China and Russia fail to deliver sanctions relief within 60 days.

Earlier in the day, Trump said he does not want to say that he will not enter into a military confrontation with Iran, but hopes that will not be the case.

“I don’t want to say no. But hopefully that won’t happen. We have one of the most powerful ships in the world that’s loaded up, and we don’t want to have to do anything,” he told reporters at the White House.

“What I’d like to see with Iran, I’d like to see them call me. You know (former Secretary of State) John Kerry speaks to them a lot. John Kerry tells them not to call. That’s a violation of the Logan Act. And frankly he should be prosecuted on that. But my people don’t want to do anything that’s -- only the Democrats do that kind of stuff,” he said. The allegations were denied by Kerry. Trump said that the Iranian economy is in a mess.

“They have inflation that’s the highest number I’ve ever heard. They’re having riots every weekend and during the week even. What they should be doing is calling me up, sitting down; we can make a deal, a fair deal. We just don’t want them to have nuclear weapons. Not too much to ask.

“We would help put them back into great shape. They’re in a bad shape right now. I look forward to the day where we can actually help Iran. We’re not looking to hurt Iran. I want them to be strong and great and have a great economy, but they’re listening to John Kerry, who’s violated a very important element of what he’s supposed to be doing. He violated the Logan Act. Plain and simple. He shouldn’t be doing that,” Trump added.



