

Two Days Training on Integrated Farming System Launched



IT News
Thoubal, Aug. 17,

Manipur Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Thoubal has launched "a two day training programme on integrated farming system, processing and marketing of farm produces" under the aegis of National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur at Auditorium of KVK Thoubal at Khangabok today.

The inaugural function of the two days programme was attended by Principal Scientist of ICAR-ATARI Umian Meghalaya Dr. K. Arunkumar Singha, Project Coordinator of Manipur Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium MS. Khaidem, Sr Scientist & Head of KVK Thoubal Dr. Zeshmarani Sarangthem and District Vety Officer Thoubal

Dr. Ksh. Shyamjai as presidium members.

Speaking at the event, MS. Khaidem stated the importance of consorted and collective efforts of the Agriculture Departments and its allies for execution of various programmes for development of agricultural sector in the State.

The Agriculture and its allied Department should provide necessary trainings and equipments including best seeds to the farmers for maximum yield/output, he said.

Dr. K. Arunkumar Singha said that the departments concerned should maintain healthy relationship with the farmers, he said and urged the farmers to consult experts in their agricultural works.

The Agriculture Department should inquire and identify the problems, grievances and the farmers' shortcomings and properly address them in time,

he said.

During the Training, Resource Persons Rk. Roshan Singh SMS (Horti) KVK Longkeng ICAR Nagaland Centre Spoke on the topic "Horticulture Based Integrated Farming System & techniques of Nursery raising. An approach for prosperity and employment". S. Sumangal Singh SMS (PBG) KVK Thoubal Deliberated on "A Recommended model integrated farming system in Thoubal District. Dr. Y. Bedajit Singh Deputy Director Instruction CAU Iroishemba spoke on the topic "Rice-Fish Based Integrated Farming System and Remunerative Marketing Plan" and Rk. Lembisana Devi SMS (Home Science) KVK Thoubal Deliberated on "Value Addition of Commonly Available Fruits & Vegetables & Marketing thereof".

Honduran families traumatised by US-imposed separations

Agency
La Libertad, Aug 17

Since being returned to his parents in Honduras, 16-month-old Johan has suffered from stomach problems and sleepwalking.

They say the symptoms come from the trauma of being separated as a result of the US government's "zero tolerance" policy against migrant families who illegally cross the country's southern border.

Rolando Bueso, 37, and Johan, then aged 10 months, were intercepted by US Border Patrol officers on March 17 after crossing from Mexico into Texas with the help of a people-smuggler, who was paid USD 6,000.

They were soon split up and sent to detention centres in different states, with the infant becoming just one of 2,000 Central American and Mexican children that US authorities forcibly removed from their parents between April 19 and May 31 this year. Bueso ended up being deported back to Honduras on April 5 — but his son remained in US custody until he was finally returned to his family on a flight that landed

on July 20.

His parents discovered that Johan, who had grown his first teeth, taken his first steps and spoken his first word — "agua" (water) — while away, had been badly affected by his months of detention.

"Everything we give him to eat he has problems with. And he gets up and sleepwalks at night," said his mother Adalicia, 21, who is eight months pregnant with another child.

She added bitterly that US authorities had sent him back without all his papers, which included his birth certificate and vaccination record.

She was speaking in their modest home in La Libertad, a village north of the capital Tegucigalpa. Johan had been flown back to the northern city of San Pedro Sula, the main arrival point for deportees from the US.

According to the Honduran government, most Honduran children taken away from their parents inside the US have still not been returned.

The foreign ministry said only 146 children had been reunited with their families as of August 10, and 313 were still being held by US authorities.

So far this year, again up to August 10, Honduras has accepted 17,573 Hondurans deported from the United States and 27,334 from Mexico. Johan "might be traumatised for life," Bueso said, watching over his son who was playing with a black and white cat.

He said the experience had convinced him to give up on trying to illegally enter the United States. The Americans, he said, "are too rough."

He and his son were caught on his fourth attempt to reach what Central Americans call "the American dream": a land where work is relatively well paid and easy to come by and violent gangs don't rule the neighbourhoods.

Each time, Bueso was deported.

Honduran officials admit that many of their citizens risk the voyage into the US with young kids because they believe it enhances their chances of being legally allowed to stay.

Bueso's two brothers, who live in the US state of Maryland, had shown that it was possible to make it.

But Trump, with his embrace of policies designed to make the US look as inhospitable as possible to migrants and his ambition to build a wall along the border with Mexico, is changing some calculations.

In Bueso's case, it was a harsh readjustment. As an assistant on a bus servicing the La Libertad-San Pedro Sula route he can hope to earn USD 8 on a good day.

Name Change

My old name is Leishangthem Ongbi Renuka Devi W/o Leishangthem Ranjit Singh of Yumnam Leikai Lairembi Maning and New Name is Nameirakpam Renuka Devi as per document's my name is Known as Nameirakpam Renuka Devi.

S/-
Nameirakpam Renuka Devi
Yumnam Leikai Lairembi
Maning / I/W

How Vajpayee handled the Kashmir issue: 'Today Kashmiris miss him the most, he gave them hope'

Agency
New Delhi, Aug. 17

Plato describes an ideal ruler as a philosopher king. Atal Bihari Vajpayee was our philosopher Prime Minister. He was one of our two greatest Prime Ministers, only second to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In fact, he was a great admirer of Nehruji as well. For five-and-a-half years, I worked with him. I was part of his PMO for three-and-a-half years and had the privilege of working with him very closely.

Atalji's credentials as an outstanding politician, an orator who mesmerised his audiences and an able administrator are known to everyone. But I had the honour of knowing him as a person too. He was a gem of a human being. He understood human behavior so well that he would resolve a complex situation by a little gesture that would end bitterness and win a heart. I recollect one small incident. There had been some disagreement during a cabinet meeting. Mamata Banerjee, who was a minister in his government, had left the meeting in a huff. Soon, Atalji left for a foreign tour. On his return, several senior ministers had gone to the airport to receive him. Banerjee too was there. As she greeted him and bowed down to touch Atalji's feet, he stopped her and instead gave her a hug. That entire controversy, the bitterness, everything evaporated with that little gesture.

From the day he became Prime Minister, a resolution for Kashmir and forging a peaceful relationship with Pakistan remained at the centre of his efforts. Today, when the situation is very bad in Kashmir, Kashmiris miss him more than anybody else. I know this too well because I have also been very closely associated with the Kashmir story all this while. Atalji's biggest contribution was that he gave hope to Kashmiris. He understood that Kashmiris resent defeat more than anything else. And while he was Prime Minister, he ensured that his government never gave any signal suggesting a need to defeat anybody in Kashmir. He was a great leader and never allowed himself to get bogged down by an immediate crisis. He was always ahead of his time. I have no doubt that a time will come when the entire South Asia will collectively acknowledge that the Vajpayee way is the only way to move forward. I only wish Modi had followed the Vajpayee way.

Despite many problems — and I am witness to every detail of those numerable crisis situations that he faced as Prime Minister — he never diverted from his belief that India and Pakistan have to forge peaceful relations for the larger good of our people. I don't think there has been any Prime Minister who has faced so many crises, so many setbacks, especially in his attempts to achieve peace

with Pakistan. But he never abandoned his belief because of those setbacks. When he visited Pakistan (on a bus), it was the bravest move by any Indian Prime Minister. That visit was historic and gave a lot of hope to people on either side. The visit to Lahore was remarkable. Mian (Nawaz Sharif) sahib took great care of him there. The next morning, Atalji surprised everyone when he wished to visit Minar-e-Pakistan. Of course our people were worried because of the larger political meaning of such a visit. But Pakistanis were more worried. "What will he say there? What if he says is this the Pakistan you wanted to create? Where is Bangladesh now?" they (Pakistanis) speculated. But once he visited Minar-e-Pakistan, he didn't say any such thing. Instead, he wrote in the visitors' book

that "Strong and stable Pakistan is in India's best interest" and wished Pakistan best of luck.

That afternoon, there was a function at Governor's house (in Lahore). There he said that his party members would say that his visit to Lahore was fine, but what was the need to go to Minar-e-Pakistan? What was the need to put a stamp (of approval) on Pakistan? But Pakistan has its own stamp. It doesn't run with our stamp.

Whenever I spoke to him about Pakistan or Kashmir during those years, I would see that unflinching commitment to change the destiny of the entire South Asia. He had understood that there was no other way to get out of this perpetual conflict except through peace efforts. This is why he continued his efforts with Pakistan even after Kargil. Despite Kargil, he invited (President)

Musharraf to Agra. In fact, when he visited Srinagar in April 2003 and addressed a massive public gathering, he spoke about it when he again offered a hand of friendship to Pakistan. He would say that he had tried two-three times already and was even let down by Pakistan, but he wouldn't give up. Later he went to Islamabad to attend the SAARC conference as well. On Kashmir, he changed the entire narrative. He had said he wouldn't tread the beaten path and he kept his word. Channels of communication were opened with separatists at the highest level. More importantly, he understood the psyche in Kashmir. So if you remember his speech in Srinagar that day in April 2003, he recited several verses of Mahjoor's poem. He spoke of dialogue within the ambit of insaniyat and with one line, he opened all closed doors.

Military parade ordered by Trump postponed: Pentagon

Agency
Washington, Aug 17

A military parade ordered by US President Donald Trump for later this year has been postponed until at least 2019, a defense official has said, following reports the cost had soared to over USD 90 million.

"The Department of Defense and White House have been planning a parade to honor America's military veterans and commemorate the centennial of World War I," Pentagon spokesman Colonel Rob Manning said in a statement.

"We originally targeted November 10, 2018 for this event but have now agreed to explore opportunities in 2019," he added.

When the White House in February announced the commander-in-chief's desire

to hold a parade in Washington, the budget director said it would cost between USD 10 million and USD 30 million.

But a US official told AFP earlier yesterday the planning estimate had now gone as high as USD 92 million, though no final figure has been reached.

The parade had been planned for the Veterans Day weekend, and was expected to include a large show of air power.

The request for the event came after Trump was impressed by France's Bastille Day parade, where he was received with great fanfare by French President Emmanuel Macron in July 2017.

US media were quick to highlight how the ballooning costs stood in contrast to his concern about the expense of

conducting joint military exercises with South Korea.

"We will be stopping the war games, which will save us a tremendous amount of money," Trump said in June after meeting North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

It later emerged that the drills cost about USD 14 million, a fraction of the price of a military parade.

The United States normally holds military parades to mark the end of a conflict, such as in 1991 when president George HW Bush held a National Victory Parade in Washington to celebrate the end of the first Gulf War.

Trump's request was popular among many Americans but drew scorn from critics, who said it would be a waste of money and was akin to events organized by authoritarian regimes.

Vajpayee called me Rasraj, says Pandit Jasraj

Agency
Mumbai, Aug 17

The late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a connoisseur of poetry and music, was a fan of the 88-year-old Hindustani classical vocalist Pandit Jasraj and called him "Rasraj" (King of Rasas). Pandit Jasraj disclosed this during the launch of his authorised biography, "Rasraj: Pandit Jasraj" in the US recently, author Sunita Budhiraja said.

"Pandit Jasraj told the

audience that it was Atal ji who first called him Rasraj. That was the upadhi (title) that Pandit Jasraj loves most," she told Agency.

Budhiraja said Pandit Shivkumar Sharma, noted Indian classical musician and 'Santoor' player told her that among all the honours and titles Pandit Jasraj has received, 'Rasraj' is the one he likes the most.

"Atal ji lives through the music of Pandit Jasraj and the title of my book," she said.

While at the AIIMS, Vajpayee listened to old film music and poetry on the AIR FM Gold radio station, she said.

The 534-page book has incidents and anecdotes from Pandit Jasraj's life, from his tabla-playing days to his journey of becoming a renowned vocalist.

The Mewati-gharana music maestro was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1975, the Padma Bhushan in 1990 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2000.

Hq Adtl DG BRO Celebrates I-Day

Agency
Guwahati, Aug 17

The HQ Additional Director General of Border Roads Organisation, located at BRO complex in Jalukbari, Guwahati, celebrated the 72nd Independence Day with pomp and gaiety at its picturesque campus on the

Airport Road.

The celebration commenced with the hoisting of national flag by Sh U Mehta, Additional DGBR (East) in the presence of officers and troops working in HQ Additional DGBR. About 17 officers, 130 jawans including JCOs, supervisors

and NCOs attended the ceremony. Casual paid labourers and children were also present.

HQ Additional Director General of Border Roads (East) is responsible for directing, coordinating and monitoring the activities of seven north-eastern projects.