

## Manipur Observes 226<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Narasingh

DIPR  
Imphal, May 7

226<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Narasingh was observed at the birthplace of the departed Maharaja at Sagolband Mabudhou Mantri Leikai in Imphal on Sunday. Deputy Chief Minister Yumnam Joykumar Singh led the people to pay floral tribute to the portrait of the departed Maharaja. Jalakeli was also sung in honour of the late Maharaja in the observation. The observation was organised by Maharaja Narasingh Memorial Committee, Imphal in association with Shri Shri Gopinath Temple Board, Purana Rajbari, Imphal.

Speaking at the function, Deputy Chief Minister said, Maharaja Narasingh was one of the most distinguishable leaders in the history of Manipur. He said, Maharaja, not only tried to reconcile the people dispersed due to Seven Years Devastation (Chahi Taret Khuntakpa), but also tried to bring unity by bridging the gap between hill and valley at that time. Joykumar Singh further said that there had been a lot of differences among the Princess and it was the main reason to face external aggression at that time. Recalling that Seven Years Devastation was the darkest days in the history of Manipur, Deputy Chief Minister said Maharaja Narasingh took significant roles in wiping out Awa from the soil of Manipur. During the tenure of Maharaja Narasingh (1844-1850), lot of changes were seen. Maharaja worked for the welfare of people by maintaining unity



in diversity. It is believed that Mera Hou Chongba was first initiated by the Maharaja during his tenure to bring unity among people in hill and valley. Urging people to look into the history for not only to glorify it, Deputy Chief Minister said, we should also look into the administration, philosophy, culture and tradition of that time. We should learn the ideals

of peaceful co-existence among different communities at that time which is much more relevant in these days. Joykumar Singh also distributed Maharaja Narasingh Birth Anniversary Celebration Awards to distinguished personalities in various fields including culture, sports and public service. Sahitya Academy Awardee

and President of Maharaja Narasingh Memorial Committee E. Sonamani Singh said lot of research has to be done to know the life and work of the late Maharaja. His ideals have to be imbibed and propagated so that younger generations can understand the late Maharaja and also unity in diversity can be maintained in the state.

## Go to village mission in Bishnupur

DIPR  
Bishnupur, May 7

The District Administration of Bishnupur will open 'Khungang Chatse-Go to Village' Mission Camp in three villages - Ithing, Naranseina and Kakyai on the 8<sup>th</sup> of this month.

The Deputy Commissioner Pawan Yadav stated in a notification issued regarding the mission that the SDO/ Moirang, SDO/ Bishnupur and SDO/ Nambol will provide services in the camps. It also informed the line department officers to set up public grievances

redressal cells for the public to address their problems and queries in a citizen-friendly manner. It may be recalled that the district had conducted the same mission in 6 villages under 6 constituencies on the 1<sup>st</sup> May with enormous public participation and support.

## Man drown in Arong River



IT News  
Imphal, May 7,

A person identified as Ashem Thoiba Singh (aged about 32 years), son of A. Khomei of Athokpam Makha Leikai has been swept away the heavy flow of Arong River in Thoubal district at around.

Large number people search the portion where he got drown but could not found till the filling of this story. Meanwhile, the water level of Nambol recedes today afternoon, however rain water continue to logged at many places due to failure of drainage system in Imphal city.

## Two days rain disrupt highway movement

IT News  
Imphal, May 7,

Torrential rains over the last two days have disrupted normal life in Manipur. The National Highway 37 is under water at Noney district and hundreds of trucks, buses and other vehicles are stranded on both sides, officials said on Sunday. More rains have been forecast for the next two days. Official reports said the Izt river in Noney district was running above danger level.

## Senjam Chirang Youth Club clarifies

IT News  
Imphal, May 7,

Senjam Chirang Youth Club has clarified that the person identified as Komsam Loyumba, son of K. Tomchou, who was sent to jail for blacking a person was not from Senjam Chirang Village as reported. He is from Senjam Khunou, a neighbouring village of Senjam Chirang. The Youth Club in a press statement condemn such incident and said that using the village name the person has spoil the reputation of the village.

## Name changed

I, the undersigned, **Kaisii Khrasi** of Rikhumai Taphou, P.O. Senapati, P.S. Senapati, Pin - 795106, Manipur do hereby declare that, I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of old name **N Kaisii**, as I have assumed my new name **Kaisii Khrasi**

Sd/-  
**Kaisii Khrasi**

## Document Lost

I have lost my original Admit Card of the written test examination of 2013 Manipur Police Constable Recruitment bearing Chest No. 7852 & Exchange cCard on the way between my residence to Keishampat Imphal on 2/5/2018. Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
**Maibam Bangkim Singh**  
Tentha Mathak Leikai.

## Sports News

## India's badminton doubles coach to review pairings for Olympic glory

Agency  
New Delhi, May 7,

India's badminton doubles coach Tan Kim Her has, in a short span, given results beyond expectations. Going by the Indian shuttlers' performances in paired events in recent months, one can say the doubles scene is looking bright.

India finished as the top badminton nation at the Commonwealth Games with six medals, and a lot of credit goes to the doubles players. The combination of Ashwini Ponnappa and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, forged by the Malaysian coach just months ago, played a key role in India winning the mixed team gold by beating Malaysia for the first time. Equally spectacular was the fearless showing by young Satwik and Chirag Shetty, who won India's first men's doubles silver at CWG. Seasoned Ashwini and Sikki claimed bronze in women's doubles.

Tan believes Indian pairs have the potential to make the cut in all three doubles events at the Tokyo Olympics. Talk to him about India's performance in Gold Coast and the Malaysian states it is a small step. What he wants is a medal from doubles teams in Tokyo Olympics.

For that to happen, Tan has a plan in place. He will have a relook at the combinations after the Asian Games, keeping in mind the medal prospect of

pairs at Tokyo. The tough competition at the Thomas/Uber Cup and the Jakarta Asian Games (August-September) will give him a good indication of where the teams stand.

"When I came here, singles was the focus. I have had a lot of discussion with players. They are doing very well. I keep telling them it's a good start, but not good enough. I want more. My dream is Olympics 2020," Tan said.

"I am very confident we can qualify in three events in 2020. But it doesn't stop there. I want to return with medals. I have told them I don't want to go there just to participate. We still have two plus years. I want their results to be consistent. By 2019 you have to step up your game. By Olympics 2020 anything can happen. We can keep making progress."

An important step in that direction is to get the combinations right. Ashwini, who has appeared in two Olympics with Jwala Gutta, is playing both women's doubles (with Sikki Reddy) and mixed doubles (Satwik). Her pairing with Satwik, particularly, has caught the eye. The two are currently ranked 52 but Tan says they have a good chance at the Olympics, without delving into whether the seasoned pro should drop one event.

"The Olympic points start next year in April, so after Asian Games I am going to

sit down with the players and think carefully which direction we want to go. If we think we can handle two events then we go for two events, or else we will have to give up one event. I will take players' feedback and decide," Tan reveals.

"Important part is that we want to win medals and not go there just to participate. "In ladies doubles, if you compare to other countries like China, it is not easy to compete. But we have Ashwini and Sikki only and we need to put in a lot of work with them. Ashwini and Satwik, the way they have played in Sudirman and even CWG, they have a good chance."

The choices at Tan's disposal are limited but that is no deterrent. Since he joined, Tan has tried out several combinations to get the right mix. He has earned the trust of players. The players rave about his training methods and the difference he has brought to their game.

"India can't compete like Korea, Japan, China, even Chinese Taipei strength-wise. We can't play the game they play. We have to train different, play different. European players are not hard hitters. They are playing a more tactical game and mentally they are strong. I told the players Denmark is a good example. You can see they are confident on court, their body language."

## Rahul the finisher sets new benchmark

In the 10 fifty-plus partnerships for KXIP so far in this IPL 2018, only four haven't been for the opening wicket. What is even more significant with these numbers is that KL Rahul has been part of nine such partnerships, and three that didn't come for the first wicket. The three losses in an otherwise impressive Kings XI Punjab report card had to do with their middle-order issues that have emerged every now and then, and twice it so happened that they ended up with a defeat even after 50-plus opening stands.

Just a glance at the highest individual scores for KXIP in the tournament would indicate a glaring disparity. Nair's half-century, which came against Delhi Daredevils in KXIP's opening game, is the only score above 50 outside of Rahul and Chris Gayle's contributions, which is a combined tally of seven fifty-plus scores. If the margins are reduced to 30-plus scores, there have been 16 such scores of which there are only two that have not come off Gayle, Rahul and Karun's bats.

With the exception of KXIP and DD, every other team in this edition of the IPL has at least four players who have faced more than 100 deliveries. For KXIP, only Gayle, Rahul and Karun have spent more time at the crease, with Gayle's average balls faced per match at 39.2 before this game being the highest for the Punjab-based franchise.

All these numbers suggested KXIP's dependence on the three mentioned players and after being reduced to 29 for 2 within the powerplay in a

chase of 153 against Rajasthan Royals, their middle-order frailty came up for discussion yet again. However, Rahul's adaptability and his resolve towards finishing the game proved crucial for KXIP's climb to the third spot on the points table.

Having scored at a strike rate in excess of 150 in four out of his five 30-plus scores before this game, Rahul had also failed to stay beyond the 12th over. In the previous game against Mumbai Indians, he fell soon after the powerplay - a bid to up the ante proving

detrimental. His first half-century in IPL 2018, against DD, came off 14 deliveries and as early as the third over. For his second, against KKR, Rahul got there off 24 deliveries, inside the first 10 overs. His third half-century - against RR - was in complete contrast to his earlier fifties but it was a knock Rahul would later term as the one that left him most satisfied.

For the first time in this IPL, Rahul was still at the crease after the 12th over. By the time he entered the 40s, which was in the 13th over, KXIP had

already lost four wickets. He even received a reprieve in the 15th over when he tried to slice a Jaydev Unadkat delivery to the off-side, with the third umpire concurring with the onfield umpires' soft signal that Sanju Samson attempted catch was on the bounce. With four overs remaining in the innings, Rahul had managed only 48 off 43 on a sticky wicket that ensured runs came at a premium. But he remained undaunted with his approach, concentrating on running hard between the wickets and taking the game close.

## Rahane to lead India against Afghanistan; DK likely for India 'A'

Mumbai, May 7

In the absence of Virat Kohli, who heads to Surrey in June to participate in the County Championship ahead of India's long tour England this year, Ajinkya Rahane will lead the Indian team in the one-off Test against debutants Afghanistan in Bengaluru, starting June 14.

The national selection committee will meet in Bengaluru on May 8 to pick six different India squads - one-off Test against Afghanistan, India 'A' team for tour of England, 'A' team for tri-series involving England 'A' and West Indies 'A', T20 squad for tour of Ireland, T20 squad for tour of England, One-day squad for matches in England. Kohli will be back with the team once India land in Ireland to embark on what will be a long series of two T20Is in Ireland, followed by three T20Is in England, three

ODIs in England and the five Tests.

Pujara, who wrapped up a stint with Yorkshire and is heading back home, will also play the Test against Afghanistan. With Rahane certain to lead India against Afghanistan, TOI get a gist of what the Tuesday selection committee meeting entails.

Openers KL Rahul and Murlu Vijay, along with off-spinner R Ashwin, wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Karthik and Mumbai Indians allrounder Krunal Pandya will be among the cricketers part of the India 'A' team. A senior BCCI official-bearer told TOI, "Expect Pandya to be part of India's T20 team, the way he's been going about with his game".

Given Karthik's recent performances, including the match-winning one in the Nidahas Trophy, the selectors see the Tamil Nadu cricketer to play an important role even

if not donning the gloves in the shorter formats at the international level. Karthik could find himself rewarded for his athleticism and is expected to be part of the squad even as the irreplaceable MS Dhoni continues to ply his trade behind the wickets. "Expect the batsmen to get a lot of playing hours and a very balanced work-chart for the pacers," sources said.

Where Krunal - Hardik's elder sibling - is concerned, the Mumbai Indians cricketer is likely to be rewarded for his all-round abilities and the inclusion in the India 'A' squad could just be a precursor to a T20I stint moving forward. From a batting perspective, regular India names such as Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan and Hardik Pandya will find themselves playing the Test match against Afghanistan.