

more State

# NEFIS organizes candle light march at Delhi University demanding justice for Babysana

IT News  
Imphal, Aug 18,

North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) activists along with students from different parts of the North-East as well as other parts of the country had organized a Candle Light March at Arts Faculty of Delhi University condemning the attitude of the Manipur police administration in the case of death of a minor girl, Babysana

in Imphal last month.

A statement from the Forum said that the police has so far been unable to crack the case and has therefore served to cause anger among the people regarding its insensitive and apathetic attitude. Instead, the police is deploying delay tactics to let the public outcry subside. It has even tried to divert public attention by using force on the protestors who were demanding justice for the victim, a few days back.

The statement further said that NEFIS believes the present incident as a result of the way in which private schools have been provided leeway to operate. These private schools in the absence of government regulations have been following unprincipled practices. The government has also abdicated its role in educating the masses through making government schools better and curbing privatization of

education, it added. NEFIS demanded to arrest the culprits immediately and award strict punishment. It also demanded to ban privatization of education in the state and to implement policy for providing quality compulsory government education from KG to PG. Through the Candle Light March, NEFIS reiterates its determination to continue its struggle in the present case, till justice is provided to the victim.

# Minister Shyamkumar Lauds 'School Fagathansi Mission', Terms It As Long Term Vision Initiated Under Cm For Overall Development

DIPR  
Imphal, August 18,

Forest and Environment Minister Thounaojam Shyamkumar yesterday laid the foundation stone for the improvement of the Moirangpore High School under the 'School Fagathansi Mission' at Moirangpore, Andro A/C, Imphal East.

Speaking as the chief guest of the function, Minister Shyamkumar lauded the 'School Fagathansi Mission' initiated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister under the Education Department. Stating that the mission is a long term vision of Chief Minister, he said that without education overall development cannot be brought in the society and the State.

He further said that good education is necessary so that our students, who are the future pillars of the State, can compete with the students outside the State. He said the mission will definitely help in shaping the future and improving the children.



Stating that the Moirangpore High School is fortunate to have been selected under the mission, he said the Andro A/C has six government high schools, three aided schools, Azad Secondary High School and nine private schools. The Minister narrated how within the last decade, he along with locals with the blessings of the elders of the constituency worked for the improvement of government schools in Andro, seeking central funds. He opined that

if the speed of the work is maintained for the development of school infrastructures, then there will be no need for school development in another 100 years in Andro A/C. Elangbam Sonia SDO, Keirao Bitra said she was astonished to see the infrastructure of the Moirangpore High School. Stating that the students are fortunate to be studying in a school located at green environment, she said the school indeed deserves to be

selected under the mission. She also expressed her happiness to see the elders of the area and students in the crowd and urged the students to work hard with the blessings of the elders. The function was also attended by Salam Shantakumar Singh, ZEO, Zone II, Ksh Johnson Singh, Headmaster, Moirangpore High School, Shri M. Thoiba Singh, Social Worker, teachers and students of the Moirangpore High School and elders of the area.

# One day Seminar held on management of Yongchak and Agar

DIPR  
Imphal, August 18,

A one day seminar on management of yongchak and agar was organised by the Forest Department at the Hotel Imphal today. Resource persons including scientists taking part in the seminar discussed on various methods to reduce the mortality of the yongchak (parkia timoriana) and agarwood induction technology.

Speaking as the chief guest of the function, Forest and Environment Minister Thounaojam Shyamkumar today said that number of yongchak trees, which is a popular delicacy in the State, is declining due to some disease. Stating that yongchak is imported from the neighbouring countries due to high demand, he said that the yongchak grown in the soil of the State has a unique flavor.

He further said that yongchak trees take 7 to 10 years to mature, but now, the trees can attain maturity within 3 years using modern methods. He appealed to the invitees of the seminar that included ADC members and representatives, farmers and officials from

different departments, to follow the suggestions and methods told by the experts at the seminar. He said they can further spread awareness to the masses.

Regarding the plantation of agarwood tree, he said that it is best suitable to be grown in Jiribam, Moreh and Kamjong. He opined that with the knowledge shared by the experts, jhum cultivation can be controlled in the State as agarwood plantation also can be another source of livelihood for the farmers.

Opining that the plantation of yongchak and agarwood tree will surely help in environmental conservation, he appealed to the people of the State to attend seminars and workshops organised by the various departments so that there is public awareness and asked the media to help in spreading mass awareness on suggestions and knowledge shared by the experts. Shuhel Akhtar, Additional Chief Secretary (Forest and Environment) opined that yongchak is and agarwood tree can be a source of economic upliftment of the people in Manipur. He said unfortunately the number of yongchak trees in the State is declining and some even



resulting in mortality due to some disease.

Opining that agarwood tree plantation can be a source of economic development to a large extent as market value of the price of agarwood ranges between USD 5,600 to 10,000, he said the agarwood tree is grown in certain climate, not beyond 1000 meters above sea level. He said the planter/farmer has to wait for minimum 8 years so that artificial induction can be done and after that harvesting is done. K. Angami, PCCF and HoFF said the unscientific management and extraction of agarwood oil has reduced the population of the agarwood tree which was once grown naturally in the State, making it non-profitable. He said the farmers need to improve their socio-economic condition

and plantation of agarwood is one such good option for them.

Stating that to make the agarwood plantation more profitable for farmers, it is required to infest the agarwood for the extraction of oil using modern technology as natural process takes time. He said the objective of the seminar is make sure that we move forward in our daily life with better economic condition, with better result and better harvesting. The seminar was also attended by Dr RK Borah, Scientists, Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI), Jorhat, scientists and scholars from different institutes, NGOs, progressive farmers and officials from the Forest Department.

# Right workplace posture can avoid most of the lower back pain

By a Correspondent  
Dr. Kapil Jain,

New Delhi Most of us must have experienced the back pain once and some of us must be having it for long time hampering our day to day life. Backbone-related illnesses are mainly caused due to bad posture that affects the spinal cord, leading to back pain that can be debilitating. But with current lifestyle changes — where we sit at a desk for long hours at a time — it can lead to several posture related spinal ailments.

Back pain may occur in lower back, middle back, and upper back. Pain at any age should not be considered as part of life when option to ease the pain is available. Most common cause of back pain is mechanical low back pain and sciatica. In Mechanical back pain person experiences pain in thigh, buttocks & lower back while in Sciatica, pain radiates down to one or both legs rather than restricting itself to just

one particular area. Approximately upto 95% of patient with low back pain do not require any special diagnosis test during the first month of symptoms. There are few red flag signs which suggest serious underlying conditions and person should consult Neurosurgeon for the same. If a person in the age extremes (less than 20 years or more than 50 years of age) experiences pain in the back, or if the pain doesn't subside with rest, unexplained weight loss, urinary or bowel problems, requires evaluation on urgent basis.

It's disappointing that most of us just accept the pain as a normal part of life instead of identifying and eliminating the root cause of the problem. Back or neck pain should not be neglected. Early treatment can solve the pain and the root cause of the problem within a short span of time providing complete recovery. Risk of surgeries can be avoided with early diagnosis

and proper treatment helping a person lives a better life without back pain and spinal problems. With the consumption of a balanced diet accompanied with an active lifestyle and following safe practices while sitting, walking and bending, most of these spine-related problems can be prevented. Major goal of initial evaluation is to differentiate common spinal disorder to serious and urgent problems such as spinal infections, spinal tumours or cauda equine syndrome. The outlook of lower back pain absolutely depends on its precise cause. As an example, acute strain injury requires minimal treatment, on the other hand disc prolapsed, lumbar canal stenosis & spondylolisthesis etc requires surgery. Only around 5% of patient who had lower back pain require surgery. In today's era of modern facilities surgery for the back is extremely safe with no major postoperative morbidity.

# Education alone can bring good change in chandel- Letpao Haokip

DIPR  
Imphal, Aug 18,

Youth Affairs & Sports and Water Resources minister Letpao Haokip today launched the School Fagathansi Mission for Chandel district at the Maha Union Higher Secondary School at Japhou, Chandel.

Laying of the foundation stone for the improvement of the said school was the main highlight of the launching function. It can be mentioned that the school Fagathansi Mission is a newly launched Government of Manipur initiatives that aims to improve the condition of government schools.

60 (sixty) Government schools have been short listed from the 60 Assembly Constituencies of the State, and the mission was launched simultaneously in these 60's schools today in order to upgrade them to a model schools.

Letpao Haokip graced the function as Chief Guest while, Deputy Commissioner, Chandel Shri Krishna Kumar, IAS and ZEO Chandel, Shri L. Nabakumar Singh, MES attended as guest of honours

and Principal of Maha Union Higher Secondary School, Th. Iboiyama Singh as President of the function.

Speaking at the function, Letpao Haokip said that all children should be educated irrespective of which background they belong to, and should become 'important' members of the society. The School Fagathansi Mission, that is being launched today is taken up to provide affordable 'quality' education to our children. He also added that the idea to launch such a programme was taken up after deliberate consideration by the vital government cabinet.

The minister further said that being an important member does not necessarily means to become an IAS, MCS or school, engineer only but to become productive citizens of the society. Shri Letpao added each person have unique and special capabilities. The present government felt the sentiment of every parents who want to put their children in good schools, but cannot afford private

schooling, that is why the government is very concerned for ensuring good quality education from affordable schools by taking up such initiatives.

The minister also assured he will look into the matter of fulfilling various shortcomings of the Maha Union Higher Secondary School such as lack of staff quarters and other infrastructures.

Deputy Commissioner, Krishna Kumar also spoke about the need of quality education in these modern times, and expressed hope that this mission will bring about a drastic change towards the better in the education scenario of Chandel District.

Later, the dignitaries including the minister launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan in the school and also planted tree saplings in the school campus as part of the function. All the dignitaries spoke about the need for valuing water and conservation of water resources through different lowest techniques.

Mahesh Choudhury, IAS from Ministry of Jal Shakti Abhiyan highlighted the need of rain water harvesting to the students and the staff.

# Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony Held In Churachandpur District

DIPR  
Imphal, Aug 18,

Agriculture, Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Minister V. Hangkhanlian laid the foundation stone for improvement of Rengkai Higher Secondary School, under the 'SCHOOL FAGATHANSE MISSION', at Rengkai Higher Secondary School, Churachandpur town, yesterday.

Foundation stone were also laid in some other Assembly Constituencies like Kangvai Higher Secondary School, Kangvai, Henglep A/C, Sagang Higher Secondary School, Sagang Saikat A/C, Singang Higher Secondary School, Singang A/C, Thanlon A/C and Tipaimukh A/C by the concerned MLAs. Speaking as Chief Guest

Hangkhanlian said that Department of Education (S), Government of Manipur is planning to improve the education system with quality education by introducing classes from Preparatory to Higher Secondary level. To bring better education Rengkai High School was upgraded in 1990s with support from parents, authority staff and students. It is fortunate that Rengkai Higher Secondary School is being included in the first list of 25, for laying the foundation today, he added.

He further informed that improvement of infrastructures like building, class rooms, floor, Laboratories, drinking water supply, separate toilets for boys and girls, adequate teaching and non-teaching staff will avail from this

mission.

Under the School Fagathansi Mission, there are 60 schools have been identified, one school each in each Assembly Constituency. The Government will provide free admission, text books, uniforms etc., he said. The Minister appealed to the school staff, parents, local leaders and village authority to extend support for the achievement of the aim of School Fagathansi Mission particularly for the benefit of school children since they are the future of the nation.

The function was organized by the Department of Education (S), Zonal Education Officer, Churachandpur. The ceremony was attended by the staff and students of the school, local leaders, ZEO officials, DC, SDO and others dignitaries.