



ENGLAND MUST LEARN FROM INDIA'S WIN IN AUSTRALIA IF THEY HOPE TO PROSPER

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SERENA WILLIAMS KEEPS ROLLING IN TUNEUP FOR AUSTRALIAN OPEN

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Summit **TIMES**

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ON TOP OF THE NEWS

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Greetings

Warm Greetings to the respected people of Sikkim and my Seniors!

With the encouragement, inspiration and continuous support of our dear people during the struggling days, the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party won the people's mandate and successfully formed the Government which has been working tirelessly to maintain the security, harmony and unity of Sikkim. The eight years of struggle aimed at the upliftment of the people of Sikkim gave us the desired results, the credit for which goes to the people of Sikkim. Today, we step into the ninth year of the formation of the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party, and I offer my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to all the members of the Party at every level.

We have come to the helm not with an intention to disrupt the status quo, but to create and build a healthy society. The Sikkim Krantikari Morcha party was established with the sole aim to save Sikkim from further fragmentation, and to build back a unified Sikkim free from any division. We are already on the path to realize this vision. In a short span of one and half years, we have moved steadily in this direction and have made noteworthy progress, and we will continue to work with the same commitment. The people of Sikkim are witness to the path breaking initiatives of the SKM Government in a span of just twenty months. As we all know, the year 2020 began on a difficult note as we were faced with the global pandemic Covid-19. The people of Sikkim have exhibited high level of caution throughout, as a result of which we have almost overcome the challenges of the virus. It gives me immense satisfaction to state that even during the severe challenges posed by the pandemic, the State Government could carry out exemplary work in the field of education, healthcare and several other sectors. We have already started concrete action to fulfill the promises and commitment made in our party manifesto, the results of which will be seen in the near future. Once again, I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Sikkim and my party colleagues on the special occasion of the 9th Foundation Day of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha Party.



Shri Prem Singh Tamang (Golay)
Hon'ble President
Sikkim Krantikari Morcha and
Chief Minister, Sikkim

"I am not in Politics to amass personal wealth but rather to work for the collective welfare of the society".

- Shri P.S. Tamang (Golay)

SKM



Foundation Day

4 FEBRUARY, 2021

Achievement of the SKM Government: since its inception on 27 May 2019

- 365 Medical officers recruited.
- Tertiary Cancer care unit established.
- Refrigerators to PHCs made available.
- Increased budget for medicine ranging from 13.41 cr. to 40 cr.
- Earmarked Rs. 40 lakhs for Ambulance expenses.
- Cashless treatment of 32 lakh Chief Minister's R.H. Insurance Scheme from CMRF
- 1, 32,350 beneficiaries received relief package through CMRF.
- Paid 100% Fixation arrears.
- Aid to complete Thakurbari Temple.
- Purchased 100 acres land for NIT at Khamdong.
- Above 83 Cr. compensation paid to the land owners of various department.
- 832 employees regularized in various deptt.
- 143 GRS, APOs and others regularized.
- C & D grade employees to be regularized after continuous service of 8 years.
- Viva Voce of C & D category removed.
- MGNREGA wages enhanced.
- Enhanced ration allowance 2000/- to 2900/- For IRBN, Delhi.
- Restored IRBN allowance for children's education.
- Sikkim Panchayat act amended.
- 10% reservation to OBC state list.
- Enhanced OAP
- Centre of Excellence at Chakung Soreng.
- High value tourism corridor destination to be developed in west Sikkim.
- 08 Jan. 2021, Foundation Stone laying ceremony of Smart Police Station cum Crisis Response Centre at Namchi was chaired by the HCM.
- Under the stewardship of HCM, On 11 Jan. 2021, the resolution for Tribal Status to 12 Left out Communities was placed in the Assembly by the SJEWD Minister In charge, Dr. MK Sharma which was acclaimed by the house for furtherance.
- Foundation Stone of Herbal Medical and Spiritual Healing Tourism Complex at Nandugaon was laid by HCM on 17th Jan 2021.
- We have granted incentives on five horticultural products:
- Cardamom, 20/kg, Orange 10/KG, Turmeric 05/KG, Ginger 09 /kg, Buckwheat 04/kg

INITIATIVES:

- Sikkim Garib Awas Yojana: 3050 houses/678.50Sq. ft/@17,51,692/-
- CMG. Awas Yojana. @9.62 Lakh
- Above 45,000 houses upgraded/repaired.
- Vrindavan, Eco Tourism Complex at Dodak.
- Herbal Medical Yoga and Spiritual complex at Nandugaon, South.
- Mangarzung Historical Complex at Mangsari.
- Pilgrimage complex and statue of Nisani Kali Devi at Pandam.
- Financial provision for Paruhang sapten Manghim Mangkhim at Ranka.
- Financial support for Devi Mandir, Adarsh Gaon
- 15.30 Cr. for maintenance of 21 various religious institutions.
- Commercial Vehicle drivers' Ex-Garcia increased from 3. Lakh to 5 Lakhs.
- Taxi Bolero vehicle to best performing driver (district wise)
- A day for mother earth 7 July 2019.
- Incentive on Milk, @ Rs. 8/litre.
- Krishi Credit Loan Mela/Rs. 3 lakh without any mortgage.
- Model villages- Rey Mindu (E), Bermiok (w), Ringhim Nampatam (N), and Mamley Kamrang in South District.
- Skilled Youth Start Up Scheme at 35% Subsidy. (Syss)
- UPSC coaching for 50 Sikkimese students initiated.
- 5 seats of CMMSS reserved for Dzongu students.
- Invest in Sikkim, New Industrial and Investment policy.
- Sikkim Film Policy with incentives of 20 Lakhs and 01 Cr.
- Setting up of Micro and Mini Hydel project up to 5 MW capacity. For Sikkimese entrepreneurs.
- 32.2 Cr. for up gradation of Rhenock Govt. College.
- Long pending land issue of Gyalshing Degree College resolved.
- Limboo and Tamang seat and twelve communities' Tribal status.
- One model school in each district.
- I.T. facilities to be flourished in BAC level to GPK level.
- Yangthang village in IT smart village project.
- Namli East as Special Economic Zone.
- Mobile Village Clinics at door steps of the citizens.
- Medical College at STNM premises.
- 50 MBBS seats sponsored by the government.
- Cancer Hospital at Jorethang
- Medical Insurance to 5000 taxi drivers.
- Dialysis centres established in district hospitals.
- Intensive Care Units (ICU) in STNM, 10 in Gayzing and 10 in Namchi District Hospital have been established.
- Road connecting Chewa Bhanjyang Taplezong Dist of Nepal opened.
- Widow pension Facility has been granted as qualified from 21 yrs, which was 40 yrs. earlier.
- Old age pension increased for 60-70yrs, 1000 to 1500/= 70-80 yrs, 1500 to 2000 rupees. 2500 rupees to above 80 yrs. senior citizens.
- Commencement of flight from Pakyong Airport adding all weather landing system.
- PR Lama Football Academy at Yangsum 29. 01. 2021.
- Bhumi Pujan at Mangarzung Mangsari 31. 01. 2021.
- Foundation Stone of CHC at Soreng. 31. 01.2021.

More barbed wire fences, spikes on roads at Singhu protest site

NEW DELHI, 03 FEB [NDTV]: Days after barbed wire fences, concrete barricades and makeshift barriers of buses were put in place at Ghazipur on the Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border - to virtually imprison farmers protesting the agriculture laws - similar measures are being rolled out at Singhu on the Delhi-Haryana border.

Delhi Police are digging up vast stretches of NH-44 to build rows of barbed wires set in concrete, and are setting up strips of sharpened nails and iron rods in the middle of the road - those pieces that have not been dug up - to stop farmers and their tractors from entering the national capital.

The police have also placed massive shipping containers as temporary walls, have stopped all traffic for several kilometres in all direction, and deployed a huge force, including armed officers. They have also stopped media from entering and suspended internet services since last week.

"The protest sites are looking like international borders. It is as if we have come from Pakistan. On one hand, they (the government) want us to talk, and on the other hand they are doing everything to de-link us (from the city)," Kulwant Singh Sandhu, a farmer leader told news agency PTI.

Over the past couple of days this has become the norm along the Delhi border, with barbed wire barriers, strips of iron rods, and concrete walls built to stop farmers from advancing into the city.

The escalation in containment measures comes after last weeks' tractor rally descended into chaos; a group of protesters veered off the course farmers and police had agreed on, storming the Red Fort complex and clashing with cops at the ITO junction and Nangloi.

That violence - in which a farmer was killed and over 300 hundreds cops injured - was after protesters and tractors burst through police barricades, hours before they were to be allowed in. Delhi Police Commissioner SN Shrivastava pointed to that when asked about the new measures.

"I am surprised that when tractors were used... police were attacked... barricades were broken on January 26, no questions were raised. What did we do now? We have just strengthened barricading so that it's not broken again," he said Tuesday.

The authorities have also suspended internet services in Haryana, where the farmers are gathered, although it is functional a few hundred metres away, where the police are amassed.

The farmers have also alleged that water tankers have been blocked off, but have reiterated that these "attacks" will not break their spirit. The Samyukt Kisan Morcha said "... trench-digging... fixing nails... barbed wire fencing... are all part of multiple attacks (by the government)".

Gyalshing College student group unhappy with campus construction

SAGAR CHETTRI GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

A section of students of Gyalshing Government College held a peaceful demonstration in front of the Education Department on Wednesday to express their dissatisfaction over the progress of ongoing construction works of the college campus. They have been seeking a meeting with the Education Minister to discuss early completion of the college campus.

Speaking to media persons today, a student of Gyalshing Government College, Praveen Sharma mentioned that as per the written assurance given by the government on 19 March 2020 the first phase of the construction was to be completed within three months following which tender process was to begin for the second phase of the work.



He informed that despite the written assurance to complete the first phase of work within three months, only around 50% of the work was completed in the first phase even after 10 months.

"Due to slow work progress in the first phase there has been delay in starting the second phase of the works for the college campus," he said.

Mr Sharma mentioned that as per the written assurance, the department had assured

to complete the works of the college campus according to the blueprint of 2010 in two different phases. He added that in the first phase of works, playground, fencing, auditorium and others was to be completed within three months. After this, the tender process was to begin for the works in the second phase which includes main academic building, boys and girls hostel and others.

He mentioned that around 35 students of the college reached Gangtok

on Tuesday to meet the Education Minister.

"We could not meet the Minister yesterday but we met and discussed the matter with the Additional Chief Secretary to Education Department and he stated that the works got delayed due to COVID-19," he said.

On the same, Mr Sharma said that relaxations in COVID protocol were made in the latter half of 2020 and Sikkim even opened its borders to tourists from October. However, as per the writ-

ten assurance the first phase of work was to be completed within three months from October to December.

"We want to have a talk with the Minister to bring out an amicable solution to ensure that students of Gyalshing College get a permanent campus. We are hopeful that the Minister would give his 20 minutes to resolve the issue," Mr Sharma said.

He mentioned that the college was started in 2011 and even after 10 years of its establishment the college still lacks a main academic building. Enrolment in the college increased this year due to the pandemic and the government has taken a noble initiative by starting PG courses in the college, he added.

However, it is difficult to have PG courses without an academic building, he said.

Sikkim athletes to leave for junior nationals in Guwahati



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

A six-member team of Sikkim Amateur Athletic Association [SAAA] is all set to represent the State at the 36th National Junior Athletics Championship to be held from 06 to 10 February in Guwahati. The state team, comprising of two girls and four boys, is scheduled to leave for the championship on Thursday.

The state team members are Ranjana Tamang, Tshering Yangchen Bhutia, Yabesh Subba, Aditya Thatal, Kunga Nima Kazi and Pradeep Dikshit. The team will be accompanied by RB Subba as team coach and manager.

Addressing a press conference here at the conference hall of Paljor Stadium this morning,

SAAA president, Hari Chettri, informed that the association had suspended its activities for some time due to the pandemic but had sent local athletes to some events outside the State.

He informed that local athletes have won three medals [a gold, a silver and a bronze] for the first time for Sikkim in the Eastern Zonal Athletics Championship held on 28 and 29 December 2020.

He added that local athletes also won medals in the Darjeeling Marathon.

SAAA general secretary, Thupden Rappgal, further informed that the selection trials for the state team for the upcoming National Junior Athletics Championship was held on 24 January, which was participated in by 50

athletes and finally six were shortlisted.

He added that the state team has undergone rigorous training under coach RB Subba at Khelgaon. He informed that one of the team members, Ranjana Tamang, had also won a gold medal for Sikkim in the recently held Eastern Zonal Athletics Championship.

Likewise, the coach shared that the training sessions went well and hopefully the team will perform well. He added that the Sikkim team was participating in junior nationals for the first time and this presented a great opportunity for Sikkim athletes to test their mettle on such a platform.

"We are sweating hard on the field to take our athletes to the Olympics in the near future," he added.

Golden Cross provides desk-bench sets to Rhenock School

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Government Senior Secondary School Rhenock, East Sikkim, received 75 sets of one-seater and 75 sets of two-seater desk-bench sets from Golden Cross pharma, a subsidiary of Cipla Ltd, Rorathang, East Sikkim, a press release informs.

In a function held today at the school auditorium, Arup Chatterjee [Unit head of Golden Cross], Rohit Sharma [HR] and Yashwant Singh [CSR] handed over the furniture to the school.

The programme was also attended by Coordinator, Education Department, Regu BAC, Krishna Dawari, teachers and senior students of the school.

Principal Rhenock SSS, Suren Kr. Pradhan, welcomed the guests followed by the welcome note by HN Mishra, PGT Physics.

He thanked Cipla Foundation for extending support to the school as well as Additional Chief Secretary, Education Department, G.P. Upadhyaya.

After the programme, the officials of Golden Cross visited the Mobile Lab which was established and is being run by Agastya Foundation.

They also visited the under construction site of the assembly ground extension of the school and assured to provide all possible support for completion of the work.

GJM Bimal faction student wing submits memorandum to Edu Minister

SMRITA KHAWAS DARJEELING, 03 FEB:

The student wing of Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (Bimal Faction) met Education Minister of West Bengal, Dr Partha Chatterjee and submitted a 10-point memorandum.

In a press meet, Dipika Mukhia, representative of student council Darjeeling Government College, said that they met the Minister on 30 Jan 2021 and submitted the 10-point memorandum.

"We feel that our Darjeeling Government College has been neglected by both the West Bengal government and the North Bengal University. Our college is one of the renowned higher education institutions in Darjeeling and is the only full-fledged government college which was established in 1948 where approximately 3500 students are presently studying," she stated.

She informed that the memorandum consists of various demands like new classrooms and separate Arts building for ten departments so that classes can be run smoothly. The physics department and boy's hostel has been damaged by the earthquake of 2015 and the college auditorium also needs to be renovated as soon as possible, she added.

"We have also requested Mr Chatterjee to give smart phones or laptops to the students of 1st semester so that they can attend classes continuously. We have seen many students facing problems due to lack of such gadgets during online classes," said Ms Mukhia.

They have also requested for post graduate course in geography and introduction of Physiology in the college as it has been done in other colleges under North Bengal University.

Sichey Mavericks in finals of CM's Gold Cup Archery Tournament



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Sichey Mavericks will stake on Today-Zorbas in the finals of the prestigious 19th Chief Minister Gold Cup Archery Tournament [Compound Bow] 2021 on 06 February here at the Archery Shooting Range at Tenzing Namgyal Memorial Ground, Tathangchen.

In the second semi-final match played on Wednesday, Sichey Mavericks defeated TAC Namchi by 50 points to 25 to reach the finals of the tournament.

Today-Zorbas are already in the finals after having beat Pemayangtse Dapen in the first semi-final match played on Tuesday.

DrWheelz car repair service now available in Jorethang



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

DrWheelz Auto Services Pvt Ltd officially launched its operations in Jorethang on 02 Feb 2021, a press release informs. The doorstep car service platform held its launch program at MG Marg, Jorethang which attracted a good number of car enthusiasts, according to the press release.

Now car owners have the option to either call 7676-717-717 or book their service online through the website www.Drwheelz.com. The press release also informs that an app for both android and apple platforms should be out for download very soon.

Now Car owners in

Jorethang do not need to travel to Gangtok or Siliguri for advanced repair work or for spare parts dependency. Your car will be problem free in 3 days' time with DrWheelz.

The Drwheelz brand in Jorethang will be operational under Mayank Chandak and is now ready for business.

The launch event was preceded by the CEO of DrWheelz, Balaji Mohan along with his Sikkim team interacting with the general public.

DrWheelz is now fully functional in Gangtok, Namchi and Jorethang and surrounding area. The company now has its sights set on North Sikkim and will be launching there soon.

103 families join SKM in Rhenock



SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Around 103 families quit Sikkim Democratic Front and joined Sikkim Krantikari Morcha in Rhenock constituency today, a press release informs.

They joined SKM

during the Joining cum Pre Celebration of SKM's 9th Foundation Day at Pacheykhani, under Rhenock Constituency, East Sikkim.

The families were given a warm welcome by Area MLA, Bishnu Kumar Khatiwara.



Foundation stone of New Super Market laid at Rhenock

SUMMIT REPORT GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Area MLA Bishnu Kumar Khatiwara laid the foundation stone of New Super Market near Rhenock Bazaar, East Sikkim, today, a press release informs.

He was accompanied by Chairman cum SKM president Zone-II, Santosh Kumar Pradhan, BDO Rhenock, RK Gurung, SHO Rhenock, and SKM executives.

The release states that after government formation, SKM led by Chief Minister, PS Tamang has fulfilled long pending demand of the public of Rhenock. The public of Rhenock has extended gratitude for the new super market in Rhenock.

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AFFIDAVIT

I Alin Limbu Subba S/O Partman Limbu Subba, R/O SORENG WEST SIKKIM, solemnly declare that previously my name has been recorded as 'Alin Subba, Alin Subba (Limboo), I have changed my name to Alin Limbu Subba for all the purpose & further. Vide this affidavit no 142432, before the oath commissioner, East sikkim, Gangtok on 5th day of January, 2018.

CM holds coordination meeting with panchayats and youth from Dzongu

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Chief Minister PS Tamang held a coordination meeting with the Panchayats, Zilla Panchayats, former panchayat members, and youth from Dzongu constituency, North Sikkim, at Samman Bhawan here on Wednesday.

In a Facebook post about the meeting, the CM informs that he assured the gathering that the State Government believes in the overall development of Sikkim and will not discriminate on any basis.

"I added that we have diligently worked for Dzongu and the residents when required and will always be willing to do the same in future. I updated them on the work and schemes that have been carried out in the



last 20 months, including the restoration of scholarship for students from Dzongu," he writes.

The CM also expressed his satisfaction

with the work and dedication shown by Dzongu MLA, Pintsu Namgyal Lepcha, was also present for the meeting, and encouraged him to carry on

in the same spirit.

Also in attendance was the North Upadhyaksha.

"Towards the end, I urged everyone to collectively work towards

the development of the area and the State and contribute to the process of growth and improvement," the CM concludes his FB post.

At Mahapanchayat in Haryana's Jat heartland, Rakesh Tikait warns Centre

JIND, 03 FEB [NDTV]: A huge crowd gathered today at Jind in Haryana for a farmers' "mahapanchayat" or meeting to push for the repeal of three new laws at the heart of farmer protests outside Delhi since November. While several such gatherings have been seen in the past few days in Uttar Pradesh, today's meeting took it to Haryana's Jat heartland.

Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait addressed the gathering at Jind, considered the epicenter of Jat politics in Haryana. Mr Tikait and several others were on the stage when it suddenly collapsed under their weight, briefly interrupting the meeting.

Mr Tikait, a Jat leader from Uttar Pradesh, appealed to people not to panic after the accident. He warned the government that it would find it difficult to stay in power if the new laws are not repealed.

"We have so far talked about 'bill wapsi' (repealing the farm laws). The government should listen carefully. What will you do if the youth call for 'gaddi wapsi' (removal from power)?" he questioned.

It was Mr Tikait's tearful appeal last week that led to a resurgence of the farmer agitation after a backlash over the Republic Day tractor rally violence, when protesters broke through barricades and clashed with the police.

After the January 26 violence, the police have barricaded the protest sites outside Delhi's bor-

ders with cement barriers and spikes on the roads. "When the king is scared, he secures the fortress," Mr Tikait said.

The village Kandela, where the mahapanchayat was held today, was the first in the region to have sent men to Mr Tikait's sit-in at the Delhi-UP Ghazipur border in response to the viral video of the farmer leader in tears.

Five resolutions were passed at the "mahapanchayat". Apart from the demand that the government withdraw the farm laws, the resolutions called for a legal guarantee of minimum support price for crops, a farm loan waiver and the release of farmers arrested after the violence on Republic Day.

Several khap leaders - khaps or self-appointed village arbiters enjoy immense influence in large parts of rural Haryana - attended the mahapanchayat.

Tekram Kandela, who heads the Sarv Jatiya Kandela Khap, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah should directly meet with the protesting farmers, who have so far been in talks with Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar.

Support for the farmers in Jind may translate into a backlash mainly for BJP's Haryana ally Dushyant Chautala, whose party has three MLAs in this district. Mr Chautala is among them. His party fears that not breaking ties with the BJP over the farm laws may cost it in polls.

Sikkim gets one new 2nd Dan Taekwondo black belt and three 1st Dans



SAGAR CHHETRI

GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Sikkim Amateur Taekwondo Association [SATA] held its Black Belt Dan promotion examination [under the authority of National Taekwondo body] here on Tuesday.

Ram Kumar Chhetri, Parash Rai and Raja Rai

were accordingly promoted to 1st Dan Black Belt, while Peggila Bhutia was promoted to 2nd Dan Black Belt, informs a SATA press release.

The release mentions that the national federation has appointed Trilok Subba [7th Dan black belt], who is also the SATA

general secretary, as the examiner and Rajen Subba [4th Dan black belt], who is also SATA joint secretary, as observer for the examination.

It is added that certificates have come from Kukkiwon, the World Taekwondo Headquarters in South Korea.

Over 30 Cr Indians may have COVID-19: Source cites Govt study



NEW DELHI, 03 FEB [REUTERS]: About one in four of India's 135 crore people may have been infected with the coronavirus, said a source with direct knowledge of a government serological survey, suggesting the country's real caseload was many times higher than reported.

India has confirmed 1.08 crore COVID-19 infections, the most anywhere outside the United States.

But the survey, whose findings are much more conservative than a private one from last week, indicates India's actual cases may have crossed 30 crore. The state-run Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which conducted the survey, said it would only share the findings at a news conference on Thursday.

The source declined to be named ahead of the official announcement. It was not immediately clear how many people participated in the latest survey.

Following another survey done in August and September using blood samples of more than 29,000 people older than 10, ICMR had concluded that one in 15 Indians had COVID-19 antibodies. The figure jumped to one in six in densely-populated urban slums.

A survey released by the government of the capital New Delhi this week found that more than half of its two crore inhabitants may have been infected with the coronavirus.

Separate tests done on more than seven lakh people across India by

diagnostics company Thyrocare Technologies showed 55% of the population may have already been infected, its chief told Reuters last week.

The World Health Organization says at least 60% to 70% of a population needs to have immunity to break the chain of transmission.

India reported 11,039 new cases on Wednesday. Deaths rose by 110 to 1,54,596.

Infections and fatalities have come down significantly since a mid-September peak of nearly 1,00,000 a day.

Its vaccination programme, touted by the government as the world's biggest, has covered more than 40 lakh people in 18 days, with the aim to reach 30 crore by August.

COVID dip continues with only 2 fresh cases

SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 03 FEB:

Sikkim has witnessed only two fresh cases of COVID-19 in the last 24 hours. The samples of one person from Bank Dara, Chujachen in Rongli and another person from near District Court reported positive for COVID-19.

Sikkim's tally of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has reached 6098, in which 5782 persons have been discharged from isolation facilities. There are currently 86 active cases of novel coronavirus in the state.

In his daily health bulletin on Wednesday, Health Department State IEC Officer, Sonam Gyaltzen Bhutia informed that two new cases were reported from the testing

of 181 samples on Tuesday. He added that both cases were detected in RT-PCR testing of 137 samples, while TrueNat testing of 11 samples and rapid antigen testing of 33 samples returned negative for COVID-19.

Mr Bhutia mentioned that the two persons, who reported positive in yesterday health bulletin and were not traceable, have still not contacted the concerned authorities. While revealing their names, he urged 26-year-old Suraj Rai from Dethang and 41-year-old Sanjay Kadam, who has just mentioned Club Mahindra as his address, to immediately contact health authorities.

However, he stated that representatives of

Club Mahindra in Sikkim have informed that there was no person by the name Sanjay Kadam presently in Club Mahindra. He informed that five persons with their address as Club Mahindra came for testing, in which just one tested positive for COVID-19. He once again urged the person to immediately contact health authorities.

Mr Bhutia informed that a total of 751 persons were vaccinated in different parts of Sikkim on Wednesday. While giving a break-up of today's vaccination, he informed that 264 persons in East District [Rural], 80 in STNM hospital, 100 in Central Referral Hospital, Tadong, 126 in West District and 181 in South District were vaccinated.

World Cancer Day
4th February

Organized by:
Mani Trust
Under - Health and Medical Awareness Programme

In Technical Collaboration with:
Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)

In Association with:
Block Development Office, Kalimpong - II
& Pedong Multipurpose Women Primary Co-operative Society Ltd.

Media Partners:
Kalimpong Television & Summit Times

SummitTIMES

Date: 4th Feb 2021 | Venue & Time: Pedong Community Hall, Kalimpong - II at 11 am

RUCHI DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC

Behind telephone Exchange Near Old STNM Hospital. Gangtok

PH: 03592-203333, 204876, 8509373970

EXISTING FACILITIES:

- ULTRASOUND
- DIGITAL X-RAY
- ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY
- COLOR DOPPLER
- PATHOLOGY
- MICROBIOLOGY
- BIOCHEMISTRY
- ENDOSCOPY
- B M D
- E C G
- DENTAL O P G
- GASTRO CLINIC
- PAEDIATRIC CLINIC
- MEDICAL CLINIC
- ORTHO CLINIC
- ENT CLINIC
- GYNEA CLINIC
- PHYSIOTHERAPY
- SPECIALISED TESTS

BLOOD COLLECTION CENTRES

AT :

- Sushruta Medical, Ranipool.
- Arihant Medical, Opp. CRH gate, 5th Mile.

COMPLETE ENT FACILITIES UNDER ONE ROOF

ENT O P D Monday to Friday
10.00 am to 2.30 pm

1. ENT OPD CLINIC
2. ENT ENDOSCOPIES
3. MICROSCOPIC PROCEDURES
4. MINOR OT PROCEDURES
5. VERTIGO MANAGEMENT
6. AUDIOMETRY, TYMPANOMETRY AND HEARING AIDS.

CONSULTANT ENT SURGEON

DR. ONGDEN GYATSO, MS (AIIMS)

GASTRO CLINIC & O P D

8.00 am to 9.00 am

MEDICAL CLINIC & O P D

9.30 am

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3.00 pm

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What is Novel Coronavirus - nCoV?

The Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) is new strain of Coronavirus that originated in Wuhan, China. Notorious for mutating quickly and acquiring new qualities, it is a rising epidemic that was previously not identified in humans.

Symptoms of nCoV

- Fever
- Coughing or sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Diarrhoea
- Vomiting

Precautions to Prevent nCoV

- Wash your hands often with soap.
- Use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.
- Observe good personal hygiene.
- Avoid touching your face with unclean hands.
- Avoid contact with people with possible symptoms.
- Avoid contact with animals and consumption of undercooked meats.
- Avoid travel to nCoV affected places.
- Wear a mask if you have respiratory symptoms and cover your mouth while coughing or sneezing.

Treatment

- Treatment is symptomatic and supportive.
- Avoid self-medication.
- No vaccine available as of now.
- Use Dettol to clean surfaces regularly.

If you seek help, you may call:

24x7 Helpline: 104
District Surveillance Officer
EAST: 702972100
WEST: 982267906
NORTH: 984887406
SOUTH: 740769463
New STNM
AMB: 943471432

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

The NE Club

An idea whose time has come

People of the North-East are seen as one group by the mainland. Of course, this grouping-together is not political or issue-based, but results from a peoples profiling as "chinkis". And while we rant often about this "racial" attitude, we continually fail to leverage this recognition of people from the region as one group to secure better privileges for the states of the North-East. Efforts have been made in the past to find common ground to engage with Delhi, but these have too half-hearted and half-baked and have thus failed to deliver anything of any consequence.

The region continues to ignore a huge opportunity by failing to unite at least for some common causes. The region has had the North East Council since 1971 and a full-fledged Department for Development of North East Region as well, and even as these institutions have brought funds and infrastructure to the NE, the parochial suspicions of the member states have somehow held the region back from developing together and pursuing larger goals. One could blame petty politics for this lack of cohesion, but the differences obviously run much deeper than that. This, however, should not mean that the NE cannot cobble together a common minimum programme, a set of unanimously endorsed agenda points that the region can pursue with New Delhi. In this regard, Sikkim, the state initially seen as an aberration in the NEC in that it was not contiguous to any North Eastern State, could play a major role. Since Sikkim does not have any shared 'history' with the rest of the NE states, it does not even have any points of conflict with any of them either. It is also a very small state, so it is not even in any serious contention for larger shares of NE funds. It is thus ideally positioned as the mediator to bring the region to collaborate more effectively. And this was even attempted some years ago when the North East Members of Parliament Forum met in Gangtok and passed a set of around a dozen resolutions on matters of common concern. The NEMPF had been around for a while before that meeting, but the Gangtok meet was perhaps for the first time that they formalised a common cause and agreed to present a united lobby in New Delhi to get the region heard in Parliament. The fact that the Members of Parliament were meeting on the neutral ground of Sikkim must have facilitated a more intense exchange of ideas and aspirations. But that was all that was achieved and the initiative lost momentum from thereon.

May be some MPs should have taken a more proactive role to keep the club together and then the initiative might have grown in strength. The Gangtok meet of 2010, wow, that's more than a decade back, was after all only the first such meeting and if the resolutions adopted then had been pursued in one northeastern voice in New Delhi, a strong lobby would have been created. The eight states send 37 MPs to the Parliament, including, until Modi happened, even the Prime Minister. In the fractured mandates of the recent times (save the 2014 and 2019 BJP sweep), this is a strong presence. Mamma's TMC has only 22 MPs, CPM 3, Congress 51 and DMK 24, and look at the kind of muscle they command in Parliament despite the record-shattering 302 MPs that wear the BJP colours. Granted, the MPs from the North East belong to different parties and espouse conflicting ideologies, but if they could agree on a common set of goals for the region and formalize an action plan on how to raise it in Delhi, the Centre will be forced to listen. These issues have to be about more than more funds and investments, they have to be about ensuring more participation in the planning process. The region also has a common complaint against the mainstream media and its ignorance of the region. When 37 MPs speak together and do so often enough, even the mainstream media will be forced to sit up and pay attention, it will be forced to learn about the region as well. And then there is the tiresome charade of lip-service paid to the region as the gateway to southeast Asia, and in Sikkim's case, to Tibet. Nothing substantial has come of it because thus far the interest has remained limited to individual states. Should the gateway actually open, at a scale more effective than Nathula, the entire region will benefit, but that can happen only if the people of the northeast are taken into confidence in the decision making process. A united body of 37 MPs can ensure that. But they have make a concerted effort first. Should such a collaboration be practiced often enough, even the inter-state issues that trouble the region could at least get discussed in a language more civilized than blockades and stare-downs...

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How Bezos and Amazon Changed the World

VENKATESH SHANKAR
theconversation.com

Amazon announced Jeff Bezos is stepping down as CEO almost 27 years after he founded the company to sell books to customers over dial-up modems.

Amazon wasn't the first bookstore to sell online, but it wanted to be "Earth's biggest." When it first launched, a bell would ring in the company's Seattle headquarters every time an order was placed. Within weeks, the bell was ringing so frequently employees had to turn it off.

But Bezos set his sights on making it an "everything store." After achieving dominance in retail, the company would go on to become a sprawling and powerful global conglomerate in numerous lines of business.

Today, Amazon is the third-most valuable U.S. company – behind Apple and Microsoft – with a market capitalization of around US\$1.7 trillion, greater than the gross domestic product of all but a dozen or so countries.

Here's how Bezos reshaped retailing. REDEFINING RETAIL

Amazon – named after the world's largest river – continually took shopping convenience to newer levels.

Before Amazon's founding on July 5, 1994, shoppers had to travel to stores to discover and buy things. Shopping used to be hard work – wandering down multiple aisles in search of a desired item, dealing with crying and nagging kids, and waiting in long checkout lines. Today, stores try to reach out to shoppers anywhere, anytime and through multiple channels and devices.

After first experiencing two-day free shipping from Amazon's Prime membership program, shoppers started expecting no less from every online retailer. An estimated 142 million shoppers in the U.S. have Amazon Prime.

The company made shopping more convenient through features like one-click ordering; personalized recommendations; package pickup at Amazon hubs and lockers; ordering products with the single touch of a Dash button; and in-home delivery with Amazon Key.

Shoppers can also search for and order items through a simple voice command to an Echo or by clicking an Instagram or Pinterest image. Amazon even has a cashier-less "Go" store in Seattle.

Amazon has also been a factor in the rising closures of brick-and-mortar stores that can't keep

pace with the changes in retail. Even before the pandemic, stores were closing at a phenomenal rate, with analysts predicting a coming "retail apocalypse." Amazon benefited enormously last year as much of the U.S. went into lockdown and more consumers preferred ordering goods online rather than risking their health by going to physical stores.

Amazon's share price has almost doubled since

ing impact of Amazon's boxes and other packaging material on the environment, Amazon has also pledged to disclose more information about its environmental impact.

THE NEXT GENERATION

What's in store for Amazon as Bezos steps down from his CEO role later this year?

Bezos, who will stay on as Amazon's executive



the lockdown began in March 2020, even as over 11,000 retail stores closed their doors.

A MAJOR EMPLOYER

Amazon's impact extends to other industries, including smart consumer devices like Alexa, cloud services like Amazon Web Services and technology products like drones.

Such is Amazon's impact that industry players and observers use the term "Amazonized" to describe their business model and operations being disrupted by Amazon.

Today, Amazon is the second-largest U.S.-based publicly listed employer and the fifth biggest in the world. It employs 1.2 million people, having hired 427,000 during the pandemic. No wonder Amazon created such a buzz in 2018 when it held a competition to select a location for its second headquarters. It eventually picked Arlington, Virginia.

Amazon's work culture is intense. It has a reputation as a cutthroat environment with a high employee burnout rate. It is automating as many jobs as possible, mostly in warehousing.

At the same time, after criticism from policymakers, Amazon stepped up in 2018 and raised the minimum wage for its U.S. employees to \$15 per hour.

Faced with growing criticisms about the mount-

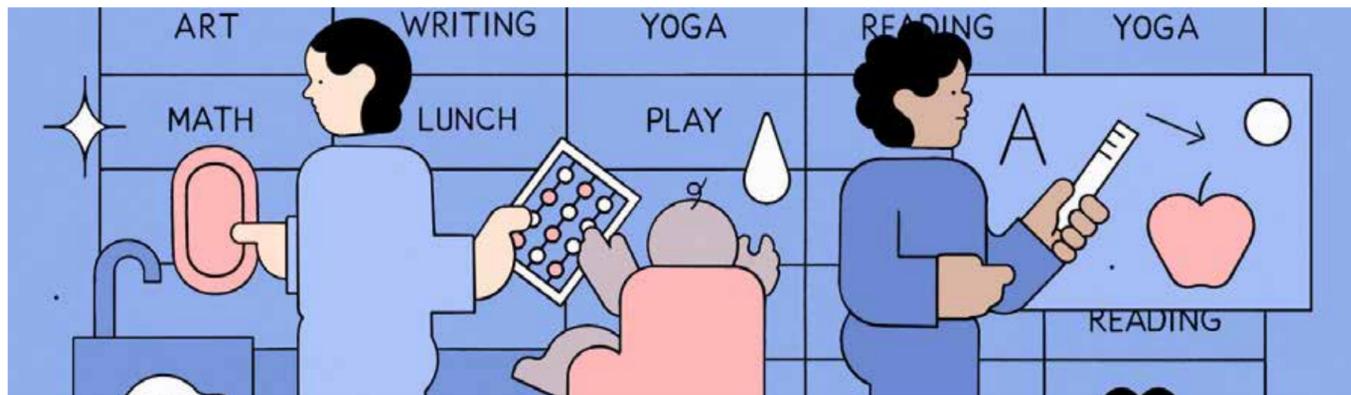
ing Amazon from dying. As he noted at a 2018 all-hands meeting, "Amazon is not too big to fail."

As a professor of marketing who has conducted research on online retailing and analyzed hundreds of cases, I believe that Amazon's future – and humanity's – is inextricably linked to the rise of artificial intelligence. Starting with Alexa, the company's virtual assistant, Amazon is betting on AI.

In fact, Amazon is testing anticipatory shipping, a practice in which it anticipates what shoppers need and mails the items before shoppers order them. Shoppers can keep the items they like and return those they don't want at no charge. It is also betting on cashier-free stores and AI-powered home robots.

Amazon's future success will depend on how the incoming CEO – current head of cloud computing Andy Jassy – navigates these new technologies while pushing the company into more industries, such as health care and financial services. His challenge is to keep Bezos' legacy and Amazon's disruptive culture alive and prevent it from dying.

[The writer is Professor of Marketing; Director of Research, Center for Retailing Studies, Texas A&M University]



How to Help Your Children With Maths You Don't Understand

DAVIDE PENAZZI
theconversation.com

School closures have left many parents in charge of overseeing their children's education at home. If you are one of them, you might be struggling with maths in particular – not least due to having to grapple with topics and techniques you are unfamiliar with, such as number bonds, abundant numbers, chunking and more.

But this is where a positive mindset, and the ability to accept that you are also on a learning path, can help. Here are some tips on the best way to tackle teaching maths you don't know.

WORK TOGETHER

Think of yourself as accompanying your child towards understanding a new concept, rather than explaining it to them. As a parent, there is a natural desire to provide for and support your child with your experience, but this is impossible when you do not know what you want to explain.

What you are able to do is to tap into your past experiences of having solved problems and managed challenges. So simply be honest and say to your child that this method is new to you, too, but that you will work to understand it together.

START SMALL AND USE PROPS

New concepts can be overwhelming. Start as small as you can, and play around with something concrete – such as buttons or pennies or pieces of Lego – to help you both understand. For instance, your child might be working on number bonds: learning the pairs of numbers that add together to make a particular total.

To give an example, the number bonds of seven are two plus five and three plus four. Physically laying out seven buttons and splitting them into two and five, and then three and four, can help both you and your child familiarise yourselves with the concept and then understand how it works.

THINK ABOUT WHY IT'S USEFUL
Learning maths may seem pointless, and this can lead to frustration. After all, there is not much need to know how to divide 155,252,188 by 19,838 when the calculator on your phone will do it for you.

But this does not mean that you don't need to do any mental computation at all in life. Perhaps you have a budget of £50 and want to know quickly if buying three items priced £13, £20 and £17 will push you over this total. Your knowledge of number bonds tells you that three plus seven is ten – so 13 plus 17 is 30, which plus the additional 20 puts you perfectly at your budget.

Since the 1980s, theories about

the best methods of education have moved away from rote learning, which can cause pupils to disengage from maths. Instead, education experts have championed more engaging methods, based on learning through experience. The maths national curriculum was lagging behind these ideas until the national numeracy strategy was launched in 1999. A further revamp of the national curriculum followed in 2013.

The focus is now on teaching pupils to become problem solvers: fluent in maths with the ability to reason and apply what they have learned. In teaching number bonds, you are helping your child develop a numerical tool that can allow them to effectively process simple computations, which in turn make them more capable of dealing with problems in life or at work.

AVOID THE FEAR FACTOR

It is easy, especially if you have had bad experiences with maths in your past, to give way to panic. Teaching unknown concepts could make what is known as maths anxiety – the irrational fear of anything mathematical – resurface.

The risk is that this fear can be passed to your child. This can have consequences for their enjoyment of school – and even for the decisions they make in life.

A simple trick is to not think that you are doing maths, but that you are helping your child to learn useful life tools. Giving maths a more friendly name, such as "problem-solving tricks" or "calculation tools" – that better reflects your own abilities – can boost confidence and keep maths anxiety at bay.

KEEP IT REAL

Once you and your child have learned a mathematical concept, try to make it more real and use it in everyday life. Make number bonds with biscuits or pieces of fruit. Add up prices of supermarket items. Be creative and make colourful number bond patterns with building blocks or objects such as sticks and leaves you find on a stroll.

Finally, don't be discouraged if you sometimes struggle. And allow yourself and your child plenty of time to learn a new idea. Some mathematical concepts can be counter-intuitive or hard, and it is fine to sometimes let go, do something else, and come back to it at another time. Try to reward yourself for your successes, and remember that learning in a more positive, playful way will help make homeschooling a positive experience.

[The writer is Senior Lecturer in Mathematics, University of Central Lancashire]

Gujarat will never rule Bengal, declares Mamata Banerjee

KOLKATA, 03 FEB [NDTV]: Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who has triggered a huge "outsider versus insider" debate in the state ahead of the assembly election, today offered a clarification, saying there is no discrimination in the state between Bengalis and non-Bengalis while reiterating her stand on the controversial law on the National Register of Citizens. But when it comes to ruling Bengal, the matter is different, she indicated to her intended target -- the BJP, which has set its heart on adding the state to its bag in the state polls due in April.

"See what is happening in Assam and Tripura. In the name of NRC they scared everyone. There is an NPR (National Population Register). Every state is doing it, but we haven't done it. We won't let them do it," she said.

There is no difference between Bengalis and non-Bengalis, the Chief Minister said. "We take everyone along whether its Biharis or UP or Rajasthan or Terai or Doora. We take everyone along. But we must remember one thing. Gujarat will never reign over Bengal.



People who live in Bengal will reign over Bengal," the Chief Minister said at a rally in north Bengal's Alipurduar.

The Chief Minister's words about the neighbouring states comes as the BJP continues its efforts to prove that it is no stranger to Bengali culture. On Monday, Union Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman started her budget speech with a quote from Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, considered the cultural core of Bengal.

Over the last months, the BJP has also extensively focused on the cultural icons of the state -- including Swami

Vivekananda and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, whose birth anniversary on January 23 was marked as "Parakram Diwas", with Prime Minister Narendra Modi being in Kolkata for the occasion.

But the BJP leaders have also made several faux pas when it comes to these icons like getting Tagore's birthplace wrong. The TMC has said Jai Shri Ram slogans by BJP supporters at an event to mark Netaji's birthday was an insult to Netaji and his legacy.

"We will remove the BJP from Bengal and India. We don't get scared," Mamata Banerjee said today, switching to the other

issue that is plaguing her party -- a string of defections by leaders big and small, who have walked over to the rival party.

"Some people are running away in fear. Tell those who are running away -- 'You will know what the BJP is. They will set your tail on fire and create a Lanka kaand'," she said, underscoring her stance that defectors are cowards who are no loss to her party.

"Trinamool Congress tickets are not sold for money. TMC MP & MLAs can't be bought with money," she added, continuing to berate her aides-turned enemies.

Hitting out directly at

the Prime Minister, she added, "When migrants workers didn't have money for tickets, we bought tickets for them. And look at Modiji. Some people from Trinamool who are corrupt are being flown in private jets by Modiji. And migrants had to travel on foot. This is your politics".

On Saturday, former Trinamool leaders like Rajib Banerjee, Baishali Dalmiya and others flew in a chartered plane to New Delhi to meet Amit Shah and join the BJP. The Chief Minister today said Rajib Banerjee's actions as Forest Minister in her government will be investigated.

Committee formed to suggest reforms in criminal laws, govt tells Parliament

NEW DELHI, FEB 3 (PTI): The Centre has set up a committee to suggest reforms in criminal laws and sought suggestions from state governments, courts and bar councils, Rajya Sabha was informed on Wednesday.

Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy said the committee set up to suggest reforms in the criminal laws is headed by the Vice Chancellor of the National Law University, Delhi. "The Ministry

of Home Affairs has also sought suggestions from States, Union Territories, Supreme Court, High Courts, Bar Council of India, Bar Council of States and various Universities and Law Institutes on comprehensive amendments in Criminal laws.

"The suggestions received and the report of the Committee are subject to examination by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with all stakeholders, he said in written reply to a question.

Facing multiple cases, Shashi Tharoor, 5 Journalists go to Supreme Court

NEW DELHI, 03 FEB [PTI]: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and news anchor Rajdeep Sardesai have approached the Supreme Court against multiple police cases or FIRs registered against them over their alleged "misleading" tweets on the violence during the farmers' tractor rally in Delhi on Republic Day.

Journalists Mri-nal Pande, Zafar Agha, Paresh Nath and Anant Nath also approached the Supreme Court on Tuesday evening against the FIRs.

On January 30, Delhi Police had filed a case against Shashi Tharoor, Rajdeep Sardesai, The Caravan and others.

Earlier, Shashi Tharoor and six journalists were charged by the Noida Police for sedition, among other charges, over the violence during the farmers' tractor rally in Delhi, officials had said.

Madhya Pradesh police has also filed a case against Shashi Tharoor and the six journalists over their alleged "misleading" tweets on the violence during the farmers' tractor rally in Delhi.

On January 26, thousands of protesting farmers had clashed with the police during the tractor rally called by farmer unions to highlight their demand for repeal of the Centre's three farm laws.

I-T dept detects Rs 200-cr evasion after raids in Assam



NEW DELHI, FEB 3 (PTI): The Income Tax Department has detected tax evasion of more than Rs 200 crore after it raided three "leading" entities of Assam involved in construction and tea garden businesses, the CBDT said on Wednesday.

The search and survey operation was carried out on January 29 at about 20 locations in Guwahati, Tezpur, Nalbari (all in Assam), Delhi, Gurugram, and in West Bengal's Kolkata, Siliguri and Alipurduar.

"Total evasion of income in these cases exceeds Rs 200 crore. Nine bank lockers have been found, which are yet to be operated," a CBDT spokesperson said in a statement.

Cash worth Rs 42 lakh was also seized

during the operation, it added. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) frames policy for the tax department.

The main allegations against the three groups, it said, were that they had been inflating expenses and had taken accommodation entries in the form of non-genuine unsecured loans and security premium.

"These entities had suppressed their net profits across the years by claiming bogus expenses and routed back the same into business in the form of share premium, share capital and unsecured loan," the Board alleged.

It said tax sleuths unearthed hand written notes depicting unexplained expenses of approximately Rs 87 crore.

"Entries from shell companies in the form of share capital and unsecured loans and by way of amalgamation to the tune of approximately Rs 100 crore were also found," it said. Some digital evidences recovered showed "discrepancy" in cash balance of Rs 4.20 crore along with bogus booking of expenses at the end of financial year, it claimed.

"Financial statement showing Rs 32 crore profit with cash balance of Rs 12 crore was found that did not match with the regular books," the statement said.

Digital back-up of servers, computers and phones had been taken for further examination which will give actual picture of the business of the assessee, it said.

"Stand In Solidarity": Activist Greta Thunberg Extends Support To Farmers

NEW DELHI, 03 FEB [NDTV]: Teen climate activist Greta Thunberg has extended her support to the farmers' protest at Delhi borders against the controversial agricultural laws.

"We stand in solidarity with #farmersprotest in India", Ms Thunberg tweeted late on Tuesday night.

The teen activist's tweet came hours after international pop icon Rihanna shared a news article that highlighted the government's latest crackdown on the agitating farmers by cutting off internet services in many regions.

"Why aren't we talking about this?!" #FarmersProtest," tweeted the 'Don't Stop The Music' singer. Within hours of her tweet, the singer gained another 1 lakh followers in the 100 million-plus Twitter fan-following. The tweet sent

the singer trending on Twitter with thousands of responses including one from actor Kangana Ranaut, an ardent supporter of the ruling BJP who has made no bones about her strong dislike for the farmers' protest that has challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The internet services in the Delhi border areas of Singhu, Ghazipur and Tikri - epicentres of the farmers' months-long protest against the centre's agriculture laws - were suspended on Saturday and the shutdown has been extended twice to be in force till at least 5 pm Wednesday.

Lakhs of farmers across India have on protest since September demanding the centre repeal laws they say will leave them at the mercy of large corporate firms.

SC refers to PM's statement, refuses to entertain pleas on tractor rally violence

NEW DELHI, FEB 3 (PTI): The Supreme Court Wednesday referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement that law will take its own course on the Republic Day violence here and refused to entertain pleas for time-bound probe by an apex court-appointed panel, saying it doesn't want to "interfere at this stage".



One of the pleas filed by an advocate had sought setting up of a three-member inquiry commission under the chairmanship of a former apex court judge and comprising of two retired high court judges for collecting and recording evidence and submit a report on the violence during tractor rally in Delhi on January 26.

"We are sure that the government is inquiring into it (violence) and they are doing it. We have read statement made by the Prime Minister in the press that the law will take its own course. That means they are inquiring into it. We do not want to interfere in it at this stage," a bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde said.

The bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, asked lawyer Vishal Tiwari, who had filed the PIL, to give a representation to the central government for taking necessary action and directed him to withdraw the plea.

The bench also refused to entertain a similar plea related to the tractor rally violence and asked petitioner Shikha Dixit to file a representation with the government.

During brief hearing, the bench took note of the submission of a lawyer and said as to how he can assume that the police probe into the January 26 violence will be one sided.

"They will obviously investigate everybody.

How can you assume that it will be one sided? They are doing it and obviously they will investigate everything," the bench observed and allowed Tiwari and Dixit to withdraw their PILs.

The bench however dismissed the third plea filed by lawyer M L Sharma related to the tractor violence.

Sharma had sought a direction to the concerned authority as well as the media not to declare farmers as "terrorist" without any evidence.

He claimed there was a planned conspiracy to sabotage the protest by farmers' and they were allegedly declared as terrorist without any evidence.

The tractor parade on January 26 that was to highlight the demands of farmer unions to repeal three new agri laws dissolved into anarchy on the streets of the national capital as thousands of protesters broke through barriers, fought with the police, overturned vehicles and hoisted a religious flag from the ramparts of the iconic Red Fort.

Tiwari had also sought direction to the concerned authority to lodge FIRs against individuals or organisations responsible for the violence and causing dishonour of the National Flag on January 26. He had also said that farmers' protest against the three new agri laws is going on for over two months but it took a violent turn during the tractor parade.

Unfortunately, the

tractor march took a violent turn leaving injuries and destruction of public property. This incident also effected the daily life of the public. The internet services were interrupted as government ordered the operators to suspend the same. In the present time, the internet services are very essential to carry out the work in different professions especially in advocacy as the courts and our Supreme Court of India is functioning online, Tiwari had said in his plea.

It said clash between the farmers and police on the Republic Day has caught the attention of the entire world.

The plea said there may be some conspiracy by some notorious forces or organizations to cause disturbance and damage the peaceful protest and create clash between police and protesting farmers.

On January 20, the Centre had withdrawn its application, filed through Delhi Police, seeking an injunction against the proposed tractor march on January 26 after the apex court had said that issue of tractor rally by farmers protesting against the new farm laws was in executive domain.

On January 12, the apex court had stayed the implementation of the contentious new farm laws till further orders and constituted a four-member committee to make recommendations to resolve the impasse over them between the Centre and farmers' unions protesting at Delhi borders.

Budget session of Manipur Assembly gets underway

IMPHAL, FEB 3 (PTI): The budget session of the Manipur Legislative Assembly began on Wednesday, as Governor Najma Heptulla highlighted the measures undertaken by the state government to contain the spread of COVID-19.

The session will have 13 sittings till February

22, including Chief Minister N Biren Singh's presentation of the budget estimate for 2021-22 on Friday, an official release said.

Heptulla, during his address, said the Manipur government has taken a host of COVID-19 steps since its outbreak last year, including

screening of returnees, establishment of a 24-hour control room, closure of the border gate at Moreh town, and setting up multiple coronavirus centres, among others.

Singh will also present the 15th Business Advisory Committee Report on Wednesday.

Blast damages Assam school near Mizoram border

HAILAKANDI (ASSAM), FEB 3 (PTI): A school building was damaged in a powerful bomb explosion in Hailakandi district of Assam near the state's border with Mizoram on Wednesday, police said.

The blast took place at Kachurhal area of the district damaging the Muliwala Lower Pri-

mary School. No one was injured in the explosion which occurred in the early hours of Wednesday.

The police began investigating the incident but the identity of those involved in it is yet to be ascertained.

Security has been stepped up in the area, police said.

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Depleted Southampton concede nine again at rampant Manchester United

JAMIE JACKSON
MANCHESTER, 03 FEB [THEGUARDIAN]: This was a message written in rampant style that Manchester United intend to remain serious title contenders. Southampton may have been injury-depleted and down to 10 men inside two minutes, but Ole Gunnar Solskjær's side exhibited a killer edge that shows they mean business by equalling the biggest Premier League victory.

They ended with nine in a breathless finish that added three goals. First, Jan Bednarek was shown Southampton's second red card by Mike Dean, who awarded a penalty for a foul on Anthony Martial. After VAR ordered the referee to the pitchside monitor he maintained his original decision and added the sending off. Bruno Fernandes scored from the spot, before Martial added an eighth, and Dan James the final strike.

If Bednarek's red card had the whiff of farce about it – if anything Martial may have gone down easily – as Arsenal's David Luiz was sent off earlier in the evening for a similar offence Dean perhaps felt he had no choice.

For Ralph Hasenhüttl this is a second 9-0 trouncing his team has suffered in consecutive seasons, following the capitulation to Leicester in October 2019. Yet the Austrian is right to differentiate between them because, as he posited, before this reverse Saints were enjoying a highly respectable campaign which has featured beating the champions, Liverpool.

What unfolded here, though, was a horror show. After only 79 seconds Alexandre Jankevitz scythed down Scott McTominay and Dean sent off the 19-year-old in what proved a nightmare first Premier League start for the Swiss teenager. McTominay, though, could resume and count himself lucky he was not more seriously hurt.

United proceeded to dominate, Solskjær's men ruthlessly solving a puzzle they can find hard: the breaking down of banked resistance. They went close when McTominay fired in a cross that Fred nearly headed in and Mason Greenwood had a chance blocked.

United were a blur of red, swamping Southampton in all areas. Shaw chipped in for Wan-Bissaka, this time he over-hit, but United continued to hog possession. The effervescent Shaw showed once more and this time it was clinical: the left-back tapped to Greenwood who found Marcus Rashford and his first-time finish beat Alex McCarthy to his left. This had Hasenhüttl throwing his hands up in despair and while there was some respite when James Ward-Prowse's free-kick warmed David de Gea's hands it was brief.

England must learn from India's win in Australia if they hope to prosper

GEOFF LEMON
LONDON, 03 FEB [THEGUARDIAN]: Test tours of India are daunting. The conditions, the unfamiliarity, the intensity of interest. More daunting just after an India team missing 10 first-choice players has won a Test series in Australia, the other toughest mission in world cricket. With England having arrived for four Tests in Chennai and Ahmedabad, what can India's last result warn them to look out for?

PUJARA WILL BAT FOREVER
When India won in Australia in 2018-19, Cheteshwar Pujara made three centuries in four Tests to be the batting core. When India won two years later, he looked out of form. Lots of false shots to Nathan Lyon's spin, edges into the cordon from pace, repeatedly hit by the short ball, and barely half as many runs.

And yet, he still batted more time and more deliveries than anyone: nearly 23 hours at the crease for 928 balls. The Australians weren't worried because he wasn't scoring, but he allowed others to score around him. Pujara's danger is so stealthy that you may not recognise it exists. You're gone before you know it. The problem is, knowing about the hazard still won't help unless you've got a solution.

DON'T LIVE YOUR LIFE FOR SPIN

Teams travelling to India get carried away. They think of spin squadrons like Bedi, Chandrasekhar, Prasanna and



Venkataraman, and think they need to pack their own team. That doesn't help unless your spinners are up to the job. England have Dom Bess and Jack Leach, modest county types who do well on the Ciderabad pitches of Somerset, and Moeen Ali who hasn't played a Test since he looked a busted bowler in the first Ashes match of 2019.

All three are finger-spinners, which could be too samey, with the only wrist-spin option being Mason Crane among the listed reserves beyond the extended

squad. It may serve England to pick the best bowlers rather than choose by style.

BEWARE A TEAM WITH OPTIONS

India's position is converse. Australia is a boneyard for visiting spinners but off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin bowled like a dream. On 377 Test wickets, he may charge past 400 before Lyon gets off 399. Washington Sundar got four wickets and a half-century on debut as an off-spinning all-rounder. Kuldeep Yadav is a fine left-arm wrist-spinner, Axar Patel

is left-arm orthodox. Ravindra Jadeja may return later in the series.

In terms of England's batting against spin, only Joe Root has credentials. In Asia he averages more than he does on any other continent, but Ben Stokes, Rory Burns, Dom Sibley, Zak Crawley, Moeen and Chris Woakes all average under 30. Early days for some, but a concern. The thing is, times have changed.

Sometimes Indian grounds produce faster, grassy decks, with the luxury of pace bowlers available. Ishant Sharma

and Jasprit Bumrah are back from injury, Mohammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur impressed in Australia, and the all-rounder Hardik Pandya can deliver heat. Planning only for spin may land you in trouble. And if you think you can rattle India's batting with speed, they've just prospered against guys named Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood. Those times have changed as well.

FOOT TO THE FLOOR
Speaking of pace, take the speed of scoring. England's last tour to India was defined

by scale: if England made 400 batting first, India made 600 batting second. What the Indians have now is the chance to change games with the run-per-minute ratio like never before.

Virender Sehwag was revelatory but he worked alone. India will have Rohit Sharma opening with new boy Shubman Gill, a stroke-playing duo who will not hold back. Virat Kohli has more gears than anybody, given his run-harvests across formats and locations. Rishabh Pant as wicket-keeper has taken Tests by the scruff despite his youth and junior position. And while Indian teams can be lizard-like in their propensity for the tail to fall off, Sundar and Thakur showed in Brisbane that they can belt proper runs at a fast clip. On a day when that whole lineup clicks, may the most proximate gods be merciful.

DON'T COUNT YOURSELF OUT
With things to worry about, there is also the reason not to worry. Which is that unlikely things do happen, odds do get beaten. India just proved that. Who wins a tour where a team goes through 20 players, months away from home in quarantine conditions, and gets bowled out for the country's lowest score in the first match? Sure, England will be up against it on India's patch and the squads don't match up. But continuing with confidence despite all reason not to is what India did. Best to flatter them with imitation.

Serena Williams keeps rolling in tuneup for Australian Open

MELBOURNE, FEB 3 (AP): It's a rare thing for Serena Williams to play a tournament the week leading into one of the tennis Grand Slams.

Now that she's at Melbourne Park, though, she's making the most of her time in the Yarra Valley Classic to prepare for next week's Australian Open.

The 23-time major champion beat Tsvetana Pironkova 6-1, 6-4 on Wednesday to advance to the quarterfinals. She's still on track for a semifinal match against top-ranked Ash Barty.

Williams had a tough win over Pironkova at last year's U.S. Open, and then withdrew from their scheduled match at the French Open because of an Achilles injury.

That kept Williams on the sidelines until last week. She played her opening matches in Australia in a long-sleeve top.

But it was warmer Wednesday, and Williams came out hot. She won the first set in 28 minutes and made Pironkova struggle for almost every point. The Bulgarian rallied in the second set and saved three match points before Williams finished it off with a powerful service return forcing an error.

Williams was later asked when was the last time she played a warmup tournament so close to a major. The U.S. Open, last year, was her short answer. Then she elaborated. "But before that, before this whole pandemic, I could count the times on one finger I've done that," she said.

"I'm just happy to be out here in any circumstances. It's so cool after what the world went through the last 12 months. Very special to be out here."

Williams won her last major title at the 2017 Australian Open, when she was pregnant with her daughter, Olympia.



She's still chasing Margaret Court's all-time record of 24 Grand Slam singles titles. Barty looked like the top-ranked player in the first set, then struggled for a while in a 6-0, 4-6, 6-3 win over No. 52-ranked Marie Bouzkova.

"Coming off a night match, I'm an early riser so I didn't get a lot of sleep last night," the 2019 French Open champion said. "I felt in the middle of the match I pressed a little bit ... but I was happy to get the win on my terms at the end."

Barty will play Shelby Rogers in the quarterfinals.

On the bottom half of the draw, defending Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin fended off Jessica Pegula 5-7, 7-5, 6-2 in a spirited comeback. Kenin was a set and trailed 4-1 before making her revival.

There were 89 matches scheduled at the Australian Open site on the middle day of a compressed week of six tournaments including three WTA events and three for the men's

tour. The crush of matches was because of a 14-day quarantine period for all players who travelled to Australia for the tournament. That, in turn, pushed the Australian Open back three weeks from its usual start.

OSAKA IN THREE
U.S. Open champion Naomi Osaka advanced in the Gippsland Trophy, but needed three sets after a slow start.

Osaka had a first-round bye and dropped only four games en route to her second-round win, so a 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 win over No. 371-ranked Katie Boulter was a change of pace. She didn't mind the extra work. "Honestly I like playing long matches, just because I can gauge the condition of the court and I feel my fitness gets better," Osaka said.

"I played a shorter match yesterday, so maybe subconsciously I made myself play a long match today." Second-ranked Simona Halep had a more straight-forward 6-2, 6-4 win over Laura Siegemund. Also

advancing were third-seeded Elina Svitolina, who beat former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-2, and seventh-seeded Elise Mertens, who defeated 12th-seeded Caroline Garcia 7-6 (1), 6-3.

ITALY ADVANCES
Italy is the first team through to the ATP Cup semifinals after winning the first two singles matches against France.

Fabio Fognini beat Benoit Paire 6-1, 7-6 (2) before Matteo Berrettini defeated Gael Monfils 6-4, 6-2. Italy remains unbeaten and assured of topping Group C in the 12-team event following its 2-1 win over Austria on Tuesday.

In Wednesday's other matches, Germany beat Canada 2-0 in the other early match. Jan-Lennard Struff downed Milos Raonic 7-6 (4), 7-6 (2) and Alexander Zverev held off Denis Shapovalov 6-7 (5), 6-3, 7-6 (4).

Canada was coming off an opening loss to defending champion Serbia and now can't make the semifinals.

Buoyant NEUFC look to snatch fourth spot from Goa

Vasco, Feb 3 (PTI): Back in contention for a playoff berth after a hat-trick of wins, a buoyant North-East United will look to enter the top four when they face FC Goa in a Indian Super League fixture here on Thursday.

The Highlanders had found themselves in the wrong half of the table and there was uncertainty surrounding their playoff hopes after the departure of Gerard Nus.

But three wins on the trot under interim coach Khalid Jamil has given them a new lease of life and they will hope to prove their credentials once again at the Tilak Maidan stadium.

Both sides have accumulated 21 points after 14 games with fifth-placed NEUFC just below their opponents.

While NEUFC have been unbeaten in their last four games, Goa have not suffered a loss in their previous seven matches, making this an encounter to savour for the neutrals.

"We have analysed them," said NEUFC assistant coach Alison Kharsyntiew.

"We have to approach the game well, put our best effort and try to win."

Under Jamil, NEUFC won have three matches in a row, a first for them.

"I would like to give credit to coach Khalid,

the technical director, the coaching staff and all the players who have done very well. We haven't changed anything," Kharsyntiew said.

"We have just strengthened our attacking and defensive principles and that's the only thing. We've been trying to play creative football."

The two sides played out a 1-1 draw earlier in the season and Goa coach Juan Ferrando is expecting NEUFC to come hard at them.

"The (NorthEast) players are happy, they are enjoying every game, every minute," he said.

"The ambiance in their dressing room will be nice. They won the difficult games. The players are free on the pitch. They have gained a lot of positives."

Goa will also miss the services of Edu Bedia (suspended) and Brandon Fernandes (injured), making their task difficult.

Ferrando admitted he's feeling the pressure of the playoff race.

"I feel pressure all the time. It's good for the Indian league because more or less there is a difference of 3-4 points maximum between teams," he said.

"It's good for us because we aren't relaxed. Every game is important and our mentality is to get the three points.

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'Writing with Fire, documentary about Khabar Lahariya wins audience award at Sundance Film Festival

Writing with Fire, an Indian film chronicling the rise of Khabar Lahariya, India's only newspaper run by Dalit women, has won the audience award in the World Cinema Documentary category at the Sundance Film Festival 2021.

The festival, which started from January 28 and will close on February 3, is presented by Sundance Organisation, a nonprofit that discovers and supports independent artists, and introduces audiences to their work.

According to the film gala's official website, the virtual award ceremony was remotely hosted by actor-comic Patton Oswalt on Tuesday night.

"Writing with Fire", which also marks the feature debut of directors Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, follows this ambitious group of Dalit women -- led by their chief reporter, Meera -- as the team switches from print to digital in order to stay relevant.

Armed with smartphones and the courage and conviction one must be born with, they investigate the incompetence of the local police force, listen to and stand by victims of caste and gender violence, and challenge long-standing, harmful practices that lead to injustice and intimidation.

Also edited and produced by Thomas and Ghosh, the film won the special jury award: impact for change in the World Cinema Documentary category as well.

"Writing with Fire" premiered in the World Cinema Documentary Competition segment, which celebrates 10 non-fiction feature films from emerging talent around the world showcase some of the most courageous and extraor-



inary filmmaking today. "Fire in the Mountains", directed by debutant Ajitpal Singh, was another Indian title to be screened at the festival.

The family drama, revolving around a mother who toils to save money to build a road in a remote Himalayan village to take her wheelchair-bound son for physiotherapy but her husband believes that a shamanic ritual (Jagar) is the remedy, premiered in the World Cinema Dramatic Competition segment.

Previously, Indian titles such as Prashant Nair's "Umrika" (audience award winner in 2015), Shonali Bose's "Margarita With A Straw", Neeraj Ghaywan's "Masaan", and Ritesh Batra's "The Lunchbox" have received support from Sundance.

The Institute was first inspired to create a dedicated Screenwriters Lab in India after selecting Batra for the 2009 Screenwriters and Directors Labs. "The Lunchbox", Batra's feature debut, premiered at Semaine De La Critique at the 2013 Cannes Film Festival, went on to an acclaimed festival run,

including Sarajevo, Telluride, and Toronto, and was acquired by Sony Pictures Classics.

The biggest winner at the 2021 edition of the Sundance Film Festival was "CODA" with four prizes in the US Dramatic Competition category: the grand jury prize, the directing prize, the audience award and a special jury prize for best ensemble.

Directed by Sian Heder, "CODA" is a family drama centered on a high school student who is the child of deaf adults.

It is the first film in Sundance history to win all three top prizes in the US Dramatic category.

"Summer Of Soul (Or, When The Revolution Could Not Be Televised)", the feature documentary directed by the Roots frontman Ahmir Thompson, won both the grand jury and audience awards in the US Documentary Competition category.

Thompson, more popularly known by his stage name Questlove, arranged the never-seen-before archival footage of the Harlem Cultural Festival, celebrating African American music and culture, and

promoting Black pride and unity, attended by 300,000 people in the summer of 1969. Filmmaker Natalia Almada won the directing prize in the US Documentary Competition for "Users", which explores parenting in the age of social media.

"Flee", a largely animated documentary about the life of a gay Afghan refugee, earned the grand jury prize in the World Cinema Documentary Competition category; and "One for the Road", a buddy road movie about two friends traveling through Thailand, earned a special jury prize for creative vision in the World Cinema Dramatic Competition category.

But the biggest winner in the World Cinema Dramatic Competition was director Blerta Basholli's "Hive" which earned three awards -- the grand jury prize, audience award, and directing award -- another Sundance record.

The film follows a single mother struggling to survive after her husband disappeared during the war in Kosovo.

The NEXT category awarded the audience award to "My Belle, My

Beauty", directed by Marion Hill. The film follows a surprise reunion in southern France re-ignites passions and jealousies between two women who were formerly polyamorous lovers. Animated fantasy "Cryptozoo", directed by Dash Shaw, bagged the innovator award.

The festival screened 73 feature-length and 50 short films from more than 14,000 submissions and showcased online via its custom-built online platform, as well as in 28 Satellite Screen locations across the US.

Tabitha Jackson, director of Sundance Film Festival, said this virtual edition of the film gala held amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic was as "real" as the power of storytelling transcending all kinds of boundaries.

"This was not a 'virtual' festival, it was a real festival and the power of these artists and their work was what made it so. It has been a privilege to help this work meet new audiences and enter the culture with such fanfare, especially now, when breaking through the noise is harder than ever," Jackson said in a statement.

Cristiano Ronaldo strikes twice to give Juventus edge over Inter in Coppa Italia

ROME, 03 FEB [REUTERS]: Andrea Pirlo says a Serie A defeat by Internazionale helped his Juventus side address their issues and earn revenge with a 2-1 semi-final first-leg victory against their rivals in the Coppa Italia.

The Italian champions were outplayed in a 2-0 defeat at San Siro on 17 January, but have won five consecutive games since including this comeback victory on Tuesday night.

Cristiano Ronaldo struck twice following a Lautaro Martínez's opener to help Juve to put one foot in the final ahead of the second leg in Turin on 9 February.

Looking back on the league meeting with Inter, Pirlo told Rai Sport: "We weren't in that game, but it served as a lesson for us. From there we regrouped, worked on the errors and more victories arrived. But tonight was the first round, there's another game to come and it's played over 180 minutes. Nothing is done yet."

"The guys were great, they faced Inter with the right attitude from the first minute. We went behind, but we continued to play. There was a great reaction from the team."

Ronaldo appeared



unhappy when he was substituted in the 76th minute, but Pirlo explained he wanted to keep his Portuguese talisman fresh for a busy period of fixtures. "I told him that he had to come off because we have an important game on Saturday [against Roma in Serie A], so it's right to let him catch his breath," Pirlo said. "He's playing many games consecutively, so every now and then a little bit of rest does some good."

Inter's manager, Antonio Conte, wasn't happy with the result after

Ashley Young conceded a penalty before a defensive mixup between Samir Handanovic and Alessandro Bastoni helped to put another goal on a plate for Ronaldo.

"We committed two naive errors that allowed them to go 2-1 up," Conte said. "Otherwise it was another great performance, with many chances created. But we need to finish them, because now we're talking about a negative result. The guys gave everything, they had Juve on the ropes, they deserved a lot more."

Jon M Chu to direct 'Wicked' musical



Crazy Rich Asians director John M Chu is stepping in to helm the feature adaptation of the musical "Wicked" following the exit of Stephen Daldry from the project.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Daldry had long been attached to the Universal Pictures movie and left the project in October due to scheduling issues.

Based on the Stephen Schwartz musical, "Wick-

ed" is an alternative telling of the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz" and L Frank Baum's classic 1900 story of the same name, told from the perspective of the witches.

Screenwriter Winnie Holzman and composer Schwarz are adapting the musical for the screen. Marc Platt is attached to produce.

This is not the first time Chu will direct a musical. He recently

helmed "In the Heights", based on the 2007 stage musical of the same name by Quiara Alegria Hudes and Lin-Manuel Miranda, which is slated to be released in June.

"Wicked" was scheduled to open in theatres on December 22, 2021 but was taken off the calendar following the COVID-19 pandemic-induced shutdown.

The studio is yet to announce a new date.

'The Nevers' to premiere on HBO in April

The Nevers, a sci-fi period drama created by Joss Whedon, will air on HBO in April, the premium cable network has announced.

HBO released a teaser trailer of the show on Tuesday night that gave a glimpse into "The Nevers", which revolves around a gang of Victorian women who find themselves with unusual abilities, relentless enemies, and a mission that might change the world.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Whedon exited the show in late November citing "the physical challenges of making such a huge show during a global pandemic".

Zachary Levi to lead 'Harold and the Purple Crayon' adaptation

Shazam star Zachary Levi is set to headline Sony Picture's adaptation of children's classic "Harold and the Purple Crayon".

The live-action feature will get the screenplay by David Guion and Michael Handelman, known for penning movies such as "Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb" and "Dinner for Schmucks".

Written by Crockett Johnson, "Harold and the Purple Crayon" narrated

Screenwriter Philippa Goslett, known for her work in films like "Mary Magdalene" and "How to Talk to Girls at Parties", took over showrunner duties from Whedon last week.

Led by Laura Donnelly, Ann Skelley, Olivia Williams and Nick Frost, the cast of the show also includes Kiran Sonia Sawar, Elizabeth Berington, Ella Smith, Viola Pretejohn, Anna Devlin and Martyn Ford.

The six episodes HBO will debut in the spring were filmed before Whedon's departure.

The remainder of the first season, under Goslett, will follow at a later time.

the story of a four-year-old who, with the power of his crayon, created worlds around him.

The book, which was published in 1955, was followed by six more installments.

John Davis will produce the film version via his Davis Entertainment banner. Levi will next star in Richard Linklater's "Apollo 10 1/2: A Space Age Adventure" and Jon Gunn's "Unbreakable Boy".

Unbeaten TRAU look for second win against Punjab FC



KALYANI, FEB 3 (PTI): Third-placed Tiddim Road Athletic Union (TRAU) would look to notch up their second win of the I-League when they clash with ninth-placed Punjab FC at the Kalyani Municipal stadium here on Thursday.

TRAU have been the dark horses of the season so far. The team from Manipur is undefeated in the league and has grabbed seven points from five matches, albeit winning only once.

It has been a good start to the season for head coach Nandakumar and he believes his team has to keep this momentum going.

"We have the potential and the ability to maintain this momentum and keep going forward. Thus it is very important to keep this momentum

alive and aim for nothing short of a win tomorrow," he said.

"During the course of the season, we have shown that we can attack as well as defend. We have shown that we can come from behind as well. We just need to take our chances in front of goal and the draws will convert to wins."

Forward Bidyashagar Singh said, It will be a good test for us tomorrow as they (Punjab FC) are very good on the counter.

"We will have to be defensively solid and would have to take our chances if we are to get a positive result from the match. However, we trust that we are ready and will aim for all three points."

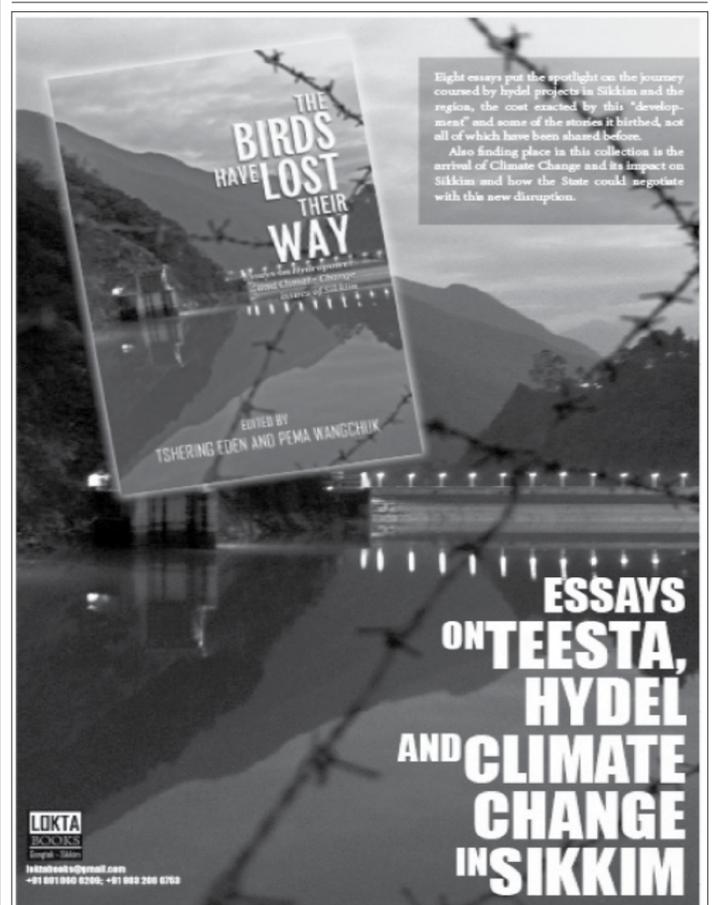
Punjab FC were held to a goalless draw by

Sudeva Delhi FC in their last match. The Punjab based team has garnered five points from as many matches and need a win to propel themselves out of the bottom half of the table.

Coach Curtis Fleming said "it will be a very difficult game" for his team.

"We respect every team. An individual does not win the game alone and thus we have no plans for individual players of TRAU. However, we know they are going to cause us problems but we are sure that we will be able to handle them," he said.

"We want to win every game, we want to be at the top of the Hero I-League and we dominated possession in the last two games. It is only a matter of time before results come our way.





शुभकामना



सिक्किम क्रान्तिकारी मोर्चा पार्टीको नवौं स्थापना दिवसको शुभोपलक्ष्यमा पार्टी अध्यक्ष महोदयलगायत सम्पूर्ण सिक्किमेली जनता जनार्दनमा हार्दिक बधाई एवम् न्यानो शुभकामना व्यक्त गर्दछु। एक दशक लामो समयसम्म विभिन्न हण्डरहरू खाँदै चुनौतिका पहाडहरूलाई त्याग, निष्ठा र समर्पणले चिर्दै परम आदरणीय पार्टी अध्यक्ष महोदयको नेतृत्वप्रति आस्था र भरोसा राखेर गरिएको संघर्षले अन्ततः सिक्किमेली जनताको आंगमा परिवर्तनको सुनौलो बिहानी ल्याइदिएको छ। प्रतिकूल परिस्थितिबीच पनि छोटो समयमा सिक्किमले प्रगतिको दिशामा सराहनीय र उल्लेखीय उपलब्धि हासिल गरेको छ। यसका निम्ति सम्माननीय मुख्यमन्त्री महोदय एवम् पार्टी अध्यक्षलगायत पार्टीको सम्पूर्ण कार्यकर्ता बधाईका पात्र बन्नुभएको छ। भविष्यमा पनि सरकार र जनताबीचको समन्वयमा सिक्किमले अझ बढी तरक्की गरेर इतिहासमा स्वर्णम अक्षरले नाम अंकित गर्नेछ भन्ने विश्वास अनि कामनासहित हार्दिक शुभकामना व्यक्त गर्दछु।

शुभेच्छुक

कृष्ण राई

नाम्ची, दक्षिण सिक्किम



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कर्मा टारी भोटिया
अध्यक्ष
सिक्किम आवास बोर्ड, सिक्किम सरकार



On this historic occasion of the 9th Foundation Day of our SKM party, I at the outset extend my warmest greetings to all my Sikkimese people. SKM is the epitome of a progressive change and we all, as its soldiers under the visionary leadership of our beloved party President Mr. PS Tamang and all the elders, are committed to achieve better and stable Sikkim. I take this opportunity in expressing my warmest gratitude to all our party workers and supporters for having ensure reach our beloved party to its present height which in itself is the reflection of their selfless determination and commitments.

Warmest greetings to you all

SONAM LAMA
32-Sangha MLA



Heartiest Congratulations to all Krantikaris on our 9th Foundation Day, 04 Feb, 2021!

A special expression of gratitude towards our party president, Chief Minister PS Tamang, whose leadership has brought Sikkim Krantikari Morcha the opportunity to serve the people of Sikkim as the government voted into office. His leadership, backed by the sacrifices of our party-workers, has brought us to this landmark moment. Congratulations! And Thank You!



TENZING NORBU LAMTHA
Advisor IT Department

शुभकामना

सिक्किम क्रान्तिकारी मोर्चा पार्टीको नवौं स्थापना दिवसको शुभोपलक्ष्यमा सम्माननीय मुख्यमन्त्री महोदय एवम् पार्टीका अध्यक्ष श्रीमान प्रेमसिंह तामाङज्यूप्रति कोटी-कोटी शुभकामना एवम् बधाई चढाउँदछु। हजुरको नेतृत्वमा सिक्किमले छोटो समयमा प्रगतिको लामो छलाङ लगाएको विषय जगजाहेर छ। यसरी नै भविष्यमा पनि हजुरको नेतृत्व र मार्गदर्शनले राज्यको सर्वाङ्गीन विकास एवम् प्रगति भएर जाने कामनासहित आजको यस पावन दिवसमा हजुरलाई शुभकामना चढाउँदछु।



गणेश राई
प्रभारी, ११ नाम्ची सिङ्गीथाङ समष्टि