

Health Minister Inaugurates DEIC & Palliative Care Units

DIPR
Imphal, August, 30

Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jayantakumar Singh yesterday inaugurated District Early Intervention Centre, DEIC & a Palliative Care Unit, at Chandel District Hospital. Minister also inaugurated an Eye Ward and a Palliative Care Unit at Thoubal District Hospital.

Gracing the inaugural function as Chief Guest, Minister Jayantakumar Singh said that the newly opened facilities will at least ease out some of the problems faced by the patients belonging to lower age group and adult patients suffering from chronic disorders in Cgandel District. He maintained that the people of Chandel District need not go to Imphal for off places now for health check-up and major treatment since District



Hospital, Chandel has been equipped with the minimum and essential facilities for treatment. Free diagnostic and treatment centres have also been opened, he added.

Minister said that doctors and nurses should maintain professional ethics. The service of a doctor is very delicate. Sorry, is the word which can never be uttered by a doctor while treating a patient. The

attention of the media fraternities in the regard.

Speaking as the Guest of Honour, State Health Mission Director, National Health Mission Director S. Manikanta Singh said that despite the present financial constraints of the state the government has been giving its best service to improve the health sector of the state. He appealed the health staffs to maintain the hospital and the infrastructures with the motive of their own belongings.

DC Chandel Krishnakumar, IAS also attended the inaugural function as President.

Prior to the inauguration of DEIC and Palliative wards at District Hospital, Chandel and Thoubal, Minister Jayantakumar also distributed equipment and machines at 10 bedded AYUSH Hospital, Kwakeithel Konjong Leikai of Imphal West.

Assam Rifles organises “know your army mela”

IGAR (South)
Imphal Aug. 30

In its continuous efforts to guide the youth of the nation and to instill sense of patriotism amongst the local youth, Chandel Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised an awareness programme on “Know Your Army mela at St Josephs School, Khuraopokpi and

Maha Union Govt Higher Secondary School, Chandel on yesterday.

The event commenced with a motivational lecture cum video screening on “Live a Life Less Ordinary: Indian Army and Assam Rifles followed by display of new generation weapons and equipment. A total of 365 teachers and students from St Joseph School, Khuraopokpi and Maha Union Govt Higher

Secondary School, Chandel and local youths have attended the same. The students and youths got motivated seeing the display and showed great curiosity regarding the technical knowhow and functionality of the weapons and equipment. The students were inspired by the glorious history of the Indian Armed Forces and expressed their interest to join Indian Armed Forces.

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Police: A friend or a foe?

With the proliferation of mobile devices capable of recording alleged misconduct, police misconduct and abuse is now receiving publicity on social media and on websites including YouTube. In response, police often try to intimidate citizens to prevent them from using cameras. In other circumstances, police will illegally seize or delete evidences recorded by citizens, notwithstanding laws that make it a crime to destroy evidence of a crime being committed irrespective of whether the crime is committed by civilians or by the police. The type's misconduct includes coerced false confession, intimidation, false arrest, false imprisonment, falsification of evidence, spoliation of evidence, police perjury, witness tampering, and police brutality, police corruption, racial profiling, unwarranted surveillance, unwarranted search and seizure of property. Other misconduct are: bribing or lobbying legislatures to pass or maintain laws that give police excessive power or status. Similarly bribing or lobbying city council members to pass or maintain municipal laws that make victim-less acts tickatable so as to get more money. Selective

enforcement, sexual misconduct, off duty misconduct, killing of dogs unjustly. Notable case corruption, where the officers believes the good outcome justify bad behavior. Using badge or ID to gain entry into concerts to get discount, influence of drugs or alcohol while on duty. Violation by officers of police procedural policies.

Police officers often show a “blue code of silence” which means that they do not turn each other in for misconduct. While some officers have called this code a myth, a 2000 survey found evidence that it exists. A 2019 study in the journal “Nature” found that misconduct by one police officer substantially increased the likelihood that peer officers would also engage in misconduct. Misconduct has been shown to be related to personality and correlated to education but it can also be significantly affected by culture of the police agency. Education is negatively correlated to misconduct, with better-educated officers receiving fewer complaints on average. It is believed, corruption among the Indian police service is pervasive and goes up to the top brass. Reform has been made

difficult with honest officers pressured by powerful local officers, politicians and suffer punitive transfer and threats while corrupt officers receive promotions. Notable amongst many is transfer of Kiran Bedi for giving a parking ticket to the Prime Minister's car. A number of officers face charges in CBI cases and disciplinary proceedings but it is alleged that no notable action under the penal provisions is taken. Some of the past scandals include murder, sexual harassment, sex-on tape scandal, dowry harassment, fraud and fake killing encounters. In such a situation how general public can have trust on police? That's why people have shown apathy on police thinking that police are our enemy rather than a friend. To establish the trust deficit of police among general public, it's high time to change the attitudes of police by parting away from the corruption and misconduct they do so that general public may have a strong confidence to police at the time of their misery. This will only bring peace and harmonies for a better co-existence in our society.

Writer can be reached to: sjugeshwor@gmail.com

Assam Rifles Celebrates National Sports Day

IGAR (South)
Imphal Aug. 30

With an aim to foster the spirit of fitness and sports among all, National Sports Day was observed by all the under command units of IGAR (South) along with the local populace on yesterday.

Observing the day and in line with the Government's initiative of ‘Fit India Movement’ launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 29 August, all the ranks of IGAR (South) and under command Sectors undertook ‘Fitness Pledge’ along with the locals including school students to generate awareness about fitness among all. The message conveyed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the launch of the initiative was live-telecasted at all the Company Operating Bases (COBs) of the Assam Rifles.



Keithelmanbi Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles observed the day with students of TAM Mission School and Andro High School. It was followed by a 5 Km mini marathon and a friendly volleyball match with the locals. The Fit India Celebrations were also conducted at Assam Rifles Public School, Keithelmanbi in which a special assembly, lecture on fitness and pledge taking ceremony were

organised for the teachers and students of the School. Koirengel COB and Patsoi COB organised friendly basketball and volleyball matches which was played between local club and Navodya Vidyalaya teams respectively and troops of the COB.

Chandel Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles conducted a lecture on “Fit India Health” for healthier and happier India. The lecture was taken for Assam Rifles troops and villagers to encourage them live a healthy and fit lifestyle. The villagers most enthusiastically participated in the event and took an oath to make sincere efforts to live a healthy and fit life.

10 Sector Assam Rifles and under command units also joined the “Fit India Movement” launched by PM Narendra Modi. All ranks of the Assam Rifles joined together in their commitment for fitness which is part of lifestyle in the Armed Forces. A total of 600 persons participated in the event.

The events were widely appreciated by the locals, in having broken the monotony of regular routine, as well giving them an opportunity in increasing bonhomie with the Assam Rifles on the occasion of National Sports Day.

News from the world of Science and Tecnology

Food-Waste Study Reveals Much Fridge Food ‘Goes There to Die’

Courtesy Sci Tech Daily
By: Ohio State University

Americans throw out a lot more food than they expect they will, food waste that is likely driven in part by ambiguous date labels on packages, a new study has found.

“People eat a lot less of their refrigerated food than they expect to, and they're likely throwing out perfectly good food because they misunderstand labels,” said Brian Roe, the study's senior author and a professor agricultural, environmental and development economics at The Ohio State University. This is the first study to offer a data-driven glimpse into the refrigerators of American homes, and provides an important framework for efforts to decrease food waste, Roe said. It was published online this month and will appear in the November print issue of the journal *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*. Survey participants expected to eat 97 percent of the meat in their refrigerators but really finished only about half. They thought they'd eat 94 percent of their vegetables,

but consumed just 44 percent. They projected they'd eat about 71 percent of the fruit and 84 percent of the dairy, but finished off just 40 percent and 42 percent, respectively. Top drivers of discarding food included concerns about food safety — odor, appearance, and dates on the labels.

“No one knows what ‘use by’ and ‘best by’ labels mean and people think they are a safety indicator when they are generally a quality indicator,” Roe said, adding that there's a proposal currently before Congress to prescribe date labeling rules in an effort to provide some clarity.

Under the proposal, “Best if used by” would, as Roe puts it, translate to “Follow your nose,” and “Use by” would translate to “Toss it.”

Other findings from the new study:

- People who cleaned out their refrigerators more often wasted more food.
- Those who check nutrition labels frequently waste less food. Roe speculated that those consumers may be more engaged in food and therefore less likely to waste what they buy.
- Younger households

were less likely to use up the items in their refrigerators while homes to those 65 and older were most likely to avoid waste.

Household food waste happens at the end of the line of a series of behaviors, said Megan Davenport, who led the study as a graduate student in Ohio State's Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics.

“There's the purchasing of food, the management of food within the home and the disposal, and these household routines ultimately increase or decrease waste. We wanted to better understand those relationships, and how individual products — including their labels — affect the amount of food waste in a home,” Davenport said.

The web-based pilot study used data from the State of the American Refrigerator survey and included information about refrigerator contents and practices from 307 initial survey participants and 169 follow-up surveys. The researchers asked about fruits, vegetables, meats, and dairy — in particular how much was there and how much

people expected to eat. Then they followed up about a week later to find out what really happened. The surveys also asked about a variety of factors that may have influenced decisions to toss food, including date labels, odor, appearance, and cost.

An estimated 43 percent of food waste is due to in-home practices — as opposed to waste that happens in restaurants, grocery stores and on the farm — making individuals the biggest contributors. They're also the most complicated group in which to drive change, given that practices vary significantly from home to home, Roe said.

“We wanted to understand how people are using the refrigerator and if it is a destination where half-eaten food goes to die,” he said.

“That's especially important because much of the advice that consumers hear regarding food waste is to refrigerate (and eat) leftovers, and to ‘shop’ the refrigerator first before ordering out or heading to the store.”

Roughly one-third of the food produced worldwide for human consumption —

approximately 1.3 billion tons annually — is lost or wasted, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The organization estimates the annual dollar value of that waste at \$680 billion in industrialized countries and \$310 billion in developing countries.

This study looked at refrigerated food because that's where most perishable foods are found in a household and where the bulk of efforts to encourage people to waste less food have been focused. In addition to better understanding food waste patterns, the researchers wanted to help identify opportunities to design policy or public messaging that will work in driving down waste.

“Our results suggest that strategies to reduce food waste in the U.S. should include limiting and standardizing the number of phrases used on date labels, and education campaigns to help consumers better understand the physical signs of food safety and quality,” Davenport said.

NASA's ECOSTRESS Detects Amazon Fires from International Space Station

Courtesy Sci Tech Daily
By Esprit Smith, Jet Propulsion Laboratory

NASA's Ecosystem Spaceborne Thermal Radiometer Experiment on Space Station (ECOSTRESS) captured imagery of fires in the Amazon regions of Brazil and Bolivia on August 23, 2019.

The red areas in the images — in eastern Bolivia and northern Brazil — are where surface temperatures exceeded the maximum measurable temperature of the instrument's sensor (approximately 220 degrees Fahrenheit, or 104 degrees Celsius), highlighting the burning areas along the fire fronts. The dark, wispy areas indicate thick smoke — thick enough to obscure much of the fire from view. The measurements cover areas of about 77 by 77 yards (70 by 70 meters) each, or about the size of a football field. The primary mission of ECOSTRESS is to measure the temperature of plants from the vantage point of the International

Space Station. However, it can also detect other heat-related phenomena like heat waves, volcanoes and fires. Due to the space station's unique orbit, ECOSTRESS acquires imagery of the same areas at different times of day as it passes by overhead — instead of crossing over each area at the same time of day like satellites in some other orbits do. This is particularly important when trying to acquire cloud-free imagery over perennially cloudy areas like the Amazon.

ECOSTRESS launched to the space station on June 29, 2018. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, built and manages the ECOSTRESS mission for the Earth Science Division in the Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters in Washington. ECOSTRESS is an Earth Venture Instrument mission; the program is managed by NASA's Earth System Science Pathfinder program at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia.