

Poetry section

Kang-lei-pak

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Something's withdrawing; something's leaving,
Something's fading; something's dispersing,
Scattering and separating; parting and unyoking,
Bewildering and confusing; all the puzzles follow
She blooms and she sprouts; she's a flourishing "Lei"
She's pleasing and genial but innocent;
She's engaging and she's heavenly divine,
Oh "lei", lei of "Lampak"! How dreamy and delightful she holds
Envelop thy self promisingly, germinating and spreading;
Flattering, befitting and becoming;
Winning and maturing as she walk tall,
All she's dearly emotional and too enduring;
She laughs and she giggles;
She loves and she's beautiful,
She's soft and she's easy,
All that she does is painful ignorant.

Something's withdrawing; something's leaving,
Something's fading; something's dispersing,
Scattering and separating; parting and unyoking,
All "he" can have is casting malicious eyes upon her;
He waves and he's unknown to know,
He's entertaining and he's pleasant but nasty;
He's dark and he's abusive,
He's rude and he's ill,
All's not well and hateful promises,
All's devilry and he's damn cool;
Capturing Showers of easy comfort; seizing and occupying
Grasping and holding, snatching and conquering;
Plucking and exploring, pulling and fingering;
Oh lei! Oh lei! Lei of Lampak
Construct you thrones; mettle your fortitude!
Assemble your modesty; Save your creation for a day.

Something's withdrawing; something's leaving,
Something's fading; something's dispersing,
Scattering and separating; parting and unyoking,
Ah! How rude and insane he is?
No boundaries can stand by his obsession addict,
How lunatic he is? Mad and distraught
How disturbing he is to her?
Squeezing and plucking and crushing;
Thrusting and charging and intentionally;
How distrustful he is?
How insecure he is?
Cheating and desirous upon "her" heedful;
Oh lei! Lei of Lampak
How forgetful she to her blooming;
Dropping down of miseries;
Sinking and declining deep down surrendering!
Diminishing and dying,
Scattering abusively and insulting.

Something's withdrawing; something's leaving,
Something's fading; something's dispersing,
Scattering and separating; parting and unyoking,
How brutal and savagely act upon her?
Angels shine upon her barren "Kang Lei" uninvitingly;
How unfruitful she blooms?
Lying lifelessly on "Fampak" sweetly unattended,
Sleeping beauty;
Amidst these saintly uncultured domain,
Hundreds and thousands "leis" flourishing,
Fear not, grow and walk tall "Kang-Lei-Pak".

A strike against pneumonia



By: J.P. Nadda (PIB)

In 2014, this government made a promise to the people of India, to safeguard their health, to provide the men, women, and children of this country the best chance to survive and thrive. One of the key initiatives was to protect as many of our children against as many diseases as possible, with the introduction of new vaccines into the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), as well as by ensuring these reach the unreached. This was one of the most significant policy decisions in public health arena taken because of the visionary leadership of Shri Narendra Modi Ji. Today, I can say that promise is well on its way to being fulfilled.

For decades, our children have died from diseases that could be prevented. Introduction of new vaccines is key to reducing childhood and infant mortality and morbidity in the country. In the last two years, through the UIP, we saw the introduction of the Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV), Rotavirus vaccine (RVV) against diarrhoea, and the measles-rubella (MR) vaccine, to protect against both measles and rubella. The latest weapon in the arsenal being introduced is pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). More than 130 countries worldwide have introduced PCV as part of their childhood immunization programmes, in line with World Health Organization (WHO) global recommendations. This vaccine provides protection against one of the most common causes of pneumonia—a bacterium called pneumococcus. This bacterium also causes other diseases such as ear infections, meningitis and blood infections, with some of these resulting in death or serious disabilities.

This vaccine has long been available in the private sector in India, so children of wealthy families who could afford it could be protected. But today, by introducing it in the UIP, we are ensuring that this vaccine reaches all children, especially those who need it the most, the underprivileged and underserved. The availability of life-saving vaccines should not be limited to only those who can afford it. It is through vaccines like PCV that we can give the citizens of this country a shot at an equitable future and achieve the vision of an India in which every citizen lives a healthy and productive life. Many people ask, "Why immunize?" Previous generations, the argument goes, suffered from diseases like diarrhoea, measles, and pneumonia; why is it essential for us to immunize our children against it? By the time you finish reading this article, one child in India would have died from pneumonia. One child every three minutes – that is the tragic toll pneumonia claims in this country. We need to protect and save those children.

The decision to introduce a vaccine in the UIP is a well-regulated and carefully thought-out process that takes into account the need, the safety and the efficacy of the vaccine. For a new vaccine to be introduced in the country, the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) reviews disease burden

and epidemiology of a particular vaccine preventable disease and vaccine availability along with its cost effectiveness before making recommendations for any new vaccine introduction. NTAGI is an independent body of experts with repute and experience in the field. The Ministry introduces new vaccines only when NTAGI recommendations are subsequently approved by the empowered programme committee and Mission Steering Group (MSG).

All new vaccines, including the PCV, have been included in the UIP at the recommendation of NTAGI and following this procedure. PCV helps protect against the bacterium that causes the maximum number of child pneumonia deaths worldwide and in India. We are starting by introducing it in parts of Bihar, parts of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, but the plan is to soon cover all of India. It is an expensive vaccine, but it will now be available to our citizens for free. The cost to the government exchequer is offset by the additional economic benefits of having a healthier society.

With close to 1.8 lakh deaths and over 20 lakh cases annually, child pneumonia poses a significant financial burden on India. The costs of treating a case of pneumonia perpetuates the cycle of poverty. Parents of children who contract pneumonia have to pay expensive hospital bills, which can cost them several months in wages. To add to this, they have to take time off and stay home to care for sick children, negatively impacting India's economy. Healthier children enjoy better cognitive development, are better in school, missing fewer days, and in the long run, when they join the workforce, they tend to be more productive and earn more. Health thus creates wealth. There are several global examples where healthier populations grow their incomes and escape from poverty quicker, making PCV an investment into India's progress towards becoming an economically developed nation. India leads the world in pneumonia deaths but, with the launch of PCV, we have definite chance at changing that statistic and making a serious dent in our contribution to the global burden of the disease. In the past, vaccines have greatly contributed in reducing death and disease. Ailments like smallpox no longer plague us and India is now free of polio and maternal and neonatal tetanus. The government's investment and commitment to India's UIP has contributed to this progress. Today, the UIP provides Indian children with vaccines for 11 deadly and debilitating diseases; the introduction of PCV will increase that number to 12. Recently released National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) data shows that India's full immunization coverage stands at 62%, up from 43.5% just a decade ago. More vaccines and higher coverage have helped to drastically reduce our infant and child deaths. To accelerate that momentum, Mission Indradhanush was launched in 2014 to reach the most vulnerable and ensure 90% of India's children have access to life-saving vaccines by 2020. This project now has attained top speed with our Honourable Prime Minister rescheduling the target to 2018, emphasizing that no child should be left behind.

It is our duty to deliver on the promise and save the lives of tens of thousands of children in this country who don't live to see their fifth birthday due to preventable diseases. To achieve these ambitious targets, we cannot afford to slow down. Let us immunize and give our children the protection they need to fight off deadly diseases and reach their full potential.

State News

MCPCR inspects Deaf and Mute school at Takyel

IT News

Imphal, July 23: A team of Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights (MCPCR) led by its Chairperson, S. Saratkumar Sharma, went for a spot inquiry at the Deaf and Mute school on Saturday at Takyel, Imphal west district, in connection with a news item published in two local dailies on 22nd July, 2017 regarding POCSO Case of a Differently-abled child reading in the Government Deaf and Mute school located at Takyel, I/W. The Commission met all the

teachers of the school and DCPUs, I/W, and discussed about the case. As per the information provided by the teachers and DCPUs, the Commission has resolved to direct the Investigating Officer including Forensic Experts from the Police Department to speed up the investigation in order to bring justice in the best interest of the child. After the meeting, the Commission also visited the Observation Home, Children Home and the offices of JJB located in the same campus at Takyel.

Assam Rifles recovers brown sugar worth rupees 1.34 cr

IT News

Imphal, July 23: Based on specific info received regarding movement of certain contraband items on a jungle track existing between Village Chikkim and Village Khudengthabi, skirting PVCP at Khudengthabi, troops of 12 Assam Rifles laid an Ambush on the jungle track on 22 July 2017. At around 0700 hrs a suspected individual was

noticed coming on the track towards the ambush party with a backpack. On being challenged the individual threw the bag and slipped down from the spur towards the nala. On checking the bag 20 packets of Brown Sugar weighing 335 grams was found. The approximate cost of the Brown Sugar in the international market is 1.34 crore.

Assam Rifles reunites misguided youth with his family

IT News

Imphal, July 23: Exhibiting exemplary compassion and empathy, the soldiers of 19 Assam Rifles of 28 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) reunited a misguided youth who was recruited into UNLF, with his family. In his early twenties, an unemployed youth of Ukhrul District was misguided and taken to an insurgent training camp in Myanmar for training. Realising his mistake of joining an insurgent group, Somichan escaped from the training camp in Myanmar, crossed over to own side of the international border and handed himself over to the Assam Rifles troops on 20 July 2017. Since his questioning did not reveal anything suspicious, special

efforts were made to contact his family. Unfortunately, Somichan's mother and father had expired earlier and he did not remember contact details of brother and sister, who are working in Delhi. Ingeniously, the company commander made use of the social media platforms to contact his sister, based on details given by Somichan. Almost choking with joy, an overwhelmed Ms LK Ningmayung, his sister, passed on the details of his uncle and Village Chairman, while lauding the sincerity of the "Sentinals of the North East". Consequently, the individual was reunited with his relatives on 22 July 2017. Hopefully, his case will motivate all such misguided youths to shun their wrong paths and join the mainstream.

The Manipur Super 30: Personnel Interview

IT News

Imphal, July 23: The final event of interview for "Manipur Super 30" a free coaching programme for the Manipur IIT aspirants was conducted at Leimakhong Military Garrison by Tamei Battalion of Red Shield Division on 21 July 2017. An interview staff consisting of faculty for Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics checked the personal aptitude of students and Mr Krishnamurti Singh, Director of CSRL was also present at the location to analyse the students, out of 68 shortlisted candidates, 59 reported for interview. It was encouraging to notice that out of 14 selected girls 13 appeared for

the interview. Candidates underwent a brain grueling session of interview by expert of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. CSRL staff organized on opening address for the students giving a brief about Super-30 project. Many students and parents later confirmed that it was on eye opener for the students of Manipur. Brigadier Dipankar Saha, Commander Senapati Brigade visited the venue of interview and took stock of arrangements besides motivating the students. As per the initial feedback, students are eagerly waiting for the results which will be declared by CSRL in due course of time.

Driving licence lost

I have lost my driving licence of heavy vehicle issued by DTO, Thoubal and my adhar card on the way in between my residence and Thoubal Bazar on 20 July, 2017. Finders are requested to handover the same to the undersigned.

Sd/
Ningombam Sanajaoba Singh
S/o N. Ingo Singh
Thoubal Achowba, Pakhangkhong
Leirak, PO&PS—Thoubal.

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