

Indo Global Group of Colleges felicitate women achievers



Gangtok, May 11: The Indo Global Group of Colleges today felicitated 11 women

achievers from different fields including Minister for Social Justice and Welfare

Tulsi Devi Rai during a special event "Saluting the Spirit of Women Empowerment".

The felicitation function was attended by Minister Tulsi Rai as the Chief Guest accompanied by Advisor State HRD Department O.T. Lepcha and Mayor, Gangtok Municipal Corporation (GMC) Shakti Singh Chaudhary.

Those felicitated on the occasion were Ongmu Bhutia (Adtl. SP), Sonam Yankila Bhutia (Crime, Police Officer, Anti Human Trafficking wing), Sabitri Chettri (Panchayat President Kitam), Kabita Sharma (Journalist), Mala Zigidal Dorjee (Principal Modern School), Dr D.K. Palmu (Veterinary, SARA), Sushmita Rai and Phurba Sherpa (Kickboxers), Hissey

Choden Bhutia (Entrepreneur) and Guirmila D. Bhutia (CEO, Postitude).

Chief Guest, T.D. Rai in her address maintained that such events send a positive message in the society and encourages the women folks to work hard and dream big. Raising her concerns over the rising number of domestic violence cases in the state Rai urged the citizens to raise their voice against such incidents.

She further added that the State Government has always prioritized the upliftment of women under which 50 percent seats have been reserved for women in the panchayat which is unprecedented.

REGION-NATION 8

First Lady Rajanidevi Patil inaugurates Bhim Gymnasium



Gangtok, May 11: First Lady Rajanidevi Patil today inaugurated "Bhim Gymnasium" in presence of the Governor of Sikkim, Shrinivas Patil and Binod Bhiswakarma, current Mr. India (60 kg category) at New Raj Bhavan.

First Mr. Sikkim I.B. Gurung, members of Sikkim

Body Building Association, R. Telang, IAS, Commissioner -cum - Secretary to Governor, officers and staff of Raj Bhavan were present on the occasion.

Stating the purpose behind setting up the gym, the Governor stressed on the need to promote healthy life

style and routine by people of all walks of life for the mental and physical well being. Urging all the officers and staff to make best use of the facility available, the Governor said that healthy person ensures enhanced productivity and creativity which is vital for better environment in work place.

PC&PNDT Act State Advisory Committee meet held

Gangtok, May 11: The State Advisory Committee of the PC&PNDT Act met in the chamber of the DG-cum-Secretary, Dr. D.K. Bhandari who is also the Chairperson of the Committee, today.

During the meeting, it was decided that NOC for private clinics USG users is mandatory from the organisation they work in.

Also, NPA is mandatory for USG users of government organisation.

Further, it was informed that a PNDT Cell has been established with proper manpower available for its smooth functioning. Also, a State inspection and Monitoring Cell is now in

place which will conduct inspection of clinics with USG facilities on a monthly basis.

Dr. Bhandari asked the committee members for further suggestions that would help in strengthening the Act within the State.

He further said that the declining child sex ratio is a cause of concern and hence requires strict implementation of the PC&PNDT Act in the State.

The meeting concluded with Dr. Bhandari laying stress on the need for training of the gynaecologists and medical officers as USG service providers. (IPR)

Block level sensitisation program on PMAY (G)

Namchi, May 11: A block level sensitisation program on PMAY (G) houses for the beneficiaries of Temi Block under ADC (Dev) Ravangla was held at BAC Temi today.

The programme was chaired by Advisor, Youth Affairs & Sports Deptt. Suman Tiwari. Also in attendance were BDO Temi, Under Secretary ADC(Dev) Ravangla, DPO (PMAY-G) Ravangla, Panchayats of Temi Block, Technical personnel of Temi BAC and the selected PMAY(G) beneficiaries.

The Under Secretary, ADC (Dev) Ravangla briefed the gathering on the various aspects in the construction of PMAY (G) houses.

The four different models designed by UNDP were placed before the gathering and the beneficiaries were asked to select the models of their respective choices. The house was also informed of the release of the initial installment of Rs 10,000 upon the completion of land development works under MGNREGA.

The thirty five beneficiaries under Temi Block were handed over the sanction orders.

It may be mentioned here that each house comes at a cost of Rs 1,30,000 (Central Share) with another Rs 12,000 for the construction of a functional toilet under MGNREGA. Also 95 MGNREGA man days would be provided to each house. GCI sheets and Rs 50,000 for land development works would also be given to each beneficiary.

The programme was also addressed by the BDO and

the Chief Guest of the day.

Similarly sensitization programme for Namchi Block was held at Namchi BAC, which was attended by the ADC(Dev) Namchi, BDO Namchi, technical staff of Namchi BAC, DPO(PMAY-G) and selected 15 beneficiaries under Namchi block. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman Namchi Municipal Council Udai Chandra Rai. The selected beneficiaries were handed over the allotment orders and an undertaking was made to be signed in selection of their respective house type models and also stating that they would strictly adhere to the PMAY(G) guidelines in constructing their houses. The undertaking further stated that any expenditure above the sanctioned amount of Rs 1,30,000 plus additional support would be borne by the beneficiary. (IPR)

Former Bengal governor Gopal Gandhi may be opposition's choice as presidential candidate

Kolkata, may 11: Mahatma Gandhi's grandson and former governor of West Bengal Gopal Krishna Gandhi may emerge as the opposition's candidate in the upcoming presidential election that will be held in July. Gandhi's name has come up in internal discussions of opposition parties and according to a news report, preliminary discussions with him have also taken place.

In a rare show of unity, arch rivals CPI(M) and Trinamool

Congress, which has more than 64,000 votes, are also backing Gandhi's candidature. "Gandhi will be the first and possibly the only choice for Mamata (Banerjee). She had earlier battled for Gandhi as the vice-president candidate," sources close to the West Bengal chief minister told the Hindustan Times.

Banerjee is scheduled to meet Congress president Sonia Gandhi next week to chalk out the strategy for the presidential election. Banerjee,

who enjoys an excellent personal rapport with Gandhi, will arrive in Delhi on Monday and is likely to meet the Congress chief on Tuesday. Trinamool Congress' votes are crucial for the opposition to give a close fight to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The left parties have already proposed Gandhi's name to the Congress leadership.

Top opposition sources told HT that when CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury met Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik last week in Bhubaneswar, Gopal Gandhi's name was also mentioned during the discussions. Gandhi, an eminent scholar and a former civil servant, was appointed as the governor of West Bengal during the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime. He was India's ambassador to South Africa and some other countries. The son of Devasdas Gandhi also enjoys a clean image. Gandhi's candidature, however, is not final as the Congress president is yet to complete discussions with different opposition leaders. One opposition leader also pointed out that although Gandhi is an ideal candidate with excellent credentials, he may not be able to garner votes from the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) camp like Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar.

Justice Karnan maybe...

to five years in jail under the SC/ST act. He became the first sitting high court judge to be sentenced to jail.

But since then, the 61-year-old has eluded authorities in Kolkata and Chennai. Karnan flew down to Chennai on Monday night and checked into a government guest house, but when a five-member Bengal Police team reached the Tamil Nadu capital, he couldn't be found.

Some reports said he travelled from Chennai to the Andhra Pradesh shrine of Srikalahasti, around 120 kilometres away, but he didn't show up at the temple.

The team from Bengal police raided several places on Wednesday and travelled to the Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu border, but failed to trace the judge. A senior officer of the Bengal Police also complained that they didn't receive adequate help

from their Tamil Nadu counterparts.

The drama over his whereabouts is only the latest twist in a dramatic, sometimes farcical judicial saga.

The controversy began in January when Karnan wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to order an investigation against judges of the Madras high court and the apex court of corruption.

Earlier this month, the SC ordered Karnan to appear before a medical board for a mental health evaluation but he refused to comply.

The ICJ sprang into national headlines earlier this week after it stayed the hanging of Jadhav, who is accused of spying and espionage in Pakistan.

West Bengal govt to High Court: Probe into Bhangar killing nearing end

Kolkata, may 11: The Calcutta High Court was on Thursday told that the probe into the death of a person due to gunshots during a stir in South 24-Parganas district was at its last stage and the CID would soon identify the persons behind the killing.

The West Bengal government conveyed this information to a bench of Justice Joymalyo Bagchi through Advocate General Kishore Dutta.

Justice Bagchi had earlier expressed displeasure at the lack of progress of investigation into the death. Dutta told the bench that the sleuth hoped to inform it about the identity of the persons behind the killing on the next date of hearing.

Justice Bagchi observed that the report submitted by the CID on the progress of investigation was vague and suffered from opaqueness.

Additional Director General (CID) Rajesh Kumar appeared before the court today on a direction by Justice Bagchi to apprise him on the progress in the probe.

Representing the ADG, the advocate general

submitted that the investigation by the CID into the killing of a person during the agitation over building of a power grid sub-station at Bhangar in South 24-Parganas district in January this year was at its last stage.

During the last hearing on April 26, Justice Bagchi had expressed displeasure at the CID's failure to arrest the person involved in the killing of the man and had directed the ADG CID to appear before him to explain the progress in the investigation.

Father of Mofizul Khan, who had died of gunshot wounds at Bhangar on January 17 during an agitation over setting up of a power grid sub-station, had moved the high court subsequently seeking a probe into the death by an independent agency other than the state police.

Khan's counsel Jayanta Narayan Chatterjee had prayed for a probe into the killing by an independent agency other than the state police or CID, claiming before the court that the victim died in firing by the police.

Kolkata, May 11: Defying the Centre's ban on use of red beacons, the Shahi Imam of Tipu Sultan Masjid, Maulana

Noor-ur Rehman Barkati today said he is not bound by the order and as a religious leader, using it was his "right."

"I am religious leader and I have been using the red beacon for past several decades. I don't follow the orders of the Centre. Who are they to order me? In Bengal, only the orders of the state government are effective. I will use red beacon. In Bengal, no one has removed red beacon," Barkati told PTL.

Seeking to end the VIP culture, the Union cabinet had decided that red beacons would be removed from all vehicles +,

including that of the prime minister+, from May 1.

The state BJP came down heavily on the Imam for defying the Union cabinet's order.

"From where does he get the audacity to defy the decision of the Union government? The state government should immediately take action against him. Only being from the minority community does not give him the right to do whatever he wants to," said state BJP secretary Locket Chatterjee.

The Kolkata police denied to comment on the matter of Barkati using the red beacon and said it was "not aware" of it.

Bengal govt upbeat on new IT parks

Kolkata, May 11: West Bengal government today said it remained optimistic on seven new IT parks in the state despite job loss threat looming on technology companies over H1B visa crisis.

"We have 13 IT parks currently and we are going forward with seven new parks," state IT minister Bratya Basu said at a seminar organised by Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BNCCI).

The crisis of H1B visa was not yet felt in West Bengal and no major IT companies in the state had approached the government on retrenchment, he said.

Basu said that if the latest round of auction for Sonarpur hardware park failed, the IT ministry would try to reduce the price of land.

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44 houses... chayats to identify genuine beneficiaries while shortlisting them in any scheme. Up-adhakshya, North, NimTshering Lepcha also spoke on the occasion. At the outset of the programme, ADC (Dev), Chungthang, B. Lepcha delivered the welcome address while the vote of thanks was presented by BDO, Passingdang, K.B. Limboo. The programme was coordinated by BDO, Mangan, Karma Thendup Bhutia. (IPR)