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SummitTIMES

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Governor launches manuals on campus and village cleanliness and water conservation



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT: Governor Ganga Prasad today launched manuals on Jal Shakti Campus and Jal Shakti Gram and Swachh Campus here during the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations at Chintan Bhawan.

The manuals are prescribed for National rankings by the Ministry of Human Resource Development for all 45,000 Higher Education Institutions in the

country.

The manuals are expected to provide standard operation procedures and inspire Swachhta and Water Conservation movements progressively covering all Higher Education Institutions across India.

The Manuals launched today contain Standard Operating Procedures for supporting the task of promoting cleanliness on campus and promoting

a culture of taking responsibility to keep the campus clean through continuous monitoring and practice; and to develop a model water conservation plan containing effective short- and long-term water conservation procedures and practices reflecting local water resource needs and water quality as well as quantity in campuses and in villages, a press release informs.

Barfungpa begins by-election campaign

REBYNA RANA

GANGTOK, 02 OCT: Sikkim Nationalist People's Party president, Delay Namgyal Barfungpa, launched his by-election campaign from the statue of Mahatma Gandhi here today.

"Since it was an auspicious date, I wanted to start my campaign on Gandhi Jayanti. Gandhiji had said our future depends on what we do today, and I am following that maxim," he said while speaking to media persons at the launch today.

He shared that he had no plans of contesting the by-elections until recent political developments forced him to take a stand. His reference was to the SKM-BJP alliance, the blatant opportunism of which, he said, disturbed the people so much that they pressured him into throwing his hat in the ring as well.

"The people who told me to contest the by-election complained



that their votes were not being respected," he said.

Mr Barfungpa went on to add that has been raising relevant issues of the State and its people and will continue to do so

About his plans for Gangtok, he pointed out that Gangtok youth are especially sidelined from facilities, infrastructure and opportunities and that his focus will on addressing these issues.

Sikkim feels onion price hike

ARPAN PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 02 OCT: It has been more than 15 days now since onion prices shot up to Rs. 60-70 per kg in Gangtok and rest of the State. Prices across the country have gone up so much so that the Government had to ban export of onions last Sunday. According to media reports, onion prices are highest in nearly six years and reasons for this could be the extended monsoon showers which have delayed harvest of the summer-sown crop.

"The price of onions has skyrocketed this year hampering sale which has reduced by 30-40%," says Sunil Kumar Prasad, an onion whole seller in Lal Market, Gangtok.

As per the local whole seller in Gangtok the onion price hike is due to low supply of onions from all major onion growing states as they have been affected by floods due to heavy rains.

Kharif crop which is sown in Jul-Aug is harvested in Oct-Dec and supplies the festive

season but this year harvesting has been delayed due to extended monsoon rains.

"We don't get onions directly from the growers. We get it through a wholesale mandi in West Bengal and prices have gone up there," said another whole seller, Ashok Kumar.

Whole sellers inform that there is no shortage in supply but demand has gone down due to the price hike.

One whole seller said that onions are being imported from neighboring Bangladesh, which may be the prime reason for the price hike.

Onion prices have shot up not only in Gangtok but all parts of the state as all onion supplies to Sikkim come from West Bengal mandi. Major markets around Gangtok like Deorali, Tadong, Lal Market and others, are selling onion for Rs 60 or more per kg.

As per information provided by the local onion whole seller in Gangtok, the wholesale price of onion has touched Rs 4,800 per



quintal (as per the Lal Market's wholesale market data), recording a hike of about Rs 1,000 per quintal.

The hike in onion prices is the highest in the past two years and in the past six months alone, onion prices have gone up by almost Rs 30-40 per kg, say members of the traders association at Lal Bazaar in Gangtok.

General Manager, Sikkim State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation limited (SIMFED), Jiwan Sharma says that SIMFED cannot directly control

the market price of various commodities but can offer some relief to consumers.

"In such a situation, SIMFED tries to make the particular item available for the consumer at very reasonable rates with almost no profit margin," he says.

Deorali shop owner, Ranjit Prasad Gupta said that he usually sells 6 to 8 bags of onion that is 300 to 400 kg of onions a month but it has now gone down to 2-3 bags a month i.e just 100 to 300kgs a month.

Whole seller Sunil

Kumar Prasad says that like in other states, the State Government should intervene and provide onions at subsidized rates in the interest of the general public.

Consumer, Neeta Bhutia shares that onion prices are so high that people have started using it in a controlled manner.

"Onion is the key ingredient in the kitchen so we cannot stop using it but can control how much to use. Government intervention is much needed in controlling and monitoring prices," she adds.

SDF condemns bursting of firecrackers at MG Marg by SKM

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT: Sikkim Democratic Front has strongly criticised and condemned the bursting of firecrackers in the heart of Gangtok at MG Marg on Tuesday evening. The party has urged the State administration to take immediate legal action against all involved in the incident.

An SDF press release issued by its general secretary [press & publicity], Chudamani Mishra, contends that it SKM has been foisting fear on the people since its formation and that the latest incident of wantonly bursting firecrackers at MG Marg was the latest

example of SKM's disdain for the law.

Firecrackers have been banned in Sikkim for some years now.

Pointing out that restrictions were imposed on the bursting of firecrackers in December 2014 by the SDF Government to conserve the environment and in the interest of the health of the people, the release adds that last evening's episode has reaffirmed SKM's ignorance, weak leadership and tendencies for anarchy.

The release adds that with the Model Code of Conduct already in force in Gangtok, the incident was also a direct violation of the MCC.

Training for South Presiding Officers and Polling Officers I

NAMCHI, 01 OCT (IPR): The first training for Presiding Officers and Polling Officers I for the ensuing By-Elections of Poklok Kamrang Assembly Constituency was conducted at the Conference hall of Zilla Bhawan, Namchi today.

The training program had the presence of General Observer, Alak Kumar Saharia, SDM Gyalshing, Tushar Nikhare as Master Trainer, SDM Yangang, Sangay Gyatso Bhutia as Nodal

Officer (training) along with SDM (HQ), Chiran Rizal and SDM Namchi, Vishu Lama.

It may be mentioned that a total of 64 Presiding Officers and Polling Officers I attended the first day of the training along with the BDOs of Sikkim, Poklok Nandugaon and Namchi which falls under Poklok Kamrang Constituency.

General Observer, Alak Kumar Saharia addressed the program wherein he said that the

Presiding and Polling Officers should actively participate in carrying out free and fair elections as per the guidelines of Election Commission of India.

He also added that these officials should acquaint and update with election coursework so as to avoid errors. He further urged the attendees to work collectively and make the upcoming Bye Elections a successful one.

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144 juveniles were detained in J-K after Article 370 abrogation: Report

New Delhi, Oct 2 (PTI): The Juvenile Justice Committee of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court has told the Supreme Court that 144 juveniles were detained in the state after the Centre abrogated provisions of Article 370, but 142 minors were later released.

The committee, in its report filed in the apex court, said the remaining two were sent to juvenile homes.

When the matter came up for hearing before the top court on Tuesday, a bench of justices N V Ramana, M R Shah and B R Gavai told senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for child rights activists Enakshi Ganguly and

Shanta Sinha, that it has received a report from the Juvenile Justice Committee of the high court, in which the averments regarding alleged detention of minors have been denied.

Ahmadi said he would like to file a reply to the report of the committee. The bench allowed Ahmadi to file a reply to the report and listed the matter for hearing after two weeks.

On September 20, the apex court had asked the committee to undertake an exercise with regard to the facts stated in a petition filed by the two child right activists, who have alleged that minors were illegally detained in Jammu and Kashmir

after the Centre scrapped the special status of the state under Article 370.

The four-member Juvenile Justice Committee of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, headed by Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, said in its report that when the September 23 order of the apex court was brought to its notice, a meeting was immediately convened to ascertain the facts from the agencies concerned.

"The committee also decided to obtain data from the courts subordinate to the High Court of J&K, and the registrars judicial of the two wings of the high court about the bail applications or Habeas Corpus petitions, if any, moved on behalf of

juveniles or where it was claimed that the arrested persons or the detainees were juveniles," the committee said in its report to the top court.

Citing information provided by police and other agencies, the committee gave details of the cases under which these juveniles were detained.

It said pursuant to the direction, the Jammu and Kashmir DGP filed a report on September 25 in which he categorically refuted the assertions and allegations made in the media and the petition.

"It is pertinent to state that no child has been kept or taken into illegal detention by police authorities as strict

adherence is placed on the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act," the DGP's report to the committee said.

"However, in connection with the children, whosoever was found in conflict with law, same was strictly dealt in consonance with provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children Act and strict directions have been provided from time to time to deal with the provisions of the relevant Act," it said.

"The averments hence surfaced in the petition have been wrongly reflected in the petition and stand devoid of merits," it added.

turn to pg02

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Gandhi Jayanti celebrated in West

GYALSHING, 02 OCT (IPR):

The 150th Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated at the District Administration Center (DAC) in the presence of DC West, Karma R Bonpo; SDM (HQ), Tushar G Nihare along with all the HoDs of DAC and officials.

DC West urged the HoDs to implement proper waste management and segregation of waste in their respective departments and surroundings. He also mentioned that maintaining cleanliness should be exercised every day by all to make the planet cleaner and better.

He also informed



that packed food in plastics (chips, biscuits etc.) would not be allowed inside the Rabdentse Park area. The area would be under CCTV surveillance and tourists would also be sensitized about the new initiative to keep the area clean, he informed.

The Gandhi Jayanti

program was followed by massive cleanliness drive in Rabdentse Bird Park and Rabdentse Ruins area, Gyalshing Municipal areas and other similar places and governmental establishments throughout the West District.

Similarly, the District Collector along

with the Chairman (GMC), IK Neopane; MEO, Bhumika Pradhan and other officials conducted cleanliness drive throughout Gyalshing Bazaar with the help of local residents. The waste collected for segregation into different categories of waste was done at the segregation center at Sakyong Road.

Lingmoo Paiyong Gram Panchayat celebrates Gandhi Jayanti

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 SEPT:

Lingmoo Paiyong Gram Panchayat marked Gandhi Jayanti today with a Special Gram Sabha during which the following points were discussed: Cleanliness in all community places, Open defecation free village and town, Behavior Change and Management of solid and liquid wastes.

The Gram Panchayat also organized a walkathon on the



theme, 'Say no to Plastic,' joined by students, staff of Lingi Paiyong Secondary School, SHGs, ICDS within GPU, and Pephthang Primary School. Later in the

day, panchayat president Yogesh Bhandari, accompanied by panchayat members Ragina Lepcha and Mohan Raj Rai addressed the GPU staff to roll out

GPDP 2020-21 at Panchayat Bhawan.

It is decided to carry PRA exercise for GPDP 2020-21 right after the Dasain break.

Fit India Plogging Run held in North

MANGAN, 02 OCT (IPR): Joining the nationwide 'Fit India Plogging Run', North District successfully conducted the event today in the morning at several places of the district.

The said Plogging Run is an activity which includes jogging while picking up litter, simultaneously. It creates awareness about fitness and cleanliness and would help India make free of single-use plastic.

While at Mangan, Sports and Youth Affairs Department in association with District

Administration, North Sikkim organized the said event, where in the District Collector, North, Tenzing T Kaleon flagged off the 'Plogging Run' in the presence of Deputy Director, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Janim Lepcha, Municipal Executive Officer, Mangan Nagar Panchayat, Tempo Tashi Bhutia, NDFA representatives, teachers and students.

Similarly, the BACs, Schools and PSUs of the district also conducted the Fit India Plogging Run in their respective premises.

ICAR-NRC for Orchids celebrates Gandhi Jayanti

GANGTOK, 02 OCT (PIB): On Gandhi Jayanti, ICAR-National Research Centre for Orchids organized various programmes like collection of plastic wastes from office premises to Bhanu Bhatika (1km), quiz competition on Life of MK Gandhi, letter writing on Swachh Bharat Mission, article writing, drawing on life of Father of Nation, essay writing

on Plastic Pollution Management and campaign on plastic waste management among students of two nearby schools namely Pusanjali School and Dikling Senior Secondary School.

On the occasion, 150 students, 55 ICAR-NRC staff, 35 teachers and 10 farmers participated. Winners of various events were also awarded prizes.

144 juveniles were detained...

Quoting the DGP's report, the committee told the top court that he has categorically denied the allegations made in the petition.

Citing one instance which the petition has referred to that in violation of law the juveniles have been picked up by police and lodged in the jail, the DGP report said the averment does not corroborate with information received from the field formations.

"It is nothing but facts having been imagined from thin air submitted before the court," the report said.

The DGP report to the committee also referred to a reported incident of an 11-year-old being detained and said it was not factually correct.

"It seems that this report has been generated with the intention to malign the police and to create the story which may have element of sensationalism," the DGP's report to the committee said.

Similarly, the DGP report also referred to various reported incidents which appeared in the print and online media, including some foreign publications, and the averments made in the petition and categorically denied them.

The committee, in its report to the top court, has also said that two observation homes have been established in the state -- one at Harwan in Srinagar and other at R S Pora in Jammu.

Thirty-six juveniles were lodged in Harwan's observation home since August 5, out of which 21 were bailed out while enquiry regarding 15 was going on, it said.

Ten juveniles were lodged at R S Pora observation home from August 5 till September 23, out of which six were bailed out while enquiry against remaining four was going on, it added.

Swachhata Hi Sewa campaign at Rhenock



RHENOCK, 02 OCT (IPR):

To mark the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Plastic Shramdaan under the Swachhata Hi Sewa campaign along with the Fit India Plogging Run was organized by Rhenock Block today.

The programme under Rhenock BAC kick started with Swachhta pledge administered by BDO Rhenock, Swabhaw Gurung. The day-long programme had the launching of people's plan campaign, Fit India Plogging Run from Char Fatak to Viswa Vinayak Mandir and plastic Shramdaan at various places.

After the launch, officers, Panchayats, teachers, Police personnel, students, local public, NGOs, SHGs along with the 63th battalion Sashatra Seema Bal (SSB) stationed at Rhenock participated in the Fit India Plogging Run which started at Char Fatak.

The run had participation of more than 100 people. The group while running through the stretch picked up plastic materials. The collected waste was later picked up by the van to be segregated later at

the Block Administrative Centre, Rhenock.

'Plastic Shramdaan' was also undertaken at the panchayat level at Tarpin and Sudunglakha GPU where the local panchayat and public played an active role. Besides others, the programme was participated by the 10-NUSS, Ashirbad Foundation, Bihari Jagaran Manch (Rhenock), Newar Guthi (Rhenock) and various others NGOs. Further, a team of officials along with the observer for the day's programme, Yadav Krishna Sharma (DPO, East, RDD) visited the 'Swachha Gaon' Chalampong as well as the 'Swachha Ghar' of Kedar Pradhan below Rhenock Bazaar.

The programme concluded with collection of all the plastic collected at various places and being brought to the Block Administrative Centre, Rhenock. The collected plastic waste would be segregated and opportunities for efficient reuse and disposal would be taken up from 03 to 27 October, 2019. Creating usable items from plastic waste is one such activity that is being planned by the block.

Training for South Presiding...

Speaking during the training Master Trainer, Tushar Nihare shared the significant aspects of the training. He also spoke in-depth about the various roles and responsibilities of the Presiding and Polling Officers.

He underlined the various aspects that these officials need to function during the poll, on polling day and on different occasions namely that of conducting of the mock polls, recording of votes, voting procedure, sealing of election papers, preparation of Presiding Officer's diary, delivery of voting machines and enforcement of election laws in and around the Polling Station.

During the course of the program, hands-on training on preparation of control unit, fixing of green paper seals in the control unit, closing and sealing of control unit and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail was also conducted.

East emerges champion of State Karate tournament

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT:

East District emerged champion of the 17th State Karate Championship 2019 held on 01 and 02 October here at the Paljor Stadium indoor gymnasium hall.

East District won 24 gold medals to lift the Team Championship trophy.

West District was runner-up with 15 gold medals and South District finished on the third position with five gold medals.

The two-day championship was organised by the Sikkim State Karate-Do Association [SSKA].

A total of 277 Karatekas from East, West and South districts participated in 44 categories.



ries of the championship which was played in cadet [boys & girls], sub-junior [boys & girls], junior [boys & girls] and U-21 [men & women] categories.

The official inaugural function of the championship was held this

morning with Minister to Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Kunga Nima Lepcha as the chief guest. The valedictory function this evening had president of Sikkim Olympic Association, BK Roka as the chief guest. SSKA president, Bi-

joy Gurung informs that gold medallists of the State championship will represent Sikkim at the upcoming North East Karate Championship to be held in December at Guwahati and the upcoming National Karate Championship.

Gandhi Jayanti in South Sikkim

NAMCHI, 02 OCT (IPR):

The South District headquarters observed Gandhi Jayanti at the District Administrative Centre, Namchi today.

Present on the occasion were District Collector (South), Ragul K, ADC (South), Satyen K Pradhan accompanied by Heads of Departments, officials and staff from various department. To commemorate the birth anniversary, the attendees paid tribute and offered khadas to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

NHIDCL marches against plastic

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 02 OCT:

On the occasion Gandhi Jayanti, the NHIDCL branch office took out a peace rally today starting from the District Court premises and concluding at Amdo Golai.

"Say No To Plastic," was the theme of the rally.

GM, Project, Col Devendra Singh, informs that 125 people from different construction agencies of NHIDCL participated in the campaign today and volunteered service during which they collected around 10 quintals of plastic waste which will be recycled and used in national highway construction.



After scrutiny, 3 candidates in fray for Poklok Kamrang

Namchi, 01 Oct (IPR):

The scrutiny of nominations filed by four candidates for by-elections for Poklok Kamrang Assembly Constituency under South District was carried out by the Returning Officer (South), Ragul K in the presence of General Election Observer (South), Alak Kumar Saharia at DAC Namchi, today.

It may be mentioned that after verification of the documents, RO informed that three nomination papers were accepted and one was rejected. The nomination of Kharka Bdr Rai from



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT:

Agriculture Minister, Lok Nath Sharma today announced that he will donate his eyes during the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi celebration at Government Senior Secondary School Bermiok Martam, today.

An IPR release informs that the programme began with

the massive cleanliness drive from Srijunga Farak to Government Sr Secondary School Bermiok Martam led by the chief guest, Agriculture Minister, LN Sharma.

Principal, Pradeep Gurung said that the school will form an Alumni Association to make it one of the model schools in the State.

The chief guest hand-

SPYF condemns SKM-BJP alliance

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT:

Sikkim Progressive Youth Forum has condemned what they see as the ruling party's decision to form a coalition Government with BJP.

"This decision is against the will of the people of Sikkim, therefore it is an anti-people decision. The fact that BJP had got only 1.62% votes in the recently held Assembly Election is testament of the fact that people of Sikkim are against this party," an SPYF press release

states.

The youth organization has said that SKM, which came to the power riding on the popular anti-incumbency factor in the State with the promise of 'Vyavastha Parivartan', has disappointed the common people of Sikkim.

SPYF has alleged that SKM has also failed to deliver on its promises of job creation, regularisation, removing corruption, bringing labour laws, enhancing the salary of casual workers of factories, doing away

with labour contract system, etc.

"We condemn this unholy alliance and all anti-people activities of all the MLAs which have been very frequent lately and have taken a dangerous path risking the very future of the state in stake," the release further adds.

SPYF has appealed to the people to fight unitedly against the anti-people, anti-democratic decisions of the Government and other political leaders of the state without any fear.

KVK organizes Gandhi Jayanti celebrations at Namthang

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 02 OCT:

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namthang, celebrated Gandhi Jaynti at its campus today with a sanitation drive

on the Swachhata Hi Seva theme, a drawing competition on water conservation for school students, and Essay Competition on Plastic Waste Management for

extension functionaries of Department of Horticulture and Agriculture. The programme had BDO Namthang, Ram Kumar Tamang, as a chief guest.

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Neil Tara Academy introduces Virtual Reality classes

**SAGAR CHHETRI
GANGTOK, 02 OCT:**

A school, Neil Tara Academy has introduced Virtual Reality [VR] classes in the school to give 'Experience Based Learning' to its students in the classroom. The school has dedicated this new futuristic initiative to the former Chief Minister of Sikkim, Nar Bahadur Bhandari.

Speaking in the launch of VR learning experience in the school on Wednesday, Neil Tara Academy Principal, Navraj Tiwari mentioned that Neil Tara Academy is the first educational institution in the entire north-eastern region to introduce VR in the education. He explained that the whole idea to intro-

duce this technology in the school came from the vision to provide 'Experience Based Learning' to students.

He further explained that VR allows one to explore, travel without leaving the classroom, experience what you want to leader without moving, making the learning process interesting and interactive. The effect is created by VR headsets consisting of a head-mounted display with a small screen in front of eyes.

"Students absorb information much better when they enter a 3D environment making everything more fun, exciting and enjoyable and it would be new learning experiences from a different point of view.



They will see everything much better than through explanation and images," he added.

The Principal mentioned that in the next couple of years this VR technology will be in every school so the school has come up with this futuristic initiative to prepare students for the future. However, he shared his plans to take this initiative into a mission mode to start Mission VR from Sikkim

wherein experienced based learning would be implemented across all educational institutions of Sikkim.

He expressed his hope that the new government in the State will take up this idea for every school in the State and assured to provide all possible support from the school in this initiative. He further stated that the school was also ready to

provide all support if any other school in the State wants to launch this technology in their classroom.

"It is a small step we have taken but definitely a big step for the education sector in the State and the country," Mr Tiwari said.

He mentioned that this new initiative has been dedicated to former Chief Minister Nar Bahadur Bhandari who had always encouraged and motivated new innovative ideas and initiatives.

"As his birthday is approaching on 05 October, this is our humble way of expressing gratitude to him, a person who loved and worked for our future selflessly," he expressed.

Karthok FC lifts Gandhi Jayanti Cup at Kaluk



**SUMMIT REPORT
KALUK, 02 OCT:**

Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated today in grand manner here at Kaluk School playground under Rinchenpong constituency in West Sikkim today with Minister Lok Nath Sharma present as chief guest accompanied by SKM party in-charge Phurba Bhutia, contractor TM Subba, SI Keshang Bhutia,

Panchayat president Binu Gurung, land donor Chedup Lepcha as special guests.

The final match of the 15th Gandhi Jayanti Open Football Tourney was the highlight of the day along with the cultural programme and an exhibition match.

Karthok FC and Singling FC battled it out for the trophy and the final match was won

by Karthok FC 4-3 in a tiebreaker after regulation time ended in a 1-1 draw.

Later, the chief guest handed over the cash award of Rs 1 lakh to the winning team and Rs 50,000 to the runners-up team along with trophies, certificates and mementos.

The tournament was organized by Kaluk Dara Goan Youth Football Club.

Hydel unit joins Plog Run in Dikchu



**SUMMIT REPORT
MANGAN, 02 OCT:**

Sneha Kinetic Power Project Hydel Plant organized the Dikchu leg of the India Plog Run on the theme, "Be a part of solution not the part of the population," at its power house and dam site and have urged citizens to join the run as a tribute to Father of the Nation.

Plogging involves picking up plastic and other waste from the surroundings while jogging.

The function here was participated in by the plant head, MP Joshi, plant staff, project coordinator, Lal Man Subba, JN Nepal and also personnel from the Dikchu Police Outpost.

During the plog run

today, plastic waste was picked up on the stretch from the power house main gate, Dikchu Bridge, Dikchu Market, Main Highway up to Zero and Gangtok connecting road, local footpath up to Dikchu Sr Sec School, 400 kv road.

At the dam site at Lingdok, the site was cleaned up.

Sensitization Programme on Int'l Day for Older Persons

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 02 OCT:**

On the occasion of International Day for Older Persons which falls on 01 October every year, Sikkim SLSA held a Sensitization Programme to create awareness on the rights and entitlements of Senior Citizens under NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016 and on NALSA (Legal Services to the Mentally Ill and Disabled Persons) Scheme, 2015 at the Sikkim Judicial Academy, Sokeythang, East Sikkim.

A press release informs that the programme was held for Senior Citizens, Retired Government Employees from all over Sikkim, Class IV Officials from various Departments of the State Government, Teachers and Students of Sikkim Government Law College, ICAFI University and Sikkim University



and Para-Legal Volunteers under the directions of Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority.

District & Sessions Judge, Prajwal Khatiwada, East Sikkim and Chairperson, District Legal Services Authority, East Sikkim enumerated the various reforms brought by nations like Norway, United States of America, China, etc. with regard to the welfare

of Senior Citizens and also urged the Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Government of Sikkim to inculcate the best practices from these nations.

Resource Person, Dr Siddhartha Sinha, Psychiatrist from Ranchi spoke on "various psychological and mental problem faced by senior citizens, their prevention, the role of family members and self care by senior citizens".

He also stressed that 90% of such illnesses are due to loneliness. Family members have an im-

portant role in curbing this menace by spending more time with their aged parents. Director, Pension Division, Deepak Pradhan, informed the participants of Pension Lok Adalat which is scheduled to be held soon and requested all the retired government employees to ventilate their grievances before the Pension Lok Adalat besides giving information on various aspects of pension.

Joint Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department, Rohini Pradhan, deliberated on the "Grant-in-Aid for the Senior Citizens, Women, Children, etc. provided by the State/Central Government and the incentives that is being provided by the Social Welfare Department for the persons with disabilities and also informed regarding helpline no.

232181/181 for senior citizens".

SP, Sonam Doma Bhutia, Special Branch, Sikkim Police spoke on the "Safety and security of Senior Citizens, Community Policing and the Sikkim Tenants and Domestic, and, Professional Helps (Compulsory Verification) Act, 2008".

The Working Sessions were followed by interactive sessions between the Senior Citizens' Association comprising of 256 participants from East and South Districts and the Resource Persons.

A health camp had also been set up by Medical Officers/Officials of the Health Care & Family Welfare Department followed by queries at the help desk set up by the Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department for the participants on various issues including pension.

Swachhta campaign at SMU

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 02 SEPT:**

The National Service Scheme (NSS), Sikkim Manipal University organised various Swachhta activities and awareness campaign on the Elimination and Ban on Single Use Plastic as a part of its Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign today on the occasion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a press release informs.

Vice Chancellor, Sikkim Manipal University, Lt Gen MD Venkatesh, Dean, SMIMS, Brig. VK Mehta, Heads of Institutions, Heads of various academic departments, Programme Coordinator, Programme Officers, Activity Coordinators, NSS, SMU, faculty mem-



bers, NSS volunteers and other students participated in the event.

The event started with a speech by Vice Chancellor, SMU who spoke on the need of ban on single use plastic for a sustainable environment and called upon the gathering to put emphasis on the issue.

The participants also took a Swachhta pledge before carrying out the cleanliness activities in which plas-

tic waste was collected from the university campus in and the nearby areas which was later dumped into the municipality garbage collection point inside the university campus.

After this activity, the NSS volunteers made an outreach awareness campaign by visiting the adjoining shops, restaurants and hotels and made appeals to the owners of the firms to avoid the single use plastic and distributed leaflets thereon.

Tadong School organises farewell for retiring teachers

**ARPAN PRADHAN
GANGTOK, 01 OCT:**

A special function was organised by Tadong Government Senior Secondary School today to bid farewell to teachers proceeding on retirement.

The function was organised to express gratitude to the teachers and office staff for their dedicated service towards the betterment of the school and students.

Norzing D. Bhutia (PRT), Karma Bhutia (PRT), Sushila Khawas PGT (Nepali) and Juren Singh Rai (Office Attendant), all of whom retired recently, were felicitated today.

The farewell saw attendance of teachers, students, SMC members, former teachers, and others.

Addressing the function, Principal Doma L Zimba, in her address,

Gandhi Jayanti in Singtam

YOGEN THATAL

SINGTAM, 02 OCT:

Singtam Nagar Panchayat organized a feast for all Safai Karmacharis deputed there as part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations here today. The theme of the program was "Swachhata Hi Sewa."

MEO, Prakash Kharel, Municipal Inspector, Biren Rai, HA, Rajen Rai accompanied by personnel from police, Forest

expressed gratitude towards the retired teachers and staff for their dedication and selfless contributions towards the school.

On the occasion, the school also released a CD with the school song and three more songs which will be uploaded on the school's official website later.

The songs have been composed by the students under the guidance of teachers Sukmit Tasho and Sushila Khawas, Rachel (SMC Member) and Wangchuk Lepcha (student).

The retired teachers were felicitated with a Shawl, Bouquet, Citation and Gifts.

A cultural program was presented by the students and the program was also addressed by T Dhakal, Priyadarshini Pradhan and others.

and Fire departments along with the local residents participated in the daylong program.

On the occasion, 18 Safai Karmacharis of Singtam Nagar Panchayat were felicitated.

Meanwhile, the staff of District Hospital, Singtam, also marked the day with a cleanliness drive carried out around the hospital premises.

SRM celebrates Research Day

**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 01 SEPT:**

SRM University, Sikkim, celebrated Research Day today.

The objective of the program was to inculcate a culture of research among students, research scholars and faculty members, a press release informs.

A total of 65 participants presented papers in the fields of Basic Sciences, Social Sciences, Management and Commerce, Information Technology, English Literature, Hospitality & Tourism and

Public Health.

The event also held discussions on a wide range of research ideas and multidisciplinary approaches.

Best Paper Awards were presented in the categories of Faculty Members, Research Scholars and Students.

The highlight of the event was the honouring of various faculty members with cash prizes and appreciation certificates for processing funded research projects, writing proposals for projects and also publishing research

papers in journals of repute.

Vice Chancellor, SRM University Sikkim, Prof Ch Satish Kumar, while addressing the gathering, said that each department should inculcate a research environment by initiating Journal clubs.

He assured that his support and guidance would always be there for researchers with innovative ideas. An established researcher himself, he reassured the participants of sound research development and environment in the campus.

SJA organizes workshops for District Judges



**SUMMIT REPORT
GANGTOK, 01 SEPT:**

Sikkim Judicial Academy organized two Workshops for District Judges of the state on 27 Sept.

The first Workshop was on "The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908" on the following topics "Part VII - Appeals (Section 96 -Section 108), Part VIII - Reference, Revision and Revision (Section 113 - Section 115) and Part II- Execution (Section 36-Section 47)" with HS

Sharma, former District & Sessions Judge, Delhi Judicial Service, as resource person.

The second workshop was on the important provisions of "The Transfer of Property Act, 1882 including Section 53A- Part Performance, Sales of Immovable property - Chapter III (Section 54-Section 56) and Mortgages of Immovable Property and Charges under Chapter IV". The Resource Person was

Justice AP Subba, former Judge, High Court of Sikkim, and Member, High Court Lok Adalat.

At both workshops, all the relevant provisions were discussed with illustrations. The resource persons also shared landmark judgments of the apex court and the High Courts on all the relevant issues. Both the workshops were very interactive.



Riders reach relief

Namchi, 02 Oct: Sikkim Alliance of Riders visited the landslide affected in Yulsom and handed over a relief fund of Rs 1,53,900 today.

HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email us: news@summittimes.com

Crime and the City

Sikkim is no stranger to burglaries. In fact, the festival season and the winter months are known as much for their celebrations as for the string of burglaries that are bound to happen. During these months, people take longer holidays, the nights are longer, of late, the noisy rain a perfect cover to mask break-ins and neighbours too lazy to get out of cozy beds to investigate suspicious sounds and noises. Unfortunately, ever so often, the sanitized distance of a surreptitiously carried out break-in is sullied by a violent home invasion. Such incidents are thankfully rare, but what is all too common are burglaries which remain a persistent worry.

The reason this trend needs to be discussed is because the state has, and is, growing too fast and acquiring all the ills of “growth” and urbanization at a much faster clip than the society at large is developing the capacity to manage. Burglaries have become so common that they do not even make it to newspapers too often because either the thefts are too minor, or because no official complaint was filed because that process becomes a bigger nuisance to deal with than the actual loss.

It would be too simplistic to say that petty crimes and burglaries are bound to rise as populations grow. That would be suggesting that people are inherently vile and that whenever we receive even a thin shroud of anonymity we will become depraved forms of ourselves, kind of like the vicious selves we become online. Such an explanation would also be too pessimistic because if this was accepted as true for human nature, then the only solution available would be 24x7 surveillance, and that is the first step down for a democracy towards embracing totalitarianism. Kind of like being okay with cops and administration threatening “strict action” if people did not behave and not burst firecrackers during Diwali even as they looked the other way when party-supporters did so in the heart of town.

Returning to burglaries, these are mostly blamed on young delinquents. Since the statistics bear these things out, let’s stay with that for now. So sure, youth can be unruly at times, but even in their excesses, they usually indulge in some harmless pranks on peers and elders. What desperation could their condition impose on them that their temperamental streak veers to crime and/ or violence? There has to be something inherently very wrong with the priorities of a society where innocence is lost so young that crime becomes an option. There is no condoning a society that drives people to commit crimes so young, but pragmatism also requires one to accept these as the curses of modernity if instances of juvenile crime were aberrations and not the norm. In Sikkim, however, instances of juveniles in conflict with the law are becoming disconcertingly frequent. What must also be borne in mind is that what ends up getting reported in newspapers are instances that get recorded by the cops; there are many instances where “cases” are settled before they are officially entered into the crime data. The police have a job to do and there are adequate laws and regulations in place to ensure that juveniles, even when picked up for cognizable offences, have a less traumatic run-in with the law. But the more important concern than how the police cracks down on juvenile crime, is how the society at large responds to it.

It is not enough to just get shocked if the shock does not lead to worry and worry does not initiate deliberations and then societal engagement to understand the reasons behind increasing juvenile crimes and then doing something about correcting the situation. What every person needs to bear in mind is that thefts and burglaries are the gateway crimes from which the delinquents could graduate to more serious felonies if not course-corrected in time. The sequence of crime and punishment does not resolve the situation and societal disinterest makes the situation worse - a society which refuses to be moved into involvement by the shock of juvenile crime ends up creating misanthropes out of delinquents.

WRITE US:

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

How Taiwan became a global powerhouse in whisky production

MARTIN QUINN

THECONVERSATION.COM

Whisky (or whiskey if you’re Irish or American) has a 1,000-year long history. According to legend, Irish monks travelling to Mediterranean countries encountered the fundamentals of distilling and introduced the technique on their return. The Irish and Scots have both staked claim to whisky’s origins, but certainly the Scots were the first to produce it in large volumes from the 19th century onwards.

Distillation techniques have been taken up around the world, famously in the US and Japan. But now Taiwan is making its mark on the industry. Having only started producing whisky this century, the small island is making millions of bottles and scooping up top industry awards.

The global whisky market, like any, can be subject to booms and busts. Right now it is enjoying a boom and many smaller craft producers have appeared in the last decade or two. These smaller producers occupy a relatively small portion of the overall market, with bigger names like Britain’s Diageo, Japan’s Suntory, and Brown-Forman (which owns Jack Daniels) in the US taking the lion’s share. Overall, the market was valued at about US\$58 billion in 2018.

NO MEAN FEAT

To produce and sell whisky is no mean feat. Selling it requires a strong brand, often involving a story or myth. Craft producers often build a story of their uniqueness or natural origins, whereas larger producers often build on family or other names (think Jameson, Jack Daniels, Johnnie Walker).

The fundamental process of making whisky has not changed for

centuries and poses a problem for all producers – the time it takes to mature. For example, both Irish and Scotch whiskies must be aged for at least three years, and many are aged for much longer. This means, in comparison to other industries, a relatively large amount of cash is tied up in inventory.

To give an example, according to their recent annual reports, Suntory had about ¥242 billion (about US\$2.2 billion) worth of maturing spirits, Diageo £3.2 billion (about US\$4 billion) and Brown-Forman US\$950m. That’s around 15% to 20% of the annual turnover of these companies.

For craft producers and newcomers to the market, this is a serious problem, as adequate financing is needed to keep the business afloat while the whisky matures. The total cost of setting up a craft distillery is in the order of US\$3m to US\$5m and it may take ten years to turn a profit, waiting on that maturing whisky to turn into actual sales and cover costs. This is why some craft producers produce gin or other less time consuming white spirits to earn cash while their whisky matures.

EYE-CATCHING GROWTH

The success story of Taiwanese whisky is an interesting one. You might not associate the small island with the drink, but its whiskies have won dozens of prestigious awards in the drinks world in recent years. The island’s proximity to large Asian markets, which have a growing taste for the drink, is of course an advantage, but the pace of its growth is still eye catching.

The first Taiwanese distillery only opened in 2006 and since then the country’s whisky producers have managed to gain success, de-



spite the investment hungry nature of the industry. The island’s subtropical climate has helped, with the whisky maturing two to three times faster than it does in Scotland or Ireland.

On the downside, the warm and humid climate means a higher evaporation loss of about 5% to 10%, compared to 2% to 3% for Scotch and Irish whiskies. But the faster ageing means the whisky is turned into cash (and profit) faster, and less cash is tied up in inventory.

For the country’s two big producers – Kavalan and Taiwan Tobacco & Liquor Corporation (TTL) – the necessary investment has been readily available. Kavalan Whiskey is part of the unlisted King Car Group, a food and logistics business with an estimated annual turnover of US\$500m to US\$1 billion. Its distillery, which was founded in 2006 can produce 9m bottles a year, well above that of a craft distillery, which would have a typical output of 10,000 to 20,000 bottles.

Having a large group to bank-

roll the investment certainly helps attain higher levels of capacity and sales. TTL similarly has financial backing, as it is state owned. It commenced distilling in 2008 and previously had a monopoly on tobacco and liquor products in Taiwan.

Thus TTL already had some distillery operations, with its Nantou distillery converted from producing other spirits to produce its Omar single malt. Both Kavalan and TTL also had an established distribution and marketing infrastructure for their products prior to entering the whisky market.

So the rapid success of both these Taiwanese whiskies can, in part, be put down to this available financial support and favourable climate. It meant both were well positioned to cash in on the global boom in whisky sales, as well as a well-established local market. All that’s left now for the rest of us is to try one.

[the writer is Senior Lecturer in Accounting, Queen’s University Belfast]

‘Our house is on fire!’ Why Greta Thunberg infuriates conservatives

SIMON DALBY

THECONVERSATION.COM

Greta Thunberg has recently become the key symbol of, and inspiration for, a new generation of climate activists. As an effective communicator on climate change, the 16-year-old Swede is currently in a league of her own.

Scientific communication doesn’t translate well into appropriate political action, as numerous scholars on this topic have pondered recently. The language used in climate communications has frequently been unhelpful, as has the failure of many climate advocates to effectively link research to action that relates to the everyday lives of the public.

As a professor and researcher working on climate change, the security threats it presents and how people both understand the dangers and pose political responses, it has become clear to me that the language being used about climate action is often seriously misleading.

Thunberg’s success is due in part to the fact that she’s had a substantial impact over how people relate to climate issues. By her actions, as well as her simple and very direct speeches, she’s called out numerous politicians whose failure to act endangers her future. She neatly inverts the usual cultural assumption that the adults should educate children.

Her success is not just because she took what is usually understood to be a radical step by going on strike. She also uses a simple but important metaphor by referring to our house being on fire. And she focuses her attention on the key point that, if anyone is remotely interested in the long-term future for children, then politicians need to act on the urgent warnings being repeatedly issued by climate scientists.

FIRES FIT INTO HER NARRATIVE

Choosing the right figure of speech is important in any communication, and Thunberg’s focus on the simple point about our house being on fire is key. Forest fires are getting attention around the world, including recent blazes in Indonesia and Brazil. The damage being done by climate change-fuelled fires fits simply into her narrative.

Unlike warfare and images of climate struggles that are only sometimes effective in getting attention, Thunberg focuses on something that much more obviously relates to everyday life and the dangers to it: Not only is our house



on fire, but the fire department has vanished.

At the heart of the climate change issue is the fact that those of us in the developed world are burning huge amounts of inflammable materials to power our homes, vehicles, factories and much else. Coal, oil and natural gas are being consumed in huge amounts and the resulting gases are heating the planet and causing weather patterns to become much more dangerous.

The governments that should be preventing fires are, by subsidizing and encouraging the development of fossil fuels, encouraging us to burn more stuff. This is disrupting societies due to disasters, storms, wildfires and floods. Our house is indeed being burned. The more we burn the worse this is going to get.

Going on strike is usually understood to be a radical act, something done when negotiation and persuasion fail. But for Thunberg, anxious to ensure a future for herself and her generation, it is really not a radical act at all; it is really something very conservative.

TRADITIONAL CONSERVATIVE DESIRES

A future in which one can live well, have children and obtain a decent job, maintaining a world of predictable social order, is what conservatives usually wish for.

Instead, so-called conservatives across much

of the English-speaking world are telling us we have to burn more stuff — oil, gas and coal — and ship it around the world so others can join in on burning things as well.

They are ignoring the warnings from climate sciences about the obvious predictable consequences if we continue to do so. Even a few more decades of unrestrained combustion will make things much, much worse, setting in motion disruptions that no human fire department will be able to contain.

There is nothing remotely conservative about assuming we can destabilize the climate system and somehow society will be fine because at least some people have amassed major wealth with money made by burning things.

With the consequences of climate change now clear, and the science able to much more accurately predict what is coming if we stay on our existing course of using ever more fossil fuels, it is the fossil fuel industry, its propagandists and supporters who are the radicals, and very dangerous ones at that.

This is the point that Thunberg has managed to make so very effectively. No wonder they are so angry at her.

[the writer is Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University]

Curbs in Kashmir: There has to be balance between personal liberty & national security, says SC

NEW DELHI, OCT 1 (PTI): There has to be a balance between personal liberty of an individual and national security, the Supreme Court said Tuesday while hearing the pleas that have raised issue of curbs in the Kashmir Valley after the abrogation of provision of Article 370.

The top court's remarks came after the Jammu and Kashmir administration said that 100 per cent landlines are working in the Valley and their is no restriction on he movement of people during the day time.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for J&K administration, told a bench headed by Justice N V Ramana that if mobile and internet facility were resorted in the Valley, then fake WhatsApp messages would be circulated from "across the border" and it might incite violence there.

Several petitioners, including Executive Editor of Kashmir Times Anuradha Bhasin, activist Tehseen Poonawala and Foundation of Media Professionals, through its president Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, claimed that their was complete lockdown of communication networks and restrictions on movement of journalists.

The bench, also comprising justices R Subhash Reddy and B R Gavai, sought response from Centre and asked the petitioners to file their rejoinder and listed the matter in the second week of November.

"There has to be a balance between personal liberty of a person and



the national security," the bench said while dealing with a batch of nine petitions pertaining to restrictions in the Valley.

At the outset, the top court dealing with the petition of CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said that it was habeas corpus (writ directing production of a person in detention before the court) petition and he has already been granted indulgence by the court.

"You have moved a habeas corpus petition. That prayer no longer survives as that person -- Mohd Yousuf Tarigami -- has himself moved the apex court challenging the abrogation of Article 370. It was a limited question. what further relief do you want," the bench told senior advocate Raju Ramachandaran, representing Yechury.

Ramachandaran said he want that either the detention of Tarigami be declared illegal or the authority be asked to justify his detention after August 5.

To this, the bench said that Jammu and

Kashmir High Court is functioning smoothly and the petitioner can approach there for relief.

"If you want this petition to be heard here, then it will come in due course of time and if you want your petition to be heard urgently, then you shall go to the Jammu and Kashmir High Court," the bench said.

Ramachandaran insisted that the matter be heard by the top court after which the bench directed the Centre to file its response and listed it for hearing in November.

In another related matter, Senior advocate Huzefa A Ahmadi, appearing for Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, said as per the court orders, Azad had visited the state and thus, his first prayer in the petition has been complied with.

Ahmadi said his other prayers still remain and the authority should tell the court as under what provisions of law the restrictions have been imposed on movement of people in

the valley.

Mehta told the bench that during the day time, there are no restrictions on movement of people in the valley and curbs are imposed depending upon situation during the night time.

The bench asked Mehta to file an affidavit related to the restrictions on movement of people within two weeks.

The apex court also refused to entertain a petition filed by Sameer Kaul seeking restoration of internet communication services in hospitals and directed him to approach the Jammu and Kashmir High Court.

Dealing with the petitions of Bhasin, Poonawalla and Foundation of Media Professionals, the top court questioned the number of intervention applications filed in the case.

It restrained filing of any fresh intervention application in the issue related to restriction imposed in the valley.

Mehta questioned the locus of Poonawalla and said that he is a "TV personality and

not the resident of the state".

To this, Justice Gavai apparently referring to Judge B H Loya death case said, "Is this Tehseen Poonawalla the same person, who has levelled certain allegation against us in the Nagpur case?".

Senior advocate Meenakshi Arora, appearing for Poonawalla said she is not in know how of any such incident, but the issue of restrictions in Kashmir, which is on its 57th day, is a serious matter and needs to be addressed.

She stated that they are aggrieved with the complete shutdown in the valley as people are being forced to suffer as most of the hospitals are in Srinagar.

"Under what notification this lockdown was done in Kashmir valley, the government must tell the court," she said.

Mehta denied any such claims and said hospitals are working smoothly in the valley and lakhs of people have availed the medical facilities since August 5 till mid September.

"There are no restrictions on health facilities and all the hospitals are working smoothly. These issues are being raised to serve some other interests," he said, adding that if the internet services are restored then there will be circulation of fake news. He said that internet kiosks are being set up in various areas for the people and journalists.

The bench, while listing all these matters related to restrictions in Kashmir in the month of November, asked the Centre to file its reply on these petitions.

Gandhi Jayanti in Soreng

SORENG, 02 OCT [IPR]: Commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, the officers and staff of Soreng sub-division in THE presence of area

MLA, Aditya Golay celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with much enthusiasm and fervour.

The pledge to make a plastic free environment was read out by MLA,

Aditya Golay which was followed by officers, staff and members of civil society. Later, a mass cleanliness drive was also conducted in and around Soreng bazaar.

Mangan celebrates Swachhta Hi Seva Diwas

WANGCHUK BHUTIA

MANGAN, 02 OCT:

The "Swachhta Hi Seva Diwas" was organised today by Mangan Nagar Panchayat in collaboration with District Administration Centre, Mangan North Sikkim on the theme Plastic waste Shramdhaan, plastic Mukht Bharat in order to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The function was attended by DC North, TT Kaleon as the chief guest.

On the day, the chief guest also launched a jute bag designed by Mangan Nagar Panchayat and read out the Swachhta pledge.

It may be mentioned here that Swachhta hi Seva is a massive nationwide awareness and mobilization campaign on cleanliness. The Swachhta hi Seva 2019 is being organized from 11 Sept till 02 Oct, 2019. PM Modi had set the goal of making India ODF by 02 October, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).

MEO, Mangan Nagar Panchayat, Tempo Tashi Bhutia, stated that all



the shops at Mangan Bazaar should keep dustbins without which the license will not be renewed. He further urged all the people to co-operate with MNP to keep Mangan Bazaar clean.

The MNP also facilitated Little Flower School, North Sikkim Academy and Tashi SHG Pentok for their dedication and sincerity towards Swachhta Seva.

The BDO Mangan highlighted the electoral verification programme.

The Swachhata Bharat Mission Incharge, Dil Maya Subba highlighted about Swachhta Bharat.

DC North, TT Kaleon in his address said that we need to change our attitude and should have sense of belonging and responsibility towards our area and environment. He also expressed

his gratitude to MNP for conducting such a programme and appealed to all to work together to make Mangan a model district.

Speaking on electoral verification, the DC said that there should be error free electoral list where verification is going on. He asked the people to meet with the concerned BLO and visit the concerned website.

Prizes to the winners of drawing competition were also distributed.

Earlier, the function was welcomed by president MNP, Zangmu Bhutia and ended with vote of thanks delivered by MNP councilor, Karma Jigdal Bhutia.

The function also saw a cultural programme presented by Little Flower School and North Sikkim Academy while Manav Uthan Sewa presented a skit.

Lachung and Kokaley teams win on day-3 of football tourney at Dikchu School

SUMMIT REPORT

DIKCHU, 02 OCT:

The third day of the Open men's football tournament organized here as part of Dikchu Senior Secondary School's 78th

Foundation celebrations saw the first match played between S-Boys Lachung and Yakthung Boys which the Lachung team won 4-1.

Likewise, the sec-

ond match of the day saw Rising Star Kokaley beat Majhitar Sporting Club 3-0.

The day's matches had social worker Tshering Lepcha as chief guest.

Second round of verification for Best School Award 2019

Gangtok, 01 Sept (IPR):

Education is the foundation of the nation, therefore to focus and to motivate to all the Schools. East District Administration with reference to letter no. 1274/DCE/(E/) dated : 10.09.2019 had announced best school award 2019 to be handed over on Republic Day 2020 at Paljor Stadium, Gangtok. After first round of verification by BDOs and AEOs following schools have been nominated for second round of verification to be done by concerned SDMs and Deputy Director, Education Department. The last date to submit 2nd round verification is 31st Oct, 2019.

(Category – Jr. High Schools)

Sl.No	Name of Nominated Jr. Schools	Name of Block Administrative Centre	Concerned SDMs for 2 nd round of verification
1	SAJONG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	DUGA	SDM RANGPO- to select best two(2) schools
2	SINGLEBONG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
3	ZITLANG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
4	BADONG THANGSING Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	KHAMDONG	SDM- HQ- to select best three(3) schools
5	LINGDING Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	NANDOK	
6	SAURENI Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	RAKDONG TINTEK	
7	PHALAICHADAR Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
8	TUMIN DHANBARI Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
9	SINGBEL Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	RANKA	SDM GANGTOK- to select best three(3) schools
10	ADAMPOOL Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
11	PERBING Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
12	THAMIDARA Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	MARTAM	SDM PAKYONG- to select best two(2) schools
13	TUMLABONG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
14	MARTAM YANGTAM Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
15	SAMLIK MARCHAL Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	PAKYONG	SDM RONGLI- to select best one (1) school
16	PAKYONG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
17	TAZA Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		
18	DUGALAKHA Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	PARAKHA	SDM RONGLI- to select best one (1) school
20	PARAKHA Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	REGU	
21	REGU KHAMDONG Jr. HIGH SCHOOL	RHENOCK	
22	RENOCK BAZAR Jr. HIGH SCHOOL		

(Category – Primary Schools)

Sl.No	Name of Nominatwed Primary Schools	Name of Block Administrative Centre	Concerned SDMs for 2 nd round of verification
1	OKHARBOTEY PRIMARY SCHOOL	DUGA	SDM RANGPO- to select best two(2) schools
2	BUDANG PRIMARY SCHOOL		
3	SWANEY PRIMARY SCHOOL		
4	DONGEY THANG PRIMARY SCHOOL	KHAMDONG	SDM- HQ- to select best three(3) schools
5	DIPU DARA PRIMARY SCHOOL		
6	CHUNGHEY TAR PRIMARY SCHOOL		
7	PANGTHANG SAP PRIMARY SCHOOL	NANDOK	SDM GANGTOK- to select best one(1) schools
8	DARING LINZEY PRIMARY SCHOOL		
9	MACHEYLAKHA PRIMARY SCHOOL		
10	TINTEK CHUBA PRIMARY SCHOOL	RAKDONG TINTEK	SDM PAKYONG- to select best three(3) schools
11	TINTEK MARCHAK PRIMARY SCHOOL		
12	PHENZONG PRIMARY SCHOOL		
13	CHUJA MARTAM PRIMARY SCHOOL	RANKA	SDM GANGTOK- to select best one(1) schools
14	MARCHAK CHUTEN PRIMARY SCHOOL		
15	BENG PRIMARY SCHOOL		
16	BASILAKHA PRIMARY SCHOOL	PAKYONG	SDM PAKYONG- to select best three(3) schools
17	AHO YANGTAM PRIMARY SCHOOL		
18	PACHEY SAMSING PRIMARY SCHOOL		
19	LOSSUNG PRIMARY SCHOOL	PARAKHA	SDM RONGLI- to select best two (2) school
20	LATUK PRIMARY SCHOOL		
21	REKYAP PRIMARY SCHOOL		
22	PASTING PRIMARY SCHOOL	REGU	SDM RONGLI- to select best two (2) school
23	DOKCHIN PRIMARY SCHOOL		
24	POSAKEY PRIMARY SCHOOL		
25	RESHI PRIMARY SCHOOL	RHENOCK	
26	TARPIN SALGHARI PRIMARY SCHOOL		

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Irresistible Gnabry shreds Spurs after Lewandowski’s decisive incision

BARNEY RONAY
THEGUARDIAN

Things fall apart. The centre cannot hold. Neither can the left flank. Or the right. Or the heart of midfield come to think of it. On a rain-sodden night in north London Bayern Munich simply ran away with this game, scoring five times in 34 second-half minutes as the Tottenham defence collapsed like an overly dunked digestive.

What’s worse than losing 7-2 at home to Bayern Munich in the style of late-Wenger Arsenal? Losing 7-2 to Bayern Munich in the style of late-Wenger Arsenal when a late-Wenger Arsenal player scores four of the goals.

Serge Gnabry will take the headlines. He was impishly irresistible in that final half-hour, doing terrible things to the right side of the Spurs

back four, feet barely seeming to dent the turf, repeatedly planting the ball in the corner of Hugo Lloris’s goal.

But this was a strange game too. Tottenham had actually taken the lead with 12 minutes gone. They kept the score at 1-1 right up to the final moments before half-time, Moussa Sissoko and Tanguy Ndombele combining to take a high-energy grip of midfield. At which point: enter Lewy.

For all Gnabry’s brilliance, it was Robert Lewandowski who provided the game’s decisive moment of incision. It was the goal of a genuine killer too, a moment that seemed to suck the air out of the stadium as the ball rippled and span and gurgled around in the corner of the net.

It wasn’t the power of the shot, or some outrageous moment of high-



lights-reel skill. It was the way Lewandowski had seen, moved, turned, shot and even begun to celebrate his goal before the players around him had time to process what was about to happen.

Instead the white shirts saw a scramble at the edge of the box. There were collisions, tackles, a jockeying away from goal.

The ball squirted into space. Corentin Tolisso, already lying on the grass appealing for a foul, hooked a leg at it. And then Lewandowski moved, taking two sniping steps back, wrapping a leg around the ball in the tiniest of spaces and spanking it back hard and low into the corner.

It was his 13th touch of the ball, right on half

time. Three of those had been shots at goal. Six were completed passes. In between Lewandowski had contented himself with walking through his carefully defined territories around the box. And he does move in an extraordinary way. This is a man who slinks, who sidles, who meanders

Asif Kapadia’s Maradona documentary slices through the myth to show us the man

FRANCISCO NAVAS
THEGUARDIAN

Diego Armando Maradona’s life is a cliché, a rags to riches tragedy. He started as a poor boy with no filter, one whose ruthless drive and innate skill took him to greatness, before a sudden fall. Had he been watching, Andy Warhol would have been enthralled.

Asif Kapadia, who won an Oscar for Amy, another documentary about a scintillating talent who came crashing to earth, is the man behind a new film about Maradona. In the film, titled Maradona, Kapadia slices through the persisting myth of D10S, attempting to free Diego the man from Maradona the legend. After a limited theatrical release, HBO brings the film to US audiences this week.

America missed his legend, catching him at perhaps his lowest low, when he flamed out of the 1994 World Cup after a failed drugs test. In the US, he was a hero to only a few – and I was one of them. As a teenage Argentinian immigrant in the United States in the early 2000s, struggling to reconcile my cultural identity with my new country, I clung to Maradona. He was Platonic Argentinianess, and I found in his legend the answers I sought. His was a greatness to strive for and a perseverance to mimic.



His legend held what the teenage me saw as answers about masculinity (be brash, work hard and be a leader) and sportsmanship (forget about it).

Sure, lessons can be found in any world-class athlete, but with Maradona they all came wrapped in an albiceleste bow of patriotism. His success was Argentina’s and by extension mine, decades and thousands of miles away from his heyday. His brilliant goals, his breathtaking skills, his trophies, his literal single-handed demolition of England in 1986 – they were mine too. He validated my reverence for a culture that I was separated from and gave me a love I could share with the only other Argentinian teenager in a neighborhood that was mostly Venezuelan and Colombian.

As a kid, I looked past his drug addiction and involvement with

the mafia. Now, the reality of Maradona’s past, which Kapadia skillfully peels back, is undeniable. Maradona’s present raises even more worrying questions.

Now, after a decade-long absence, Diego (or is it Maradona?) is back in Argentina, to start another chapter. He has taken a job as the manager of embattled Gimnasia y Esgrima, a club languishing near the bottom of the Argentinian Superliga. For Gimnasia supporters, the excitement is real. But despite his insistence that he’s back in Argentina to work (“I am no magician”, he told supporters at his presentation) the motives behind Maradona’s return are opaque. Some argue that it is no coincidence that Maradona is using his fame to bring attention to the club, following the Argentinian tradition of using football as a distraction in times of political instability.

Giselle Fernandez, sister of Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, the former president and current vice-presidential candidate for Argentina’s opposition party Frente Para Todos, gifted Maradona a rosary carrying a locket. Inside, was a picture of her mother. Maradona is an avowed Kirchnerist and Fernandez is an ardent Gimnasia supporter.

It’s unclear how much business the Fernandez family have tied up in the club – if any – but Noticias, an Argentinian weekly magazine, reported that the club expects to make \$3m from sponsorship this season. In the 10 days after the announcement, the club sold 6m pesos (\$105,000) worth of jerseys.

The footballer who helped me love my country may be a willing pawn to distract Argentina’s citizens in the critical upcoming elections.

Or, perhaps it’s just a club taking the risky bet that he can harvest the same success he had as a player. Kapadia shows us a frightened Maradona. A man who allowed his legend to consume his life, ultimately destroying him. Is Maradona falling into another loop in which he attaches himself to power to feed his need to be loved, leading to his own demise? Does he even realise he is doing this?

Still, there are some lessons from Maradona I hold dear – his perseverance and drive. Other, more negative ones, I’ve cast aside. As time passes Maradona’s myth will continue to change. The only certainty is that the image we have of Maradona is the same as that of Marilyn Monroe, Elvis or any other subject of Warhol’s diptychs: a fiction. We can take the lessons we want – or leave them.

I’m not the new Bolt I am me, says 200m champion Lyles

Doha, Oct 2 (AFP): Noah Lyles produced a courageous performance to win the world 200 metres title in his first major championships on Tuesday and said he did not want to be called the new Usain Bolt.

The 22-year-old American -- who has earned comparisons with retired Jamaican legend Bolt -- went clear at 50 metres out to cross the line in 19.83 seconds and went and hugged his mother.

“This time last year I’d only just started running,” said Lyles.

“Think of that. Don’t say I’m the new Bolt. I’m me. If you like me, I’ll happily entertain you. It’s my time.”

Canada’s Andre De Grasse took silver in 19.95 and Alex Quinonez of Ecuador finished third in 19.98.

Lyles -- who has run quicker over 100m and 200m than Bolt at the same age -- was behind Britain’s Adam Gemili entering the straight but powered past him.

In winning, Lyles also delivered the perfect response to Bolt questioning prior to the championships if he could handle the pressure.

“So many times this year I’ve thought of being world champion, you wouldn’t believe it,” he said.

“I have it on my phone, I say it to myself in my car, I think it all

the time -- and finally to have done it feels unbelievable.” Lyles, who dyed his hair silvery-grey, said he had the self-belief he could dig deep enough if he was in a hole to come through and win.

“I don’t know how many people come to their first World Championships and get the gold, but I’ve done it,” he said.

“I just knew no matter what position I found myself in I can always find a way to come through. And when I crossed the line I just felt relief.”

De Grasse, bronze medallist in the 100m, added yet another medal to his growing collection as both he and surprise package Quinonez,



the PanAm champion, passed a tiring Gemili.

“I think it was part of my comeback I was a little bit tired coming into the final,” said De Grasse, who has been beset by hamstring problems in the past two years.

“I had setbacks even on my comeback and was not always able to train every day as I was nervous

I would be injured again. Next year I will be stronger definitely and this is a step in the right direction.”

It was more agony for Gemili as he had been edged out of the bronze in the 2016 Olympic final. 2017 champion Ramil Guliyev of Turkey -- who had strapping on his right knee -- finished fifth.

with the easy grace of a genuine athlete. For a while at Bayern his nickname was “The Body”, a dressing-room tribute to his muscle tone, his regal air, perhaps even the sense of a cold-eyed serial sniper at work.

If there is a criticism of Lewandowski it is that his game has been pared back, that he has become a refined, high-functioning machine, running through the same deadly patterns on the same patch of ground. At times Lewandowski tends to lurk like a ghost through the wall, getting closer, appearing in unexpected spaces, eventually materialising at the centre of things.

“I can win games on my own,” he said earlier this season, the implication being that he really shouldn’t have to, but he does. The goals here – the second a sublime, agreeably imperious steer into

the corner as Tottenham collapsed around him – was his 14th in 10 games for Bayern.

Lewandowski does this. Every now and then he becomes, for a while, undeniably the best centre-forward in the world. He had a brilliant run under Pep Guardiola exactly four years ago, racking up 13 goals in six games and adding another layer of attacking possibility under a manager whose style might have been at odds with the Lewandowski lone-gun persona.

By now, aged 31, Lewandowski seems like a monument: immovable, unsmiling, fixated on his own returns. He was top scorer in the Polish third division 13 years ago. Right now he has 204 goals in 252 games for Bayern and has become a constant in this team; a link, just about, to that great Jupp Heynckes era,

albeit he was playing for the other side at Wembley the last time they were champions of Europe.

Lewandowski didn’t have to win this game on his own. Gnabry took up the slack. Joshua Kimmich was irresistible in midfield and then on the right flank. This was a team clicking into a gear in real time, and led by that enduring rapier.

Niko Kovac had described Lewandowski and Harry Kane as the “best in the world” before this game, and it is a fascinating comparison. These are rare footballers, the pure centre-forward in a time of ever more diverse and shifting roles. Kane scored Tottenham’s second here from the spot, played well enough for 50 minutes, and after that watched as the structures behind him fell apart – led by that moment from Lewandowski.

Ronaldo scores as Juventus brush aside Leverkusen

TURIN, OCT 2 (AFP): Cristiano Ronaldo scored his first goal in this season’s Champions League, sealing a 3-0 win for Juventus over Bayer Leverkusen in their Group D game in Turin on Tuesday.

Ronaldo blasted in the third goal in the 89th minute to extend his record to 127 strikes in the competition to add to Gonzalo Higuain and Federico Bernardeschi’s earlier efforts.

Juventus move top of Group D, level on four points with Atletico Madrid, who defeated Lokomotiv Moscow 2-0 in Russia. The Italian champions had been held 2-2 by the Spaniards at the Wanda Metropolitano in their opener.

Leverkusen face an uphill battle after their shock 2-1 defeat at home against Lokomotiv Moscow and are rooted to the foot of the table.

Juventus next host Lokomotiv and Leverkusen travel to Atletico on October 22.

Maurizio Sarri opted for Higuain and Bernardeschi up front alongside five-time Ballon d’Or winner Ronaldo.

Leverkusen were struggling from the outset after losing captain Lars Bender in the warm-up to a thigh problem, with defender Mitchell



Weiser stepping in.

The Germans showed little to threaten the hosts, with Lucas Alario shooting over on three minutes with what would be their best chance of the game.

The breakthrough came for Juventus when Leverkusen defender Jonathan Tah failed to head clear Juan Cuadrado’s long ball for Higuain, with the Argentine pouncing to drill home.

The 31-year-old Higuain, back in Turin after loan spells at AC Milan and Chelsea, had a chance for a second on 38 minutes but was denied by Leverkusen goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky.

Juventus piled on the pressure after the break as Ronaldo tried unsuccessfully to pull off an overhead kick in the 55th minute.

Ronaldo then sent Higuain in behind, but

although the Portuguese failed to connect with his teammate’s return pass, Bernardeschi was lurking to provide the finishing touch.

Juventus almost had a third with Hradecky failing to control the ball and almost turning it into his own net before grappling to save on the line.

But the Finnish international did well to deny Ronaldo in front of goal after a Higuain charge down the flank.

Welsh international Aaron Ramsey was introduced in place of Bernardeschi with Dybala replacing Higuain for the final ten minutes.

And in the dying minutes, substitute Rodrigo Bentancur picked out Dybala who slid the ball through for Ronaldo, allowing the 34-year-old to equal Real Madrid great Raul’s record of scoring against 33 different sides in the Champions League.

DD official suspended following Modi visit



CHENNAI, OCT 2 (PTI): An Assistant Director of national broadcaster Doordarshan here has been suspended following “disciplinary proceedings” against her.

The official order by Prasara Bharati dated October 1 in this connection did not specify any reason but only said R Vasumathi, Assistant Director (Programme), Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai, has been placed

under suspension under relevant rules with “immediate effect.”

Sources in the know said the issue pertains to Doordarshan’s coverage of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit here on Monday.

The prime minister had addressed the India Singapore Hackathon 2019 and the 56th Convocation of IIT, Madras. He had also given away prizes to the winners of

the Hackathon.

Modi had earlier addressed BJP workers at a party organised for him at the airport on his arrival here.

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Netanyahu lawyers arrive for pre-indictment hearing

JERUSALEM, OCT 2 (AFP): Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's lawyers arrived for his pre-indictment hearing on corruption allegations Wednesday and pledged to convince prosecutors to drop the cases against him.

Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit had in February announced his intention to indict the premier for bribery, fraud and breach of trust pending a hearing in three separate cases.

He is accused of acting on behalf of wealthy supporters and businessmen in exchange for gifts or favourable news coverage.

Speaking to journalists outside the justice ministry ahead of the closed-door hearing, Netanyahu attorney Ram Caspi said that based on the materials and argu-

ments they would present, there was "a solid foundation for a change of course".

Caspi also said he was confident that Mandelblit would reach his decision "in a professional manner, ignoring the background noises".

"The prime minister is not above the law, but neither is he below it," he said.

Mandelblit had rejected Netanyahu's request to broadcast the hearings live.

Another attorney, Amit Hadad, noted they had new evidence to present to Mandelblit.

"At the end of the day, the three cases will have to be closed," he told journalists.

The hearings will last four days and Netanyahu is not expected to attend in person.

Mandelblit is expect-

ed to take several weeks to decide whether to issue the indictments after the hearing is complete.

Netanyahu denies all the accusations and has labelled them bids by his enemies to force him from office, which he has held for a total of over 13 years, the longest in Israeli history.

The hearing comes with Netanyahu's attempts to form a unity government following September 17 elections at an impasse after his main opponent cancelled a meeting planned for Wednesday.

Netanyahu was instead planning to meet with the heads of right-wing and religious parties supporting his bid to form and head a government after the deadlocked election.

In calling off Wednesday's negotiations, Ben-

ny Gantz's centrist Blue and White said that preconditions for continued talks "have not been met."

"We will not be the background for Netanyahu's election games," Blue and White said.

Netanyahu had also sought to meet Gantz later Wednesday, but Blue and White said there was no point in doing so for now.

Netanyahu had been tasked by President Reuven Rivlin with forming a coalition, and should the incumbent premier say he cannot do so, the president must then decide whether to ask Gantz to try.

Alternatively, Rivlin could call on parliament to agree on a candidate for prime minister with a vote of at least 61 of 120 members.

Boris Johnson: UK will submit concrete Brexit proposals soon

MANCHESTER (ENGLAND), OCT 1 (AP): British Prime Minister Boris Johnson confirmed Tuesday that Britain will make firm proposals for a new divorce deal with the European Union within days, saying "this is the moment when the rubber hits the road."

Britain is due to leave the 28-nation bloc at the end of this month, and EU leaders are growing impatient with the UK's failure to set out detailed plans for maintaining an open border between the UK's Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland the key sticking point to a deal.

Johnson said details would be disclosed "very soon."

The UK plans to send them to Brussels within days after the governing Conservative Party conference ends Wednesday in Manchester, northwest England.

Johnson says Britain will leave the EU on the scheduled October 31 date with or without a deal.

A Brexit agreement between the EU and his predecessor, Theresa May, was rejected three times by the UK Parliament, largely because of opposition to the "backstop," an insurance policy designed to ensure there is no return to customs posts or other infrastructure on the Irish border.

An open border underpins both the local economy and Northern Ireland's peace process.

British Brexit supporters oppose the backstop because it would keep the UK tightly bound to EU trade rules in order to avoid customs checks limiting the country's ability to strike new trade deals around the world.

"There is no point in doing Brexit if you stay locked in the (EU) customs union and locked in the single market with



no say," Johnson told the BBC.

He didn't say what Britain's proposed alternative is. So far the UK has floated the idea of a common area for livestock and agricultural products, plus largely untested "technological solutions."

The EU says that is inadequate.

Ireland's deputy prime minister also rejected an idea raised in preliminary UK proposals for customs posts 5 to 10 miles (8 to 16 kilometers) away from the border.

Simon Coveney called the idea a "non-starter" and tweeted: "Time the EU had a serious proposal from the UK Govt if a #Brexit deal is to be achievable in October. NI and IRE deserves better!"

Johnson said the idea was not going to be included.

"That's not what we're proposing at all," he said but added that it was a "reality" that some checks would be needed to create a "single customs territory" for the UK.

Johnson insists he wants to strike a deal with the EU to replace May's rejected Brexit agreement.

He also says the UK can handle any bumps that come from tumbling out of the bloc without a

deal, which would mean the instant imposition of customs checks and other barriers between Britain and the EU, its biggest trading partner.

But the UK government and businesses say the disruptions would be substantial.

Trade Minister George Freeman told lawmakers at the Conservative conference that "if we leave without a deal, it's going to be very bumpy."

He said the flow of trade across the Channel between the English port of Dover and the French port of Calais the UK's most important trade route could be cut in half as customs and vehicle checks were introduced.

At the annual conference, Johnson is attempting to energe his party with all the bold policies he says the government will deliver once the UK manages to "Get Brexit Done" from more money for police, roads and housing to a big hike in the minimum wage.

The policies, which break with a decade of deficit-slashing austerity by Johnson's Conservative predecessors, are also designed to appeal to voters in a national election that looks likely to be called within weeks.

But he is dogged by allegations that he handed out perks to a female friend's business while he was mayor of London and groped the thigh of a female journalist at a lunch two decades ago.

He denies impropriety in both cases.

Johnson is popular with many Conservative members, who welcome his energy and optimism after three years of grinding Brexit talks under May.

Some, though, have qualms about his personal conduct and his divisive tactics, which include using words like "surrender" and "betrayal" about opponents of Brexit.

But Johnson has shrugged off suggestions that his strong language could incite violence and suggested the personal allegations against him were motivated by people who wanted to "frustrate Brexit."

Now, despite tensions over Brexit, he is trying to convince voters that he still can be a unifying figure.

"The old generous-hearted, loving mayor of London that person has not gone away," Johnson told the BBC.

"But we are in a position where the only way we can take this country forward and unite our country again is to get Brexit done."

North Korea launches missiles ahead of nuclear talks

SEOUL, OCT 2 (AFP): North Korea fired two missiles into the sea on Wednesday, a day after Washington and Pyongyang announced they would resume stalled nuclear talks later this week.

One of the projectiles fell into waters within Japan's exclusive economic zone, Tokyo said, and although the type of weapon was not clear, previous tests have been identified as short-range ballistic missiles.

The South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the projectiles were fired from Wonsan into the East Sea (Sea of Japan).

"Our military is monitoring the situation for additional launches and maintaining a readiness posture," they said in a statement, without providing further details.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Tokyo would hold a meeting of the National Security Council to decide how to respond to the firing.

"The launching of ballistic missiles violates UN Security Council resolutions and we strongly protest and strongly condemn it," Abe told reporters.

The launch came a day after the North's Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said Pyongyang had agreed to hold



working-level talks with Washington later this week.

The two sides will have "preliminary contact" on Friday and hold negotiations the following day, Choe said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

US State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortugus later confirmed the talks, which she said would happen "within the next week".

"It seems North Korea wants to make its negotiating position quite clear before talks even begin," Harry Kazianis of the Center for the National Interest in Washington said after Wednesday's launch.

"Pyongyang seems set to push Washington to back off from past demands of full denuclearisation for what are only promises of sanctions relief," he added.

It is not the first time the North has followed up an offer of talks with a weapons test.

Pyongyang tested what it called a "super-large" rocket launcher last month just hours after Choe released a statement saying that the North was willing to resume working-level talks with Washington.

Negotiations between the two have been deadlocked since a second summit between the North's leader Kim Jong Un and US President Donald Trump in February ended without a deal.

The two agreed to restart dialogue during an impromptu meeting at the Demilitarised Zone dividing the two Koreas in June, but the North's anger at a US refusal to cancel joint military deals with South Korea put the process on hold.

Pyongyang also car-

ried out several weapons tests since the meeting that have been downplayed by Trump, who dismissed them as "small" and insisted his personal ties with Kim remained good.

Relations thawed last month after Trump fired his hawkish national security advisor John Bolton, who Pyongyang had repeatedly denounced as a warmonger.

North Korea's chief negotiator responded positively to Trump's suggestion that the two sides try a "new method" of approaching their discussions.

Trump had criticised Bolton's suggestion of the "Libyan model" for North Korea, a reference to a denuclearisation deal with the African nation's former dictator Moamer Kadhafi -- who was killed after being deposed in 2011.

UK PM to unveil new Brexit plan - and threat

MANCHESTER, OCT 2 (AFP): Prime Minister Boris Johnson will unveil his plan for a new Brexit deal at his Conservative party conference Wednesday, warning the EU it is that or Britain leaves with no agreement this month.

Downing Street said Johnson would give details of a "fair and rea-

sonable compromise" in his closing address to the gathering in Manchester, and would table the plans in Brussels the same day. It stressed this would be a "final offer", and that if the European Union "does not engage" then Johnson would keep to his threat to leave on October 31 with no deal.

The prime minister would "in no circumstances" ask to delay Brexit at a Brus-

sels summit on October 17 and 18, it said in a statement.

"Let's get Brexit done -- we can, we must and we will," Johnson will tell delegates. Johnson has received a rapturous welcome at the first party conference since Conservative members elected him as leader in July with one purpose -- to get Britain out of the EU.

Under the slogan "Get Brexit Done", he and his

ministers have repeated over and over that the country will leave the bloc on October 31. But like his predecessor Theresa May, he has struggled against a hostile parliament and the complexities of untangling four decades of integration with the European Union. He has pledged to renegotiate the exit terms May agreed with Brussels, which MPs rejected three times.

You can contact SummitTIMES @ 03592 208698

INVITATION

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Memo No. WS&PHE/1893/19-20/353 Dated: 30.9.19

Sub: Corrigendum of Notice Inviting Tender No: 388/WS/PHED/345 Dated: 12.09.2019.

With the enforcement of Model Code of Conduct from 21.09.2019 to 7.10.2019, corrigendum to the above NIT has been directed on time schedule and is placed as below:-

TIME SCHEDULE	
1. Date of submission of application with Challan/Bank Receipt for issue of tender documents (excluding tender form)	: 04/11/2019 to 07/11/2019 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
2. Date of issue of tender form on submission of TDR (as earnest money)	: 08/11/2019 & 11/11/2019 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
3. Date and time for submission of Tender form	: 12/11/2019 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
4. Date ad time for opening of tender	: 13/11/2019 from 1:30 PM.

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Government of Sikkim.

R.O. No. 207/IPR/Pub/Classi./19-20 Date: 30.9.19

Gwen Stefani Sells Beverly Hills Estate at Steep Discount

After nearly two years on and off the market at increasingly lower prices, pop star Gwen Stefani has finally sold her boldly decorated Beverly Hills mansion for \$21.65 million. The recorded sale price is a huge amount by any standard, but it's also a notable amount below the final asking price of not quite \$25 million and a small fortune below the original, pie-in-the-sky asking price of \$35 million.

The three-time Grammy winner, since 2014 an off-and-on coach on "The Voice," and her now ex-husband, British musician and avid tennis player Gavin Rossdale, purchased the mountaintop estate over the summer of 2006 for \$13.25 million from hospitality entrepreneur Sam Nazarian who bought the property not quite two years earlier for close to \$11 million from showbiz supernova Jennifer Lopez who had, in turn, acquired it in early 2000 for a thimbleful under \$4.3 million. Stefani retained ownership and residency after she and Rossdale divorced in 2016.

Inside the guarded gates of the Summit enclave that runs along a slender ridge high in the mountains between Beverly Hills and Studio City, the two-acre estate is hidden down a separately gated, 250-foot-long driveway with a total of seven bedrooms and 10 bathrooms in more than 15,000 square feet between the sprawling main house and detached fitness pavilion and guesthouse.

Eclectic, funky and decorated by maximalist decorator Kelly Wearstler with a quarry's worth of marble, a jaw-dropping array of cheerfully bright colors and

a kaleidoscopic plethora of black and white graphic patterns, the main residence offers formal living and dining rooms filled with pedigreed vintage furnishings and divided by a back-to-back fireplace sheathed in carefully book-matched black marble. There are a couple of additional, somewhat less "formal" but still wildly dressed sitting rooms, one with another book-matched black marble fireplace and the other with open views over the swimming pool through vast picture window. Filled with natural light though a gigantic skylight, the eat-in kitchen is an eye-popping, mausoleum-like temple of food preparation finished with a white marble floor, black marble countertops and walls lined in slim, black-and-white horizontal stripes. Elsewhere in the house there is a professional quality screening room and both executive and domestic offices. Each of the guest and family bedrooms has a private, elaborately tiled bathroom, while the master suite has two lavish bathrooms and bespoke dressing rooms worthy of an idiosyncratically fashionable international style icon.

A detached pavilion next to the lighted tennis court houses a fully equipped gym as well as a glass-walled guest suite with unobstructed views across the eastern end of the San Fernando Valley, while outdoor creature comforts include a vast terrace with fireplace and outdoor kitchen and an infinity-edged swimming pool with inset spa and separate, shallow kiddie pool. Beyond the pool, a wide stretch of lawn gives way to canyon, mountain and city lights view that includes a



snaking bit of famed Mulholland Drive.

The listing was jointly held by Jade Mills at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage and Craig Knizek at The Agency and the as-yet unidentified buyer was repped by Jonathan Nash and Stephen Resnick, both from Hilton & Hyland.

Stefani has long owned two other, far more modest homes in Los Angeles, one in West Hollywood and another in a sought after Hancock Park adjacent neighborhood, while her longtime boyfriend, Platinum selling country music singer Blake Shelton, also

a coach on "The Voice," owns "Ten Point Ranch," a vast and fairly remote ranch about half way between Dallas and Oklahoma City as well as a Hawaiian-themed getaway near Kingston, Okla., on the shore of Lake Texoma. Since late last year the celebrity real estate rumor mill has been abuzz the "Hollaback Girl" singer and the "Some Beach" singer have been house hunting in some of the San Fernando Valley's more expensive neighborhoods and last month there were unconfirmed reports the unmarried pair bought a house "in the Los Angeles area."

Jordan Peele inks film deal with Universal Pictures

LOS ANGELES, OCT 2 (PTI): Filmmaker Jordan Peele has signed a multi-year film deal with Universal Picture.

The pact between Peele's Monkeypaw Productions and the company will allow the filmmaker to release his next few films at the studio.

He has previously worked with Universal on 2017 blockbuster "Get Out", which earned him an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay, and its follow-up "Us".

"Jordan has established himself as a premier voice and original storyteller with global appeal. He is leading a new generation of filmmakers that have found a way to tap into the cultural zeitgeist with groundbreaking content that resonates with audiences of all backgrounds," Donna Langley, Chairman, Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, said in a statement.

"We also share an important goal with Monkeypaw when it comes to increasing representation on-screen in the characters that are portrayed, the stories that are told, and the people who tell them," she added.

Peele expressed his gratitude to the studio for its "endless trust and support" during the making of both "Get Out" and "Us".

"Their willingness to take risks and their commitment to



original content makes them the perfect collaborative partner for Monkeypaw. I couldn't be more excited for what lies ahead," he added.

Under the deal, Universal is developing Peele's next two films which he will direct, write, and produce.

Peele's Monkeypaw is also producing the horror film "Candyman", which he has penned with Win Rosenfeld. Directed by Nia DaCosta, the movie will be distributed by Universal.

Marvel Releases Iron Man 2020 Teaser

Marvel Comics has big plans for Iron Man 2020 in the character's namesake year. ComicBook.com can exclusively reveal a new teaser for whatever it is Marvel has planned. Marvel did not provide additional details, but the teaser, by artist Inhyuk Lee, shows Iron Man 2020 standing over the grave of his adoptive brother, Tony Stark, aka Iron Man. Tom DeFalco and Herb Trimpe created Arno Stark. The character first appeared in Machine Man 2020 #2 in 1984. As originally conceived, Arno was Tony Stark's first cousin, once removed. In the future, Arno inherited Stark Industries and the Iron Man armor. Rather than use the armor for the good of the world the way Tony did, Arno used Iron Man as an agent of corporate espionage and as a mercenary.

During the Marvel NOW! era, Kieron Gillen and Dale Eaglesham created another version of Arno Stark who exists in the present day of the Earth-616 timeline. Tony Stark only discovered that Arno existed recently. In doing so, Tony learned that he had been adopted and that Arno was Howard and Maria Stark's biological son. Arno's birth involved genetic tampering by aliens and his destiny to pilot the Godkiller armor. Though ill, Arno piloted his own set of armor to fight alongside his adoptive brother in defense of Troy, a utopian city built by Tony. When Tony left Troy, he put Arno in charge of the city.

Arno returned to the fore in Tony Stark: Iron Man #5, an issue that focused almost entirely on Arno rather than the titular hero. Arno has since thrown in with Baintronics, a rival to Tony's company, though he has mostly been busy pursuing his own secretive agenda.

Tony Stark: Iron Man will reach the conclusion of the "Ultron Agenda" storyline in December's Tony Stark: Iron



Man #19, written by Dan Slott and Christos Gage with art by Francesco Manna. The synopsis for the issue reads, "What if there is no Tony Stark? What if there is only the Iron Man? At the end of 2019, the boundaries between man and machine are blurred and broken... and the Marvel Universe will be a very different place in the year 2020. A new Iron Age is coming... and you do NOT want to miss this pivotal issue." A hint at this to come? Fans will have to wait and see.

Are you excited about the upcoming Iron Man 2020 event? What do you think Arno has in store for Tony? Let us know what you think in the comments.



SHINE BRIGHT! The Avengers actress, Elizabeth Olsen is looking fresh in a glossy pink mini dress in Los Angeles.

ARIES:
You don't always have to tell people what to do or how to get their lives in order. Let's leave that to self-help books and the new-ages gurus, shall we? What you can do instead: hear them out, hold space for them to express what is weighing them down, and throw in an inappropriate joke or two when they least expect it. Aries, you are your most charismatic self this week. Continue to stay open to new people and experiences. Tip: Hello, talk of the town!

TAURUS:
Look around you, Taurus! You have created a life for yourself that others can only dream of. This is a time of abundance and prosperity in your world. You're not only moving up the ladder, but also attracting opportunities that promise to bring many material rewards now and in the future. It's all about playing your cards right and being seen and heard at the right places. Tip: Financial gains are on the cards.

GEMINI:
The Universe is in the mood to give and give some more. Ready to receive, Gemini? The best news: something you had given up on promises to turn around for the better, bringing both fame and financial rewards. Truth is, you haven't made

the wisest decisions on your way here. But don't waste too much time brooding over them. Instead, embrace the lessons so the next phase can be enriching in every way. Tip: Get ready to receive all the blessings.

CANCER:
To quote the Roman philosopher Seneca, "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity." A quote accurately describes the Universe's plans for you today. Keep an eye out for the unexpected change, bizarre coincidences, serendipitous encounters or a simply a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Grabbing the bull by the horns is the secret to turning your life around. Tip: The wheel of fortune is turning in your favour.

LEO:
Your life probably feels like a multiple choice question right now. But how do you make a choice when your heart is saying one thing and your head is on another tangent altogether? Sometimes you just have to turn down the noise outside to be able to receive messages from your higher self. Some may be at a stage where there is a lot to conquer, but very little action is being taken in the right direction. Let focus become your power word.

VIRGO:
Your current energy brings the case of the great Norse God, Odin, to mind. He hung from the World Tree for nine whole days in order to gain enlightenment. Hold on a second, Virgo! We're not suggesting something as extreme. What we are however urging you to do is embrace the delays and look for silver linings. In the days ahead, you will gain a better understanding of your life path and be able to chase after goals with newfound fervour. Tip: Find the silver lining.

LIBRA:
We celebrate our victories with much aplomb. But what happens when we trip and fall? See this failure as a turning point, Libra, one that is teaching you that strength and resilience are the very essence of your being. Another thing you want to keep in mind as you perfect the art of breezing through your day: it's hard for butterflies to make conversation with caterpillar people. Don't let their indifference get to you. Instead, find a way to show them the light.

SCORPIO:
Everything is as it should be. Trust. You are in a

beautiful phase right now, one that comes with the promise of hope and healing. Things on the domestic front are also looking up for you. Is there anything better in this world than coming home to the people you love? Coupled Scorpions, make a conscious effort to spend quality time with each other. Turning your boudoir into a love temple is a good way to ensure you head home as soon as the clock strikes six. Tip: Home is where the heart is.

SAGITTARIUS:
The tighter you try to hold on to the sand, the faster it will slip through your fingers. Understanding this age-old piece of wisdom will assist you in your journey to greatness. Don't let your tenaciousness be the reason you cling on to things that have served their purpose. Think abundance, not lack. Investing your money in the right place will help your business grow manifold. Tip: Keep the big picture in mind when making financial decisions.

CAPRICORN:
Sometimes golden gates open up magically. At other times, we have to hustle a little harder and create our own opportunities. See how and where

you need to take more charge, Capricorn. Don't let the trials and tribulations of everyday life keep you from pursuing your big goals. Your leadership skills could also be under the scanner at this point. Delegate, but to the right people. Learning to be self-reliant will change the game permanently. Tip: Take charge.

AQUARIUS:
Look at you healing old wounds and breaking bad habits. You've come such a long way, Aquarius! Don't fall into the old trap of worrying about the things you have no control over. Taking a step back emotionally will help you gain perspective. Remember, if you're struggling, it's okay to reach out for help. Your best friend will be more than happy to show up with a bottle of Prosecco and hold your hand through the troubles.

PISCES:
So what if they are operating from a space of loose morals? You're better than this. Keep your karmic slate clean. Under no circumstances should you stoop down to their level. Should you then allow yourself them to walk all over you then? Pisces, keep in mind that you're no Turkish carpet. Hold your head high and speak up against the injustice.