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# SummitTIMES

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

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## CBI raids in Bengal, MP in chit fund case

**NADIA (WB) JUN 27 (PTI):** A team of CBI special branch sleuths today raided eight places across West Bengal and one in Madhya Pradesh in connection with an on-going probe into a ponzi scheme case, a senior official of the investigating agency said.

Though no arrests were made today, several documents were seized during the raids conducted at different official and residential premises of the accused persons and companies' premises across the state, he said.

The case was registered in July last year against two directors of Golden Pariwar Holding and Developers Private Limited - Sukalyan Biswas and Bina Biswas and others, the officer said.

"It was alleged that the accused collected huge amounts as deposit from the public on assurance to repay them with high interest. However, the accused did not repay the money and closed down their offices, misappropriated the invested amount and cheated the investors," he said.

"Our investigation is still on and several raids may be conducted as per our requisition for the purpose," he added.

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## CM inaugurates new Sikkim Judicial Academy complex at Sokeythang

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN [IPR]:** Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Justice Satish Kumar Agnihotri, who is also the Chairperson of Sikkim Judicial Academy, inaugurated the newly constructed academic complex of Sikkim Judicial Academy [Phase-I] at Sokeythang near Gangtok today.

It is informed that the foundation stone of Sikkim Judicial Academy was laid by former Chief Justice of India, Late Justice Altamas Kabir, on 14 May, 2012.

The function was attended by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling as chief guest in the presence of Judges, High Court of Sikkim, Justice Meenakshi M Rai & Justice Bhaskar



Raj Pradhan [Judge-in-Charge, SJA], and Minister, Law, Legislative & Parliamentary Affairs, RB Subba, as guests of honor. It may be mentioned

here, the object of setting up the Academy is to impart training not only to Judicial Officers but also to Civil Servants, Police Officers, Public Prosecu-

tors, and members of the Bar, particularly, its novice members and other stakeholders of the State. The benefits of the Academy will also be extend-

ed to final year law students of the Government College and Universities in Sikkim who are keen on joining the Bar or Judicial Service upon their

graduation.

Addressing the establishment of the newly constructed academic complex as a historic landmark in Sikkim's Judicial history, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, Justice Agnihotri, congratulated the people of Sikkim and expressed hope that the academy works hard to provide stakeholders of the judicial process excellence in justice delivery.

He expressed happiness that the long felt need for a State Judicial Academy has been fulfilled.

"Everybody associated with the academy should ensure the provision of best possible facilities, trainings and resources to the members of the judi-

ciary and members of the profession in a uniform manner. In the last few years, significant strides have been made in providing continuous legal education especially to judicial officers with the establishment of National Judicial Academy at Bhopal," he added.

Referring to the academy as an aid in learning process for judiciary, judicial officers and advocates, Justice Agnihotri said, "These learning processes need to be supported by institutional mechanism that provides vital support and knowledge, resources to the members of the judiciary and members of judicial fraternity. The im-

turn to pg02

## Centre to scrap UGC, bring in Higher Education Commission

**NEW DELHI, JUN 27 (PTI):** The government is set to replace the apex higher education regulator University Grants Commission (UGC) with a higher education commission by repealing the UGC Act, 1951.

"Under the leadership of PM @narendramodi has embarked on a process of reforms of the regulatory agencies for better administration of the HE sector (sic). In a landmark decision, a draft Act for repeal of #UGC & setting up #HECI (Higher Education Commission of India) has been prepared," Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar tweeted.

"The draft Act is in accordance with the commitment of govt for reforming the regulatory systems that provide more autonomy to HE in-

stitutes to promote excellence & facilitate holistic growth of the education system," he added.

The Higher Education Commission of India would focus solely on academic matters. Monetary grants would be the purview of the ministry, according to the draft.

"Less government and more governance, separation of grant functions, end of inspection raj, focus on academic quality, powers to enforce compliance to the academic quality standards and to order closure of sub-standard and bogus institutions are some of the highlights of the new act," the draft says.

The Act will be called the Higher Education Commission of India Act, 2018 (Repeal of Univer-

turn to pg03

## NE Director General Ministry of I&B meets CS

**DISCUSSIONS  
HELD ON SETTING  
UP REGIONAL  
MEDIA CENTRE  
IN GANGTOK**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN [PIB]:** Director General [North East-Zone], Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Kuldeep Singh Dhatwalia, who is currently on a three-day visit to Sikkim, met with the State's Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, today to discuss the possibility of setting up a regional media centre in Gangtok.

The proposed regional media centre will accommodate offices of the Press Information Bureau, and the Field Outreach Bureaus [FOBs] and Regional Outreach Bureau [ROB] currently functioning from Lumsey, Jorethang, Kalimpong and Siliguri under a designated head.



During the meeting, the Chief Secretary offered a number of suggestions on how the State Information Department and the media agencies and information outlets of the Central Government can forge better coordination and carry out the much-needed publicity of welfare schemes and development projects so that authentic in-

formation is passed on to the actual beneficiaries.

The DG was accompanied by Regional Outreach Bureau [Itanagar] Director, Dr HR Keshavmurthy. The visiting dignitaries also met with Secretary, Rural Management and Development Department, Government of Sikkim, DR Nepal.

During the meet, Mr Dhatwalia proposed

journalist-exchange programme between Sikkim and other North Eastern States so that journalists from Sikkim can share information with their counterparts from other States about Sikkim's quest for becoming a fully Organic State in the course of ensuring development and prosperity of the rural areas.

Likewise, the lo-

cal journalists can also gather information on how the other NE States have adopted various central schemes and policies, he added.

Later, Mr Dhatwalia and Dr Keshavmurthy had an informal interaction with members of the local media at the Press Club of Sikkim. The interaction mainly centred on how the local media persons can source authentic information about the programmes and policies of the Central Government.

The DG also entertained queries of the media persons on the journalists' welfare scheme of the Government of India which is aimed at providing financial relief to working journalists or their families in times of 'extreme hardships'.

## Brilliant Coaching confident of making Gangtok the next Kota

**SAGAR CHETTRI**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

**B**rilliant Coaching launched its '100% Guaranteed Selection or 100% Fees Refund' programme for students sitting for NEET and IIT entrance examinations here. The institute has brought in experienced faculty members from Kota, Rajasthan and more picked from those trained in Kota.

The institute has announced that students who enroll in this programme will be refunded fully if they are not selected in the entrance provided they follow the instructions and conditions of the institute.

It may be mentioned here, Brilliant Coaching, established in 2003, is a premiere coaching institute for Medical and Engineering entrance examinations along with ICSE, ISC and CBSE.

The institute has recently set up its new corporate office in Kota which is renowned as a thriving coaching hub of India.

Addressing a press conference here today, Brilliant Coaching chairperson, Sunil Chaudhary, informed that the in-

stitute has produced many State toppers as well as great rankers in NEET/AIIMS and JEE Main and IIT so far.

"The institute will now mentor students of the hills with efficient classes taken by NEET and IIT Gurus of Kota under this unique programme. The institute has exclusive study materials directly prepared from Kota and complete Kota system will be implemented in the Gangtok centre," he mentioned.

He informed that classes will be held at the Gangtok centre for Class X [pre-nurture], Class XI [nurture], Class XII [enthusiasts] and XIII [repeaters] for both NEET and JEE segments.

"I have been working on this vision to establish the second Kota in the hills for a long time," Mr Chaudhary shared.

He added that students, instead of moving some 2,500 KMs to Kota will now get the entire Kota module in Gangtok itself and this will enhance their performance in the All India Entrance segments both in NEET and JEE Main/Advance.

On the occasion, study materials prepared in Kota were also released.

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## Man assaults two sisters in Namchi

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

A 30-year-old man from Namchi, South Sikkim, has been accused of assaulting and molesting of a 21-year-old girl on 26 Jun, Namchi Police reports. According to the victim, the accused reportedly touched her inappropriately. When the victim protested, the accused reportedly assaulted her with rod and fists, making her unconscious. The victim further revealed that the accused also assaulted her sister when she came to the aid of her unconscious sister. The accused has been arrested by Namchi Police and is currently in police custody. The victims on the other hand were directed to undergo medical examination.

# Ranka SSS to be Model Electoral Literacy Club School

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:** As per the direction of District Election Officer, East district, Electoral Literacy Clubs have been set up in nine Senior Secondary Schools, one College and 232 Polling Stations [Phase I] of East district. Nodal officers from each school, college and Polling Station were nominated and imparted training on the working of the ELC, a press release informs.

In this context, Ranka Senior Secondary School has been identified as a 'Model Electoral Literacy Club School' following which various activities like wall painting and essay writing competitions were organised by



its ELC under the guidance and supervision of Nodal Officer, TR Luitel, and Principal of Ranka SSS as per their activity calendar.

Similar activities will

be conducted across all ELCs of East district by office of the DEO, the release adds.

It may be mentioned here, the setting up of ELCs in schools, colleges

and polling stations has been directed by Election Commission of India, under the Systematic Voter's Education & Electoral Participation [SVEEP] initiative.

The aim of ELCs is to bring awareness on electoral literacy and increase ethical participation among the students of schools, colleges and communities.



## SSB observes Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN [PIB]:** Sashastra Seema Bal conducted a seminar on drug abuse at its sector headquarter in Gangtok on 26 Jun to commemorate International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking. The SSB also organized awareness rallies at border villages under its Battalions deployed in Indo-Nepal & Indo-Bhutan border of the State.

Director in General, SSB Gangtok, BK Pal, in his address, stressed on

increase in the menace of drug trafficking and drug abuse and appealed to all to join hands in fighting against it.

"Being the border guarding force, we should work in harmony with local public to save our future generation from detrimental effects of drug abuse," he added.

The field units of SSB deployed at border areas carried out awareness rallies and motivational meetings in schools to commemorate the day.



## Damages caused by road widening and rain inspected in Sangkalang Mantam

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA**  
**MANGAN, 27 JUN:**

A joint inspection was conducted in Dzongu, North Sikkim, today of damages to land and crops at Sangkalang Mantam Ward under Lingthem Lingdem GPU of Dzongu caused by road widening works and incessant rainfall.

The inspection was led by Sub Divisional Magistrate, Dzongu, Tshering Dorjee Bhutia, in

the presence of Zilla/Gram Panchayats of Lingthem Lingdem GPU, officials from the Roads & Bridges Department, Housing Department and Horticulture Department along with Revenue officials from Dzongu Sub Division, concerned Government Contractor, Rajesh Agarwal, and affected public of the area.

The stakeholders took stock of the public's grievances and as-

sured to solve their problems at the earliest.

The concerned contractor has been directed to provide necessary plastic tarpaulins to the affected land owners for protection of their land from further soil erosion due to incessant rainfall.

The detailed report will be submitted to the District Collector North & Divisional Engineer [R&B], it is informed.

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## ATMA East conducts hands-on training on oyster mushroom production



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

Agriculture Technology Management Agency [ATMA] East, under Ranka Block, conducted a capacity building training programme on oyster mushroom production for Self Help Groups of Perbing Ward under Luving Perbing GPU of East Sikkim today. Sixty farmers [female] from nine dif-

ferent SHGs of Luving Perbing GPU participated in the programme, a press release informs.

The programme was chaired by Block Project Manager, National Rural Livelihoods Mission, Sumee Subba, with Block Technology Manager, Martam Block, Chanda Poudyal, and Assistant Technology Manager, Ranka Block, Laten Tshering Bhutia, as resource persons.

The resource persons gave hands-on training and demonstration in oyster mushroom production while Block Project Manager, Ms Subba, briefed the participants on the importance of book keeping of SHGs.

During the programme, fine quality mushroom spawns were also distributed to each participating SHG.

## SKM Nari Ekikaran Yatra reaches Chandmari

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

The ongoing Nari Ekikaran Yatra of the women's wing of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha, led by its general secretary, Pavitra Bhandari, reached Chandmari under Shyari constituency here on Wednesday.

A meeting was held under the chairmanship

of Chokpa Bhutia which discussed various problems and issues facing women in the State, an SKM press release informs.

The meeting was also addressed by senior leaders of the party and urged women to come forward to secure their rights and work for the society and the party.

## Sikkim-BJP calls out Dept claims on Organic Mission

**SUMMIT REPORT**  
**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

Bharatiya Janata Party Sikkim Pradesh has alleged that data claimed by the Agriculture and Horticulture departments on organic farming in Sikkim was not accurate and that the department has cooked this data to hide its failures.

The party stated that the false and irresponsible claims of the department on the visit of scholars, Ministers, MLAs and scientists from India and outside to study Sikkim organic mission and fol-

lowing organic farming in their respective places was tantamount to defaming the dignity, tradition and culture of Sikkim in the world.

A BJP press release has demanded that the department show proof of all the organic produce selling in the State and then prove that locally grown produce was indeed organic.

The party has warned the department against issuing what the BJP sees as "irresponsible" statements since its not backed by any evidence.

## Ward level farmers training prog held in West

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 27 JUN:**

Ward level training and awareness programme on Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan and organic farming was held at Chumbung Gram Panchayat Unit and Dorong ward under Mabong Se-geng GPU in West Sikkim on 26 Jun, a press release informs.

The programme was organized by Mevedir in collaboration with Agri-

culture Department.

Village Level Worker, Varun Rai explained the key highlights of the Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan scheme. He explained how under the scheme farmers can raise their income by selling their produce.

Deputy Director [Agriculture Department], Pranaya Gurung explained the benefits of soya bean and how it can rejuvenate the fertility of

the soil.

Soya bean seeds were also distributed to the farmers.

Participants were also educated about pest management and preparation of herbal spray from naturally available items.

Resource persons demonstrated the preparation of Fermented Plant Extract and how it can be used to enhance soil fertility.

## CM inaugurates new Sikkim Judicial Academy complex at Sokeythang

**contd from pg01**

portance of ensuring the learning methodologies and curriculum of this institution are always kept effectively and evolve according to changing of social scenario and circumstances. We must always remember that stagnation and lack of innovation sounds the alarm on any Institution."

He further recorded his appreciation for the role of the State Government under the leadership of the CM for successfully completing con-

struction of the SJA.

Addressing the function, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling said that the establishment of Sikkim Judicial Academy is an important milestone in the journey of the State in establishing equitable society. He expressed hope that the judicial officers and lawyers of Sikkim will benefit immensely from the institute in times to come.

"Modern times are full of complexity of law and wide variety of litigations, and judicial of-

ficers and lawyers are facing new challenges. Thus, to tackle and overcome these challenges, specialized judicial education and training have become an absolute necessity. Training and imparting legal knowledge will surely enhance proficiency of lawyers and legal professionals and strengthen the judiciary in the State," said the CM.

"I hope Sikkim Judicial Academy will fulfill its duties and obligation of imparting quality training to judicial offi-

cers, young lawyers and the students of law in the state. We must work together in the larger interest of our nation. I am certain that one day, this institute will be one of the best institutes in the country in imparting judicial knowledge and training," he concluded.

Principal Chief Engineer-cum-Secretary, Buildings & Housing Department, RB Thapa, while submitting the Technical Report informed that the Academy Complex [Phase-I]

comprises of an administrative block, academic block, auditorium block and approach road with car park and central courtyard.

"The Administrative block is a G+2 storied RCC framed building built up in an area of 4800 sft, has office of Director, Registrar along with general administrative accounts section. The Academic block is also a G+2 storied RCC framed building with a total built area of 21,195 sft and has library, lec-

ture theaters, computer lab, conference hall and 8 pax lift. The auditorium block is a RCC framed structure with a total built up area of 5300 sft and has a sitting capacity for 280 persons. This block has Judges Lounge, recreation room and dining hall," Mr Thapa stated.

He informed that in 2012-13, the State Government acquired 2.92 acre of land for the construction of the Judicial Academy following which the department

decided to take up construction work in phase wise. Phase-I construction work is now complete at a cost of Rs 15 crore, which has four components [administrative block, academic block, auditorium block and approach road with car park and central courtyard] as against nine, he added.

During the function, the dignitaries also launched Sikkim Judicial Academy, High Court of Sikkim Souvenir-2018.

Also present during

the function were former Judges of High Court of Sikkim, Justice AP Subba and Justice SP Wangdi, Members of Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Timothy W Basnet and DR Thapa, Director, SJA, Samita Sharma, along with host of dignitaries from the legal fraternity, and senior officers of the State Government.

The function also featured rendition of a patriotic song by choir members of Sikkim Bar Association.



Gangtok on  
Thursday,  
28 June

Temp: 26°C/17°C  
Forecast: Mostly  
cloudy, showers  
and thunderstorms  
becoming more  
widespread.  
Sunrise: 04:43 AM  
Sunset: 6:34 PM

SKM Sikkim  
rally on LT  
seats concludes

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 27 JUN:

The second stage of the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha rally on the Limboo-Tamang seat reservation issue, led by party chief coordinator, Sangha MLA Sonam Lama, concluded on Wednesday.

On the conclusion of the rally, Mr Lama thanked all party workers for their participation in ensuring the success of the rally.

An SKM press release reiterates that SDF and its leader should clarify their stand and announce when the Limboos and Tamangs will get seats reserved for them.

Centre to  
scrap  
UGC, bring  
in Higher...

contd from pg01

sity Grants Commission Act).

The HRD Ministry has asked all educationists, stakeholders and the general public to give comments and suggestions before 5 pm on July 7 on the draft, which has been released on its website.

The new Act is likely to be tabled in the Parliament during the monsoon session.

The government was earlier planning a single regulator for technical education, national council teachers training and UGC.

However, it has been decided to strengthen the higher education regulator as it was felt that the current commission remains preoccupied with disbursing funds to institutes, it is unable to concentrate on other key areas such as mentoring institutes, focusing on research to be undertaken and other quality measures required in the sector.

“The Commission shall have the power to grant authorization for starting of academic operations on the basis of their compliance with norms of academic quality. It will also have the powers to revoke authorization granting to a higher education institution where there is a case of wilful or continuous default in compliance with the norms,” the draft said.

“There will be an Advisory Council to render advice to the Commission on matters concerning coordination and determination of standards in the country. This will be represented by the Chairpersons / Vice-Chairpersons of State Councils for Higher Education and chaired by the HRD Minister,” it added.

ECOSS holds roundtable meeting  
on Climate Change Adaptation



NITESH R PRADHAN

GANGTOK, 27 JUN:

Ecotourism and Conservation Society of Sikkim (ECOSS), Sikkim Chapter of the Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI) organized a roundtable meeting on ‘Understanding Mountain People’s Approaches and Practices for Climate Change Adaptation’ at Chinlen Bhawan, Gangtok today.

The meeting was held as part of pan Himalayan Mountain States project under the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) being executed by IMI through its State Chapters and a network of young researchers in each state. The broad themes chosen for Sikkim under the project are ‘Water and Agriculture’.

The meeting was presided over by Member of Parliament [Lok Sabha], PD Rai who is also the founding member and Governing Council member of IMI.

Delivering the key note address at the meeting, Mr Rai informed that a team has been constituted to take forward initiatives like sustainability and sustainable development goals across the Himalayan region.

Mr Rai also complimented the initiatives taken by the State Government like organic farming and carbon neutrality which will make the state sustainable and also secure the future of coming generations.

He however rued about the lack of poor data available on various aspects pertaining to environ-

ment and related topics.

Secretary [Forest Department], Thomas Chandy while addressing the meet stated that adverse environmental impact not just in the entire Himalayan belt but also the Indo Gangetic plains is a serious concern and its mitigation is the need of the hour.

Citing the example of organic farming as both mitigation and adaptation he held that such initiatives help establish a balance in environment.

Mr Chandy further added that the preliminary reports say that Sikkim is already carbon negative though the negativity has reduced. “The report is expected within six months,” he said.

Further elucidating about future plans of the government, Mr Chandy said that a cell will be established where each estimate can be fed in the system whether a project is carbon negative or positive.

Secretary, IMI, Fantry Jaiswal talked about IMI’s achievements over the years and the efforts made by the organization towards mobilizing the policy space for the Indian Himalayan Region. She informed that IMI works towards safe sustainable and equitable Mountain Development.

Programme coordinator, IMI, Namrata Rawat explained the key features of the project and expected outcomes.

IMI Young Researcher, Uden Lhamu Bhutia shared details of her case studies and field level

findings with regard to the Dhara Vikas Programme. This was followed by detailed presentations and case studies on various topics like the highly appraised Dhara Vikas project of RMDD, climate adaptive farming technologies developed by ICAR, importance of traditional agricultural knowledge and practices for climate adaptation and an interesting case study on the impacts of climate change on high altitude pastoral farming.

The presentations were followed by a panel discussion and open house discussion.

Some of the key takeaways from the discussions that were summarized by Mr Rai at the conclusion of the meeting are: Urgent need to establish a seed bank for traditional agricultural crops; Need to sync traditional agricultural knowledge with current organic farming initiatives of the State through a knowledge integration policy; Need to look for more scientific solutions and research in the Dhara Vikas programme for enabling the work to progress more rapidly – water security being the big emerging challenge for Sikkim; Need for tapping into the knowledge base of our farmers as well as promoting agriculture for the newer generations; Importance of all institutes and organizations coming together on a common platform to share data and research and build a community across Sikkim as well as the other mountain States.



New toilet facility handed  
over to West Point SSS

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 27 JUN:

Under Water & Sanitation Hygiene [WASH] in Schools programme, Rotary Club of Gangtok South handed over one toilet to West Point Senior Secondary School at Tathangchen in Gangtok today.

A press release informs that the project was sanctioned by Rotary Clubs

of Singapore following the visit of members of Rotary Clubs of Singapore to the school earlier this year.

The handing over ceremony was attended by Senior Rotarian, Uday P Sharma, and members of the Rotary Club of Gangtok South.

Principal of West Point SSS extended gratitude to the Rotary Club of Gangtok South for their support.



HRDD carries out plantation  
at Bojoghari School

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 27 JUN:

Human Resource Development Department conducted a massive plantation drive at Bojoghari Senior Secondary School here today to mark the 10 Minutes to Earth programme initiated by Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, a press release informs.

During the programme, saplings of trees, flowers, medicinal herbs and cash crops were planted by HRDD Minister, RB Subba, who attended the event as chief guest, accompanied by Additional Chief Secretary, GP Upadhyaya, and HRDD Directors and Principal of Bojoghari SSS. Altogether 210 saplings were planted.

SEA 2ND DIV SIKKIM LEAGUE

Renzong FC impresses, beats  
Dzongri FC 5-3



SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 27 JUN:]

Renzong Football Club registered its second consecutive victory in the ongoing Sikkim Football Association Second Division Sikkim League 2018 here at Paljor Stadium today beating Dzongri Football Club 05-03.

Ganesh Limboo and Pel Rai scored a brace each

for Renzong FC while Biren Gurung contributed one more goal to the team’s victory.

For Dzongri FC, Bishal Tamang, Pema Tamang and Akash scored a goal each.

Renzong FC has earned three more points in the league.

On Thursday, Sikkim Police will be taking on Kumar Sporting Club.

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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM  
BUILDINGS & HOUSING DEPARTMENT

No: 28/ETENDER/BHD/2018

Dated: 26/06/2018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

On behalf of Governor of Sikkim, Superintending Engineer (N&E), Buildings & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim invites percentage rate tenders’ from qualified Class IIB Contractors, within the East District, enlisted with the SPWD in single cover system through e-procurement. The bids should be submitted online through the website [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in) for the work listed below.

SL. NO.	NAME OF WORKS	BID SECURITY 2.5% OF THE BID VALUE (RS. IN LAKHS)	BID VALUE (RS. IN LAKHS)	COST OF TENDER/ BID FORM (RS. IN LAKHS)	COMPLETION PERIOD
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of Phase IV Building at High Court of Sikkim, Gangtok, East Sikkim	12.32	492.92	0.30	24 Months

IMPORTANT EVENTS

i)	Publishing of Online Tender in e-procurement portal	:	26 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018
ii)	Uploading of bidding documents in e-procurement portal	:	26 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018
iii)	Documents download/Sale start date and time	:	27 <sup>th</sup> June, 2018 11.00 am onwards
iv)	Last Date and Time for seeking clarification regarding bids	:	4 <sup>th</sup> July, 2018 upto 1500 Hrs.
v)	Last date for online Submission of completed bids	:	30 <sup>th</sup> July, 2018 upto 1600 Hrs.
vi)	Date of opening of Tender bids	:	31 <sup>st</sup> July, 2018 at 1200 Hrs.

For all details on the bid visit [www.sikkimtender.gov.in](http://www.sikkimtender.gov.in)

Sd/-

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (N/E)  
BUILDING & HOUSING DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

R.O. No: 159/IPR/PUB/Classi/18-19 Date: 26/06/2018



# SummitTIMES

ON TOP OF THE NEWS

## Cultures Survive

...provided we don't stifle them

Because some things need reiteration from time to time, we return here to arguments that have been tabled often and worries that have been raised frequently because the deliberations continue remain open, and will for some more time.

Turn to any corner of the world and one comes across voices of protest or groans of concern from a culture under threat, a way of life nearing extinction, a lifestyle on the brink. While there are always external elements like the influence of globalisation and the pressure to homogenise which eat away at the edifice of cultural uniqueness, the biggest threat comes from those who refuse to let cultures breathe - those who view it as a relic which needs to be preserved in the purest form as imagined or decided by them. Unfortunately for such groups, cultures are living systems which need to be nurtured, not pickled. But 'preserving' is easier since nurturing would entail allowing a culture to grow and that would go against ill-informed beliefs that cultures are perfect on which any growth is a blemish. Such mindsets refuse to accept that culture is not something that can be pickled and preserved as a museum piece for posterity. Culture, because it is about a people, is vibrant, alive and contemporary. It is spontaneous, almost instinctive, and not something that is learnt; it is imbibed. Since culture forms a part of evolution, it is also subject to fresh interpretations, nuances and relevance.

Because culture is about people, it cannot survive on state patronage alone - that would be relegating it to the status of a museum display. Some years ago, members of the Museums Association of India conferred in Gangtok. The focus of that conference was "Intangible Heritage - Preservation & Portrayal." In layman's terms, they were speaking of ecomuseology, the science, or rather the attempt, to allow cultures to breathe and thrive unencumbered in their natural habitats. But even this comes with its pitfalls. In the Journal of Indian Museums released at the conference, the editorial spoke of the "very amateurish and vulgar commercialisation" of culture that one sees in the tourism sector of Rajasthan. What was true of Rajasthan is true for Sikkim as well. The message - preservation of cultures should not come at the cost of reducing vibrant lifestyles into caricatures. Preservation can happen only if the people to whom the culture belongs want to nurture it. For the same reason, if a people reject their Culture as ripe for extinction, no amount of preservation helps. Yet, a culture should not be dismissed even before one has understood it. It is important that the repository of culture is passed on to the next generation to nurture and craft as it feels right. And yes, people can discard a culture if they want to, but only after they have understood it and decided that it does not serve their purpose any more. What the current holders of culture can do is pass it on to the next generation in an as unadulterated a form as possible. What the younger generation, equipped with its better education, can do is research deeper into their roots. Then, even if the physical form of cultures dwindles away, at least the records will survive for future generations, if it feels so inclined, to revive.

What is required of the establishment is to provide the support which allows these aspirations to manifest.

## Concern over Maradona after health scare in Argentina thriller

**SAINT PETERSBURG, JUNE 27 (AFP):** Diego Maradona roared and gesticulated through every anguished second of Argentina's rollercoaster World Cup victory over Nigeria before triggering alarm with a health scare after the final whistle.



Lionel Messi may have dominated the on-field action in Saint Petersburg, but from his VIP box in the stands Maradona reigned supreme as the undisputed centre of attention.

The 57-year-old football legend started the evening dancing playfully with a female Nigeria fan, saluting and waving to well-wishers applauding him in the moments before kick-off.

Throughout Argentina's nerve-shredding 2-1 victory, which secured the South American giants' passage into the last 16, the host broadcaster television feed regularly cut to images of Maradona as the tension mounted.

When Messi gave Argentina the lead early in the first half, Maradona screamed his delight, crossing his hands across his chest and gazing to the heavens.

The 1986 World Cup-winner looked increasingly frazzled as the game wore on, at one stage slumped forward in his seat just before half-time.

After Nigeria made it 1-1 from the penalty spot after the break -- a scoreline that would have sent Argentina crashing out of the tournament -- Maradona grew increasingly distraught.

# Revisiting the bang African teams get for the bucks they spend on the World Cup

CHUKA ONWUMECHILI  
*theconversation.com*

Each World Cup year African football teams arrive with renewed hopes of making remarkable progress and breaking the vise grip that Europe and South America have had on this quadrennial tournament for nearly 100 years. Each time, that hope invariably implodes. That surely has to leave African teams with some critical questions.

The biggest is whether African teams - at the 2018 World Cup finals in Russia they were Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Nigeria and Senegal - getting the best bank for the bucks they invest in their teams and coaches attending the competition. Some football fans may see football as recreational, while some politicians use it as a tool for national building. But football is without question a business: the players are professionals, the coaches are paid a king's ransom, and governments and umbrella body, FIFA, dole out huge sums to support federations and their teams.

Taking part in the world cup involves both spending money, as well as earning money. Teams spend millions of dollars preparing for the month-long tournament. The funds go to paying coaches, many of whom are the highest paid professionals in the countries they serve. For example, a top government official in Egypt earns an estimated annual salary of USD\$ 28,294 while Egypt's current football manager Hector Cuper gets a reported USD\$1.7 million annually. Egypt didn't make it past the group stage in Russia.

Players also earn well. In some teams foreign based players - for example a Senegalese who plays for a European club - can earn more. And they're camped in five star hotels and their programme is supported by huge budgets. In the case of Nigeria, the annual budget is USD\$16.2 million. This is not a candy budget by any means.

On top of this, FIFA pays countries that qualify handsomely. And they longer they stay in the tournament, the more they get.



But is this money being managed wisely? Are the funds being invested in African teams being worth it? And are their wiser ways to manage the loot that comes from the game?

### BIG BUCKS

There is seriously good money in the World Cup - and we're not even talking rights and sponsorships.

FIFA pays each team that make it to the World Cup USD\$9.5million - USD\$8million for taking part in the group stage and USD\$1.5 million for tournament costs.

FIFA's distribution of funds is based on how far each of the 32 teams is able to go in the tournament. Thus, by going further a team returns with more money. Just by progressing to the second round of 16 teams brings in an additional USD\$4 million from FIFA. Getting into the quarterfinals brings a further USD\$4 million to each team, while the third placed team gets USD\$24 million and the fourth USD\$22 million.

The winner of the 2018 World Cup final gets USD\$38 million, with the runners-up paid USD\$28 million. This is up from 2014 when winners Germany received USD\$35 million and beaten finalists, Argentina, got USD\$25 million.

On top of this teams can land seriously lucrative sponsorships. Take US soccer for example

- it qualified for the 2014 tournament and received USD\$49.7 million in sponsorships, television, licensing and royalties, according to their football federation's tax form filing for 2015.

### OPTIONS

One of the ways in which teams can make better use of the money that gets invested in national teams is by spending less. An easy way to cut costs would be for countries to decide to hire local managers and coaches since they cost quite a bit less than expatriates.

There's a strong case to be made for this. Several local ones have done as well as the expatriates. Take the example of Nigeria. Four years ago at the World Cup tournament in Brazil Nigeria's Stephen Keshi was paid less than his expatriate counterparts but took the Nigerian team to the second phase. It was a feat only a few expatriate Nigerian coaches have been able to achieve with the country's team.

But there's also a case to be made in investing big, particularly if a country decides that it wants to make it past the first round of the tournament. If the money that's being spent on managers, in particular, isn't getting them through to the second round, why keep them? Why not go for the very best managers and perhaps pay them a bit more. In addition, extra money can be put into creating a better working environment to increase the probability of going beyond the first phase.

Governments and football associations should go back to their spreadsheets and do some serious recalculating in preparation for the next World Cup in Qatar in 2020. Serious investment might ultimately be the path to a better payout and it may provide additional money to spend on sport development.

The recent spate of early World Cup exits might just signal that the best time to reevaluate the investment is now.

*[the writer is Professor of Communications, Howard University]*

# A group of Southeast Asian descendants wants to be recognised as Indigenous Australians

NICHOLAS HERRIMAN, DAVID R. M. IRVING, GREG ACCIAIOLI, MONIKA WINARNITA & TRIXIE KINAJIL  
*theconversation.com*

In 1826, an English merchant, Alexander Hare, brought a group of people from Malaysia and Indonesia as well as South Africa and New Guinea to an atoll northwest of mainland Australia in the Indian Ocean. Hare took them to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands as indentured workers, slaves and/or convicts. A year later, a Scottish rival, Clunies Ross, took over.

His subjects became known as "Cocos Malays". During the 150-year rule of the Clunies Ross dynasty, the Cocos Malays developed a unique culture and dialect. They adopted Scottish jigs and music in their performance repertoire. Still living on their island home, the Cocos Malays are now Australian citizens. Some seek recognition from the Australian government as "Indigenous".

A recent documentary, Australia's Forgotten Islands, portrayed a growing Indigenous movement among the Cocos Malays. With the ever-present possibility of a large military base being built on the islands, the documentary suggested "Indigenous" status might be a way to maintain a local voice. The documentary portrayed the son of the last "king" of Cocos and several Australian mainlanders championing the Cocos Malay cause for Indigenous status.

### WHAT IS 'INDIGENOUS' STATUS?

Many local groups throughout the world have sought indigenous status to protect their rights, their environment and to win political representation vis-à-vis the majority culture of a nation-state. Yet there is no universally accepted definition of who is Indigenous.

Local groups have succeeded in their claims on several grounds. Sometimes it is on the basis of being first-known inhabitants (like America's "First Nations"). A group can also argue for a continued presence as long-term inhabitants (e.g. descendants of Pitcairn Islanders in Norfolk Island).

Obtaining "Indigenous" status also usually requires local groups to



Cocos Malay photo from the 1910s showing a wedding procession that is still practised today with the groom pictured going to the bride's house accompanied by members of the community. Wikimedia Commons/From the book 'Coral reefs and islands' authored by Jones, F. Wood (Frederic Wood), 1879-1954.

present evidence of having a unique, enduring language and cultural tradition. The claim to "Indigenous" identity often emerges in places that were or are colonised. However, each situation is different.

Establishing "Indigenous" status can assist groups by conferring legitimacy on their claims, especially when dealing with government and resource-extraction industries (forestry, mining, etc). To see how this might relate to the Cocos Malays, we need to know their history.

### HISTORY OF COCOS MALAYS

The Clunies Ross dynasty created its own currency and paid Cocos Malays for harvesting coconuts and performing other labour. This currency could be redeemed at the company store for rice, flour and sugar to supplement a diet of seafood, poultry and other birds. They left matters of religion to the Cocos Malays, who maintained an Islamic Malay culture. This makes them Australia's oldest Muslim community.

From the mid-1900s, Cocos Malay culture and language spread from its atoll home. A large 1940s emigration created a Cocos Malay community in Sabah, Malaysia, where

the government recognises them as one of Malaysia's ethnic groups. The Cocos Malays have also emigrated to Christmas Island, Singapore and to several locations in Western Australia.

On the Cocos (Keeling) Islands themselves, increased international attention to the plight of the Cocos Malays led to allegations of slavery and a United Nations investigation.

In 1955, the British transferred sovereignty over the islands to Australia, ratified by the Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act. The Australian government increasingly scrutinised the "kingdom", purchasing most of the atoll from the dynasty in 1978.

In a UN-supervised Act of Self-Determination in 1984, the residents of the islands voted overwhelmingly for integration with Australia. This act symbolised the beginnings of Cocos Malay involvement with the Australian state on their own terms, which has recently seen some Cocos Malays claim to be indigenous to the islands.

### INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

In Australia, since the 1990s, the term "Indigenous" has increasingly been employed to address the crimes

of colonisation.

The first humans in Australia (sometimes labelled "Australo-Melanesians") arrived more than 50,000 years ago. Their descendants have been displaced and dispossessed by European settlers since 1788.

Aside from a variety of more derogatory insults, the terms "native", "Aborigine" and "Aboriginal" successively emerged to describe these people.

Some rejected the imposition of these labels and turned to terms from their own languages, such as "Koori" or "Nyungar", to refer themselves.

Rights activists have also encouraged the use of inclusive terms "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders" as well as "First Nations" (see, for example, 2017's Uluru Statement from the Heart).

For those who identify as "Indigenous", the term also links their aspirations for recognition and reform to a global "Indigenous" struggle. The "Indigenous" label can become more than a political tool; for some it's a form of identity.

### THE COCOS CLAIMS

Cocos Malay people can strengthen their claim as Indigenous Australians by pointing to several facts. The islands were uninhabited when the Cocos Malays and their European ruler first settled there. Further, they maintain a long historical tradition; they are sometimes said to have been colonised; and they feel overlooked by the Australian nation-state.

Other groups in our region have successfully appealed to these principles - namely, first people, colonisation, continued tradition, and marginalisation - to be recognised as Indigenous.

If the Cocos Malays are unsuccessful in the short term, they can try other forms of recourse. For instance, the 1955 Transfer of Sovereignty contained a crucial clause:

"The institutions, customs and usages of the Malay residents of the Territory shall, subject to any law in force in the Territory from time to time, be permitted to continue in existence."

turn to 05



## A group of Southeast Asian...

contd from pg04

One thing is certain, the Cocos Malay residents value and continue to maintain and adapt their "customs and usages". Being accorded Indigenous status would help gain official recognition for that continuing practice.

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## Impasse in Manipur university continues

**IMPHAL, JUN 27 (PTI):** The academic activities of the Manipur University remained suspended for the 29th day today following students' agitation demanding removal of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Adiya Prasad Pandey, varsity sources said.

The agitation has been spearheaded by the Manipur University Students Union (MUSU) for the removal of the vice-chancellor for his alleged failure to appoint members in important posts, lavish travelling and hampering academic functioning in the university, an MUSU



member said.

The vice-chancellor of the central university had earlier dismissed the allegations and claimed that the student functionaries were

connected to militant bodies.

To take stock of the situation of the on-going crisis, Joint Secretary V C Hosur, Department of Higher Education, HRD

ministry had visited Imphal on June 22 and met the student leaders and the Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

Ever since the agitation began, six deans

have resigned citing the prevailing crisis.

Meanwhile, on June 22 last the General Secretary (Administration) K Saratkumar of Manipur unit of BJP had asked opposition Congress not to politicise the matter and aggravate the situation following the investigation carried out by a high-level fact finding committee constituted by the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee.

The Manipur unit of the Communist Party of India has also demanded resignation of the vice-chancellor.



## Meghalaya emerging as heroin distribution centre: Police

**SHILLONG, JUN 27 (PTI):** Meghalaya is slowly emerging as the transit point for distribution of heroin in the country, a senior police officer has said.

"With Shillong as the transit point, many players, some with militant background or affiliations, are involved in the drug trafficking business to fund their anti-social activities," East Khasi Hills Superintendent of Police Davis Marak said.

He was addressing an event to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking here yesterday.

The rise in petty crimes in some areas has also been attributed to the growing numbers of drug users, particularly among the youth, who commit such crimes to satiate their cravings, Marak said.

Expressing concern over the fact that most traffickers come from low income families or those with a history of broken homes, the police officer stressed on the need to pay more attention to the youth and urged all stakeholders to work

hand in hand with the police to curb the menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

The police, in its continued efforts to curb the dangers of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, is also organising a week-long awareness programme, beginning this week, in different localities, schools and colleges to create awareness, the SP said.

Earlier, Dr. Arvind Nongpiur, an Assistant Professor in Psychiatry at the NEIGRIHMS said, the use of illicit drugs begins at an early age.

"The inquisitiveness to experiment or succumb to peer pressure often leads adolescents to use drugs thereby preventing them from leading a healthy and productive life," he said.

Stressing that drug abuse is no longer considered just a social problem, Dr. Nongpiur said drug abuse is accepted as an illness and drug addiction can be treated with proper medical intervention.

A recovered drug addict also shared his long journey on the road to recovery.

## JU Executive Council condemns "wrongful confinement" of VC

**KOLKATA, JUN 27 (PTI):** The Executive Council of Jadavpur University today condemned the "wrongful confinement" of the vice-chancellor and EC members by a section of students, especially from the arts faculty.

The varsity decided to conduct admission tests for six humanities' subjects at the earliest, the postponement of which had triggered the agitation by members of the Arts Faculty Students Union (AFSU).

"The Executive Council unanimously condemned the wrongful confinement of the EC members from June 25 till date by a section of student, especially from the arts faculty," Pro-VC Pradipt Ghosh said.

Ghosh told reporters at the university that an admission committee, formed by the EC, will



decide on the modalities of holding the admission tests and decide on the date.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the EC during the day, where the "legal validity" of holding such tests was examined after taking views of experts, he said.

Soon after the announcement, the impasse ended as the agitating students allowed VC Suranjan Das and other EC members to leave the campus at around 4 pm, a JU Teachers' Association (JUTA) member said.

Ghosh said the EC decided that the admis-

sion eligibility of every candidate to humanities streams will be based on the '50-50 formula'—50 per cent of the total marks obtained in admission tests and 50 per cent of the total marks secured by the candidate in board examinations.

AFSU leader Somashree Choudhury,

however, said the students will continue their agitation in some other manner, till a future course of action is charted out.

"We still need to chalk out certain issues like modalities of conducting admission tests to different streams.

We will get back to the EC with our feedback, and then decide on our future course of action," he said.

West Bengal Governor K N Tripathi told reporters on the sidelines of a programme here that he has sought details into the developments from the VC.

West Bengal Education Minister Partha Chatterjee had yesterday said such agitations would only harm the interests of most of the students, who want to pursue their studies without disturbances.



## Winning trumps style for Portugal at World Cup, says Cedric

**KRATOVO (RUSSIA), JUN 27 (AFP):** Portugal defender Cedric Soares said the European champions are more concerned about results than style ahead of a last-16 clash against Uruguay at the World Cup.

Portugal will return to Sochi, the site of their thrilling 3-3 group stage draw with Spain, on Saturday to face a Uruguay side featuring Luis Suarez and Edinson Cavani.

Uruguay are the only team yet to concede at the tournament, while Portugal have relied heavily on Cristiano Ronaldo -- the Real Madrid star has scored all but one of Portugal's five goals.

"The most important thing is to win and our objective is to win every game," Cedric said on Wednesday.

"Every team has its own strategy and we have ours. No matter if the game is spectacular or not our number one goal for now is to beat Uruguay." Portugal looked on course for a meeting with hosts Russia before a dramatic late flurry of events in the final round of games in Group B on Monday.

Cedric was harshly penalised for

handball as Iran converted a late spot-kick in a 1-1 draw, while Spain grabbed a late equaliser against Morocco to finish ahead of Portugal on goals scored.

"The World Cup is difficult for teams, and until now our goal was to get to the knockouts, which we did," said the Southampton defender.

"We dominated Iran, we achieved our goal. The next game is going to be difficult but we are European champions and have proved our quality in the past."

"We know (Uruguay) haven't lost a single game in 2018," he added. "We know many of their players very well, they have very strong players." Asked about the penalty incident against Iran, awarded following consultation with the video assistant referee (VAR), Cedric was reluctant to get drawn into a debate.

"I think that it is a decision by FIFA and we cannot comment on this.

"We are worried about our work and trying to work on what we can do, but we should not look at what we can't change.





# Messi suffered more than ever to reach World Cup last 16

**SAINT PETERSBURG, JUNE 27 (AFP):** Lionel Messi admitted to having survived the most nerve-wracking 90 minutes of his career as Marcus Rojo's stunning finish four minutes kept his and Argentina's World Cup hopes alive with a 2-1 win over Nigeria to reach the last 16.

Messi's first goal of the tournament got the two-time winners off to a perfect start in Saint Petersburg, but Victor Moses's 51st minute penalty had Jorge Sampaoli's men heading for a humiliating group stage exit until Rojo's late intervention.

"I don't remember such suffering," said Messi when asked if it was the most tense match of his career.

"It was due to the situation and what we were playing for."

Rojo had escaped conceding a second Nigerian



penalty after a controversial VAR review before he thundered home Gabriel Mercado's cross to send the under-fire Sampaoli running down the sidelines amid wild scenes of celebration.

"After the penalty we got a little nervous and worried about not getting through," said Sampaoli.

"We were obviously delighted at the end. The players played with their heart, they are rebels, they have achieved a very important victory looking to the future."

Messi missed a penalty in a 1-1 draw with Iceland and was largely bypassed in a 3-0 thrashing by Croatia that saw calls for Sampaoli to be sacked before their final group game.

However, Argentina avoided the abyss by the skin of their teeth to fight another

day against the highly-fancied French in Kazan on Saturday.

Sampaoli made five changes from the Croatia game, and his plan to use Ever Banega to help free up Messi worked to perfection early on.

The Sevilla playmaker's brilliant pass over the top of the Nigerian defence picked out Messi's run perfectly and, after cushioning the ball on his thigh, he erased the frustrations of his World Cup so far with an arrowed right-foot finish into the far corner.

"We need to make passes to Leo so he can create chances," added Sampaoli. "If not we suffer, we know we have the best player in the world and we have to benefit from that."

"It is for that reason I said the Croatia match was our fault not his."

Croatia captain Luka Modric claimed his side "cut off Messi" in Nizhny Novgorod five nights ago, but he was back to close to his Barcelona best at the heart of all Argentina's best moves in a positive first 45 minutes.

Higuain just could not flick the ball beyond the onrushing Francis Uzoho from a defence splitting pass before Uzoho then tipped a Messi free-kick onto the post.

Argentina were rocked at the start of the second period, though, when Turkish referee Cuneyt Cakir pointed to the spot when Javier Mascherano tangled with Oghenekaro Etebo at a corner.

Moses confidently stepped up to send Franco Armani the wrong way on his international debut and Argentina back to square one.

There was further VAR controversy when Nigeria

were denied a second penalty as Rojo headed onto his own arm before substitute Odion Ighalo fired wide.

"I don't understand how that wasn't a penalty. For me it was a clear penalty," said Nigeria captain John Obi Mikel.

"Maybe the referee has given the first one and he doesn't want to give the second one."

Ighalo missed another glorious chance when he shot too close to Armani and Nigeria were made to pay for their profligacy from the most unlikely source.

Sergio Aguero had been thrown on from the bench to join Messi and Higuain in attack, but it was Rojo who produced a striker's finish on his weaker right foot to spark delirious scenes of celebration among the tens of thousands of Argentines in the stands.

## Iceland crash out of World Cup after Croatia loss

**ROSTOV-ON-DON (RUSSIA), JUN 27 (AFP):** Croatia secured first place in Group D today after a hard-fought 2-1 win over gallant Iceland in Rostov-on-Don, setting up a World Cup last-16 tie with Denmark.

While most eyes were on Argentina and their do-or-die match with Nigeria in Saint Petersburg, Croatia wrapped up top spot in the group thanks to a slick second-half volley by Milan Badelj and a late strike by Ivan Perisic, sandwiching a penalty equaliser from Gylfi Sigurdsson.

"We did everything we could, if you do that you can't be disappointed, we can look each other in the eye and can carry our heads high," said Iceland coach Heimir Hallgrimsson afterwards.

"We never gave up... kept on going."

Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said Iceland showed "good character, discipline, and fight" but that even though his side were already through to the last 16, "only a win was satisfactory" for him.

With three wins out of three in Group D, "the focus now moves to the Denmark game, it will be a moment of truth", he said.

Dalic rested most of the side that thumped Argentina 3-0, with only captain Luka Modric and winger Perisic keeping their places.



headed dangerously across the goalmouth by the industrious Hordur Magnusson.

Everton's Sigurdsson tested goalkeeper Lovre Kalinic from a free-kick, while Birkir Bjarnason, who suffered a nosebleed early on, had shots blocked in quick succession.

Just before the break, a drive by Alfred Finnbogasson whistled past the post. Then on the stroke of half-time, Gunnarsson forced an acrobatic save from Kalinic.

Soon after the break the match turned when Fiorentina midfielder Badelj first clipped the bar with a long-range drive, then made no mistake soon after on 53 minutes.

The 29-year-old got his right foot over a deflected cross and fired a volley wide of Iceland goalkeeper Hannes Halldorsson to give Croatia the lead.

"Now we can concentrate on preparations for the knockout stage," said Badelj. "This is a big new win for Croatia. There is no special celebration, let's go further, step by step through the tournament."

Iceland had to claim their first ever World Cup victory to have a chance of advancing and, urged on by fans chanting their famous Viking thunderclap, almost equalised immediately.

First, a flick-on from another Gunnarsson long throw found Sverrir Ingason whose header was tipped over by Kalinic.

Moments later Ingason, who plays his club football for Rostov, went even closer but his header hit the crossbar.

On 73 minutes Bjarnason fluffed a close-range opportunity, but Iceland's lifeline arrived a minute later when Dejan Lovren handled a cross by Sigurdsson in the penalty area.

Sigurdsson had ballooned a penalty over the bar against Nigeria, but this time dispatched his shot into the roof of the net with Kalinic diving the wrong way.

But as Iceland strained for the winner and a surprise berth in the last 16, it was Croatia who threatened more, free-kicks by Perisic and Rakitic worrying Halldorsson.

Then on 90 minutes, Perisic delivered the final blow.

Sent into space on the left of the area the Inter Milan winger blasted a shot that ended both the game and Iceland's World Cup, putting Croatia through to a match against the Danes in Nizhny Novgorod on Sunday.



## I was not scared of trials, will come back for Worlds: Aware

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 27 (PTI):** It was nothing but the risks associated with a surgery that forced him to miss the wrestling trials for the Asian Games, said Commonwealth Games gold medallist Rahul Aware, who also asserted that he is not scared of anyone and will come back for the World Championship trials.

It was on the insistence of Aware that the Wrestling Federation of India had delayed the re-trials in the 57kg category and scheduled it for June 26, but the Maharashtra wrestler's old left-knee problem flared up days before the trials, and on his doctor's advise he gave it a miss.

An MRI scan, a copy of which is with PTI, revealed that there is a partial tear/strain in anterior cruciate ligament with minimum joint effusion, which has ruled him out of action for three weeks amid a perception that he missed the trials on purpose.

"Why would I miss trials when

it was delayed on my request by the WFI. And I have a good record against all these wrestlers, I have beaten them a number of times, so why would I be scared of anyone. The doctor told me that it will be a risk if you compete and if anything goes wrong, it will require surgery to heal, that's why I had to miss trials," Aware told PTI from Bengaluru.

"There is always a tight contest between me and Amit Dahiya but I have a superior record against all wrestlers who appeared in trials on Tuesday. There was no competition for me."

"And it took me 10 long years to win a CWG gold medal, I felt ready for Asian Games, so why would I miss it?," he asked.

Aware though felt his was a genuine case for exemption.

"If I had no quality, I would not have endured such a long period."

Sandeep Tomar, in an exciting battle, prevailed over Utkarsh Kale to clinch the 57kg spot in the Indian men's squad for the Asian Games, scheduled in Indonesia from August 18 to September 2.

The 26-year-old said after three-week rehabilitation, he will begin practice and strive to make the Indian squad for the World Championship in the 61kg category.

"I have told WFI president that I would compete for Worlds and he said okay. So I will come back and fight for a place in the 61kg category," Aware, also a bronze medallist at the 2011 Tashkent Asian Championship, said.

The WFI has planned the World Championship trials in three categories (61kg, 65kg and 74kg) after the Asian Games.

Wrestlers like Utkarsh Kale and Ravi Kumar, who could not clear the trials for the 57kg category for Asian Games, are also expected to fight for a place on the Worlds in 61kg.

The World Championship is scheduled to be held in Budapest from October 20 to 28.

## I have two variations of googly up my sleeve, claims Chahal

**CHETAN NARULA MALAHIDE (DUBLIN), JUN 27 (PTI):** Now a vital cog in India's limited overs bowling set-up, young leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal says he has developed two variations of googly, which will benefit him in the long run.

"I have two googlies -- one closer to the head and one more side-arm. So I try to mix it up. Batsmen have to look at the head position, so it is an advantage for me," Chahal said before India's opening T20 International against Ireland.

Chahal said that a leg-spinner has more variations than a left-arm spinner.

"For example, a left-arm spinner can have only two variations, but a leg spinner has at least four variations so the batsmen are always thinking about what he is going to face next," said Chahal.

While it's not like wrist spinners will automatically win India matches, but the wiry Haryana bowler feels that the current conditions in England will only help his bowling.

"Wrist spinners are a recent trend, and it is not like without wrist spin you cannot win



here. But I think conditions here (in Ireland and England) will help spinners. English spinners have picked up wickets in the ODI series against Australia, so that is encouraging for us. England have scored 400-plus tall scores against Australia, and not us," he added.

This is Chahal's first tour of the United Kingdom and he is desperate to make it count.

"Every tour is important for us, but for me especially this is an important one because I have come here for the first time, whether it is Ireland or England. Yesterday, I bowled in the nets in London and the weather was hot, almost same as in the sub-continent.

"I hope the weather stays the same and I am looking forward to more hot days like that. Whether I get to play in the first T20 or the second, I am going to enjoy my outing here," he added.

His partnership with chinaman Kuldeep Yadav has been successful and he attributes it to their attacking quality.

"Whenever Kuldeep and I come on to bowl, we look to take wickets in the middle overs and put pressure on the batsmen. Taking wickets in the middle overs is the easiest way to put pressure on the opposition."

Meanwhile, in a worrying development, young spinner Washington Sundar hobbled off the field within India's first hour of training here at The Village in Malahide. He participated in the warm-up football game, as well as the fielding drills for a little time, though the cause of his injury was unclear.

The worry is regarding his right ankle, as he needed help from two support staff members to get off the field. An official word from the Indian team management is awaited.



# Japan space probe reaches asteroid in search for origin of life

**TOKYO, JUN 27 (AFP):** A Japanese probe has reached an asteroid 300 million kilometres away to collect information about the birth of the solar system and the origin of life after a more than three-year voyage through deep space.

The Hayabusa2 probe settled into an observation position 20 kilometres (12 miles) above the Ryugu asteroid, officials from the Japan Space Exploration Agency (JAXA) said today.

"We have confirmed the arrival of Hayabusa2 at the Ryugu asteroid," JAXA said in a statement.

Ryugu is thought to contain relatively large amounts of organic matter and water, the stuff of life,



and scientists hope samples taken from the asteroid will offer clues about what gave rise to life on Earth. JAXA's announcement came just days before the

UN's International Asteroid Day on June 30, a global event to raise awareness about the hazards of an asteroid impact and technological progress to counter such a threat.

Photos of Ryugu -- which means "Dragon Palace" in Japanese, a castle at the bottom of the ocean in an ancient Japanese tale -- show an asteroid shaped a bit like a spinning top with a rough surface.

The probe will land on Ryugu in coming months and take samples "to clarify the origin of life," JAXA said in an earlier statement.

Hayabusa2, about the size of a large fridge, is equipped with solar panels and is the successor to JAXA's first

asteroid explorer, Hayabusa -- Japanese for falcon.

That probe returned from a smaller, potato-shaped, asteroid in 2010 with dust samples despite various setbacks during its epic seven-year Odyssey and was hailed as a scientific triumph.

The Hayabusa2 mission costs 30 billion yen ( 274 million) and the probe was launched in December 2014. It will stay with the asteroid for 18 months before heading back to Earth with its samples in late 2020.

To collect its samples, it will release an "impactor" that will explode above the asteroid, shooting a two-kilogram (four-pound) copper object into the

surface to create a crater a few metres in diameter.

From this crater, the probe will collect "fresh" materials unexposed to millennia of wind and radiation, hoping for answers to some fundamental questions about life and the universe, including whether elements from space helped give rise to life on Earth.

The probe will observe the surface with its camera and sensing equipment but will also drop tiny MINERVA-II rover robots as well as a French-German landing package named Mobile Asteroid Surface Scout (MASCOT) for surface observation.

## VP Pence warns migrants not to attempt to enter US illegally

**SAO PAULO, JUN 27 (AP):** US Vice President Mike Pence thanked Brazil today for welcoming Venezuelans fleeing their country's collapse, while warning Central Americans running from violence in their homelands not to attempt to enter the United States illegally. Pence announced that the United States will provide nearly USD 10 million more to support Venezuelan migrants, including USD 1.2 million that will go to Brazil, but he urged Central Americans to "build your lives in your homeland."

The seemingly contradictory messages underscored the delicate dance the United States is trying to perform: It wants to punish and isolate Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's socialist government while mitigating the effects on the Venezuelan people.



Rohingya refugees in camps in Bangladesh face "a race against time" as the monsoon season brings heavy rains, leading to landslides and floods. Twelve people are thought to have died so far, with the heaviest rain yet to come. "This is an emergency within an emergency," Shelley Thakral, a World Food Programme spokesperson said. "It is a race against time - we need to move people to safe locations as fast as we can and make sure they have the food and resources and relief they need to survive."

## Trump favours people coming to US through merit-based system

**WASHINGTON, JUN 27 (PTI):** President Donald Trump today said he wants foreign workers to come in the US through a merit-based immigration system so as to meet the demands of companies that are moving into America in greater numbers.

Indian-Americans, most of whom are highly skilled and came to the US mainly on H-1B work visas, are the worst sufferers of the current immigration system which imposes a seven per cent per country quota on allotment of green cards or permanent legal residency.

"I want people to come into our country because our country is doing so well. We have companies moving into our country at numbers that nobody has seen in a long time. We need workers. So, I want people to come in. They have to come in through the merit system though," Trump told reporters at the White House during a luncheon with members of the Congress.

"They have to come in so that they can help our country and these companies," Trump said responding to a question on immigration after the US Supreme Court upheld his travel ban against people coming from eight Muslim-majority countries.

The US president said he is not against

people coming into the country but made it clear he wants them to come legally through a merit-based system, a move which experts believe would help qualified people from countries like India.

In Wisconsin, he said Foxconn, one of the great companies of the world, is setting up a manufacturing base.

"They make the laptop for Apple, and iPhones, a lot of it. And they're building a tremendous plant right now in Wisconsin. They need workers. I have to let people come in. But they have to come in through a merit. They have to be people that can love our country and help our country," Trump said. Trump said that the current immigration policy makes the least sense. It is a hodgepodge of laws that have been put together over years and this needs to be changed, he asserted.

"It's so simple. It's called, 'I'm sorry, you can't come in. You have to go in through a legal process. You don't have to see a judge where the judge is going to take three years before you can come back. In the meantime, you never come back because you're already in the country. You're someplace in the country. And that would be bad, but it's really bad when it's a criminal," he said.

## US says no exemption to India on oil imports from Iran

**WASHINGTON, JUN 27 (PTI):** The US has told all countries, including India and China, to stop their oil imports from Iran by November 4 or face sanctions for carrying out any transaction with Tehran as there would be "zero" waivers to any country.

Iran is India's third-largest oil supplier behind Iraq and Saudi Arabia. It supplied 18.4 million tonnes of crude oil during April 2017 and January 2018 (first 10 months of 2017-18 fiscal).

President Donald Trump withdrew the US from the Iran nuclear deal in May to pursue a maximum

pressure campaign against Tehran's atomic programme. At the time, his administration gave foreign companies either 90 or 180 days to wind down their business with Iranian counterparts, depending on the type of commercial activity.

"On China and India, yes, certainly," a state department official told reporters when asked if the US has told all countries, including India and China, to stop all their imports of Iranian oil by November 4.

The US official said Indian and Chinese companies would be subject

to the same sanctions as those in other countries.

Given the huge energy needs, India and China are major importers of Iranian oil.

"Their (India and China) companies will be subject to the same sanctions that everybody else's are if they engage in those sectors of the economy that are sanctionable, where there were sanctions imposed prior to 2015. And yes, we will certainly be requesting that their oil imports go to zero, the state department official said on condition of anonymity.

Responding to questions, the official said these countries should start reducing the import of oil from Iran now and bring it to zero by November 4.

The official said this is part of the Trump administration's effort to isolate streams of Iranian funding and are looking to highlight the totality of Iran's malign behaviour across the region.

"We remain engaged with the EU-3 throughout this process, and we are going to continue to branch out in new countries and reach new partners as the weeks go forward," the official said.

## Myanmar military leaders guilty of 'crimes against humanity': Amnesty



**NEW YORK, JUN 27 (AFP):** Myanmar's military chief and other top brass have been accused by Amnesty International of crimes against humanity for overseeing a "systematic" attack against Rohingya Muslims, according to a report by the rights group today calling for prosecution at the International Criminal Court.

More than 700,000 Rohingya Muslims were forced to flee Rakhine state after a military crackdown that the United Nations has said amounts to "ethnic cleansing".

Myanmar's military has denied targeting the stateless minority and said it was defending itself against Muslim militants who attacked police posts in August 2017.

But a new report from Amnesty said army commander-in-chief Min Aung Hlaing and 12 other senior military and security officials oversaw an orchestrated campaign of violence in the restive state where the Rohingya have been historically marginalised.

"The ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya population was achieved by a relentless and systematic campaign in which the Myanmar security forces unlawfully killed thousands of Rohingya, including young children," said the report.

It also accused security forces of sexual violence, torture, forced displacement and burning markets and farmland that starved communities and forced them to flee.

"These crimes amount to crimes against humanity under international law, as they were perpetrated as part of a widespread and systematic attack against the Rohingya population," the report said.

The report said some senior military figures and border guard police oversaw units that directly carried out alleged atrocities, while others knew of subordinates' actions and failed to prevent, stop or punish the crimes.

The 186-page document is the first attempt to name and implicate senior figures in the widespread violence that sparked the mass exodus and humanitarian crisis that followed.

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya have settled in squalid camps in neighbouring Bangladesh, many too scared to go back despite a repatriation agreement with Myanmar that rights groups have said does not guarantee a safe return.

The report is the most detailed account of the crisis to date and follows fresh sanctions from the European Union this week against

seven security officials accused of serious crimes including sexual violence and killings.

Min Aung Hlaing was not subject to the sanctions but six people on the EU list are also named in the Amnesty report, which is based on more than 400 interviews in Myanmar and Bangladesh from September 2017 to June 2018.

The authors also used satellite imagery, forensic analysis and confidential military documents.

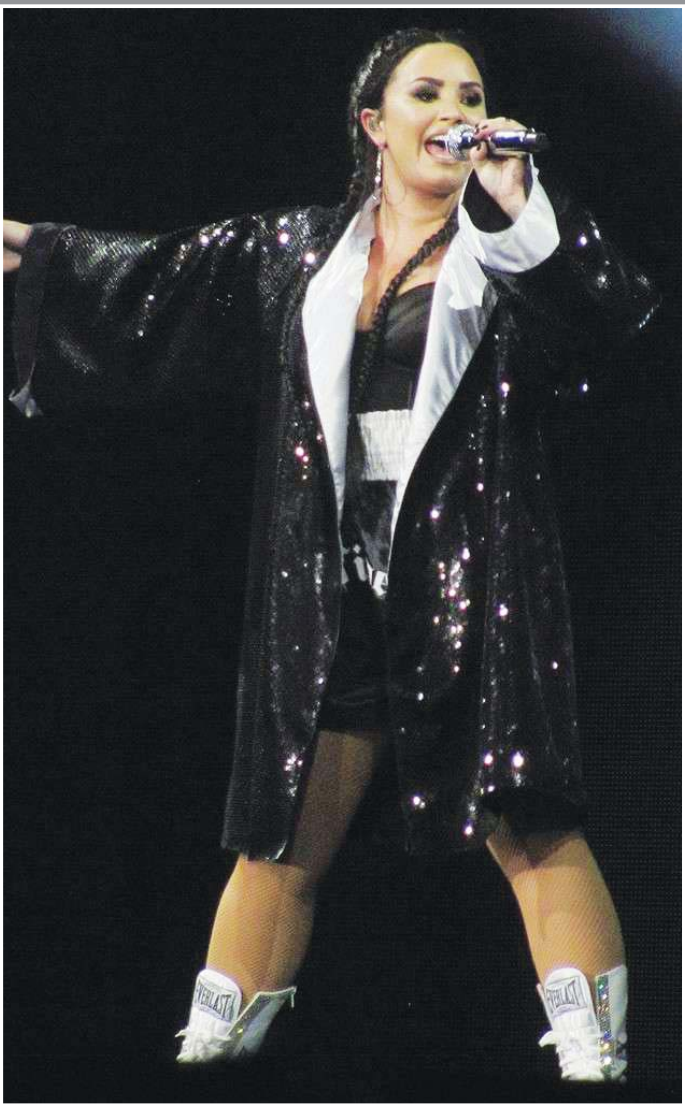
The report also details alleged abuses carried out by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), the Muslim militant group that attacked police posts on August 25, 2017.

It said ARSA killed informants and people with military links and massacred dozens of Hindus in the area, which the militant group has denied.

Amnesty says it requested a response from Myanmar's military and the office of de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi but did not receive a reply.

Myanmar has previously rejected calls for an ICC probe, arguing that it is not party to the treaty that governs the court.





**SURVIVOR:** Singer Demi Lovato performs on her Tell Me You Love Me tour wearing a boxing inspired outfit with a sparkling robe in London.

# VIVO’S NEW FACE ID TECH HAS 10 TIMES AS MANY SENSOR POINTS AS THE IPHONE X

Vivo, the Chinese phone maker that's been on the leading edge of bezel-less phones this year, has today announced another major new piece of technology: a 3D depth-sensing system with 300,000 sensor points, 10 times the number in Apple's Face ID on the iPhone X. Vivo's new tech, mounted on the front of the phone next to the selfie cameras, works by sending out a pulse of light and calculating the "time of flight" (TOF) that the light takes to bounce back to its sensor. Vivo says it can enable 3D mapping at a distance up to three meters from the phone.

The broad term for this type of technology is "structured light," and it's something other companies like Oppo have also considered for their phones this year, but none have yet decided it's worth the added investment and complexity to include it in their phones. Vivo's demonstration of its TOF 3D sensor at MWC Shanghai this week indicates that it will be among the first Android vendors to step up and compete with Apple's Face ID directly.

"By combining TOF 3D Sensing Technology with AI, we will continue to explore new possibilities for a better future," said Alex Feng, a senior executive at Vivo. One



of the ideas envisioned by Vivo is to take in a full body scan of a person and then feed that information to a beautification AI that would more intelligently and proportionately pretty you up. Another is to use the same full-body scans to try on clothes virtually.

Beside the obvious applications of more precise biometric authentication and better portrait mode for selfies, Vivo's new sensor could also be used for gesture and motion recognition. With a claimed depth detection as far as 3 meters, this system could also enable new augmented reality applications or the scanning of furniture and other objects.

The press release for Vivo's TOF 3D sensor promises that "this is no mere proof of concept," though the company hasn't given an exact timeline for when the technology will be commercialized in an actual phone.

**ARIES:** There's a somewhat conservative air to your feelings today, Aries. You might be called on to get serious for a second and take care of business. This may not be a bad idea. Believe it or not, this grounded nature can help you move into a deeper relationship with someone special. Let your creative nature shine through and try to do more listening than talking. Make your dreams a reality.

**TAURUS:** There's a conflicting push-pull aspect at play that may leave you feeling a bit unsure of how to proceed, Taurus. On the one hand, you feel like you want to plan and get your emotions stabilized so you can function at full capacity. On the other hand, there may be something pulling you into the clouds. This is your heart talking. Listen to it and find a compromise between the two energies.

**GEMINI:** Get your chores done early today so you have time to play tonight, Gemini. Plan a romantic getaway with someone you love. Feel free to let your imagination carry you to a whole new realm of pleasure. Today is a great day to explore more of your artistic nature and begin to manifest some of the ideas that have been rattling around in your head for some time.

**CANCER:** This is an excellent day to tell people exactly how you feel, Cancer. Your emotions are more stable than usual, so open up and let your heart speak. What you learn today will be extremely valuable for the future, so pay attention. Keep an eye on what is real, but feel free to let your heart explore all possibilities. Follow your emotions and trust your instincts. You stand to gain quite a bit.

**LEO:** Today may be tough for you,

Leo. It might seem like nothing is fitting into place. Could it be that you're trying to be someone you aren't? If things aren't working out, don't press the issue. You're better off waiting for a time when you feel more confident about who you are and where you're going. Have a cup of tea and relax. Releasing stress can free your energy for other uses.

**VIRGO:** Enjoy yourself today, Virgo. You have a great deal to be grateful for, so give thanks. Take pride in all that you've accomplished so far and share your joy with others. Feel free to let go of the reins and sit back and get comfortable. You've worked hard for a reason. If you don't enjoy life now, when are you going to do it? Take time to be with loved ones tonight.

**LIBRA:** Today may be one of those days when you don't know which way

to turn, Libra. You're spinning around, and no direction looks good to you. For some reason, your engine won't turn off, and you just keep going in circles. If you can, stop and take a rest. Walk around for a while until your head stops spinning. Wait until the air clears before making your next major move.

**SCORPIO:** Romance is coming your way today as long as you stay levelheaded about the immediate situation, Scorpio. Take care of menial daily tasks and then let your heart soar. You'll find that you have a strong connection to your emotions. Trust your instincts and feel free to let your heart take control. Be realistic about your relationships with others, but push the boundaries once they've been set.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Your emotions may

be a bit reserved today, Sagittarius. It's OK to take a break from the activity and simply lay low. This is a good time to sit back and receive. Don't make any sudden moves. Let the energy of the day take you where it will. The closer you can get to the intuitiveness of your inner self, the closer you'll be to a romantic partner or family member.

**CAPRICORN:** Family issues play an important role today, Capricorn. Speak from your heart and tell your closest relatives how much they really mean to you. In general, you might feel a bit reserved with your energy. Don't feel like you have to make any great strides just now. It's more a time to enjoy what you've worked for. Kick back and reap the rewards of all your hard work.

**AQUARIUS:** You may feel some

indecision regarding a loved one today, Aquarius. Something could be urging you to act in this department, yet you might find that you just want to lay low. Realize that there's an important next step that you must take. Think the situation through before you make a move. In fact, this day is best spent gathering data. Perhaps you should wait before doing something about it.

**PISCES:** Today is a great day to work on getting yourself together. Your emotions are stable, leaving your heart free to soar in the clouds. Feel free to daydream. Now is a good time to make plans with a romantic partner. Solidify your relationship and confirm your commitment to each other. If you're single, now is a good time to set a plan in motion that will bring you closer to your greatest fantasy.

# VENOM'S TRAILER IS THE MOST VIEWED IN THE ENTIRE SPIDER-MAN FRANCHISE

The official trailer for Venom has been viewed by far the most out of the entire Spider-Man franchise. It even blew past Spider-Man: Homecoming, the Tom Holland-starring debut of Spidey in the Marvel Cinematic Universe which came together on a partnership between Sony and Marvel Studios. Venom, which stars Tom Hardy in the title role, isn't part of the MCU - but clearly, the buzz has been massive.

Venom remains one of the most popular and complicated Marvel characters, and that's reflected in the colossal view count of the first full trailer, which gave the first look at Hardy's full transformation into the iconic Symbiote alien. The trailer drew so many eyeballs on YouTube that it doesn't even need to be compared to other Spider-Man trailers anymore. It's become one of the most popular trailers, period.

Thanks to some sleuthing at Screen Crush, it was discovered that the Venom trailer's 64 million views are by a wide margin the most of any movie in the entire Spider-Man franchise. It obliterates the total for The Amazing Spider-Man (37 million), as well as Spider-Man: Homecoming (28 million) and the newly released trailer for Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse. It also got more views than Star Wars: The Last Jedi (50 million), Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (55 million), and Iron Man 3 (62 million).



In light of the Venom trailer's astronomical total compared to the other Spider-Man movies, it's more appropriate to compare it to all other trailers. As reported by ScreenCrush, it likely cracks the top-20 all-time on YouTube, checking in just behind Thor: Ragnarok's 66 million. It didn't land terribly far behind the first Jurassic World trailer, which has 89 million views. And there may never be a trailer more viewed than the dominating record-holder, Avengers: Infinity War and its 202 million views.

It speaks to the enduring popularity of Venom as a character in the Marvel universe, that he would get his own solo vehicle and the trailer would dominate all other trailers related to Spider-Man. Despite the persistent rumors

that Holland may make a cameo, this is ostensibly Venom's movie. The massive YouTube totals for the trailer could also be somewhat of a byproduct of the first teaser trailer showing practically nothing, which left fans wanting more in a way not common to most big-budget movie teasers in recent memory.

Ultimately, it's not much of a surprise that the Venom trailer blew up like it did when you consider that it raced past the likes of Wonder Woman in just its first 24 hours. As a rare R-rated entry into the Marvel realm, one that's based on an iconic yet relatively under-served character on the big screen, Venom previews carry an uncommon amount of weight. The question, now, is whether the next Venom trailer can take the buzz to yet another level.



## RAPPERS CARDI B AND OFFSET MARRIED IN SECRET...NINE MONTHS AGO

Cardi B has revealed she married fellow rapper Offset nine months ago, with a spontaneous wedding with "no dress, no make-up and no ring".

The 25-year-old star, who is expecting the couple's first child this summer, shared the news on Twitter.

She told fans: "There are so many moments that I share with the world and then there are moments that I want to keep for myself. Getting married was one of those moments!"

She went on: "Our relationship was so new - breaking up and making up - and we had a lot of growing up to do; but we were so in love we didn't want to lose each other."

"We found someone to marry us, and she did, just the two of us and my cousin. I said I do, with no dress no make-up and no ring!"

She explained that the wedding took place in Atlanta in September on the same day as the proposal.

Somewhat confusingly, the pair announced their engagement onstage during a concert in Philadelphia the following month.

## A QUIET PLACE WRITERS TO ADAPT STEPHEN KING'S THE BOOGEYMAN



A Quiet Place writers Scott Beck and Bryan Woods will team up again, this time to adapt Stephen King's early short story The Boogeyman. Directed by John Krasinski, A Quiet Place stunned audiences while scaring up blockbuster numbers for a very grateful Paramount, finishing with \$325 million in worldwide grosses. After a performance like that, it's no surprise that writers Beck and Woods are already conjuring up ideas for a sequel to A Quiet Place.

With its classic fright-film premise of a family trying to survive amid an invasion of sound-sensitive aliens, A Quiet Place drew plenty of comparisons to the work of horror master Stephen King. Indeed, King himself publicly expressed admiration for the film, calling it "extraordinary." King's work has itself become a hot commodity on the movie market, after the massive success of last year's IT, based on the author's voluminous 1986 novel of an

evil clown terrorizing a small Maine community across the decades. Multiple King adaptations are currently in the works, including a remake of Pet Sematary, a new feature film based on Tommyknockers and a TV series version of his most recent novel The Outsider.

In a case of a potentially perfect marriage of writing talents, Deadline reports that A Quiet Place scribes Scott Beck and Bryan Woods will help bring yet another Stephen King work to the screen, adapting his early short story The Boogeyman. Twentieth Century Fox is putting the deal together with 21 Laps, the Shawn Levy-led production company responsible for Stranger Things (another series filled with echoes of King). The Boogeyman has previously been adapted multiple times as a short film, but this is the first time it will come to life as a feature.

Originally published in 1973 and later reprinted in

King's wildly popular short story collection Night Shift, The Boogeyman concerns a man named Lester Billings, who has seen three of his children die at the hands of a supernatural entity that lives in a closet. The story is mainly set in a psychiatrist's office as Billings tells the horrific story of how he and his wife attempted to evade the Boogeyman, only to lose yet another child to the monster. Like many King stories, including IT, Cujo and Pet Sematary, the story taps into primal fears about children falling prey to evil forces.

Indeed, A Quiet Place itself tapped into many of the same terrors that King has explored in The Boogeyman and so many of his other works. Twentieth Century Fox is hoping that the pairing of King with the men who helped conjure up the creatures of A Quiet Place will result in monster box office returns.