

Governor launches digital literacy and online safety Programme

DIPR
Imphal, Dec 5,

The women of the North East, particularly women of Manipur are highly talented and they deserve to be sufficiently empowered with the digital technology for a space in this highly competitive world. This was stated by Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla today at the launching of Digital Literacy and Online Safety Programme at Sangal Conference Hall, Imphal Hotel. The programme is a nationwide campaign to digitally empower young girls and women. The campaign is aimed towards sensitizing women and capacity building to help navigate in the internet space but has also empower them to protect themselves and actively respond to issues and incidents like cyber crimes.

The Governor, who graced the launching programme as Chief Guest said the Central Government recently launched the Digital Northeast Vision Document, 2022 in Guwahati on 18th August, 2018 with the objective to improve digital connectivity and infuse digital literacy in the North East States in tandem with other States of the country. The Central Government's flagship programme 'Digital India' launched in 2015 has newly incorporated the North-East Region into the programme. She also expressed her pleasure that as part of the pilot project under Digital Literacy Programme over a one year period, awareness training will be conducted for sixty thousand women in universities across major cities of Haryana, Delhi, NCR, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Meghalaya and Sikkim on safe and responsible use of internet, social media and e-mail. The programme will enable trainees to differentiate between credible and questionable information circulated digitally. Internet has come to stay in the modern society and it is playing a role in our everyday



lives like no other technology ever, she added. On the positive side, it has given people opportunity to connect and stay connected with people, explore professional skilling and grooming, share information and participate in the global race for development. She also cautioned that it is crucial for everyone to be aware about safety practices, basic security and privacy tools. The number of internet users among women is few in India due to lack of digital awareness and literacy about different platforms, their potential and opportunities for a smart usage. There are successful women running cosmetic product businesses through social media from their homes, women self-help groups selling local village produce on E-commerce platforms and homemakers showcasing their food delicacies on YouTube. Women have launched great start-ups online and are pioneering some very successful ones having worked on technology, offering solutions to modern

day problems of the people. In India, we need to solve the problem of lack of inclusion of women in the Internet using population through technology capacitation and it is encouraging that the rate of inclusion is fast catching up. Along with access to devices and technology, women also need to be aware about how to use them. It is heartening to know that the present initiative of National Commission for Women has already reached out to close to twelve thousand women across the country and it is very encouraging to hear stories of women who have benefited from a campaign. Minister of Social Welfare Smt. Nemcha Kipgen who graced the occasion as Guest of honour said that the launch of Digital Literacy and Online Safety Programme is for the women of North East, especially for uplifting and digitally empowering the lives of womenfolk of Manipur. The programme seeks to promote digital literacy for women including the precautions that can be taken, raising awareness about cyber

crimes through the use of internet. Minister also stated that the current use of internet by literate women is still low in the rural and hilly area which is due to the lack of awareness, ignorance and lack of services as well. Chairperson, National Commission for Women, Smt. Rekha Sharma addressing the gathering said that women are empowered because of digitalization. Safety of women is a top priority with the knowledge to use internet safely and cautiously. She also said that the Commission will organize the same event in Meghalaya and Sikkim in the coming week. The programme was attended by NCW member, Smt. Soso Shaiza, President, Cyber Peace Foundation, Capt. Vineet Kumar, Policy Programme Manager, India and South Asia, Facebook, Smt. Shruti Moghe, Joint Secretary, NCW A. Asholi Chalai, students amongst other. The programme was jointly organized by National Commission for Women, Cyber Peace Foundation and Facebook

By- Bit Irom
Imphal, Dec 5,

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has assuaged the hurting feelings of the disabled, saying, "The door of my govt is always open for the physically challenged fellows particularly the weaker section of the society residing in the far flung villages of Manipur." The CM was speaking to the representatives of the Society for Empowerment of the Disabled Persons, Langmeidong village during his recent visit at Langmeidong in the southern part of the state. Presenting a mat made of locally called 'Kouna,' long weeds, during the reception function of the CM at Langmeidong ground,

Kakching district of Manipur, the Secretary of the Society Laiphakpam Memcha Devi, 50, a spinster, drawing the attention of the CM disclosed that some of the Society members are not getting financial assistance from the Govt for the many months. Memcha said that she couldn't walk properly since she was hit by a heavy bench on her back at the age of 17. Whenever she goes, a walking stick is always used, she said. "The disabled in our locality are not getting the monetary assistance apart from depriving of wheel chairs, tricycles and hearing aids," the physically challenged female added. On hearing the woes of the disabled, the CM said that the details of the matters would be put up through the proper channel of the local MLA and

then it would be looked into the matter for providing all sort of assistances to the right persons. President of the Society, Elangbam Babita Devi, 48, also revealed her plights of hearing impairing stating that the concerned authorities had so far failed to provide the much needed aids despite drawing their attention on several occasions. The Society has 70 members including 30 females and of them there are 27 handicapped, 18 hearing impaired fellows and the rest mentally retarded persons. One Elangbam Sakila Devi, 40, a resident of Elangkhagpokpi village said that for a few months her disabled son namely Kunjo was getting financial assistance from the Govt but it had been stopped six months back.

Chief Minister assuages hurting feelings of the disabled

Sufficient field stock of Fertilizers available in all States - adequate to address any emergent issue

PIB
New Delhi, Dec.5,

"There is sufficient field stock of fertilizers available in all the States, which is adequate to address any emergent issue", said Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Statistics & Programme Implementation, D.V. Sadananda Gowda, in a statement here today. Gowda said that the Department of Fertilizers (DoF) is in regular touch with State Governments and suppliers of fertilizers. In view of the ensuing Rabi season, monitoring is being done on regular and daily basis to ensure adequate availability across the country. In the weekly video conference, jointly organised by Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), DoF and

Railways on 04.12.2018, all the States have reported adequate availability of all Fertilizers, the Minister added. Gowda said that there is day-to-day coordination with Railways for movement of fertilizers across the country. Both the departments (DoF & Railways) are working in coherence to ensure timely availability of all fertilizers across the country. During Kharif '18 season, due to concerted efforts of Railways and DoF, more than 250 additional rakes were made available for fertilizers as compared to Kharif '17 season, the Minister added. For Rabi '18-19 (October '18 to March '19), the requirement of urea is estimated at 155.84 LMT. The entire quantity required for the current rabi season, especially during peak consumption months of December '18 & January '19, is

expected to be met by domestic production of about 129 LMT and remaining through imports. Further, the production of P&K fertilizers is also going on in the country and importers are importing P&K under Open General License (OGL) to fulfil the field requirement. The fertilizer supplies are made as per monthly supply plan, prepared in consultation with the suppliers before the start of each month, that fulfils the monthly projected requirement of each State. The suppliers and States have been advised by the DoF to supply and lift respectively the full quantity against the supply plan of December '18. Once the fertilizers are received in the States, the internal distribution within the state is the responsibility of State Government, Gowda informed.

Meitei/metei and Tangkhul bondage strengthen as UNACSU felicitated Soso Saiza

IT News
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Soso Saiza, the first woman from Manipur to become a member of the National commission for Woman was felicitated by the United All Communities' Social Up-Lifters, Kangleipak (UNACSU) yesterday. The felicitation function was attended by a crowd of about 50-60 people, half of whom came all the way from Ukhrul and half of them were meitei/meiteis who knew her importance more than her Tangkhul belongingness and warmly held her reception as a harbinger of justice and equality for woman. There was a dinner event organized in the evening, where she was again welcomed and thanked. No more shall women suffer and no more shall women cry was the resolution agreed by those attended. It showed that when we produce outstanding achievers we bring down the

hard walls that we produce in our heads based on community and politics of division. The most important part of the event has to be the fact that the dinner program entailed interactions between those present there, together for many of the Tangkhuls and meiteis/meiteis dining on a single plate. This has to be an achievement against 300 years of Hindu occupation since King Pamheiba that prevented us from having any sort of "wine and dine" to foster the relatedness and shared belongingness that we can never overlook. In a time when this occupation has a second coming through institutions of governmental control just like it happened 300 years ago, it has to be true what the greatest revolutionary thinker in history, Karl Marx had said "History repeats itself, first as a tragedy, second as a farce" in ridicule to another Giant thinker Hegel who believes history has always a second coming. And just like Marx

believed that history never truly repeats itself and always had different outcomes under different circumstances, the event yesterday showed history will not be repeated; circumstances will be fought for. When absolute monarchy ruled Manipur with an iron hand, the people were never in control of their circumstances and history making. The trajectories of their lives were swept away by the direction of the ruling ideologies of the time that kept the monarch absolute and maintained his divine rights to decide the future of his subjects i.e. the people. Hence along the conversion of the king as a Hindu king, the kingdom of Manipur became a Hindu kingdom. The political and economic mechanisms and institutions of control that were under the king hence became the mechanisms of converting the non-Hindu population into a Hindu one; rewarding those who embraced it and prescribing

severe punishments entailing even death for those who resisted. The concept of purity that lies at the core of Hindu ideology became the absolute ruling ideologies that the population at reach to the monarch had to adhere to. A drunken man from Ukhrul told the most heart touching lines over the bonfire at the event. While in his drunken state of mind, he seemed to the one sanest while we have numbered our thoughts over the last 300 years. He said "Ng eiti ee ki mari ni, blood test tousi hairasu dna ta mari leinapani, ee ki mari pu kari ki mangpra. Same blood bu kari ki mangpra. Awa na lan ngampaga Awa na pallo, British na lan ngampaga British na pallo, Mayang lanni mayam amuk thachalak aka akhoi pu amuk pallo, ato akhoi mayang natte, Awa natte, British natte Vap tamminase; Eina American Baptist chatle noina Hindu chatpasu yaore, meetai ki hanna ki chatpasu yaore, ato ei American natte,

noisu hindu chatlenasu mayang ti natteba, circumstances na yatabaki akhoi hindu dharm matung inkhrea ato akhoi kana no kaokumse." The search for purity that Hinduism has sown in our society has robbed us of our belongingness and our dignity, it has even robbed us of our robbed us of a strong nation that we could have been. Nawadeep and Bengal became the ideological fountainhead in search of this purity and thus the greatest colonial occupation that has come from the west of us remains in power with an artificial and enforced cultural affinity we identify ourselves with the occupier. It is different hence to be a Hindu in a free nation and a Hindu in an occupied land where there ruling ideologies of the occupiers are also the same. To be a Hindu in the USA for example would not mean changing their social fabric and enforcing the practice of purity but a spiritual affiliation. There is no

attack intended here on individual spiritual affiliation but the outright attack on the structurally enforced mechanisms of control and governance that had robbed the freedom of a nation; making the population celebrate its own un-freedom. But the dinner and the interaction event has showed that it may take hundreds of years but the artificially enforced concrete walls of identity we have in our minds will break down and we are no longer accepting circumstances as given to us, we will no longer be subjects but free people who will control the destiny in our hands. No power can rob us of our destiny as free people, no more can the king spread its tentacles and no more can the guns pointed at our temples make us sing tunes of servitude. Nagas and meiteis will hold the destiny in hands together as brothers in arms, for meitei is naga and naga is meitei, blood to blood, gene to gene.

Lamp Lighting ceremony

IT News
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Lamp lighting and oath taking ceremony for the year 2018 for the collage of Nursing RIMS was held today at Jubilee Hall RIMS with Dr. Rathi Balachandran, Assistant Director (Nursing), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, government of India as the chief guest and Director of RIMS Prof. A. Shanta as that president. A Narayan Singh Controller of Examination, Manipur University Canchipur and Prof. Ch Arunkumar, Medical Superintendent attended as guest of honours.