

Deputy Chief Minister Inaugurates 8th solar power plant in uripok assembly constituency

DIPR
Imphal, June 4,

Deputy Chief Minister Yumnam Joykumar Singh today inaugurated a Grid Connected Roof Top Solar Power Plant (8 KW) at United Friends' Library & Club, Lamboikhongnangkong in Imphal West. This is the 8th solar power plant being installed in Uripok Assembly Constituency so far.

Speaking at the inaugural function, Deputy Chief Minister said, with increasing population, requirements of energy have also been increasing day by day. He said, all conventional sources of energy like hydroelectric projects, thermal plants, nuclear power plants etc. have limitations in power generation. Such non-renewable sources of power have also been depleting because of its limitation in raw materials and its impact in human existence. Therefore,



the only way out to replace such sources would be the renewable ones like solar, wind and tidal wave which are abundantly available in our environment.

While maintaining that the cheapest sources of energy would be the non-renewable sources, Joykumar Singh said it should be the alternative sources of energy and an assessment should be made

to work out how much quantity of energy can be tapped through solar energy alone in the state. He further said that our endeavour is to try our best to generate energy from renewable sources for the long run.

Director, MANIREDA L. Manglem Singh said, the project which was started in 2016 has been an ambitious one through which power

generated from solar power plants can be connected to power grids in the state. He said, although power tariff in the state is low comparing with other states in the country, it has been revised every year and will increase further. Due to poor power generation in the state, alternative sources of power like solar energy would be very helpful to mend the gap, he added.

Skill labour training certificate distributed

IT News
Bishnupur, June 4,

Certificate Distribution Ceremony for the 80 hours Up-skilling training on Two Shaft Handloom Weaver under National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) Skill Development Training Programme for the year 2017-18 in collaboration with Textile Sector Skill Council (TSC) was held on 31st May, 2018 at Nachou Bazar Community Hall, Bishnupur.

Under this scheme, Chanu Creations, Thangmeiband has provided skill development training to 100 OBC Candidates (weavers) in Bishnupur District at two centres (50 beneficiaries each centre) in Bishnupur Awang Leikai and Nachou Awang Leikai, training started from 4th December, 2017 to 17th December, 2017. After completion of the training, Chanu Creations has made ordered of Home Furnishings Items to export these centres.

Govindas Konthoujam, Hon'ble MLA Bishnupur A.C., Smt. Chirom Indira, Proprietor/CEO Chanu Creations (National Awardee 2015 in Design Development



of Handloom Products, Nari Shakti Puraskar Awardee 2017, Vasundhara Hall of Fame Awardee 2018 & DMA All India Women Entrepreneurs Awardee 2018 in Super Achiever Category), Shri Nongmaithem Jadu Singh, Pradhan Nachou Gram Panchayat, Shri Chirom Sanjoy Singh, Director Chanu Creations and Shri Wahengbam Joyshankar Luwang, Project Manager Chanu Creations were grace the function as Chief Guest, President and Guest of Honours respectively.

At the end of the function, Proprietor/CEO Chanu Creations Smt. Chirom Indira has issued cheques to head of each centres for their finished products. Chanu Creations has trained to more than 300 Scheduled Casts Candidates in Tripura & Assam under National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC) Skill Development Training Programme for the year 2017-18 in collaboration with Textile Sector Skill Council (TSC). Chanu Creations also has trained to more than 8000

weavers in Manipur & Tripura under Paradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) as RPL Facilitator made by Textile Sector Skill Council (TSC) in the year 2016-17. At present (2017-18), Chanu Creations is providing RPL-PMKVY to entire North Eastern States of India including Sikkim as PIA. The efforts of Chanu Creations and her dedication brings smile to thousand of weaver in the region.

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On World Environment Day

The earth does not belong to us we belong to earth

By M. Asnikumar Singh

Every year the 5th of June is observed as World Environment Day in 143 nations all across the globe. It was established by the UN General Assembly in 1972 on the first day of the Stockholm Conference on Human Environment. Two years later, in 1974 the First World Environment Day was held with the theme "Only One Earth". The World Environment Day is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging awareness and action for the protection of our environment. It has been a flagship campaign for raising awareness on emerging environmental issues from marine pollution, human overpopulation, global warming, to sustainable consumption and wildlife crime. Each year the World Environment Day has a specific theme that major corporations, NGOs, governments, celebrities worldwide adopt to advocate environmental causes.

This year's theme is "beat plastic pollution". We plant some trees, have some programmes with themes on environmental preservation but we never indulge in follow up acts. Merely planting some trees just to show that we are environmentally "conscious" citizens is just a farce. Environmentally conscious actions or behaviour has to be year round, not just on the 5th of June. Highlighting this year's theme i.e. "beat plastic pollution" one has to introspect their contributions in this rapidly emerging pollution dimension which forecasts a gloom future for all of us humans. The amount of plastic wastes dispersed into the Nambal river mainly from the city spells doom for the Loktak lake, which all of us Manipur is take pride in calling one of our own jewels. If we look further this cycle of pollution can have harmful effects on the ecological balance of the areas surrounding the lake and inevitably the Sangai, our state animal. What we need to look into is that plastic pollution in our state stands on the brink of destroying our pride symbols - the lake, the river, the animal. The commission of Loktak hydro power project in 1993 and the subsequent construction of dam at Ithai along the Manipur river adversely affects the ecological balance of the Loktak lake, inevitably affecting the Sangai. Since the commencement of the project, various environmental conservationists have continuously expressed skepticism about its negative environmental affects and have strongly advocated for decommissioning the project. The project has also endangered various species of flora and fauna in the lake. Some indigenous fish species like pengba, Ngaton, khabak are rarely encountered today. Plant species like yenna, yelli, kambong have almost disappeared. It has also affected the traditional fishing culture of the fishermen community who depend on the lake for their livelihood. The fishermen community living in the vicinity

of the lake face serious health hazards from the rapidly depleting water quality of the lake. All the major rivers of the state are in dire need of treatment plants especially the Nambal river which needs to be treated before it reaches the lake. The lake is also considered a cradle the state's cultural diversity.

The advantage we have on our side to deal with such possibly damaging phenomenon is that we are a small community; cohesion won't be a problem if one looks further into the problem we gave today and in the future. Community based initiatives to create plastic waste free environment will go a long way in dealing with such problems. Moreover shifting/ jhum cultivation, distraction of foothills in the valley area, deforestation in the state, earth filling in wetlands, natural ponds in the state to meet construction, expansion purposes might seem productive today but one day the fallout of such methods will be so huge that a layman won't be able to grasp it. The increasing number of private vehicles in the state also raises concern as carbon emissions will invariably increase, contributing significantly in global warming. These days we require air conditioners in the summer months when temperatures reach north of 30 degrees. This was never the case earlier in our state. Minimising private transport and utilising public transport whenever possible is always beneficial both environmentally and economically for all parties involved.

One needs to consider giving more emphasis on environment education in the curriculums of schools and colleges. Instilling environmental awareness right from childhood will definitely help in creating environmental conscious behaviour, attitude among students.

I would like to make a sincere appeal to the state government to frame a comprehensive and strong policy for the protection and conservation of forests, wildlife and wetlands of Manipur with short term and long term planning in consultation with environmental experts and stakeholders. The Loktak Development Authority ought to be reviewed with due consideration to the ecological parameters.

If we look carefully, these measures are simple yet necessary and productive in these changing times.

Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country?". In these changing times we need to ask ourselves - "what can we do for our Mother Earth, who has nurtured us humans since centuries?". The same Kennedy also said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past and present are certain to miss the future." Our world is changing, the concept of development has taken massive strides but this also shows us a vague image of our future if we do not act now. The force of nature should never be trifled with. It will treat us the way we treat it. The future will either be green or not at all.

The writer, M. Asnikumar Singh is an Environmentalist and is also State Vice President BJP, Manipur Pradesh

Notification

As per notification of the OFFICE OF THE IMPHAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, Dated 23/11/18, Purana Bazar Reference No. IMC/89/V-T/ADVT/20116/ issued by Asst. Municipal Commissioner, IMC, it is here notified that the Women vendor No. 1, Shed No. 10, License No. 1041, Seat No. 43 which is in the name of Heisnam Sanatombi Devi, w/o (L) H. Basanta Singh of Thanga Khunjem Leikai is in the process for transfer to Heisnam Mirabai Devi, W/O Chungkham Bijen Singh of Elangbam Leikai, Mayaokpha Makhong.

Objection to the transfer can be made to the IMC within 10 (ten) days from the date of this publication.

Name changed

I, the undersigned, **Sougajam Jaborani**, a residence of South Babupara, P.O & P.S. Imphal, District Imphal West, Manipur, Pin. No 795001, do hereby declare that, I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of old name **Mukherjee Jaborani**, as I have assumed my new name **Sougajam Jaborani**.

Sd/-
Sougajam Jaborani

13 Indian beaches to get prestigious Blue Flag certification for being clean & environment-friendly

Agency
New Delhi, June 4,

Environment-friendly, clean and equipped with amenities of international standards for tourists, 13 Indian beaches will soon get the Blue Flag certification. These beaches of Odisha, Maharashtra and other coastal states will be the first in not just India, but in Asia, to get the Blue Flag certification. The Indian beaches are being developed by the Society for Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM), an environment ministry's body working for the management of coastal areas. Project Head of SICOM Arvind Nautiyal said that to

make the beaches environment and tourist-friendly in accordance with the Blue Flag standards, a beach has to be plastic-free and be equipped with a waste management system. They also have to ensure availability of clean water for tourists, have amenities of international standards for tourists and be equipped with facilities for studying environmental impact around the beach, he said. Mr Nautiyal was speaking at a five-day conference, which was organised to commemorate the World Environment Day, about making the beaches pollution free. He said that according to the

Blue Flag standards, a beach has to strictly comply with 33 environment and tourism related conditions. There is not a single Blue Flag beach in Asia so far, he added. The Blue Flag beach standards were established by Copenhagen-based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) in 1985. The Blue Flag programme, which requires 33 standards in four areas to be met to make beaches environment-friendly, first started from Paris. Within the next two years, almost all beaches in Europe were accorded the Blue Flag certification. This campaign spread outside Europe, to South Africa, in 2001.

Asia remains untouched by it till date. The environment ministry started a pilot project to develop the Indian beaches according to the Blue Flag standards in December 2017. A senior ministry official said that 13 beaches from the coastal states had been chosen for the Blue Flag certification under the project. For this, these beaches are being developed in accordance with the Blue Flag beach standards under a Unified Coastal Areas Management Programme. This project has two main aims. Firstly, to improve the aquatic habitat by cleaning the growing pollution and garbage in the Indian

beaches. Secondly, to develop ecological tourism with constant progress and development of tourist facilities. According to ministry sources, Chandrabhaga beach of Odisha's Konark coast was the first to complete the tag certification process. It will be awarded the honour on the World Environment Day tomorrow. Maharashtra's Chivla and Bhogave beaches are also being made a part of this initiative. Apart from these, one beach from Puducherry, Goa, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands each has been chosen as Blue Flag beach.