

Addl. Chief secretary inaugurated three day skill development program

DIPR
Chandel, September, 10.

Yesterday a three day Skill development programme on "Fish farm Management & Different type of fresh water Fish culture system" was inaugurated by Addl. Chief Secretary, (RD&PR/R&DM/FY) Government of Manipur, Mh. Khan at DRDA halidC complex Chandel.

Today's training programme is being organised by the District Fishery Office, Chandel under the aegis of National Fishery Development Board.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest, Addl. Chief Secretary, (RD&PR/R&DM/FY) Government of Manipur, Mh. Khan said that the total annual requirement in the state is 52 thousand metric tons where as the total production is only 32 thousand metric tons. He opined that the gap is being filled up by purchasing from



other part of the country which means a large amount of money is going out of the state. In order to fill up this requirement the department with the help of ICAR and other related departments have formulated certain measures under which the training is also being conducted. He also said that the Department at its Head Office in Imphal had started a mill for fish feeds which are being made available at 55/- rupees, and will soon be available at 45/- rupees per kg. Regarding Loan facilities he

said that Chandel being an Aspirational District this programme is also part of the Aspirational district programmes.

In her presidential speech Director of Fisheries, Government of Manipur, Bidyarani Ayeckpam said that the programme is being taken up for farmers with an objective of doubling their incomes. She added that the government is always ready to support and providing an assistance of 40% subsidies for the making new fish pond, she further added that the training is being conducted as part of the capacity building as knowledge is very much required.

She asked all the farmers present to take advantage of the presence of all the expert trainers and learn as much as possible.

Yesterday's function was attended by different DLOs and around 50 selected fish farmers of the District.

South East Asian

Duterte says Chinese President Xi Jinping offering gas deal if Philippines sets aside South China Sea arbitration ruling

Courtesy
The Straits Times
Manila Sept. 11.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said his Chinese counterpart has offered Manila a controlling stake in a joint energy venture in the South China Sea, if it sets aside an international arbitral award that went against Beijing.

Mr Duterte said Chinese President Xi Jinping told him during their recent meeting that if he ignored the Permanent Court of Arbitration's 2016 ruling, China would agree to be the junior partner in a joint venture to develop gas deposits at the Reed Bank, located within Manila's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

"Set aside the arbitral ruling," Mr Duterte was quoted as telling reporters late on Tuesday (Sept 10) in remarks provided by his office on Wednesday.

"Set aside your claim," he said, quoting Mr Xi. "Then allow everybody connected with the Chinese companies. They want to explore. If there is something, they said, we will be gracious enough to give you 60 per cent, only 40 per cent will be theirs. That is the promise of Xi Jinping."

China's foreign ministry and its embassy in Manila did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Mr Duterte's remarks. The tribunal in The Hague clarified maritime boundaries and the Philippines' sovereign entitlements, and in doing so, invalidated China's claims to almost the entire South China Sea.

China does not recognise the ruling. Mr Duterte has sought to befriend Mr Xi, hoping to secure billions of dollars of investment, avoiding challenging China over its activities in the South China Sea, including its militarised artificial islands.

BIG SETBACK
Any agreement to forget the arbitral award and team up with China would be a major setback to other claimants, especially Vietnam and



Malaysia, which like the Philippines have experienced repeated challenges from China's coastguard inside their EEZs.

The United States has called that bullying and coercion aimed at denying rivals' access to their energy assets.

Mr Duterte did not say if he had agreed to Mr Xi's offer, but said the part of the arbitral award that referred to the EEZ "we will ignore to come up with an economic activity".

The tribunal said the Philippines had legal rights to exploit gas deposits that China also claims at the Reed Bank, about 140km off the Philippine coast.

The Philippines' only accessible gas resources at the Malampaya fields are set to run out by 2024.

A joint project with

China has been talked about for decades, but has gone nowhere because of their competing claims.

Joint activity could be deemed as legitimising the other side's claim, or even relinquishing sovereign rights.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin on Wednesday told news channel ANC that a preliminary agreement between China and the Philippines would avoid stating which country was entitled to the gas.

"It's very clear - no legal position is compromised if we enter into this agreement," Mr Locsin said, adding that putting aside the arbitration case was immaterial, because an international court had already made its decision.

"It's final and binding," he added.

Residents thronged it for what protesters refer to as a "stress test" of road and rail links in the Chinese-ruled city.

The same station was closed the week before, after protesters smashed ticket vending machines and ticket gantries.

News from the world of Medicine

Antibiotic resistance can spread in the absence of drugs

Courtesy Medical News
By Catharine Paddock PhD

These were the conclusions that scientists at ETH Zurich in Switzerland came to after identifying a previously unknown mechanism of antibiotic resistance spread in bacteria that inhabit the gut. A recent *Nature* paper describes how, using mice, the team discovered the mechanism persists — persistent bacteria that can survive treatment with antibiotics by going into a dormant state.

"If you want to control the spread of resistance genes," says co-senior study author Méderic Diard, "you have to start with the resistant microorganisms themselves and prevent these from



spreading through, say, more effective hygiene measures or vaccinations."

Until recently, Diard was working at ETH Zurich. He is now a professor at the University of Basel, also in Switzerland.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO),

antibiotic resistance is a public health concern in every country.

In the United States, at least 2 million people develop antibiotic resistant infections each year, and at least 23,000 die from them, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Science and Technology

The relationship between science and technology

Courtesy Science Direct
By -Harvey Brooks

Science, technology and innovation each represent a successively larger category of activities which are highly interdependent but distinct. Science contributes to technology in at least six ways: (1) new knowledge which serves as a direct source of ideas for new technological possibilities; (2) source of tools and techniques for more efficient engineering design and a knowledge base for evaluation of feasibility of designs; (3) research instrumentation, laboratory techniques and analytical methods used in research that eventually find their way into design or industrial

practices, often through intermediate disciplines; (4) practice of research as a source for development and assimilation of new human skills and capabilities eventually useful for technology; (5) creation of a knowledge base that becomes increasingly important in the assessment of technology in terms of its wider social and environmental impacts; (6) knowledge base that enables more efficient strategies of applied research, development, and refinement of new technologies. The converse impact of technology on science is of at least equal importance: (1) through providing a fertile source of novel scientific questions and thereby also

helping to justify the allocation of resources needed to address these questions in an efficient and timely manner, extending the agenda of science; (2) as a source of otherwise unavailable instrumentation and techniques needed to address novel and more difficult scientific questions more efficiently.

Specific examples of each of these two-way interactions are discussed. Because of many indirect as well as direct connections between science and technology, the research portfolio of potential social benefit is much broader and more diverse than would be suggested by looking only at the direct connections between science and technology.

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Justice Deepak Gupta.....

We all must be open to criticism. The judiciary is not above criticism. If judges of the superior courts were to take note of all the contemptuous communications received by them, there would be no work other than the contempt proceedings. In fact, I welcome criticism of the judiciary because only if there is criticism, will there be improvement. Not only should there be criticism but there must be introspection. When we introspect, we will find that many decisions taken by us need to be corrected.

Criticism of the executive, the judiciary, the bureaucracy or the armed forces cannot be termed sedition. In case we attempt to stifle criticism of the institutions - whether it be the legislature, the executive or the judiciary or other bodies of the state - we shall become a police state instead of a democracy and this the founding fathers never expected this country to be.

Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore had a view on

nationalism, which is the anti-thesis of the view which many of us have. He, in fact, had not appreciated the *satyagrah* movement. He, who wrote the national anthem, also held the view that "nationalism is a great menace". I do not agree with those views, nor did eminent leaders of that time, but this did not make Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore less an Indian, less a patriot than any of his contemporaries. Merely because a person does not agree with the government in power or is virulently critical of the government in power, does not make him any less a patriot than those in power. In today's world, if any person was to say "nationalism is a great menace", he may well be charged with sedition.

To conclude, I would say that if this country is to progress not only in the field of commerce and industry but to progress in the field of human rights and to be a shining example of an effective, vibrant democracy, then the voice of the people can never be

stifled. I can do no better than quote the words of Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high Where knowledge is free Where the world has not been broken up into fragments By narrow domestic walls

Where words come out from the depth of truth Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way

Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit Where the mind is led forward by thee Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

Note: Justice Gupta's opening remarks on the late Justice P.D. Desai have been edited out. All his original footnotes have been converted to hyperlinks. For reader convenience, The Wire has added hyperlinks to some of the references the judge has made in the course of his speech.

(Concluded)

Hong Kong protest 'bottle flip' moment goes viral

Courtesy The Straits Times
Hong Kong Sept. 11

A "bottle flip" brightened the moods of Hong Kongers waiting near a closed Mass Transit Railway (MTR) station last Saturday (Sept 7), in a moment that has since gone viral on social media.

Hong Kong protesters took to the Internet to praise the man who, in a video shared over 4,000 times on Facebook, could be seen walking up to nearby riot police after successfully flipping a water bottle.

Footage showed police first talking to the bottle flipper

before proceeding to walk away from Tung Chung MTR station.

Comments on social media said the "uncle" had chased away the officers, though it was not clear what caused police to leave the scene.

Police closed the station last Saturday after hundreds of