

# Manipur's Bidyapati stuns Amisha in second round; Sanjeet emerges strong in his class

*Services Victor and Haryana's Ankit impressive winners*

From a Correspondent  
Chandigarh, Dec. 15

Manipur's N. Bidyapati delivered a big blow to the aspirations of Amisha Kumar Bharti of Assam as the Silesian Cup silver medal winner bowed out in the second round of the BFI's 2nd Junior National Boxing Championships, being held at the University Hall here yesterday. In the 50kg bout of the day, the Assam pugilist began as a favourite in the afternoon against lesser-known Manipuri only to fade away as Bidyapati won 4-1 in what was a major upset so far. The Manipuri boxer, with no baggage, was all over her Assamese opponent and landing her combination punches impressed one and all which culminated in her winning the bout on spit decisions, despite Amisha who had proved her really well at the Poland event to win a silver medal coming strong in the last two rounds. However, in the end, it was too little for the Assamese as Bidyapati emerged winners with judges' verdicts favouring her. Later in the afternoon, Aashreya Naik proved her superiority over Punjab's Jashanpreet Kaur, beating her 5-0 in the 60 kg class. The Goan boxer with good international exposure under her belt—she had won a silver medal at the Silesian Cup in Poland—it became easy against her

Punjab rival. But for this remarkable bout in women's boxing, the other results went along the expected lines. Services Sanjeet, who celebrated his nomination as Asia's best boxer in the Asian Boxing Confederation polling yesterday, fought as fiercely as he is known to against Manish Rathore of Uttar Pradesh in the 46 kg class before forcing the referee stop the contest for the RSC-3 verdict. In fact, both the UP pugilist and the Services boxers began well and continued even as the former was at the receiving end from the beginning. Yet, he was able to sustain for the first two rounds before the referee's intervention in the third round. His teammate, S. Victor Singh was equally severe against his Delhi rival, Sumit Chaudhary, landing some

clean punches to impress the judges in the 50kg second-round bout. Indeed, the Delhi boxer managed to ward off his opponent by cleverly ducking from harm's way but traded very few punches to make any impression. So it was not surprising that Victor, the bronze medal winner from the Nations Cup held in Serbia early this year, winning the bout on points (5-0) to keep chances alive in the nationals. Not to be left behind, Ankit Narwal from Haryana defeated Kanish Dagar, also from Delhi, 5-0 in the 60 kg category. The Junior Asian bronze medal winner from Haryana, bidding time, upped the ante towards the end of the first round and continued with some fine lefts and landed a few straights which fetched him full points from the five judges.

## 3 terrorists, including a former soldier, 2 youth killed in encounter in J&K's Pulwama

Agency  
Jammu, Dec. 15

At least three terrorists were on Saturday killed in an encounter in Kharpora Sirmoo area of Pulwama district in Jammu and Kashmir. The three neutralised terrorists belonged to terror group Hizbul Mujahideen. According to news agency IANS, two youth

also got killed in the incident. As the encounter began, the terrorists were trapped in an open area. Two Army men also suffered injuries during the gunbattle. The operation was conducted by joint team of Jammu and Kashmir Police, Indian Army and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel.

# Congress likely to announce name of Chhattisgarh Chief Minister today

Agency  
Raipur, Dec. 15

Congress is likely to announce the name of the Chhattisgarh Chief Minister on today (Saturday). The decision taken by Congress president Rahul Gandhi will be announced during the Congress Legislature Party's (CLP's) meeting in Raipur. Gandhi met Chhattisgarh leaders Congress state president Bhupesh Bhagel, leader of opposition in the outgoing Assembly TS Singhdeo, Lok Sabha MP Tamradhwaj Sahu and Charan Das Mahant in Delhi yesterday. Bhagel and Singhdeo are in the race for the top job in the state. State-in-charge P. Puniaparty and party state Malikarjun Kharge will accompany the four leaders to Raipur on Saturday, reported the news agency Agency. After that CLP will hold its meeting at the party office Rajiv Bhawan where the decision is likely to be announced. All the state leaders are expected to return to Raipur to attend the meeting of the newly-elected CLP. On Thursday, All India

Congress Committee's observer for Chhattisgarh, Malikarjun Kharge, said all MLAs unanimously authorised Congress president Rahul Gandhi to select Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leader (for Chhattisgarh). The decision taken by him will be binding, said Kharge. During the meeting, Kharge is expected to announce the name of the Chief Minister selected by Rahul Gandhi. Congress wrested Chhattisgarh from BJP's longest-running chief minister Raman Singh sweeping two-thirds of 90 assembly seats. Bhagel who is in the race for the top job before leaving for Delhi on December 11, tweeted, "Today is a great day for all of us. The people have spoken and have chosen a government which would work for them. I will continue to work for the public with all my heart and soul". Dubbed a political lightweight Bhagel, has had administrative experience as a transport minister in Digvijaya Singh's cabinet in MP and later in Ajit Jogi's Chhattisgarh cabinet in 2000.

# Assam Rifles Continues Medical Campaign in Tengenoupal District

IT News  
Imphal, Dec. 15

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched one of the most ambitious 'Ayushman Bharat' Scheme, deemed as the World's largest Government funded healthcare programme which aims to provide medical cover to over 50 crore beneficiaries and target the lower income group of the society who are deprived of basic health care facilities. Following the famous English saying of 'Sound mind in a sound body' and pursuant to the vision of Prime Minister of India of a healthier and disease free society, Tengenoupal Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted a medical camp at the far flung villages in Area of Responsibility of Battalion to address the medical needs of villagers under OP Sadbhavana. Moreover, the absence of Primary Health Centre (PHC) in the remote villages and poor conditions of roads amplifies the requirement of conducting medical camps at regular interval in villages where primary health facilities are not



available. The medical team of Tengenoupal Battalion led by its Chief Medical Officer conducted the medical camp at various remote villages from 13 to 14 Dec 18 to provide free medical treatment to the villagers. The medical team utilised the camp to instill a sense of awareness amongst the villagers about the importance of healthy body and to follow healthy lifestyle to prevent lifestyle related diseases. The villagers were also informed about the adverse effect of tobacco and alcohol abuse. The medical team covered a total of nine villages of Area of Responsibility and provided medical treatment and consultation to 325 people comprising of 80 males,

129 females and 116 children. The medical camp received an overwhelming response from the local populace and also the gratitude of respective village Chief's for the social service extended to the villagers. The initiative and relentless efforts of Tengenoupal Battalion to provide medical facility to remote villages will augment the bonhomie and positivity in relationship between the Security Forces and local populace. The endeavor of the Battalion to conduct medical camp will be a progressive step to achieve the vision of healthier and disease free India and to support Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) and will subsequently help in nation building.

## Cold weather conditions in Haryana, Punjab

Agency  
Chandigarh, Dec 15

Punjab and Haryana braved cold weather conditions Saturday, with the Met Department recording Adampur the coldest place in the region at 3 degrees Celsius. Bathinda (3.5), Pathankot (5), Amritsar (5.6), Ludhiana (7.9) and Patiala (8.6) districts of Punjab had a cold start to the day.

Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana, recorded a minimum of 6.8 degrees Celsius. In Haryana, Hisar and Karnal recorded the minimum temperature at 7 and 6.4 degrees Celsius. Ambala had a low of 8.3 degrees Celsius and Narnaul 4.6 degrees Celsius. Fog reduced visibility at several places including Ludhiana, an official said.

# Assam Rifles Conducts Monthly Security Meet

IT News  
Imphal, Dec. 15

Keithelmanbi Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) conducted monthly security meets at Andro Company Operating Base (COB) and Keithelmanbi. The security forums were attended by village Pradhans, ward councilors, members of village youth club, representatives of Police and locals of the areas. Various issues pertaining to security and maintenance of peace and harmony in the area were discussed during the meeting. In addition to the security issues, future action plan in



respect of civic action projects like medical camps, details pertaining to upcoming Aadhar camp by the Battalion and career counseling for youth were also discussed. The locals expressed their gratitude to Assam Rifles

for conduct of such security meetings and ensuring peace in the area and assured their commitment and assistance in maintaining the same. The security meet concluded with tea and refreshments for all the attendees.

Contd. from yesterday issue

## NIPCO ON THE NATIONAL IDENTITY OF MANIPUR

But it is difficult to immediately resolve any counter productive sectarian issue raised in collusion with the colonial agents and colonial force. If any non-state organisational signatory to the Indian State designed Framework Agreement, Suspension of Operations and Memorandum of Understanding would not like to drag people into confusion and conflict; whatever claim they assert had to be resolved within Manipur on the basis of right decision in concrete situations prevalent in Manipur. **Editor:** You are repeatedly emphasising on protection and promotion of ethnic and national identities. This seems to be quite contradictory to the swiping trend of globalisation in 21st century. How would you defend your position and

fit ethnic or national identity within globalisation trend? **NIPCO:** Yes, many are blindly presuming that ethnic and national identities are no longer relevant in the age of globalisation. But reality refutes such presumptions. To be more precise, ethnic or national identity continues to hold ground and had lots of implications in 21st century. Acknowledging that the world is a wholesome component of segments; the pride of a nation is indispensable for its' existence as an entity, development and contribution to the world as an integral component of the whole. **Editor:** Well, in that case, what should be the manifested component of Manipur identity? How could it be preserved and promoted? **NIPCO:** Manipuri identity or Manipuri-ness is, at best,

the composite identity of the *ethnies* that co-exist harmoniously in Manipur since the *beyond the horizon* March 2018 March 2018 *beyond the horizon* time immemorial. It can be developed and promoted through mutual consensus on the basis of the understanding that we have a common future under any circumstances in any historical time. **Editor:** But Manipur, in the present, whether you like it or not, whether you call it colonial or not, is in India. What are the means and to what extent the identity of the *ethnies* could be preserved and promoted within the framework of the Indian Constitution? How far NIPCO has achieved progress within this framework? **NIPCO:** The national identity of Manipur and identities of the indigene *ethnies* have no progressive future under the ambit of the Indian Constitution.

The Constitution is doing nothing to safeguard and promote the unique ethnic identity of Manipuri people. We have to find ways by ourselves. We, therefore, are bound to take up our own programmes to nurture and safeguard those identities. For this, NIPCO is taking up awareness campaign amongst the *ethnies* to get them acquaintance with racial affinities and identities, common and specific challenges, and steps that are needed to be taken together. **Editor:** You are resolute in building common identity and future of Manipur. In that case, what is the community composition of the members and office bearers of NIPCO? Where are its branches located? What is the future prospect of expanding NIPCO? **NIPCO:** Thanks a lot for the relevant question. NIPCO has membership drawn from

across *ethnies*. In the present Executive Council of NIPCO Head Quarter, the office bearers are filled by members from the following indigene *ethnies*, viz., Meitei, Pangal, Kuki, Aimol, Thangal, Kom, Chiru, Koireng, Chiru, Aimol, Kharam, Yes, NIPCO is making efforts to make ideological expansion in every part of Manipur. It is branching out with district council and local council structures. At present we have reached out to 60 villages of Maring, Kabui, Kom, Kuki, Koireng, Chiru, Aimol, Kharam, Purum, Thangal, Koireng, Tarao, Moyon, Monshang, Khoibu, Anal, Zou and Tangkhul in the eight hill districts, that is, Ukhrul, Kamjong, Senapati, Kangpokpi, Tamenglong, Nungba, Chandel and Churachand Pur. We have a sizable proportion of reach out in the valley districts of Manipur. Our effort is continuing. **(Concluded)**

## Good health a byproduct of yoga: Joshi

Agency  
Pune, Dec 15

Hailing yoga for its health benefits, former Union minister Dr Murli Manohar Joshi lauded late yogacharya BKS Iyengar for his contribution in spreading the ancient Indian practice across the globe. Joshi was speaking on Friday at the concluding session of the 10-day long event on yoga organised at the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Balewadi here to mark the birth centenary of yoga guru Iyengar.

More than 1,000 people from across 50 countries took part in the event. "I was introduced to Gururji (Iyengar) while treating some illness of my daughter, who was not benefiting from any kind of medical treatment. "I am happy to say that Gururji transformed her life. I also had a chance to introduce Gururji to the then Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Gururji gave some tips to fight his knee problem," recalled Joshi. He said that Iyengar played a key role in taking the "real yoga"

to the world. "After a lot of research and trials, it has now been proven that yoga gives verifiable, observable and true results. The UN accepted yoga as the greatest gift of India to the world and that's how the World Yoga Day is celebrated now," he said. The veteran BJP leader said, "For the youth I can only say that yoga is not for health, but good health is a byproduct of yoga." Chief Minister Devendra Phadnavis also addressed the gathering through a video message.