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SummitTIMES

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

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Chief Minister announces slew of sops for Govt employees, asks them to work with more dedication now

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

The State Government has capitulated on its decision to pay arrears to government employees from 01 Jan, 2017 and has now decided to shift the date to 01 Jan, 2016. It was also decided that advance arrears will be paid during the forthcoming Dasain festival.

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling made the announcement on his Facebook page today wherein he informed about a meeting that had taken place today at Samman Bhawan with the representatives of Group C & D government employees.

"Over the last few months, I have come

to understand that some of our State Government employees, specially the Group C&D are expressing their unhappiness regarding the Pay Committee recommendations. It must be remembered that as the Chief Minister, I take it as my responsibility to look after the needs and welfare of our employees, whom I consider the pillar of State administration as well as my partners in State-building. I therefore, felt it pertinent to hold deliberations so as to provide the best possible pay package to them," he wrote.

Another decision taken during the meeting was the formation of a Sub-Committee to examine and sort out the anomalies (if any)

in the Pay Committee recommendations.

It was also decided that arrears will be paid at the following rate: i) Group A employees- Rs. 1.05 lakhs, ii) Group B employees - Rs. 95,000, iii) Group C employees - Rs. 50,000, Group D employees - Rs. 40,000,

The government has also decided to resume the practice of second Saturdays as official holiday.

However, as notified earlier, the allowances will be payable from 1st September 2018 and arrears will be disbursed in three annual installments as recommended by the Pay Committee.

Earlier, the then Pay Revision Committee chairperson, Rinchen Ongmu Thakar-

pa, had recommended implementation of arrears from 01 Jan, 2017 instead of 01 Jan, 2016 which was accepted by the Government in the month of June earlier this year.

Addressing the government employees, Mr Chamling has said that changing the date for payment of arrears alone has set the State back by Rs 354 crore - a huge amount of fund which could have been used for developmental projects, adding that the State Government has gone out of its way in ensuring that the hopes and aspirations of government employees are fulfilled.

The CM goes on to remind government employees "that they do not contribute di-

rectly to the State as they draw their salaries from the State Ex-Chequer. Since they enjoy the benefit of Income Tax exemption, they have a huge advantage financially compared to their counterparts in other states and even in the Central Government departments."

Further stating that the government has done the best possible for the employees and will continue doing so, the CM has said that the onus now lies on each and every State Government employee to perform his/her duties with more dedication, sincerity and honesty and transform themselves to be most disciplined and able work force of the country.

Petrol, diesel prices hit fresh highs

NEW DELHI, SEP 11 (PTI):

Petrol and diesel prices hit fresh highs on Tuesday as rupee plunged to an all-time low, making imports costlier. A 14 paise per litre hike in petrol and diesel prices each took the rates to an all-time high, according to price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Petrol price in Delhi climbed to Rs 80.87 per litre, while in Mumbai it inched up to Rs 88.26. A litre of diesel in the national capital was priced at Rs 72.97 and Rs 77.47 in Mumbai.

SISCO Bank pays dividends of Rs 1.52 cr to State Govt

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT [IPR]:

Sikkim State Co-operative Bank Ltd [SISCO Bank] during its Annual General Meeting held in Gangtok on 07 Sept declared a net profit of Rs 4.33 crore for the Financial Year 2017-18.

The bank has shown excellent growth during the year with total income during the year reaching Rs 163.07 crore compared to Rs 89.74 crore during the year 2016-17. Net Non-Performing Asset [NPA] of the bank as on 31 Mar, 2018 stood at 3.64% and Capital to Risky Asset Ratio [CRAR] at a comfortable 12.53%.

The SISCO Bank presently has a network of 14 branches and 14 ATMS spread across the State.



The State owned bank now offers facilities of ATM-Debit cards, RTGS/NEFT, AEPS and PFMS to its customers. The bank presently has a clientele of about 75000 depositors and has advanced

loans to more than 20,000 people of Sikkim.

The major thrust of the bank has been agricultural lending with more than Rs 300 crore already disbursed to Sikkimese farmers as loans

under agri and allied sectors.

The bank paid a dividend of Rs 1.52 crore to the State Government against its Shareholding. The dividend was received by Chief Minister

Pawan Chamling at his official residence on 10 Sept.

SISCO Bank has invited all Sikkimese people to patronize the bank and avail quality and personalized Banking Services.



Governor calls on President Ramnath Kovind

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Governor Ganga Prasad today called on President Ramnath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

A press communiqué received from Raj Bhavan informs that the Governor apprised the President about the issues of Sikkim, its unique characteristics and achievements despite being located along three international boundaries.

He also invited the

President to visit Sikkim.

The President showed keen interest in learning about Sikkim, its people, accomplishments and uniqueness and expressed his desire to visit the State in Nov 2018.

The Governor is in Delhi for his first series of engagements with various dignitaries, including the President, Vice President and Prime Minister, since he took office as Governor of Sikkim on 26 August.

Immature of Bhaichung to write letter to PM: SDF

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

Sikkim Democratic Front has strongly criticised Hamro Sikkim Party vice-president, Bhaichung Bhutia for his recent letter to the Prime Minister. Mr Bhutia has exposed himself with this act of tattling, the ruling party has said.

An SDF press release issued by its general secretary [press & publicity], Kavita Subba con-

demns this act by the HSP vice president and adds that Sikkim is known for its peace, security and development due to far-sighted, innovative and pro-people leadership.

Politics is a battle of principles and thoughts and it should be in the interest and welfare of the people, the party has said.

Writing a letter to the PM by deliberately ignoring the overall develop-

ment and prestige of Sikkim and contributions of the Chief Minister Pawan Chamling is immature and ignorant, the release states.

The letter goes against the interest of Sikkim and its people which has also proved that Bhaichung is a bad son, SDF alleges.

The party has also questioned the capacity in which Bhaichung Bhutia is asking BJP to break its alliance with SDF.

SDF further alleges that the letter to the PM reveals that Bhaichung has been "planted" to carry out agendas of others with vested interests.

The alliance of SDF party with NDA was a contribution towards making a stable government at the Centre and to maintain emotional

unity between the State and the Country as well as to lead Sikkim into the mainstream in order to fulfil the national aspirations and needs of the people of Sikkim, the party has said.

The foundation of SDF and its relationship with BJP was laid by the deep wisdom, trust and

sharp nationalist spirit of Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pawan Chamling, the release adds.

It further mentions that SDF is in the NEDA and NDA with the mandate of the people and the PM has been repeatedly appreciating the initiatives of the State in various fields.

Centre announces hike in incentives of Asha, Anganwadi workers

NEW DELHI, SEP 11 (PTI):

In good news for lakhs of Asha and Anganwadi workers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday announced a hike in their monthly honorarium from October.

In addition, all accredited social health activists (Asha) will be brought under the coverage of various social security schemes and provided free insurance cover under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojana.

The social health activists will not have to pay any premium for the insurance coverage and will get Rs 4 lakh in case of any untoward incident, the prime minister said during a video interaction with Asha, ANM (auxiliary nurse midwife) and Anganwadi workers from across the country.

He said the revised incentive will come into effect from October and it will reflect in their salaries from November onwards, which would be a Diwali gift for them.

Those who drew an honorarium of Rs 3,000 will from now on get Rs 4,500 and those who used to get Rs 2,200 will get Rs 3,500, he said.

The honorarium of Anganwadi helpers will be hiked from Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,500, he said.

These are routine incentive given by the Centre to Asha and Anganwadi workers. The state governments also give them separate incentive.

There are around 14 lakh Anganwadis or child care centres in rural areas across the country and 10 crore beneficiaries, who include children under the age of six and pregnant women and lactating mothers. There are a total of 12,83,707 Anganwadi workers and 10,50,564 helpers.

There are a total of 10,23,136 accredited social health activists (Asha) across the country.

Anganwadis were set up under the Integrated Child Development Services

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Interschool junior quiz competition at Himalayan Academy

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

Himalayan Academy, Soreng, West Sikkim, organized a three-day long Interschool Junior Level Quiz Completion at the school auditorium. 16 private and government schools participated

in the competition. The first and second elimination rounds were held on 07-08 Sept and the final contest on 10 Sept, a press release informs.

Tenderfeet Academy, Soreng, secured the first position while Green Valley Academy secured

second position. Timburbong Government Secondary School secured the third position with Mt K2 Academy, Soreng, taking the fourth position.

The programme was attended by National award-winning teacher, Dinesh Pega, as chief guest.

Commerce Asst Professor awarded Ph.D by Garhwal Central University

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

Assistant professor At Department of Commerce, Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College, Tadong Gangtok, Bhuwan Chhetri was awarded Ph.D (Doctor of Philosophy) by the Department of Commerce, HNB Garhwal Central University on 08 Sept.

A press release informs that Mr Chhetri had prepared his thesis under the guidance of Prof. S K Sharma. Born to Saran Singh Chhetri and Tika Devi Chhetri of Soreng, West Sikkim, Mr Chhetri has published 13 papers in reputed UGC journals, the release mentions.



Centre announces hike in incentives...

contd from pg01

(ICDS) programme.

Asha and Anganwadi workers are playing a critical role in strengthening the foundation of the country, ensuring health and wellbeing of the newborn, ensuring nutritional standards and maintaining cleanliness, he said.

The prime minister also announced that Anganwadi workers and helpers using techniques such as common application software (ICDS-CAS) would get additional incentives. The incentives, ranging from Rs 250 to Rs 500, would be based on performance.

He said the government's flagship health insurance programme Ayushman Bharat will be launched from Jharkhand on September 23, and the beneficiaries have already been identified.

Karishma, a newborn in Karnal district of Haryana, is the first beneficiary under this scheme, he said.

During his interaction, the prime minister laid emphasis on redoubling efforts to reduce anaemia-related illness in the country by three times, the reduction rate of which currently stands at only one per cent.

Modi appreciated their efforts to work together, to use innovative means and technology, to improve the delivery of health and nutrition services and achieve the goal of the 'Poshan Abhiyan' (nutrition mission).

September is being devoted to nutrition and

"Poshan Maah" aims to reach every household in the country with the message of the importance of optimum nutrition.

Reacting to increase in honorarium of Anganwadi workers and helpers, Women and Child Development (WCD) Minister Maneka Gandhi said she was grateful to the prime minister "for leading the Poshan Abhiyan from the front".

"Over the last 4 years, we have been putting the pieces of puzzle together so that the fight against malnutrition can be taken up in a mission mode. The first aspect we dealt was the increase of daily cost norms for the beneficiaries of the ICDS Programme. The second was to have a technology-based real-time monitoring system of Anganwadi services. These two have been put in place," she said.

"The third aspect was the identification and elimination of fake beneficiaries which is an ongoing process. We have already eliminated approximately one crore fake beneficiaries from the system. The fourth piece has been announced today. The honorarium of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers is being increased by one-and-a-half times from the existing amount," she said.

She urged parents to bring their children to Anganwadi centres, saying "the better you feed your child, the smarter he or she would be".

ATMA East holds governing board meeting



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

Agriculture Technology Management Agency [ATMA], East conducted its Governing Board Meeting on 10 Sept at the chamber of District Collector, East in Gangtok. The meeting was chaired by the DC East, Kapil Meena, who is also the chairperson of the ATMA Governing Body, a press release informs.

Project Director, ATMA East, Bina Rai, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the progress of ATMA for the financial

year 2017-19. She also highlighted the success of ATMA in transferring of technology in the farmer's field.

The DC East advised the governing body to conduct Block/District level Kisaan Mela once in a year for farm information dissemination. He also enquired about Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana [PMFBY] and directed Joint Director, East to submit a detailed report at his office.

Further, he advised ATMA to work in convergence with Sikkim Milk Union for production

and application of Azolla in order to enhance milk quality and soil fertility. He assured the governing body that he will extend constant support and guidance in implementing ATMA in East district.

It was proposed and decided during the meeting that 50% of the old successful Farm Schools will be continued for two years and two Wards in East District should be taken up by ATMA in convergence with all line departments to develop an organic model village.



Two independent candidates file nominations for West Panchayat bye-elections

**SUMMIT REPORT
Gangtok, 10 Sept:**

Returning Officer, District Magistrate, West, had issued notice for Bye Election at 19-Karmatar Gitang GPU ward 3-Ferek Milling [ST], 59-Siktam Tikpur GPU ward 4-Orange Village [ST] and 43-Chumbong GPU ward 5-Budang [OBC[CJW] following which three nomination forms were received

from Sunita Rai [Sikkim Democratic Front, 43/5 Budang], Neeto Lepcha [SDF, 19/3 Ferek Milling] and Sukra Singh Subba [SDF, 59/4 Orange Village] on 10 Sept.

A press release informs that two independent candidates - Laden T Lepcha [19/3 Ferek Milling] and Budha Sing Subba [59/4 Orange Village] filed their nominations today.

SKM holds constituency level meet for Namcheybong

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

A constituency-level meeting of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha was held at Assam Lingzey today for Namcheybong constituency. SKM president, PS Tamang [Golay], also inaugurated a constituency-level office at Saramsa and ward-level office at Namcheybong before the meeting, informs an SKM press release.

In his address, the SKM president mentioned that the party has been giving more opportunity to the younger generation.

While conveying his best wishes for Teej festival to the people, he announced to declare a government holiday on



Teej should SKM form the next government in Sikkim.

He also alleged favouritism and nepotism in the SDF government and added that the aim of the SKM party was to change this system.

Mr Tamang went on to assure that SKM will

always work for the betterment of Sikkim and its people and build a better future for the younger generation. He alleged that the SDF government has done injustice to educated youth of the State and detailed the various programmes for government employees, youth and other sec-

tions of the society envisioned by the SKM.

The release adds that founder members of SDF party, Dil Maya Rai and Buddha Kumar Rai, along with 203 families from Sang-Martam, 19 from Tadong and 11 families from Rhenock officially joined the SKM today.



FPE training at Luving

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:**

A daylong training on Fermented Plant Extract [FPE] for farmers of Thamidara under Luving-Perbing GPU in East Sikkim was organized today by Food Security & Agriculture Development Department [FS&ADD] here at Luving village.

The programme, sponsored by Luving Perbing GPU, was chaired by Panchayat president, Data Ram Pandey, and was attended by around 40 farmers and all the panchayat members of the GPU, informs a press release issued by Sambhedhna Pradhan, VLW [FS&ADD],

Luving-Perbing VLW Circle.

The release adds that the farmers were trained on methods of preparations of organic pesticides and manures utilizing locally available plants and herbs by cluster in-charge, IPL [service provider], Karma Dubo Bhutia, and field staff, Kamal Dahal.

An interactive session between the resource persons, departmental officials and farmers was also held on the occasion, the release adds.

The programme was also attended by Field Assistant, Kumar Gurung, Horticulture Department.

Bye-election at Anethang ward

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: Returning Officer, District Magistrate [South], has issued notice for bye-elections at 3-Anethang Ward of 46-Barfung Zarung Gram Panchayat Unit [OBC[CJW] in South Sikkim in pursuance of Notification issued by State Election Commission,



Sikkim. Today, only one nomination form was received - from Mon Kumari

Rai [Sikkim Democratic Front, Anethang Ward], a press release informs.



TEEJ AT MAMRING SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: The festival of Teej was celebrated at Mamring Senior Secondary School in East Sikkim today.

**Gangtok on
Wednesday,
12 Sept**

Temp: 25°C/16°C
Forecast: Cloudy,
thundershowers;
watch for flooding.
Sunrise: 05:19 AM
Sunset: 5:44 PM

*Lone SDF
candidate files
nomination
for Namrang
ward
panchayat
polls*

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: Following the notification of State Election Commission dated 04 Sept with regard to the schedule of election for filling up vacancies in various Gram Panchayat Wards in the State, today was the last date for filing of nomination.

A press release received from the office of the District Collector cum Returning Officer, East informs that in East district, election to Ward No. 4 Namrang [Tumin Karma Choeling Gumpa] of 47 Tumin GPU had been notified. Till the last date of filing nomination, only one nomination was received from Rohit Raj Luitel of Sikkim Democratic Front.

The nomination paper will be taken up for scrutiny by the Returning Officer in his chamber on 12 Sept at 11 a.m. Further, the last date for withdrawal of nomination will be till 3 p.m of 14 Sept.

*Teej
celebrated
at Kabrey
Shivalaya*

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT: Nagi, Karek, Kabrey Women's Producers Group (PG) celebrated Teej Festival at Kabrey Shivalaya today. Namthang Rateypani MLA, Tilu Gurung was present as chief guest while Zilla Panchayat Members Yadunath Mishra, Hari Gurung and Birjan Tamang were present as special guests. After the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the chief guest, akhanda jyoti prayer was performed. The formal programme began after the welcome speech by PG member Santa Maya Rai. During the programme cultural programme was performed by students of Bal Bikash Kabrey Sai Samiti, Sunakhari Club and Nagi, Karek, Kabrey PG.

Literary figure of the locality, Balaram Dahal highlighted the importance of Teej Festival. While addressing the gathering, the chief guest of the programme, MLA Tilu Gurung extend her best wishes on the occasion and also congratulated the organizer for successfully conducting the programme.

The programme was also addressed by Dev Nepal [NRLM coordinator South District] and member of Kabrey Shivalaya Mandir Managing Committee, Krishna Prasad Dahal. The programme wrapped up with the vote of thanks by PG member, Hari Maya Rai.



Ms Sikkim finalists interact with media

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 11 SEPT:

An interactive session between Miss Sikkim 2018 finalists and media personnel from Gangtok was organised by organizer's, Positude, at Hotel Rumtek Dzong in Rumtek, East Sikkim today.

In an hour-long ses-

sion, the 16 contestants introduced themselves and interacted at length with the media.

The finals of the 5th edition of Miss Sikkim 2018 will be held on 22 Sept at Manan Kendra in Gangtok and the red carpet event will be held at MG Marg on 16 Sept,

informed Positude CEO, Gyurmila Bhutia. She also introduced the judges and official partners for this year's pageant.

The girls have been staying in Rumtek for their grooming sessions since 06 Sept. They are being trained by fashion choreographer, Laisum-

wi Brahma.

"The contestants are quick learners and in a short span of time, they have learnt many things. I am sure they will be polished well by the grand finale. We have been training them on overall personality development with special focus on cat-

walk and stage presence," Ms Brahma shared.

This year, the pageant had the participation of 40 girls from all four districts of Sikkim out of which 16 were selected.

The finalists of Miss Sikkim 2018 are chosen for Miss Northeast Diva and Miss India.

Sikkim bags four national awards in rural development

NEW DELHI, 11 SEPT [IPR]: Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has conferred national awards to Best Performing States under various categories in a high profile function held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi today.

Union Minister for Rural Development, Narendra Singh Tomar, conferred the awards to the best performing States wherein Sikkim has bagged four national awards that includes two for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act [MGNREGA] programme, one for Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin [PMAY-G] and one for State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj [SIRD&PR].

The MGNREGA cell of the RMDD has received two national awards, one in the State category and one in the Gram Panchayat category. The State won the award under Transparency and Accountability while Kitam Manpur Gram Panchayat under Namchi Block of South district won the Award for Best Performing Gram Panchayat in MGNREGA implementation. This is the 3rd consecutive National Award on Transparency and Accountability received by the department under MGNREGA.

The MGNREGA team was led by Additional Secretary cum Project Director, Sarika Pradhan, accompanied by Additional District Collector [Development], Namchi, Milan Kumar Subba, Block Development Officer, Namchi, Bimal Rai, Under Secretary, MGNREGA, Tshering N Theengh, and Senior Planning Coordinator, MGNREGA, Nima Tashi Bhutia.

Likewise, the Gram Panchayat team led by Panchayat President, Kitam Manpur, Savitri Chettri, along with her team of Panchayats, Rural Development Assistant, Gram Rozgar Shaya, Panchayat Account Assistant and Field Facil-



itators of Namchi Block received the award.

In recognition of significant achievement made in Rural Housing under PMAY-G, the Ministry conferred a National Award to Sikkim for outstanding performance by North district. The award was received by PMAY-G team led by Commissioner-cum-Project Director, PMAY-G, Dr P Senthil Kumar, along with ADC [Dev], Mangan, KR Limboo, Under Secretary, PMAY-G, Sisum W Bhutia, and Management Information System [MIS] Manager. This is the second National Award received by PMAY-G team of Sikkim for its significant performance in implementation of PMAY-G housing scheme in Sikkim.

The SIRD&PR received Best Performing SIRDs of the Country Award in the very first year of the constitution of the award by the Ministry. The Sikkim SIRD is continuously making efforts in capacity building of various RD functionaries and PRI elected representative in the State through best possible capacity building programmes using its state-of-the-art infrastructure.

In recognition of the contribution of Sikkim SIRD&PR, the Ministry awarded this award and the Award was received by the SIRD team led by

its Director, Suchitra Rasaily, along with the Additional Director.

It may be mentioned here, Sikkim has been the front runner among best performing States in implementation of Rural Development Schemes such as MGNREGA, PMAY-G, NRLM, RURBAN, etc. A number of measures have been adopted by the State for enhancing transparency. Digital MIS and online transaction of accounts are way of working in respect of above programmes in the department. Pro Active disclosure by all Gram Panchayats has been made mandatory.

Sikkim model of Social Audit has been applauded at the national level as the best example of Social Audit in the country and it is conducted every year in every Gram Panchayat by the independent Social Audit Unit by MGNREGA. The uniqueness of the Social Audit is that details of each expenditure are made public in the Social Audit Jan Sunwai and people actually audit all expenditure. Besides this, easy exchange of information and centralized coordination of functionaries at the block and Gram Panchayat level is being conducted through various monitoring techniques like Google Docs, WhatsApp groups, MPR

and field verifications.

At the GP level, Kitam Manpur Gram Panchayat is fast emerging as one of the best performing Gram Panchayats in implementation of MGNREGA Scheme. The Gram Panchayat provided employment to 263 household [92%] out of 287 registered Job Card Holder during last financial year. Women participation has been 72% in FY 2018-19 which is amongst the highest in the State. The Gram Panchayat has not only created durable asset under MGNREGA but also created poverty pathways for the rural poor by strengthening their livelihood based. Through public programme like MGNREGA, the GP has been able to successfully transform rural lives by restructuring rural economy and ensuring water security to a large extent. This GP was also the first village adopted under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana [SAGY] by Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, PD Rai.

On announcement of the four national awards to Sikkim, Secretary, RM&DD, DR Nepal, thanked Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, Minister for RD and the entire government machinery and said that the political will and the Government's pro-poor and pro-development policies have all resulted in a sustainable development

of rural Sikkim.

The entire Rural Development team has worked tirelessly to achieve the visible results on the ground. These awards and recognitions are the reflection of sincere efforts put forth by the officers and functionaries of the department, the Panchayats and all concerned in the State, he added.

Nitish flags off bus service between India and Nepal

PATNA, SEP 11 (PTI): Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar Tuesday flagged off bus service between India and Nepal to facilitate better connectivity between important destinations of the two neighbouring countries.

Bihar State Road Transport Corporation (BSRTC) run buses would ply between Bodhgaya and Kathmandu and Patna and Janakpur.

At a function organised at "Samvad", the CM Secretariat, Kumar inspected the buses equipped with modern technology and facilities before flagging off the bus service, an official release said here.

Transport Minister Santosh Kumar Nirala and department Secretary Sanjay Kumar Agarwal presented memento (Pashupatinath temple)

to the CM.

Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee Secretary Nangie Dorje and Chief Monk Chalinda offered 'angavastra' to the CM, the release said.

Artistes from Bihar and Nepal gave folk art performance before the CM on the occasion, it said. Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included- Bihar State Disaster Management Authority member Uday Kant Mishra, Chief Secretary Dipak Kumar, CM's Principal Secretary Chanchal Kumar, CM's Secretary Manish Kumar Verma, Information and Public Relations Department Director Anupam Kumar, Patna District Magistrate Kumar Ravi, Budhist Bhikshus from Bodhgaya and a delegation from the Nepal.

West Bengal to cut petrol, diesel prices by 1 rupee per litre

KOLKATA, SEP 11 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said her government will slash the prices of petrol and diesel by one rupee per litre.

She also urged the Centre to reduce the cess on fuel prices.

"For the time being, we have decided to slash one rupee for each litre of petrol and diesel. We also demand that the central government consider

cutting down the cess on diesel and petrol prices," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) supreme alleged that the BJP-led central government hiked excise duty nine times, even when the global crude prices were falling.

"Our government has never increased the sales tax or cess during all these years," she said.

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Cannot Afford to Forget

But is just remembering enough?

Next Tuesday will mark seventh anniversary of 18 September Earthquake, that monumental event which pulled a wicked surprise on Sikkim, not an easy trick to play on a region which has lived for centuries with extreme weather conditions and temperamental plate tectonics. After the temblor had coursed through Sikkim, around 8,000 homes had been rendered too dangerous to be habitable anymore and heritage, both tangible and intangible, had been damaged beyond salvaging. Several of the monasteries are still in the process of reconstruction, the administrative headquarters of the State still functions out of a borrowed facility, around 1,200 of the destroyed rural homes are still being “reconstructed” under the ambitious REDRH project and the most ambitious hydel project in the State is only now on the verge of being commissioned, having finally shaken off the earthquake setback. Since the earthquake reminded Sikkim of the tectonic realities which lie underneath, Sikkim has been reintroduced to some other extremes of its setting – from flashfloods, to forest fires to landslides to GLOFs, over the past five years, the Sikkimese have experience the whole spectrum of the Sikkim experience – at one time luxuriating at nature at its most indulgent and at others cowering under nature at its most devastating.

Against this backdrop, disaster preparedness should receive a relook, hopefully a more nuanced re-touch given the significance of the upcoming weekend. Sikkim should not forget that the surprise of 18/09/11 stemmed not so much from the unprecedented scale of the earthquake as from the inexcusable fact that Sikkim forgot that it occupies among the more disaster-prone sectors of the subcontinent. As for the earthquake itself, the only surprise it can stake claim to is in its confirmation that Sikkim harboured tectonic potential to push a 6.8 scale earthquake. Through the recorded history of earthquakes in the region, the big ones of the past century and a half [which wreaked substantial damage in Sikkim as well] had been earthquakes with their epicentres at “established/ identified” trouble-spots - fault-lines many hundred kilometres away from Sikkim. In some warped sense of misplaced security, this had apparently convinced people and policy-makers at a subconscious level that the State could do very little to cushion the impact of the next big one and that Sikkim's distance from the expected ground zeros would absorb some of the ferocity and dissipate the impact. This was admittedly wrong because no one can prevent an earthquake, but everyone can and should work towards mitigating it. And now, even the excuse of distance is no longer available with the tectonic plates on which Sikkim sits broadcasting in very clear terms that even they can pack a mean punch. In effect then, natural disasters are no longer about ‘if’ and ‘when’ and have now become ‘here and now’.

And now, as the amplified fury of end-monsoon showers are battering the highways and patches of patchy hill slopes, it's not just about earthquakes, but a host of other challenges like landslides, cloudbursts, GLOFs etc and if the winter runs dry, there will be forest fires and man-animal conflicts as well. Natural disasters do not play in isolation and when these incidents achieve disaster proportions, they work in combinations. Seven years since the devastation of September 2011, yes, it has been that many years, after Sikkim has recollected the experience and taken stock of repairs and restoration, it should test the practicability and resoluteness of its proposed responses for future calamities. Modern lifestyles have a way of blindsiding obvious realities, and if any lesson is to be learnt from the 18 September horror, it should be in rediscovering the traditional knowledge base. Centuries of living in a particular region grooms people to instinctively respect the brute force of nature and adopt lifestyles which mitigate the impact of the nature of disasters indigenous to a particular region. Sikkim obviously had this, but lost it in the past fifty years or so. These need to be re-remembered and all disaster preparedness plans should respect the knowhow of resident populations and reinforce traditional practices with scientific verification and planning.

This anniversary, Sikkim should make sure that it does not forget – not just the earthquake and the affected – but also the traditional knowledge base which served its people well in the past.

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

JORDAN RICHARD
SCHOENHERR
theconversation.com

The United States media has been awash with debates about civility in recent months after a number of officials in Donald Trump's administration have been heckled and shamed in public places.

Commentators have claimed the cause of incivility stems from everything from political orientation to Donald Trump's leadership and the way we communicate on social media. The recent White House wavering on flag-lowering protocol following the death of Sen. John McCain has only reinforced the ubiquity of this issue, as did high-profile speakers calling for a return to civility at his funeral.

But eroding civility is not just a modern American affliction; Canada, the U.K. and others are not immune.

Respect and civility ultimately reflect our social competency. Their decline can be attributed to a number of factors in our modern world: Abrupt encounters between different beliefs (e.g., through immigration and refugee “crises”), the disbelief and denial that social inequalities still persist, social media algorithms that only expose us to beliefs that are similar to our own and the rise of both real and artificial online trolls.

THE MICROCOSM: INCIVILITY IN GROUPS

Whether intentional or instinctual, human and non-human animals alike act in a way that ensures equitable exchanges within their group.

We seek balance. If we are treated in a respectful manner, we want to return the favour. If we feel slighted, we typically want reprisal. This is the catalyst for the spiral of incivility.

Incivility has become a persistent concern in workplaces around the world (e.g., U.S. and Japan). It reflects more general tendencies driven by features of individual psychology in group settings.

Whether at work, at a restaurant, or at home, our expectations will ultimately depend on the kind of relationship we believe we share with those around us: Communal sharing in a family, equality with a co-worker, deference to a boss or even proportional cost and benefit in a market economy.

All of these expectations reflect possible models of fair interpersonal exchange that we might reference. Crucially, violating their norms can make us feel justified in engaging in verbal and nonverbal aggression.

Rather than being unethical or disrespectful, others simply might not share the same beliefs about what is appropriate in a given context: For example, as children grow older, the expectation of deference to a parent can turn into an expectation of equality — one that is not yet shared by the parent.

Civility requires that we make a concerted effort to understand each other. Despite our confidence in knowing the intentions of others, our accuracy can be quite low.

CLARE COLLINS
theconversation.com

Ever been in a situation where passing wind is going to be hugely embarrassing and you've had to hold in a fart? Let's face it – we all have.

Trying to hold it in leads to a build up of pressure and major discomfort. A build up of intestinal gas can trigger abdominal distension, with some gas reabsorbed into the circulation and exhaled in your breath. Holding on too long means the build up of intestinal gas will eventually escape via an uncontrollable fart.

The research is not clear on whether the rise in pressure in your rectum increases your chance of developing a condition called diverticulitis, where small pouches develop in the gut lining and become inflamed – or whether it doesn't matter at all.

WHAT IS FLATUS?

Flatus, farts and breaking wind refer to intestinal gases that enter the rectum due to the body's usual gastrointestinal processes of digestion and metabolism and then leave via the anus.

As your body digests food in the small intestine, components that can't be broken down move further along the gastrointestinal track and eventually into the large intestine called the colon.

Intestinal bacteria break down some of the contents by fermentation. This process produces gases and by products called fatty acids that are reabsorbed and used in metabolic



DEPERSONALIZING OURSELVES, OTHERS ONLINE

All we truly know of each other are sundry fragments that are hastily gathered in a moment. Social judgments are made fast and furiously. Yet, understanding others is a multi-faceted competency that requires time to develop.

In an online setting, where many social cues are modest or absent, we are left with the written word. Without nonverbal cues discerning their meaning can be a daunting task. Online posts have become the Rorschach tests of our time. They are as ambiguous and equally inaccurate in predicting behaviour.

Making matters worse, when we feel like we are one of the crowd, we tend to misbehave. Anonymity, a lack of time, and stress can reduce helpful behaviour and increase antisocial behaviour.

In online spaces, we feel disinhibited. Online communities and dating sites are replete with uncivil behaviour. Rather than living in a community with repercussions, we practice avoidance. Rather than constructively confronting perceived inaccuracies we find in ourselves, we might run further away from one another and toward the fringes.

In the short run, we might preserve a fragile sense of self as a good and competent individual. In the long run, this isolation only reinforces perceived differences and places us in a bubble.

LOSING CONTACT WITH OUR LEADERS

Power can alter our behaviour. It can change what people want and how they attain their goals.

Leaders believe that they must symbolically represent the group and its values. If those with power feel it's their duty to adhere to the values of the group, they will. If certain values are deemed irrelevant, they will be ignored: A leader might focus on a group's finances and neglect its ethics.

Over the long term, leaders can trap themselves if these values are not realistically attainable over the course of their tenure. This moral hypocrisy places them in a precarious position. The higher the pedestal, the greater the fall. And people will push.

Wanting a world without ambiguity, followers often resort to rationalizing inconsistencies and can dismiss the proposals from those of other groups, something that can translate into re-

al-world consequences.

CHOOSING THE COURSE OF HISTORY

History is a willing tutor if we're prepared to listen with a critical ear. When we come together to fight a common enemy, we can push back empires. When we lose common ground, our societies shatter.

A reading of the history of North America reflects an uneasy plurality. Whether historically or presently, evidence suggests that tensions can be reduced when faced with common threats. Leaders can and do manipulate this to increase cohesion within the majority. However, there is a price to pay.

In the Second World War, Japanese-Canadians paid the price. Now, an increase in hate crimes might suggest Canadian Muslims are footing the bill. The U.K. and the U.S. have their own variants.

Unless we want to become another failed stratum in the sediment of history like Rome, we must choose our responses wisely. When our barbarians are at the gates, will we be prepared?

The greatest threats are not as simple as identifiable countries or peoples. Instead, our common adversaries are largely self-made. Antibiotic-resistant diseases, climate change, workforces ill-equipped for seismic technological shifts and overly simplified rhetoric imperil us.

The endemic rashness of political discourse can no longer be tolerated.

Civility has a role to play here as we challenge ourselves and others. We must be humble with the limits of our knowledge. In an age when fact and opinion have become blurred for many, we must approach absolute statements with caution. This requires deliberation and respectful exchange. The more reasoned the arguments we take into consideration, the better off we will be.

Equally important, civility does not imply that all opinions have equal merit. Instead, we must invest time and effort in our response and avoid being stuck between reactive gut feelings and indifference. We must reflect on how we will be judged and remembered when the dust of history settles upon us.

In an irrevocably globalized world, civility is likely more important now than it has ever been.

[the writer is Adjunct Research Professor, Department of Psychology, Carleton University]

What happens when you hold in a fart?



pathways related to immunity and preventing disease development.

Gases can either be reabsorbed through the gut wall into the circulation and eventually exhaled through the lungs or excreted via the rectum, as a fart.

HOW MUCH FLATUS IS NORMAL?

It can be challenging for researchers to get people to sign up for experiments that measure farts. But thankfully, ten healthy adults volunteered to have the amount of gas they passed over a day quantified.

In a 24-hour period all the flatus they expelled was collected via a rectal catheter (ouch). They ate normally but to ensure a boost in gas production they also had to eat 200 grams (half a large can) of baked beans.

The participants produced a median total volume of 705ml of gas in 24 hours, but it ranged from 476ml to 1,490ml per person. Hydrogen gas was produced in the greatest volume (361ml over 24 hours), followed

by carbon dioxide (68ml/24 hr). Only three adults produced methane, which ranged from 3ml/24 to 120ml/24 hr. The remaining gases, thought to mostly be nitrogen, contributed about 213ml/24 hr.

Men and women produced about the same amount of gas and averaged eight flatus episodes (individual or a series of farts) over 24 hours. The volume varied between 33 and 125 ml per fart, with bigger amounts of intestinal gas released in the hour after meals.

Gas was also produced while they were asleep, but at half the rate compared to during the day (median 16ml/hr vs 34ml/hr).

FIBRE AND FLATUS

In a study on dietary fibre and flatus, researchers investigated what happens to intestinal gas production when you put people on a high-fibre diet.

The researchers got ten healthy adult volunteers to eat

their usual diet for seven days while consuming 30 grams of psyllium a day as a source of soluble fibre, or not. In the psyllium week, they were asked to add 10 grams – about one heaped tablespoon – to each meal.

At the end of each week, the participants were brought into the lab and, in a carefully controlled experiment, had an intra-rectal catheter inserted to quantify how gas (in terms of gas volume, pressure and number) moved through the intestine over a couple of hours.

They found the high psyllium-fibre diet led to longer initial retention of gas, but the volume stayed the same, meaning fewer but bigger farts.

WHERE DO THE GASES COME FROM?

Gas in the intestines comes from different sources. It can be from swallowing air. Or from carbon dioxide produced when stomach acid mixes with bicarbonate in the small intestine. Or gasses can be produced by bacteria that are located in the large intestine.

While these gases are thought to perform specific tasks that impact on health, producing excessive intestinal gas can cause bloating, pain, borborygmus (which means rumbling sounds), belching and lots of farts.

The smelliest farts are due to sulphur containing gases. This was confirmed in a study of 16 healthy adults who were fed pinto beans and lactulose, a non-absorbable carbohydrate

Centre to withdraw assistance to Bru relief camps from Oct 1

AIZAWL, SEP 11 (PTI): The Centre has appealed to the Bru families housed in Tripura relief camps to return to Mizoram as assistances doled out to them would be withdrawn from October 1.

A meeting was held in Aizawl Monday between the state home department, police and the Centre, which was attended by leaders of the civil societies and representatives of the relief camps.

Ministry of Home Affairs' Joint Secretary (North East) Satyendra Garg said the Bru leaders in the relief camps would identify those who want to be repatriated and submit the names to the Centre and the Mizoram government.

The Bru refugees in the Tripura relief camps presently receive free ration and subsistence allowance of Rs 5 per day per person from the Centre.

The transportation cost for the repatriated families would be borne by the Mizoram government but no state government official would be deployed in the relief camps, as was done earlier, to oversee the process, a senior state home department official who attended the meeting said.

The meeting was convened in the backdrop of a tepid response to the ongoing repatriation process of the Bru refugees from August



25 to September 25 in which only three families returned to Mizoram so far, the official said.

The officials had earlier said that four families were repatriated since the process was kickstarted on August 25.

The official said that the meeting was attended by the state Principal Secretary for Home Lalnunmawia Chu-aungo, top home department and police officials, president of the central committee of the Young Mizo Association (YMA), leaders of both Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF) and

Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Coordination Committee and also Elvis Chorkhy, chairman of the Equal Package Demand Committee, representing the Bru families already repatriated to Mizoram.

The state government withdrew the officials deployed in the relief camps to undertake the physical repatriation process after four days of the commencement of the repatriation.

The Centre was earlier optimistic that the Bru families would return to Mizoram during the repatriation process after inking the agree-

ment on July 3 between Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, chief ministers of Mizoram and Tripura and Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF) chief A Sawibunga in Delhi. As per the agreement, all the Bru refugees were to be repatriated before September 30.

The agreement stipulated that Rs 4 lakh for each repatriated Bru family would be deposited to the bank account of the head of the family which would mature after three years and payment of Rs 1.5 lakh as housing assistance.

Each repatriated Bru fam-

ily would be given Rs 5,000 through Direct Benefit Transfer every month and a free ration for two years.

Senior Ministry of Home Affairs officials said that the relief would be closed by first week of October and assistance doled out to the inmates will be discontinued forthwith.

Thousands of Brus had been lodged in the Tripura relief camps since late 1997 in the wake of a communal tension triggered by the brutal killing of Lalzawmliana, a forest guard, inside the Dampa Tiger Reserve on October 21,

1997 by Bru National Liberation Front (BNLF) militants.

The first attempt to repatriate them from November 16, 2009 not only failed but triggered another wave of exodus after Bru militants gunned down a youth at Bungthum village, three days before the commencement of the repatriation process.

Though some Bru families had already returned to Mizoram during a number of repatriation processes and on their own will, many of them continued to refuse to leave Tripura till date despite many attempts.

West Bengal to cut petrol, diesel prices by 1 rupee per litre

KOLKATA, SEP 11 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said her government will slash the prices of petrol and diesel by one rupee per litre.

She also urged the Centre to reduce the cess on fuel prices.

"For the time being, we have decided to slash one rupee for each litre of petrol and diesel. We also demand that the central government consider cutting down the cess on diesel and petrol prices," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo alleged that the BJP-led central government hiked excise duty nine times, even when the global crude prices were falling.

"Our government has never increased the sales tax or cess during all these years," she said.

Momo challenge: WCD issues advisory, asks parents to monitor online activities of children

NEW DELHI, SEP 11 (PTI): The Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry has issued an advisory on the deadly 'Momo challenge', asking parents to monitor social media activity of their children to ensure that they are not engaging in the "dangerous" game.

Noting that the game has become viral on social media platforms, the ministry has asked parents to "keep their eyes open".

The ministry has also said that they should not tell their children about the 'Momo challenge' unless they have a reason to believe that the child also knows about it.

The 'Momo challenge' consists of a variety of self-harming dares which

becomes increasingly risky as the game progresses and it finally ends with a suicide challenge.

The ministry listed signs that might indicate that a child is involved in the game. The signs include becoming withdrawn from friends and family, persistent low mood, visible marks such as deep cuts or wounds on any part of the body.

It also gave guidelines on ways to protect a child from the game.

"Monitor your children's online or social media activity to ensure they are not engaging in this challenge and take regular reports from child counsellors and do not hesitate in seeking professional help," the WCD advisory said.

Mamata Banerjee pens lyrics of Durga puja theme song

KOLKATA, SEP 11 (PTI): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has composed the theme song for a popular city Durga puja this year.

Banerjee said on Monday at a function with organisers of Durga puja committees that the lyrics aimed to bring back the spirit of 'agomoni' (traditional Bengali songs invoking the goddess) songs in theme music once again.

"I had been asked by Arup (Banerjee's cabinet minister Arup Biswas) to compose the theme song for his Durga puja (Suruchi Sangha) and I decided to retain the spirit of Agomoni songs like 'Ja Devi Sarbabhuteshu' in my lyrics. Hope it will be liked



by everyone," she said.

Popular singer and West Bengal Minister of State for Culture Indranil Sen has lent voice to the lyrics.

Sen, who regaled the audience at Netaji Indoor Stadium with the song during the function said, "There is a devotional side in the lines Jai Maa Jai Durga..."

"The lyrics have been penned by Didi(Mamata) and it is the theme song

of a prominent puja committee. I am happy to be associated with it," the minister said at the function.

Last year also the CM had composed the theme song of Suruchi Sangha puja -"Boichitrer muktoy gantha ekotar monihar" (the jewel of unity is stitched with a string of pearls of diversity).

Last year singer Shreya Ghosal had lent her voice to the theme song.

Patronised by Arup Biswas, Suruchi Sangha is one of the most popular Durga pujas of the city.

No mechanised boats to ply on Assam rivers till further orders

GUWAHATI, SEPT 11 (PTI): For the safety of passengers, no mechanised country boats will be allowed to ply on rivers in Assam till further orders, state Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary announced Tuesday.

All single-engine ferries should be converted to double-engine ones with reversible gears and as per safety norms, there must be one life jacket for each passenger in the vessel, he said.

It will be mandatory for each passenger to put on the life jacket while boarding the vessel and deputy commissioners have been directed to conduct safety audit of the ferry vessels in their respective districts, the minister said.

"The government accords highest priority to the safety of the passengers and is taking all possible measures to provide safe, reliable and sustainable mode of transport," Patowary told reporters after a review meeting with officials of the Inland Water

Transport department.

Patowary also took stock of the World Bank funded project preparation and the reform measures initiated during the last one-and-a-half years.

The project will address the sector reforms holistically, for which Germany-based consultants 'Inros Lackner' have submitted the inception report and the vessel design and terminal design are being readied.

The Transport Department has been working on a Regulatory Bill for the last six months and the 'Assam Inland Water Transport Reorganization Act' would be placed before the Assembly for approval in the forthcoming session.

The Act will facilitate the setting up of a separate Regulatory Authority and separate port and shipping management companies, taking into the consideration the recommendations of the Khosla Committee Report submitted in 2013.

that gets fermented in the colon. The odour intensity of flatus samples was evaluated by two judges (pity them).

The good news was that in a follow-up experiment, the researchers identified that a charcoal-lined cushion was able to help quash the smell of the sulphur gases.

Finally, some bad news for jet-setters: pressurised cabins on aeroplanes mean

you're more likely to pass flatus due to the gas volume expanding at the lower cabin pressure, compared to being on the ground. With modern noise-reduction features, your fellow passengers are more likely than they used to be to hear you fart.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

The next time you feel a large volume of intestinal gas getting ready to do what it does,

The minister also directed that capacity building of IWT staff and other stakeholders must be enhanced.

During the last two years, work on 15 steel vessels and three wooden vessels had been undertaken.

Of them, four steel vessels have already been deployed in Barak and one steel and three wooden vessels in Majuli while the remaining ten vessels will be completed within this financial year, he said.

Three new vessels will be introduced between Guwahati-North Guwahati soon.

In addition to this, there has been better coordination with Inland Waterways Authority of India and one Ro-Ro service has already been introduced in the Dhubri-Hatsingimari route.

The second and third Ro-Ro services will be introduced between Majuli-Kamalabari and Guwahati-North Guwahati in October and December respectively.

try to move to a more convenient location. Whether you make it there or not, the best thing for your digestive health is to just let it go.

For some creative ideas (and a chuckle) on how to hold in a fart, check this Wiki How to do anything.

[the writer is Professor in Nutrition and Dietetics, University of Newcastle]



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
SIKKIM STATE TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT BOARD
UPPER SHYARI, GANGTOK

Ref. No. 14/SSTRB **Date: 11/09/2018**

On the basis of the Written Examination, Classroom Demonstration and Viva-voce (interview) the following candidates bearing roll nos. in order of merit are declared selected and recommended for the appointment to the post of Graduate Teacher (Mathematics) under Human Resource Development Department, Government of Sikkim.

SL. NO.	ROLL NO.	NAME
1	20200075	Deepti Tewari
2	20200071	Roshan Pokhrel
3	20200023	Prem Kr. Chettri
4	20200018	Gita Adhikari
5	20200055	Jewan Basnett
6	20200001	Lha Tsh. Yonzon
7	20200006	Prabin Kr. Sharma
8	20200065	Mahendra Chettri
9	20200044	Lalita Sharma
10	20200016	Tarannum Ibrahim Rai
11	20200010	Prem Kumar Dahal
12	20200070	Roshan Adhikari
13	20200024	Sunil Sharma
14	20200020	Shiva Kumar Chettri
15	20200073	Karma Tsh. Lepcha
16	20200081	Asish Gurung
17	20200035	Mandodari Pradhan
18	20200060	Churamani Sharma
19	20200021	Ongmo Sherpa
20	20200008	Deepan Koirala
21	20200051	Yam Prasad Rai
22	20200038	Sumi Pegha Limboo
23	20200069	Novin Kishore Sharma
24	20200011	Lalit Kumar Rai
25	20200015	Laxuman Sharma
26	20200079	Tara Chand Sharma
27	20200003	Prawesh Sharma
28	20200046	Sajan Thapa
29	20200066	Pemba Dorjee Tamang
30	20200095	Sandeep Chettri
31	20200053	Sandhya Chettri
32	20200014	Indrawati Sharma
33	20200049	Rinchen Sherpa
34	20200022	Manisha Rai
35	20200076	Sumira Bajgai
36	20200039	Bhumika Pandey
37	20200028	Dorjee Wangyal Bhutia
38	20200057	Anand Subba
39	20200086	Dawa Gyaltsen Lepcha
40	20200029	Pram Kumar Rai
41	20200040	Bharati Chettri
42	20200089	Khus Narayan Regmi
43	20200096	Ranjeeva Trivedi
44	20200088	Subhadra Sharma

45	20200004	Karma Dalmu Bhutia
46	20200037	Digam Chand Pradhan
47	20200032	Dhan Kumari Poudyal
48	20200007	Kamal Kr. Panchkoti
49	20200077	Yogesh Khanal
50	20200042	Tenzing Sherpa
51	20200025	Bhagirath Timsina
52	20200061	Lail Singh Limboo
53	20200019	Manish Pradhan
54	20200080	Dhiraj Chettri
55	20200062	Jiwan Prasad Sharma
56	20200058	Pravesh Gurung
57	20200009	Krishna Rai
58	20200047	Benay Pradhan
59	20200034	Phunggum Hangma Subba
60	20200068	Balaram Sharma
61	20200045	Prakash Sharma
62	20200090	Binod Kumar Sharma
63	20200013	Gyan Bdr. Pradhan
64	20200043	Chandrakala Rai
65	20200067	Samir Pokhrel
66	20200059	Laxuman Chettri
67	20200085	Arjun Bista
68	20200064	Kiran Gurung
69	20200041	Lal Bahadur Pradhan
70	20200056	Kushal Subba
71	20200052	Rita Sharma
72	20200050	Nirmal Kumar Sharma
73	20200027	Bimala Gurung
74	20200094	Ashok Kumar Rai
75	20200084	Bandana Bhattarai
76	20200036	Munna Kumari Rai
77	20200017	Reema Tamang
78	20200093	Sunil Karki
79	20200005	Deepak Lamsal
80	20200091	Rajni Sharma
81	20200048	Sajan Chandra Rai
82	20200026	Krishna Kr. Pradhan
83	20200092	Rohit Sharma
84	20200030	Sapna Chettri
85	20200031	Sanjala Pradhan
86	20200083	Rinchen Ongmoo Sherpa
87	20200087	Sandhya Limboo

(MS. ANNAPURNA ALLEY, SCS)
SECRETARY CUM CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATION
SIKKIM STATE TEACHERS' RECRUITMENT BOARD
R.O. No: 340/IPR/PUB/Class/18-19 Date: 11/09/2018



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM,
ROADS AND BRIDGES DEPARTMENT,
NAMCHI SUB DIVISION,
SOUTH SIKKIM**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

N.I.T No.:- 01/R&B/Nam/2018-19

Dated:-07/09/2018

For and on behalf of the Governor of Sikkim, Assistant Engineer, Roads and Bridges Department, Namchi Sub Division, invites sealed tenders under single bid system from the eligible contractors of class IV grade enlisted with Sikkim Public Works Department vide notification No. 515/R&B/Secy, dated 12/06/2018 and subsequently vide notification No. 556/R&B/PWD/Secy, dated 28/08/2018, through competitive bidding within the territorial jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat / Urban local bodies where the work is to be executed. The works are listed as under:-

Sl No	Name of work	Value put to tender (Rs)	Completion time, (in months)	Cost of tender documents (Rs)	Amount of Earnest Money @ 2.5% For issue of tender form (Rs)	Grade of contractor	Name of G.P.U	Name of Constituency
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of road from Solokhop via Middle Mikhola to Upper Sorak PMGSY Road							
a.	KM 0.00-1.50	63,57,744.00	12months	5,000.00	1,58,943.00	Grade IV	Mikhola-Singithang	Namchi Singithang Constituency
b.	KM 1.5-3.0	63,57,744.00	12months	5,000.00	1,58,943.00	Grade IV	Mikhola-Singithang	Namchi Singithang Constituency
c.	KM 3.0-4.0	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Mikhola-Singithang	Namchi Singithang Constituency
2.	Construction of link road from PWD road to Lower Mikhola Primary School area.							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Mikhola-Singithang	Namchi Singithang Constituency
b.	KM 1.0-1.5	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Mikhola-Singithang	Namchi Singithang Constituency
3.	Construction of road from Maniram Bhanjyang to Bul via Bhutia Gaon to Niz Tanak Sumbuk Road.							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
b.	KM 2 nd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
c.	KM 3 rd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
d.	KM 4 th	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
e.	KM 5 th	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
4.	Construction of link road from Maniram Bhanjyang to Bul Allay Sherpa Gaon							
a.	KM 0.0-0.5	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Maniram Phalidara	Namchi Singithang Constituency
5.	Construction of road from Lower Assangthang PWD road to Aiselugaon.							
a.	KM 0.0-0.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Assangthang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
b.	KM 0.5-1.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Assangthang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
c.	KM 1.0-1.5	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Assangthang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
d.	KM 1.5-2.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Assangthang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
6.	Construction of road from Lower Kamrang to Situng Gaon.							
a.	KM 0.0-0.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Mamley Kamrang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
b.	KM 0.5-1.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Mamley Kamrang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
c.	KM 1.0-1.5	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Mamley Kamrang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
d.	KM 1.5-2.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Mamley Kamrang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
7.	Construction of road from Pabong Panchayat Bhawan to Pabong Samtheling Gumpa							
a.	KM 0.0-0.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
b.	KM 0.5-1.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
c.	KM 1.0-1.5	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
d.	KM 1.5-2.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
e.	KM 2.0-2.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
f.	KM 2.50-3.0	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Tingrithang	Poklok Kamrang Constituency
8.	Construction of Raod from Kaijaley to Samardung via Jogidara							

a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 2 nd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
c.	KM 3 rd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency

g.	Construction of Road from Lower Kabrey to LANCO Road							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
10	Construction of Road from Topjung to Upper Kabrey							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 2 nd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Nagi Karek	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
11	Construction of road from Perbing Khop to Dong							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Perbing Dovan	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 2 nd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Perbing Dovan	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
12	Construction of road from Chuba to Thumki Gumpa							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Chuba Phong	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 2 nd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Chuba Phong	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
c.	KM 3 rd	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Chuba Phong	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
13	Construction of road from Phongla to Upper Jobari Dara							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Chuba Phong	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 1.0-1.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Chuba Phong	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
14	Construction of road from Harreybotey to Middle Aalely							
a.	KM 0.0-0.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV		Namthang Maneydara
15	Construction of road from Zero Point Pamphok to Lower Pamphok Suntaley							
a.	KM 1 st	42,38,496.00	12months	1,500.00	1,05,962.00	Grade IV	Kateng Pamphok	Namthang Rateypani Constituency
b.	KM 1.0-1.50	21,19,248.00	12months	1,500.00	52,981.00	Grade IV	Kateng Pamphok	Namthang Rateypani Constituency

TIME SCHEDULE:-

- Date of submission of application with bank Receipt : **10th October 2018**
For issue of Tender Documents (excluding Tender Form) at respective GPK : **(From 10.00am to 4.00pm)**
- Date of issue of Tender Form on submission of TDR (as Earnest Money) : **11th October 2018**
at respective GPK : **(From 10.00am to 4.00pm)**
- Last Date and Time of submission of Tender at respective GPK : **12th October 2018 (From 10.00 am to 12.30 pm)**
- Date and Time of Opening of Bid : **12th October 2018 (1.30 pm at respective GPK)**

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT:-

- Tender is open only to the eligible Contractors/Firms of appropriate Class/Area.
- The intending tenders/contractors should apply in writing for issue of tender documents. The application would invariably be signed by the contractor himself/herself. The tender document will not be issued to any person other than the INTENDING TENDER. The application shall be submitted initially for each work listed above with all required documents.
- The applicants should enclose attested copies of the Validated/Updated Contractor Enlistment Certificate. It is mandatory to produce the Original validated/Updated Enlistment Certificate during sale/issue of the Tender Document for verification. Selected bidder should produce No objection certificate/ Tax clearance certificate from the commercial taxes Division, Finance Revenue and Expenditure Department prior to the issue of Work Order.
- The prescribed Non-Transferable Tender Documents (excluding the Tender Form) can be obtained during the period specified in (As above from the respective Gram Prasasan Kendra, Cost of tender form shall be deposited to the revenue of respective GPU.
- Earnest money deposit @ 2.5% in State Bank of Sikkim shall be in the form of Deposit Receipt of Schedule Bank which includes deposits in the form of temporary deposit receipts(TDR) in favor of the Sr. Accounts Officer, Roads & Bridges Department, Namchi. Tender form shall be issued from the respective Gram Prasasan Kendra, only on production of the deposited receipts to that contractors/firm who has obtained the tender documents, on production of toward deposit receipts of 2.5% earnest money.
- The Tender Documents, including the Tender Form with quoted offer should be placed in a sealed cover with the name of the tenderers and the name of the work superscripted on it, Supporting documents listed at Sl. No. 3 above should be enclosed with the offer.
- Sealed tenders may be deposited in the Tender box at respective Gram Prasasan Kendra, on the date and within the time indicated above.
- Tenders will be opened by a Tender Opening Committee as prescribed by the Government in the presence of the tenderness on the date and time indicated above.
- The Tenderer should sign on every page of the tender documents as Acceptance of the general Direction and Conditions of the Contract and other laid down norms. The rate quoted should be both in figures and words and should be inclusive of GST and all other Taxes and Levies. Over writing and correction should be avoided and if made should be authenticated. Incomplete/Conditional tenders shall be rejected forthwith.
- In case of any discrepancy in rate(s) printed in the Schedule of Rates and Quantities issued with the tender documents, rates as per approved Schedule of Rates will be taken as correct. For items outside the SOR, the rates shall be as per the technically checked estimate/analysis. Decision of the Principal Chief Engineer cum Secretary/ Head of the Department will be final in this regard.
- The work value, scope and quantum of work are subject to change, the contractor shall execute the work as per the directives of the Department. No claim on this account shall be entertained whatsoever. If any claim is made, it shall be as per the agreement rates.
- Avoidable damages due to negligence of the contractor shall be at his own risk and cost. The Department shall not be liable for payment of such damages (if any), including accidents to labourer at site.
- The offer shall remain valid for a period of 90 days. The work should commence within 15 days from the issue of work order.
- All the conditions as mentioned in the NIT shall be deemed to a part of the agreement to be entered with the contractor. Security deposit shall be collected by deductions from the running bills of the contractor @ 5% of the value of work done.
- The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- The recoveries of Royalties on Forest produces shall be as per rates notified by the Government from time to time and applicable on the date of payment. In no case, claim of any contractor for deduction as per rates incorporated in Analysis of Rates or Schedule of Rates on the date of tender shall be acceptable.
- Subletting of contract work is against the norms and if it comes to the notice, the original contract shall be cancelled and appropriate action shall be initiated as per the rules.
- In case the man powers employed by the contractors are from outside the State or neighboring countries, it shall be the responsibility of the contractors to get them registered with the labour department, Government of Sikkim as per the relevant Labour Laws.
- The Department also reserves the right to increase, decrease, alter or modify the item of works as indicated in the NIT without assigning any reason thereof.
- Use of explosives shall be regulated as under:-
a. Transportation, Handling, storage and use of Explosives (if necessary) shall be in accordance with the provisions of the India Explosive Act and General Guidelines. Circulars issued by the department and other competent authorities on the subject from time to time.
b. The rules and regulations issued by the Sikkim Public Works Department or any other competent authority shall strictly be adhered to with regard to transportation, storage; handling and use of explosives shall be maintained by the contractor.
- The contractor shall also make arrangements to have photographs of the works taken at least at three stages of the construction period. i.e. beginning, middle and completion stage.
- Damage to properties in and around the work site must be avoided at all cost. The contractor shall be held responsible for any acts of negligence and shall be made to make good the damages.
- Expenditure involved for material testing, cube strength of concrete, crushing strength of road metals etc., at site or in laboratories shall be borne by the contractor. The contractor shall make necessary arrangements accordingly as and when instructed to do so.
- It is accepted to the tenderer to have inspected the site before submitting his bid. There may be possible site difficulties for which the tenderer should have their own correct assessment before submitting the bid.
- The contractor will have to pay all taxes and duties as applicable and notified by the State/Central Government and no claim shall be entertained in this regard whatsoever.
- The cost of stock materials supplied from the Department store will be deducted from the contractors' bills as per rules.
- The bidders shall produce a Certificate of Residence from the concerned Gram Panchayat Unit where the work is to be executed.

Sd/- ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ROADS & BRIDGES DEPARTMENT,
NAMCHI SUB-DIVISION, SOUTH SIKKIM.

R.O. No: 338/IPR/PUB/Class/18-19 Date: 10/09/2018

**CONTACT SUMMIT
TIMES
REPORTERS**

**NAMCHI
9832048410,
9775736596**

**SINGTAM
7699771651**

**MANGAN/ DIKCHU
9832612485/
9434011213**

**GANGTOK
9832082664
8016270440,**

**9832082664,
9832424750,
8768664251**

Humanitarian group says 100 migrants die off Libyan coast

CAIRO SEP 11 (AP): Doctors Without Borders says more than 100 people have died in a shipwreck off the Libyan coast and the remaining survivors are being held in detention in Libya.

The humanitarian organization says in a Monday news release the shipwreck occurred Sept. 1 and survivors include people with severe burns, pregnant women and babies. A team from the organization provided medical care.

The group says two rubber boats left the Libyan coast carrying migrants from Sudan, Mali, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Libya, Algeria and Egypt. One of the boats deflated and sank.

The Libyan Coast Guard recovered 276 survivors from both boats and brought them to the port city of Khoms, Libya, and only two bodies were reportedly recovered.

Libya has emerged as a major transit point to Europe for those fleeing poverty and civil war elsewhere in Africa.

Tyson to promote MMA league in India

New Delhi, Sep 11 (PTI): Former world champion boxer Mike Tyson will mentor a Mixed Martial Arts event -- the Kumite-1 League, which will also feature Indian fighters and will be launched on September 29 in Mumbai.

The former world heavyweight champion will be in the country to attend the first fight night, between India and the UAE, which will be telecast across the Indian sub-continent.

The Kumite 1 league will be telecast on Sony ESPN starting with the September 29 event in NSIC Dome, Mumbai.

"Mike Tyson will fly into the country ahead of time to meet and encourage the fighters. On the fight night he will officially launch Kumite 1 league and kick-start the fight. Twenty four MMA fighters from all over the world will gather at the NSIC dome..." the organisers said in a statement.

Pak court issues arrest warrants against former prime minister Abbasi

M ZULQERNAIN LAHORE, SEP 10 (PTI): A Pakistan court Monday issued bailable arrest warrants against former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi for skipping proceedings in a case seeking action against him for disclosing the minutes of a high-profile security meeting to his party leader Nawaz Sharif.

The petition also seeks action against Sharif under treason charges for claiming that those involved in the deadly 2008 Mumbai terror attack belonged to Pakistan.

A Lahore High Court's three-member bench headed by Justice Syed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi again issued notices to Sharif and a Dawn journalist, who had interviewed the PML-N supremo.

The bench was annoyed when no one appeared before the court on behalf of the three respondents -- Sharif,



Abbasi and the reporter.

"The LHC issued bailable arrest warrants against Abbasi, directing the authorities concerned to send notices to Nawaz Sharif through superintendent of Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi and the Dawn reporter through Senior Superintendent Police Operations Islamabad," a court official said.

Justice Naqvi observed that Abbasi should have attended the court as he was present during the previous hearing on June 29.

Petitioner's lawyer told the court that Abbasi was in Lahore to run his campaign for the by-poll on National Assembly seat NA-124 but he avoided the court hearing.

The petitioner said Sharif, who was disqualified by the Supreme Court in the Panama Papers case in July 2017 and subsequently jailed for 10

years in last July in Avenfield corruption case, in the interview to the Dawn reporter in May last made the remarks that those involved in the Mumbai attack case actually belonged to Pakistan thus committed treason.

The petitioner said the "anti-state" statement of Sharif - a three-time prime minister - could be used against Pakistan by its enemies.

She said a meeting of the National Security Council (NSC) was held to discuss the 'misleading' statement of the disqualified premier and later the then prime minister Abbasi met Sharif and conveyed to him the concerns of the military leadership on his statement.

"The act of Abbasi was also a clear violation of his oath as he was bound not to allow his personal interest to influence his official conduct," she said.

The court adjourned the hearing till September 24.

Pakistan summons Indian diplomat over 'ceasefire violations'

SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, SEP 11 (PTI): Pakistan on Tuesday summoned India's acting Deputy High Commissioner to protest the "unprovoked ceasefire violations" across the Line of Control by the Indian forces that resulted in the death of a Pakistani villager.

Director General (South Asia and SAARC) Mohammad Faisal, who is also the foreign ministry spokesman, summoned the Indian diplomat and "condemned the unprovoked ceasefire violations by the Indian forces along the Line of Control on September 10," the Foreign Office (FO) said in a statement.

The firing in the Khanjar Sector along the LoC resulted in the death of the civilian on Monday, it said.

The FO alleged that the Indian forces have carried out more than 2,050 ceasefire violations along the Line of Control and the Working Boundary, resulting in the death of 33 innocent civilians, while injuring 122



others.

"This unprecedented escalation in ceasefire violations by India is continuing from year 2017 when the Indian forces committed 1970

ceasefire violations," it alleged.

"The deliberate targeting of civilian population areas is indeed deplorable and contrary to human dignity and international human rights and humanitarian laws. The ceasefire violations by India are a threat to regional peace and security and may lead to a strategic miscalculation," the statement said.

Faisal urged the Indian side to respect the 2003 Ceasefire arrangement; investigate this and other incidents of ceasefire violations; respect the ceasefire and maintain peace on the LoC.

He also urged the Indian side to allow the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to play its mandated role as per the UN Security Council resolutions.

India maintains that UNMOGIP has outlived its utility and is irrelevant after the Simla Agreement and the consequent establishment of the LoC.

Australian cartoonist under fire for Serena sketch



SYDNEY, SEPT 11 (AFP): An Australian cartoonist has come under withering criticism for portraying tennis superstar Serena Williams using -- what Harry Potter author JK Rowling described as -- "racist and sexist tropes".

Mark Knight's caricature, published in Melbourne's Herald Sun newspaper on Monday, shows a butch and fat-lipped Williams jumping up and down on her broken racquet at the US Open.

Williams' heated exchanges with an umpire at the tournament final this week have stirred the tennis world.

She was found guilty of code violations and fined USD 17,000 -- raising allegations that there are double standards for male and female players.

Williams was thwarted in her bid for a record-tying 24th Slam singles crown in losing to Japan's Naomi Osaka.

In the cartoon the umpire is seen

saying to Osaka "can't you just let her win?".

Knight, who has a reputation for controversial cartoons, was pilloried from far and wide, including by a member of the US Congress and a large portion of the 22,000 people who commented on his Twitter post showing the drawing.

The detractors included author JK Rowling, who said: "Well done on reducing one of the greatest sportswomen alive to racist and sexist tropes and turning a second great sportswoman into a faceless prop."

Knight responded to the criticism by pointing out that he had drawn an unflattering portrayal of Australian male tennis star Nick Kyrgios "behaving badly".

"Don't bring gender into it when it's all about behaviour," he said.

Navratilova to Serena: Even if guys do it, it's wrong



NEW YORK, SEPT 11 (AFP): Martina Navratilova, an 18-time Grand Slam singles champion, says Serena Williams was wrong in her outburst at the US Open women's finals even though she agreed there is a double standard.

Writing in an opinion article for the New York Times, the 61-year-old Czech-born American said a higher standard needed to be observed when Williams called chair umpire Carlos Ramos a "thief" and was penalized a key game in the second set.

"We cannot measure ourselves by what we think we should also be able to get away with," Navratilova wrote. "In fact, this is the sort of behavior that no one should be engaging in on the court."

Williams, who was thwarted in her bid for a record-tying 24th Slam singles crown in losing to Japan's Naomi Osaka, said she was punished for saying something where men have said far worse without incurring such a penalty.

"Serena Williams has part of it right. There is a huge double standard for women when it comes to how bad behavior is punished -- and not just in tennis," Navratilova said.

"But in her protests... she also got part of it wrong. I don't believe it's a good idea to apply a standard of, 'If men can get away with it, women should be able to, too.'

"Rather, I think the question we have to ask ourselves is this: What is the right way to behave to honor our sport and to

respect our opponents?"

Williams was issued a warning for coaching, something her coach sitting in the stands, Patrick Mouratoglou, admitted to doing.

Williams was unhappy at the violation call and complained to Ramos she hadn't taken any signals.

Williams later smashed her racquet, resulting in a code violation and a point deduction, which she argued over with Ramos.

"Ramos, effectively, had no choice but to dock her a point," Navratilova said.

"It was here that Ms. Williams really started to lose the plot. She and Mr. Ramos were, in effect, talking past each other.

"She was insisting that she doesn't cheat -- completely believable, but besides the point -- while he was making a call over which he, at that point, had little discretion." Matters escalated and Williams called Ramos a "thief," incurring the crucial game penalty.

"It's difficult to know, and debatable, whether Ms. Williams could have gotten away with calling the umpire a thief if she were a male player," Navratilova wrote.

"But to focus on that, I think, is missing the point. If, in fact, the guys are treated with a different measuring stick for the same transgressions, this needs to be thoroughly examined and must be fixed.



INSEPARABLE! Blake Lively stuns in sheer top as she is supported by hubby Ryan Reynolds at special screening of her film A Simple Favor in New York.

KYLIE JENNER DISCUSSES 'OBSESSION' WITH HER LIPS AND HER BODY CHANGING AT A YOUNG AGE

Since being thrust into the limelight at the age of ten, she has become a hugely influential style icon, a successful cosmetics entrepreneur and most importantly, a mother to seven-month-old Stormi.

And as one of the most famous faces in the entertainment industry, Kylie Jenner, 21, has now touched upon developing a thick skin over the years while also addressing how pregnancy has changed her body 'at a super young age.'

Accompanying a glamorous spread in Glamour's Autumn/Winter issue, the reality star, who is on-track to become the world's youngest billionaire, also opened up about her most famous body part: her lips.

Since appearing on Keeping Up With The Kardashians with her famous family as a youngster, Kylie has gone on to see immeasurable as a solo star.

The star's sensational eye for style has made her an influential force in the style realm, which was never more evident than when she confirmed to getting lip fillers in 2015 after months of speculation.

Speaking to the publication about that time of her life, Kylie noted: "I was super insecure about my lips. I really wanted to illusion of bigger lips, so I overlined mine like crazy, and then people started getting obsessed."

The obsession led to the 'Kylie Jenner Lip Challenge' which saw many people plumping up their lips on social media, usually ending in disastrous results.

As a result of the huge public interest surrounding her, Kylie has seen intense public scrutiny over the years: "So many negative things come at me all the time," she explained.

However, the mother-of-one has found her own way to get through it all, admitting: "Of course, it does affect me, but you develop a thick skin. Nothing has lasted so long that I haven't gotten through it, so whenever a new bad story or rumour emerges, I know it will pass, too. Everything in life is transient," she stated.

Kylie's first relationship in the public eye was



with rapper Tyga, with the two first being romantically linked in 2014 when she was just 17-years-old.

They parted ways in April 2017 and she swiftly moved onto Travis Scott, with whom she now shares her baby girl Stormi.

After keeping her whole pregnancy a secret by staying out of the public eye, Kylie and Travis welcomed their daughter in February.

Speaking about the journey to motherhood, Kylie admitted: "Pregnancy completely changed my body at a super young age. But I really don't care."

After years of being a reality star, Kylie has now made it clear where her priorities lie - motherhood and her Kylie Cosmetics line.

The Life Of Kylie star went on to admit that everything she does from now on, is for her little girl: "I work hard for Stormi and being able to pass Kylie Cosmetics onto her - if she is interested - would be such a cool thing to do."

Zayn Malik selling £3.5 million London home to live in NY permanently with Gigi Hadid

Zayn Malik is said to be selling his North London home as he prepares to move to New York City on full time basis. The former One Direction star has reportedly listed the five bedroom property, located in leafy Hertfordshire, after re-embarcking on a relationship with supermodel Gigi Hadid.

Zayn, 25, has spent the last 12-months living in New York with the American star, and he is now keen on relocating on a full time basis as their relationship goes from strength to strength.

A source told The Sun: "Living in New York has made Zayn happier than he has been for a long time. Now feels the right time to sell his house in the UK because he just



doesn't really spent any time there. He went to Bradford last month to celebrate the Islamic festival of Eid with Gigi and his family and feels he just wants to stay there when

he's back in the UK, instead of being down south."

The listed property - purchased for £3.65million six-years ago at the height of his One Direction fame - boasts a Jacuzzi, four reception rooms and a pirate-themed pub inspired by Pirates of the Caribbean.

It also includes chrome front doors, four bathrooms, a huge wine cellar, an outdoor swimming pool, a steam room and whirlpool bath. It previously featured in the raucous video for 2017 Single Still Got Time, although the lively shoot - which included numerous extras partying into the early hours of the morning - prompted complaints from neighbors.

Nicki Minaj breaks silence about Cardi B fight!

Says she was 'humiliated'... then later says the rapper will 'die' if she keeps fighting

Nicki Minaj was 'humiliated' by her fight with Cardi B. The Superbass hitmaker was 'mortified' by her altercation with the 'Bodak Yellow' rapper at New York Fashion Week and was embarrassed by how they 'made themselves look'.

Speaking on Beats 1 on Apple Music, she said: "The other night I was a part of something so mortifying, so humiliating to go through in front of upper echelon people - it's not about black or white - people who have their lives together."

In another interview, the chart topper said that if Cardi keeps fighting with people, she could 'die.'

She added, "I was mortified ... I could not believe how humiliated I felt ... how we - and I use the term 'we' loosely - made ourselves look. 'I would never discuss anyone's child. It's so sad for someone to pin that on me."

"I would never talk about anyone's child's or parenting, I don't give a s**t. It's so crazy to me that people always need to make Onika the bad guy. If you're right in whatever you're doing, you don't ever have to make someone into the bad guy. You know I didn't say or never did talk about anyone's child ... I am not a clown, that's clown s**t. The other thing that is clown s**t is telling the world that they did s**t because you look



dumb."

Nicki also appeared on Queen Radio Monday: "You put your hands on certain people you gonna die. PERIOD. And y'all sitting here making this s*** a joke? I'm not the b***es in the strip club and I'm not a b*** on a reality show. My money is very f***ing long."

Soon after the incident, Cardi took to Instagram, where she claimed she let Nicki 'talk big s**t about' her.

She shared: "I've let a lot of sh*t slide. I let you sneak diss me. I let you lie on me. I let you attempt to stop my bags, f**k up the way I eat! You've threatened other artists in the industry, told them if they work with me you'll stop f**king with them! I let you talk big s**t about me.

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MARCHING TOWARDS 1.15 CRORE SUBSCRIBERS

SALIENT FEATURES & BENEFITS:	HOW TO REGISTER:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility: Indian Citizen 18-40 years of age • Minimum Pension Guaranteed by Govt. of India • Same pension for spouse after subscriber's death • Pension wealth to nominee after death of spouse: Rs 1.70 to 8.50 lakh • Tax benefits at entry, accumulation and pension payment 	<p>Step 1: Log in to http://enps.nsdl.com, enter Aadhaar virtual ID in APY window and feed the OTP sent to your Aadhaar registered mobile.</p> <p>Step 2: Provide bank/ branch details, account number and address (bank will verify).</p> <p>Step 3: Fill in pension amount, contribution frequency, names of spouse and nominee, etc.</p> <p>Step 4: e-Sign the Form for verification.</p>

If registration is successful, the bank debits your account for first subscription and allots the PRAN

For Details Call Toll Free Number 1800-110-069

Regulated by PRDA
www.pfrda.org.in

Pay contributions regularly till 60 years to avail guaranteed pension benefits of Govt of India