

Nepal cooperative team visit Nayuma



Gangtok, June 1: A 88-member delegation of Nepal Employee Women's Cooperative Society (NEWC) visited Nayuma Multiple Cooperative Society (NWCS) today here in the capital. The delegation from Nepal who are on a study tour to this Himalayan State

was welcomed by the Vice President Bhovi Rai and other members of NWCS.

The NEMC delegation gave brief report about their Society and also informed about the main objective of their visit to Sikkim. They added that they had learnt about the NWCS through word of mouth publicity and were really eager to learn more about the functioning of NWCS and also to know about their success formula. All the questions and queries were well addressed by the Vice President Bhovi Rai and Consultant Executive, Tashi Tshering. Where as the Queries pertaining to the Role of Cooperation department for promotion of Cooperatives were addressed by Tshering Topgay Bhutia, Deputy Registrar/Incharge of NWCS.

BJP to contest all seats in panchayat polls: Javadekar

Siliguri, June 1: The BJP will put up candidates in almost all the seats in the coming panchayat polls in West Bengal, senior party leader Prakash Javadekar said on Saturday.

"We will put up candidates in all the seats in the panchayat polls in West Bengal. We will also do well in the polls," Javadekar, the BJP official Spokesperson told reporters here.

"We will do well in the panchayat polls as the people of West Bengal are fed up with the Trinamool Congress government from which the people had a lot of expectations, Javadekar claimed.

He alleged that the Trinamool Congress has failed to live up to the expectations of the people of the state after the 34-year misrule of the Left Front government.

The BJP Spokesperson hoped that the Trinamool Congress government would be able to hold the panchayat polls in a peaceful manner as the state government is dilly-dallying about deploying Central para-military forces during the polls.

On the Central government, Javadekar said the UPA II is a "failure" on all fronts be it inflation, price control, employment or agriculture.

Second phase booking opens for Begraj Silver Oaks



Siliguri, June 1: Begraj Group of Companies, has announced the 2nd phase booking of one of its Premium Eco-Friendly Housing Complex at Siliguri by the name of "BEGRAJ SILVER OAKS".

"BEGRAJ SILVER OAKS" is located at a very prominent Location of Siliguri, at Sinclairs Hotel Compound. Built on 3(Three) Acres of Land, the project offers 196 (One Hundred and Ninety Six) 3 BHK & 4 BHK apartment (sizes ranging between 1418 to 2209 Sq. ft.) The project shall have 4(Four) G+14 Storied Apartment Towers with Intelligently Designed Floor Plans to ensure ample Ventilation and Natural Lights to help conserve Energy.

The project has been designed by the renowned architect J.P. Agarwal of M/s Agarwal and Agarwal, Kolkata and meets all the Structural, Safety, Firefighting, Earthquake, Environmental and other standard compliances.

Also coming up in the project is an 11 Storied High End commercial and Office complex, the construction of which shall also commence very shortly.

Chairman Begraj Agarwal further added that our customers expect only the best from us and having kept up to that promise over the last 30 years, it is extremely important we keep maintaining that expectation.

Over the Last 3(Three) Decades Begraj Group has built more than 3.00 Million Square feet of Residential and Commercial Spaces. Some of the landmarks at Siliguri being Cosmos Mall, Green Valley, City Plaza and many more.

June 4 date for EILM exams

Jorethang, June 1: Around 250 students of Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management University (EILM) have filled up their forms and procured Admit card for their exams to begin on June 4.

EILM university Assistant Professor Kausla Lohagan informed students hailing from across Delhi, Kolkata and other cities and even from Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh will appear exams for courses like, BBA, MBA, B.Tech, B.Sc (environment and ecology), BCA and M.Sc.

He said the exams will be held at EILM's 8th Mile Budang campus.

Ex-DIG commits suicide in West Bengal

Kalyani, June 1: Saroj Mohan Chakraborty, ex DIG of West Bengal Armed police allegedly committed suicide at his home here in Nadia district on Saturday, police sources said.

Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) of Kalyani, Chadrakshar Bardhan said Chakraborty (63) allegedly committed suicide by shooting from the service revolver of his security guard.

The body has been sent for autopsy, the sources said adding a suicide note has been found in the house.

Kolkata Police asked to deal with complaints of violence

Kolkata, June 1: West Bengal government on Saturday directed the district police to make special security arrangements after receiving complaints of violence from the nine districts which would go to panchayat polls in the first phase on July 2.

ADG (Law and Order) Police Banibrata Basu said today that complaints on violence during the filing of nominations had poured in.

The police in the nine districts have been asked to make special security arrangements to deal with the issue, particularly in the troubled areas, Basu told reporters.

He was speaking to reporters after a meeting Chief Secretary Sanjay Mitra, Home Secretary Basudeb Banerjee and he held with SPs and DMs of the nine districts through video conferencing during the day.

State secretariat sources said that the government would give its reply to the State Election Commission which has written it to apprising it of incidents of violence during filing of nominations.

The Centre is also yet to give its reply to the state government's request seeking deployment of central forces during the three phase panchayat polls.

Bengal's rural poll battle hots up

Kolkata, June 1: Even as the tug-of-war between the ruling Trinamool Congress and the West Bengal Election Commission refuses to abate, the battle for next month's crucial rural polls has intensified.

After a bitter legal battle and court directives, the commission finally notified the first of the three-phase panchayat polls. Candidates in nine districts - set to go to the hustings July 2 - have already started filing their nominations.

The second and third phases will be held July 6 and July 9.

While issuing the notification, State Election Commission chief Mira Pande said that the panel was yet to hear from the state government on the availability of security forces.

With the court mandating adequate security for the

polls, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee reluctantly climbed down from her earlier stand of using the state's security forces for the elections.

The volte face came after the state government realised that its own security forces were insufficient and the appeal to other states for security personnel met with no response.

The Banerjee government, which had all along been adamant to go ahead with the polls sans the central security forces, however, refused to admit that it had blinked on the issue.

"It is not a climb-down. We had to compromise for the sake of conducting the elections," state panchayat minister Subrata Mukherjee said.

While the Congress had been demanding central forces all along, it did not let go of the opportunity to hit

back at Banerjee on her "compromise".

"Is it that easy that today they will come asking for forces and we will give it tomorrow?" said state Congress leader and union minister Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

Another area of confrontation between the election panel and the state government now pertains to who will control the police and administration now that the poll process has started. While the State Election Commission issued a notification declaring that all administrative and police officials connected with the polling process were now under its control, the state government disputed it.

State chief secretary Sanjay Mitra has written to the commission questioning its authority to issue the notification.

Meanwhile, the first

phase poll nomination process has been marred by widespread violence with the Congress and Left Front pointing fingers at the Trinamool Congress.

State Congress leaders led by state president Pradip Bhattacharya met the governor with their grievances against the Trinamool Congress while the Left Front sought refuge in the Election Commission.

"Despite the presence of the state police, the Trinamool Congress is trying to create trouble at various places," Bhattacharya said after meeting Governor M.K. Narayanan.

Communist Party of India-Marxist leader Rabin Deb who met the commission's chief Pande, accused the Trinamool Congress of using muscle power to prevent its rival candidates from completing the pre-poll formalities.

Trout farming reaps profits in Sikkim

Gangtok, June 1: Trout farming is becoming popular in Sikkim as farmers reap rich profits due to a spurt in production on the heels of a good breeding period and provincial government's assistance.

The directorate of fisheries under animal husbandry, livestock, fisheries and veterinary services is coming up with a separate fish stall for locally produced fish variety, especially the carp and trout species at Gangtok, in a bid to provide a readymade marketing outlet. Considering this move, the officials visited the fish farms to take a stock of the situation.

A trout fish farmer, Sonam Lepcha hailed the department's initiative and said that he was informing the locals about the benefits of trout farming. "I am very happy that this fishing scheme has been introduced. From this 50 x 17 meters tank, I can sell and earn around \$ 3,534.79. Through me, rest of the village residents can know the benefit of trout fish and in future I am planning to set up hatcheries and sell this fish through department outlet," said Lepcha.

The duration of the breeding season is four to five months and the perfect and suitable time of breeding of trout fish starts from November and concludes in the month of March. D. P. Sharma, secretary, directorate of fisheries under animal husbandry, livestock, fisheries and veterinary services, said that the production of trout fish has considerably increased. "Our Sikkim is developing fast as the production of trout fish has increased tremendously. It has a good market over here," said Sharma.

Nepal picks May 28 as National Day



Kathmandu, June 1: The government of Nepal has decided to observe May 28 of each year as the National Day, ending years of confusion over the issue since the country turned into a republic in 2008.

On May 28, 2008, the first meeting of Constituent Assembly declared Nepal as a federal republic, bringing to an end the 240-year-old monarchy.

After the establishment of republic, there has been confusion about the National Day, and the country has not formally celebrated the National Day over the last seven years. Before that, Nepal used to mark the king's birthday as a National Day, reported Xinhua.

Government spokesperson Madhav Poudel said the decision was taken in a cab-

inet meeting Thursday. Diplomatic communities in Kathmandu have been urging the government to fix the date, saying that they were facing difficulties in conveying message to head of the state and prime minister on the National Day.

The foreign affairs ministry has started to inform all the countries which have diplomatic relations with Nepal.

Teacher burned alive in Bihar, headmaster surrenders

Patna, June 1: A school headmaster, the main accused in the alleged burning alive of a schoolteacher, surrendered in court Saturday, police said. After surrendering, Sanjay Singh claimed he was inno-

cent. School teacher Ranjit Kumar Razak, 40, was burnt alive May 30 in Bihar's Purnia district. Sanjay Singh had been booked on a complaint by Razak's wife.

A police officer said that a group of teachers, along with the principal of a middle school, took Ranjit to a toilet, tied his hands and legs and poured kerosene on him before setting him ablaze.

Indian sanghas receive teachings from the Dalai Lama

Dharmasala, June 1: Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama began his four-day teachings on Shantideva's A Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life (chodjug) at the Tsug-la Khang, main temple near his exile residence in Dharmasala earlier today.

The teachings have been requested by a group of Indian sanghas and will go on till June 4.

According to the Department of Security under the Central Tibetan Administration, over 6000 disciples from 69 countries are attending the teachings. These include, 1200 from Nalanda, 1900 foreigners, 13 Chinese, and 371 disciples from the Himalayan region, DoS officials said.

Speaking at the beginning of the teachings, the 77-year old Tibetan leader expressed his happiness

with the opportunity to teach Indian Buddhists.

The Dalai Lama said that he is pleased to give teachings to Indians as "these teachings originated from India."

"Giving teachings on Buddhism back to Indians is like returning their ancestral Buddhism to a new generation of Indians," the Tibetan leader, who has been living in exile in India for more than 50 years, said.

Among those attending the teachings, Avi, a disciple from England was overwhelmed upon seeing the Dalai Lama for the first time.

"His Holiness' always speaks about respecting other cultures and religions which everybody can relate to even if you are not a Buddhist," she said. "For some reason, I am feeling very emotional today."

Live webcasts of the



teachings from June 1-4, 2013 is available at dalai-

ama.com/liveweb. His Holiness will be speaking

in Tibetan with English, Hindi, Chinese and

Russian language translations available.