

## Polo association aiming for polo plus to sustain pony lovers in the state

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 13:** The Manipur Horse Riding and Polo Association is aiming to introduce Polo plus for improving the condition of the pony lovers of the state. Speaking during the felicitation function of the 11 Manipur Polo International players, H Dilip Singh, IAS, President of the Manipur Horse Riding and Polo Association appreciated the

effort of the pony rearers of the state who kept the tradition of the state for time to time. Dilip elaborated on how the pony rearers suffers due to lack of financial supports. he said that the association is looking forward to introduce a polo plus - a programme to generate income for pony rearers.

The felicitation function was held today at Pony Breeding Farm located at Lamphelpat at the foot hill of Langol Range. Dilip said that tourists will be attracted if a package for trekking in the hill range has been introduced. He said that he along with the executives of the Manipur Horse Riding and Polo Club is working out to introduce polo plus.

On the other hand Dilip said that the status of the pony is on the rise even though much criticism has been heard from various circles.

Over the improvement of polo, Dilip said that wining or defeat does not make much difference as the taste of wining is significant after a long defeat. In the long run pony lovers survive and will survive as the spirit still runs in the viens of the rearers.

A cash price of Rs. 1 lakh along with the trophy has been handed over to the polo team which won the 11 Manipur Polo International. Director of Veterinary Department Mr. Chaoba also presented a sum of Rs. 20,000 to the polo team as a mark of encouragement.

## Drug peddlers arrested

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 13:** Kakching police today arrested two persons along with huge quantity of heroin No. 4 drugs and WY tablets from Sora area in Kakching district yesterday.

As per report, a team of state police led by Kaching police station OC Nandabab conducted search operation after getting specific information about the presence of drug peddlers at Soro area yesterday afternoon. During the operation to individuals identified as Md. Wasim Khan (21 years) son of late Md. Abdul Haque of Sora Karanchi Awang Leikai and Md. Asgar Khan (34 years) son of Md. Abdul Kalam of Sora Maning leikai were arrested along with 30 grams of Heroin No. 4 drugs and 110 numbers of WY tablets.

## 13 Karate players to attend in the Oyama Cup

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 13:** Thirteen Karate players of the state have been selected to represent India in the Upcoming Oyama Cup - 2018 Asian Karate Championship scheduled to hold at Kalighat Bayam Samity, Kolkatta West Bengal from January 26 to January 28.

The selected players include Chabungbam Nongshamei, Thingom Khemi Devi, Lairikyengbam Chenglonhenba, Nitish Laitonjam, Md. Nawaz Sharif Phisabam, Thangminlen Khongsai, Naorem Dhanraj Meitei, Waikhom Santa Singh, Thingom Niranjan Singh, Ningthoujam Sanjoy Meitei Mayangmayum Imran, Takhelambam Siken Meitei and Md. Siffiruddin. Coach cum official of the team is Shihan Ch. Premchandra Singh, who is also the chief director cum president of the Kyokushinkai Karate Association Manipur. Lairikyengbam Gambhir Roy is the Team manager.

## Kwatha Village in Tengnoupal District adopted as Model Village

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Jan 13:** Rajya Sabha MP K. Bhabananda Singh launched Kwatha village in Tengnoupal District as a Model village under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) yesterday. Speaking at the launching ceremony as Chief Guest, Shri K. Bhabananda Singh said that if one village is not developed the whole nation could not be developed. All those given in the guidelines cannot be implemented in every village since there are topographical differences of the region. Citing the reason for adopting Kwatha village as model village; he said 'it is one of the most backward village in the state with a small population'. If the scheme is to be fully implemented, there needs to be a balance between the population and the infrastructures which are to be provided, so the migration to other villages need to be checked, the support and participation of the locals are needed for implementation of the scheme. He stressed on the importance of training few locals on healthcare system since basic healthcare seems to be lacking in the village. He further states that to bring any

kind of development, peace is necessary.

The Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana aims to empower the village to make choices and provides them with opportunities to exercise those choices. The scheme will give direction which will pave ways for development through their own hard works and entrepreneurial skills. The scheme also envisages integrated development of the rural villages across multiple areas such as, Sanitation, Environment, Education, Health, Agriculture, Livelihood etc. to improve standard of living, enriched social capital and build community spirit that will ensure long term positive change.

The launching function was organised by District Administration and District Rural Development Agency, Chandel district. MLA of Tengnoupal AC Shri D. Korunthang and Deputy Commissioner, Chandel Shri Krishna Kumar attended the function as Guest of honour and President. Chandel ADC members, SP of Tengnoupal district and neighbouring villages leaders were also present among others.

## Passport changes from June 2018

- Hindustan Times

**New Delhi, Jan 13:** A day after Hindustan Times published a report that passports may no longer be valid proof of address as they may not have the last page, regional passport officer in Pune said that the changes will come into effect from June this year. HT in its Friday edition had reported that passports may no longer be a valid proof of address for the reason that they may not have the current last page with the address of the passport holder. However, all the information will continue to be possessed by the passport office and the immigration department or security agencies. JD Vaishampayan, regional passport officer, Pune said that the new passports will be issued from June 2018 once the existing lot is distributed. "Basically at the time when the financial allocation is done,

we decide an estimated number of passports that would be required for the entire year. So, by May 2018, the existing stock of passport will end. Consequently, by June we will start issuing new passports," said Vaishampayan. The new passports will be printed at the India Security Press, Nashik, said Vaishampayan.

Earlier, confirming that changes could happen from "next series" of passport being issued, Surendra Kumar, under secretary of policy and legal matters and visa division at ministry of external affairs, said that the new decision has been taken to protect details of passport users. "The decision to keep the last page of passport blank has been taken to protect the details contained," said Kumar. According to officials, the details of the passport holders

are in the back-end with the officials. Since 2012, all the passports have had a bar code and by simply scanning them, the information can be accessed. Currently the first page of passport has the photograph as well as other details of the passport holder; the address is printed on the last page.

Speaking about whether these changes in the passport are being done to make Aadhaar the only residence proof, Vibhuti Kumar Bhushan, regional passport officer, Kolkata said, "These changes have nothing to do with the importance of Aadhaar card. Passport is basically a travel document."

Besides the changes in address, the MEA is also considering changes in colour of passport.

Currently, passports are issued in three colours: white for government officers or to those people who visit other countries for official work of the government; red for diplomats; and blue for all others across two categories — those who require emigration check (ECR) and those who do not (ECNR). Soon, however, those in the ECR category will have orange passports, Kumar said. This will increase the speed of the process of emigration as the colour of the passport will make it clear whether the emigration check is required or not. The printing of the new ECR passports will be done at the India Security Press at Nashik. In this case too, existing ECR passports will be valid.

## CIC Asks PMO to explain delays in hiring of Information Commissioners

*By: Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar*  
*Courtesy: The Wire dot in*

**New Delhi:** The number of vacancies in the Central Information Commission (CIC) is set to rise to the highest ever — four — on January 15, with information commissioner Manjula Prasher retiring that day. Chief information commissioner R.K. Mathur has directed the Prime Minister's Office to reveal information on the reasons behind the delay in appointments to the commission.

The order assumes significance as the 11-member commission will be left with just seven serving commissioners, including Mathur, if urgent appointments are not made. Already, the panel is witnessing a huge pendency of cases as the workload on serving information commissioners has increased. In this case, the appellant, Commodore (ret'd) Lokesh K. Batra, had contended that he had filed an RTI application with the PMO on September 11, 2017 seeking information regarding the list of files using which appointments to the

CIC were being processed. He had also sought the names and designations of members of the screening committee. The matter reached the commission on November 11, as Batra was not satisfied with the response he received from the authorities. The commission heard the matter on January 8, and the appellant and the respondents participated in person.

**Not a single appointment in 15 months**

Batra brought to the notice of the commission that the Department of Personnel and Training had on September 2, 2016 called for applications for the appointment of two information commissioners. Further, the DoPT had stated that as many as 225 people had applied for the post.

What surprised Batra was that the central government could not find any suitable candidates to fill the vacancies even more than a year later. As of now, appointments have not been announced, he had submitted, adding that on the 26th day of his RTI request, the PMO had transferred his application to the DoPT under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act.

This, Batra maintained, did not make sense as he had only requested information pertaining to PMO records. Batra further complained that instead of providing information, the PMO transferred his RTI application to the DoPT wrongly. He said the PMO also told him that the DoPT is the nodal department and custodian of records in the matter. However, the appellant maintained that the PMO should have provided the information as it related to it alone.

**'Delay in providing information by PMO has become a routine'**

Due to the action of the PMO, Batra charged that there was a "prolonged delay in providing the sought for information". Mathur noted that Batra further alleged that "he has experienced that the prolonged delays in providing information by CPIO, PMO, has become a routine matter and this is happening persistently even after cautionary directions in his earlier cases."

Batra had also demanded that since he had incurred unnecessary expenses on the

case due to the approach of the PMO, the commission should impose a penalty upon the respondent and he may be awarded a token compensation of Rs 1 for the wrong suffered and expense incurred by him. However, Mathur in his order stated that "the Commission is of the view that the appellant has not articulated specific loss or wrong suffered by him consequent to delay in providing the information. Hence, the request for allowing compensation to the appellant is not sustainable".

However, the CIC came down hard on the PMO for transferring the plea. "The Commission is of the view that the appellant has specifically sought information as available in PMO. Hence a transfer of this RTI application to DoPT was not required, the appellant should be replied to categorically and given whatever information is available in the matter within PMO," Mathur said.

It directed the PMO to take action in the matter within 15 days and to give the reasons for the delay in transferring the RTI application.

## An Indian Scientist with unmatched experience in the field of Telecommunication Wireless Networks



A paradigm shift, in the field wireless networks and telecommunication, has been observed over the last decade. The ever-increasing importance, popularity and role play by this technology

in our everyday life have been out of our imagination. Growing popularity of smart phones, emerging new wireless standards and introduction of new multimedia and social networking application, like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube etc. are examples of some of the different types of network applications that are already a part of our everyday life. Since these are sophisticated technological applications, it requires a huge amount of scientific research and development works in bringing the wireless

networks close to our everyday life. One Indian scientist, with rare and profound experience, in this field of Network Communication is Dr. Abhishek Roy.

Dr. Abhishek Roy, an Indian Telecommunication Scientist, is the Principal Engineer (director) and Lead Wireless System Architect of Samsung Electronics, with more than 16 years of global experience in the field of Design & Performance Analysis of Wireless Networks across different countries like India, Japan

and the United States. He has been actively working with Sungkyunkwan University on futuristic research projects involving sustainable green next 5<sup>th</sup> Generation wireless networks, involving Internet of Things (IoT). Both National Research Foundation, Korea and Department of Science and Technology, India have acknowledged the research and development works.

His contribution in the field of mobile wireless networks is immense with 8 International Scientific Intellectual Property

(patents). He is the co-author of a book which was published by Taylor & Francis, USA and 50 top-notch International journals and magazines (IEEE, Elsevier, Wiley, Springer) and attended many international conferences.

His publications are cited in more than 1,300 times in Google Scholar. He also serves as technical program committee members and track chairs of International wireless conferences, Special Issue journal editorial boards and Ph.D. thesis committees. He is also Winner of Best

Employee, Best Masters Research Award and "Mark Wesier" Best Paper awards.

Dr. Roy played a pivotal role in design, analysis and roll out of Reliance Jio Infocomm's PAN India 4G Broadband Networks Deployment. Back in 2013, Dr. Roy and his team in Samsung Electronics designed 350 million USD Sprint's Long Term Evolution (LTE) network deployment project across major cities in the USA. During this time, the works of his team have also resulted in the 4G LTE networks of Japanese wireless operator KDDI.