

Chief Minister visits Aged home to ensure safety measures taken up to elderly people from the spread of Coronavirus

IT News
Imphal, April 16

Considering vulnerability of pandemic COVID-19 to elderly people, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh visited Old Age Homes located at Kongba Nongthombam Leikai in Imphal East and Mongshangei in Imphal West District to assess the safety measures taken up in these homes. He interacted with the inmates and also presented ration items, hand sanitizers, masks, medicine etc. to them. Speaking to reporters, the Chief Minister thanked the people and the media for extending cooperation to the Government in tackling the spread of COVID-19 in the State. After April 20, the Chief Minister informed, the State Government may consider relaxations for some selected sectors after assessing the situation. However, no decision would be taken in a hurry because Manipur shares a long international boundary with Myanmar and even a slight laxity may lead to an unmanageable situation. Urging the public and civil society to join hands in the fight of COVID-19 with the Government, the Chief Minister observed that now is not the time to indulge in

blame game and unnecessary criticism. He also urged the public to immediately inform the police or call the toll free number of Common Control Room if anybody comes across sale of essential items in the price higher than the price fixed by the Government.

The Chief Minister also said that to hear the grievances of the State natives stranded in different cities, one IAS officer each had been appointed as in-charge officers of all the States. Stating that it is necessary to give priority to them because they are away from home and facing different types of difficulty including financial problem, harassment, racial attack etc, N. Biren Singh said that the Government had started transferring financial aid of Rs. 2000 each to the bank accounts of stranded people, who sought help through tengbangin.

The Chief Minister further said that the Government is also considering to provide assistance to those who are now in different cities for medical treatment.

Yaikul AC MLA Th. Satyabrata, Pincipal Secretary (Health) V. Vumlunmang and other high ranking officers of the State Government also accompanied the Chief Minister during the visit.



Aged mother pray for the punishment of her son who threw her out

IT News
Imphal, April 16

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today was shocked to hear the story of an old lady, who has been settling at an old aged home called Senior Citizens Home for Women at Kongba Nongthombam Leikai in Imphal East today. During his visit at the home in connection with the fight against COVID-19 pandemic, one among the desperate old ladies who have been in the Aged home told the Chief Minister to take action against her son who had thrown out of her residence for a piece of land.

"I was thrown out of my home by my son for the piece of land and while running away my ears have been hit and later I

am blind due to the impact", the desperate lady told the Chief Minister saying that she would like the Chief Minister to take action to her son.

An emotional Chief Minister immediately orders the police concern to arrest the person who drives out his mother by tomorrow. Already there has been a government order to punish those children who neglect and harass their aged parents.

"I have always waited to find such kind of case", Chief Minister said while indicating that such criminal and inhuman persons are not spared. Many old ladies have their own story but what is similar to all the women is that they have no place to stay and are taking shelter in the aged home.

MLA Kh. Joykishan points out loopholes in providing foods to migrant labourers; says local workers left out

IT News
Imphal, April 16

Referring to a notification by the Chief Secretary of Manipur for distribution of essential food items to the migrant workers issued on April 2, MLA Khumukcham Joykishan today lambasted the incompetency of the Chief Secretary saying there are certain loopholes to the planning for distribution of the essential food items to migrant labourers.

"The Chief Secretary has been arranging essential food items for migrant labourers who are from outside the state but have forgotten to mention about the migrant workers who are equally stranded at their rented houses from other part of the state", Joykishan asked while stating that how could the Chief Secretary be competent enough in dealing with the public when the MLAs and local bodies are the one who are directly



contacting the people. "As per the notification by the Chief Secretary dated April 2 they have stated to make sure that every migrant workers gets 5 kg of rice as well as dal, however it is two weeks and there is no dal being made available", Joykishan said while adding that how could the Chief Minister assume that the Chief Secretary is competent from the MLAs and local bodies. Joykishan further said that many people, politicians and MLAs have come out to help the needy at their own

capacity irrespective of differences in ideology.

Joykishan further said that it is a good idea of the state government to allow the MLAs to utilize 25% of the local area development fund to help fighting the COVID-19. However, for many MLAs including him the 25% local area development fund have not been released and everything that those MLAs have been providing essential commodities to the people are from the pocket of the MLAs in addition to the material provided by the government. Joykishan further said that rice quota under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Yojana has been released for his Thangmeiband constituency. However as the rice released has been deducted from the NFSARice, the matter has been enquired to the Chief Minister. Later on his direction that matter has been raised and finally the DC had assured to release the deducted quotas.

Edu. Minister Th Radheshyam launches e-book for Class 1 to 10 under BOSEM

IT News
Imphal, April 16

State Education Minister Th. Radheshyam today launched e-book from class 1 to 10 which are being provided by the Board of Secondary Education Manipur.

Speaking on the occasion, Th Radheshyam said that there are 71 books for Classes 1-10 to be uploaded initially and out of which books for class 8-10 have been uploaded. It will take around 2 weeks for uploading entire books. Books of Tribal dialects too will be uploaded subsequently. The textbooks will be available from the website bosembook.in As well as through mobile application "Bosem eBook" which can be downloaded from Google Play store.

The Education Manipur while highlighting the present education scenario all across

the globe said that huge developments especially after the coming of computers and internet facility have been seen.

"Many states across the country as well as NCERT have taken up great strides along this line. It is also well known that in Manipur (Class 9-10) the textbooks are never made available in electronic platform", Radheshyam said while adding that the non availability of the textbooks in electronic forms has hindered the development of e-content as study material by various stakeholders.

He said that the availability of textbooks at times of crisis like present Covid-19, non competition of printing of textbooks that happened in the past, etc. and Provision for improvement of textbooks – seeking comments from public, Source of early printing of textbooks in time to come,

and many more.

The Board of Secondary Education Manipur (BOSEM) does the printing and sale of Textbooks for Class 1-10. Books meant for class 1-8 are prepared by SCERT and the printing, sale takes place in BOSEMwhile Books for Class 9-10 are within the domain of BOSEM.

Looking into the gaps has come up with a decision to make textbooks available online in its website. The webpage will have other features (in addition to the textbooks) in days to come, Year-wise Instruction to examiners, Blue print, teachers guide book, Scan copies of Answer scripts of toppers and subject toppers. Everything from the website to the mobile application are exclusively designed and developed by X-tremeWave, the Education Minister said.

Politicizing on distribution of essential items condemned

IT News
Thoubal, April 16:

A social worker identified as N. Kapil today hit a slashing criticism to MLA Paonam Brojen of Wangjing Tentha Assembly constituency for taking political advantage in distributing the essential edible items to family members with stickers mentioning his name.

"It is unfortunate that MLA Brojen takes political advantage when people across the world is fighting the pandemic COVID-19", the social worker said. It may be mentioned that postos of edible items with label of MLA Brojen's name were seen uploaded at social networking site. And many criticised the motive of the MLA in distributing the edible items at times of crisis. "Is the MLA trying the take advantage of the crisis", many questioned.

Donation to CM'S COVID-19 Relief Fund continues

IT News
Imphal, April 16

Donations to Chief Minister's COVID-19 Relief Fund continues to pour in. All Manipur Gorkha Students Union donated Rs. 60,000, Paite Tribe Council contributed Rs. 107,777, Shri Kakai Singshit donated 15,000, Huiyel Lalong and Thang Ta Lupsing donated Rs. 50,000, Lairikyengbam Leikai United Youth Club contributed Rs. 20,000, Staffs of NABARD donated Rs. 117,000, RED/MSRRDA contributed Department Rs. 565,000, Manipur

Updates donated Rs. 32,842, SLNA, Manipur contributed Rs. 20,000, Shri Th. Sunil Singh donated Rs. 25,000, Universal Friendship Organisation contributed Rs. 33,320, Sanathoi Beauty Salon and Spa, New Checkon donated Rs. 20,000, Sri Sri Govinda Rasesmani Pala Marup contributed Rs. 30,000, Heritage Convent donated Rs. 100,000, Sangai Hr. Secondary School, Mantripukhri contributed Rs. 50,000, Indian Psychiatric Society donated Rs. 50,000, All Manipur Recognised Private Schools Welfare Association

contributed Rs. 100,000, Ruichum Hao Machinao donated Rs. 10,000, 2nd Bn. Manipur Rifles contributed Rs. 11,44,945, Ningthoukhong Bazar Ima Iben Lup donated Rs. 10,000, Higher and Technical Education and SCERT contributed Rs. 7,107,080, Apunba Manipur Huyen Lanlong Lup donated Rs. 20,000 and Manipur State Rural Livelihoods Mission contributed Rs. 107,971. Principal Secretary, officers and staff of GAD also donated one day's salary (Rs. 2,590,607).

Coronavirus: IIT Bombay start-up designs smart stethoscopes

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, April 16

In view of the COVID 19 pandemic, the "Ayu Devices Private Ltd", a start up firm of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, has designed a digital stethoscope called "AyuSynk" useful for remote auscultation (listening to chest sounds) of patients. "Ayu Device" is a technology-based healthcare company spun out of BETIC, IIT, Bombay. It was founded by Adarsha K, Tapas Pandey and Dr. Rupesh Ghayur, CEO of BETIC. "AyuSynk" permits storing

the auscultated sound under the health record of the patient and sharing it with other doctors for confirmatory opinion. Doctors make use of a stethoscope to listen to chest sounds such as crackles and wheezing that reflects with the development of the COVID-19 disease. This poses a risk to doctors from probable infection.

King Edward Medical College (KEM) Hospital which has joined Kasturba Hospital in tackling COVID-19, has procured 10 "AyuSynk" Bluetooth Enabled Digital Stethoscopes, to ensure "Doctor Patient Distancing". The COVID-19 patients

having symptoms of pneumonia have characteristic lung sounds called crackles and wheezes. These characteristic sounds can be amplified and monitored using "AyuSynk". "AyuSynk" can convert any conventional stethoscope to an electronic smart stethoscope since it can easily be attached to any stethoscope and give it the capability to amplify the sound up to 16 times. It can be connected to any smart phone or PC wirelessly via bluetooth for visualization of phonocardiogram. It can also help predict the normal/abnormal heart sound.

According to Adarsha K, the "AyuSynk" can be linked with any conventional stethoscope, to magnify chest sounds and transmit them wirelessly from patients to doctors without physical tubing. The advanced version of "AyuSynk" enables the transfer data from the stethoscope to mobile or laptop via Bluetooth.

In 2015, Adarsha K and Tapas Pandey teamed up with Dr. Nambiraj Konar from "Reliance Hospital" to come up with a solution that can facilitate early detection of heart and lung diseases through analysis of heart and lung sounds. They came up

with a small device that can be attached to any conventional stethoscope to turn it into a digital stethoscope that features noise cancellation, sound amplification, recording and playback and precise visual representation of data to help doctors identify and analyze abnormal sounds. A regular stethoscope does not have these features.

At present over 1000 units of the digital stethoscope are in use across the country. Most of them are being used in primary health centres and in telemedicine companies. The Biomedical Engineering and Technology Incubation



Centre ((BETIC), is located at IIT Bombay. It has satellite centres in six engineering colleges and seven medical institutes across Maharashtra. The initiative is planned and backed by SandT Council of Maharashtra Government and DST, New Delhi, to intensify indigenous development of reasonable medical devices appropriate for local manufacture and use.

★ Editorial

The unsung heroes

Novel Coronavirus- the deadly virus that brings disaster to human kind across the globe is finally pulling out the humane in every human being leaving aside some few people who believe that politics is their religion. Information gathered from internet that has been happening across the world shows thousands people extending helping hand to one another to make sure that human kind survives by defeating the dreaded virus that cause COVID-19, killing thousands of human kinds irrespective of caste, creed, rich poor. These attackers know no religions or community – they attack any human whom they can access too.

The only means, left with the human kind as of now is social distancing and total lockdown to break the chain of spreading the pandemic. As per source recorded by COVID-19 Tracker, there are 1,348,628 confirmed case across the globe where 989010 are active case. The number of death reached 74,916, but the report about the number of death should not panic the world as the recovered patient is 284,802. In India, the number of confirmed case recorded is 4916 out of which 4394 is active. Death toll is 136, and the good news is that the number of recovered COVID-19 patient is 385 (as on April 7, 14hours). Countries like Cuba and China have sent group of doctors to help treating COVID-19 infected people in Italy, which is now the second hit country in the world.

Coming back to this state of Manipur which have around 30 lakhs population (Subject to correction) only two cases of COVID-19 positive has been reported and among these, the first infected patient who return from UK and confirmed positive on March 24 has been fully recovered after days of treatment at JNIMS. The other patient which was tested positive is also undergoing treatment at RIMS and it is likely that he too get cure from the dreaded disease as doctors, nurses and paramedics, attending him is working with full dedication to make sure that he be cured. Doctors in the state who were always criticized accusing them for all wrong reason, before the invasion of the virus, now proves that they risk their lives to save people no matter the state has poor medical equipments like PPEs. At time of crisis due to the invasion of the virus the humanity in all the medical practitioner finally showed and is notice by everyone.

Again it is 19 days today, that the state has been put under complete lockdown. There are daily wage earner who lives on hand to mouth in the state of Manipur, but then the fortunate part is that almost all indigenous people have a place to stay. Whether they come from villages to work or to study they have place to stay indoors. The only problem is the shortage of food and other edible items due to the total lockdown. Knowing the problem it is fortunate for the state that irrespective of who is in the voter list the Chief Minister of Manipur directed all MLAs to distribute 4 Kg of rice to each person, no matter they are in voter list or not. The unfortunate part is that except some MLAs the Chief Minister's directives has not been followed at all assembly constituencies. But leaving aside these narrow minded people, Manipur is glad to have many individuals who have distributed the essential edible item by buying from their own pocket money. CSOs, students' bodies are trying to help people who remain hungry and provided them assistance whatever they could.

Manipur still have people (who always think of making money) at time of crisis. Example is the transportation of huge quantity of betel leaves using Cargo plane which will turn more like a poison to kill the people. Had those persons brought vegetable or any edible items those people would have been treated like God. The so call agents nominated by MLAs and some MLAs are also no difference as it is open secret that they too take advantage in this crisis period to make money looting the share of the people.

Remember award winning Hollywood movie - A Thousand Heroes (also known as Crash Landing: The Rescue of Flight 232) . bases on a true story of the crash landing of Flight 232 at Sioux City, Iowa on July 19, 1989. Each and every one of the citizens of Sioux City came out and help the crash victims with whatever they can. The citizens of the city is still remembers as a city of thousand heroes.

Why not Manipur be another city of thousand heroes .

By - Yaipharemba Keikham
Jorhat Assam

Corona virus or covid 19 has brought life to a near standstill in almost every part of the world. The virus originated in Central China's Hubei province claimed more lives and continues to adversely affect many countries globally. The virus spares none in its course of action whoever may be rich or poor and PM or Peon. Everybody is on its radar. So, all are taking utmost precautions and safety measures. This is the first time we have seen the united efforts to combat the spread of this pandemic taken by the economic and non economic powers.

"All Hands should be on Deck" is the statement from the officials of World Economic Forum showing the instant necessity of reaction from everybody in order to curb this menace in time.

In India we have also seen many confirmed cases of corona. Unlike

“Deadly Corona Unites Us”

the earlier pandemics, this dreadful virus compelled us to work some fruitful acts for our own families, localities and State. As we know, our country is inhabited by different communities professing different religions and traditions. So misunderstanding arises sometimes among us for petty matters. It disturbs the unity and integrity of the nation. But this deadly disease comes up as a common enemy for us. It makes us fight unitedly. It can be considered good gesture of coronavirus.

Coronavirus reached almost all the states of India. In our state also, we already have confirmed cases. Everybody is in panic state at the beginning, for we don't have sufficient testing labs, medicines, masks, sanitizers and medical experts. So we are in a confused state. Later on, steps taken by Central and state government with the moral support of our people minimised the panic to a large extent. So, dreaded coronavirus

could not extend its Empire in our State. Though COVID-19 is a deadlier one, it teaches us good lessons and sows the seeds of brotherhood. We are given the opportunity to serve each other. And we also see the rise of inter communities' love and charity during the lockdown of corona. Here we can proudly share the contributions of our hilly brothers donating precious and essential edible items to their more affected valley brothers. It's a historic moment for all. This tradition of lending helping hands to the brothers in more distressed should be activated and strengthened all the time. However, unwanted incidents such as social boycotting of confirmed patients and families, negation of Govt.'s protocol, communalisation of virus and fencing of roads are surfaced first time in our history. It is very unfortunate to witness thoughtless acts by our well educated people. We all have to condemn in Toto.

In this war like situation, Mutual help and understanding is very important for us.

Corona revives the near lost relationship between the people's representatives and the people. We see the unexpected good changes of behaviour in almost leaders. All leaders in and out power are seen doing necessary duties for their people. It's a good gesture from coronavirus. Besides them, our CSOs and others activities are also praise worthy. We should also cultivate the habit of appreciating our authority, frontline warriors viz. medical personnel, pharmacists, transporters and police etc.

To sum up, let's follow the safety n preventing measures laid down by the Government. And also the seeds of brotherhood sown by deadly corona should be reaped together for a peaceful and united Kangleipak.
Long Live Eramdam!

More News

Manipur bhawan officials distributes ration to students, people in Delhi

From a correspondent
Dehi, April 16

The Principal Secretary PK Singh who is the present Resident Commissioner of Manipur Bhawan, New Delhi under the guidance of the state chief minister has started to distribute dry ration to the students and stranded people in national capital.

When contacted through WhatsApp, Resident Commissioner Manipur Bhawan Singh informed

that they've covered about 200 students in Gurgaon and 100 in Delhi three days back. Even yesterday, they have distributed the dry ration to about 400 in Munirka area in Delhi, he said.

"Today we are going with 500 packets to Delhi university north campus. Items are being sourced through voluntary contributions from good people," the senior IAS officer said. Each distributed packet contains 5 kg rice, 1 kg each of dal, potato and onion besides 1 litre

cooking oil, mask and sanitizer. The officer who was recently appointed as the State's Nodal Officer to help and guide the stranded citizens of the state by contacting the concerned state governments, also informed that they have collected information including contact details of needy people from the State from almost 30 localities and are clubbing the groups and managing distribution. He further added that they intended to cover at least 4 to 5 thousand.

"Let's hope more people donate. I am using my Bhawan vehicles and some willing staff and some volunteers for distribution locally wise," he added. Last month end state government launched a website (www.tengbang.in) to reach out to its citizens stranded outside the state after the nationwide lockdown, apart from introducing another website (www.mncovid19.in) this month to provide the latest and authenticated information on COVID-19.

Maharashtra gears up for more COVID -19 test labs with AIIMS's consent

IT Correspondent
Mumbai, April 16

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has designated All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Nagpur, as the mentor institute for sanctioning Covid-19 laboratories and all new labs in Maharashtra will come only through mentorship of AIIMS Nagpur.

"AIIMS Nagpur will serve as 'Mentor Institute' to 34 facilities in Maharashtra, Goa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. These include 32 medical colleges in Maharashtra except Mumbai and Pune," AIIMS director and CEO Maj Gen (Dr) Vibha Dutta said.

Authorities need to apply with the nodal officer at AIIMS Nagpur, procure instruments, train their staff, and undergo inspection. AIIMS will mentor medical colleges and facilitate the establishment of Covid-19 diagnostic facilities.

The list of these 32 institutes include :NKP Salve Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur; Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Sawangi (Meghe), Wardha, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Sevagram, Wardha; V N Govt Medical College, Yavatmal, Dr Punjabrao Deshmukh Medical College, Amravati and Government Medical College, Chandrapur. All these institutes will get mentorship from AIIMS.

Many more institutes in Nagpur and

Vidarbha also have RT-PCR Machine with which they can start Covid-19 testing. These include Departments of Microbiology, Biochemistry, and Pharmacy RTMNU; Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Nagpur and NEERI, Nagpur. "Regional Forensic Science Labs are doing such tests for many years. We have the RT PCR machines with us. We will be available, as and when the state government approaches us," Directorate of Forensic Science Laboratory Director Dr Krishna Kulkarni said. The regional forensic lab in Nagpur is in Dhanolti, where testing can be started, he added.

"RTMNU's Department of

microbiology is willing to join the fight against coronavirus, but it don't have enough staff at the moment. This department has done significant work during the earlier epidemics," said HoD of the department Dr Pradeep Tumane. Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Shekhar Mande confirmed that NEERI, Nagpur will be carrying out Covid-19 tests in its lab. Their labs have to apply directly to the ICMR.

Many ministers and political bigwigs in Maharashtra have announced that Covid-19 testing laboratories will be established in their constituencies. Some have also sanctioned funds for them.

PDS rice lifting continues under PMGKAY for public distribution

IT News
Imphal, April 16

To ensure that the people of the State are provided uninterrupted supply of foodgrains especially rice, the State Government is distributing PDS items to every household in all the districts of Manipur under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) on the backdrop of the outbreak of COVID-19 and lockdown in the State.

For Konthoujam AC in Imphal West district, 907.93 quintal of rice was lifted yesterday and for Khurai AC in Imphal East district a total of

801.1 quintal of rice was lifted yesterday. A total of 14.35 quintal of rice under PMGKAY was lifted for Tamenglong yesterday, while 1182 quintal of rice for Tamei Sub-division, 75 quintal of rice under (OMSS) for Nungba Sub-division and 700 quintal for Tousem Sub-division were lifted yesterday.

For Chandhel district, 91.05 quintal of rice under PMGKAY (AAY) and 137.57 quintal under PMGKAY were lifted yesterday.

There was no lifting of rice today in the following districts, Bishnupur, Senapati, Jiribam, CcPur, Pherzawl, Kangpokpi and Thoubal.

Agency
New Delhi, April 16

India stressed the role of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of G20 countries in safeguarding the lives and livelihood of people while maintaining macroeconomic stability in a sustainable manner in the backdrop of Covid-19 pandemic. In her intervention at the virtual session of the Second G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman shared the measures taken by Government of India to provide the vulnerable sections with swift, timely and targeted assistance.

She said, within a couple of weeks, India has disbursed financial assistance amounting to 3.9 billion dollars to more than 320 million

Nirmala Sitharaman says 3.9 billion dollars disbursed to more than 320 million people to provide swift, timely & targeted assistance



people so far. She informed the meeting that the disbursal is being done with a special focus on direct benefit transfer through digital technology so that the exposure of beneficiaries to public places is minimised. She told the finance ministers and central bank governors that India is now reaping benefits of the farsighted measures

of financial inclusion which are part of the pioneering reforms carried out by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Sitharaman also said that the monetary policy measures undertaken by Government of India, Reserve Bank of India and other regulators have helped de-freeze the market and catalyse credit flows. These measures include

liquidity support of 50 billion dollars, regulatory and supervisory measures for credit easing, relief on debt servicing through moratoriums on instalments of term-loans, eased working capital financing and deferred interest payments on such financing.

She said, the G20 Plan to combat Covid19 will guide individual and collective actions of the G20 members in responding to the pandemic in short and medium term. The Action Plan aims to protect lives, safeguard people's jobs and incomes, restore confidence, preserve financial stability, revive growth and recover strongly. This plan also provides for helping countries needing assistance, coordinating in public health and financial measures and minimising disruption to global supply chain.

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