

10th M. Manindra memorial Meritorious Award 2018 distribution ceremony held



IT News
Moirang, June 14,

10th M. Manindra memorial Meritorious Award 2018 distribution ceremony was held today at INA Martyrs Memorial Hall Moirang today. The award distribution ceremony was jointly organised by M. Manindra Memorial Trust and M. Prithibiraj Singh and Family. MLA Govindas Konthoujam, MLA, RK Imo Singh, MLA Abdul Nasir, Ex MLA I Hohalbi and local bodies

members of Moirang Assembly constituency graced the occasion as dignitaries. On the occasion K. Bijayarami, Principal of the Diligent Public School was honoured for producing rank holder student in the HSLC. 2018 examination while KH. Rajenkumar Singh principal LCM high school was honoured for producing all students passed in the examinations. Besides Football Players Singam Subash Singh, Udanta Kumam and Dheeraj Moirangthem

were also honoured by presenting gifts. Those honoured meritorious students includes Maisnam Tanushree Devi 13 position HSLC 2018, Ningthoujam Robikanta Singh 23 position HSLC 2018. Maibram Vasundhara Devi 4th position COHSEM 2018, Royal philem Overall topper Mizoram Board 2018. 91 students from Moirang Assembly constituency who secured 70% mark in the HSLC Examination were also honoured by presenting gifts.

Education Minister Y. Radheshyam encourages students; distributes awards to meritorious students of CCpur

DIPR
CCPUR, June 14,

Dream big. There is no failure in life but only lessons to learn, Education Minister Th. Radheshyam said while addressing the Churachandpur District Toppers Award 2018 organised by Joint Students Body of Ccpur at Synod Hall, IB Road yesterday. Urging the students not to pursue jobs or career just to serve ones personal interest, the Minister with his cheerful demeanor, said when you aspire to serve the people through your job or career, then you will be a successful person. He further said that just getting good marks in Board exams is not enough to be called good education and urged all concerned to reorient the students to become thinkers, innovators and achievers. Radheshyam

also stressed the need to inculcate a sense of innovation and broaden the thinking capacity of the students. The Minister expressed his happiness that people of Churachandpur are becoming catalyst of positive change and many from the district are found occupying high positions in various Central Govt ministries and departments including PSUs. Shri Radheshyam further assured the people that he would extend possible assistance for the betterment of the districts human resource in consultation with the districts elected representatives. The programme was amongst others attended by Shri Vungzagin Valte, Chairman, MTDC; Shri Ginsuanhau Zou, Chairman, MANIREDA; Shri Khaipao Haokip, Chairman, ADC,

Churachandpur; Shri Shyam Lal Poonia, DC, Ccpur and Shri Rakesh Balwal, SP, Ccpur apart from some district level officers and leaders of civil society organizations. A total of 19 students who are declared overall toppers of the district in the Class X and Class XII exams conducted by BOSEM, COHSEM and CBSE were presented awards during the programme. Joint Students Body comprises of Kuki Students Organisation (KSO), Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZP) and Zomi Students Federation (ZSF). The Minister along with his entourage, after the award function, inspected Vimala Raina High School located at the heart of the town where he interacted with the staff and students. The school authority highlighted the infrastructure needs of the school to the Minister.

Assam Rifles Provides Flood Relief

IT News
Imphal, June 14,

Following incessant rains in Manipur over the last few days and subsequent major beaches on the banks of Imphal Turel, request from DC Thoubal for relief and rescue was received by Assam Rifles on 13 Jun 2018. The flood relief column of Tuliha Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) acted immediately on the requisition and saved precious life and property in the areas of Irong, Maibam and Uchiwa Nashtau villagers near Mayang Imphal. The columns provided relief in terms of repair of embankment, shelter, water and ration supply. The columns also acted and retrieved household items

evacuated villagers including children elders and women. The relief work was also assisted by the engineer relief column of 52 Engineer Regiment. Phundrei Battalion Assam Rifles provided assistance in rescuing a truck which had fell into a nalah due to sliding of embankment near Thoubal Keithel. Mantripukhri Battalion Assam Rifles provided assistance to villagers of Achanbagai, Mongjam where the river embankment was washed off due to rain and water entered the village. The villagers were provided with relief material including first aid kit, tents and sand bags and also provided assistance in construction of temporary embankment. Keithelmbani Battalion Assam



Rifles provided assistance and rescued people at Kiyamgei and Singamei. This humanitarian act of Assam

Regional News

Smart village initiative for Arunachal Pradesh

Agency
Itanagar, June 14

The Arunachal Pradesh government has inked an agreement with Andhra Pradesh-based Smart Village Movement (SVM) to facilitate technology innovations, research and development in selected villages of the north-eastern state, an official release said. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed yesterday by director-cum-member secretary of State Council for IT & e-Governance, Neelam Yatin Tana, and SVM project director Shreya Evani, in the presence of Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein among other officials, it said. The man behind the Smart Village Movement, Solomon Darwin, will be the adviser to the project's core team. The project will focus on solving "pain-points" or

challenges in rural segments by developing platforms driven by "open innovation" approaches, the release said. Darwin, who was present at the event yesterday, said SVM's open innovation approach will "integrate technology and indigenous rural practices" to generate sustainable revenue for constituents, thus increasing overall standard of living and quality of life. The first six months would be utilized to build the core team and complete the ground work for capacity building, awareness and research, project director Evani said.

"To begin with, we would select 100 villages spread over 60 assembly constituencies in consultation with the government for the SVM project," she said, adding that advertisements have been floated in local newspapers for recruitment of core team members. The project would offer a digital platform, highlighting the challenges of the villages, which will be accessed by universities and research

institutes across the globe for suggesting solutions, the release said. The solutions would be made available to corporate houses or start-ups, who would then offer a technology to solve the challenges, it said. The core team would validate the offers, in consultation with the state government, before inviting the selected company or start-up to implement its technology at the ground level, the release added.

Flash flood in Tripura

Agency
Tripura, June 14,

Due to consistent heavy rainfall in many parts of Tripura, flood situation especially in Unakoti (Kailashahar) South Tripura, Dhalai, North Tripura, Khowai & Gomati District has become critical. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura Shri Biplab Kumar Deb discussed the flood situation with Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Union Home Minister today morning telephonically and requested the Centre for immediate assistance from Army for rescue and evacuation operation. He also requested Union Home Minister to increase number of NDRF in

Tripura urgently. Also the Chief Secretary of Tripura informed the status of flood situation to Cabinet Secretary and Secretary MHA. The Centre has assured all the necessary support to the State of Tripura to tackle the flood situation. The Centre has informed the Army Chief to take necessary action. Chief Minister has appealed all the people of Tripura to bio cooperate and assist the Administration as the Government is taking all the possible measures to tackle the flood situation. However from sources it is known that the situation is under control. Measures will be undertaken if any precarious situation occur in future.

Train service suspended due to landslides

Agency
Guwahati, June 14,

The incessant rains since tuesday wreaked havoc in parts of the state, triggering flash floods and leading to the relocation of thousands in the state. Due to the massive flood, train services have been suspended between Lumding and Badarpur at five locations in the section. No passenger train was stranded due to this and restoration work is currently underway.

Coaching institute owner arrested in rape case

Agency
Bareilly (UP), Jun 14

A coaching institute owner has been arrested for allegedly raping a 15 year-old student of Class 10, police said today. The matter came to light when the girl was taken ill and taken to a hospital where doctors found that she was seven months pregnant, they said. The girl had taken admission in the coaching institute in Shahabad Diwankhana in October last year where the owner, Deepak Saxena, who is also an assistant professor in a private engineering college, allegedly raped her on November 17, 2017 for the first time, police said. The girl had kept mum after the accused threatened to kill her parents if she complained about the matter. On the complaint of the girl, an FIR was lodged yesterday and the accused has been arrested, SP (City) Abhinav Singh said.

FEAR AND SUPERSTITION

By Thangjam Yumjao Singh

There is yet another kind of fear that stalks the human mind. It is the fear of the uncontrollable forces of nature and of the unknown. This fear has dogged man/woman through the ages as he/she learned to deal with wild beasts and protect himself/herself from the attacks of other tribes. In that long night of savagery, in that constant effort to deal with the forces of nature, the seeds of superstition were sown in the human mind. And this superstition has persisted and been passed down from generation to generation up to the present day.

Fear in its primitive sense is described as an intense emotional reaction characterized by attempts to flee from the situation which elicits it and by physiological changes such as blanching, tremors, rapid heartbeat, and dryness of mouth, etc. According to a well-known psychologist John Broadus Watson, fear is one of the three unlearned emotional reactions, the other being love and anger. Watson's view is that fear is induced in the newborn by a sudden loss of support or by loud noises. Even in infant, he believes, must receive affection and re-assurance, 'mothering' may ease the tensions arising from basal anxiety. It is believed that certain fears in new born infant could be those associated with its previous existence which have been brought forward and still remain fresh and vivid in its mind and that visions relating to such previous fear do sometimes manifest themselves from time to time during early infancy.

When faced with forces beyond his/her comprehension, the difference between the savage and the beast becomes apparent. The beast adapts itself instinctively and succumbs to this force. The savage, on the other hand, when surrounded by wild beasts stronger than himself/ herself/ herself, or when confronted by the forces of nature like rain, wind, thunder and lightning or natural calamities like earthquake, volcanic, eruptions or epidemic diseases, will prostrate himself/herself in all terror on the ground, pleading protection from unknown powers. **From his/ her early perception of a power outside himself/ herself, which he/ she thought could be appeased through the prayer, just as he/ she himself/ herself could be pleased, the savage developed ritual and worship and made the forces of nature as his/ her gods. Good forces became good 'gods' while evil**

forces became evil 'gods'.
Fear comes to those who are unable to comprehend the basic laws of nature. Either as a principle or motive, fear is the beginning of the superstitious beliefs. The notion of incurring the displeasure of a Creator is instilled into the minds of the followers of many religions who depend on the concept of God for the fulfilment of everything. The foundation of some religious systems and worship is based on the instinctive fear of the unknown. The fear created by religions is the worst form of fear since it imprisons and ensnares the mind. Fear fertilizes the growth of the superstition that flourishes in the fog of the ignorance.

Man yearns for security for himself/ herself and for those whom he/ she loves in this world of constant flux which could offer no permanent solution to his/her problems. The moment he/she thinks he/ she has solved a particular problem, the conditions surrounding the original circumstances will change and yet another set of problems will then emerge, leaving him/her confused and lost as ever before. He/ she is anxious, like a child who builds sand-castles on the beach and is afraid of every wave that comes in.

In this craving for security and fear of death, man falls prey to superstition. Surrounded by the mystery of the universe, he develops faith in things that he fears. It is the ignorance and fear of the unknown that gave rise to earlier religious belief, and the workings of the universe are explained in terms of infallible supernatural gods who are supposed to control everything that happens. Even though science have done much to dispel such myths and improve the knowledge of the modern man, much of the superstitions inherited from the past still continue to remain to continue with him/ her and he/ she/ she has yet to break himself/ herself free from this self-imposed bondage. Superstitions weaken and enslave the mind. Superstitious ideas, beliefs and practices are ingrained not only amongst uneducated people but strangely also the well-educated as well.

Society should recall the words of the Buddha who said: **'Where so ever fear arises, it arises in the fool, and not in the wise man.'**

*****The writer is lay Buddhist and a Social Activist of People Who Use Drugs (PUDs)