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# SummitTIMES

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

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**Activist GD  
Agarwal, on  
indefinite fast  
to save Ganga,  
dies in Rishikesh**

**RISHIKESH, Oct 11 (PTI):** Environment activist G D Agarwal, who was sitting on an indefinite hunger strike demanding the government to clean the river Ganga, died at the AIIMS hospital here on Thursday, officials said.

He was on fast since June this year. Agarwal breathed his last at the hospital here at around 2 pm.

He was moved to the AIIMS hospital, Rishikesh on October 9 from the protest site.

**Prof Avinash  
Khare takes  
charge as new SU  
Vice Chancellor**

**GANGTOK, 11 Oct [PIB]:** Professor Avinash Khare has been appointed as Vice Chancellor of Sikkim University by President of India in his capacity as the visitor of the University.

Professor Khare is an eminent Astrophysicist and one of the most renowned scientists in the field of Plasma Research. He took charge as the third VC of the University today from the officiating VC, Professor Jyoti Prakash Tamang.

Professor Tamang had been the officiating VC of the University since 13 Oct, 2017 after Professor TB Subba completed his tenure as the second VC of Sikkim University.

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## Karmapas come together to strengthen Karma Kagyu lineage

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje and Karmapa Trinley Thaye Dorje have issued a joint statement today calling for the Karma Kagyu community to join them in their efforts to strengthen and preserve the lineage.

As per the statement, the two met over the last few days at a rural location in France with the purpose of getting to know each other personally. They also discussed how

they might work together to preserve and strengthen the Karma Kagyu lineage of Tibetan Buddhism.

"We are both very pleased to have had this opportunity to meet and get to know each other in a peaceful and relaxed environment. We both had this wish for many years, and we are gratified that this wish has now been fulfilled.

The purpose of our meeting was primarily to spend time together so that we could establish a personal relationship.

We were able to talk together freely and to learn about each other for the first time. We were thus able to begin what we expect will develop into a strong connection.

While we were together we also talked about ways that we could work to heal the divisions that have unfortunately developed within our precious Karma Kagyu lineage in recent years. We view it as our duty and responsibility to do whatever we can to bring the lineage together.

This undertaking is critically important for the future of the Karma Kagyu lineage as well as for the future of Tibetan Buddhism and the benefit of all sentient beings. We therefore ask everyone within the Karma Kagyu community to join us in our efforts to strengthen and preserve our lineage. We view it as our collective responsibility to restore harmony to our tradition which is a lineage of wisdom and compassion," the statement reads.



**2 SIKKIM GIRLS IN TEAM INDIA FOR WORLD BODY BUILDING & PHYSIQUE SPORTS C'SHIP**

## Pandi Targain wins silver and bronze at Asian C'ship



**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

Pandi Targain and Karishma Subba recently represented the country in the prestigious 52nd Asian Body Building & Physique Sports Championship 2018 held from 02-08 Oct at Pune in Maharashtra. In the championship, Pandi Targain won a silver medal in women's sports physique and a bronze medal in women's sports physique up to 164 cm for the country while Karishma Subba stood on the fifth position in women's junior model physique.

35-year-old Pandi is

a certified fitness trainer presently based in Delhi while 21-year-old Karishma is a fifth semester student of Burtuk Government College and is also the current State champion of strength lifting, power lifting and weight lifting. Pandi has already represented the country in different competitions while it was the debut championship for Karishma in an international level competition.

It may be mentioned here, selection trial for the Team India for upcoming 52nd Asian & 10th World Body Building & Physique Sports Championship 2018 was held on 01 Sept

at Raipur in Chhattisgarh wherein a four-member team of Body Building & Power Lifting Association of Sikkim [BBPLAS] had participated and the duo secured their berth in Team India.

Sharing her experience about the championship today, Karishma expressed her happiness and satisfaction with her debut performance in an international championship.

"It was a proud moment for me to represent my country. Although I could not win any medal in this tough competition, it was a learning experience for me. I will prepare harder for up-

coming competitions," she expressed.

She stated that it is her dream to represent the country in international competitions. She also assured to give her best to make Sikkim and the nation proud in the near future.

General secretary [BBPLAS], Pema WD Bhutia, congratulated both athletes from Sikkim for their outstanding performance for the country in the Asian championship. He mentioned that Pandi has also qualified for the upcoming 10th World Body Building & Physique Sports Championship 2018 to be held

by the end of this year in Thailand. He appreciated the performance of Karishma in her debut appearance in an international competition.

"She has lots of potential to do better in national and international competitions in coming days and she just needs some support and encouragement. Our association will always extend support to her and other young athletes," he said.

He informed that BBPLAS will be organising the State-level power lifting competition in Nov which will be followed by Mr Sikkim contest in Dec this year.

## Governor's Gold Cup to kick off on 23 Oct

**SAGAR CHETTRI  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

Sikkim Football Association [SFA] has announced the 38th edition of All India Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament 2018 from 23 Oct here at Paljor Stadium. Twelve teams from different parts of the Country and Nepal will participate in this popular and prestigious tournament.

The participating teams are Indian Super League teams, ATK Kolkata [reserve] and Bengaluru Football Club [reserve], Manang Marsangdi Club and Armed Police Force Club from Nepal, Army XI [Red], Aryans, George Telegraph, Rainbow SC and Calcutta Customs from Kolkata, Sogolband United from Manipur and United Sikkim Football Club and Sikkim Aakraman Football Club from Sikkim.

Addressing a press conference here today, SFA president, Menla Ethenpa, mentioned that the tournament will be held from 23 Oct to 03 Nov here at Paljor Stadium. He informed that the tournament is featuring two ISL teams, ATK Kolkata and Bengaluru FC, for

the first time and reserve squad of both teams will be participating in the tournament.

He added that popular A division clubs, MMC and Armed Police FC from Nepal are participating in the tournament along with the winner of Independence Day Football Tournament for Chogyal Sir Tashi Namgyal Memorial Club 2018, Army XI [Red].

Mr Ethenpa stated that with an objective to provide a platform to local clubs of Sikkim, top two premier division clubs of Sikkim, United Sikkim FC and Sikkim Aakraman FC, have been given direct entry in the tournament.

He informed that All India Football Federation has notified the names of the Match Commissioner, Referee Assessor and four other national level referees to supervise the matches in the tournament. He urged sports lovers of the State to come in large numbers to support their team and enjoy the game.

Kolkata giants, Mohan Bagan is the defending champion of the tournament but the team

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## Promote food processing startups, Governor advices

**Daylong conference held on  
Startups and  
MSMEs in Food  
Processing**

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

"STARTUPS IN FOOD processing sector should be promoted in Sikkim," said Governor Ganga Prasad during a daylong conference on "Startups and MSMEs in Food Processing" in Gangtok today.

The conference was organized by Associated Chambers of Commerce of India [ASSOCHAM] in collaboration with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, National Bank for Agriculture and



Rural Development [NABARD] and Sikkim University, a press release informs.

The Governor praised ASSOCHAM for bringing this important agenda into notice by organizing the conference. He added that opportunities for exports of specialized products have increased many times over with the opening of the Pakyong Green-

field Airport in the State. "To double farmers' income, food processing is the way forward and must be promoted aggressively," said the Governor.

Stressing on educated unemployed youth of the State, the Governor stated that they are an important asset of the State and their knowledge and energy should be channeled by strengthening

the startup ecosystem of the State. He also advised the ASSOCHAM to help analyze market demand of agri produce and help State Government departments to take necessary steps to ensure transfer of benefits to the farmers at the bottom of the pyramid.

"Increasing price of farm produce is not the only way to increase

farmers' income. Quality and improvement in productivity also add money in the pockets of the farmers," the Governor stated.

He congratulated ASSOCHAM for organizing the conference on such a critical and forward looking topic in the capital and expressed hope that it will bring a wave of fresh ideas in the State of Sikkim.

Secretary General, ASSOCHAM, Uday Kumar Varma, while extending warm welcome to the Governor, dignitaries on the dais, delegates, press and media, informed that the main agenda of the conference was to create awareness about support schemes for start up and food entrepreneurs.

He highlighted

growth of the agriculture and processed food sector in the North-East region while comparing it with the overall growth of the economy of Sikkim. He said that focus for development should be on food processing which is one of the major sector which holds unexplored scope to strengthen the economy of the State of Sikkim.

"Sikkim, which is an extremely progressive organic State, its growth and future is rightly tied with agriculture and in turn food processing sector. Harvest loss which is a perennial problem has its solution in the growth of food processing sector," said Mr Varma.

In his special address, Principal Secretary, De-

partment of Commerce & Industry, Government of Sikkim, Dr Thomas Chandy, said that there is a huge scope and opportunity for food processing industry in Sikkim since it is deeply entrenched in the tradition of the State since ages in one way or the other.

He added that modernization of cottage and small scale industries is very critical to take them to the next level. He informed the audience about the new scheme launched in 2017 called Chief Minister's Start-up Scheme which has successfully sanctioned more than 500 loans to start ups in last one year.

"Under this scheme, any bankable project in

turn to pg03



# British Council and NEC sign MoU on collaborative educational growth

**SHILLONG, 11 Oct [IPR]:**

A conference of North East Council [NEC] and British Council was held at the NEC Secretariat in Shillong today on the subject "British Council Pilot Project of Capacity Building of Teachers". The conference was chaired by NEC Secretary, Ram Muivah.

Also present were Director, British Council India, Alan Gemmell OBE, Director/HRD&E, NEC, Kh. Siile Anthony, Head, NE, British Council, Joydeep Bordoloi, Director/Primary Education [Government of Sikkim], Bhim Thatal, who is also the State Project Director of Samagra Shiksha, along with other representatives of the NE States.

During the conference, BCI Director, Mr



Gemmell, HRD&E Director [NEC], Mr Anthony, signed the MoU to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation, support knowledge ambitions and economic growth of the eight States of the NE.

While addressing the

conference, NEC Secretary, Mr Muivah, appreciated the initiatives taken by the State of Sikkim in education sector and applauded the innovative practices of Sikkim. He also urged other NE States to learn from Sikkim in educational development

and quality innovations.

State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Mr Thatal, in his address mentioned about the future initiatives of the State Human Resource Development Department and also invited the other NE States to visit

schools in Sikkim.

While mentioning about capacity building of teachers, he said that the primary focus of the State HRDD is primary education with capacity building of Primary Teachers as the priority. He also mentioned that the KG

system introduced in Sikkim is soon being taken as module by National Council of Educational Research and Training [NCERT] for starting pre-primary education in the rest of the country.

Mr Thatal further stated that the State HRDD will select 100 Primary Teachers from all four districts who will be trained in Gangtok for five days in order to enable them to teach English at primary level. From these 100 trained teachers, 50 will be shortlisted as Master Trainers who will further be trained on Training of Trainer lines to enable them to train more teachers. In the next phase, capacity building for Mathematics and Science teaching will be taken up, he added.



## Kadamtam MPCS earns Rs. 94, 924 bonus in 2017-2018

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

An Annual General Meeting of Kadamtam Milk Producer Co-operative Society Ltd. under Pakyong Sub Division for 2017-2018 was held in the presence of founding member cum OBC Board Chairperson, Manita Manger, officials from the Cooperation Department, Sikkim Milk Union and Animal Husbandry Department, and members of the society, a press release informs.

The audit report was announced by the Cooperation Dept while

information on various schemes under Animal Husbandry department was also given.

Inspector, Cooperation Department gave details of the performance of the Society followed by open discussion among the members.

Manita Manger informed the house about the initial formation of the Society and how it has become a model society in Sikkim, the release mentions.

The bonus amount of Rs. 94, 924 was distributed amongst the members in the AGM, the release adds.

## IMI holds 7th Sustainable Mountain Development Summit

**SUMMIT REPORT  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

The 7th Sustainable Mountain Development Summit [SMDS-VII] was conducted on 03-04 Oct at Shoolini University in Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The two-day annual event of Integrated Mountain Initiative [IMI] was followed by a conclave of Himalayan States on "Well Being of the Next Generation of Himalayan People" on 05 Oct at Shimla which was jointly organized by HIM-COSTE, IMI and Shoolini University, a press release informs.

With the theme "Well Being of Next Generation of Farmers in the Indian Himalayan Region", the IMI Summit VII included three technical sessions namely Ecological Drivers of Change, Social Drivers of Change and the Economic Drivers of Change.

These sessions were followed by integrative session wherein key learnings from the three sessions were discussed threadbare and action points were deliberated. The concluding session was on "Youth Perspectives on New Age farming



in the Indian Himalayan Region".

Speaking at the inaugural function, Minister of Irrigation and Public Health & Horticulture, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Mahender Singh Thakur, highlighted the challenges faced by the farmers and horticulturalists in the hill States due to natural calamities. He called for adoption of new technologies and methods of farming to improve the productivity in order to enhance the livelihoods of farming community.

Minister for Social Justice, Empowerment & Cooperation, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Dr Rajiv Saizal, who attended the valedictory function as chief guest, stressed on the importance of a pan-Himalayan cooperation platform of the mountain States in the country.

The summit was attended by over 200 delegates from all the 10 mountain States and districts of the Indian Himalayan Region representing diverse areas of work including researchers,

grassroots workers, policymakers, young agri-entrepreneurs and development professionals.

In his keynote address, Food Policy Analyst & Writer, Devinder Sharma, pointed out the stark fact that economic models of growth being followed were highly discriminatory and had made agriculture unviable.

Amongst the recommendations that emerged from the ecological drivers of change were understanding and recognising traditional

practices of shifting cultivation that were environmentally sound and compensating the Himalayan states for the ecosystem services provided by them.

Discussions about the social drivers of change recommended the need for advocacy and communication through role modelling to restore agriculture as an aspirational livelihood, training of youth to complement agriculture with entrepreneurial opportunities such as ecotourism, policy changes which enable consolidation of fallow landholdings and its productive use and popularising traditional agriculture, including promoting farm based folk history in schools and amongst the public. Economic drivers of change discussions desired that farmers be compensated for the discriminatory increase in their incomes and for their role in preserving ecology and for a national mission to release the synergies in the agricultural sector.

Apart from efforts to improve the farm economy in the mountain and hilly states through

income incentivisation, introduction of new technologies and maintaining soil health, the Conclave also focused on opportunities for non-farm activities such as eco-tourism to improve mountain livelihoods.

The conclave also discussed the need to have a coherent policy for the payment of eco-system services [ESS], green bonus/green cess to the Himalayan States to compensate for the development disabilities.

The conclave concluded that a holistic and integrative approach is the need of the hour to ensure that development policies are compatible with one another and addressing the needs of the mountain communities for their well-being without compromising on the sustainability factor.

During the conclave, Sikkim was represented by State Minister for Food Security Agriculture, Horticulture & Cash Crop Development, Irrigation & Flood Control & Animal Husbandry, Livestock Fisheries & Veterinary Service Departments, Som Nath Poudyal.

## Spices Board conducts training on large cardamom in Lingdem



**Mangan, 11 Oct [PIB]:** Spices Board, Mangan organized growers training programme on large cardamom at the Community Hall in Lingdem, North Sikkim on 10 Oct. The training was chaired by Panchayat President, Gyatso Lepcha, in the presence of Ward Panchayats and officers from State Horticulture Department.

Around 50 farmers attended the training

programme with keen interest on learning new techniques on nursery raising, organic cultivation and vermincompost preparation in organic system of cultivation.

Deputy Director, Spices Board [Gangtok], NAD Shenoy, in his address, explained about process of organic certification, formation of Farmer Producer Organization [FPO] and its role in systemic channelization for

market link for the overall benefit of group members. He also encouraged developing entrepreneurial skills and ideas among young cultivators of spices like large cardamom and ginger to ensure better price for their produce.

Assistant Director, Spices Board [Mangan], Simanta Saikia, explained about the schemes for development of large cardamom and its auc-

tion in collaboration with NERAMAC at Singtam for better price realization and guideline for maintaining the plantation free from various viral diseases were explained to the farmers.

Senior Field Officer, Dr Kuldeep Rai, discussed on implementation of skill development project

on Recognition of Prior Learning [RPL] under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana [PMKVY] and the role of Spices Board as programme implementing agency in Sikkim for certification in skilled activities.

Further, the training process for obtaining the certification was ex-

plained by Agriculture Demonstrator, Spices Board, SS Taro.

During the plenary and feedback session, the participants cleared their doubts on several issues and extended gratitude to the organizers for the training.

## Int'l Girl Child Day observed in Chungthang

**WANGCHUK BHUTIA  
MANGAN, 11 OCT:**

Social Welfare Department, North observed International Girl Child Day at Chungthang in North Sikkim today under the banner of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao with the participation of students from Moon Light Academy, Mount Everest School, teachers and various stakeholders.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Chungthang, Subash Ghimerey, who attended the event as chief

guest, spoke on sanitation, zero waste management and segregation of waste.

Dr Tenzing Bhutia from Chungthang PHC spoke on menstrual hygiene and demonstrated hand washing techniques.

Likewise, Child Development Project Officer [Chungthang], Sonam Laden Lachungpa, in her address highlighted on personal hygiene, adolescent health and various schemes of ICDS.





### Gangtok on Friday, 12 Oct

**Temp:** 25°C/10°C

**Forecast:** Sun and clouds; a morning thundershower in parts of the area, then a couple of showers.

**Sunrise:** 05:33 AM

**Sunset:** 5:12 PM

### Promote food processing startups,

### Governor advises

contd from pg01

MSME sector of up to Rs 20 lakhs, in which 35% promoter's contribution is grant in aid and rest 65% will be a loan from bank. Many schemes of Department of Horticulture can be merged with this scheme and farmers and budding entrepreneurs can take almost 85% subsidy. Share of food processing units in the State must be increased from current levels as Sikkim government is making right moves to help this sector flourish like setting up of incubation centre, in quality control and technology usage," stated Dr Chandy.

General Manager, NABARD, R Tshering, spoke on various support schemes of NABARD for start up and food entrepreneurs.

"As far as the banking perspective of start-ups and MSMEs is concerned, Government of India is giving lot of emphasis as this sector can vastly contribute to 'doubling farmers' income' and reduce wastage. Food processing links farmers with markets, hence State of Sikkim needs strong and dynamic policy on it," said Ms Tshering.

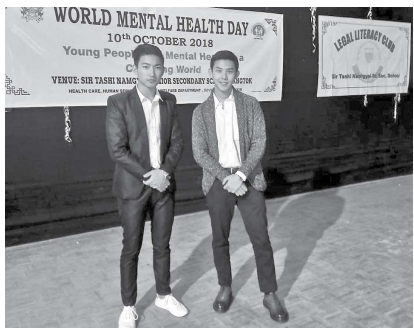
### Governor's Gold Cup to kick off on 23 Oct

contd from pg01

cannot make it this time due to ongoing I-League.

Likewise, SFA general secretary, Nanga Tshering Bhutia, mentioned that the average budget to conduct the tournament is Rs 50 lakh. He added that SFA has been putting all its efforts to conduct the tournament in a grand manner despite fund crunches. He also urged local crowds and football lovers to come and support their favourite team.

# Mr Sikkim Manhunt finalists talk mental health



**NITESH R PRADHAN  
GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

**T**emi Tea Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt which has the theme "Let's talk mental health" had two of its contestants, Shahil Lama and Chumal Lepcha, deliver talks on mental health during a programme conducted by Health Care, Human Services & Family Welfare Department on the

occasion of World Mental Health Day at Sir Tashi Namgyal Higher Secondary School in Gangtok on 10 Oct.

Health Minister, AK Ghatani, attended the event as chief guest.

While addressing the audience, Chumal Lepcha shared his experience about the importance of taking care of one's mental wellbeing.

Citing his own exam-

ple, he stressed on the need to follow one's passion and being happy as key ingredients to good mental health.

Going with this year's theme of Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt, both the finalists have thanked the organisers of the programme for inviting them to talk mental health and have also hoped that all likeminded stakeholders would converge to make

mental health a top priority.

Likewise, another finalist, Shahil Lama, shared his thoughts on various mental health risks.

He also highlighted about the past problems of how Sikkim had about 35.7% of suicide rate "which is bad" and also questioned why such cases were happening.

He further stressed

on problems faced by students like social stigmas, too much of social media, anxiety. He then urged the students to be genuine, real, follow real role models, be kind, listen to others in need and be open-minded.

Organisers of Mr Sikkim 2018 Manhunt have thanked the organisers for inviting the finalists.

## Peer educators workshop organized by SAATHI

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

**S**ikkim against Addiction towards Healthy India [SAATHI] organised workshop for peer educators of various schools on 09-10 Oct. For schools of North & East districts, the meet was held at Sir Tashi Namgyal Senior Secondary School in Gangtok while for schools of South & West districts, the meet was conducted at Namchi Girls SSS. The workshop had the participation of 180 peer educators, a press release informs.

The objective of the meet was to discuss with the peer educators about their role at school level and as well



as the upcoming annual meet of SAATHI. This time, schools have been

assigned to organize the annual meet which will be the final meet of

SAATHI project.

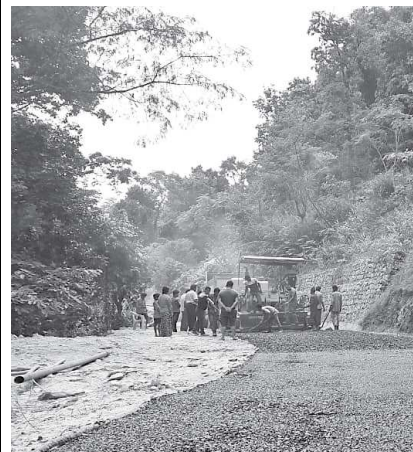
The team of SAATHI oriented the students

about the upcoming annual meet which will be a mega three-day event and also discussed with them the various activities that can be organized during the event. The peer educators were also informed about various SAATHI activities and their roles and responsibilities.

During the workshop, students shared their experiences and impact they have brought forward as peer educators.

Further, the SAATHI team encouraged active participation of all peer educators in SAATHI activities and urged them to share the message with other students back in their schools.

## Road carpeting commences in Tareythang



**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

**R**oad carpeting work has been started at Takchang Kaizaley area of Bering Tareythang and Amba GPU under Pakyong BAC, East Sikkim.

People of the area have expressed happiness on the same and extended gratitude to Chief Minister Pawan Cham-

ling, area MLAs, Bikram Pradhan and Hemendra Adhikari, contractor, Sagarmall Agarwal, and his team for taking up the initiative.

The release mentions that the Pakyong-Tareythang-Roreything road can also be one of the alternative roads to the newly inaugurated Pakyong Greenfield Airport.

## High level meet held for Finance Commission's visit to State

**GANGTOK, 11 Oct [IPR]:**

The 15th Finance Commission will be visiting the State on 03-06 Nov this year. During its visit, the Commission is slated to meet Chief Minister Pawan Chamling along with his cabinet colleagues and State Government officers. The Commission will also be interacting with the representatives of all the tiers of the Local Bodies, both Urban and Rural, political parties and Trade and Industries in the State.

In this regard, a high-level meeting under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, AK Shrivastava, was held at the Conference Hall of Manan Kendra on 09 Oct. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Commissioner-Cum-Secretaries and heads of con-



cerned departments.

The meeting was highly interactive and

deliberated on the presentation to be made by the State Government to

the 15th Finance Commission during its State visit. The meeting also

took stock of the arrangements made for a successful visit.

## Lions Club of Kalimpong annual peace poster contest

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**KALIMPONG, 11 OCT:**

**L**ions Club of Kalimpong Greater today organised the annual peace poster contest at Kalimpong Central School for Tibetans premises.

The program was presided over by Chairman, Manoj Chhangai. Altogether 40 students from two schools participated in the contest. SP Kalimpong, Dhurvajyoti De was present as the chief guest of the program.

Each year, Lions Clubs around the world proudly sponsor the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. This art contest for kids en-



courages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace.

Member Lions Club, Kapil Periwai informed that the theme of the 2018-19 Peace Post-

er Contest is "Kindness Matters." Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme.

He said the winning posters advance through

several judging levels: local, district, multiple district and international.

Biswajit Das Bairagya, Binod Yonzone and Sayuja Ghatani were present as the judges of

the contest.

Pema Yangkey came in first followed by Pema Tenzin in second position and Sherpa Dorjee in third position.

**SUMMIT REPORT**

**GANGTOK, 11 OCT:**

**S**ikkim Krantikari Morcha supremo, PS Tamang [Golay], called on former Chief Minister, BB Gooroo on his 90th birthday at his residence in Lumsey, Gangtok today, an SKM press release informs.

Mr Gooroo extended his best wishes and prayed for his long and healthy life. An entou-

rage of senior SKM leaders also offered greetings to the former CM and political veteran.

Acting president, Kunga Nima Lepcha, also extended birthday greetings to Mr Gooroo.

Mr Gooroo expressed his happiness over the kind gesture of the SKM team and gave his best wishes to Mr Tamang and his team for their upcoming ventures.

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**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER  
BALUWAKHANI, GANGTOK-SIKKIM**

No: Elec/875

Dated: 09/10/18

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all registered- unrecognized political parties of the State of Sikkim to provide the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Sikkim, Baluwakhani, Gangtok, East Sikkim, with their correct and updated postal address, e-mail id, contact number and name of the office bearer for all future election related correspondences latest by 31.10.2018.

In case the above details are not furnished within the stipulated time, the O/o the CEO, Sikkim will not be liable for failure of communication of any election related correspondences.  
R.O. No. 415/IPR/PUB/Class/18-19 dt. 10.10.18

# HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

email us: [news@summittimes.com](mailto:news@summittimes.com)

**SIKKIM STATE LOTTERIES**

**DENBY MEET THURSDAY**

Draw No: 38 Draw Date: 02/12/2018

1st Prize: Rs. 11 Lakhs/- - 96A 6241

2nd Prize: Rs. 9,000/- - 4335 8364 9641

3rd Prize: Rs. 3,000/- - 1540 0452 8027

4th Prize: Rs. 2,000/- - 6148 0475 9887

5th Prize: Rs. 1,000/- - 2028 7931 9187

6th Prize: Rs. 500/-

0016 0272 2679 5889 5302 6117 6442 6940 8309 8714

7th Prize: Rs. 100/-

0042 0078 0112 0131 0155 0201 0215 0219 0235 0285

0312 0320 0323 0332 0381 0382 0408 0479 0490 0533

0545 0573 0595 0600 0608 0609 0637 0666 0673 0690

0697 0705 0709 0822 0862 0900 0936 0953 0970 0984

1030 1053 1090 1071 1086 1090 1130 1132 1171 1176

1206 1217 1237 1242 1299 1329 1328 1438 1430 1433 1444

1489 1499 1500 1543 1555 1640 1647 1690 1725 1781

1790 1798 1801 1841 1843 1849 1874 1883 1887 1970

1990 1996 2010 2023 2034 2037 2129 2138 2141 2166

2172 2201 2222 2249 2267 2304 2365 2369 2397 2411

2444 2528 2538 2559 2582 2601 2616 2637 2671 2681

2719 2762 2799 2834 2861 2866 2879 2909 2961 2963

3010 3061 3093 3188 3253 3265 3283 3306 3308 3309

3416 3467 3489 3511 3540 3570 3598 3603 3617 3659

3707 3723 3744 3750 3814 3863 3870 3871 3906 3926

3959 4007 4039 4042 4046 4053 4122 4208 4213 4254

4257 4273 4284 4344 4357 4361 4365 4377 4460 4469

4497 4556 4583 4593 4597 4611 4612 4616 4676 4681

4687 4694 4695 4721 4759 4760 4806 4815 4818 4849

4850 4863 4876 4895 4896 4908 4928 4933 4953 4970

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KINDLY CHECK THE RESULT WITH THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE



# SummitTIMES

## Corruption Hurts the Already Vulnerable

*That's a good enough reason to say No More*

The Corruption Perception Index, published annually by Transparency International, a corruption monitoring organisation based in Berlin, was released in February earlier this year. As this year too draws to a close, and the festive season of Laxmi approaches, so begins the routine of taking stock and reminiscing over the year gone by and that brings us to pause a while on corruption and the nation. As per the Corruption Perception Index released this year, India has slipped to the 81st spot from its all-time high of 76 registered in 2015. Last year, it had ranked 79th. On this index, the higher you rank, the cleaner is the system, or at least the perception of it. India's slide could either be because other nations have become cleaner, or we, as a nation have become more corrupt. Both scenarios are possible, and given the crores being offered to even minor players to switch political allegiances, the thousands of crores that big honchos have been allowed to default on and flee and the lakhs of crores of tax-payer money being announced to bail out compromised banks and the disgustingly rich, it is the latter which appears more plausible. The list is for 180 countries, with New Zealand on No. 1 position as the cleanest society and Somalia at the bottom end as the most corrupt country. India finds in its corruption vicinity countries like Philippines and Maldives all of which have scored a 40 on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). This troika is has been lavished the ignominy of being recorded as the "worst regional offenders". Pause on that too as you try and recollect that famous chowkidar jumla by the pradhan sewak.

Over two-thirds of the 180 countries and territories in this year's index fall below the midpoint of the scale (along with India) with the global average score of a paltry 43, indicating endemic corruption in the public sector. As a country, we are even more corrupt than the global average for corruption.

While there are enough arguments to question the process by which Transparency International works out its list, these are only precision issues, and the world at large agrees that the list is accurate. The TI report reveals that although India's ranking has slipped, its corruption perception has improved slightly for the better. We had scored 38 in 2015, but even this slight improvement is nothing to write home about, since, as mentioned, as a nation we continue to be more corrupt than the average for the world as a whole.

That said, what is significant about the TI rankings is that the Corruption Perception Index, started in 1995, has been instrumental in creating awareness and triggering debate on corruption. But that is for governments and societies more conscious about their image. Bhutan, for example, is ranked a respectable 26th with "first-division-marks" of 67 points. What is significant is that in 2009, Bhutan was ranked 49th. While the neighbour has shown marked improvement, we remain sloppy. There is clear unanimity in our country that corruption is widespread, all pervasive and attendant to every arm of the government. Unfortunately, we approach corruption with a fatalistic attitude – accepting it as unavoidable and trapping ourselves in a rut where palms need to be greased even for routine works. Where corruption was at one time required to push through works which would put the concerned officer's future and career at risk, in our instinct to jump the line and aversion to make the system work, we have now created a monster which needs to be fed even to process what should be ours by right.

Someone recently argued that corruption is ingrained in our culture by pointing out that we routinely bribe even Gods for favour ["Bhaka! anyone?], so bribing mortals does not weigh too heavy on our conscience. But it should. What most of the debates and chest-beating on corruption overlook is that it is not just an inconvenience, it is much worse, because now that it is institutionalised, it worsens the realities of the most vulnerable sections of society. A corrupt system makes no difference between skimming from a multi-crore construction project or siphoning grants and aid meant for victims of natural calamities or subsidies marked for the underprivileged. Kickbacks and embezzlement compromise the effectiveness of such necessary public expenditure as poverty alleviation, education, environment conservation, public infrastructure creation, aid etc. While economies with a vibrant private enterprise can cushion corruption with some resoluteness, societies which are more dependent on government dole and grants to finance multiple challenges, suffer the most crushing blow because of the denial which corruption causes. These are also invariably societies which are less empowered and thus less likely to make a noise about graft, and in their desperation, more likely to continue feeding the monster even larger shares. By accepting and indulging corruption, we have painted ourselves into a corner and the only escape is if we realise that the slivers which reach us are not enough for the boxed in crowd, put our feet down, and collectively say "No More"...

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## Opinion

# Masculinity should not be defined by the Kavanaugh hearings

MICHAEL KEHLER  
theconversation.com

With the hearings that led to the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh as a United States Supreme Court justice still in our rear-view mirrors, what have men learned from the events of the past few weeks?

I watched the hearings streaming live on my phone. That moment in time will be with me forever. Over 20 million others also watched, transfixed by those live-broadcast hearings.

The millions who viewed the hearings saw the courageous narrative of one woman who opted to speak up and speak out about sexual assault. But we also saw the defence and reaffirmation of heteronormative masculinity that rests at the core of a gender politics so finely scripted in these hearings.

As a masculinities scholar, I was struck by the familiar narrative of masculinity as I listened to Kavanaugh during the hearings. Kavanaugh's recollections, reflections and details of his boyhood days are similar to what many (but not all) boys might claim as their own. Kavanaugh dismissed drunkenness as normal and acceptable among boys. Drinking beer, football training, beach parties and being among "the boys" are part of a long narrative of dominant masculinity in North America.

Kavanaugh normalized a set of practices of masculinity that resonated not because they are valid, but because they show the dominating, oppressive and typical ways some men wield power over others. The reverberation of this message with the Republican party and a president who claims that "locker room talk" is normal and nothing more than boys being boys is disturbing.

Kavanaugh revealed what masculinity was to him then and validated what masculinity is to him now.

### PERFORMING MASCULINITY

Kavanaugh's 1982 calendar reads like an archival rendering of privileged adolescent masculinity in the 1980s. Boyhood and being a boy, according to the calendar, was a series of validating and reaffirming "boyish" events. Kavanaugh affirmed his place within and among the masculinizing privileged boys familiar to us all. He showed the taken-for-granted ways that he had participated as just "one of the boys" doing what boys typically do.

There were no apologies, no reflections, not even an acknowledgement of his actions as ques-

tionable or dubious. There was no reflection of his privileged white, middle-class masculinity. On that he was silent, but his actions, his temperament and his calendar spoke volumes.

Kavanaugh's performance while in the hearings was enough to raise concerns from some senators about his conduct, his attitude, his ability to assume the job of Supreme Court justice. Other senators saw the narrative of his life as typical, common and nothing more than a window on life as it was. They argued that the future Supreme Court justice was just like the rest of the boys. But being like the "rest of the boys" does not legitimize or validate bad behaviour.

### A LESSON OF SURVIVAL AMONG MEN?



Maintaining membership by acting like the rest of the boys is a lesson of survival among men. President Donald Trump said "it's a scary time for men in America." His claim suggests that from Trump's perspective, there are no differences among men; they are all the same.

Times have been unsettling and indeed scary for many men for a long time, but not for the reasons Trump is suggesting. Trump failed to consider the true situation of men in a nuanced and complex way. He ignored the diversity of masculinities by race, class, sexual orientation, ethnic location and religion. In so doing, he collapsed all masculinities and took away the agency of men — their ability to act differently and to be unlike the rest of "the boys."

This singular, unified version of masculinity is powerful. The suggestion that all boys and men share similar positions of power and privilege contributes to an "us/them," "men/women" divide. Trump effectively reaffirmed that the ability to speak and to be believed is what it always has been, a narrative of power and privilege.

Sexual assault, rape culture and the voices of many women continue to struggle to be believed and to be heard.

### WHAT HAVE MEN LEARNED?

What have men learned from this series of events and who is listening?

Men need to see, hear and mobilize on the lessons they are learning about themselves as men and the culture of masculinities they navigate every day. Men need to stop legitimizing, validating and excusing the harassing, objectifying and sexualizing of women along with the marginalizing and belittling of other men who do not subscribe to the Kavanaugh-esque rules of boys being boys.

To speak up and speak out within and among men and boys, alongside women and girls as allies, is to push back on the myth that boys and men are naturally aggressive, dominating and oppressive.

Masculinity is not simply genetic, we learn how to become certain kinds of boys and we also learn which boys are more valued than others.

The story told during the Senate confirmation hearings is one that showcases the state of gender relations in North America. Kavanaugh has attempted to show the nation that his experiences as a young man are typical, normal and simply the way it is for all boys. This is North American masculinity and Kavanaugh makes no excuses but instead is exalted as a

typical man.

We are left asking ourselves what are men learning about being men in the current climate of post #MeToo? Why the defensiveness, the polarizing of men against women as though men will "lose" something by speaking up and speaking out against sexual assaults and the oppression of others who are different?

Membership does have its privilege, but that does not justify the silence of some men. The white upper middle-class privilege we witnessed on stage during the Senate hearings was unsettling and disturbing because it does not reflect the experiences or attitudes of all men. Men have an opportunity to, particularly now, resist and be unlike the rest of the boys.

Men can be agents of and for change. The dominant narrative of being one of the boys is fractured and we can rewrite it but only if men and boys resist the simplification and dumbing down of what it means to be a man.

[the writer is Werklund Research Professor, Masculinities Studies, University of Calgary]

# Our food system is at risk of crossing 'environmental limits' – here's how to ease the pressure

MARCO SPRINGMANN  
theconversation.com

The global food system has a lot to answer for. It is a major driver of climate change, thanks to everything from deforestation to cows burping. Food production also transforms biodiverse landscapes into fields inhabited by a single crop or animal. It depletes valuable freshwater resources, and even pollutes ecosystems when fertilisers and manure washed into streams and rivers.

The planet can only take so much of this stress. Staying within its environmental limits will require a global shift towards healthy and more plant-based diets, halving food loss and waste, and improving farming practices and technologies. That's what a team of international researchers and I found in a new study published in the journal Nature.

### CROSSING ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITS

The global food system has fundamentally altered our planet and the resource base humanity depends on. Food production is responsible for about a quarter of all greenhouse gas emissions and therefore is a major driver of climate change. Agriculture occupies more than a third of the Earth's land surface and has led to reductions in forest cover and loss of biodiversity. Farming also uses more than two thirds of all freshwater resources, and the over-application of fertilisers in some regions has led to "dead zones" in oceans.

Without concerted action, we estimated that the environmental pressure of the food system could increase by 50-90% by 2050 as a result of population growth and the continued Westernisation of diets. At that point, those environmental pressures

would exceed key planetary boundaries that define a safe operating space for humanity.

Crossing planetary boundaries would increase the risk of destabilising essential ecosystems. Among others, it could lead to dangerous levels of climate change with higher occurrences of extreme weather events; affect the regulatory function of forest

ecosystems and biodiversity; result in disruptions of water flows with impacts on the global hydrological cycle; and pollute water bodies such that it would lead to more oxygen-depleted dead zones in oceans.



ecosystems and biodiversity; result in disruptions of water flows with impacts on the global hydrological cycle; and pollute water bodies such that it would lead to more oxygen-depleted dead zones in oceans.

### PLANETARY OPTION SPACE

Fortunately, such a situation can be avoided. We combined detailed environmental accounts with a model of the global food system that tracks the production and consumption of food across the world. With this model, we analysed several options that could keep the food system within environmental limits. Here is what we found:

tenth to a quarter.

In addition to dietary changes, improving management practices and technologies in agriculture is required to limit pressures on agricultural land, freshwater extraction, and fertiliser use. Increasing agricultural yields from existing cropland, balancing application and recycling of fertilisers, and improving water management, could, along with other measures, reduce those impacts by around half.

Finally, halving food loss and waste could, if achieved globally, reduce environmental impact of food

production by up to a sixth.

### A CALL TO ACTION

Many of the solutions we analysed are already being implemented in some parts of the world, but it will need strong global coordination and rapid uptake to make their effects felt.

Take the necessary improvements to farming technologies and management practices, for instance. That would require a lot more investment in research and public infrastructure, it would need the right incentive schemes for farmers to ensure they don't miss out financially, and things like fertiliser use and water quality would need much stronger regulation.

Tackling food loss and waste will require measures across the entire food chain, from storage and transport, through food packaging and labelling, to changes in legislation and business behaviour that promote zero-waste supply chains.

When it comes to diets, comprehensive policy and business approaches are essential to make serious changes possible and attractive for a large number of people. Important aspects include school and workplace programmes, economic incentives and labelling, and aligning national dietary guidelines with the current scientific evidence on healthy eating and the environmental impacts of our diet.

As an individual, you can help by adopting a healthier diet with less meat. You can call on business to reduce waste across their supply chain and offer more plant-based food options. And you can hold politicians to account by demanding strong regulation of environmental resource use and pollution.

[the writer is Senior Researcher, Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food, University of Oxford]



# US urges Bangladesh to revise its new Digital Security law

**LALIT K JHA**  
**WASHINGTON, Oct 11 (PTI):** The US has urged Bangladesh to revise its controversial new law that puts restrictions on the media and bring it into conformity with the country's international commitments on human rights and political freedom.

Bangladesh President Abdul Hamid on Monday signed into law the new Digital Security Act which combines the colonial-era Official Secrets Act with tough new provisions such as arrests without a warrant.

Some of its draconian

provisions include a jail sentence of up to 14 years for spreading 'propaganda' about Bangladesh's 1971 war for independence from Pakistan, as well as a three-year sentence for publishing information that is 'aggressive or frightening'.

"We encourage the Government of Bangladesh to revise the law to bring it into conformity with Bangladesh's international commitments on human, civil, and political rights," a State Department spokesperson told PTI.

The law, which among other things in-

corporates measures restricting activities of the media personnel, has drawn wide-spread criticism both at home and abroad, including from human rights organisations, United Nations and European Union.

"While we recognise the need to protect digital security, we share the strong concerns of the international community that Bangladesh's Digital Security Act could be used to suppress and criminalise free speech, to the detriment of Bangladesh's democracy, development and prosperity," the State Department

Spokesperson said.

The US also urged Bangladesh to revise the law so as to ensure that it provides for checks and balances against arbitrary arrest and other undue restrictions imposed on the right to legitimate exercise of freedom of expression.

"The United States values freedom of expression, including on-line expression, as a key component of democratic governance," the spokesperson said.

"The new Digital Security Act is a tool ripe for abuse and a clear violation of the country's

obligations under international law to protect free speech," said Brad Adams, Asia director of Human Rights Watch.

In a recent joint statement, the heads of mission of the EU member states, the European Union delegation and the heads of mission of Norway and Switzerland, said the law unduly restrict the freedom of expression and the freedom of the media and undermine judicial procedural guarantees.

It called upon the Bangladeshi government to continue consultations on the law and pursue

the commitments taken during the Universal Periodic Review last May so as to ensure that the

Digital Security Act will be in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the In-

ternational Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the Constitution of Bangladesh.

## CPI(M)'s mouthpiece in Tripura resumes publication

**AGARTALA, Oct 11 (PTI):** Opposition CPI(M)'s mouthpiece in Tripura, 'Daily Desher Katha', resumed its publication from Thursday after a gap of 10 days following an order passed by the Tripura High Court on Wednesday.

The publication of the newspaper had stopped since October 1 following an order of the District Magistrate of West Tripura district Sandip N Mahatme.

A preliminary investigation conducted by the District Magistrate into a complaint allegedly for violating the Press and Registration of Books Act, had reportedly found "substance" in the complaint and a hearing process was initiated and the publication was stopped from October 1 last.

The newspaper filed a writ petition in the Tripura High Court and the court

in its order on Wednesday stayed the deregistration of 'Daily Desher Katha' and paved the way for the Bengali daily to resume publication.

The newspaper published its 49th issue of the 40th year of its publication Thursday with a declaration which names Samir Paul as editor and says that the newspaper is printed at Tripura Printers & Publishers Private Limited and published by the Daily Desher Katha Trust.

Publication of the newspaper was resumed today. The High Court issued stay order on an administrative order which stopped publication. There is no problem in publication now.

We are satisfied at the Courts order, editor of Daily Desher Katha Samir Paul told reporters.

## British Council to train teachers of NE: Anthony

**SHILLONG, Oct 11 (PTI):** The British Council Thursday signed an MoU with the North Eastern Council (NEC) for imparting training to 1600 teachers on English, Mathematics and Science over a period of ten months in eight north eastern states, officials said.

The 2-phase pilot project, which will begin from November this year, will see academicians of the British Council imparting training to 100 teachers each from each states in the North East, they said.

"An MoU was signed at the NEC secretariat here between the British Council and the NEC for imparting training to English, Mathematics and Science teachers in the region to improve quality of teaching," NEC Human Resources Development Director Siile Anthony told PTI.

He said training would

be for primary and secondary school teachers of government and private schools, the identification of which would be done by respective state governments.

In the first phase, teachers of each state would start take training and the best 50 would be further trained to become master trainers.

Anthony said the master trainers would then go to remote blocks and begin imparting similar training to other teachers in the region.

The second phase of the training program will begin from April 2019, he said.

The NEC has projected an expenditure of Rs 4.66 crore for logistics, food and lodging while the state governments will provide training infrastructure.



**Government of Sikkim**  
**Sikkim State Teachers' Recruitment Board**  
**Upper Syari, Gangtok.**

No: 15/SSSTRB      Dated: 10/10/2018

**NOTICE**

The office of Sikkim State Teachers Recruitment Board will be conducting written Examination for Post Graduate Teacher & Graduate Teacher in different language on the following dates:-

1. Post Graduate Teachers (Bhutia Lepcha & Limboo) on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
2. Graduate Teacher (Bhutia, Lepcha, Limboo & Nepali) on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criterion as per the Advertisement are advised to collect their Admit Cards from the office of Sikkim State Teachers' Recruitment Board, Upper Syari during office hour from 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 for Post Graduate Teacher (Bhutia Lepcha & Limboo) and from 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 to 24 November 2018 for Graduate Teacher (Bhutia, Lepcha, Limboo & Nepali).

Sd/-  
(Arati Subba)

Assistant Controller of Examinations  
Sikkim State Teachers' Recruitment Board.  
R.O. No. 419/IPR/Pub/Classi/18-19 dt. 11.10.18

## NE students' body demands NRC in entire region

**NEW DELHI, Oct 11 (PTI):** An influential students' body of the north-east Thursday urged the Centre to implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in the entire region to detect and deport the illegal immigrants living there.

The North East Students' Organisation (NESO) also claimed that China continued to issue staple visa to those residents of Arunachal Pradesh, who desired to travel to the neighbouring country, and urged the Centre to take up the issue with the Chinese authorities.

"Infiltration of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh is continuing unabated. We demand that like Assam, the NRC

should be implemented in all the other north-eastern states," NESO chairman Samuel B Jyrwa told a press conference here.

The NRC, a list of Assam's citizens, is currently being updated under the Supreme Court's supervision.

A NESO delegation met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju Wednesday and placed the demands.

The apex body of the students' organisations of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura also strongly opposed the proposed move to amend the Citizenship Act, saying this would allow the illegal immigrants to take

up Indian citizenship.

According to the draft Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2016, the government intends to grant citizenship to the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Christians, who have faced alleged religious persecution in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan and taken shelter in India.

"Irrespective of their religion, we consider anyone living in India without valid documents as illegal immigrants," said NESO advisor Samujjal K Bhattacharjya.

He also claimed that China continued to issue staple visa to the residents of Arunachal Pradesh and said the Centre must intervene to put an end to the practice.

**SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY,**  
DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK  
PHONE & FAX – 03592-2027753

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

The Sikkim State Legal Services Authority invites sealed 'Expression of Interest' (E.O.I.) (tender) from interested registered local firms for printing 720 (Seven Hundred and Twenty) copies of Sikkim SLSA Calendars for the year 2019 with the following specifications:

1.	Product	:	Offset printed custom made SLSA Calendar for the year 2019
2.	Theme	:	(To be decided)
3.	Quantity	:	720
4.	Size	:	16x24 inches, final bound size
5.	Binding	:	Spiral bound with heavy duty metal hanger & hanging type
6.	Binding Size	:	Shorter side i.e. 18 side
7.	Photographs	:	To be provided by Sikkim SLSA
8.	No. of sheets	:	Total fourteen (14)-12 sheets of 200 GSM art board consisting of 12 pages of dates and pictures printed in 4 colour offset process and two sheet of fly leaf (front and Rear Side), 120 GSM single side printed in four colours.
9.	Taxes	:	Party must quote rates inclusive of all taxes and transportation charges applicable.

10.	Last date and time for submission of E.O.I.	:	12.11.2018 (12:00 Hrs) Monday
11.	Date and time of opening of E.O.I.	:	12.11.2018 (14:00 Hrs) Monday
12.	Date of completion of the work	:	1 month after receiving of order
13.	Venue	:	Office of the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok

Interested parties may submit their "Expression of Interest" addressed to The Member Secretary, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok.

**Terms & Conditions**

1. No. E.O.I shall be entertained after the scheduled date and time.
2. The party quoting for the SLSA Calendar must have very good experience in the field of printing of Calendars in the past and must have their reputation of successful printing & Supplying of high quality product. Mere experience of printing does not qualify them for award of such SLSA Calendar printing work. The E.O.I should be supported by a certificate from the Department concerned having executed such type of printing work.
3. Only local printers having their own established printing press may apply.
4. The parties quoting tender must enclose atleast two different sample layout/designs (more for their advantage), which will also be a deciding factor for award of work.
5. The designs must be printed in colour in any of the processes such as colour, lased colour, digital colour printer, RGB colour photo processes, etc. It must be atleast A3 paper size i.e. 297mmX420mm.
6. If the party does not meet any of the required conditions mentioned above their quotation will be rejected outright.
7. The successful tenderer(s) shall collect the sample copy of the Calendar from the Office of the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok within two (2) days of receipt of the work order.
8. Once the order is placed, the party should submit the final layouts along with holiday listing (provided by SLSA) for approval of the Authority before actual printing within a week. The proof of which can be of a smaller size.
9. The Office shall not be liable to make payment of the defective Calendar which are not accprding to the specification.
10. Bidder shall submit Registration Certificate, Valid Professional Tax Clearance Certificate and GSTIN Number to be submitted at the time of submission of E.O.I.
11. Payment shall be subject to the deduction of 3% commission at source creditable under the head "0058-Ptg & Sty'.
12. If the party fails to execute the work after accepting the work order, he/she will be liable to pay for the penalty to the quantum of 5% of total value of work.
13. Tender shall be opened by the Tender Committee in presence of tenderer(s) or their authorised representatives.
14. In case of delay of supply, a penalty of Rs.1/-per day per Calendar will be levied.
15. All papers submitted by the bidders shall be properly signed with dates and the rates quoted shall be expressed in words as well as in figures.
16. The Authority reserves the full right to accept or reject any or all the "Expression of Interest" (EOI) or modify the terms thereof without assigning any reason and reserves the right to award the work to any party/ bidders found competent and competitive.

Sd/-  
Member Secretary

R.O. No. 422/IPR/pub/classi./18-19      Sikkim State Legal Services Authority  
dt. 11.10.18      Development Area, Gangtok

**SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**  
DEVELOPMENT AREA, GANGTOK  
PHONE& FAX – 03592-207753

**Expression of Interest**

The Sikkim State Legal Services Authority invites sealed "Expression of Interest" (E.O.I) from interested registered local firms for printing of "Lesson in Law" for Class IX (12,871 copies) and Class XI (8,401 copies) respectively to be published by the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority.

i)	Last date for submission of a quotation	:	10 <sup>th</sup> November, 2018 till 12:00 noon
ii)	Opening of Quotations	:	10 <sup>th</sup> November, 2018 at 02:00 pm in the Office of Sikkim SLSA.
iii)	Period of completion of work	:	10 <sup>th</sup> December, 2018
iv)	Venue	:	Office of the Sikkim SLSA.

The Interested parties may submit their "Expression of Interest" addressed to the Member Secretary, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok.

**Terms & Conditions**

1. No E.O.I shall be entertained on any ground whatsoever after the scheduled date and time.
2. Only local printers having their own established printing press and those having previous experience in text book printing in various departments of the State Government should quote their quotation. The quotation should be supported by a certificate from the Department concerned having executed such type or printing work.
3. An earnest money @ 2.5% in the form of Demand Draft should be enclosed with the Tender Form drawn in favour of Member Secretary, Sikkim State Legal Services Authority payable at Gangtok. The work value for printing of books is Ts. 35,00,000/- only.
4. Cost of Tender Form is Rs.5,000/- The prescribed non-transferable tender form (non-refundable) can be obtained from the office of Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok on production of Bank Receipt of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees five thousand) deposited in bank account No. 11018606748 in State Bank of India, Gangtok Branch under the name and title "Sikkim State Legal Services Authority- Legal Aid Fund".
5. Bidder shall submit Registration Certificate, Valid Trade License and GSTIN Number.
6. The Demand Draft of unsuccessful bidder will be returned within a period of one week from the date of opening of "Expression of Interest".
7. Sample copy of the paper should also be enclosed along with the quotation. Cover of the book should be made up of Art paper, coated-250gsm (colour print). Message should be written in Art paper, coated-120 gsm (Colour print). Inner Text should be written in (maplito-80 gsm) single colour and the size of the book should be Length 9 ½" & Breadth 6".
8. The successful bidder should deliver the text books to the text book units/ stores of the HRD located in the 4(four) district viz: East at Gangtok, North at Mangan, South at Namchi and West at Gyalshing.
9. EOI submitted by the bidder should be inclusive of all applicable taxes, transportation, labour charges etc.
10. The Office shall not be liable to make payment of the defective text books which are not according to the specifications.
11. The successful bidder shall collect the sample copy of the text books from the office of the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, Development Area, Gangtok within two (2) days of the receipt of work order.
12. Payment shall be subject to the deduction of 3% commission at source creditable under the head "0058 Ptg & Sty".
13. All papers as will be submitted by the bidders shall be properly signed with dates and the rates quoted be expressed in words as well as in figures.
14. The successful bidder on being awarded the allotted work shall have to execute papers accepting terms and conditions as will be imposed by the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority.
15. Once the order is placed, the party should submit the proof within 7(seven) days for approval of the Authority before actual printing.
16. The Authority shall forfeit the Earnest Money of the successful bidder for non-compliance of any of the terms & conditions without any reason thereof.
17. The Authority reserves the full right to accept or reject any or all the "Expression of Interest" (EOI) or modify the terms thereof without assigning any reason and reserves the right to award the work to any party/ bidders found competent and competitive.

Sd/-  
Member Secretary

R.O. No. 417/IPR/pub/classi./18-19      Sikkim State Legal Services Authority  
dt. 11.10.18      Development Area, Gangtok

**Sainik School Goalpara**  
**All India Sainik School Entrance Examination- Session 2019-20**

Applications are invited for admission in Sainik School Goalpara in Class VI & IX for boys only. Admission details for academic year 2019-2020 are as follows:

Class	Age	Vacancy	Reservation
VI	10 to 12 years as on 31 Mar 2019 (Born between 01 Apr 2007 and 31 Mar 2009, Both days are inclusive)	110	SC      15%
			ST      7 ½ %
IX	13 to 15 years as on 31 Mar 2019 (Born in between 01 Apr 2004 and 31 Mar 2006, Both days are inclusive).	20	Domicile (Assam)      25% of domicile & other state category
			Other State      Remaining Seats
			Defence seats (Serving / Ex Servicemen)      25% of Domicile & other state

Exam Schedule (OMR based examination)

Class VI			Class IX		
Duration of Examination			Duration of Examination		
Sl.No	Subject	No. Of Ques/Marks	Sl. No	Subject	No of Ques/ Marks
(a)	Maths	50 x 3	(a)	Maths	50 x 4
(b)	Gen Knowledge (SC & SST)	25 x 2	(b)	English	25 x 2
(c)	Language	25 x 2	(c)	Intelligence	25 x 2
(d)	Intelligence	25 x 2	(d)	Gen Science	25 x 2
Total Marks		300	(e)	Social Studies	25 x 2
			Total Marks		400

Qualifying Marks : 25% in each subject and 40% in aggregate.

Medium of Examination:  
(a) English for Class IX.  
(b) English, Hindi or Assamese for Class VI.

Scholarship: Rs. 30,000/- for domicile children of Assam, irrespective of parental income. Scholarship for other States is as per respective of State Policy.

Important Dates

Online Registration for Admission	08 Oct 2018 to 26 Nov 2018
Apply Online in (sainikschooladmission.in) or ( <a href="http://www.sainikschoolgoalpara.org">www.sainikschoolgoalpara.org</a> )	
Application Fee is Rs. 400/- for General Candidates and Rs. 250/- for SC/ST candidates.	
Last date for Online Application	01 Dec 2018
Date of Examination	06 Jan 2019 (Sunday)

Exam Centres: Guwahati, Goalpara, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Shillong & Gangtok.

Old Question Paper. Available for Class IV & IX in SSG on payment of Rs. 100/-

CAUTION

- Selection process is very fair and transparent. Dont' pay money to anyone.
- If anyone promises you admission in the School, lodge a complaint in the Police Station.

Sainik School Goalpara, Rajapara Post, Goalpara Dt., Assam 783133  
Phone – 03663 – 287076 / Email – [ssg1964@yahoo.com](mailto:ssg1964@yahoo.com)

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# 2nd Test: India aim to be ruthless, West Indies seek redemption

**KUSHAN SARKAR**

**HYDERABAD, OCT 11 (PTI):** India's ruthless home run is unlikely to be challenged when the team takes on a below-par West Indies in the second Test Friday in what threatens to be another lopsided contest.

After the hosts won the first Test by a record innings and 272 runs, there are hardly any signs that there will be a change in the script as the second Test promises to be another run-feast.

Add to it, skipper Jason Holder is still not 100 per cent fit and their only fast bowler of repute Shannon Gabriel is a doubtful starter for the encounter. India, on the other hand, have not made any changes to the squad that won the first game inside three days in Rajkot.

The lop-sided matches are hardly the kind of preparation the Indian team would have wanted before the big-ticket series against Australia starting December.

In fact, Virat Kohli's team might not be able to escape a sense of deja vu as it goes into the second Test.

In 2011, India dom-



inated West Indies 2-0 in a one-sided series before crashing to a 0-4 defeat against Australia Down Under.

Similarly, in 2013 when India won both Test matches well inside three days, the next tour of South Africa didn't pan out well as they lost the series.

It is just an indicator that the West Indies Test teams over the years have not been competitive enough to challenge the Indian team, which is anyway formidable on

home turf.

In contests like these, the focus is on challenging one's own self which skipper Virat Kohli did in the first Test where he scored 139 off 230 balls.

While 18-year-old Prithvi Shaw expectedly hogged the limelight with a smashing ton on debut, Kohli's innings was a master-class of how to set a different challenge for oneself as a batsman.

The West Indies bowling, which at best can be compared to a lower rung first-class

side in India, could have been taken to the cleaners but the Indian skipper hit only 10 fours in his knock -- significantly less than Shaw's 19 boundaries and Cheteshwar Pujara's 14 hits.

The bulk of the runs 99 of them came in singles and doubles. Perhaps, he was trying to check if he curbs certain strokes, how his game will shape up. He showed a different facet to his batsmanship during the 24th Test hundred.

The only area of con-

cern for India will be vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane's form, who was touted as the best player in overseas conditions back in 2013-14 season, when he scored 96 at Durban, 118 at Wellington, 103 at the Lord's and 145 at Melbourne.

Rahane has gone without a Test hundred for nearly 14 months (last hundred came against Sri Lanka in August 2017).

His career has tapered off a bit in the last couple of years. And the second Test would be last shot to get back into a good frame of mind before the Australia series, which could be make or break for him.

The Indian team has decided against any experiments with Mayank Agarwal failing to find a place in the XI for this game.

Bowling coach Bharath Arun put up a strong argument for the out-of-form KL Rahul (14 failures in 16 knocks this year).

The decision to play him for this Test is a fair enough indication that India will be looking at the Rahul-Shaw combination going into that first Test against Australia in Adelaide on December 6.

Shardul Thakur continues to be the 12th man as a 2-0 series win is paramount for the home team at this point of time.

Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav will also like to use this opportunity well as they are unlikely to feature in the ODI series.

For West Indies, the aim will be to at least put up some fight unlike the Rajkot game where they didn't even last 100 overs across both innings.

Kieran Powell's 83 and Roston Chase's 53 were the only notable contributions from the Caribbean batting line-up in the first game.

In the second innings, it looked as if the batsmen were in a tearing hurry to hit every ball where the need of the hour was to show patience.

The West Indies' slide in Test is a combination of both lack of application and technique needed to compete at the highest level.

They would love to redeem themselves, which looks highly unlikely as of now.

## We have plans in place for Shaw: Chase

**HYDERABAD, OCT 11 (PTI):** West Indies all-rounder Roston Chase says they are better-prepared to tackle young Indian batsman Prithvi Shaw, whose initial onslaught had set the tone for their embarrassing defeat in the first Test.

Young Shaw scored a century on debut, playing a key role in India's big win in the series-opener.

"I am sure our guys would have learnt quickly from what happened in the first Test and we will know some of the strengths of the young Shaw, who really took us apart early in the game. I am sure we will learn from our mistakes in the first game and move on smartly in the second game," Chase said on the eve of the second Test.

While there is a plan in place for Shaw, Chase didn't want to divulge. "We had a long chat after the first Test and came up with some plans. We discussed how we are looking to bowl at him in the second Test along with some of the other batters. I can't obviously discuss our plans in the conference. I think we have a better idea of what we are looking to do against him."

One of the positives going into the second Test is the presence of senior-most pacer Kemar Roach and captain Jason Holder. "It's always good to have the captain back. I am not sure what the line-up will be for the next match. Can't really say who is playing but it's really good to have Kemar



thought that on the first afternoon that we batted, guys were a bit tired having fielded so many overs. But after that, I thought we didn't really apply ourselves on the pitch.

"We didn't really mix the aggression with defence and weren't really in control of some of the shots that we were playing. We attacked early and then when they set the field back, I thought that's where we struggled after they took away our boundary options. I thought we didn't really rotate the strike as well as we should, and that was what really led to our downfall.

He also admitted that playing with two inexperienced pacers Keemo Paul and Sherman Lewis was also contributed to defeat as they were unable to control the rampaging Indian batsmen.

"The bowling, it was always going to be hard coming in with two new very inexperienced bowlers, having lost our captain and Roach had to go back home. It was always going to hard to contain the batsmen, especially in the pace department. But it is Test cricket, you have to learn quickly."

## Asian Para Games: Sharad Kumar smashes continental record for gold in men's high jump

**JAKARTA, OCT 11 (PTI):** India took over the podium in men's high jump T42/63 category, claiming all the medals up for grabs with defending champion Sharad Kumar smashing two records to snare a second successive gold in the Asian Para Games here on Thursday.

The 26-year-old world championships silver-medallist bettered the Asian as well as the Games record with a jump of 1.90m to claim the top honours. The T42/63 covers lower limb deficiency, leg length difference, impaired muscle power and impaired range of movement.

The silver was claimed by Rio Paralympic bronze-medallist Varun Bhati (1.82m) and the bronze went to the Rio gold-medallist Thangavelu Mariyappan (1.67m). Bhati's jump was his season's best effort.

Sharad, who hails from Bihar, suffered paralysis in his left leg at the age of two after being administered a spurious polio medicine at the local eradication drive. He has been a former world number one.

Earlier, Indian javelin thrower Sundar Singh Gurjar won a silver medal in the men's F46 category where two-time Paralympic gold-medallist Devendra Jhajharia finished fourth.

## Arundhati Roy, Jeet Thayil, Tabish Khair in DSC Prize longlist

**WORKS** of popular authors like Arundhati Roy, Jeet Thayil, Tabish Khair, Mohsin Hamid and Kamila Shamsie are among 16 novels longlisted for the USD 25,000 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature 2018.

The longlist, announced here Wednesday, features books by six women authors and three women translators, and two debut novels. It has four translated works where the original writings were in Assamese, Kannada, Tamil and Hindi.

Among the books in the longlist are: "All The Lives We Never Lived" (Anuradha Roy); "The Ministry Of Utmost Happiness" (Arundhati Roy); "The Saga Of Satsar" (Chandrakanta, translated by Ranjana Kaul); "Temporary People" (Deepak Unnikrishnan); "No Presents Please" (Jayant Kaikini, translated by Tejaswini Niranjana) and "The Book Of Chocolate Saints" (Jeet Thayil).

"Home Fire" by Kamila Shamsie; "Miss Laila Armed And Dangerous" (Manu Joseph); "Exit West" (Mohsin Hamid); "A State Of Freedom" (Neel Mukherjee); "Poonachi" (Perumal Murugan, translated by N Kalyan Raman); "Leila" (Prayaag Akbar); "Chinatown Days" (Written and translated by Rita Chowdhury); "Marriage Of A Thousand Lies" (S J Sindu); "Harilal & Sons" (Sujit Saraf) and "Night Of Happiness" (Tabish Khair) complete the longlist.

The list was announced by historian-academic Rudrangshu Mukherjee, who is the chair of the jury panel. The other members of the jury are Nandana Sen, Claire Armistead, Tissa Jayatilaka and Firdous Azim. Mukherjee said it was an "exhilarating and exhausting exercise" for him and his fellow jurors reading 88 books and then preparing the list.

## Birdies in the air: Golf back in Pakistan after 11-year hitch

**KARACHI, OCT 11 (AFP):** Birds were released over fairways and ceremonial drives were struck as international golf returned to Pakistan Thursday after an 11-year absence.

A full field of 132 players from around the globe were teeing up in the Asian Tour's UMA CNS Open Championship at Karachi Golf Club, the latest thawing of relations with the militancy-hit country that has spent years in the sporting wilderness.

"Coming back to Pakistan is a fantastic opportunity for us," Robert Andrew, event director of the Asian Tour told AFP, brushing off any security concerns.

"This is the starting point for future years after the success of this event." No major golf tour has visited Pakistan since 2007. The last scheduled tournament, in 2008, was cancelled after a wave of



insurgent attacks.

"It is always good to be here as people are very lovely and friendly," said Australian golfer Marcus Both. "I came here 10 years ago. The perception is bad but in reality it is very different." The 2009 attack on Sri Lanka's bus in Lahore, in which eight people were killed, caused all sporting visits to be suspended.

But successful military operations in the country's northwest near the Afghan border and crackdowns in urban centres, including the restive

port city of Karachi, have improved the situation.

The country has twice hosted the Pakistan Super League cricket finals featuring international stars plus successful limited-over series against Zimbabwe, a World XI and Sri Lanka in the past 18 months.

They cleared the way for more sports with squash, tennis and now golf having returned.

**- WALLS COME DOWN -** Former Asian Tour winner and Indian national Digvijay Singh said arriv-

ing in Pakistan felt like home, suggesting sport could pave the road for better relations between Islamabad and Delhi.

"I am really feeling home here and we are so overwhelmingly welcomed us," said Naval Commodore Mushtaq Ahmed.

Pakistan hosted its first Asian Tour event in 1989, which was won by Filipino Frankie Minoza.

The country's only Asian Tour winner remains Taimur Hussain who triumphed at an event in Myanmar in 1998.

India-Pakistan ties, including sports and cultural contacts, plum-

meted after deadly 2008 attacks in Mumbai, which New Delhi blamed on Pakistani militants.

While cricket remains the undisputed number one sport in Pakistan, golf is popular with the country's powerful army, with military areas where the top brass reside frequently home to some of Pakistan's best courses.

Pakistan's Navy are hosting this week's Asian Tour event, which has a 300,000 prize fund.

"There is a very overwhelming response by foreign players and that surprised us," said Naval Commodore Mushtaq Ahmed.

Pakistan hosted its first Asian Tour event in 1989, which was won by Filipino Frankie Minoza.

The country's only Asian Tour winner remains Taimur Hussain who triumphed at an event in Myanmar in 1998.

## India lost USD 79.5 billion from climate-related disasters in 20 years: UN

**YOSHITA SINGH UNITED NATIONS, OCT 11 (PTI):** India suffered a whopping USD 79.5 billion economic loss due to climate-related disasters in the last 20 years, according to a UN report which highlights the impact of extreme weather events on the global economy.

The report titled 'Economic Losses, Poverty and Disasters 1998-2017' was compiled by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. It states that the years between 1998 to 2017 have seen a dramatic rise of 151 per cent in direct economic losses from climate-related disasters.

In terms of the impact of disasters on the global economy between 1998 and 2017, affected countries reported direct losses of USD 2.908 trillion, more than twice of

what was lost in the previous two decades.

Illustrating the growing threat from climate change, extreme weather events now account for 77 per cent of total economic losses of USD 2.245 trillion, said the report released on Wednesday.

This represents a "dramatic rise" of 151 per cent compared with losses reported between 1978 and 1997, which amounted to USD 895 billion.

The greatest economic losses have been experienced by the US at USD 944.8 billion, followed by China at USD 492.2 billion, Japan at USD 376.3 billion, India at USD 79.5 billion and Puerto Rico at USD 71.7 billion.

Storms, floods and earthquakes place three European countries in the top ten nations for eco-

nomical losses: France, USD 48.3 billion; Germany, USD 57.9 billion and Italy USD 56.6 billion. Thailand with USD 52.4 billion and Mexico at USD 46.5 billion complete the list.

In terms of occurrences, climate-related disasters also dominate the picture, accounting for 91 per cent of all 7,255 major recorded events between 1998 and 2017.

Floods (43.4 per cent) and storms (28.2 per cent) are the two most frequently occurring disasters.

During this period, 1.3 million people lost their lives and 4.4 billion people were injured, rendered homeless, displaced or in need of emergency assistance.

563 earthquakes, including related tsunamis, accounted for 56 per cent of the total deaths or 747,234 lives lost, the re-

port said.

The report was released ahead of the International Day for Disaster Reduction on October 13.

In his message for the day, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in the wake of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia, it was clear that disasters have a steep human cost as millions of people are displaced every year, losing their homes and jobs because of extreme weather events and earthquakes.

"A better understanding of the economic losses from extreme weather events can help to generate greater action on climate change and increased ambition on reducing greenhouse-gas emissions.

"Measuring economic losses can also motivate

Governments to do more to achieve the targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which seeks a substantial reduction in disaster losses by 2030," he said.

Guterres said that reducing the economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives and contribute greatly to the eradication of poverty.

A key target of the global plan to reduce disaster losses, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, is to reduce economic losses from disasters and the report highlights the fact that 63 per cent of disaster reports contain no economic data.

Another key highlight is the disproportionate impact of disaster events on low and middle-income countries even if

high-income countries bear the brunt of absolute economic losses.

Only one high-income territory ranked among the "top ten" in terms of annual average percentage losses relative to GDP - Puerto Rico with 12.2 per cent.

UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Reduction Mami Mizutori said much needed to be done to address the high number of deaths in seismic zones.

"The death and suffering caused by this month's earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia brings home the need to raise public awareness and to apply high standards for construction in seismic zones.

"The report's analysis makes it clear that economic losses from

extreme weather events are unsustainable and a major brake on eradicating poverty in hazard-exposed parts of the world," Mizutori said.

Mizutori said there was a need to do a much better job of capturing economic loss data if nations are to have a fuller understanding of what works when it comes to reducing economic losses, saving lives and livelihoods, and managing disaster risk.

While high-income countries recorded losses for 53 per cent of reported disasters between 1998 and 2017, low-income countries only recorded them for 13 per cent of disasters.

The report concludes that climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events.



Lanka rejects US claims, says no Chinese military base at port

**COLOMBO, Oct 11 (PTI):** Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe has rejected US' claim that China might set up a "forward military base" at a strategic port it has leased to the communist nation, describing it as "imaginary".

Last year, Colombo had leased the Hambantota port to Beijing for 99 years after it failed to repay a Chinese loan of USD 1.4 billion for the project.

China gaining the control of the port has raised concerns that the country could use the harbour for military purposes.

Addressing a programme at London's Oxford University on Monday, Wickremesinghe said some people are seeing "imaginary Chinese Naval bases in Sri Lanka. Whereas the Hambantota Port is a commercial joint venture between our Ports Authority and China Merchants - a company listed in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange."

"There are no foreign naval bases in Sri Lanka," he emphasised.

His comments came days after US Vice-President Mike Pence alleged China of using "debt diplomacy" to expand its global influence and said that Hambantota "may soon become a forward military base for China's growing blue-water navy".

Several media reports suggested that the deep-water port, which is near a main shipping route between Asia and Europe, is likely to play a major role in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

The BRI, also known as the Silk Road Economic Belt, is a development strategy proposed by the Chinese government which focuses on connectivity and cooperation between Eurasian countries.

The Chinese government calls the initiative "a bid to enhance regional connectivity and embrace a brighter future". However, other nations, including India, see it as a push by Beijing to take a larger role in global affairs with a China-centred trading network.

India's has been vocal in expressing its opposition to the BRI, which includes the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that traverses through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Wickremesinghe said Lankan Navy's Southern Command was being relocated in the Hambantota port to control security and "the US Defence Department has been briefed on these developments".

He said Sri Lanka was also concluding a commercial agreement that would see the Airport Authority of India (AAI) taking over the control of the Hambantota airport, which was built with high interest commercial loan from China.

The Prime Minister said, "In this atmosphere of suspicion, many countries fear that the South China Sea issues can spill over, leading to future militarisation and military competition in the Indian Ocean."

"This has resulted in a number of stakeholders intensifying their interest and presence in the Indian Ocean by expanding their fleets, upgrading their bases, securing access to foreign ports, and aggressive naval posturing via joint exercises, extended sorties, and live-fire drills.

Losses on Wall Street rip through Asian financial markets

**SINGAPORE, Oct 11 (AP):** A stock market rout that started on Wall Street rolled through Asia, driving China's benchmark to a four-year low on Thursday and knocking down indexes in Japan, Korea and Australia.

The Shanghai Composite index plunged 5.2 per cent to its lowest level since November 2014 and Japan's Nikkei 225 fell by an unusually wide margin of almost 4 per cent. Markets across Southeast Asia recorded similar declines.

"Equity markets were pulverized today," with investors in "full out retreat," Stephen Innes of OANDA

said in a commentary. The "latest sneeze" from Wall Street "could morph into a global markets pandemic," he added.

Investors are wary of possible further U.S. interest rate hikes, which will raise the cost of corporate borrowing and weigh on economic growth.

On Wednesday, President Donald Trump said the Federal Reserve "is making a mistake" with its campaign of rate increases. "I think the Fed has gone crazy," he charged.

"Equity investors are surprised by the pace at which rates have risen," said Marcella Chow, glob-

al market strategist at JP Morgan Asset Management in a report.

Sentiment also has been dampened by the spreading US-Chinese tariff fight over Beijing's technology policy. The International Monetary Fund cut its outlook for global growth this week, citing interest rates and trade tensions.

The US Treasury is due to release a currency report that some analysts suggest might change the official stance on China's exchange rate policy.

Chow said it was unclear whether the Treasury might label Beijing a "currency manipulator" a

status that could trigger penalties or whether it could be "another pretext for the next round of tariffs."

Adding to potential US-China tensions, the Justice Department announced Wednesday it arrested an official of China's Ministry of State Security on charges of trying to steal trade secrets from US aerospace companies.

Tokyo's Nikkei 225 gave up 3.9 per cent to 22,590.86 and the Shanghai Composite index lost 5.2 per cent to 2,583.46.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index shed 3.7 per cent to 25,220.67. The Kos-

pi in South Korea fell 4.4 per cent to 2,129.67. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slipped 2.7 per cent to 5,883.80. Stocks plunged in Taiwan and fell across Southeast Asia.

On Wednesday, US stocks slumped as concerns over rising interest rates and trade tensions caused a sell-off in technology and internet stocks. The Dow Jones Industrial Average suffered its worst loss in eight months, falling 3.1 per cent to 25,598.74.

The S&P 500 index sank 3.3 per cent to 2,785.68. The Nasdaq composite, which has a large contingent of

technology stocks, was 4.1 per cent lower at 7,422.05. It has fallen 7.5 per cent in just five days. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks shed 2.9 per cent, to 1,575.41.

Apple and Amazon, the two most valuable companies in the S&P 500, each had their worst day in 2 years. Apple slipped by 4.6 per cent while Amazon lost 6.2 per cent.

Amazon has soared 50 per cent this year, but its stock has fallen 14 per cent from its all-time high in early September.

Francis Tan, an investment strategist at

UOB Private Bank, believes that the markets will pick up in the US session. "The valuation of US stocks, especially tech stocks, is still pretty high and there could be some profit taking actions now," Tan explained.

The dollar rose to 112.34 yen from 112.27 yen late Wednesday. The euro rose to USD 1.1546 from USD 1.1523.

Oil futures fell. US crude gave up 70 cents to USD 72.47 a barrel. The contract settled at USD 73.17 in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, dropped 76 cents to USD 82.33 a barrel.

Crew of Soyuz rocket survive emergency landing after engine problem



Over the past few years the Russian space industry has suffered a series of problems including the loss of a number of satel-

lites and other spacecraft.

The rocket was launched was from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan at 0210 IST.

"The launch had a problem with the booster (rocket) a few seconds after the first stage separation and we can con-

firm now that the crew has started to go into ballistic descent mode," the voiceover on a NASA livestream from mission control in Houston said.

The NASA commentator later said the crew was in good condition and communicating with rescue workers after landing east of the Kazakh city of Zhezkazgan.

The descent was sharper than usual meaning the crew was subjected to a greater G-force, but they have been prepared for this scenario in training, the commentator said.

A source in the Russian space agency told AFP that rescue workers had reached the crew.

The Kremlin confirmed the men had survived. Russian presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists: "Thank God the cosmonauts are alive".

Roscosmos' online stream of the launch cut out shortly after lift-off.

Former military pilots Ovchinnikov and Hague were set to join Alexander Gerst of the European Space Agency, NASA's Serena Anunon-Chancellor and Sergey Prokopyev of Roscosmos following a six-hour flight.

The International Space Station - a rare point of cooperation between Moscow and Washington - has been orbiting the Earth at

roughly 28,000 kilometres per hour since 1998 and will mark its 20th birthday in November.

Hague was born in the same year the United States and the Soviet Union launched their first joint space mission, the Apollo-Soyuz, or Soyuz-Apollo mission in 1975.

Dmitry Rogozin, a fire-brand nationalist politician who this year was appointed by President Vladimir Putin to head Roscosmos, said on Twitter he had ordered a state commission to probe the accident.

Rogozin was flying to the scene of the emergency landing, the space agency said.

FAFT team not happy with Pakistan's efforts to combat terror financing: Report

**SAJJAD HUSSAIN ISLAMABAD, Oct 11 (PTI):** Not impressed with Pakistan's efforts to combat terror financing, a delegation of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has asked it to do more to strengthen its legal framework if it wants to avoid being blacklisted by the Paris-based anti-money laundering watchdog, according to a media report on Thursday.

Currently placed on the FATF's 'grey list', Pakistan has been scrambling in recent months to avoid being added to a list of countries deemed non-compliant with anti-money laundering and terrorist financing regulations by the FATF, a measure that officials here fear could further hurt its economy.

A second team of ex-

perts from the FATF arrived over the weekend to review the progress made by Pakistan on an action plan agreed in June to address global concerns.

Dawn reported that the delegation of the Asia Pacific Group (APG) of the FATF was not impressed with the progress made by Pakistan so far as it found the legal framework insufficient, and the institutional arrangements weak.

According to sources, the delegation feared that the setup installed for scrutinising the activities of non-profit organisations, brokerage houses, exchange companies and donations of corporate entities - registered under the companies act - was not robust enough.

The sources said that

the APG believed that even in areas where the legal framework appeared vigorous, the implementation mechanism was not geared to track down financial flows of the entities in question, because the agencies involved were not well-connected, according to the report.

This weakness was prominent in real estate brokerages where large business transactions remained outside the ambit of legal records.

A team of the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) reported to the APG that brokerage houses were largely documented though real estate dealers and their operations were generally outside its area of regulation.

The APG also no-

ticed shortcomings in commodity trading - and the effectiveness of laws against money laundering through cross-verification of service providers.

The sources said the delegation asked the relevant authorities to issue deadlines for resolving the flagged weaknesses so that the problems could be remedied and future performance evaluations be made on the proposed matrix.

The authorities would also have to properly record the number of donation boxes placed by religious and other organisations at restaurants and business centres among other places. Besides, all currency and real estate dealers would have to record every transaction - both small and large.

The purpose of the mutual evaluation visit is to assess the effectiveness of Pakistan's Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) regime under FATF methodology.

The visiting team included Ian Collins of the United Kingdom's Scotland Yard, James Prussing of the United States Department of the Treasury, Ashraf Abdullah of the Financial Intelligence Unit of the Maldives, Bobby Wahyu Hernawan of the Indonesian Ministry of Finance, Gong Jingyan of the Peoples Bank of China and Mustafa Necmeddin Oztop of the Turkish Ministry of Justice.

In June 2018, Pakistan made a high-level political commitment to

work with the FATF and the APG to strengthen its AML/CFT regime and to address its strategic counter-terrorism financing-related deficiencies by implementing a 10-point action plan.

The successful implementation of the plan and its verification by the APG is a prerequisite for the FATF to remove Pakistan from its grey list.

Earlier in August, the APG - as part of the mutual evaluation - identified a series of deficiencies in Pakistan's AML/CFT mechanisms. By the end of September next year, Pakistan must comply with the 10-point action plan it committed to with the FATF or else it will fall into the black list.

The authorities are required to upgrade agen-

cies and their human resource assets to be able to handle foreign requests to block terror financing and freeze illegal assets. The authorities are working on strengthening laws for extradition of those involved in terror financing and money laundering on requests from FATF-member countries.

By January next year, Pakistan will identify and assess domestic and international terror financing risks to and from its system to strengthen investigations and improve inter-agency cooperation, the Federal Investigation Agency, the State Bank of Pakistan, the SECP, banks, the interior department as well as all other associated federal and provincial agencies, the report said.

Sierra Leone scraps project for Chinese-built airport

**FREETOWN (SIERRA LEONE), Oct 11 (AFP):** Sierra Leone has scrapped a USD 400-million (347-million-euro) scheme for a Chinese-built airport, saying the project was too costly, but Beijing sought to dismiss the concerns on Thursday.

In a statement, the ministry of transport and aviation said that "after serious consideration and due diligence," the government had determined the Mamamah International Airport initiative was "uneconomical".

All contracts under the project are being terminated, it said on Wednesday.

China's foreign ministry said Thursday the assertions that projects "do not contribute to local livelihoods do not correspond with the facts."

"When cooperating with Sierra Leone, China always follows the principle of equal consultation," spokesman Lu Kang told reporters during a regular press briefing.

Critics say China's approach to development abroad is exacerbating debt problems in poorer countries, but Chinese and African leaders rejected such concerns at a summit in Beijing last month, with President Xi Jinping pledging another

USD 60 billion for the continent.

Sierra Leone's previous president, Ernest Bai Koroma, signed a loan agreement with China for the airport shortly before elections in March that his party lost.

His successor, Julius Maada Bio, vowed to stop the scheme.

He also lashed Chinese infrastructure projects generally as "a sham" that brought the impoverished West African state scant economic benefit.

The scheme entailed building a new airport around 50 kilometres (30 miles) outside the capital Freetown.

It would be completed in 2022 and managed and maintained by the Chinese.

But critics questioned the need for a new airport given that Freetown's existing airport, Lungi, is operating below capacity.

The government on Wednesday said it was looking into the possibility of building a bridge between Freetown and Lungi airport -- a scheme that has been priced at more than USD 1 billion.

The airport and another major Chinese project, a toll road, shouldered their way into Sierra Leone's presidential election in March.

Several candidates declared the schemes were unaffordable and should be scrapped or reviewed.

Bio went furthest, going on record as saying "most of the Chinese infrastructural projects in Sierra Leone are a sham with no economic and development benefits to the people."

China has provided infrastructure and development aid to Africa since the Cold War.

But its interest and presence in the continent have grown exponentially in the past two decades, in parallel with its emergence as a global economic giant.

China overtook the United States in 2009 as Africa's biggest trading partner.

Chinese loans, meanwhile, have soared, especially in transport and energy infrastructure.

Some analysts have warned of a debt trap as some of the world's poorest states struggle to repay their borrowings.

Between 2000 and 2017, China's government, banks and contractors lent African countries USD 143 billion, according to the China-Africa Research Initiative at Johns Hopkins University in Washington.

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# Industry had heard rumours about Vikas Bahl: Arjun Kapoor

KOMAL PANCHAMATIA  
MUMBAI, OCT 11 (PTI):

There were always whispers in the industry about the allegations of sexual harassment against Vikas Bahl, says Arjun Kapoor, who is shocked that it happened at Phantom Films, a production banner which was viewed as a torch-bearer of change in cinema.

Bahl is accused of sexual harassment by a former employee of Phantom Films, formed by four partners - Bahl, Anurag Kashyap, Vikramaditya Motwane and Madhu Mantena. The company was dissolved last week amid allegations that Kashyap and Motwane did not address the issue, a claim both deny.

Arjun, 33, said he had interacted with the four filmmakers and it was saddening to read the details.

"There was speculation in the industry. There were certain peo-



ple who knew the reality within the office (Phantom Films). The hearsay doesn't allow us the power to do something when people within the office are not doing something. It is like when there is a robbery happening in your house, the neighbour can't file the complaint.

"Not having an HR in office is bizarre, I am not able to wrap my head around this... It is basic for any company, you could have saved the girl from further damage if you had a

safe environment in your office, it is sad and bizarre," Arjun told PTI.

Arjun said there is not point giving individuals importance by discussing them as everyone is still coming to terms with it.

"We had only heard, we had no understanding. It is unfortunate as they were intelligent, sorted and successful people who were going to be the torchbearers of change in our films.

"It is a sad time for people as we are still processing what happened. There is no reason talking about individuals, giving them more importance than they deserve. They will be outcast anyway."

The #MeToo movement of India has brought out several skeletons out of the closet. Personalities like Nana Patekar, Alok Nath, Rajat Kapoor, Vikas Bahl and Kailash Kher have been accused of sexual harassment.

Asked whether he will ever collaborate with people who have been named, Arjun said, "These are not important things. You think society will allow them to exist? Work is a far-fetched thing. People who are going to be named are not going to be able to roam around easily. It is going to be a different environment"

Women have come out and spoken and one needs to hear them, respect and understand

what they have been through, he said.

"Whether one takes, ten years or 20 years, it is not important. They can take 30 years or three minutes. The fact that they had the courage to come out and take names is commendable. They are in a vulnerable position and we need to let them put everything out."

"I would like to say when a woman is going through something like this, they don't look for evidence. You have to support them. 99.9 per cent of the women will be speaking the truth. It doesn't suit them to malign their own life and somebody else's."

Arjun said it is unfortunate that the film industry is the starting point of #MeToo but he is happy that it will bring about a change.

"If the film industry has to be a villain for there to be a cleanse in society, for people to have fear to ever do these

things again, if we can cause that fear in any man across the country and stop him subconsciously from doing something like this, I will take that."

Arjun said the stories are like the opening of the Pandora's box.

"The mud-slinging that has happened, somewhere the industry is to be blamed because we have ignored the speculation and nobody bothered to get to the bottom of things. And we all behave like it doesn't happen in the film industry. The reality is coming out and it is a Pandora's box."

"We all need to shut up and listen. To look for excuses is stupid, we have to introspect as an industry and as a profession. We have to try and find a solution to make it a safe environment for women."

The actor said the industry will have a unified reaction against the culprits and in creating a safe and secure envi-

ronment for women.

"There will be a harsh treatment that will follow from the law as well as from the profession, but we need to take time to take stock. We cannot have an immediate reaction. This is something that will go on for a while and certain facets will emerge. Then, we will all be in a position to have a solution."

Arjun said the issue of women safety is not just limited to films. It is a deep-rooted mindset in the country.

"There is a big difference between social decorum and being friends or wanting to be physically intimate with a man and that blur of lines only Indian men seem to have. It is a big problem that we don't seem to comprehend when a woman is being nice to you. That blur has caused a lot of damage. The demarcation is now needed, when a woman says, No, it is a No."

## Trump mocks #MeToo movement

WASHINGTON, OCT 11 (PTI): US President Donald Trump has mocked the #MeToo movement, saying that the campaign made it improper to use the phrase "the person who got away".

Trump's claim that #MeToo prevents him from using the phrase is his latest volley against the movement, which became a force after sexual assault allegations against Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein surfaced last year.

"There's an expression, but under the rules of #MeToo, I am not allowed to use that expression anymore. I can't do it," Trump said at a mid-term election rally in Pennsylvania, and then he pointed at the phrase "the girl that got away".

"It's the person that got away. The old days, it was a little different than Pennsylvania to it," he said as he spoke about winning the state in the 2016 presidential election.

Pointing to the media, Trump said he would use the original phrase, except for the media. "I would do it except for these people up there.



They would say, did you hear what President Trump said? Did you hear what he said?" he said imitating reporters.

"So, there is an expression, but we'll change the expression. Pennsylvania was always the person that got away. That's pretty good," he said amidst applause from the audience.

The revelation of the allegations against Weinstein inspired many women to reveal their own stories of sexual assault, but Trump has recently taken shots at

the #MeToo movement by expressing concern for men who are accused of sexual assault or harassment.

Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's recent confirmation hearings renewed attention to the topic as the Senate considered Christine Blasey Ford's accusation that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her. The president told reporters the notion that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted someone and that the allegations from Ford and other women could be taken

as fact made this a very scary time for young men in America.

Trump had earlier mocked the #MeToo movement at a rally in July. He did so while simultaneously mocking Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and saying that should she win the Democratic nomination in 2020 and they were to debate, he would toss an ancestry test to her and dare her to take it.

## #MeToo: Producers Guild forms special committee to address sexual harassment cases

MUMBAI, OCT 10 (PTI): In the wake of the #MeToo movement, the Producers Guild of India announced Wednesday the formation of a special committee to look into matters of sexual harassment at the workplace within the industry.

The committee with filmmakers Kiran Rao and Ekta Kapoor among others as its members held its first meeting here Wednesday.

"The Producers Guild of India is committed to work towards making workplaces in the industry safe spaces for everyone. In this regard a special committee has been instituted within the Guild to address the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace within our industry," a press release issued by the body said.

Sneha Rajani (Committee Head), Apoorva Mehta, Ekta Kapoor, Fazila Allana, Jyoti Deshpande, Kiran Rao, Kulmeet Makkar, Madhu Bhojwani, Priti Shahani, Rohan

Sippy, Siddharth Roy Kapur and Vijay Singh are the members of the committee, it said.

The first meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday and it was resolved to immediately ensure that our members are sent a copy of the Gazette of India with notifications issued on Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace, so that they may implement these practices in their establishments at the earliest, if they have not done so already, the release said.

To organize specialised workshops with the support of professional agencies, to guide our members in how to implement robust processes and best practices to deal with sexual harassment at their workplaces - whether in their offices or on the sets of their productions, it said.

The Guild will also organize multiple sessions of these workshops over the coming weeks and months, to enable all our members

and their teams to participate, it added.

According to the release, the special committee that has been set in place will meet frequently in the coming days to ensure that this is an ongoing and sustained effort, that will lead to a safer environment for all members of our industry.

The Guild in a statement issued Tuesday extended "complete support to the movement to call out and report sexual harassment and abuse whenever and wherever it occurs in our industry".

It was Tanushree Dutta, who started the #MeToo movement in India last month, as she accused her co-star Nana Patekar of harassing her while shooting for a song for their 2008 film "Horn Ok Pleassss".

Celebrities including Rajat Kapoor, Alok Nath, Abhijeet Bhattacharya, and Kailash Kher have been accused of sexual harassment.

## Understand, respect Aamir's decision: Subhash Kapoor

MUMBAI, OCT 11 (PTI): Director Subhash Kapoor, who has a molesting case pending against him, said Wednesday that he understands and respects Aamir Khan's decision to exit the Gulshan Kumar biopic as producer.

In the wake of the #MeToo movement that is escalating day by day in the country, without taking any names Khan announced his and filmmaker-wife Kiran Rao's departure from an upcoming project, saying he has been informed of "sexual misconduct" on the part of a collaborator.

"Mogul" co-producer Bhushan Kumar said Wednesday that Kapoor has been sacked from the job.

"With the ongoing proceedings against the director that is brought to our notice, everyone at T-Series has decided to not work with the director," Bhushan said in a statement to PTI.

Reacting to Khan's announcement, Kapoor told PTI, "I understand and respect Aamir Khan's and Kiran Rao's decision. Since matter is sub judice, I intend to prove my innocence in the court of law."

Actor Geetika Tyagi, who has appeared in films like "One By Two", "Aatma", "What the Fish", has accused Kapoor of molesting her.

## Evaluating options for 'Sacred Games 2': Netflix on Phantom films row

Mumbai, Oct 10 (PTI): Streaming giant Netflix said it is assessing its options ahead of the shoot of "Sacred Games" season two in the wake of a controversy surrounding Phantom Films and the show's writer Varun Grover.

Kashyap and Motwane had helmed the highly acclaimed first season of "Sacred Games" which had Varun Grover as one of its writers.

Amid speculations regarding the show's future, Netflix said in a statement, "At this time we are evaluating options on the path forward."

Last year, a woman employee at Phantom Films,

which had Vikas Bahl as one of the partners along side Kashyap, Motwane and Madhu Mantena, had alleged that Bahl behaved inappropriately with her during a trip to Goa in 2025.

Before the victim's account went public in a recent interview, Kashyap and Motwane put out statements and announced that their production house Phantom Films stands dissolved.

Writer-lyricist Grover was anonymously accused of sexually harassing a junior in Banaras Hindu University (BHU), a charge he categorically denied.



**ARIES:** You should team up with others and initiate action that resonates with your inner being. This might not be obvious now, but be on the lookout for unexpected events. These energies alert you to the fact that there's a much larger trend moving through your life that you may not be aware of right now. Stand back from your everyday routine and get a better perspective on your direction.

**TAURUS:** People of great power and drive may pop out of the woodwork today. They'll confront you directly and perhaps challenge you in some way. You may be at a climactic point right now, and feel like you're at a junction. Make adjustments now. Realize that change is a key ingredient for growth. Upheaval and action may be necessary.

**GEMINI:** You may be going through tremendous growth now. Focus on this and see where you need to make some changes. This may be interrupted by powerful energy from other people or situations. These issues are important. They're alerting you to certain changes that may be overdue. Look at how this upheaval can bring about growth and success. Opportunities await.

**CANCER:** There's a free-spirited energy calling your name. Latch onto it and manifest creative abundance in your life. Perhaps a major opportunity for change is knocking on your door. Look through the keyhole before you invite anybody in, but realize that the answer you seek may not be wearing the costume you expect. Explore all options and be bold. Initiate action. Don't shy away from

change.

**LEO:** A major force confronts you now. It may seem like this energy will never stop. It might be mental or physical, but either way, you may be letting it consume too much of your attention. Try not to get caught in drama that doesn't really involve you. Remedy the things you can change and leave the rest. Take responsibility for your actions and let others worry about theirs.

**VIRGO:** Keep your eyes open today. Be on the lookout for opportunities and invitations. Don't act too hastily. This is a key time in which life seems to be moving more quickly than ever. Change may be just what you need to foster your growth. Don't just grab the first thing that comes your way. Examine your options closely, make sure you're confident about the situa-

tion - then act.

**LIBRA:** Unexpected events may throw you for a loop today, but these incidents could be part of a bigger trend that you should pay attention to. There's great opportunity at hand, and you shouldn't ignore it. Small things may indicate some major change that needs to happen in your life before this new energy can take hold. Clear out the cobwebs and welcome a breath of fresh air.

**SCORPIO:** There's a powerful movement of energy in your life now. Major overhauls and subsequent undertakings are just waiting for you to give the green light. Realize the potential of instigating a significant change in your life. Don't shy away from the unknown. You understand the need for upheaval. Chaos may be necessary in order to let new oppor-

tunities in.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Take charge of your life. Initiate action and major change in an important area. Large trends are being activated today, alerting you to the fact that there's a great opportunity at hand. Take note of any sudden energy and unexpected events. Chaos and confusion may be the initial result, but change is a key ingredient for your future growth.

**CAPRICORN:** There's electricity in the air today, which may spur you to make a significant change in one area of your life. Try not to rush on this one. Don't change just for the sake of change, but really examine something that needs to shift. You have a great opportunity for growth now, so look for ways in which you can make major personal improvements.

**AQUARIUS:** You're at the start of a very expansive time in your life, and opportunities are available whether you realize it or not. You may get the feeling that there's an area that needs a total overhaul. Major changes are a large piece of the puzzle. Revamp that which doesn't work for you any more to make room for the future that awaits you. This is your time to shine.

**PISCES:** Bizarre and unexpected events lie in store for you today, so don't be surprised if not everything goes according to plan. Take note that these events may be part of a larger trend indicative of a tremendous opportunity. Heed the subtleties of this wave of energy. Latch onto it and see it as a major time of growth and expansion in your life.