

# First ever financial assistance handed over to three journalists under MSJWS by IPR Minister

**DIPR**  
Imphal, Aug 7,

Information & Public Relations Minister Thongam Biswajit handed over the first ever financial assistance to 3 (three) media persons at his office chamber on Monday. The assistance was provided under the Manipur State Journalists Welfare Scheme (MSJWS), Department of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur. The scheme, launched formally on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 at City Convention Centre, Imphal by the Chief Minister is an important programme of the new Government's 100 day's achievement.

The three media persons availing the benefits of the scheme are (Late) G. Muanthang, Senior Correspondent, Churachandpur, Information Service Television Network (one time ex-gratia amounting to Rs. 2,00,000/-), Nepram Tombi Meitei, Ex-Staff reporter, Sangai Express (medical assistance amounting to Rs. 1,00,000/-) and Th. Thangzalian, Editor/Publisher, Lamka Post (medical assistance amounting to Rs. 1,00,000/-). While handing over the cheques to the media persons, Minister Th. Biswajit



said that the Government is acknowledging the hardships and dedication of the media persons. The important role being played by this fourth estate is necessary more than ever in this fast changing world. This Government recognises the immense contribution which is why the scheme was launched as an important programme of the new Government's 100 day's achievement, he added. For the scheme which was formally launched on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, the Government made a contribution of Rs. 10,00,00,000/- (Rupees ten Crores) towards the Corpus

Fund of the Manipur State Journalists Welfare Scheme on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. The Scheme provides one time financial/medical assistance to Journalists and their families. The Scheme is constituted under the Department of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur and is administered by a Committee and the Committee reserves the right to reject or accept any application without assigning any reasons to the applicants. Assistance would be extended depending on the Committee's satisfaction regarding the eligibility/merits

of the cases and the financial resources available for the purpose. A Journalist shall be eligible for relief from the Scheme, provided that - He/She is a citizen of India. He/She is ordinarily resident of Manipur, He/She should be accredited to the Govt. of Manipur and Journalists who are not presently accredited to the Government shall also be eligible for relief from the Scheme if they have been journalists as defined under these guidelines for a minimum period of ten continuous years. The assistance available under the scheme is upto Rs

2.00 lakh may be provided to the family under extreme hardship on account of death of the journalist, upto Rs 2.00 lakh may be provided to the journalist in case of permanent disability rendering the journalist incapable of earning a livelihood, upto Rs 1.00 lakh may be provided towards the cost of treatment of major ailments such as cancer, renal failure, heart ailments requiring by-pass/open heart surgery, angioplasty, brain haemorrhage and paralytic attack, any of the ailments which is permissible for full reimbursement under the medical re-imbursement facility of the Government. This would be subject to the medical expenditure not being covered under CGHS, or any other insurance/departmental health schemes, etc. However, relief under this provision is available to the journalist only upto the age of 60 years and upto Rs 50,000 may be provided in case of accidents causing serious injuries necessitating hospitalization. This would be subject to the medical expenditure not being covered under CGHS, or any other insurance/departmental health schemes, etc. H. Balkrishna Singh, Director, IPR, Tenshubam Sangeeta, APO (Press), DIPR, and staffs of DIPR also attended the programme.

# Contraband item worth Rs 4.8 lakh seized By Assam Rifles

**IT News**  
Imphal, Aug 7,

In continuation of back to back recoveries of contraband drugs, Tegnoupal Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) recovered 960 WY tablets hidden inside the headlight of Kenbo bike. On August 5, at around 1 PM, based on specific input received regarding movement of contraband drugs from Moreh towards Imphal, a black coloured Kenbo bike

was stopped for checking at PVCPC Khudengthabi, Tegnoupal District. While frisking and carrying out through checking of baggage, 960 WY tablets were found hidden inside headlight of the bike. Approximate cost of the contraband drugs caught is Rs 4.8 lakh. Apprehendee Mr Lelet Mate, age 37 years, s/o Mr Jamthang Mate, r/o Ward No 9 Moreh, Tegnoupal District alongwith recovered item was handed over to Moreh Police Station.

# PDA thanks Centre and state govt. over quick response to natural calamities in Nagaland

**IT News**  
Imphal, Aug 7,

The People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) thanks the Government of Nagaland and the Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and all the concerned government and non-government agencies including the administration, police and paramilitary, the NSDMA and the NDPF for their quick response to the recent natural calamities in the state.

of the prevailing conditions. Appreciation is extended to Mr. Kiren Rijiju for taking the trouble to visit the State and assure the GoI's fullest assistance to Nagaland to prevail upon the present condition', the statement said. The statement appealed the citizens of Nagaland to come together under a spirit of unity and extend all possible help to the various departments and agencies who are tirelessly working to ease the sufferings of the people and combating the difficult forces of nature.

A statement issued by the Media cell of the PDA also expressed deep condolence to the members of those families who have lost precious lives and our concern to those citizens who are undergoing difficulties due to floods, landslides and sinking zones caused by the heavy rains. "The PDA expresses its appreciation to the Government of India under the leadership of Honorable PM, Mr. Narendra Modi, who have positively responded to the requests of the State by extending all possible assistance and also for deputing the MoS (Home) to visit the State and take stock

In view of the prevailing conditions, the PDA has set up coordination committees comprising of the presidents of the respective PDA parties at the district level. These PDA committees will have coordination meetings and also meet with the district administration in order to extend any assistance and logistics if necessary for carrying out relief and rehabilitation. The committees will also furnish information of any damages, calamities or difficulties being faced by the people to the respective district administrations for follow up actions, the statement added.

# .....Reform Manipur's Education System

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In Germany, kids are categorized from early stage into different skill areas that he/she will be suitable in their career. In our present system, those who failed in the school will become a farmer. Even though kids fail in the classroom, their careers are most likely to be a farmer. Then, why don't schools send those kids to vocational schools that they will learn and live as a successful farmer rather than declaring failed in the school? Education related to farming, carpenter, or any vocational schools will be good for them, not just throw out as useless trash. This is what Thai education is doing and it proves successful in real life. It will do good for our society. The thought is applicable everywhere. So, planners need to look into different perspective. Grade them as level 4,3,2,1 whatever that each label might suitable for particular skills rather than throwing like in the garbage as a useless human to become a dropout kid.

happy and funlearning at school. Schools are mental torturing place for many kids for now. On the other hand, Thai children enjoy so much at school and school is the recreational place, a socializing place for them. The problem in Manipur's education system is fear of failure, poor mark and negative feedback from schools and parents.

**School licensing**  
Education should focus on mass education. Producing two-three IAS officers from a state shouldn't be counted as a success for the whole state. Success should come when achievement from the grassroots to the top-level structure in a society success is done. That will bring overall peace and stability in a society. We need more schools, different approaches to educate all kids with different skills.

Present school policy and licensing restricted producing more numbers of educated people. In the USA, homeschool is allowed. The online course is accepted in many places. Education doesn't mean that knowledge should be gained only from formal education. Allow the role of informal education, and give them appreciation. The government needs to encourage individuals, organizations or institutions to educate kids in many different ways. We need to

accept homeschool, weekend school, evening school, night school etc. Weekend school is not inferior. Homeschooling is not less. We see such approaches outside India. Thailand took these approaches to achieve 96% literacy rate. In developed and busy cities, people started different methods and schedule timing not to lose busy day's regular work and earn a degree at the same time. In Cambodia, many taxi driver and laborers join evening class to earn their degree. Numbers of learning hour matters, not what day of the week. This flexible learning time is very critical to encourage individuals who work and learn. Working people join the class on Saturdays and Sundays in Thailand. The government needs to approve different schooling systems to produce more educated people. Indian system does not appreciate these different learning way. As a planner, you need to change your perception. Please change now.

**More institutions needed**  
To educate a society, we need more schools and institutions to fulfill education for all. More schools will reduce the student-teacher ratio. In Finland, the pre-primary pupil-teacher ratio was 11.53 (the year 2014). India's pupil-teacher ratio was 23:1 for primary schools in 2015-16, at primary level 30:1

and upper primary level 35:1 (Source: Economic Survey published in timesofindia, January 29, 2018)

There was a time in the last decade that grew more B.Ed. institutions in Manipur. If we look at the population size, we need more institutions. United Nations experts expressed that India needs double the number of higher institutions to access education for a large number of population. In 2017, India has 789 universities for a population of 1324 million. During the same time, the UK has 130 universities for a population of 65.6 million; Australia has 43 universities for a population of 24.13 million. A simple mathematics shows the number of people in million per university.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| India                   | - |
| 1.67 million/university |   |
| UK                      | - |
| 0.50 million/university |   |
| Australia               | - |
| 0.56 million/university |   |

**Modern technology**  
Classrooms are outdated. We don't see the modern classroom. Modern education is very far dream from reality. We heard a smart classroom, computer, internet etc. This is just for namesake, just on the panther's paper as a record. Just to highlight an example, Andro junior high school received some computers.

How could students use it when there is not power connectivity? Leaders need to put real practical and applicable thought. In Hong Kong, learning a computer language and programming codewere introduced at primary school levels years ago, and the same will be followed in Indiana, the USA in a decision taken by authorities, June 2018. Still, we don't see a computer for basic learning in our schools.

So, planners need more insight investigation to achieve meaningful and practical changes to fit in modern time. Otherwise, will not be able to catch up with the changing world. In my last visit to Manipur, I have not seen any major change from the those I have seen 30 years back. As a planner, please change your perception and try to bring changes in a real sense in Manipur's education.

And please consider the following points:

1. Use grading band such as grade 1-4.
2. Remove failed marking system. Send poor students to suitable vocational skill.
3. Allow different schooling system such as homeschool, evening, weekend etc.
4. Modernize the classroom.

# Yoga Pracharak leads tree plantation programme



**IT News**  
Imphal, Aug 7,

Healthy living is what Pukhrambam Bijaya Devi believes. She has been rendering service to make the people live a happy and healthy life by teaching yoga to many people by working for the Patanjali Yoga Samiti, Imphal West. Besides promoting Yoga Bijaya also led various plantation works

in and around Imphal area since the last couple of months. Recently the young lady led a plantation programme at Moidangpok area in Imphal West. She along with her team planted around 100 saplings of medicinal plant around Korouhanba complex in Moidangpok. The locals of the area too appreciated her work and join the plantation programme.

**Writers' Profile:**

- 1 Chingakhom Dina- at the time of writing this article, he is doing Ed.D research; working at Pathumwialai School, Pathumthani Thailand. Also taught in Cambodia / Can be reached out at chingakhom(at)yahoo(dot)com
- 2 Arambam Karamjit- Former teacher at SKN School, Nonthaburi, Thailand/Former Retail Outlet Manager, Hang Ten Co Ltd, Singapore / Can be reached out at ronin9992008(at)gmail(dot)com
- 3 Khwairakpam Sunita- Former teacher at Pathumwialai School, Pathumthani Thailand / Can be reached out at sunita.khwairakpam(at)yahoo(dot)com