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Governor, CM greets on eve of Eid-Ul-Zuha

IT News

Imphal, Sept 1: Dr. Najma Heptulla, Governor of Manipur extends warm greetings to the people of the state on the occasion of Eid-Ul-Zuha, terming it as a festival to spread the message of peace, brotherhood and universal love. In a message released today, the Governor urged the people to strengthen the feeling of oneness and to forgive and forget any ill-will which may be there while stressing on the concept of the world as a single family and the need to resolve all strife through peaceful means.

Chief Minister N Biren also extends his greetings to the people of Manipur on the auspicious occasion of Id-Ul-Zuha and reiterates the supreme sacrifice made by Prophet Ibrahim for the sake of mankind and reaffirms faith in the allegiance of man to god. Stating that the joy of sharing and charity associated with the festival promotes the feeling of compassion and love to serve the poor and needy, the Chief Minister wishes that the festival unite everyone in a spirit of common brotherhood to serve the cause of humanity for a more peaceful and prosperous Manipur. Karam Shyam, Minister CAF & PD also expressed wishes for a prosperous, peaceful and harmonius state in a press release greeting the people of Manipur on the eve of Id-Ul-Zuha

Education Minister attends The MTU Freshers' Meet

DIPR

Imphal, Sept. 1: Education Minister Thokchom Radheshyam said that every moment in life should be treasured for once the time is gone it will never come back. Every difficulties or tasks that come in life should be appreciated for they shape and polish the life making it more refined.

The Minister was speaking as Chief Guest at the Freshers' Meet, 2017-18 of Manipur Technical University (MTU) at the Government Polytechnic Auditorium (Temporary Campus). He said that everyone present in the institution should appreciate each other, the different facets of ideas, philosophy and religion as members of a big family of MTU.

Forgive and forget are qualities that make the great man, filling the environment with positivity to support and help each other. The teacher and guardians should guide and mentor the youths in taking the right choice, he added.

Vice – Chancellor, Manipur Technical University H. Deleep Singh said that the institution in itself is in the initial stage having been only two years old. He said that the profiling of the institution lies in the hand of the students who are studying here as these student will one day become the faculty. Character foundation is one of the important needs that must be established in the institutions for development of students, he added.

Principal, Manipur Institute of Technology R.K. Hemakumar Singh said that knowledge, skill and attitude are the qualities which are a must for the engineering students to become the contributor of the society. Certain facilities of e-journal and software have also been provided in the institute to benefits the students. He urged the students to make the best use of the available resources.

During the meet, students presented numerous cultural programmes. The function was attended by Principals, teachers, faculties and student of the institute.

RBI annual report: 99% of demonetised currency back with central bank

Of the Rs 15.44 lakh cr withdrawn with scrapping of Rs 500, Rs 1,000 notes, Rs 15.28 lakh cr are back

New Delhi, Sept. 1: The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday revealed in its annual report that Rs 15.28 lakh crore, or 99 per cent of the Rs 15.44-lakh-crore scrapped currency notes, had come back to the central bank between the government's demonetisation decision and June 30, 2017. However, in what came as a surprise to many, the RBI report said that about 89 million units of the demonetised Rs 1,000 notes, worth Rs 8,900 crore, had not come back into the system. The share of the newly introduced Rs 2,000 notes in the total value of banknotes in circulation as at March-end was a little more than 50 per cent, the RBI annual report added. Mentioning that the central bank spent Rs 7,965 crore on printing new currency notes in 2016-17, it said the overall currency in circulation into the system had come down by 20.2 per cent on a year-on-year basis as at the end of March. In the biggest-ever demonetisation exercise India had seen, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 November 2016 announced high-value currency notes of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 would cease to be public tender. The move, to stem the circulation of black money and fake currency, and to choke terror funding and corruption, was to take effect within hours of the announcement. The next few days saw serpentine queues at bank branches to deposit and exchange the demonetised banknotes. With people facing inconvenience, the government's decision to ban old currency notes and handling of the whole process came under scrutiny. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Urjit Patel appeared before a probing parliamentary panel several times, but the total number of demonetised currency notes deposited in banks remained elusive for long. It was only in the Reserve While there were several estimates and statements, the official numbers were not revealed until the RBI released its annual report on August 30.

On November 9-10, 2016: Banks and ATMs remain closed to prepare for changes needed in the system after demonetisation. Govt had nnounced that any bank deposits of more than Rs 2.5 lakh would face tax and penalty.

As of August 27, 2017: Data put out by RBI on its website suggest that at least for the Rs 1,000 notes, almost 99% of the currency in circulation had come back into the banking system. August 29, 2017: Several members of a parliamentary panel seek re-drafting of the draft report on demonetisation as RBI is yet to provide some crucial details, including on the number of junked Rs 500/ 1000 notes.

NH-37 stir called off, normal traffic resumes

IT News

Imphal, Sept. 1: With the problems/demands put up by the Nungba Area Joint Action Committee (NAJAC) resolved today after consultation with a Medical Dept. GOM led by the Additional Director, Health Services, the indefinite total shutdown imposed in between Barak and Kongshang has been called off today with effect from 2 pm today. It may be mentioned that the NAJAC has been demanding several points including adequate posting of Staffs and diagnostics equipments. The NH-37 (Imphal-Jiri) route is now resuming normal vehicular traffic and all the shops/markets were opened again at Nungba, Kambiron, Barak and Khongshang respectively.

CRPF personnel found dead

IT News

Imphal, Sept 1: One Pangerkumba of Makokchung presently posted at 26Btn CRPF Jharkhand was found dead at Hotel Tampha yesterday night (31 Aug) at around 10.30 pm inside room number 12. 3 pieces of No 4 and a syringe were recovered from the hotel room where he was accommodated since 29 August.

Asteroid Florence, largest in a century, to pass by Earth at a distance of 7 million km today: Nasa

Sept 1: The largest asteroid in more than a century will whiz safely past Earth on 1 September at a safe but unusually close distance of about 4.4 million miles (7 million kilometres), Nasa said.

The asteroid was discovered in 1981, and is named Florence after the famed 19th century founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale.

"Florence is the largest asteroid to pass this close to our planet since the first near-Earth asteroid was discovered over a century ago," said a US space agency statement.

It is one of the biggest asteroids in the Earth's vicinity, and measures about 2.7 miles (4.4 kilometers) wide — or about the size of 30 Egyptian pyramids stuck together.

"While many known asteroids have passed by closer to Earth than Florence will on 1 September, all of those were estimated to be smaller," said Paul Chodas, manager of Nasa's Center for Near-Earth Object Studies.

Scientists plan to study the asteroid up close when it passes, using ground-based radar imaging in California and Puerto Rico.

"The resulting radar images will show the real size of Florence and also could reveal surface details as small as about 30 feet (10 metres)," said Nasa.

This pass will be Florence's closest "since 1890 and the closest it will ever be until after 2500," added the US space agency.

Asteroids are small, natural rocky bodies that orbit the Sun.

Large asteroid collisions with Earth are rare.

A car-sized asteroid hits Earth's atmosphere about once a year and burns up before reaching the surface.

"About every 2,000 years or so, a meteoroid the size of a football field hits Earth and causes significant damage to the area," said Nasa.

"Finally, only once every few million years, an object large enough to threaten Earth's civilization comes along."

Scientists are confident that Florence will not be one of them.

Courtesy : livemint

Security personnel are political victims: Maoist Communist Party Manipur

IT News

Imphal, Sept 1: a press release of the proscribed group Maoist Communist Party Manipur claimed that the security personnel are being victimized by the political system and the politicians whom they are delegated to provide security and are made to flaunt the law on the insistence of the politicians of the state. The release further cites examples of a police officer who was mishandled by a group of security escorts of a politician in front of his own family as well as the case of the Fake encounter case which is awaiting a final verdict by the Supreme Court. Highlighting the unfortunate incidents where the security personnel were made to go beyond their call of duty to indulge in excesses emboldened by the proximity and assurances of the politicians who are then left to fend for themselves when any legal complications arise, the release appealed to the people of the state to lend support in efforts to bring the fake encounter case to its logical conclusion and also to refrain from indulging in unlawful and excessive manner at the behest of the politicians of the state.

Rajiv Kumar takes charge as NITI Aayog VC

AIR

New Delhi, Sept. 1: Noted economist Rajiv Kumar today took over as the Vice-Chairman of government NITI Aayog. Mr Kumar replaced Indian-American economist Arvind Panagariya who left the think tank to return to academia.

Mr Kumar was a senior fellow at the Centre for Policy Research. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in economics from Oxford and a PhD from Lucknow University. He also served as Secretary General of industry association, FICCI.

He was a member of the National Security Advisory Board between 2006 and 2008. Mr Kumar also served as the Chief Economist of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and held senior positions in the Asian Development Bank, the Indian Ministry of Industries, and the Ministry of Finance.

US calls on UN to support Myanmar

PTI

United Nations, Sept 1: The US has called on the UN Security Council to support the government of Myanmar in safeguarding the "rights and dignity" of all communities in the country.

On August 30, the UN Security Council held consultations on the events that have unfolded in Myanmar.

Following deadly attacks by Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), militants at security posts on August 25 and reports of Myanmar's security forces' subsequent response, the escalation in tensions has resulted in thousands reportedly fleeing their homes.

There have also been reports of innocent civilians being killed and injured amid the ongoing violence and of villages being burned down.

At least 18,500 Rohingya had crossed into Bangladesh since fighting erupted in Myanmar's neighbouring Rakhine state The International Organisation for Migration said.

"The US supports democracy for the Myanmarese people, and we condemn attacks by militant groups in Rakhine State," US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said in a statement yesterday.

The Indian-origin US ambassador to the UN said as Myanmar's security forces act to prevent further violence, "they have a responsibility to adhere to international humanitarian law, which includes refraining from attacking innocent civilians and humanitarian workers and ensuring assistance reaches those in need".

"We call on all members of the Security Council to support the Myanmarese government in ensuring the rights and dignity of all communities in Rakhine State and throughout Myanmar," Haley said.

Meanwhile, a UN human rights expert has expressed concern at the deteriorating situation in Rakhine State, affecting not just the Rakhine Buddhist and Rohingya Muslim populations but also other communities.

"The worsening cycle of violence is of grave concern and must be broken urgently," said the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, in a statement issued from the Office of UN High Commissioners for Human Rights (OHCHR).

While the world's Muslim communities celebrated Eid al- Adha, the Rohingya remained in a precarious situation, not knowing their future or the fate of their relatives, Lee said.

Latest estimates from UN sources suggest more than 27,000 people have crossed into Bangladesh in the area around Cox's Bazar, while 20,000 more remain stranded between the two countries.

The Special Rapporteur noted concerns over both extremist attacks and the major security operations undertaken in response to the attacks.

"I am concerned that these events will derail efforts to address the root causes of the systematic discrimination and recurrent violence in Rakhine State," she added.

Lee went on to remind the authorities of their human rights obligations to give equal protection to people from all communities, whether from attacks by extremists or excessive action from the security forces.

Echoing findings in the final report by the Rakhine Advisory Commission led by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Lee said that if human rights concerns are not properly addressed and if people remain politically and economically marginalised, then northern Rakhine may provide fertile ground for radicalisation, with people becoming increasingly vulnerable to recruitment by extremists.

Haley said the US has welcomed Myanmar's endorsement of the Annan Commission's recommendations and supports the government's efforts to implement them as quickly as possible.