

Khetrigao MLA declares war on drug dealers

IT News
Imphal, March 20: The menace of drugs is slowly yet increasingly creeping into the very heart of our society. Despite various measures to curb the problem, there has been no visible relief from the challenges and threat drugs abuse is posing to our society. In a daring and bold move to

meet the problem head on, Nahakpam Indrajit, MLA of Khetrigao Kendra along with the SP of Imphal East Police and president of Youth Voluntary Association (YOVA) organized a public meeting at the residence of the MLA at Naharuk today. Resolving to put up relentless drive against those dealing in narcotic drugs

in area, the MLA declared that those who are dealing in these banned drugs should cease their activities by the 23rd of this month. He further added that he will extend every possible help and assistance to those who have given up on dealing in drugs even as a means of sustenance, but will ensure maximum punishment for those

who defy the warning. The Superintendent of Police, Imphal East also warned of severe action and use of laws to book and imprison drug dealers. Those attending the meeting expressed gratitude and support to the MLA and the SP, Imphal East for their stand to lead the fight against drugs in the state.

Valedictory Function of 11th Science Communicators' Meet

Imphal, March 20: The Valedictory function of 11th Science Communicators' Meet was held at the Court Hall, Administrative Block of Manipur University on the 5th Day of the ongoing 105th Indian Science Congress at Manipur University. The event was grace

by Th. Radheshyam Singh, Education Minister, Govt. of Manipur as Chief Guest; Dr. Rajinder Singh, Scientist D, NCSTC Division, New Delhi, as Guest of Honour; Prof. N. Rajmuhon Singh, Convener, Prof. P.P. Mathur, General Secretary (Scientific Activities) welcomed the gathering. He further pointed out the objectives of the Science Communicators' Meet. It was to understand what has achieved through science communication, communicate science to grassroots level, lack of communication to the masses, problems solved by western

world scientists and their innovations which helped the common people in the society. Dr. Rajinder Singh, delivering his presidential speech, said that improvement in the lives of common people has changed with the help of science communication. Th. Radheshyam Singh presented the Valedictory Speech. He expressed his happiness to hold such a mega event in Manipur which will help the young minds of the state. In his remarks he said this meet will improve the level of awareness in creating new innovations.

Bomb threat at FCI Transport contractor

IT News
Imphal, March 20: Unknown persons today placed a hand grenade at the residential gate of one Soraisam Govind Singh, a Transport Contractor at FCI, at Heirangoithong Ningthemcha Karong under Singjamei Police Station. The hand grenade was found at around 7.30 am today. A police team which rushed the spot after getting the information safely retrieved the bomb with the help of Manipur Police Bomb Squad team.

Dead body found

IT News
Imphal, March 20: A dead body of a person aged about 60 years of age was found lying at the paddy field of Nalon Village, about 29 Km, west from Loktak Police Station at around 11.50 am yesterday. The deceased has been identified as Md. Nasimuddin @ Naha, 37 yr s/o Md Rahamad of Lilong Chingjao, Thoubal district. The dead body was reportedly deposited at RIMS Mortuary, Lamphelpat yesterday. A case has been registered at Loktak Police station.

TLM Kits for Differently Aabled Persons Distributed

IT News
Imphal, March 20: Teaching and Learning Materials (TLM) Kits distribution programme for persons with Intellectual Disabilities (DIVYANGJAN) was held today at Gandhi Memorial (GM) Hall. The TLM kits distribution programme was organised by National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID) and Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, MSJ & E, Government of India in collaboration with Office of the State Commissioner For

Persons with Disabilities, Government of Manipur and Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons, Manipur. Speaking as Chief Guest of the event, Y Khemchand Singh, Speaker Manipur Legislative Assembly expressed the needs for concern department to give more emphasis for the welfare of differently abled persons of the state. In-order to bring up the differently abled persons at the same level in our society, co-operation and support is a must and one should share any idea which would be productive in establishing a better

platform for differently able persons, he added. Full support for the differently abled persons will be provided from the government side at the best possible level, Khemchand asserted. Dr. RK Kumarjit Singh, State Commission for Disabilities, Government of Manipur; Sapam Kunjakishor (Keba) Singh, Advisor Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons, Manipur; Dr. Soram Ingocha Singh (MD), Deputy Director (MC-B) Health Services, Government of Manipur; Brogen Singh Akoijam, Professor and Head,

Department of Community Medicine, RIMS, Imphal; Dr Dhanabir Laishram, Social Scientist, Mughesh Thulasikanthan, Faculty and Head, Department of Adult Independent Living, NIEPID, Hyderabad and Dr. Mousumi Bhoumik, Faculty, Regional Centre, NIEPID, New Delhi attended the event as president, guest of honours and special guests respectively. Later, Teaching and Learning Materials (TLM) Kits were distributed to 157 differently abled persons that have been categorized in four sections according to age.

NSCN-K celebrates 39th Republic Day; calls on to continue struggle

IT News
Imphal, March 20: NSCN-K calls upon Naga countrymen to continue struggle against occupation by Indians on occasion of the 39th Republic Day of the GPRN. In a statement, the rebel said that the NSCN/GPRN under the solemn leadership of Lt.Gen(Rtd).Khangho Konyak once again convey heartfelt greetings to every beloved Naga countrymen and women across the length and breadth. The statement said, "The long history of the struggle soaked in the blood of the thousands of sons and daughters of the soil and the legacy wrapped in utter sufferings, anguish and tears implores us to continue the battle for restoration of our God gifted birthright without doubt, fear or disbelief of any form. "In the course of our struggle

thousands of precious lives have been martyred yet, to the virtuous every sacrifice is worth giving, no trial is beyond endurance and no challenges too formidable to overcome, however, many cowards and traitors have also been led astray owing to consistent enemy's propagandas and treasonous inclinations. Numerous anti-national and sub-national elements have also been fostered among the Nagas at various stages to wreck our liberation movement from within and without but despite the persisting efforts to sabotage the sacred cause, the movement continues to grow from strength to strength and NSCN/GPRN is privileged to be of service to the Nagas without remorse or apprehension at this challenging times as it had been in the past too.

"The NSCN/GPRN has never been averse to peace or peaceful approach of resolving the issue, it is however quite vigilant of the ever diabolical maneuver of India to undermine the Naga cause on the pretext of peace as had been amply and bitterly experienced in the past. "Peace can be possible only when all the conflicting parties genuinely aspires for unlike the ever conspiring and double-standard India who uses peace to further their colonizing agendas over the Nagas and other struggling ethnic nationalities of Wesea. The NSCN/GPRN is fully committed to uphold the inherent rights of the Nagas and is prepared for any eventuality, shall never waver or be constrained by any forces inimical to the dreams and aspirations of the Naga people.

"We also urge every fraternal organizations of Wesea struggling under the aegis of NSCN/GPRN to promote and spread the spirit of brotherhood and to strengthen the bond of love and unity through which the region can be liberated from alien subjection". The NSCN leadership also makes an appeal to educated and younger generation Nagas to share the pride of our free glorious past and partake in the sacred mission to liberate our motherland in any manner deemed fit. The NSCN also shares solidarity with many innocent Naga civilians and public servants who are being mercilessly persecuted by NIA and other Indian Forces for being a Naga, it is our firm belief that God in his own time and manner shall deliver our people and the tyrants shall face judgment too.

NIRDPR stall becomes one of the most popular stall in 105th NSC

Imphal, March 20: National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad under the Ministry of Rural Development pulls heavy audience in the ongoing 105th National Science Congress being held at Manipur University Campus. NIRDPR stall is allotted in the Pandle E and bearing No. 37. Among the participants, there were various exhibitors, scientists, research scholars, innovators, delegates, teachers and students community etc. More than 5000 delegates

have enlightened the event. NIRDPR has represented with various rural technology, rural products, exhibited the best of women empowerment, publicity of various distance mode programmes etc. Various RTP products have attracted the visitors. It includes Saal Plates, Tamul Plates, Handmade Organic Soaps, Papad, Handmade Cloth Begg, Handmade Paper Envelopes, Handmade Mushroom Enriched Chow Chow, Magazines, Newsletters, Brochures, Leaflets etc. were also demonstrated.

One-Day Legal awareness programme at Sapam

Thoubal, March 20: District Legal Service Authority Thoubal in association with the Shamphabi Memorial Club (SMC) Khongjom Sapam Mayai Leikai on Monday organized a one day legal awareness programme Under the Manipur State Legal Service Authority (MSLSA) at Sapam Mayai Leikai Keithel in Thoubal District. District & Session Judge Thoubal S. Imocha, Pradhan of Sapam Gram Panchayat S.Rameshwar, OC Thoubal Police Station B. Rishikesh Sharma and OC Khongjom

Police Station K.Santosh graced the program as chief guest, president and guest of honour respectively. Thoubal District Bar Association Members Advocate Kh.Jotin Meitei and N.Madhu attended as the resource person. Topics like "Crime Against Women & Mob Justice" and "Drug Addition & Role of Guardian" were deliberated by the resource person. The programme was participated by club members, women and students of Khongjom Sapam area.

Talk about presence of plastic particles in packed bottle water now a worldwide concern; but FSSAI says presence of plastic particles not alarming

IT News
Imphal, March 20: Findings of tiny plastic particles in packed bottle water does not alarm the food safety authority of the state as they received no directives to take up any measures from the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI). "We have heard about news report regarding the presence of tiny plastic particles in packed plastic bottle water, but as of now the Food Safety authority can't initiate any action as FSSAI has not issued any directives to the state authority", said Sumil Kumar, Designated Officer, Food Safety, Imphal East, while talking to Imphal Times through telephonic conversation. Meanwhile, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) had stated that the findings of a US-based NGO about microplastics contamination in bottled water in India were not alarming as there was no known health hazards due to it. "We have read and discussed the report about the contamination of microplastic in bottled water. Prima facie, there is nothing alarming in it as the residue level is just 0.1 ppb (parts per billion). There are no known health hazards linked to it," FSSAI CEO Pawan Kumar Agarwal told to a news agency. Agarwal said the amount was "miniscule" like "one tenth of



sugar cube in a shipping container". Plastic residues were found in tap water as well due to factors like air, environment due to its presence all over world. No food safety authorities in the advanced countries including FCA, or EUFA have set residue level for microplastic or microfibre, he said. However, the FSSAI would seek scientific opinion in order to check if preventive and corrective measures were needed to address concerns among people, Agarwal said.

On March 15, BBC report says that Research led by journalism organisation Orb Media discovered an average of 10 plastic particles per litre, each larger than the width of a human hair. The report added that 250 bottles of packed water bottle were collected from different countries including India and tests were conducted at the State University of New York in Fredonia. Professor of chemistry at the University, Sherri Mason, had stated that they found [plastic] in bottle after bottle and brand after brand. "It's not about pointing fingers at particular brands; it's really showing that this is everywhere, that plastic has become such a pervasive material in our society, and it's pervading water - all of these products that we consume at a very basic level," the BBC report said. Currently, there is no evidence that ingesting very small pieces of plastic (microplastics) can cause harm, but understanding the potential implications is an active area of science, the report added. Among the tested packed water bottle is Bisleri of India. There are 1000 of packed water company as per the findings there is a possibility that tiny plastic particles are present in all the packed water bottle.