

## PMGKY gives safety cushion to daily wage earners

IT News  
Imphal, April 30

Over a month long lockdown has affected every Indian and all aspect of the country's economy. Everyone was worried about how they are going to cope with such a long stress of lockdown one has ever seen till now. This lockdown affects the weaker section of the society more than anyone else. The daily wage earners are the worst affected as it is expected that most would exhaust their savings they within a few weeks of lockdown. It is for this reason that the Government has come up with a special package designed to take care of those who need it the most. The Central government introduced the PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana under which 80 crore poor people are to get 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses for free every month for the next three months. This foremost important

task of the Government was not to allow anybody, especially any poor family, to suffer on account of non-availability of food grains due to supply disruption or lack of resources in the next three months. Under the initiative of the central government the state government has ensured that food grains are distributed to all the targeted people.

Shaingamla Simray from Ukhrul district, Manipur a daily wage worker in farm on daily basis was having a hard time looking for work since the total lockdown. Just as she was started to feel the heat, Rs. 2000 from PMKisan yojana came to her rescue. Above this and her family got 5kgs of rice under the PM Ann Yojana. This relief package was a life saver for her family. Sunita Devi a migrant daily wage earner from Uttar Pradesh staying at Ukhrul District of Manipur shared her hardship of the

lockdown and how PMGKY rescued her and her family from the problem by providing free food grains, vegetables and oil for them. She has thanked the Government and local authorities for the timely help.

A daily wage earner, Suresh Naorem from Kakching District, says that he cannot not find a daily job as he usually does before the lockdown. As he has no access to work to earn his livelihood, his family was facing problems. But under the PMGKY his family of 4 members got 20 kgs of rice. Similarly, Vijay Kumar a migrant daily wage earner from Orissa residing currently at Ukhrul District got 5 kgs of rice for each of his family members. Urilei Devi is a daily wage earner by running a small shop in Andro, Imphal East currently residing at Ukhrul District. Since the announcement of the government to close shops because of the lockdown

she hasn't been able to earn her livelihood. But the local authorities have provided free rice for her family, which sustains her in these hard times. Naorem Ibombi Devi is a daily wage earner who earns a living by doing petty jobs. But because of the lockdown her family was on the verge of hardship when just in time her family received free food grains of 5kgs each of rice having a total of 25kgs for her 5-member family. There are numerous such examples if people are recounting their experiences and have spoken openly in support and appreciation of the way the government effort is fighting this deadly disease.

Such positive attitude of the people, combined with a sensitive and alert administration and determination of frontline Covid warriors will slowly but surely help us win this war against the dreaded virus.

## CorCom pay respect to working class people on May Day

IT News  
Imphal, April 30

Joint body armed rebel group operating in the WESEA region – the CorCom today recounted the origin of May Day, observed every year to commemorate the day when labourers from across the world stand up for their rights. In a statement, issued in connection with the day, the CorCom said that it was Karl Marx that woke up the working class people to fight for their rights against the capitalist group who had forced them to work 10 to 16 hours a day. He, along with his friend Engels published a Communist Manifesto in 1848 to unite all working class community and started campaigning to fulfill what had been stated in the manifesto. As decided by the National Labour Union of the America, it was unanimously agreed the working hour of a labourer should be 8 hours a day. The first sitting of

the Communist had adopted a resolution stating that the working hour of a labourer should be 8 hours daily. The resolution was agreed by all workers in 1886. The uprising for the demand even though was centric in Chicago, it spread at every part of America. During the uprising confrontation between the security forces and the agitating working class people at different places in America, 6 workers were killed and dozens other injured in the clash between the working class community and the police. Many workers too have been detained for raising voice against the government. They too were prosecuted by hanging to death by the ruling regime of that time on November 11 of 1887. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> sitting of the Communist International in 1889, it was resolved to observe May 1 as the day of the working class people. Since then May 1 has been observing as the Workers' day or Labour's

Day. Join body of rebel groups CorCom operating in the region, while paying respect to the working class people who had sacrificed for their rights stated the rebel group once more remember their courage. The CorCom statement further said that when the world community and working class people who have been suppressed by the capitalist regime stood up for their rights and sacrificed for the cause of the working class people the story of today's Kangleipak (Manipur) is different. Condition of the Working class people of the kangleipak have never been improved. Their economic condition are getting deteriorated day after day and they have nowhere to complain for their rights. Whichever regime came to the country and India the working class people were and are also deprived of their right and suppressed.

(to be contd.)

## IJU condemns arrest of Andaman Journalist

IT News  
New Delhi, April 30

The Indian Journalists Union (IJU) expressed shocked to the arrested Andaman based journalist for posting a tweet asking a question as to why a family was forced to remain in home quarantine following one of its member's speaking to a Covid-19 patient over telephone.

Zubair Ahmed, editor of 'Light of Andaman', a popular weekly newspaper, which is now published online, was summoned to the Bamboo flat police station in South Andaman district on April 27 for questioning over his tweet and then arrested, the police said on April 28. Zubair has been charged under IPC sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), 269 (negligent act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life) and 505 (1) that relates to publishing or circulating any statement, rumour or report. Sections 51 and 54 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 were also slapped against him.

He was later released on bail. The IJU condemn the arrest as well as the statement of the Director General of Police, Andaman justifying police action on Zubair Ahmed

## Romantic actor Rishi Kapoor passes away

IT Correspondent  
Mumbai, April 30

Bollywood actor, producer and director Rishi Kapoor passed away, at Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital in South Mumbai on Wednesday morning. He was 67 and is survived by actress wife Neetu, actor son Ranbir and daughter Riddhima Kapoor Sahani.

He was admitted to the hospital on Wednesday and breathed his last on early Thursday morning. He died from complications of bone marrow cancer. In 2018, he was diagnosed with cancer

for the first time, following which he was in New York for nearly a year to undergo treatment. He returned to India in September 2019. At the time of filing this report, the actor's last rites were to be performed at Chandanwadi Crematorium in Kalbadevi, in South Mumbai, where only 15 people were allowed to gather in view of COVID-19 by the BMC.

While Neetu and Ranbir and other Bollywood personalities including Alia Bhatt, Saif Ali Khan and Kareena Kapoor had reached the hospital, Kapoor's daughter,

Riddhima Kapoor Sahani was stuck in Delhi and had sought special permissions from the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to travel to Mumbai from Delhi.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted to condole the demise of the Bollywood veteran. He wrote: 'Multifaceted, endearing and lively, this was Rishi Kapoor ji.' NCP leader Sharad Pawar, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, West Bengal Chief, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, IMPPA and a host of film and political personalities condoled the death.

## Lunch Pack distributed to the needy farmers of Tentha Village

IT News  
Thoubal, April 30

The Wanging Tentha Farmers Development Association (WATEFADEAS) has distributed Lunch Pack to the Needy Farmers of Tentha Village in Thoubal District during the Covid-19 Lockdown Period Today. Participating in the Lunch Pack free distribution Programme, The Chief Functionary of the Organization (WATEFADEAS) and

Former Minister Moirangthem Hemanta Stated that There was a tradition where the man (husband) Works in the Agricultural field while the Woman (wife) would bring Lunch Pack for the husband in the work field. He said that such beautiful tradition need to be re-introduced to the Manipur Society because it helps being good relation and Co-operation between the Couple. Further distribution of

lunch pack only to the working farmers and fisherman in the field will be continued tomorrow at Teekham Lousipat, he added. He further said that such Programme will be implemented to the different villages of Thoubal District. N.ingibi Retd. Project Director (ATMA) & President of the Organization and Ningthou Naoria Vice-Principal of Kakching Khunou College also attend the Programme.

## Maharashtra heading for political crisis; Chief Minister seeks PM's intervention to bail him out

IT Correspondent  
Mumbai, April 30

When the entire nation is gripped with COVID-19, a sword of damocles hangs over the Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and his multi-party government in Maharashtra, with Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari remaining non-committal on nominating him to the legislative council.

Resultantly Thackeray, who could lose his post if he is not elected to the legislature by May 27, telephoned Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking his intervention to resolve the technical wrangle on Wednesday. He requested Modi to intervene since political impasse in the middle of Covid-19 outbreak would affect the state's

efforts to control the epidemic. Maharashtra has the highest number of Covid-19 cases among all states, top Shiv Sena leader said.

Thackeray, who is the Shiv Sena President, was sworn in on November 28, 2019, and, as per the Constitutional requirement, has to get elected as a member of Assembly or Council within six months. This deadline ends on May 28. He could have contested one of the 8 posts of the council (from MLA's quota) which became vacant on 24 April 2020. However due to pandemic the elections to these seats were postponed to these seats were postponed to the Election Commission. The term of the 10 appointees from the Governor's quota is slated to expire on 6 June and 15

June. Additionally two seats are already vacant from the Governor's quota. Besides, the four MLCs from the teachers and graduates constituencies are slated to retire on 19 July. It is clear that Thackeray cannot become an MLA or MLC by contesting elections at this stage and the only option is to become an MLC from Governor's quota.

As such the state cabinet recommended Thackeray's nomination for one of the two vacant seats from the Governor's quota and communicated it to him on 9 April. Since there was no response for over 20 days, a delegation of Maharashtra Vikas Aghad (MVA) ministers called on the Governor on Tuesday (28 April) and urged him to nominate Thackeray. The

Governor apparently communicated the delegation that he would consult the centre over the issue.

The Shiv Sena's strategy is to get Thackeray into the Upper House through Governor's quota - and once the lockdown is lifted and ask for the Council polls (that were due in April) and get elected to him to one of the Council seats.

If the Governor refuses, the Shiv Sena is ready to move court. The other option is that Thackeray resigns by 28 May and get sworn in again as Chief Minister. This has to be a smooth 24-hour operation, since Opposition BJP will leave no stones unturned to topple the government.

As per Article 164 (4) of the Constitution, a minister, who

is not a member of either Houses, will cease to be a minister, on expiry of six months. However, there are various interpretation and judgements on the article. The MVA does not want to take chances of legal wrangles and Constitutional crisis. Precedents and norms say that the usually the Governor goes with the decision of the cabinet.

In a related development smaller constituents of the Shiv Sena Government on Wednesday submitted a memorandum to the Governor and communicated that, "The state is fighting COVID-19 and the government is working round-the-clock. The situation is aggravating day by day. At this stage the political

and constitutional uncertainty has to be removed. As such the governor should nominate Thackeray to the council. The signatories to the memorandum included: Jayant Patil, Raju Korde (PWP), Sharad Patil, B G Kolse Patil, Pratap Hogade, Prabhakar Narkar (JD(S), Raju Shetti (Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghata), and Shyam Gaikwad(RPI-S). The delay in nominating Thackeray to the council has created anxiety in the Maha Vikas Aghadi, that comprises the Shiv Sena, Sharad Pawar-led NCP and Congress. MVA leaders have accused the BJP of misusing the Governor's houses for political gains and attempting to bring in President's rule in the state.

# ★ Editorial

## Lifting the goods to the loaded truck- Is this a good decision?

Four buses have been flagged off to bring back Manipuris that have been stranded at Manipur Bhavan Guwahati due to the nationwide lockdown being enforced by the government of India to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. As announced by the government authority, the four buses will bring back 84 people who have been stranded at Manipur Bhavan Guwahati. The initiative to bring back those Manipuri stranded outside the state has been taken up after thorough discussion in the meeting of the consultative committee formed to fight the COVID-19 Pandemic. And such steps are appreciated by almost all people, as parents or guardians, who were worried about the fate of their children during this invasion by COVID-19 pandemic, find some relief as they will be seeing their near and dear one soon.

As told by the authority, (base on data collected) a total of around 50,000 Manipuris including Meitei, Tangkhul, Kukis, Pangals, Kom, etc are presently staying at the different parts of the country. As the government of Manipur has started the initiative to bring back the stranded Manipuris from outside the state, people among the 50000 people including students and those working at different cities across the country will definitely find relief as they see hope of returning to their home state under the initiative of the government of Manipur.

After the transportation of the 84 stranded Manipuris at Manipur Bhavan Guwahati, parents and guardians and family members of the remaining Manipuris staying out may start urging the government to bring back their sons, daughters, and family members to arrange means to bring back too. Denying such request may spark protest and criticism and the government will be left with no choice but to assure the similar measures for bringing all the Manipuri whoever desire to return back.

Leaving aside the speculations of other Manipuris who may give pressure for their return, one wonders if the government is prepared enough to arrange safety accommodation for the 84 stranded Manipuri from Guwahati Manipuri house.

The world still is yet to understand the character of the virus. Scientists across the world are still doing an experiment to understand the virus. According to medical experts, it is stated that the virus is very tricky. It survives in the human body without showing any symptoms. Screening of body temperature is not enough to trace the virus in the human body. And moreover, the virus reportedly travels 6 feet that is equivalent to two metres. Some scientists said that in a close room the virus acted like more airborne if in case a person with the virus speaks loudly with sprinkle saliva. Every single day virologists find more characters of the virus and that means. And its common sense to all human being that until and unless a 'vaccine' or medicine is invented, the best way is physical distancing.

And one more thing that is acceptable by all is that human beings are the transporter of the killer virus. Director of RIMS Ahanthem Shanta during a discussion hour at a local TV had stated that as of now social distancing is the best policy to avoid spreading of the virus. The same was stated by the Additional Director of JNIMS during an interview with Imphal Times.

Now, point wanted to come here is that - with the recovery of two positive COVID-19 cases, Manipur today is a COVID-19 Free state. But then it is also worth recalling what the Chief Minister of Manipur had stated while addressing to media and the public. He had said - "It is only the beginning, we still have to prepare for the fight against the dreaded virus". This showed that until a vaccine to kill the virus and cure the patient affected by the virus, it will be not wise for any government to make any mistake in tackling the issue.

By today or day after tomorrow, 84 people from Guwahati of Assam will be arriving in the state. As per the report there are still 8 positive cases presently undergoing treatment, even as 29 of them have recovered. One person, the first COVID-19 case in Assam had died. And the government of Assam is working hard to find if the virus has spread among the community or not, even though as of now there is no such finding.

As the stranded 84 Manipuri natives which are bringing to the state are bringing from Assam which has a serious case of COVID-19, it is necessary that all of them be tested and quarantine at some isolated setup centers. The government talk about Home quarantined which will have no significance for those tested negative. At certain metropolitan city, Home quarantined may be possible but when it comes to the state of Manipur how many of the family have separate rooms, separate bathrooms. The asymptomatic character of the virus has been accepted and besides that, the longevity of the virus for around 37 days (as per the latest finding) has been heard by the government too.

If the government can provide a quarantined center to accommodate all the 84 persons for at least 37 days by arranging adequate washroom, living rooms it is well and good. But sending them home for self quarantined is more like creating apprehension of becoming Manipur listed in the COVID-19 map.

What Imphal Times would like to suggest is to collect data of Manipuris staying outside the state and provide all possible help by getting in touch with the respective states. Saying so some patients who need to return home, should be arranged, however.

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## E-Learning Wave During Covid-19 Lockdown

By - B.Sadanadana Sharma

When it comes to learning there can be different ways, as far as learning process is concern there should be proper materials to study and most importantly an instructor and right system approach. A tutor or instructors are the guidance of any learner. An instruction-led learning process also defined as a process of learning where teachers give instructions to students and follows, all this process only happens in schools, colleges and similar institutes.

E-learning is an environment of learning in which both technology and physical works are involved. The origins of term E- learning is not certain, still most likely originated during 1980's, as internet and electronic media has become our means of delivery of information in our day-to-day life, a widely proposed definition of E-learning is the delivery of instructional materials, using both prints and electronic media. The instructional delivery may include an instructor who is/was physically located in a remote place from the learner, as well as possibly providing the instruction at disparate times and situations, in all forms of E-learning, whether they are applications, programs, objects, websites etc., can eventually provide a learning medium to students.

In other words, E-learning platforms provide learning experience in the form of information or instruction through the medium of electronic media and technology. Emergence of E-learning as an effective mode of providing education during lockdown not only improves access to educational opportunities for learners but also improves in connectivity, flexibility and ability to promote varied interactions.

Another main feature of E Learning environment are the design methodology of Courses, Programs and learning materials which are to be made available to the students, it can be either Self-paced or Self-directed or Instructor-led. Most of the E-learning namely distance learning are design in a traditional educational environment like Universities, which is an instructor -led describes as an instructor guides learners through certain instructions controls and pacing all learners to participate in the learning activities at specified time. When it comes to Self-paced learning environment the learning environment enables the students or learner to study online in their own time and at their own pace, from any location, this mode of learning provides learner the more autonomy and to proceed in their own pace. Where the term Self-directed mode of learning comes, it is often defined as a mode of learning which is controlled; where the learner is more in charge of their own learning and

they monitor and manage.

In Manipur also with the plan of Government to secure students educational carrier, during COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, orders have been issued to conduct classes through online or E-learning. Consequently, the State Government specially the Education Department and other related authorities have taken up steps to bring forward the environment of E learning system into the state in imparting education during lockdown, mentioned may be that the SCERT started providing E-textbooks and study materials online for respective classes, even comic based eBooks to encourage reading of books to the students under class 4-8 during this lockdown period. Many schools, colleges and universities in the state have also started taking up classes through online system. Most of the environment adopted for online classes in different institutes and colleges are different from one another, some adopt a well systematic approach of teaching and some are below standard. E-learning as we all know relates with the use of electronic gadgets and internet, speaking of Internet, it helps us bringing the world into one place. Internet knows no bound and no restrictions in access, and also it is flooded with distractions, false and disturbing information. Anyone can get lost if there is no control of mind over this. We should encourage and give awareness to our young generations with the proper use of internet for educations and other research purpose right from now, E- learning process must have ethics and idea of internet is not only for passing time but also we can learn from it, also stronger bond between teachers and students.

Sometimes it is scary to think what will be the influence to the young minds of this generation without proper guidance by the concern authority. E-learning may solve the crisis brought by lockdown but without proper planning and supervision by the teachers, parents and authority may brought a bigger issues of misusing the electronic media. Most importantly their performance is to be monitored to assess their achievement frequently. It can clearly be seen when a small child starts using social media and chats in most of the popular social applications like Facebook, WhatsApp instead of using the system as a means of getting useful online study materials or relevant information.

When implementing anything new to a society, we must first consider both the positive and negative impact that may happen, E-learning is a very useful tool for learning when implemented in a right approach but also can degrade if not properly monitored. Many schools as a step to continue classes started providing online learning but when taking a deeper look into the system, has led to

concerns about the question of quality assurance and driven models on the structure. Also, E-learning concerns with both producing better learning experience for the student and learning how to teach better using technology.

According to Research by Patrick Suppes at Stanford, when seeing CAI (Computer Assisted Learning) or now also called E-learning or Online learning, he did a comprehensive research and concludes the following :

- If the technology was not up to the tasks that we envisaged for it, there can be lapses when implementing E-learning.
- Online learning can track & follow each student, providing the potential for customised learning pathways.
- A well richer learning theory is needed to inform design and practice of E-learning.
- In the future, large numbers of students using Online Learning will be an important part of the mainstream university.
- Students learning styles needed to be considered when developing online classes.
- How would more complex questions and responses be developed and handled as students increasingly engaged with higher-level content?

Now, the pertinent question is that how much are we ready for conducting E-learning or E-classes? According to most research it is clearly seen that certain norms and rules are mandatory to conduct E-classes. Yes, of course during lockdown it is a hard time for everyone but the concerned authorities and government machinery should also focus on the effectiveness and productivity of the whole process of E-learning system by engaging on the ground realities, instead of imparting the right knowledge it can bring a negative impact to young minds. Nowadays, anyone can get any information or online classes from any source via youtube, google, and many other application platforms so if we are

providing an online option of learning to our students, it better be not only the best one but the correct one too, to guide them in the right path for a collective good in future.

It is quite a good gesture and quick reaction of our Government that they have taken up such a step during lockdown to continue providing education even in this difficult time of a pandemic outbreak, also we should not only consider E-learning as a means of learning only for during this lockdown period, it is highly required to establish a better and strong foundation of this type of learning environment. As, this can also adopt for the section of students who cannot get proper education opportunities due to financial limitations or lack of educational infrastructures. Taking the opportunity of this we should make the best out of e-learning. It will also be a challenge but if we can adopt E-Learning after post lockdown also then it will be a great benefit for the entire student and teacher community as there will be multiple ideas, knowledge and information from different sources that any student can access anytime and teachers can also give special attention to students from anywhere. Roles and responsibilities of the Government, teachers and parents in shaping the students has been never so crucial, they should not only encourage the students to actively take part in such learning system but also should be aware and vigilant of its dangers. E learning is not a substitute form of learning, it is taking the same old education through a different medium, therefore, we all should give the same attention and treat seriously just like the traditional learning, only schools or colleges or Government cannot bring a positive change in a student, parents do have a bigger role to play and should take the responsibilities and act much more than expected from them traditionally.

## “Relief material distributed

IT News  
Imphal, April 30

As lockdown continues due to COVID -19 pandemic, Khundrakpam Menjor Mangang, a dedicated Karyakarta of Bharatiya Janata party as well as social worker and Founder, KM blooming, Khangabok have

distributed relief materials to 1200 households of Samaram village in Khangabok kendra. He also distribute Masks to old age persons and has given awareness to control from Covid19 as given norms by Manipur government. The villagers of Samaram village welcome to such kind of help.

## CRPF distributes safety items

IT News  
Imphal, April 30

109 BN CRPF under the aegis of IGP Manipur and Nagaland sector conducted a civic action programme yesterday in remote area at Golden Poly Club, Mayang, Imphal, Konchak, Makha, Leikei. In this programme safety items like Surgical Face Masks (Three Ply), Hand sanitizers, Hand Gloves,

Hand Wash and Lizol Floor cleaner have been distributed to Police Personnel of Mayang Imphal, Village/Club Presidents of Golden Poly Club and Mayang, Imphal, Konchak, Makha, Leikei, for further distributing to marginalized section of said villages. This programme was conducted to provide assistance to citizens and to spread awareness about preventive measures against COVID-19.

## AR distributes food to needy people

IT News  
Imphal, April 30

Hengbung post of Maram Battalion, 34<sup>th</sup> Assam Rifles, under Major Krishna Singh distributed the food articles to the Needy and underprivileged village veterans of very remote Kailanjang Village. While distributing the food articles social distancing was maintained and BFNA of the Hengbung post

carried out the counselling on hygiene & sanitation, importance of social distancing and preventive measures to avoid contagious disease Covid-19. The villagers expressed their deep gratitude for distributing the crucial food articles from time to time and appreciated the efforts and commitment of Assam Rifles to the cause of making Manipur a Corona free state.

## Important documents along with Bank pass book lost

I, the undersigned, **Irom Jeeban Singh**, do hereby declare that my Bank passbook issued by the State Bank of India bearing account number 20069918727, along with other important documents have been stolen by unknown miscreants from inside my Alto Car bearing registration No. MN02-9613, while parking at my residence on the intervening night of 29/3/18 and 30/3/2018.

Efforts to find my lost documents and my bank passbook went in vain,

Sd/-

**Irom Jeeban Singh**  
S/o. I. Manihar Singh  
Singimai Chingamkha Irom Leikai  
Imphal West