

NOW!

First With The News



Today's edition of NOW! contains 8 pages including 4 pages of "Extras," more NOW! to begin your week with...

Apathy among party workers limiting SDF's contribution to Sikkim

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: The Chief Minister and Sikkim Democratic Front party president, Pawan Chamling, expressed dismay over the poor development of ability and skills of his party workers. Addressing members of SDF's central working committee here at SDF Bhawan on 29 July, Mr. Chamling, rued the

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Driver killed as vehicle plunges 500 ft

a NOW REPORT

MELLI, 31 July: Bishnu Sharma was killed on the spot when the Armada taxi [SK-04-7234] of Melli he was driving met with an accident at around 9:30 PM yesterday about 3 kms from Melli Bazaar, West Bengal, towards Gangtok.

When the incident occurred the driver, Bishnu Sharma was alone in the vehicle and was returning to Melli Bazaar when the vehicle reportedly went off the road and fell some 500 feet down the valley.

The driver, as mentioned earlier, died on the spot and his dead body was taken to Kalimpong Hospital for post-mortem today and later handed over to his family.

The case is still under investigation, as the cause of accident is not known yet.

SAGAR CHHETRI

GANGTOK, 31 July: Director General of Police [DGP], TN Tenzing, retired on superannuation on 31 July, 2005. The farewell parade in honour of the DGP was held here yesterday at the SAP camp Pangthang. In the meanwhile, in an office order passed on Saturday, CM Ravindran, an IPS officer of Sikkim cadre of 1977, has been appointed the new DGP. He had been officiating as the Additional DGP,

DGP TENZING RETIRES, CM RAVINDRAN TO TAKE OVER

a post that has now been taken over by IGP A. Datta, and IPS officer of the 1978 batch.

Yesterday was an emotional farewell to DGP Tenzing who has served Sikkim Police for 35 years and 5 months. He joined the force in 1970 and was inducted into the IPS in the 1972 batch.

Addressing the State's policemen at Pangthang yesterday, he reminded them that

Sikkim was a peaceful state and urged the force to remain committed to their task of keep it that way. "There will always be miscreants scheming to vitiate the peace in Sikkim, it is our job to keep a good watch and prevent the situation from going out of hand," he said.

DIGA, Sudhakar Rao, who presented a detailed account of DGP Tenzing's service graph, lavished special praise on the

courage and intelligence with which the DGP had conducted his professional responsibilities and called on his colleagues and juniors to take inspiration from him.

Detailing DGP Tenzing's service as a cop, DIG Rao informed that DGP Tenzing was recruited into Sikkim Police in 1970 and trained at the National Police Academy, Mount Abu.

In one of his first responsibilities, he was posted as the DCP [Crime] between 1973 to 1975 when a democratic revolution swept through Sikkim. These years saw much violence and Mr. Tenzing tackled the situation drawing on his knowledge of the ground situation and inspiring Sikkim's limited police force with his courage, the DIG said.

In July 1978, Mr. Tenzing was posted as the Divisional

DAILY

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TR Sharma included as State Planning Commission Member; Administrative ranks reshuffled

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: In a major reshuffle which hit the state administration on 30 July, TR Sharma, Advisor, Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department has been "transferred and posted" as Member of the State Planning Commission.

Mr. Sharma who has served as the Secretary-cum-Principal Chief Conservator of Forest earlier, will serve the State Planning Commission on his own pay and scale on deputation, informs an Office Order No. 665/G/DOP issued by Department of Personnel A.R. dated 30.7.2005.

The only promotions of Saturday were in Sikkim Police where Additional DGP, CM Ravindran, was promoted as SAP Ground on Saturday, following the retirement of his

predecessor, TN Tenzing. The new DGP's tenure begins on 01 August, Monday.

Taking charge as the new Additional DGP is A. Datta, promoted as ADGP [Special Branch]. Mr. Datta was officiating as the IGP [Intelligence].

Similarly, Dr. Anil Kumar Mainra, CCF [Land Use and Environment] Forest has been posted as OSD, Tourism Department, New Sikkim House, New Delhi on deputation.

Besides these, the DoP's Notification No. 667/G/DOP dated 30.7.2005 has reshuffled 26 officials ranging from Additional Secretary to Under Secretary level.

1. KT Gyaltsen, OSD, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, Tourism Department.

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THE FAREWELL TUG:

Sikkim Police personnel pull DGP TN Tenzing's [INSET] vehicle in a traditional send off to mark the farewell parade held in his honour at SAP Ground on Saturday.

Missing youth's body found near Mangpoo

a NOW REPORT

JORETHANG, 31 July: The dead body of local youth, Yogesh Bhujel, whose parents had reported him missing ever since he was detained for questioning in a drug-bust case on 26 July, was recovered yesterday near the Mangpoo Picnic Spot in West Bengal on the banks of the Teesta.

The search operation ended when one Wangyal Lepcha, a resident of Mangpoo, informed them about the dead body which was later identified as Yogesh Bhujel's. His body was taken to Kalimpong for post-mortem

and after that it was brought to Jorethang.

Given the decomposed state of the body, it was not possible to take it to his home and was instead taken to Jorethang taxi stand where everybody offered khadas before proceeding for the final rites yesterday itself.

Those close to the deceased youth remain critical of the disinterested manner in which the local police has handled the matter. Despite a missing persons report filed with Jorethang Police, no serious efforts were launched by the cops to trace the youth even though they were the last to have seen him

alive, they allege.

The youth, it may be recalled, was called to Jorethang thana for questioning after he was caught with eight Spasmo-Proxyvon capsules on 26 July following a drug bust by the Drug Inspector.

Local cops add that they were aiding the Narcotics Department's investigation by providing space for the victim's interrogation. Yogesh, they add, left after the interrogation was over and since he was not arrested, that is where the police connection ended.

Police officials further add that several witnesses

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BPT students call off dharna

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: The agitating Bachelor of Physiotherapy students of SMIMS called off their dharna on Saturday after about 36 hours of sitting in protest outside the Vice Chancellor's office. The dharna was called off after they were satisfied with the wording of the relieving orders issued by the VC to two faculty members of the physiotherapy course - Sunil Kumar and Daphne Perriera.

The relieving order was prepared during a meeting at the VC's office between the

VC and parents of the students in the presence of was IG, Law & Order, SD Negi. The two teachers had handed over their resignations to the VC on 29 July in which they had mentioned that "should the need arise" they were willing to return to their duties at SMIMS. This is the normal practice followed when wording a resignation, inform officials, but did not go down well with the students who insisted that the "offending" portion be struck off.

The students have been demanding the removal of

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Adolescent issues discussed at Ranka SSS meet

a NOW REPORT

RANKA, 31 July: A day long workshop on 'Male parents/Teachers of adolescent students/dropouts' was organized here at the Government Senior Secondary School on 27 July by the Health Care Human Services Family Welfare Department.

The objective of the programme was to provide firsthand information about the various aspects of adolescence period and clarify the myths and misconceptions regarding HIV/AIDS, drug

abuse, informs a press release. During an interactive session, various questions and queries were placed before the panel comprising of doctors, nurses, counsellors and NGO members and attended by the guardians of the students as well as the teachers.

The experts elaborated on various characteristics of adolescence such as the physical, psychological, socio-cultural behaviour, peer group dependence, STD, drug abuse, HIV/AIDS.

Later, the students were segregated and their personal prob-

lems as well as queries regarding adolescence tackled in private by the related experts.

The Principal of the school, Mrs. TY Lachungpa, requested the guardians to meet the teachers frequently to enquire about the progress of their children in school. She appealed to the parents to pay attention and take time out for their children to develop a stronger bond with them.

She emphasized that for better development of the child's personality, a congenial home environment was essential.

turn to pg2

NOTICE

Since the third year BA/B.Sc/B.Com (Hons/Gen) provisional classes at Sikkim Government College, Tadong have already been started, in order to cover the syllabi the students are directed to attend their classes regularly.

SK Pradhan, Principal, SGC.



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The 59th Independence Day Celebration 2005 is being organized at Soreng, West Sikkim in a Grand scale. You are hereby requested to participate in the historic function to remember the great individuals who bestowed their lives for the Independence of the Nation.

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NOW!

First With The News

Theatre In The Times Of Development

Neighbouring Kalimpong is an ignored sub-division of the Darjeeling district and one of the hill units of the Darjeeling Autonomous Gorkha Hill Council. Talk to the locals and a constant refrain surfaces that their sub-division gets step-motherly treatment from Lal Kohli. The condition of the roads there and the deteriorating civic amenities bear this out. And yet, Kalimpong has a thriving theatre scene with local artists and theatre groups drawing large crowds to the Town Hall on a regular basis. There is no state sponsorship for most of these events and the box office rules – the audience rates the plays and by that count, the earnings that these production make. Contrast this with Sikkim. The only exposure to the arts is sponsored by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Heritage and in the past decade or so, not even a handful of productions have been privately staged. It is easy to dismiss theatre as a waste of time in these days of instant gratification and 24-hour entertainment channels on TV and Dolby digital Bollywood experiences in town. That would be too simplistic. Theatre has to be seen as an art form, an expression of local talent to local issues for the local audience, something that the regular mediums of mass entertainment or information cannot deliver.

So, why is that theatre remains near nascent in Sikkim? The problem is not in the lack of topics or even practitioners, it is the absence of the third aspect cited above that keeps theatre down in Sikkim – the audience, there does not seem to be enough of them. Taking the recently concluded Rang Pratibha festival as an example, the attendance, save on the inaugural and closing functions, was slim and disinterested. The problem is also the fact that theatre does not have a history as a cultural activity in Sikkim, due to which the audience does not feel a connection to it, nor does it find appealing. This can easily be overcome by staging good theatre and winning over new converts. But this is the chicken and egg situation – what should come first? It will have to be for the handful of theatre enthusiasts to figure out how theatre can be introduced to Sikkim. This is necessary as much for the creativity it sparks as the community celebration of art and craft that theatre is synonymous with. Sikkim has been looked down upon for far too long for its preference of consumerist mores over artistic subtleties, theatre should provide an entertaining way out of this stereotype.

Apathy among party workers...

Contd from pg1

that even though the party was able to bring tremendous developments in the state in the past 11 years that it has been in power, his party workers still lacked the ability and skills required by Sikkim.

He said that due to this Sikkim was losing its grip on various resources and some agents with vested interest were enjoying the benefits. He said that due to the limitations on the part of Sikkimese youth, all the opportunities were being siphoned outside the State.

Mr. Chamling also announced that community-specific census for Tamang and Limboo communities will be held shortly to pave the way for reservation of seats in the State Assembly for the two communities which have been included in the Scheduled Tribes list.

Earlier, former Minister, DP Kharel, MLAs RB Subba, Thinley Tshering Bhutia and Girish Chandra Rai submitted detailed reports of the recently concluded party co-ordination meetings for East, West, North and South districts respectively.

What The New York Times Talks About When It Talks About Editing

The New York Times has started a trend where it has appointed an ombudsman who critiques the newspaper and its contents every week. This ombudsman is provided a column and a space which even the newspaper management does not try and influence. The criticism can be scathing and blunt. What the New York Times also does is provide its editors with an interface with the readers where the desk shares the process behind the stories. Below is reproduced on such session written by DAVID SHIPLEY, the op-ed page editor of the New York Times...

In February 2004, this section carried an essay describing life at the Op-Ed page. While the article touched on the main facets of our operation high up in the Times building, it focused largely on the submission and selection process.

But deciding what runs in Op-Ed is only part of what we do. We also edit the articles that appear in this space.

Not surprisingly, readers have lots of questions about the editing that goes on. What kind of changes do we suggest – and why? What kind of changes do we insist on – and why? When do we stay out of the way? And the hardy perennial: do we edit articles to make them adhere to a particular point of view? I thought I'd try to provide a few answers.

Just like Times news articles and editorials, Op-Ed essays are edited. Before something appears in our pages, you can bet that questions have been asked, arguments have been clarified, cuts have been

suggested – as have additions – and factual, typographical and grammatical errors have been caught. (We hope.)

Our most important rule, however, is that nothing is published on the Op-Ed page unless it has been approved by its author. Articles go to press only after the person under whose name the article appears has explicitly O.K.'d the editing.

While it's important to know that we edit, it's also important to know how we edit. The best way to explain this is to take a walk through the process.

Say you send us an article by regular mail, e-mail, fax, or, this summer at least, owl post – and it's accepted. You'll be told that we'll contact you once your article is scheduled for publication. That could be days, weeks or even months away.

When your article does move into the on-deck circle, you'll be sent a contract, and one of the several editors here will get to work.

Here are the clear-cut things the editor will do:

- Correct grammatical and typographical errors.
- Make sure that the article conforms to the New York Times Manual of Style and Usage. Courtesy titles, for example, will miraculously appear if they weren't there before; expletives will be deleted; some words will be capitalized, others lowercased.
- See to it that the article fits our allotted space. With staff columnists, advertisements and illustrations, there's a limit to the number of words we can squeeze onto the page.
- Fact-check the article. While it is the author's responsibility to ensure that everything written for us is accurate, we still check facts – names, dates,

places, quotations. We also check assertions. If news articles – from The Times and other publications – are at odds with a point or an example in an essay, we need to resolve whatever discrepancy exists.

For instance, an Op-Ed article critical of newly aggressive police tactics in Town X can't flatly say the police have no reason to change their strategy if there have been news reports that violence in the town is rising. This doesn't mean the writer can't still argue that there are other ways to deal with Town X's crime problem – he just can't say that the force's decision to change came out of the blue.

How would we resolve the Town X issue? Well, we'd discuss it with the writer – generally by telephone or e-mail – and we'd try to find a solution that preserves the writer's argument while also adhering to the facts.

Now to some people, this may sound surprising, as if we're putting words in people's mouths. But there's a crucial distinction to be made between changing a writer's argument – and suggesting language that will help a writer make his point more effectively.

Besides grammar and accuracy, we're also concerned about readability. Our editors try to approach articles as average readers who know nothing about the subject. They may ask if a point is clear, if a writer needs transitional language to bridge the gap between two seemingly separate points, if a leap of logic has been made without sufficient explanation.

To make a piece as clear and accessible as possible, the editor may add a transition, cut a section that goes off point or move a paragraph. If a description is highly technical, the editor may suggest language that lay readers will understand.

If it isn't clear what a writer is trying to say, the editor may take a guess, based on what he knows from the author, and suggest more precise language. (There are also times when we do precious little.)

The editor will then send the edited version of the article to the writer. The changes will often be highlighted to make it easy for the author to see what's been done. (I tend to mark edits I've made with an //ok?//.) If a proposed revision is significant, the editor will often write a few sentences to describe the reasoning behind the suggestion.

Every change is a suggestion, not a demand. If a solution offered by an editor doesn't work for a writer, the two work together to find an answer to the problem. Editing is not bullying.

Of course, it's not always warm and cuddly, either. The people who write for Op-Ed have a responsibility to be forthright and specific in their arguments. There's no room on the page for articles that are opaque or written in code.

What our editors expressly do not do is change a point of view. If you've written an article on why New York's street fairs should be abolished, we will not ask you to change your mind and endorse them. We're going to help you make the best case you can. If you followed this page carefully in the run-up to the Iraq war, for example, you saw arguments both for and against the invasion – all made with equal force.

Editing is a human enterprise. Like writing, it is by nature subjective. Sometimes an editor will think a writer is saying something that she isn't. But our editing process gives writer and editor plenty of time to sort out any misunderstandings before the article goes to press. And if a mistake gets through, we do

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TR Sharma included in State Planning Commission

Contd from pg1

2. KN Pradhan, Chief Executive Officer, Khadi & Village Industries Board is reappointed and posted as Joint Secretary, Human Resource Dev. Department vice TN Pradhan, since retired.

3. KC Lepcha, Joint Secretary, Science & Technology is transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Khadi Board on deputation. 4. SK Pradhan, Joint Secretary, Tourism is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, Transport Department [Motor Vehicle Department].

5. LM Pradhan, Joint Secretary [Protocol], Home Department is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, DoP.

6. Ms. Samten Dolma, Joint Secretary, Tourism is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, Forest.

7. BP Gautam, OSD, AHLF & VS Department is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, Health Deptt.

8. Hemanta Basnet, Joint Secretary, Forest is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, Excise [Abkari] Department.

9. Ms. CC Bhutia, Joint Secretary, Excise is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary [Protocol], Home Deptt.

10. Ganga Devi Pradhan, Joint Secretary, STNM Hospital is transferred and posted as Joint Secretary, Roads and Bridges.

11. Balam Subba, Deputy Secretary, Cultural Affairs and Heritage Deptt. is transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary, Tourism.

12. Suman Thapa, Dy. Secretary, Tourism is transferred and posted as Dy. Secretary, Energy and Power Deptt.

13. DB Gazmer, Dy. Secretary, Cultural Affairs is transferred and posted as Deputy Resident Commissioner, Sikkim House, New Delhi.

14. Anand Pradhan, PS to

Minister, RM & DD is transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary, Health.

15. Basant Kr. Lama, SDM, Ravangla is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Food Security & Agriculture Department.

16. Sarika Pradhan, Under Secretary, Home Deptt. is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Commerce & Industries Deptt.

17. Ms. Karma Doma Youtso, PS to Minister, Food Security & Agriculture is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Tourism.

18. Roshni Rai, Under Secretary, Cultural Affairs is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Home Department.

19. Cheden P. Ladingpa, Under Secretary, Commerce & Industries is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Tourism.

20. Dhurba Thapa, SDDO, Gyalshing is transferred and posted as PS to Minister Food Security & Agriculture.

21. LB Das, Under Secretary, Food Security & Agriculture is transferred and posted as SDDM Ravangla.

22. Hemant Rai, Under Secretary, Transport Department [SNT Division] is transferred and posted as SDDO, Gyalshing.

23. R.B. Gurung, Under Secretary, Home Deptt. is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies Deptt.

24. Bimal Kr. Pradhan, Under Secretary, District Collectorate Office [South] is transferred and posted as Under Secretary, HRDD, Namchi.

25. Mahesh Sharma, Under Secretary, Home Deptt. is transferred and posted as Assistant Resident Commissioner, Sikkim House, New Delhi.

26. Kamala Rai, Under Secretary, IT & ST Deptt. is transferred and posted as Assistant Resident Commissioner, Sikkim House, New Delhi.

Jesus Calls Festival of Peace

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: "The Festival of Peace," a three-day long prayer festival organized by the Jesus Calls Prayer Centre in coordination with all local churches of the capital and its suburbs is scheduled to begin here on 13 August at Congress Bhawan, Development Area. The prayer festival will be conducted from 11 am onwards on 13 August and from 5 pm onwards on 14 and 15 August.

The three days have been chosen in consideration of the fact that this month represents one of the happiest seasons of the year, informs an official press release. The main objective of the festival is to pray for the continued peace, prosperity and harmony in Sikkim as well as the

country and to "thank God for the independence of the country, which all so dearly cherished when the country was freed from foreign rule."

The release adds that a "renowned prophetic man of God and a close associate of the Dhinakarans [Founders of Jesus Calls International Praying Ministry] from Pune will be ministering the gatherings for blessings each day."

Apart from the main prayers, Christian Hymns and musical programmes will form part of the Festival of Peace. At the end of the prayer meets, the conductor of the prayers will also pray especially for "healing and deliverance" of those who are sick physically, emotionally and spiritually, the release adds. The festival is open to all.

BPT students call off dharna

Contd from pg1

these faculty members suspecting them of supporting the distance education programme for BPT and fearing that they would spoil their chances in the final examinations.

Yesterday's meeting also decided that a joint team comprising of representatives from the state government, SMIMS as well as of parents of the students would go down to Bangalore to meet of-

ficials of Indian Association of Physiotherapists to persuade the IAP to expedite the process of recognition of the BPT course at SMIMS.

They will also be requesting the IAP to send officials to conduct an inspection of SMIMS at the earliest. All other matters such as fixing a date for exams as well as discontinuing with the distant education course will be decided at the meeting of the governing council on 10 August.

Change of Guard...

Contd from pg1

Police Officer Incharge, East District and again after his promotion he took the charge of SP (Crime). During that period he also included in the Indian Police Service as 1972 batch.

In 1984 he took the charge of SP [East and North] and in the year 1989, he was promoted to Additional Director General [East and North].

The praises done with and the formal parade over, it was time for a traditional and emotional send-off as Sikkim Police personnel of all ranks pulled the DGP's open Gypsy from the parade ground to the SAP quarter guard.

ASYA backs BPT protest

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: The All Sikkim Youth Association in a meeting held here on 29 July extended support to the demands raised by the Bachelor of Physiotherapy students of Sikkim Manipal University. A press release issued by the association also demanded a judicial enquiry into the controversy. It has also urged the State Government to step in and resolve the matter.

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Totaled by a slide



a NOW REPORT

MANGAN, 29 July: On 17 July, bad weather conditions and a landslide near Chungthang Bridge caused a taxi vehicle to plunge more than 300 feet off the highway into the river Teesta.

The vehicle, a Tata Spacio Gold [SK-03-7467], belonging to one Santosh Lohia, a resident of Mangan, which was plying from Lachen to Mangan met with the accident at about 9:30 PM after it was hit by a sudden slide here. The driver, Nabin Lohar, it is learnt,

was thrown off the vehicle just before it skidded off the road. The vehicle, as the accompanying photograph bears out, was totaled and whatever remained of it was recovered from the Teesta River on 21 July after verification by the Chungthang police.

North youth introduced to new possibilities

a NOW REPORT

MANGAN, 31 July: Training programmes for local unemployed youth were organized at Singhik Mayal MPCSS on 28 July and at Phensong Panchayat Ghar on 29 July by Cooperative Department.

Stressing on the requirement and availability of the Cooperative-based schemes for the unemployed youth in the state, DRCS, P.Gurung and ARCS, KP Sharma spoke on how the youth could avail these schemes and financial aid from the SISCO bank. They also urged the youths to be more self-confident and pursue self employment. Other

topics touched upon were tips on attaining financial stability through sale of rural products and efficient and effective marketing through the Cooperative Department.

The Joint Director, Dairy, updated the trainees on the new schemes for dairy development.

Inspector, Cooperative Society stressed that the human resources had to be developed in coordination with different departments. He further appreciated the efforts of three farmers clubs registered recently from Singhik.

Dy Director, Horticulture clarified, that though the old cardamom plants had all perished due to various diseases,



the department was seriously working towards sorting out this problem and that the department had distributed around 1.5 lakh cardamom saplings at Singhik area alone. "For the orange pro-

duction too the department had been providing each interested farmer with 55 saplings," he stated.

The AO, Agriculture Department, in her address

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SHRP on outreach mode

a NOW REPORT]

GANGTOK, 31 July: Dr. AD Subba, president, Sikkim Himali Rajya Parishad, along with his party functionaries visited Okharey, 7th Mile, Peureyart, Rumbuk and other villages under Darandin constituency in West Sikkim on 28 and 29 July to interact with

the public, informs an SHRP press release.

The locals, the release adds, placed their grievances against the concerned panchayat members who have allegedly monopolised the distribution of public benefits in the area. They also alleged that these panchayats were politically

victimizing them and debarring them from receiving various government benefits.

Dr. Subba, it is learnt, will be visiting the villages of South district throughout August.

Meanwhile, the party has accused the panchayat president of Labing-Gerathang GPU under Yuksom constituency of shifting Labing school to another location for no practical reason.

The party has claimed that they are in possession of a copy of complaint letter submitted to the Governor, Chief Minister and HRD Minister by the public of Labing-Gerathang GPU demanding that the school be restored to its original place.

CPM intra-party feud continues

a NOW REPORT

NAMCHI, 31 July: The intra-party feud underway in the State CPI [M] unit shows no signs of settling down. Manoj Kumar Gupta, a state committee member of the party, today continued his demand for the transfer of party leader Anjan Upadhaya from the State.

Reacting to Mr. Upadhaya's statement questioning Mr. Gupta's locus standi in questioning his commitment to the party [NOW! dated 30 July], Mr. Gupta reiterated his state committee membership to comment on

party affairs here. Condemning the statement, Mr. Gupta alleged that Mr. Upadhaya could not pass on his failure towards the party in Sikkim to the central committee under whose orders he claims to work.

Accusing Mr. Upadhaya of weakening the party, Mr. Gupta today alleged that the CPI [M] secretary for east district, Punya Koirala was going to resign from the party due to intra-party feuds.

Mr. Gupta further alleged that the target of his ire had "never defended" any Sikkim related issue at any level in his twelve years in the State.

Free sewing machines and driving licences for successful trainees

a NOW REPORT

MANGAN, 31 July: Certificates and free sewing machines were distributed to 27 individuals along with driving licenses and certificates to 16 others at the valedictory func-

tion of the Vocational Training Course on Motor Driving and Cutting & Tailoring sponsored by Social Justice Department and Welfare Department here at Community Hall, Mangan on Saturday.

Health Minister and area

turn to pg 4

Adolescent issues discussed at Ranka SSS meet

Contd from pg 1

In the afternoon session, a quiz was organized in the school assembly ground for the students of classes VI to XII as a follow up activity. The participation of students was

highly appreciated by the panel of experts. The programme was coordinated by BR Kharel and NB Chettri and the programme was ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Mr. IBS Yadav, TGT [Bio]

Missing youth's body found...

Contd from pg 1

had seen the youth go towards the river bank after he had been let off by the police. Stressing that victim must have drowned while trying to cross the river, cops

here have dismissed all suggestions of foul-play.

Witness statements confirming that the youth was seen going towards the river have been recorded and authenticated, cops inform.

Kewzing youth introduced to cooperative prospects

a NOW REPORT

RAVANGLA, 31 July: A youth awareness camp on cooperatives was held here at Kewzing Secondary School premises under Ravangla sub-division on 28 July.

Around 70 participants from different organizations, NGOs, SHGs, Panchayat representatives of Kewzing-Bakhim GPU attended the camp.

Various senior officials from line departments like Agriculture, Animal Hus-

bandry and Horticulture addressed the participants during the camp.

Speaking on the forming of cooperative societies, ARCS, Ravangla emphasized the importance of forming different types of Cooperatives which could bring economic benefits to the rural masses. "The management of the society lies totally lies on the shoulder of the committee

members elected by the share holders," he added.

Similarly, Dy. Director Agriculture Department spoke on scientific methods in agricultural farming, which could improve production and also stressed on the importance of efficient marketing of the same to fetch good prices for the rural farmers. He also stressed on the proper utilization of the seeds distributed

by the department.

Inspector, Horticulture spoke on Vermiculture and dwelled on how acidic soil could be made fertile by using organic manure like vermicompost. He also encouraged the local farmers to adopt aloe vera cultivation. The Dy Director, AH&VS, spoke on poultry farming, piggeries and dairy farming and invited the rural folk to form self-help

groups and cooperatives to ensure market stability.

The DRCS, South spoke on the credit facility provided by the Cooperative Bank, which the Cooperative Societies could avail after preparing a detail report.

The senior AO, South shed importance on the maintenance of books of accounts which is the mirror of the functioning of a good society.

Kutse Shegu

The Kutse Shegu of late Lakpa Doma Phampo, who left for her heavenly abode on 21 June 2005 falls on 8 August 2005. All family members, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on the said date at our residence at Namok Busty, North Sikkim. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in our time of bereavement and regret our inability to do so individually.

R.A. Prasad [husband], Mr. & Mrs. Bijay Prasad, Mr. & Mrs. Ajay Prasad, Mr. & Mrs. Sanjay Prasad [sons & daughters-in-law] & family members.

Anthyesthi Kriya

The Anthyesthi Kriya of late Vidhya Devi who left for her heavenly abode on 20 July 2005 falls on 5 August 2005 [Friday]. All family members, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on the said date at our residence at M.G. Marg, Gangtok. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in our time of bereavement and regret our inability to do so individually.

R.A. Prasad [husband], Mr. & Mrs. Bijay Prasad, Mr. & Mrs. Ajay Prasad, Mr. & Mrs. Sanjay Prasad [sons & daughters-in-law] & family members.

Kutse Shegu

The 49th day Kutse Shegu of late Baichung Bhutia (O.S. Tourism) falls on 9 August 2005. All family members, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on the said date at our residence at Assama Khim, Ranka, Barbing Busty. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in our time of bereavement and regret our inability to do so individually.

9434257145 [wife], 9434164800 [brother], 9434410566 [brother], 9434179401 [brother-in-law]

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Kutse Shegu

The Kutse Shegu of late Bechung Bhutia of Kazi Road, Near SISCO Bank, Gangtok, who left for his heavenly abode on 18 June 2005 falls on 5 August 2005. All family members, friends and well wishers are requested to join us in offering prayers for the departed soul on the said date at our residence at Kazi Road, Near SISCO Bank. We also take this opportunity to thank all those who stood by us in our time of bereavement and regret our inability to do so individually.

Thendup Bhutia [son-in-law], Tseten Dolma Bhutia, Tshering Donka [Daamu] [daughters], Nawang Yonda, Lhakpa Thendup [sons]

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30th KALACHAKRA EMPOWERMENT

The Dalai Lama will initiate the 30th Kalachakra Empowerment at Dhanyakataka Amaravati [Andhra Pradesh], the place where Lord Buddha first taught the Kalachakra. The Kalachakra will take place in January, next year, which marks the 2550th year of Buddha's parinirvana.

Those wishing to attend the Kalachakra will have to register their names, fill up a form and submit two passport size photographs here at the **Tibetan Welfare Office** on all working days for allocation of accommodation [tents], information kits, etc., at Amaravati.

For further information, contact **246409/ 246408** or e-mail **info@kalachakra2006.com**.

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1.A SITE ENGINEER/SUPERVISOR for big project nearing completion in Gangtok. Should have experience with finishings also. Ability to keep accounts an advantage. Contact: **97330 77824, 94341 84085.**

2.A ENGINEER for office works, drawing, estimating, site visits etc. Knowledge of AutoCad preferred but not essential. Please contact with resume. Contact: **94341-09719.**

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today in History 01st August

1914: FIRST WORLD WAR ERUPTS

Four days after Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, Germany and Russia declare war against each other, France orders a general mobilization, and the first Ger-

man army units cross into Luxembourg in preparation for the German invasion of France. During the next three days, Russia, France, Belgium, and Great Britain all lined up against Austria-Hungary and Germany, and the German army invaded Belgium. The "Great War" that ensued was one of unprecedented destruction and loss of life, resulting in the deaths of some 20 million soldiers and civilians.

On June 28, 1914, in an event that is widely regarded as sparking the outbreak of World War I, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian empire, was shot to death with his wife by Bosnian Serb Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Ferdinand had been inspecting his uncle's imperial armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, despite the threat of Serbian nationalists who wanted these Austro-Hungarian possessions to join newly independent Serbia.

1941: THE BIRTH OF THE JEEP

Parade magazine called it "...the Army's most intriguing new gadget...a tiny truck which can do practically everything." During World War I, the U.S. Army began looking for a fast, lightweight all-terrain vehicle, but the search did not grow urgent until early 1940. At this time, the Axis powers had begun to score victories in Europe and Northern Africa, intensifying the Allies' need for an all-terrain vehicle.



ARIES: You choose a perfect day to overindulge, watch TV and stuff yourself. TAURUS: You are all grind and in the mood to do something. Whether you go out for a turkey dinner or stay home really doesn't matter. GEMINI: You have a way of letting others know what you think. However, today you might keep your feelings inside. CANCER: How you view a situation and see a friend should not impact your mood during Thanksgiving. LEO: Know that you must be on your best behavior, but aren't you always? Visit elders, and touch base with those at a distance. VIRGO: Reach out for someone at a distance, and wish him or her a special Thanksgiving. In fact, you might be meeting halfway. If not for today, make plans for Christmas. LIBRA: Don't let a grumpy older

relative spoil your day. In fact, do your best to relate deeply to a loved one or a dear friend. SCORPIO: Others know what they want, and make requests that might feel like demands. SAGITTARIUS: A loved one, or a partner could rain on your parade. You don't need to let this person affect your holiday. Get into the true nature of Thanksgiving. CAPRICORN: Your playfulness delights friends and family, but possibly not a key partner. You might want to help draw this person feels overwhelmed by holiday or by whether or she needs to do. AQUARIUS: If you are tired, say so. You don't always have to be everything to everyone. Take your time and ask others to pitch in. PISCES: You have to find a way of reaching out to everyone and wishing them a special day.

Two soccer tournaments conclude in North Sikkim

Mangan SSS lifts U-17 interschool trophy; Pashyap takes home Lt. Benjamin L. Saring league

a NOW REPORT

MANGAN, 31 July: Hee-Gyathang School and Mangan Senior Secondary School clashed in the finals of the under-17 Inter School Boys Football Tournament, North District here at the Mangan Public on 28 July.

In a nail-biting finish, MSSS beat Hee-Gyathang School 3-2. Z Lepcha of Hee-Gyathang School was adjudged the man-of-the-match. The match was refereed by K Jigdal. Both the winning and runners-up teams were awarded with trophies and certificates.

P Lepcha of Passingdang received the most promising player award of the tournament and the best goalkeeper award went to T Lepcha of NSA.

A total of 4 schools, NSA, MSSS, Mangsila and Singick had played their matches at Mangan and the others schools had played their matches at Chungthang, Phodong and Hee-Gyathang during the course of the tournament

which began on 11 July.

The tournament was organized by the Department of Sports & Youth Affairs. Present as the chief guest for the finals was Senior SP North, BB Basnett. Others present were DSO [N/E], Thupden Rapgyal, DSO [N] Acting, Dhungmalai Rai, Deputy Director, HRDD, S Lepcha and members of the North District Football Association.

Similarly the finals of the Late Benazmin L Saring League was played between Upper Singhik and Pakshyap on 30 July.

Pakshyap, which scored 6 goals against 2 for Upper Singick won the league. Binod Pradhan of Pakshyap was adjudged the best player for his strike of 3 goals in the finals. A trophy and a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 was handed over by the chief guest



Players of Upper Singhik and Pakshyap posing for a photograph just before their final match for the Benazmin L Saring League on 30 July

to the winning team. The runners-up team also received a trophy and a cash award of Rs. 5,000. The cash awards had been contributed by the businessmen of Mangan Bazaar.

At the end, the NDFAMembers placed an application to the Secretary, S&YA regarding provision of necessary help to the sports persons of the North District and also funds allocation

for the maintenance of the Mangan Public Ground.

The Sports & Youth Affairs Secretary, L. Bhutia, in his address assured all possible help to the sports persons.

Deptt invites claims for cash incentives from medal winners

a NOW REPORT

GANGTOK, 31 July: The Government of Sikkim has constituted a cash award for local medal winners at various sports competitions at national and international level. This has already been announced as per Notification No. 6483/SYA/03 dated 15/07/2003 under the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim. Copies of the notification have been circulated to all the State Associations.

The Department has now called on all claimants of this cash incentive to forward their submissions in the prescribed form before 05 August 2005.

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DENZONG Movie CONTEST Identify the star shown below correctly, rush entries to NOW!, Gairi Gaon, Tadong, and one lucky winner will receive FOUR FREE PASSES to Denzong Cinema.

Answer: Your name: Last week's answer: Jackie Chan. Winner: Anita Sharma. The winner is requested to collect the prize coupons from NOW! office

Mazitar JHS undertakes plantation

a NOW REPORT

RANGPO, 31 July: The teachers & students of Mazitar Junior High School in association with school managing committee planted more than 100 saplings of various species provided by the Forest Department in the school premises on 28 July.

While addressing the gathering, the Headmaster, Ashok Kumar Das thanked the Forest Department for providing the saplings. He also urged the concerned authorities to fence the school compound to protect the plantation since cattle from neighbouring areas strayed into the campus during holidays destroy the initiative of the staff and the students.

Kishore Dungalmai, a member of the school managing committee, urged the students to get more involved in the protection of natural resources and said that due to carelessness on the part of human beings, the rich natural resources of the State were degrading by the day.

I-Day soccer tourney at Melli

a NOW REPORT

MELLI, 31 July: Sanskritik Kala Pratisthan, an NGO of Melli has announced plans to hold the Lt. Namchung Bhutia Challenge Cup Football Tournament-2005 in collaboration with the Independence Day Celebration Committee, here at Melli playground from 03 August onwards.

Pradeep Bhutia, Sports Secretary of the Sansha, today informed that a total of 21 teams, including three from West Bengal and two from East Sikkim, would be participating in the tournament.

The winner of the tournament will receive a cash award of Rs. 10,000 along with the trophy while runners-up team will receive a cash award of Rs. 5,000 and a trophy.

Free sewing machines and driving licences...

Contd from pg3

Lobzang Tenzing, DC, North, PS Targain, ADC, North, SDM, Mangan, Sr SP, North, WO, North, CDPO, North, Panchayats, trainees and other governmental officers and local businessmen.

The Minister, in his address, spoke on the saturation of government jobs in the state and stressed on self-employment and self-sustainability among the local unemployed youth here. "As there is no more vacancy in the government sector, the unemployed youth should now change their

thinking and approach and opt for the private sector and become entrepreneurs and their own masters," he stressed.

He further urged all the trainees to utilize skills acquired at the training properly and benefit from such training programmes that will also be held in the future. He also assured all present that the government was working towards increasing the budgetary outlay for such training programmes and appreciated the work of the department in successfully organizing such training programmes in all the four districts.

North youth introduced to new possibilities

Contd from pg3

shared details of production of organic manure with the help of effective microorganisms and spoke Vermiculture, which, she said was on trial at Kazor.

Stressing on the need for an attitudinal change amongst the local unemployed youth, Inspector, Industries Department said that any small-scale cottage industry could be estab-

lished at the village level and that in Sikkim the percentage of cottage industries was only 1.124 %. Thus the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna was intended at helping the youth through funding of development of small-scale industries and small projects.

Also present for the programme were Panchayat members, students and teachers and local unemployed youth.

What The New York Times Talks About When It Talks About Editing

Contd from pg2

our best to correct it as quickly as possible.

The Op-Ed page is a venue for people with a wide range of perspectives, experiences and talents. Some of the people who appear in this space have written a lot; others haven't. If we published only people who needed no editing, we'd wind up relying on only a very narrow range of professional writers, and the page would be much

the worse for it.

So what's the agenda? A lively page of clashing opinions, one where as many people as possible have the opportunity to make the best arguments they can.

And just so you know, this article has been edited. Changes have been suggested - and gratefully accepted. Well, most of them.

By, editor, Op-Ed page

D.R. Marack 10.10.1953 - 02.07.2005

Postmaster General, North Bengal & Sikkim Region and the staff of Sikkim Postal Division deeply mourns for the untimely sad demise of beloved D.R. MARACK, The Director of Postal Services, Sikkim State, Gangtok. May His Soul Rest In Peace



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