

Union Health Minister assures to enhance medical institutions of the state

IT News
Imphal, Sept 14

Union Health and Family Minister Harsh Vardhan assured that the ministry will discuss all the proposals to enhance medical institutions and to make Air ambulance functional at the earliest. This was stated today on the sidelines of the 48th Foundation Day & Graduation ceremony of RIMS at the Jubilee Hall of the said institution.

Responding to a query made by media persons he said that the proposals made by the CM such as to upgrade the medical institutions, to have a standard hospital like AIMS and to start the Air Ambulance service at the earliest.

In the past five years, Dr. Harsh Vardhan said, the North East region has witnessed phenomenal developmental changes under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that PM Modi has a vision to make the facilities available in the region not less than that of other parts of the country. Earlier, speaking at the



function as the chief guest, Dr. Harsh Vardhan opined that quality of a good doctor is determined by his manner showed to patients. Doctors should never adopt a casual approach but work with great precision and focus while giving treatment to patients because people are looking at them with great hopes, he observed.

On the other hand, being a doctor they should feel blessed and privileged as it is one of the most sought after and respected professions, and added that they should also reciprocate it to the society by rendering dedicated service with great sincerity.

The Minister continued that RIMS has been ranked at 28th position in Medical category in All India Rankings 2019, and this was possible due to the dedicated hard work of the teachers, students, doctors and medical, para-medical and non-medical staff of the institution.

Speaking at the occasion as the functional president, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh sought Dr. Harsh Vardhan's intervention in the early commencement of Air Ambulance Service with RIMS as one of the centres. He said that being a topographically difficult State, Manipur requires the service at the earliest. He further reminded that the DoNER Ministry had already sanctioned Rs. 25 crore to start the service.

To meet quality healthcare needs of the people of the State, the Chief Minister also urged the Union Minister to upgrade RIMS to the status of AIIMS. He also sought Central Government's assistance in setting up another State-run medical college and opening a Neurosurgery Unit and Stroke-Care Centre at JNIMS. Stating that Manipur is a poor State, the Chief Minister also requested Dr. Harsh Vardhan to extend help in setting up a Cancer Hospital in the State as well. Recalling the several milestones that had been achieved in the last two and half years of the BJP-led Government in the State in the health sector CM N. Biren stated that 74,121 families have been enrolled under Chief Minister-gi Hakshelgi Tengbang (CMHT), out of which 14,568 have benefited from the scheme involving a total amount of Rs. 20.74 crore. So far, 5,907 patients had benefited under the scheme at RIMS involving a total claim of Rs. 933.48 lakh, he added. At present, six private hospitals are also implementing CMHT. Shri Biren said adding that efforts are underway to empanel hospitals outside the State for implementing the scheme for the benefit of people from the State.

2,144 claims have been made under PMJAY- Ayushman Bharat at RIMS, involving a total claim of Rs. 3.80 crore, he said. Till date enrolment for 1,58,421 families in the state

have been approved, out of which 5,777 have benefited involving a total claim amount of Rs. 10.86 crore, the Chief Minister said. The Government had also launched 20 Mobile laboratories to enable people in interior villages to access healthcare in their own homes apart from deploying ten advanced life support ambulances, N. Biren said. 244 doctors had been recruited through the Manipur Public Service Commission. Generic medicines are made available in 26 health institutions. Two 50 bedded District Hospitals in Chandel and Tamenglong have been commissioned, he added. The Chief Minister further said that establishment of eight new district hospitals had been approved, 53 diagnostic tests are being done free of cost while free dialysis for BPL is also available at JNIMS. A dental college was also established in JNIMS, the Chief Minister said. Later a Governor's Council Meeting was also held chaired by the Union Health and Family Minister Harsh Vardhan. This was the first council meeting to be held at Imphal. MP Dr. R.K. Ranjan, Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan, RIMS Director Prof. A. Santa Singh, RIMS Medical Superintendent Prof. Ch. Arunkumar, Dean (Academics), A. Rogen, Prof. Th. Sudhirchandra of Surgery Department and Retired Professor Dr. Y. Iboton attended the function as dignitaries. Earlier, Dr. Harsh Vardhan handed out Gold Medal and certificates to MBBS Graduates belonging to the Class of 2014 batch. He also released 'Remedy', the annual magazine of RIMS Students' Union. On the other hand, the Chief Minister and other dignitaries also distributed Gold Medals and certificates to Post Graduate and MBBS Graduates, who secured top position in different medical subjects.

Governor launches 150 new craft souvenirs of Manipur designed under

DIPR
Imphal, Sept. 14

Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla launched 150 New Craft Souvenirs of Manipur designed under MEETAC at Darbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Imphal, today. The launching ceremony of Innovative Crafts Souvenirs of Manipur, Craft Map of Manipur and MEETAC Website was organized by Mission for Economic Empowerment of Traditional Artisans & Craftsmen (MEETAC) in collaboration with National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad.

Addressing the gathering as Chief Guest of the ceremony, Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla said that the launching of 'Innovative Craft Souvenirs of Manipur', Craft Map of Manipur and Mission for Economic Empowerment of Traditional Artisans & Craftsmen (MEETAC) Website will help the artisans and craftsmen to expand their existing range of products by utilizing local resources and skills. It will be instrumental in creating a brand for Manipur and in turn for MEETAC, under whose name these Souvenirs would be marketed. Governor said that there is no match for the rich arts and culture of the State and it is yet to get its due recognition in the global scenario. They have set a benchmark of quality and excellence that is quintessentially Indian. The skills of our artisans are living symbols of self-reliance and exemplify our heritage of creativity, aesthetics and craftsmanship. As a highly decentralized activity, the handicrafts and handloom industry of the State is a shining example of using local resources and skills, she added.

She further added that the handicraft and handloom sector in the State is unorganized and the market

potential of the State's crafts has not been tapped properly, particularly outside the State in spite of its importance to the economy. MEETAC along with its Knowledge Partners has been working with Artisans at the village and cluster level in order to bring diversified and trendy designs which are more acceptable in other States and countries and also by the young generation, she added. Governor said under the expert guidance of NID, Ahmedabad, MEETAC has developed a new chain of Craft Souvenirs of Manipur and about 150 New Souvenir designs for 7 (seven) Traditional Crafts have been developed by the Artisans from various Districts namely Imphal, Senapati, Kamjong, Churachandpur, Tamenglong, Noney, Tengnoupal and Ukhrul.

Stating that the State has developed the Craft Map of Manipur for the first time in the history of Manipur, Governor said, it is an important step in the direction towards preserving our crafts and cultural heritage. On developing the website www.meetac.mn.gov.in, Governor said that the Website will be a platform for the local artisans to get up-to-date knowledge about the new market trends and new initiatives of MEETAC for their development.

Textiles, Commerce & Industries Minister Th. Biswajit Singh, who is also the Chairman of MEETAC, said that even if the state has enough resources, there is lack of initiatives and policies resulting in lag of development of the State. Lauding the effort of NID and MEETAC in providing training to the artisans and craftsmen of the state, the Minister said that the release of the souvenir enables us to know of the skills of the artisans and the craftsmen from different parts of the

State. He added that available resources should be utilized in creating products which will have international market. The Minister also added that the launching of the souvenir will create another atmosphere not only in Manipur but also in other parts of the country to acknowledge the skill of the artisans and craftsmen. It will improve the economy and livelihood of the people, he added.

It is worth mentioning that MEETAC is the new initiative of the Government of Manipur, established on 29th December, 2017 as an autonomous Society under the Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industries, Government of Manipur. MEETAC was formally launched on 1st September, 2018. MEETAC is making sustained efforts to provide unified access to the Traditional Artisans of Hills and Valley of Manipur for design development of their crafts/arts as per global standards, training and entrepreneurship development in order to increase the market demand of their products and achieve better economic valuation.

Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla along with Minister Th. Biswajit unveiled the Craft Map and launched the Innovative Craft Souvenir of Manipur and the official website of MEETAC. Certificates were also distributed to the Artisans and Craftsmen from various Districts of the State who took part in the training and skill development programme of MEETAC. Later the Governor inspected an exhibition showcasing the works of the artisans and craftsmen from different areas of the State. The launching ceremony was attended by Anurag Bajpai, IFS, CEO (MEETAC), Bindoo Ranjan, Project Head, NID (Ahmedabad), officials and staff of MEETAC and NID, Ahmedabad, Artisans and local Craft Entrepreneurs.

'There is a need for improvement of efficiency of the justice system'

AIR
New Delhi, Sept 14

Expressing concern over the heavy pendency of cases in various courts in the country, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has said that there is a need for improvement of efficiency of the justice system.

Speaking after launching the book 'Rethinking Good Governance', authored by former Comptroller Auditor General (CAG), Vinod Rai, Mr Naidu also called for the expansion of Supreme Court and the establishment of more benches in different parts of the country.

Pointing that a number of civil and criminal cases have been pending for over 25 years, the Vice President said that there was a need for division of the Supreme Court into a Constitution Bench at Delhi and Cassation benches in four regions - Delhi, Chennai or Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai, as suggested by the Law Commission. The Vice President has asked political parties to adopt a code of conduct for their legislators and contribute to policymaking through informed decisions.

Monthlong observance of Hijam Irabot begins today

IT News
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Commemorating the 123rd Birth Anniversary of Comrade Hijam Irabot Communist, Party of India (CPI) Thoubal and Wangkhem Local Council began the celebration today at Kshetri Shanglein, Thoubal. The programme was attended by CPI, State Secretariat members comrade S. Sorojini

Devi, Comrade Langol Iboiyama, CPI Wangkhel Local Council, Executive Member, Comrade A. Gulapi, Veteran CPI Leader, Th. Yaikul, Former Commissioner, Thoubal Municipal Council, Comrade M. Shamungou, CPI Thoubal Local Council, Executive Member, Comrade Ksh. Manglem and All Manipur Nupi Marup, District

Secy. Comrade S. Bhanu Devi as presidium members. Comrade Ak. Jugeshor begin the programme by a speech, presidium members and people paid a floral tribute on the photo of Hijam Irabot Singh. Comrade Langol Iboiyama said about the life history of Hijam Irabot and Comrade Th. Yaikul said on the topic of Marxism.

KVK Thoubal lauds WRD Thoubal

IT News
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Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Thoubal lauded the concern authority for the availability of water. KVK Thoubal, Plant Agronomy, Specialist, Nameirakpam Tomba

said that this year all the farmers of the State are facing a huge problems due to the shortage of rain. He added that under the Agriculture Department, KVK Thoubal are helping the farmers by community nursery plantation. He further said that

they requested the Project-IV, Water Resource Department, Thoubal Circle-II to supply of water and in time the department supplied the water. He added that KVK Thoubal also praises Wangbal Gram Panchayat, Pradhan, Heismam Manichandra Singh for his work.

Sonia meets NE Cong. leaders; discusses NRC and other issues

Agency
New Delhi, Sep. 14

Congress interim President Sonia Gandhi on Friday met party leaders from the northeastern states to discuss the problems those states are facing, the issue of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and also decided to strengthen the Northeastern Coordination Committee. The meeting was attended by top Congress leaders from the north-east, including former chief ministers and secretary in-charge of the north eastern states Luizinho Faleiro. Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, party senior leader Ahmed Patel and K.C. Venugopal were also present at the meeting that lasted for three hours. After the meeting, Faleiro told

reporters: "Sonia Gandhi had called the meeting of all the northeastern states. We met her along with former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Ahmed Patel and K.C. Venugopal." He said during the meeting they discussed problems facing the northeastern states and the party leaders gave their inputs. "One thing has been decided in the meeting to strengthen and consolidate Northeast Coordination Committee. We have also decided to put a prominent office in Guwahati and we have also decided that we will meet and discuss periodically so that the problems of the northeastern states that are growing and mounting today have to be stressed out and we have come together in unity,"

Faleiro said. Faleiro said the issue of the NRC in Assam was among the issues discussed at the meeting. The Congress leader said issues pertaining to the Citizenship Amendment Bill, which was opposed in the Rajya Sabha and is a part of the BJP manifesto, were also discussed thereabout. The problems arising out of the NRC in Assam and other issues were also discussed during the meeting, party sources said. The meeting comes a day after Sonia Gandhi held a meeting with all the general secretaries, state in-charges, state unit chiefs and CLP leaders on Thursday and advised the party leaders that they should not only agitate on Twitter but also on the ground.