



**CAREER GUIDANCE  
PROG HELD AT  
MAMRING SCHOOL**  
pg05

**NIRMAL'S FC MELLI  
DEBUTS AT HOMETOWN  
I-DAY TOURNAMENT**  
Pg03



**STDC AND TOURISM DEPT  
PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL  
NE TOURISM ROAD SHOW  
AT CHANDIGARH** pg02

# SummitTIMES

Vol 03 | Issue 200 | Gangtok | Monday | 30 July 2018

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

RNI No. SIKENG/2016/69420

Pages 8 | ₹ 5



**KAILASH BY A YATRI:** One of the yatris of the sixth batch of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via Nathula 2018 shares first exclusive shot of the sacred KAILASH PARBAT with Summittimes. [Arpan Pradhan]

## SIBLAC files FIR against advocate Goel and NB Khatiwada for inflammatory comments

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

The Sikkim Bhutia Lepcha Apex Committee [SIBLAC], in a press communiqué issued today, has informed of an FIR filed against Delhi-based advocate, Manoj Goel, NB Khatiwada and others for what it sees as inflammatory comments made by them against the Bhutia community at a function held at a local hotel here on 25 June, last month.

Mr Goel and Mr Khatiwada, SIBLAC convenor Tseten Tashi Bhutia, contends displayed "pre-meditated mindset" in their respective addresses "with common intention to create fear, panic and communal tension".

turn to pg03

**CITIZEN UMBRELLA**  
SUKANSHA HIRA RAJASAM SE  
Wholesalers may contact  
**CITIZEN UMBRELLA MANUFACTURER LTD.**  
H.O.: 147, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kolkata-7  
Ph. No. 033-2268-1396, 2271-2152  
Fax : (033) 2271-2151, E-mail : citizenkolkata@gmail.com



## Biraj and KN Upreti to join HSP

**REBYNA RANA  
GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

Former Minister KN Upreti and president, SNPP, Biraj Adhikari, will soon be joining the Hamro Sikkim Party [HSP], informer the HSP vice-president Bhaichung Bhutia today.

"We are happy and excited on the joining of KN Upreti and Biraj Adhikari. Both are senior politicians who have their share of contributions for Sikkim in their own capacities. Both are also clean politicians and



command a lot of respect from the people of Sikkim," Mr Bhutia added while sharing the information.

When contacted, Mr Adhikari and Mr Upreti



confirmed that they will be joining the HSP on 05 August. The joining ceremony is scheduled to be hosted at the HSP head office here in Deorali, it is informed.

Meanwhile, Mr Bhutia also informed today that the HSP public meeting East and North districts scheduled to be held at Singtam on 03 August has been postponed to unavoidable circumstances.

"We will hold the meeting in August-end in a bigger and even better way," he said.

"Also by the end of August, when we hold the public meeting, we will announce the name of our party president," he added.

## Protest by CCCT staff continues, authorities disdainfully unmoved



**BIKASH CHETTRI  
NAMCHI, 29 JUL:**

The State Government now has its own engineering college, but even as the Sikkim Institute of Science and Technology (SIST) was being inaugurated yesterday, staff and faculty members of the Centre for Computers and Communication Technology (CCCT), whose campus and responsibilities have now been attached to SIST without their services being regulated under the State Government continued their peaceful pen-down protest against this uncertainty. The pen-down strike had begun on 27 July, the eve of SIST's inauguration.

The 84 staff and faculty members of CCCT are demanding an immediate solution to their service confusion.

They explain that CCCT was established to bring technical education to the State along with Advanced Technical Training Center (ATTC) through the World Bank-assisted "Third Technician Education Project" of the Union

Ministry of Human resource Development in the year 1999.

Both, CCCT and ATTC, were running as autonomous technical institutes of the State Government under the supervision of a trust and also helped along by grants from the State Government. Fee collected from the students and the grants received from the State Government kept these institutes functioning until the recent decision of the State Government to make courses at these institutes free for Sikkim students. Both the institutes then came fully under the HRD Department with the salaries and other expenses of the college now coming entirely from the State coffers.

The administration however remained under the trust and the staff and faculty members were not recognized as State government employees.

Now, with the establishment of the government engineering college in the CCCT complex and additional-

turn to pg02

## STOP-PRESS

In latest developments regarding the imbroglio at CCCT-Chisopani, the protesting staff and faculty members have suspended their protest following a meeting with Director, Higher Education and Technical Education, HRDD, Deepak Pradhan, who met them at the campus today and reportedly assured them that issues raised by them will be resolved in a week's time. The pen-down strike will hence be suspended for the week and a final call taken after word arrives on how their issues will be addressed by HRDD, it is informed.



**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA**  
www.rbi.org.in

**For redressal of complaints against entities regulated by RBI / any Department of RBI**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up various fora for grievance redressal at their Offices across the country. Any member of public who has a grievance relating to deficiency in service by the entities regulated by RBI viz: Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Co-operative Banks or any Non-Banking Financial Company (registered with RBI under Section 45-IA of the RBI Act, 1934), Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) or against any Department of the RBI, may e-mail his /her grievance with full facts along with supporting documents at: cepcgangtok@rbi.org.in Concerned Office may please give their respective e-mail Id. Alternatively, the complainant can approach the following Office of the RBI as per details given below:

**Consumer Education and Protection Cell (CEPC)**  
Name & designation of Officer: Shri I.Y.T. Namchu, Assistant General Manager  
Address :Tseyang Dzong Building, Amdo Golai  
Tadong, Gangtok – 737102  
Telephone No: 03592-281118 / 281117. Fax No: 03592- 281113  
Email ID: cepcgangtok@rbi.org.in  
Office time: 9.30 am to 5.45 pm (Monday to Friday)

For more information, please visit RBI's website at: https://www.rbi.org.in>> Consumer Education and Protection>>For Common Person>> Complaints >> Against RBI.

**Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 (BO Scheme, 2006)**  
(for redressal of complaints falling under Clause 8 of BO Scheme, 2006)

A complainant may file online complaint through the Complaint Tracking System (CTS) at https://www.rbi.org.in>> Consumer Education and Protection >> For Common Person >> Complaints >> Against Bank >> Banking Ombudsman Scheme.

The complaint can also be submitted by post/ hand delivery with full facts along with supporting documents at the following address:

**Office of Banking Ombudsman**  
C/o Office of Banking Ombudsman  
Address: 15, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata- 700001  
Telephone No: 033- 22304892. Fax No 033- 22305899.  
Office time: 9.45 am to 5.30 pm (Monday to Friday)

**Ombudsman Scheme Non- Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), 2018 (NBFC-O Scheme, 2018)**  
(for redressal of complaints (against deposit – taking NBFCs) falling under Clause 8 of NBFC-O Scheme, 2018)

The complainant may file his / her complaint at: cepcgangtok@rbi.org.in (concerned Office may please give their respective e-mail Id). The complaint can also be submitted by post/ hand delivery with full facts along with supporting documents at the following address:

**NOTE: Complainant is requested to indicate his/her address and phone number/ mobile number in the complaint.**

**The NBFC Ombudsman (Kolkata Zone)**  
C/o Reserve Bank of India  
Address:15, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata- 700001  
Telephone No: 033-23304982. Fax No :033-22305899

E-mail ID :nbfcokolkata@rbi.org.in. Office time: 9.45 am to 5.30 pm (Monday to Friday)

For filing complaint under the BO Scheme, 2006 or NBFC-O Scheme, 2018, the complainant may please note that, he / she should first approach the branch of the bank / deposit-taking NBFC registered with RBI for redressal of his / her grievance. If the grievance regarding deficiency in service listed in Clause 8 of the respective Ombudsman Schemes against any bank / aforementioned NBFC, is not redressed within 30 days, or if complainant is not satisfied with the reply given by NBFC concerned, he / she can approach the concerned NBFC Ombudsman anytime within one year of receipt of reply from the bank / NBFC or where no reply is received, anytime within one year and one month from the date of representation to the bank / NBFC.

**NOTE: The Jurisdiction of NBFC Ombudsman for Kolkata Zone covers Sikkim, Gangtok.**

For more information, please visit RBI's website at: https://www.rbi.org.in >>Consumer Education and Protection>>For Common Person >> Complaints >>Against NBFCs>> Ombudsman Scheme for NBFCs.

**Appeal against decision of Ombudsman**  
Appeal against decision of Banking / NBFC Ombudsman can be sent to the Appellate Authority, Reserve Bank of India, Consumer Education and Protection Department, Central Office, Amar Building, Sir P M Road, Fort, Mumbai 400 001 within 30 days of receipt of the communication of the respective Ombudsman's decision, only if the complaint is closed under the appealable Clauses of the respective Schemes.

**For complaints against Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)**  
For complaints against DICGC, members of public can lodge the complaint at following address:

**Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)**  
The Deputy General Manager, DICGC, Complaint Redressal Cell, RBI Building, 2nd floor, Opp. Mumbai Central Railway Station, Mumbai – 400 008.

Complainant can also approach Shri Deepak Narang, Deputy General Manager on Telephone No. 022- 23019633 Ext No. 8201 or Mobile Nos.9651152413 / 7000082772 or through e-mail dicgc@rbi.org.in



## SKM meetings across districts

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:

A block-level office of Sikkim Krantikari Morch was opened at Lingdok under Kabir-Lungchok constituency today, inaugurated by the senior vice-president of the party, TN Dhakal. A 12-member block level committee for Lingdok-Namphok block was also formed on the occasion, informs an SKM press release.

The release further informs that six active youth of the SDF from Uttarey under Maney-bong-Dentam constituency also joined SKM today and were welcomed by west district president, Purna Hang Limboo and youths of the party.

A constituency-level coordination meeting for Melli was also convened today during which Dr Shiva Kumar Sharma interacted with the party workers on organisational decentralization.

It is further informed that another coordination meeting of the party was held in Gnathang-Machong constituency in East Sikkim attended by chief coordinator, Sangha MLA Sonam Lama, working president, Navin Karki, spokesperson, Jacob Khaling and other leaders of the party.

The release informs that 46 families from the constituency joined the SKM during the meeting.

The release adds that the new joinings included retired DFO, Changchup Bhutia, retired teacher PM Gurung, retired ASI KP Neopaney and others.

visit us at  
[www.summit-times.com](http://www.summit-times.com)

## STDC and Tourism Dept participate in national NE Tourism Road Show at Chandigarh

### ARPAN PRADHAN GANGTOK, 29 JUL:

Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation [STDC] and the Department of Tourism are jointly participating in the North East Tourism Road Show held at Chandigarh on 26-27 July.

The STDC was represented by its Public Relations Officer, Roji Pradhan, while Beenita Rai represented Sikkim Tourism.

Organised by the Union Ministry of Tourism Ministry, the aim of the North East Tourism Road Show was to promote North Eastern States and unveil the tourism opportunities available in the region while bridging the gap between tour operators and stakeholders.

The tourism road show also featured a business networking session wherein 60 tour operators visited the Sikkim counter and discussed possibilities of tie-ups and promotion of the State, it is informed.



The PRO, STDC has expressed gratitude towards the corporation, its CEO and Tourism Department for providing the opportunity to attend the national event and represent Sikkim at large.

“This will really ben-

efit and give mileage to the tourism sector in the State,” said Mr Pradhan.

During the programme, the Sikkim team also interacted with the Principal and students of Dr Ambedkar Institute of Hotel Management,

Chandigarh.

It is informed that the North East Tourism Road Show is the start of promotional plans of the Ministry to promote the north eastern region as a major tourist destination of the country.

Different facets of Sikkim and other States were showcased. It also focused on tourist attractions in the Himalayas like skiing, trekking, mountaineering, river rafting, rock climbing, para-gliding, bungee jumping, etc.

## SYSP preparations continue for 38TH foundation day

### JEEWAN SUBBA THARPU, 29 JUL:

Sirijunga Yakthung Sakthim Phojumbho (SYSP), a Limboo cultural society, convened its second meeting today in preparation for its 38th foundation day coming up on 23 August. The celebration is scheduled to be hosted at the Limboo Cultural Centre at Tharpu under Soreng Chakung constituency.

Today, the meeting had the area MLA HRD Minister RB Subba present as the chief guest. He is also the advisor of the society. Also present were Sukman Limboo, the SYSP president, BDO Ratan Pegha, Deputy Director (HRDD) SB Mangmoo, Tharpu School principal NK Chettri Tharpu, panchayat mem-

bers, senior citizens, committee member and local residents.

The Minister suggested that a demand for a Mangheem and community hall be considered for placement with the Chief Minister on 23 August.

After the meeting, an open discussion of the committee decided that on 22 August, Yangthang MLA Chandra Maya Subba be invited as chief guest and on 23 August, the Chief Minister will be among them as the chief guest.

The meeting also discussed matters like stage decoration, seating arrangement for general public, refreshments, fund raising, invitation letters, souvenir publication and also finalised felicitations for 15 members of the society.

## WDS office opened in Mangshila

### SUMMIT REPORT

**MANGAN, 29 JUL:** The Ward Development Society office, under Sikkim State Rural Livelihood Mission (SSRLM) of North Sikkim, of Lower Jusing under Mangshila-Tibuk GPU was inaugurated today at Mangshila.

The function had Zilla member, Zomin Limboo, in attendance accompanied by Block Project Manager, Yowal Lepcha, Community Organiser, Tashi Tongden Lepcha, panchayat members and the SHG members.

Panchayat President Meena Maya Limboo shared how the Self Help

Groups were formed in Mangshila and appealed to all SHG members to work in coordination for development and improved livelihoods.

The Block Project Manager, SSRLM, underlined the roles and responsibilities of SHGs and shared tips on how the SHG could be upgraded for better livelihoods.

The chief guest, in his speech, commended Mangshila-Tibuk GPU for praiseworthy implementation of women's empowerment in the area and also congratulated all the SHGs of the Lower Jusing on now having a Ward Development Society.



## Govt B.Ed College hosts national conference on teacher education

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:

A two-day national conference on Teacher Education was organised by Government B.Ed. College on 27 and 28 July 2018 at the college, a press release informs.

Fifteen research papers were presented at the conference on the theme “Teacher Education: Prospects and Challenges” and presentations were also made on the different sub-themes of Teacher Education Curriculum, Emerging Pedagogical Practices, Professional Development of Teachers, Pre-Service and In-Service teacher Training and Innovative Teaching Practices by participants from Delhi and other educational institutes from the state.

Institute of Advanced Studies in Education and Jamia Millia Islamia from Delhi and District Institute of Education and Training; Sikkim University; Loyola College of Education, Namchi; Sikkim Government College, Geyzing; Sikkim Government College, Rhenock and Government B.Ed. College, Soreng, were represented at the conference.

The conference was inaugurated by DK Pradhan, Director, Higher Education, accompanied by Dr. Rabin Chhetri, Director -SCERT.

Sabita Subba, Principal, Sikkim Gov-

ernment B.Ed. College, in her welcome address, highlighted the importance of such conferences and seminars for teacher educators and shared that the college was hosting such a conference for the first time.

The Keynote Speaker for the seminar, Prof. Anita Rampal from the Department of Education, Delhi University, spoke on the importance of equity, knowledge and enrichment in the process of education.

She also stressed on the need for teacher educators to not only study about the policies, theories and curriculum but also critique them in their entirety. The session for the day was chaired by Dr Yodida Bhutia, Associate Professor, Department of Education, Sikkim University.

Sessions for Day 2 were chaired by Prof. Rampal and Dr. TJMS Raju, HoD Department of Education, Sikkim University.

This was followed by an interactive session between Prof. Rampal and students of the college.

The programme concluded with a valedictory session attended by the HRDD Minister, RB Subba, and Additional Chief Secretary, GP Upadhyay.

The conference was funded by RUSA Equity Initiative Fund with academic support from the State Council of Educational Research and Training.



## SAATHI community outreach prog at Sangkhola

### SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:

Sikkim Against Addiction Towards Healthy India (SAATHI), in association with STP Pharmaceuticals and Panchayat members of Beng Thgyong GPU, organized a Community Outreach Program at the Panchayat Bhawan, Sangkhola, on Saturday, 28 July. The objective of the program was to raise awareness among the local community about the harmful effects of substance abuse, a SAATHI press release informs.

The program was attended by Bisnu Maya Gadal (Zilla Panchayat, Byong Martam), Kusang Tamang (Panchayat President), other panchayat members and nearly 200 participants from the local community including members of the local SHG.

Panchayat member Sita Sharma welcomed the members and introduced the agenda of the day while Tempo Bhutia (SAATHI President) gave a brief introduction to SAATHI's activities, achievements and how it works to prevent children from falling into substance abuse.

He also highlighted that panchayats and local communities have very important roles in saving children and youth from

the menace of substance abuse.

The program had a special guest from Sikkim Police which was represented by SDPO-Rangpo, SR Shenga, who gave a detailed presentation on the legal aspects of substance abuse.

He requested everyone to remain vigilant against illegal activities in their respective areas and report it to the police and assured that their identities will be kept confidential if required.

He asserted that the tell-tale signs of drug use are obvious and yet go unnoticed if one is not constantly vigilant.

KC Nima from Freedom Facility, Gangtok, present as a resource person, spoke about how the habit develops from experimentation and leads to dependency. The community has a huge role in understanding how to make sure that users and dependents are not stigmatized but helped. He demonstrated overdose management procedures.

Students from Middle Camp Secondary School and Lower Sumin Secondary School presented a cultural performance and the program concluded with closing remarks by Dinesh C. Darnal (Panchayat Vice President).

## Protest by CCCT staff continues, authorities...

### contd from pg01

al staff and faculty proposed to be brought in as regular government employees recruited by SPSC, employees at CCCT are feeling short-changed because they continue to be under a trust and outside the purview of government employee pay-scales.

Further, CCCT faculty members will also be required to take classes at the SIST institution CCCT and SIST but not at par with the new employees in that they are still not government employees.

The continuing protest of the CCCT staff did not go down well with the HRD Minister RB Subba, who, in his address during the inauguration yesterday, expressed “deep dissatisfaction” over the protest during such a historic event.

He further said that a better approach could have been attempted to resolve their issues but protesting on such an occasion cannot be tolerated.

Speaker KN Rai, who was present

as the chief guest yesterday, also expressed “dissatisfaction” over the protest and commented that the protest was “disgraceful” and also “disrespectful” towards the students, the institution and the invited guests.

“Their protest shows that they are against the establishment of Sikkim Institute of Science and Technology or against the students of Sikkim,” he remarked.

Later, while speaking to this correspondent, Minister Subba and Additional CS GP Upadhyay, both agreed that the ongoing protest was “immature” and poorly timed.

Mr Upadhyay informed that State Government had not yet made a final decision on the CCCT staff and faculty members and their status. He added that the Department had not yet been approached about the issue.

He also informed that CCCT is governed by a social trust and it will be

easier for the trust to bring any aids and grants for the institution and pointed out that the institution was kept under a trust even though the State Government was looking after the institution.

“The protest is unethical and since they are employed by the trust, it will for the trust to take appropriate action,” he added.

Minister Subba agreed and added that the trust will call a meeting and discuss these issues and address them accordingly.

Should the pen-down strike continue and the faculty members refuse to take classes, salaries will be cut according and disciplinary action initiated, he added.

The protesting staff and faculty members of CCCT in turn informed that their protest was peaceful and not unethical or immature. They added that they were disappointed by the aggressive stance taken by the concerned authorities.

They stressed the we protesting in the hope that their insecurities will be addressed problems resolved, but the tone of the response was very unfortunate.

They added that they have been approaching the Department with these issues since the year 2009 and had even brought the matter to the attention of the Chief Minister.

“We had hoped that all hoped that the concerned authorities would meet us and suggest a suitable way forward, but they didn't come to us even when they visited the campus, following which we continued our protest. We are not against the establishment of SIST or the State government, in fact we have always advocated bringing an engineering section to the campus,” they said.

They also informed that they will continue with the pen-down strike till the government resolved their issues.



**SIKKIM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
FOOTBALL HOUSE  
GANGTOK**

**AIFF TO CONDUCT REFEREE  
CLINIC AT GANGTOK**

SFA plans to conduct a Referee's Clinic at Gangtok with the help of AIFF, Delhi sometime in the month of September 2018. The clinic will be conducted by the qualified instructor deputised by AIFF, Delhi. Hence, candidates desirous to attend the training are advised to contact any one of the following officials of SFA at given contact numbers before 20.08.2018. Applicants are advised to fill the form prepared for the purpose.

- 1) Mr. Phurba Sherpa (M) 94758-88839**
- 2) Mr. Arjun Rai (M) 94341-17465**
- 3) Mr. Tenzing Lachungpa (M) 98320-63722**

It is also notified that some of the existing referees under SFA panel are once again advised to register their name with LOC of SFA if they desire to continue referee carrier, failing which SFA will be compel to take disciplinary action and de-roaster them from SFA as well as AIFF panel. No further notice will be issued, which may please be noted.

**(MENLA ETENPA),  
PRESIDENT**



**Gangtok on  
Monday,  
30 July**

**Temp:** 26°C/17°C  
**Forecast:** Variable  
cloudiness; a couple  
of morning thun-  
dershowers, then a  
thundershower in  
parts of the area.  
**Sunrise:** 04:56 AM  
**Sunset:** 6:28 PM

## SFA mourns football enthusiast's passing away

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

Sikkim Football Association convened a meeting at Football House here this evening to mourn the passing away of Tshering Namgyal Denzongpa, veteran football enthusiast and a recognizable face of Gangtok. He popularly known as "Lucy Pala".

The meeting observed a 2-minute silence the memory of the departed soul, an SFA press release informs. The meeting was presided over by SFA president Menla Ethenpa.

"Mr Denzongpa breathed his last on 28 July at the age of 97 years. He was the most regular spectator of football matches, be it league or the Governor's Gold Cup. He had even bagged the most regular spectator award. SFA used to keep reserved seats for him all the time at Paljor Stadium. Till last year's Governor's Gold Cup, he was quite regular at Paljor Stadium," the SFA release informs.

The funeral is scheduled for Wednesday, 01 Aug, at 8 AM from his Development Area home.

## SIBLAC files FIR against advocate Goel and NB Khatiwada...

**contd from pg01**

"The ink which inserted Article 371F in the Indian Constitution has not yet dried and the effect is yet to sink into Sikkimese mind and heart. And it is deliberate and planned events like 25.06.2018 that unleash threat and intimidation to the BL community of Sikkim by people with vested interest including Manoj Goel and NB Khatiwada who deliberately wants to create tension and communal riots in our State," the press release contends

Such comments coming from someone [Mr Goel] who "doesn't know the history of Sikkim" were unacceptable as were statements attributed to Mr Khatiwada, who, as a former MLA of Sikkim.

"The same are punishable under the IPC as well as SC&ST [Prevention of Atrocities] Act," the release contends.

The FIR filed at the Sadar Police Station here also seeks that Mr Goel, Mr Khatiwada and others be processed under the relevant sections of the IPC and the SC&ST [Prevention of Atrocities] Act.

visit us at  
[www.summittimes.com](http://www.summittimes.com)

# Sunday Haat at Kisan Bazaar

**REBYNA RANA**

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

The SIMFED centre at Kisan Bazaar near Lall Bazaar is attracting vegetable vendors. SIMFED procures vegetables directly from farmers and brings them to the centre at Kisan Bazaar.

Last night, a pick-up full of leafy vegetables, bitter gourd, brinjals and other vegetables reached the Kisan Bazaar. The produce was picked up from farmers of Neya Mangzing in South District, it is informed.

Some of the farmers are also bringing in their produce directly to the Kisan Bazaar.

Phool Maya, 50, from Chujachen has been selling vegetables at Kisan Bazaar since the bazaar opened earlier this year. She shared that she brings in vegetables from



her village and sometimes also procures from the SIMFED wholesale outlet located at the Kisan Bazaar itself.

Mary Gurung of Lingtam-Padamchen has also maintained a stall

at Kisan Bazaar since its inception.

She informs that she sells vegetables procured from the SHGs of her village and that to add variety she also procures supplies from the SIM-

FED wholesale outlet.

Santosh Prasad, fruit vendor at Lall Bazaar, who visits the SIMFED outlet to procure organic bananas, said that the quality and variety of bananas sold by SIMFED

was good.

SIMFED inspector Tshering Tamang and his team arrived at the SIMFED centre at Kisan Bazaar at 6 a.m. this morning to take stock of the vegetables.

## Nirmal's FC Melli debuts at hometown I-Day tournament

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

India international and Nehru Cup 2012 winner, Nirmal Chettri, has kicked off his home-town club, FC Melli, with a bang.

The Nirmal Chettri-led FC Melli won its debut match 05-01 in the opening game of the Independence Day football tournament at Melli Bazaar ground, South Sikkim, yesterday.

Nirmal had roped in fellow ISL and I-League footballers Sanju Pradhan, Bikash Jairu, Uttam Rai and Nim Tshering Lepcha for the first-ever match of his club. The remaining players were local footballers from Melli constituency.

The sight of star footballers of Sikkim and the country playing before them in a competitive match energized the local crowd.

Sanju, Bikash and Uttam did not disappoint the large gathering and scored a goal each. The other two goals were scored by Sandeep Subba and Prabhat Gautam.



Speaking to media-persons later, Nirmal shared that he had started FC Melli last year but could not make much progress as the Melli bazaar ground was under construction.

"This year, the Independence Day football tournament was making a comeback at Melli after a gap of some years and we thought of debuting FC Melli with this tournament before the local spectators. It was a wonderful start and the crowd was excited to see us play," said Nirmal.

FC Melli will play its next game on 04 August. Nirmal informed that Sanju and Bikash will be featuring in the next game as well while Uttam would not be available as he has to report for his club in Goa.

"I took the initiative of forming FC Melli as I want to give back to my home town and society. I grew up playing football here. The club is for promotion and development of local players and will not be limited to playing Independence Cup tournaments only.

We are planning to play S-League C Division next year. The ground will be completed by this year end and I will arrange a residential training programme for local talents with coaches from outside," Nirmal shares.

Nirmal added that FC Melli will pick most of its players from Melli constituency and the remaining from the rest of Sikkim and neighbouring Darjeeling hills.

The logo of FC Melli also features Melli town, the landmark Melli bridge and Tarey Bhir.



## Deepesh to represent Sikkim 5th National Pickleball Tournament

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

Deepesh Chettri of Temi Tarku will be representing Sikkim at the 5th National Pickleball Tournament scheduled to be held in Bangalore from 03 to 05 August 2018. This will be the third time he will be participating in a national Pickleball tournaments.

He is being assisted by Sikkim Pickleball Association president Sony Virdi, vice president Ugyen T. Lepcha, general secretary Hemant Panday and Coach Sangay T Lepcha.

Deepesh is a student at Namchi Senior Secondary School and has been a Pickleball player for five years now and has won several medals at state and national-level tournaments.



## DIKCHU SSS ORGANIZES BLOOD DONATION CAMP

**MANGAN, 29 JUL:** The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of Government Senior Secondary School, Dikchu, organised a blood donation camp yesterday in collaboration with Sikkim State Blood Transfusion Council, STNM Hospital, led by Dr CM Sharma. More than 60 units of blood were donated by students, youth and employees of Sneha Kinetic Power Project Ltd. The NSS volunteers were led by Programme Coordinator, Arjun Pradhan.



## New Generation Contractor Co-operative Society convenes first meeting of the year

**YOGEN THATAL**

**SINGTAM, 28 JUL:**

New Generation Contractor Co-operative Society convened its first general meeting of the year here at the Singtam Nagar Panchayat community hall today.

Tshering Lepcha, president, New Generation Contractor Cooperative Society, Tinku Adhikari, president Singtam Motors Transport Driver Workers Association, Dorjee Lepcha, GS, Bhanu Lepcha, advisor, along with all executives and members attend the meeting.

The meeting was an open interaction with the members of the association and discussed various issues ranging from substance abuse to disciplines to fares, membership renewals, up-

date and verification of documents and most of all, the present benefits extended to drivers from the state and central government in the event of an accident.

Since parking in Singtam bazaar, particularly for taxis, remains a concern, it was informed that after 15 August, this matter will be addressed by the Transport Department.

It was also pointed out that taxi fares have not been revised for the last three years and that this issue will also be taken up with the concerned department.

Addressing the problem of antisocial activities, the meeting resolved any member involved in such activities will have his membership suspended and if required, even cancelled.

## Creative Illusion Dexterity Studio turns 2

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:** The second foundation day of Creative Illusion Dexterity Studio, a Ranipool-based dance studio, was celebrated here today. Singer Jiwan Sharma was present as the chief guest accompanied by journalist Yougan Tamang as the guest of honour. The institute was jointly found-

ed by Shristi Pariyar and Sangeet Pariyar.

The program also had Swati Sachdeva, Lecturer, Sikkim University, entrepreneur Smita Rai and social worker Rajni Khati as special guests.

Sikkim's dancing icon Mingma D Lepcha was also present with a special

**turn to pg05**

## BJP joinings

**GANGTOK, 29 JUL:** A joining programme of the Bharatiya Janata Party Sikkim Pradesh was held here at the party office at Golitar in Singtam, East Sikkim on Sunday. The programme was chaired by the

BJP-Sikkim president, DB Chauhan, and attended by leaders and workers of the state-unit of the party.

A BJP press release informs that former panchayat, Dilliram Khatiwada from West Pendam, and former cop, Hemlall Sharma, and their supporters officially joined BJP during the meeting.

The release further informs that a group of youth from Zoom-Salghari constituency also joined the party. The release adds that Mr Chauhan mentioned that members from different political parties and retired employees have been joining BJP in increasing numbers.

the Great monsoon Offer

Scratch & Win 2 Assured Gifts

Prize: Trip to Paris (2 people)

ARITTO ₹49,100\* CELERIO ₹50,100\* WAGONR ₹60,100

BUY NEW MARUTI SUZUKI CAR AND GET EXCHANGE BONUS - ON OLD MARUTI VEHICLE

ENTEL MOTORS (P) LTD. GANGTOK | JORETHANG | MANGAN

JUST DIAL: 9933009930 / 9933009943 9933009926 / 9933009924



## DAUGHTER IS PRECIOUS, PROTECT HER FUTURE WITH H.P.V VACCINE

**Age Group** : 9 to 14 Years.  
**Date** : 30th July to 14th August 2018.  
**Venue** : All Government and Public Schools, STNM Hospital (UPHC), District Hospitals, Primary Health Centre.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE, HUMAN SERVICES  
& FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF SIKKIM**



## Social Service Scenario

**At nearly two thousand NGOs, much more could have been achieved**

The Sikkim Regulation of Societies, Associations and Other Voluntary Organizations Act was promulgated in 2008. Given the casual disinterest with which governments tend to follow-up policy commitments recorded in Bills and Acts which they tend to forget notifying so that they become rules and laws, it is any body's guess whether this regulation has moved beyond a legislated Act and become a rule in practice. Be that as it may, a year after this Act was promulgated, the Legislative Assembly was informed that as per data available with the concerned department, there were 1,843 registered NGOs in Sikkim! The number had stumped the powers that be as well and the House was informed that the NGOs will be directed to submit their books of accounts details of activities. The idea was clearly to verify whether these were actually NGOs working on ground or just registered bodies which stay in hibernation until the whiff of funds arrives and they begin issuing press releases to dispel any notions that they have been dormant. It is unlikely that anything substantive came out of that proposed activity either because NGOs of the dormant kind are invariably linked to those with ears in the corridors of power which pick up the faintest rustle of funds being processed and get rejuvenated accordingly. Of course, there are also several which started with good intentions, but lacked the staying power. This condition is not unique to Sikkim, and when it comes to NGOs there is also the oddity of "project developers" operating their own NGOs to spend their CSR commitments.

Returning to numbers. With 1,843 registered NGOs, and this number could have grown in the past decade, Sikkim is arguably among the best serviced states in the world when it comes to the density of organisations engaged in 'social service'. Put the numbers in perspective and one stares at a number that projects one NGO per 344 people in the State! Just to drive the point home, every set of 344 people in Sikkim, has an NGO dedicated to its welfare!! An NGO, by general understanding, is a citizens' organisation. Because only conscious citizens join hands to engage in socially-productive and not-for-profit initiatives, NGOs are expected to be civil society collectives. By definition, an NGO is a Non-Governmental Organisation. When the concept began, they were genuinely NGOs in composition and conduct, in that they neither sought government representation, nor pursued government funding. Over time, the Government realised the effectiveness of these bodies in getting things done at the grassroots level and sought their assistance and used their commitment to engage beneficiaries of State assistance, initiative and doles. It has been downhill ever since.

Now, in Sikkim as elsewhere in the country, too many NGOs are launched when new schemes and funds are sniffed. At times, the departments reflect the insider trading that one sees in stock markets, only in this case, NGOs are launched by sections close to hands that move files. These sections get wind of funds arriving earmarked for specific NGO-managed programmes and a new non governmental organisation gets born or some other gets revived. Then there are groups which start earnest, but soon lose direction. There are also some NGOs that actually work hard, but only as programme implementers of 'projects' that have state sponsorship, not as organisations that identify people's crises and then work without profit to resolve the situations. NGOs that are genuinely civil-society manifestations are the rarest. Look around, how many of the nearly two thousand NGOs registered in Sikkim do you think are open, competent, effective, earnest and durable? Now, imagine the social engagement that could have happened if enough of these too many had all these attributes...

## WRITE US:

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

Mail us at: **letters@summittimes.com**

## Opinion

# Greek fires: the predatory political economy behind a recurring human disaster

IOANNIS GLINAVOS  
*theconversation.com*

After wildfires struck coastal resorts and suburbs around Athens, the images of the destruction show the trail of devastation and death left behind. The world is understandably shocked. But fires – albeit smaller ones and with fewer deaths than on this occasion – are quite regular and seen as an unpleasant yet predictable summer occurrence in Greece.

These fires have generally been treated with resignation, and ultimately one has now led to huge disaster. The following offers a glimpse into a very Greek tragedy.

Greece, despite being a European Union member state and a developed economy, exhibits many of the institutional deficiencies and cultural traits found in less developed nations. A large, centrally-controlled state can be a source of secure employment (as in Greece), yet is often grossly inefficient.

State power, wrongly exercised, can inhibit legitimate business, and its regulatory functions have little effect in societies where illegality and a shadow economy are prevalent. Look at post-communist countries that suffer from a legacy of a large yet weak state. Greece may never have been part of the Soviet bloc, but successive weak governments, coping badly with the country's underdevelopment, have created a series of distortions that are unseen in Western Europe, but common in the East.

Does Greece's problematic historical development contribute to this particular type of disaster? The short answer is yes, it does. The explanation for how areas of Greece burst into flame each year is not simply a question of poor ecological management, building standards, fire prevention and fire-fighting capabilities. This explanation rests with the law and its enforcement.



### BURN, THEN BUILD?

In Greece, there is a lot of unused land classed as agricultural or forest. Greece has a complex, antiquated and incomplete legal land title system, where efforts to create a land registry (or cadastre) have been ongoing since the early 2000s and are still not even close to completion. Add in the pervasive corruption of land registry offices, forestry commissions and relevant state administration, and what you get is an opportunity for real estate development.

In Western Europe, it is generally not possible to build without first obtaining appropriate permits. Those who try to do so without permission are frequently discovered, stopped, fined, and even forced to alter or demolish what they've built. The severe legal and financial implications of building illegally makes this only a very limited problem.

In Greece, however, you could clear up a bit of brushland or cut down a section of forest, put down the foundation for a building, connect utilities by bribing local officials, and then wait for the amnesty for illegal buildings that tends to come around periodical-

ly, usually close to a general election. The latest legalisation effort has been lauded as a revenue raising exercise, regardless of consequences in other areas such as – coincidentally – ecological management and fire security. And so enterprising sorts take advantage of fire to the forest, removing the barrier so that they can build homes, without care for regulations, in inaccessible areas, on land they often do not own. The forest burns, people die, developers build, and votes are won.

On what grounds could the political class justify turning a blind eye to such illegality? The usual excuses are that illegal builds are family homes constructed by the poor living on the city fringes – the unavoidable consequence of antiquated zoning laws, and so the fault of the state (of previous governments, naturally). An amnesty, the argument goes, legalises existing situations that the state has tolerated for years, that it would be inequitable not to recognise. Never mind that many of these builds aren't favelas, but villas with pools.

We do not know, yet, whether this new fire is the result of arson or accidental. But we do know that it fits

a pattern, one that needs to be recognised and broken. In 2007, fires hit the Peloponnese, for example, claimed a high death toll, and led to a manhunt for alleged arsonists.

Whatever the spark, the source of Greece's terrible tragedy, and many others like it, isn't an act of God. It is a result of a dishonest political class shopping for votes, of builders making a living, of hands getting greased. It is institutionalised tragedy, one that binds a predatory state to an accomplice population.

This is not to belittle the tragedy of lost lives, or blame the victims for their deaths. But if Greeks are looking for someone to blame they shouldn't look to incomplete fire prevention measures, faulty equipment, sluggish responses, or even (as is commonly claimed by the media and the government) wreckers or foreign spies. They should look in the mirror. The Greek state has tolerated, condoned and rewarded the illegality that makes these disasters recurring. Greek society has watched with disinterest. It is time this stopped.

**[the writer is Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Westminster]**

# Let the light shine on super-fast wireless connections

THAS AMPALAVANAPILLAI NIRMALATHAS,  
CHRISTINA LIM & ELAINE WONG  
*theconversation.com*

We live in a world of wireless communications, from the early days of radio to new digital television, Wi-Fi and the latest 4G (soon to be 5G) connected smart devices.

But there are limits to this wireless world. With the prediction of 12 billion mobile-connected devices by 2021 and a projected sevenfold increase in wireless traffic, the search is on for any new method of wireless connectivity.

One solution could be right before our very eyes, if only we could see it.

### CURRENT WIRELESS CONNECTIONS

All wireless applications – such as mobile communications, Wi-Fi, broadcasting, and sensing – rely on some form of electromagnetic radiation.

The difference between these applications is simply the frequency of the signal (the carrier frequency) used in the electromagnetic radiation.

For example, current mobile phones sold as 3G and 4G operate in the lower microwave frequency bands (850MHz, 1.8GHz, 2-2.5GHz). A wireless local area network such as Wi-Fi operates in the 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands, whereas digital terrestrial television operates at 600-620MHz.

The spectrum of electromagnetic radiation covers a very broad range of frequencies and some of these are selected for specific applications.

These frequency regions are highly contested and valuable resources for wireless applications.

### RUNNING OUT OF SPECTRUM

Our current spectrum use in the lower microwave region will soon be heavily congested, even exhausted. It would be difficult to squeeze any more spare spectrum for any wireless application.

To carry an information content on to one of these frequencies, the frequency bands need sufficient bandwidth – the amount of information that can be transmitted – to meet future requirements. At the lower end of the spectrum, there are insufficient bandwidths to meet speeds exceeding gigabits per second.

At the higher end of the spectrum, ionising ra-

diation such as x-rays and gamma rays cannot be used because of safety issues.

Despite current 4G wireless standard promising more shared capacity (1Gb/s), the projected demand and traffic volume already pushes the existing infrastructure to its ultimate limit. The future promise of 5G communication only adds to the problem.

A major rethink of the current wireless technologies is needed to meet these challenging requirements.

### LET THERE BE LIGHT!

The wireless transmission of optical signals has emerged as a viable option. It offers advantages not possible with current wireless technologies.

Optical wireless promises greater speed, higher throughput, and potentially lower energy consumption. Leveraging on existing optical wired infrastructures (namely optical fibre cables and networks), optical wireless connectivity can provide a seamless high capacity to end-users.

An example would be using optical wireless connectivity inside buildings to complement fibre-to-the-home deployments.

Optical wireless networks would be immune to electromagnetic interference and so could be deployed in radio frequency (RF) sensitive environments. You've probably seen those warning signs asking you not to use your mobile phone in hospitals, aircraft and other areas where equipment is sensitive to interference.

Optical wireless communications can be divided into visible light and infrared systems.

### AND LET THERE BE SIGHT

A common issue with both is that devices need to be in the line of sight, as any physical obstruction can result in the loss of transmission. You may have experienced this issue when attempting to change a channel on TV if someone or something gets in the way of your remote.

Visible light communication (VLC) relies on LEDs that are also used for lighting. For example, by flashing LED lights located in the ceiling of a room at a rate much higher than can be discerned by the human eye, information can be conveyed to detectors around the room.

The major limitation of VLC is the limited bandwidth of commercially available white LED (~100 of MHz) that limits the transmission speeds.

Infrared communication systems have ample bandwidth with the potential of transmission tens of Gb/s per user. Despite the major advantage over VLC, the need for line-of-sight has seen this technology under-developed. Until now.

To overcome this we have demonstrated an infrared-based optical wireless communication link that can support a user on the move. By using a pair of access points with some spatial separation, any blockage of beams can be easily overcome as users hop from beam to beam freely.

Optical wireless systems can be built to make sure there is a secure wireless transmission. Using efficient wireless protocols it's possible to transmit data without any delay and to allow users to move within a building while enjoying high speed wireless coverage.

### OPTICAL WIRELESS IN ACTION

We will in future be using a range of devices, such as virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) devices, that all require superfast wireless connections.

For example, these new user interfaces are poised to make a big difference to the way museums and galleries will operate in the future. Currently, most of these platforms are linked via wired connections. But wireless interfaces will make them more easy to be used in applications.

The uptake of optical wireless as a viable communications technology can also drive further possibilities of using low-cost optical wireless transceivers to substitute expensive optical fibre rollout in rural and regional broadband contexts.

The integrated transceivers for infrared optical wireless communications are still under development and more effort is needed to speed up such integration efforts. But the researcher teams here and abroad are trying to make advances in the way such systems can be used in realistic scenarios.

**[Thas Ampalavanapillai Nirmalathas is Director - Networked Society Institute and Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Melbourne; Christina Lim is Professor, University of Melbourne; Elaine Wong is Associate Dean, Diversity and Inclusion, University of Melbourne]**





Union minister urges farmers to engage in organic farming

**SHILLONG, JUL 29 (PTI):** Union Minister Radha Mohan Singh today visited an organic farm at Lawsohtun area of the city and assured all possible help to the farmers.

The minister, who was here on a two-day visit, interacted with members of around 20 families who practice organic farming here and encouraged them to expand their activities in other parts of the state.

The Union agriculture minister also asked the state government officials to extend possible assistance to farmers in this regard and promised to support the promotion of organic farming in the state.

Last evening, Singh reviewed the activities of the departments of agriculture, animal husbandry and allied sectors at Raj Bhawan here.

He instructed the department officials to ensure that schemes meant for the welfare of the farmers are delivered to them on time.

Mani Trust takes plantation drive to Namchi Public School

**SUMMIT REPORT KALIMPONG, 29 JUL:**

The Mani Trust of Kalimpong, in association with Namchi Public School, today organized a plantation drive at Namchi Public School.

Mani Trust, which had organized a month-long environmental awareness and community-based program from 05 June to 04 July, had approached NPS and the school invited the Trust for the plantation program today.

Trustee Arvind Pradhan and field officer Sisir Sharma and office staff Bikash Yogi arrived at Namchi Public School with 300 saplings today.

NSS students from classes XI and XII of the school were taken through a power-point presentation by Mr Sharma highlighting the benefits of tree plantation.

The NPS NSS program co-ordinator Triranta Moktan and



teachers Adrian William along with the trust members assisted the plantation program around the school area.

Students took active part in the drive despite the rain.

“We have planted around 15,000 saplings in five districts of North Bengal and Sikkim,” Mr Pradhan informed.

Meanwhile, the NPS Principal, George D’Souza,

welcomed the initiative of Mani Trust and remarked that it helped students understand the virtue of planting trees and learn about the scale of environmental degradation.

Creative Illusion Dexterity Studio...

**contd from pg03**

cial performance.

Highlighting the need to promote music and dance along with various other forms of the arts, singer Jiwan Sharma congratulated the institution on successful completion of two years.

Parents unanimously



thanked the organisers for inspiring their kids to pursue creative arts se-

riously and making their kids perform.

Guwahati-based IT firm digitized data of 3 cr people for NRC

**GUWAHATI, JUL 29 (PTI):**

The task of creating a digitised database of over three crore people -the backbone for the much-awaited National Register of Citizens (NRC) - was no mean feat, but a Guwahati-based IT company has accomplished the mission in stipulated time with its software solutions.

Assam is the first Indian state where the NRC is being updated after 1951 with March 24, 1971 as the cut-off date to include the names of genuine Indian citizens.

The first draft of the ongoing NRC process was released on the mid-night of December 31, 2017 and it comprised 1.9 crore names out of the total application of 3.29 crore.

The final draft is scheduled for release tomorrow.

An exercise of this magnitude for identifying the genuine Indian citizens in Assam, under the supervision of the Supreme Court, was a mammoth task, said Abhijit Bhuyan, the managing director (MD) of IT firm Bohniman Systems.

“The challenges were daunting with myriad problems along the way during the last three-and-a-half years, beginning from September 2014, but we managed to create the database, which formed the basis of NRC,” Bhuyan told PTI.

Over three crore (30 million) people, almost 95 per cent population of Assam, used “legacy data” while applying for the current NRC, he said.

The legacy data are a combination of the 1951 NRC and electoral rolls of Assam from 1951 till March 24, 1971

“Each of these data sets was given a unique code. These unique legacy data code has also become the base for family



tree, as it accounted for three crore people and almost 65 lakh families,” she explained.

The NRC Seva Kendras (NSKs) delivered 75 lakh Legacy Data Code (LDC) while 69 lakh LDCs were delivered online, he said.

“The need to create a searchable legacy database was first felt during the pilot NRC process in 2010. The entire process was, however, derailed due to non-availability of legacy data in a comprehensible format,” he said.

After the NRC authorities, who had called for tenders, accorded the work of digitization to Bohniman systems, the IT team set out to work with great zeal, Bhuyan said.

“The professionals, however, faced the initial challenge of collecting legacy data of 1951 NRC (handwritten) and electoral role (printed and handwritten) between 1951 NRC and March 24, 1971, which were in the lockers of the offices of deputy commissioner and district superintendent,” he said.

In 1951, there were only eight districts in Assam, which increased to 27 by 2014. At present there are 33 districts.

People have migrated over the years and it would have been very difficult for them to go search for certified copies of their legacy data in their places of origin, the MD stated.

“Even if people knew

their origin, mapping the original eight districts to the current day 27 or 33 districts would not have been possible. The Bohniman systems team had to create multiple filtering options for zone-wise search and all legacy data were mapped with the present districts,” he said.

The second challenge was to translate the legacy data from Assamese and Bengali to English.

“We developed a software to transliterate these Assamese and Bengali data to English. The entire database was then made available in all three languages,” Bhuyan said.

The third challenge was that most of the people were not sure about the spellings of their forefathers’ names.

“A phonetic-based search engine was designed by us to search these legacy records that will display all similar sounding names. Also, additional mechanisms were designed to search with the name of villages or neighbours,” he added.

Another major issue was that most of the legacy documents were in fragile condition and flat scanning was not possible under any circumstances.

“We had to use photo scanners for these records. Each and every image was linked with the data through special tools developed by us,” he added.

After the legacy data phase was over, next came the challenge of digitization of applicant’s data submitted in physical form at NSKs.

“Every NSK had two operators, which meant 5000 operators in 2500 NSKs with two laptops and these people were experienced in computers. The original idea was to digitize the data centrally but we developed an application which was easy to install,” he said.

The final step was to develop the ‘Family Tree Application’ to map the manual inputs of 65 lakh families with the computerized data, Bhuyan added.

Parallely, 6.5 crore documents submitted by the applicants were also handled by an app developed by Wipro by creating a metadata and sending it to the place of origin for verification.

“The results that returned were entered into the system and the final family tree information was merged with field verification results. The authorities took the decision for each applicant based on these results,” he pointed out.

In addition, Bohniman Systems also digitised the 27,000 village boundaries of Assam and plotted all data in layers for monitoring the project in a graphical view, together with an integrated view on Google maps, Bhuyan added.



Water ATM launched at Kohima College

**KOHIMA, JUL 29 (PTI):** A Water ATM was launched at the Kohima College here by the Nagaland Minister for Higher and Technical Education, Temjen Imna Along.

Along said installation of the Water ATM in the college would not only serve the college and school students attached with the college

but would also benefit the local residents within the locality to use the water at a minimal cost.

Along inaugurated the Water ATM yesterday.

The Water ATM will dispense 0.3 litre of water after one pays rupee 1, it will dispense one litre after one pays rupees two and five litres of rupees five.



Career guidance prog held at Mamring School

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

A career guidance programme for students of classes X and XII at Amba Secondary School and Mamring Senior Secondary School was organized by Amba Taza Zilla Panchayat Subadra Dangal in collaboration with Wandering Souls of Sikkim (WSOS), a webzine &

youth forum, at Mamring Sr. Sec. School, East Sikkim, on 28 July, a press release informs.

Career Counselor Karishma Sharma, Sikkim University Assistant Professor Binod Bhatara, Sikkim Youth Federation (SYF) president Khagendra Rai and SYF general secretary Marmit Lepcha interacted with

the participating students and informed them about the various career prospects available to them and urged them to aim to do well in life.

The event, coordinated by WSOS co-founder Pranay Khatiwara, was attended, amongst others by the Amba Taza Zilla Panchayat Ms Dangal, Mamring School Prin-

cipal Prahlad Sharma, Gram Panchayats, SMC members & teachers.

“We, at Wandering Souls of Sikkim, would like to express our gratitude to the Zilla Panchayat, Mamring and Amba School families, resource persons, participating students and all others for supporting us in organizing this event,” WSOS has conveyed.

3-day celebration announced for Indrajatra

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

Indra Jatra, the biggest festival for the Newar community, will be celebrated with a three day programme on a grand scale in Gangtok from 21 to 23 September, a high level co-ordination meeting resolved yesterday.

The meeting had MLAs Bikram Pradhan and Shyam Pradhan, Chairperson, Social Welfare Board Indra Prad-

han, Film Board Chairperson Uttam Pradhan, executive members of Sikkim Newar Guthi and all members of the Indra Jatra Celebration Committee 2018 in attendance along with youth in large numbers.

On the first two days - 21 and 22 September - various stalls of Newari food and achar, cultural and traditional displays, handicraft and handloom, photography and

painting exhibitions will be put up at at MG Marg, Gangtok.

The event will revolve on the theme, “Conserve water,” given that Indra Jatra is the worship of Lord Indra, the God of the heavens, lightning, thunderstorms and rains.

The evenings at MG Marg will feature Newari dance competitions and Open Talent hunt shows. Cultural programs will also be organized

with presentation of Laakhey dance along with Dhimey and Daa (traditional Newari musical instruments) performances etc.

The final day will begin with worship of Lord Indra followed by a chariot procession of the Kumari.

Large numbers of Newars from all over the State and outside are expected to gather for this event.

Sikkim Himalayan collects first points in S-League

**SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 29 JUL:**

Sikkim Himalayan Sporting Club broke its jinx of losses in the Sikkim Football Association Premier Division Sikkim-League 2018 when it registered its first victory of the league edging past Unicorn FC 04-03. SHSC had lost both its previous matches and collected its first three points today.

Unicorn FC, however, despite consistently promising performances, is yet to notch its first victory.

It started well for them though

when Suman scored for Unicorn FC in the 7th minute. But the team failed to maintain the lead for too long and Jasman Gurung scored the equaliser for Sikkim Himalayan SC in the 13th minute.

Within three minutes of this goal, Nikesh Gurung doubled the lead of Sikkim Himalayan SC in the 16th minute and his teammate Sudesh Subba further extended it in the 37th minute to end the first half with SHSC 3-1 ahead.

Unicorn FC players toiled hard to bounce back in the match and a

goal by Subham in the 62nd minute gave them some hope and soon his teammate, Sonam Lepcha, scored the equaliser in the 79th minute.

Both teams again took each other head-to-head but remained unable to breach each other’s defence lines and the match appeared headed for a contesting draw until Nima Sherpa scored the winning goal for Sikkim Himalayan SC in the 89th minute.

On Monday, Sikkim Aakraman Football Club will take on the State Sports Academy in the next match of the league.



# Buttler wants to draw inspiration from Kohli and use IPL experience in Test series

**LONDON, JUL 29 (PTI):** England wicketkeeper-batsman Jos Buttler is hoping to draw inspiration from Virat Kohli and use the Indian Premier League experience to earn his maiden Test ton during the five-Test series against India starting on Wednesday.

"Someone like Virat Kohli is an immensely talented guy but also watching him go about it you see that mentality of getting to the top. They seem to make the right decision a lot of the time. That is a skill," he told reporters at The Oval.

"The hunger to do it day in day out...that hunger really shines through in those top players."

Buttler played for the Rajasthan Royals during this year's IPL scoring 548 runs at an average of 54.80 with the help of five half centuries including two unbeaten 90s.

"The biggest thing I have learnt from the IPL is that it's obvious what the best players do and why they are the best players and standouts," said Buttler.

"They just have a different



mentality, a winning mentality in every game and the consistency to do that. I feel like I have learnt a hell of a lot from watching guys train and go about their practice, ways they react to certain pressure moments in a game as well," he added.

Riding on his imperious form at the IPL, Buttler made a successful return to Test cricket, scoring back-to-back fifties, during the recent 1-1 drawn home campaign with Pakistan.

Buttler's highest Test score is 85 that he made on debut against India four years ago and he would look to reach his maiden three-digit figure in this series which begins with the first

Test at Edgbaston on Wednesday.

"It is the ultimate aim, I would love to achieve that feat," the 27-year-old said.

"I have good memories against India but it is about reinforcing the enjoyment factor and the incredible opportunity to play Test cricket.

"For those two games against Pakistan, I was not sure how it would go but I approached them in a great manner and it is important for me to do that going into this series."

Ahead of the tour, Kohli, who had captained Moeen Ali and Chris Woakes at Royal Challengers Bangalore, said that the rela-

tions between the teams improved due to IPL.

But Buttler believes all friendships will be "forgotten" on the field during the series.

"There are a few guys I have played with. Naturally you have friendships with them but on the field they seem to be forgotten and everyone is competitive,"

"There is a lot more familiarity between the sides than there ever has been before. Not on the pitch but maybe on the training days and around the lunch room. Moeen played with Virat at RCB and [Yuzvendra] Chahal. I have played with Hardik Pandya at Mumbai so you are open to having a chat.

"I am sure there will be moments in the Test series, especially on the field, when those things look like they have been forgotten. It will be highly competitive."

Buttler feels a Test series against India is almost as important as the Ashes.

"Absolutely, it is a huge series. India are a fantastic team, in all conditions as well now. Australia is a huge series for England, but in this day and age India are not far behind," he said.



## Baker breaks 100m back-stroke world record

**IRVINE (US), JUL 29 (AFP):** Kathleen Baker set a world record of 58.00sec to win the 100m backstroke at the US swimming championships.

Baker, silver medalist in the event at the 2016 Rio Olympics, improved on the world record of 58.10 set by Canadian Kylie Masse at the World

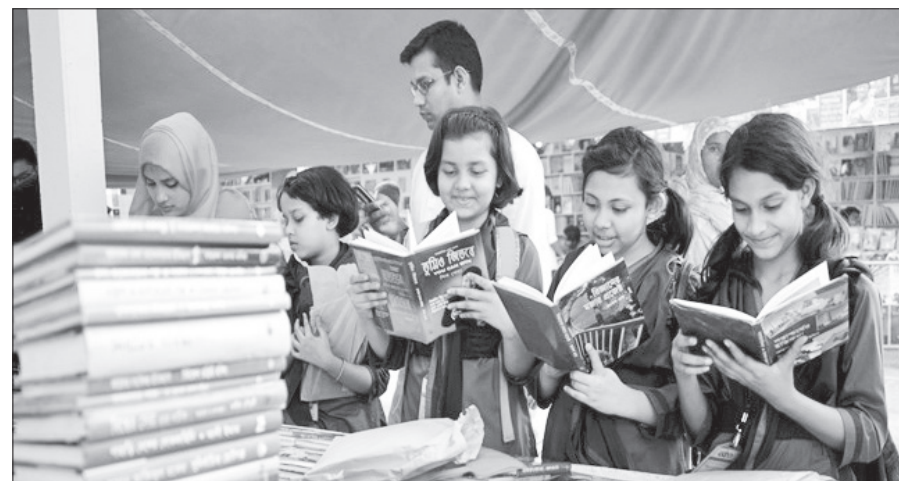
Championships in Budapest on July 25 of last year.

Baker, who tied for first with Regan Smith in the 200m backstroke this week, clocked a blistering 27.90sec over the first 50m and held on for the victory.

She notched the first world record of the championships, the

selection meeting for next month's Pan Pacific Championships in Tokyo. The two meets together are the qualifiers for the World Championships in South Korea next year.

The top three finishers all broke 59 seconds, with Olivia Smoliga second in 58.75 and Smith third in 58.83.



## MoU signed to publish translations of Indian literary works

**NEW DELHI, JUL 29 (PTI):** In an attempt to bring out translations of Indian literary works, publishing house Speaking Tiger has signed an MoU with JSW Group and Indian Novels Collective.

The MoU aims at building a larger community of readers through readings, conversations and online promotions, a statement said.

According to the agreement, Indian Novels Collective will undertake a shortlisting process to identify literature works in various regional languages to be taken up for preservation and promotion.

Based on the shortlist, the three parties to this agreement will mutually finalise titles for translation, design and marketing.

Ravi Singh of Speaking Tiger said the initiative would help expand the reach of vast Indian literature to a larger audience.

"India has a vast treasure of books that tell unforgettable stories, but only a few of these are being read outside the languages in which they were written.

"As publishers nothing excites us more than bringing great literature to newer readers," Singh said.

The first four shortlisted books to

be translated in English include classics like "Karmelin" by Damodar Mauzo (Konkani), "Padma Nadir Manji" by Manik Bandyopadhyay (Bengali), "Ranangan" by Vishram Bedekar (Marathi) and Qurratulain Hyder's Urdu works.

For Sangita Jindal, Chairperson of JSW Foundation, the agreement is a step forward towards conserving India's rich cultural and literary heritage.

"Our effort is to create a platform to bring regional literature into the cultural mainstream of the country. Through our collective efforts we will be able to bring classics of non-English Indian literature to English readers across the world," she said.

The collaboration, according to Ashwani Kumar of Indian Novels Collective, will also help bridge the gap between English readers and India's regional literature classics.

Under the partnership, 10 regional literary masterpieces will be identified by Indian Novels Collective for translation, which will then be published, marketed and distributed by Speaking Tiger across the country.

The format and series design for all shortlisted titles will be uniform and decided mutually by the parties to this MoU, the statement said.



## Olympic champ Biles victorious in return to gymnastics competition

**LOS ANGELES, JUL 29 (AFP):** Olympic gymnastics champion Simone Biles made a triumphant, if imperfect, return to competition, winning the senior all-around crown at the US Classic in Columbus, Ohio.

Biles, who tied an Olympic record with five medals, four of them gold, at the Rio Games, hadn't competed since 2016 and she showed some signs of nerves with a fall and a few uncharacteristic wobbles.

Nevertheless, Biles took the senior all-around title with a total of 58.700 points.

Riley McCusker of Brielle, New Jersey, tallied 57.500 for second, with 2017 World all-around cham-

pion Morgan Hurd rounding out the top three at 56.350.

Biles won two of the four event titles: balance beam and floor exercise as she qualified for the US championships next month with the World Championships coming up in October.

"I feel pretty good with where I'm at in this time of the year, and even from Rio I feel like I've improved," said Biles, who is already looking ahead toward the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

"I'm pretty proud of myself at this point.

# Anti-trafficking bill victim-centric; law will break backbone of this crime: Satyarthi

**KUNAL DUTT**

**NEW DELHI, JUL 29 (PTI):** The anti-trafficking bill is "comprehensive and victim-centric" and once the legislation comes into force, it will "break the backbone" of this organised crime, Nobel laureate and child rights activist Kailash Satyarthi has said.

The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018, saw a smooth passage in the Lok Sabha earlier this week and currently awaits the nod of the Rajya Sabha.

"I think it was a historic day for India when the bill was passed in Lok Sabha. The bill deals with not only prevention and rescue of trafficked persons but also their rehabilitation. Earlier, the victims would be just rescued, and so the

rehabilitation aspect makes the bill very important," he said.

Known for his extensive work in curbing of child labour in the country, the noted activist described trafficking as a "form of slavery", prevalent even at a time when the country is changing fast.

"The bill is quite clear, comprehensive and victim-centric. The country needs such legislations to banish the scourge of this organised crime, where there are many levels of perpetrators.

"Once it comes into force, the legislation, will break the backbone of this nefarious organised crime," Satyarthi told PTI in an interview.

The bill provides for confidentiality of victims, witnesses and complainants and time-



bound trials and repatriation of the victims.

It also proposes to create institutional mechanisms at the dis-

trict, state and central levels. The bill calls for punishment ranging from 10 years of rigorous imprisonment to life term and a fine of

not less than Rs 1 lakh.

"If anything more is needed in the legislation, it can be brought in later through the rules... The bill also proposes National Anti-Trafficking Bureau and similar bodies at state and district levels, seeking to nip the crime in the bud.

"The bill is very stringent about minors being forced into flesh trade and in case the woman is an adult and claims that she voluntarily entered the profession of a sex worker, she will be counselled and cross-examined to check if she was coerced into lying about her forced prostitution," Satyarthi said.

Asked about the stigma such victims face in society, the 64-year-old activist suggested that faith leaders of all religions must speak

out publicly and often, and they should say 'these are our daughters and children', so that they do not face ostracisation.

"Officially, (West) Bengal is the high on the list when it comes to trafficking-prone states, then northeastern states, especially Assam, and Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Rajasthan as well as eastern parts of Uttar Pradesh," he said.

"The rehabilitation also provides for skill-training so that those victims do not go back into the same hellish life for lack of source of livelihood," he said, adding that trafficking for forced begging, use as bonded labours also come under its ambit.

Members cutting across party lines supported the bill in the Lok Sabha.

**CONTACT  
SUMMIT  
TIMES  
REPORTERS  
SINGTAM  
7699771651  
MANGAN/  
DIKCHU  
9832612485/  
9434011213  
GANGTOK  
8116388176  
9832424750  
8016270440**

**news@  
summittimes.com**





## Bangladesh photographer sacked over viral kiss photo

**DHAKA, JUL 29 (AFP):** A renowned Bangladesh photographer today said he has been the victim of “unwanted cruelty” after being sacked over an image of a couple kissing that raised a social media storm in the conservative Muslim-majority country.

The Purboposhchimbd news portal said Jibon Ahmed was “not fit” to work for the company because of doubts about whether the kiss image was staged.

Ahmed protested his innocence, insisted he has proof the image was spontaneous and said he has been roughed up by other photographers because of the image.

In a Facebook post, Ahmed said he had been “exposed to unwanted cruelty” due to the “powerful” photo.

“I never ever believed that one click would create so many stories. Today due to this photo, the social and mainstream media are flooded with false and true stories about me,” he said of the divisions.

The couple were snapped kissing in monsoon rain on the steps of the Dhaka University campus.

He posted it -- with the caption “Songs of rains -- let love be free” -- on his Facebook page while the news portal also used it.

The photo quickly went viral in Bangladesh.

It drew social media praise for bringing a hint of social freedom. But conservatives questioned whether the photo had breached Bangladesh’s public decency mores.

Ahmed -- who captured the harrowing aftermath of an attack on a Bangladesh-born US writer hacked to death by Islamist extremists on the Dhaka campus three years ago -- said other photographers confronted him over the kiss image.

“They asked me why did I shoot the photo. One of them slapped me during the quarrel,” he said. “I said it was a symbol of pure love.”

After publishing the photo, Purboposhchimbd later wrote an article saying it believed the photo was “preplanned” and the photographer had “apologised”.

The editor, Khujista Nur-e-Naharin, said the company asked Ahmed to take legal action against the photographers who allegedly beat him but he did not turn up for a meeting to discuss the issue.

**ISAJJAD HUSSAIN**  
**ISLAMABAD, JUL 29 (PTI):** Imran Khan will be sworn in as Pakistan’s new Prime Minister before the country’s Independence Day on August 14, his party has announced as it is trying to reach out to smaller parties and independents to form the next government.

The Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI), led by 65-year-old Khan, has emerged as the single largest party in the National Assembly (NA) after the July 25 elections, but it is still short of numbers to form the government on its own.



PTI leader Naeenul Haq told media last night that consultations are on to complete the number game. “We have done our

homework and he will take oath as Prime Minister before August 14,” Haq said.

According to the results announced by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), the PTI has won 116 seats.

Jailed former prime minister Nawaz Sharif’s Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) with 64 seats and former president Asif Ali Zardari’s Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) with 43 seats are placed at number two and three respectively, it said.

Pakistan’s NA - the lower house of Parliament - comprises a to-

tal of 342 members, of which 272 are directly elected. A party needs 172 seats to form the government.

Meanwhile, the claims of vote-rigging also gathered steam in Pakistan as five empty ballot boxes and over a dozen papers have been found by the roadside in Karachi and Sialkot, raising suspicion over the poll body’s claims of having conducted free and fair general elections.

Political activities are at full swing and parties are holding open meetings and secret parleys to arrange the political chessboard.

Pakistan’s two major parties, the PPP and the PML-N, are expected to meet in a couple of days to devise a joint strategy in a bid to give a tough time to the PTI in Parliament, Dawn news reported.

The Pakistani electronic media yesterday kept on mentioning names of possible candidates for key government offices and possible members of the federal cabinet.

The PTI leaders who have won more than one seat will have to vacate additional seats as the law allows an individual to retain only one seat.



## 15-year-old Indian-American boy graduates as engineer, starts PhD in US

**WASHINGTON, JUL 29 (PTI):** A 15-year-old Indian-American child prodigy has reached a milestone in his academic journey and is all set to start his doctorate after completing his graduation in biomedical engineering, according to a media report.

Tanishq Abraham, graduated from the University of California, Davis with the highest honours of summa cum laude.

“Of course I feel very

happy, very excited, and I’m very proud of my accomplishments,” Tanishq was quoted as saying by the FOX40.

“He’s got a lot of passion and we have to keep up with him, pretty much,” said his parents, Taji and Bijou Abraham, hailing from Kerala.

Tanishq has also designed a device that could measure the heart rate of burn patients without touching them.

As for the future, it’s back into the lab at Davis for a Ph.D. and eventually medical school. Tanishq has big dreams of finding solutions to problems, the report said.

“Yeah, of course, what everybody likes to say and what I am also interested in is, of course, cancer and developing new treatments for cancer, more effective treatments for cancer,” he said.

Tanishq has already

been accepted into the University of California, Davis graduate pro-

gramme where he plans to get his MD in the next four to five years.



## At least 10 dead as strong quake jolts Indonesia island

**JAKARTA, JUL 29 (AFP):** A powerful 6.4-magnitude earthquake struck the popular Indonesian tourist destination Lombok today, killing at least 10 people and injuring dozens more, officials said.

The strong tremor, which sent people running in panic from homes and hotels in the early morning, was followed by two strong secondary quakes and more than 60 aftershocks.

“The earthquake killed at least 10 people, some 40 people are injured and dozens of houses were damaged,” said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman for Indonesia’s disaster mit-

igation agency.

“We estimate the number will keep rising because we are not done collecting data,” Nugroho said.

A 30-year old Malaysian woman was among the victims, he said, adding those hurt were hit by debris.

The jolt was felt some 100 km away in the bustling holiday island of Bali, although there were no immediate reports of damage there.

As authorities scrambled to assess the damage to buildings and infrastructure, popular trekking trails on the remote Mount Rinjani were closed because of landslides, according to the

disaster agency.

“The earthquake was very strong... and everybody in my house panicked, we all ran outside,” said Zulkifli, a resident of North Lombok, close to the epicentre.

“All my neighbours also ran outside and the electricity was suddenly cut off,” Zulkifli, who goes by one name, told AFP.

The epicentre of the shallow earthquake struck 50 km (30 miles) north-east of Lombok’s main city Mataram, the United States Geological Survey said, far from the main tourist spots on the south and west of the island.

It said two of the aftershocks measured more than 5-magnitude.

## Northern California wildfire raging into its fourth day



**REDDING, JUL 29 (AP):** A deadly Northern California wildfire has destroyed more than 500 buildings and is threatening thousands more as it rages into its fourth day.

The fire in the Redding area has left five people dead, including a 70-year-old woman and her two young great-grandchildren.

About 38,000 people remained under evacuation orders Saturday and are staying with relatives or in hotels or shelters.

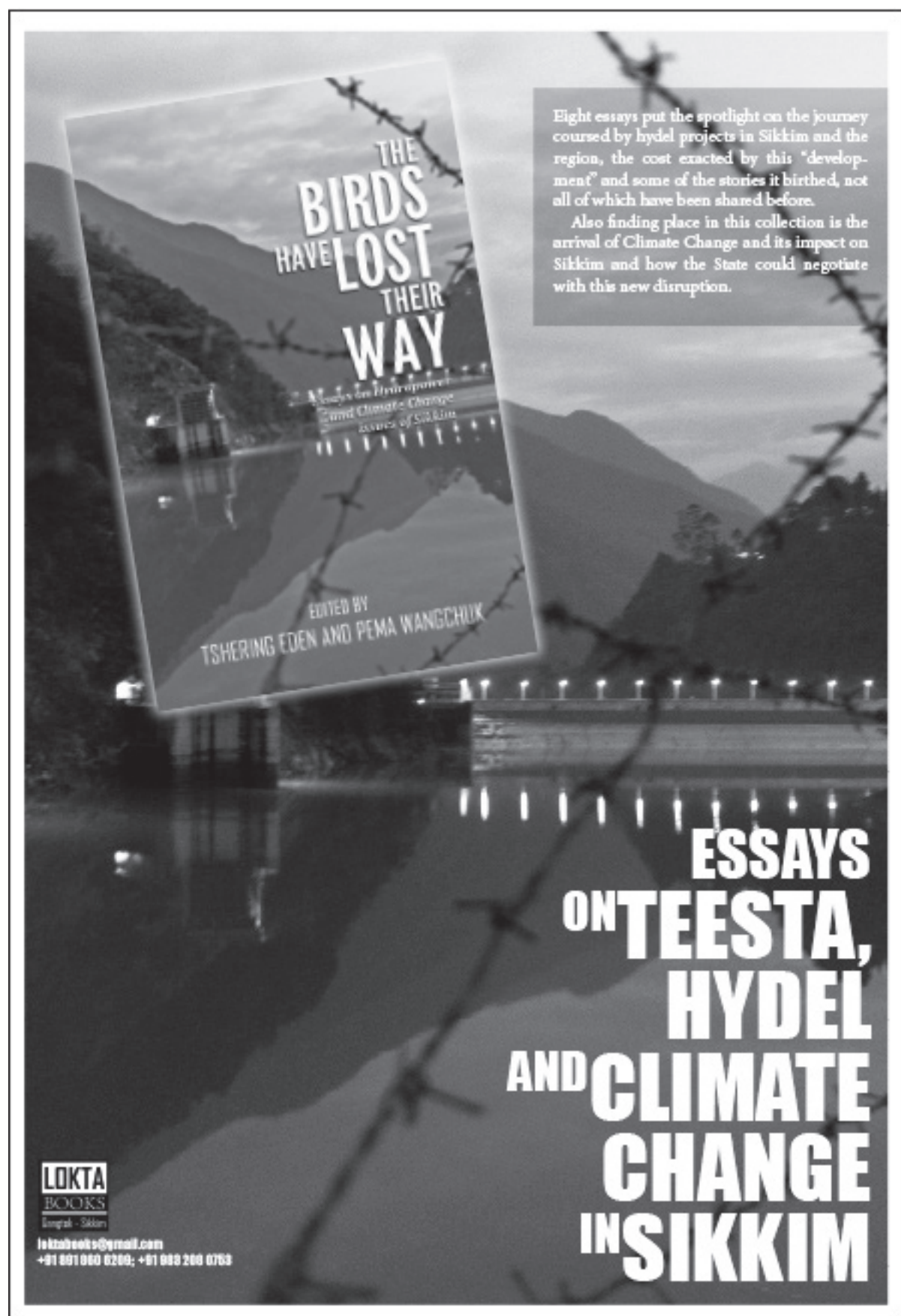
Anna Noland, who

was evacuated twice in three days, learned Friday that she had lost her home. She says it’s hard to believe.

A vehicle problem ignited the fire Monday, but it wasn’t until Thursday that the fire exploded and raced into communities west of Redding before entering city limits.

It was pushing southwest of Redding yesterday, toward the tiny communities of Ono, Igo and Gas Point.

The fire grew slightly to 340 square kilometers yesterday.







**JULIA'S COMING HOME:** Pretty Woman Julia Roberts, the superstar actress, discusses her new TV show *Homecoming* at the Amazon Studios panel during the 2018 TCA Summer Press Tour.

## IT WILL BE A THRILLING, EDGE-OF-THE SEAT EXPERIENCE: EMRAAN ON NETFLIX DEBUT

Emraan Hashmi says he is excited to make his Netflix debut with superstar Shah Rukh Khan's Red Chillies Entertainment's production, "The Bard of Blood".

The 39-year-old actor, who will be playing the lead in the show based on a bestselling 2015 book of the same name by Bilal Siddiqi, said the series will challenge him as a performer.

"Three years after launching Bilal's 'The Bard Of Blood', I will play the protagonist - Kabir Anand. That's destiny.

"I am really excited to be a part of this new form of storytelling where



content has no boundaries and the world is your audience. It will be a thrilling, edge-of-the seat experience that will challenge me as an actor to bring out my best," Emraan said in a statement.

The political thriller is set against the backdrop of the Indian subcontinent, and revolves around an expelled spy (Emraan) who is recalled from his new life as a Shakespeare professor to save his country and former love.

"The Bard Of Blood" will be released as an eight-episode series and will be filmed in languages including Hindi, English and Urdu.

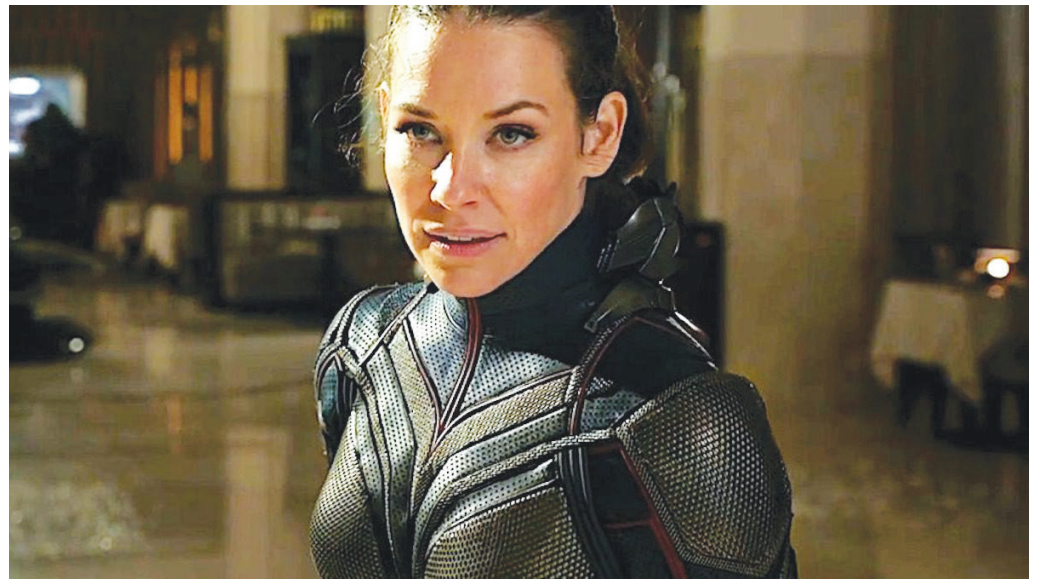
## EVANGELINE 'THE WASP' LILLY THOUGHT SUPER HERO FILMS WERE 'STUPID'

**LOS ANGELES, JUL 29 (PTI):** Evangeline Lilly says she was not a fan of superhero films when Marvel Studios offered her "Ant-Man".

The 38-year-old actor reprised her role of Hope van Dyne, who becomes The Wasp in the film's recent released sequel.

Lilly said she changed her mind after her agent persuaded her to consider the project, which had a "really cool" script.

"I didn't like superhero movies when I got offered this job. So, my initial reaction - do not tell Marvel - was 'I don't want to do a stupid superhero movie'. And my manager said, 'Well, just hear me out' - because he knows me quite well - 'Paul Rudd

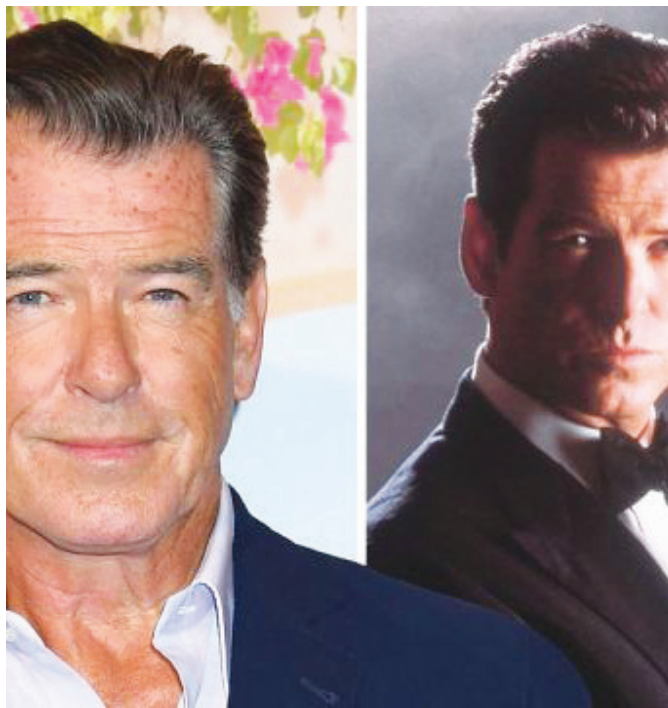


will be starring.' What? So I thought, 'This is really cool. Whatever they are doing is not the superhero movie I have previously seen' and it intrigued me. "So then I did my home-

work... I went back and watched some 'Avengers' films and some other Marvel films and I just thought what they were doing was so unique and fun," the actor told SFX magazine.

Lilly, who has a seven-year-old son and a two-year-old daughter with partner Norman Kali, said her little boy is a huge fan of her superhero alter ego.

## Pierce Brosnan says #MeToo won't change James Bond



**LONDON, JUL 29 (PTI):** James Bond star Pierce Brosnan hopes #MeToo will bring "more respect" between the genders but he does not think the movement will change Agent 007's character.

The 65-year-old actor, who has played the casanova British spy in four films of the franchise, said he is unaware if the new Bond films will incorporate the tectonic shift brought about by the post Harvey Weinstein sexual harassment scandal, Metro.com reported.

Asked if he thought Bond can survive #MeToo, Brosnan said, "Well, I have no idea if the new films are going to address these social issues. I think Bond will continue in the same vein.

"I would suspect so, because men will continue to be men and women likewise. One hopes there will be more respect between the genders. You hope that good things

will come out of this #MeToo movement."

He starred in four Bond films from 1995 to 2002 - "GoldenEye", "Tomorrow Never Dies", "The World Is Not Enough" and "Die Another Day".

Brosnan, who has four grown-up children, said playing the fictional character created by Ian Fleming was "never really a big issue" for them.

"It was never really a big issue. Dad played James Bond I think they just accepted it. It was probably a little abstract to them. Now that they're older and they've seen the movies, I think they look back at it with greater interest," he said.

Daniel Craig replaced Brosnan as Bond in 2006's "Casino Royale". Craig is set to appear in his fifth and final film as the British spy, which is set to be released on October 25, 2019.



## WILL SMITH IS Writing a book

**LOS ANGELES, JUL 29 (PTI):** Will Smith has revealed he is writing a book, which will be full of "stuff" he has gathered over the years.

The 49-year-old actor is collaborating with self-help author Mark Manson, who wrote "The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F\*\*k", on the project. Smith took to Instagram to share the news on what will be his first official book.

"I'm writing a book! I got years and years of stuff I want to say, and I'm finally going to write a book for y'all," the actor said in the video which also featured Manson.

Smith then asked the writer, "Are you feeling confident? Are you feeling like we'll be able to do transcendent art with this book?"

To which Manson replied, "I spent the last six months with crippling anxiety, but today I feel great."

The "Bright" actor then joked that they are meeting five publishers for the book and they will go with the "highest bidder".

"We're going to be meeting with five publishers... We're gonna pick one. And if I had to take a guess, I feel very confident that we're gonna go with the highest bidder... I'm just saying," Smith quipped.

Manson, on the other hand, revealed that the book is due next year.

"I grew up watching this guy after school. It's a true honor to work with @willsmith and help him share his incredible life with the world. Look for a book from us in 2019!" he wrote on Instagram.

According to reports, the book will be a combination of memoir and inspirational experiences.

**ARIES:** People are going to appreciate extra long hugs today, Aries, so give them out like candy to everyone you meet. A kind gesture and warm word won't be forgotten. Let your generous and kind spirit shine through. Open your arms wide to spread love to the world around you. It's the perfect day for laughter and affection, so do your part.

**TAURUS:** Things should go extremely well for you today, Taurus, so don't shy away from any part of it. In fact, take this opportunity to shine as brightly as you can. Crank up the power and project yourself out to the world. Bring out your radiant smile as often as possible - it's contagious. There is tremendous power behind your self-confidence, so tackle everything with energy

and enthusiasm.

**GEMINI:** Come out of serious mode for a day and let yourself laugh, Gemini. Hold a game night at your home and invite some good friends over to play cards and nibble on snacks until all hours. This is a day to have fun, so let loose and freely express yourself in the best way you see fit. Realize how much power you have in your jovial nature. Spread it generously.

**CANCER:** You have an incredibly strong influence on others today, Cancer, just because yours is a fun-loving, peaceful, and harmonious nature. Your charm will take you any place you want to go, so use it at your will. Accentuate the positive and walk on the sunny side of the street. Smile and bring good cheer to the people you meet.

**LEO:** Put your aggressions away today, Leo. Laugh a little! Transform your energy from intense, hard, and caustic to lighthearted, fun, and loving. This will take you a long way. Little things may crop up that could disrupt your daily routine, but a warm smile is all you need to defuse any frustration or negativity.

**VIRGO:** It's a terrific day for you, Virgo. Your jovial approach to every situation is just what the doctor ordered. Spend time with children and enjoy their magical world. Freely spread your love and affection to the people around you. Make sure that the corners of people's mouths are turning up instead of down. A friendly attitude will take you far.

**LIBRA:** Take a time-out today and

relax a little, Libra. Let your romantic nature have some fun. Don't feel guilty about not being as serious as you think you should be. The day's winner is the one who can smile the most. Enter this contest with the intention of winning. The rewards will last a long time. The people you encounter won't be able to help but smile back.

**SCORPIO:** You might find that others have a "me first" attitude that doesn't sit quite right with you, Scorpio. You may need to wake them up and say, "Hey, what about everybody else?" Try not to whine as you deliver this message. Desperation or complaining will get you nowhere. Be friendly and jovial in your approach and you will have the world at your feet.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Bask in today's

warm, loving energy, Sagittarius. Adopt an attitude of gratitude and look to see the beauty in everything around you. This is a day to appreciate what you have, especially the people who love you. Compliment others and let them know how much they mean to you. These words and deeds will have a ripple effect that will bring you a great deal of good fortune.

**CAPRICORN:** It's time for you to come out of hibernation, Capricorn. Shake off the blues and come into the light. Today is a day to play and have fun. The mood of the day is lighthearted and jovial, so be the first with a joke or silly story. Do what you can to make others laugh. Let the fire within you burn at its brightest.

**AQUARIUS:** Other people's stub-

born attitudes may hinder your progress today, Aquarius, so take this as a hint that you might need to loosen your grip on a certain viewpoint you're fiercely clinging to. There's a great deal of power behind your emotions, and you need to express it. Jump onstage and take the podium. Speak your mind even if you don't always agree with the group.

**PISCES:** The doldrums are over and it's time to pick up the pace, Pisces. Come out of your house in full regalia today. Be proud of what you have to offer to the world. Be courageous in your dealings with others. Take the time to express yourself fully in a creative manner. The bigger the smile you wear, the further you will go in just about every situation.