

COVID-19 lady delivered baby at RIMS; both mother and child safe

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

At a time when there are allegations about doctors refusing to provide medical service to patients in need, a COVID-19 positive mother safely delivered a baby at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) gynaecology labour room early today morning. Interestingly, the pregnant lady was brought on the previous day under emergency condition with a certificate showing that she was tested COVID-19 negative from Lilong Primary Health center. However, due to RIMS SoPs the pregnant lady was tested again at RIMS with RAT and found positive. Considering the emergency condition of the patient, gynaecologists and nurses at the hospital took extreme care for the patient by taking up extra measures to make sure that no one got contracted the virus from her, a source from RIMS said.

In a briefing sent through whatsapp by Media Advisor RIMS, Dr. Ranjit Singh, HOD, gynaecology Dept. RIMS said that the pregnant lady from Lilong was admitted on emergency situation. "During this crisis time due to COVID-19 pandemic, RIMS Gynaecology department has been opened and has been providing all sort of medical



treatment", Dr. Ranjit said. In connection with the COVID-19 positive patient who delivered a baby at the RIMS Gynae labour room, the doctor said that she was tested Covid-19 negative at Lilong Primary Health Center and admitted to RIMS on August 9. As per SOPs of RIMS she was once more tested with RAT but found positive with Covid-19. However, there were no sign of symptoms to her but doctors and nurse took extra care to make sure that she and other are safe. The 20 years old pregnant

lady from Lilong than was taken to labour room due to its emergency nature on the following day, that is on Aug 10 and doctors and team delivered a baby. "Both the child and the mother are safe", Dr. Ranjit Singh said. On consultation with paediatrician, it has been told that nothing will harm the child when breast feeding. The mother will be shifted to Covid care center but as of now the hospital authority are trying its best to safe both the mother and the child.

50 more with no travel history tested COVID-19 positive

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

A total of 50 more people from the state of Manipur who have no travel history has been tested COVID-19 positive in the last 24 hour, a statement from the State Health Department said. Total number of people tested positive with the virus is 90 in

the last 24 hour. Among them 57 are from among the general public of which 50 have no travel history. The remaining 43 tested positive with the virus are from the Central Armed Police Force. The state of the Health department said that among them 38 are tested at VRDL RIMS, 18 at JNIMS VRDL AND 1 AT Babina Dianostic

center at RTPCR. Others are tested using TruNat and Antigen at different centers and district hospitals. Total number of people tested with the virus has reached 3853 including 876 central security forces. Today 78 has been discharged today. With this total number of discharged person is 2122. The number of active case at present is 1720.

Former President Pranab Mukherjee tested positive for Coronavirus

Agency
New Delhi, Aug 10:

Former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee on Monday has been tested positive for the novel Coronavirus infection. Mukherjee took to Twitter to inform about his positive test results for COVID-19. In his tweet he informed that he has visited the hospital

for a separate procedure, however, it turned out that the former Indian President has infected with Coronavirus. He has requested everyone who has come in contact with him in the last one week to isolate themselves and get tested for the deadly infection. It is to note that the 84-year-old politician has served as the 13th Indian President

from 2012 until 2017. Wishing for a quick recovery, Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, tweeted that he is praying from the well being as well as a speedy recovery of Pranab Mukherjee. He added that he is confident that Mukherjee will be able to fight the infection and wished him strength.

From 'no-confidence' to 'motion of Confidence' Ruling party suppress opposition's plan, Chief Minister N. Biren dares propaganda

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

In a twist to the much talk about opposition congress party moving no-confidence motion, the ruling BJP led government spoils the political move by moving a motion of confidence to the one day 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly session today. "Moving the motion of confidence, leader of the house Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that even as there are some misunderstandings and differences among the members of the coalition government, the government needs to prove its majority.

"Those are family matters and we are still together and no differences among all members of the BJP and the ally partners", the confident Chief Minister said moving the confidence motion. "The representatives of the house still have confidence in the government. Giving a reason for moving the motion of confidence, N. Biren Singh said that the opposition Congress party has been spreading propaganda to distract the trust of the people of the state by spreading rumours about whether the government will survive or not. "The one session begins with a hectic debate between the

opposition leader Okram Ibobi and the Leader of the House N. Biren Singh on whether the no-confidence motion moved by the Congress Should be taken up or the motion of confidence should be taken up after the obituary reference. "However, Speaker of the house intervene the matter and took up the agenda by making the members understand that the agenda of the house has been prepared under rule number 355 and should be taken up as per the rules. "BJP led coalition government under Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has completed 3 years and 5 months. Moving the motion

of confidence, the Chief Minister said that since the government led by the BJP comes to the power relationship between the hill and plain people have been bridged, many programmes to ensure health care facilities to poor people have been taken up by distributing CMHT cards. "In connection with the development works, the Chief Minister said that Barak Bridge being constructed along the Imphal-Jiribam road has been nearly completed. Recently the Prime Minister has announced Rs. 3000 crore for Water Supply and other development

HOAMI appeals people to take responsibility in the implementation of ILP

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

HAOMI today said that demanding the government to stop issuing of ILP is sidelining of the responsibility of the people of the state.

A statement by the Vice president of HAOMI Hera Kabui said that due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic, issuance of ILPS

has been suspended since March 18 and on July 21 issuance of the ILP permit started again by an order of the Special Home Secretary. The statement said that even as various Civil society bodies have been appealing to stop issuing of the ILP pass, the authority turn debt and continue to issue the ILP permit to outsiders. Federation of Haomi said that

urging authority to stop issuing of ILP pass is lost of self confidence to the people. Who are transporting the outsiders, who are keeping them and who are using them have been use, is known to each and everyone of us. The HAOMI Vice President said that we should not let the issue of ILP to government alone, we all should take equal responsibility to implement

ILPS. He also question about the influx of KUKI outsiders who had been mixed with the people of the state. He said identification of outsider is the duty of the people and issuing of pass is the duty of the government.

Meanwhile, The Oriental Leveler Association has stated the government to stop issuing of ILP during COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Ministry's tele-medicine platform provides over 1.5 lakh online consultations

Agency
New Delhi, Aug 10:

Union Health ministry's initiative eSanjeevani OPD, a telemedicine service, has registered one lakh 58 thousand online consultations. Health and family welfare minister Harsh Vardhan said, since last November, 23 states have launched the services

covering 75 per cent of the country's population, while others are in the process of rolling it out. The eSanjeevani platform has enabled two types of tele-consultations- doctor-to-doctor (eSanjeevani) and patient-to-doctor (eSanjeevani OPD). Dr Harsh Vardhan said, eSanjeevani is being implemented under the Ayushman Bharat Health and

Wellness Centre (AB-HWCs) programme. It seeks to connect all 150,000 Health and wellness centres using the hub-and-spoke model by December 2022, he said. So far, 12,000 health professionals, including 2,800 doctors, have been trained to offer consultations on the national

e-platform through over 3,000 HWCs across 10 states. Every day, around 250 doctors and specialists are providing eHealth services despite the lockdowns, he said. This service is available on Android apps. A patient gets to see the doctor in around five minutes after logging in.

Ph.D Awarded



Ms. Wangkhem Tampakleima Chanu, D/o Wangkhemcha Sanjai Meitei and Nameirakpam Radhe Devi of Mongshangei Mayai Leikai, Imphal West, Manipur has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Agriculture in the Discipline of Plant Pathology by College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur for her thesis entitled "Characterization of Fusarium Wilt of Pea and

its Management". She carried out her research work under the supervision of Dr. Bireswar Sinha, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University, Imphal.

During her research period she has published nine research papers in reputed journals, two short communications, seven book chapters and many oral and poster presentations at National and International seminars, conferences and symposiums. She was a recipient of University Research Fellowship, Best Oral and Poster award in National seminars.

We wish her all the success, happiness and joy in life.

Family, Relatives & Friends

SC to hear UGC response by Aug 14 on decisions taken by Maharashtra, Delhi Govt to cancel university exams

Agency
New Delhi, Aug 10:

The Supreme Court today granted time to the University Grants Commission (UGC) to respond to the position taken by the Maharashtra and Delhi Government to cancel university exams amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The Apex Court has also sought reply by UGC to address the question whether the Disaster Management Act would override the UGC notification on guidelines

for exams. The Bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R. Subhash Reddy and M.R. Shah took up the matter for hearing today. The governments of Delhi and Maharashtra had earlier filed affidavits in the Court stating that the exams would not be conducted in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The UGC on the other hand maintained that the exams need to be conducted by September 30. The apex court has given time to UGC to file the reply on the issue and the Supreme Court fixed the matter for hearing on August 14.

★ Editorial

Negative remarks on positive activities Is this a way to encourage COVID-19 warriors?

A senior resident, who has been known for his dedication to the cause for the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, was seen collapsed, perhaps due to exhaustion while on duty to save COVID-19 infected patients at JNIMS. The modus operandi of how health workers have been assigned to provide all available health care facilities at CCCs at both JNIMS and RIMS as well as others have been known and this newspaper had also highlighted few.

Lately, a COVID-19 positive pregnant lady delivered a baby at RIMS hospital under strict measures to ensure that no health workers in the team got infected with the virus. There are many pregnant ladies in the hospital where gynecologists and nurses are keeping an eagle eye round the clock to make sure that those under health care services are safe and sound taking all risks during this pandemic.

A few days back Sky Hospital, a private run cardiac treatment center in a press statement said that their hospital is open and not included in the containment zone announced by the district administration. The press statement indicated that even during the COVID-19 pandemic the hospital is not close and still is open for the needy patient.

A similar announcement is made by Shija Hospital and Research center by its managing Director. After all, this hospital has proved that they care more to save the life of patients in need by performing surgery without waiting for test results for COVID-19.

When many of the health workers have been performing duty taking all risk as it is their performance, many so-called self-style intellectuals, or social workers brought up issues that may defame the life saviors. Well, not every doctor may have the same feeling of risking their lives to save the patient, but there are countless of them working with dedication.

Sometimes, people seem to have forgotten that doctors are no lesser God. They are a human being with no difference from others. The only difference between other people in those in the medical profession is that they wanted to serve and save human lives.

Well, criticisms from those who have fewer ideas of the difficulties faced by doctors and nurses is normal, but when a doctor in the same profession mock and criticize the dedication of a doctor, than it is jealousy. The person, a doctor, and who is also a senior most doctor of RIMS mocking Dr. Utham who collapsed due to exhaustion is very unfortunate.

If senior doctors, who mock the hard work of a junior doctor is let free, then many who had wanted to serve the people may be discouraged. It is expected that junior doctors of his institution (RIMS) may have been discouraged by this doctor, and authorities of RIMS need an immediate inquiry into this matter. Or else there are also possibilities that he being ahead of the department may advise students and junior doctors at RIMS not to render their valuable service during this crisis time. If the comment by him at FB was a doctored one than he needs to take the help of the cybercrime police.

Jay Akonjam
It looks like a well choreograph drama for the reasons known to the respected Doctor.
Is he the only doctor posted in the Covid ward during that time? Why he fell down near a wheelchair? Why was the Covid patient roaming around at the corridor next to the collapsing Doctor? Why did he examine a patient apparently non-emergency immediately, sitting on a wheelchair and talking to the patient so normally? As a doctor, he should try to solve his acute problems first? Any unnatural fall is an acute medical emergency. If he is only doctor posted in the Covid ward, JNIMS Administration is accountable.
To me, it is remake of the movie

ADDRESSING THE ZELIANGRONG QUESTION

By - Pakinrichapbo, Advocate
Samzuraam Village, Peren
Nagaland

The Naga peace talk is on the edge of conclusion as reported in the Nagaland post dated 15.07.2020. It goes further to state that in a major breakthrough Government of India Representative and Interlocutor, Mr. Ravi, and also Governor of Nagaland and the Working Committee of NNPGs agreed to finalize draft agreement for early settlement to the decades old Naga Political issue. The said press statement also mentioned that both the parties have chalked out action plan for impending final agreement, so the negotiation is closed between Interlocutor and WC of NNPGs as per the deadline of the 31st October 2019.

However, the narrative on the other side is different with the Gol and NSCN-IM failing to break the impasse on the issue of co-existing as two entities and share sovereignty with IM still not giving up on separate flag, constitution, and territorial integration. The question as to what makes the results of Naga peace talks more so connected with the Zeliangrong people comprise of Zeme, Liangmai, Rongmei and Inpu tribe, living in three state of Assam, Manipur and Nagaland. Zeliangrong people were recognized under different names by the Schedules Tribe Order 1950 and its subsequent amendments. This article is an attempt to illustrate how the results of the current peace talks will have a huge implication on the Zeliangrong people and their ancestral lands. The irony is that the Zeliangrong people are so politically divided thanks to individual and local interests, crude regionalism, and blind loyalty to their own factions without prudently discussing how to secure the best interests for the people. In modern political sense, Zeliangrong consciousness as one unit started with Haipou Jadonang 1905-1931. After his untimely death the burden of fulfilling Zeliangrong political interests was passed on to his successor late Apeh Gaidinliu

(1915-1993). In Nagaland context, fellow Naga tribes often question Zeliangrong existence in Nagaland without bothering to find out its historical backgrounds. Late Gaidinliu though born and raised in Longkao Village, under Tamenglong District Manipur, had huge followers from her kindred tribes living in several villages under Tening Sub-division (Peren) and also from Zeliangrong people living in Dima Hasao formerly North Cachar Hills, which is one of the main reasons why Zeliangrong entity exists in Nagaland.

Followers of Naga political history will be aware of the fact that when Naga Movement gained momentum across all Naga villages from middle part of 1950s, Apeh Gaidinliu met Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at Imphal (in 1953) and made him conscious of her people living conditions and also to do something spreading across the three States. She soon mobilized members of the Zeliangrong who believed in her cause to fight for Zeliangrong homeland under the Indian Constitution. When the Naga National Council (NNC) authority was in its peak, Gaidinliu had to suspend Zeliangrong movement for homeland due to intense pressure from Zeliangrong leaders working in NNC. The Zeliangrong leaders felt that it would not be right to go against the Naga cause spearheaded by NNC as it might create a sense of betrayal by the Zeliangrong. Soon after suspension of the Zeliangrong movement, the talks between Naga People Convention and Gol, resulted in Naga hills being upgraded to full pledge statehood in 1963. Even though NNC condemned the statehood, their condemnation could not save the Zeliangrong people from physical disintegrations, blood brothers land boundaries with few inch apart became state boundaries further severing their historical ties and sympathy for each other. This was the first setback to Zeliangrong fraternity. Even after the Statehood and Shillong Accord under the Indian Constitution, the

Zeliangrong community still believes in the Naga cause and continues to support the Naga cause carry forward by NSCN and thus suspended their movement for homeland. The Zeliangrong people especially living in Assam and Manipur still believe in the results of Naga Peace talks with the hope of integration.

Forlornly, the Naga movement had come a long way crossing 70 years now and counting, in these long years Zeliangrong faith in Naga cause remain as strong as it was in early NNC days, even overlooking the reality that the Naga tribes leading the movement now seems to have different aspirations to achieve from the peace talks, as most of the leading tribes lives within a single state and have nothing much to lose but to gain more after the final agreement is executed. While for the naive Zeliangrong their faith in Naga cause could not shake them out unless the contents of impending final agreement do the talking.

As an ardent believer in Naga unity, I still hope the peace talks will deliver something to all the Naga tribes, but I'm left with little hope as Interlocutor R. N. Ravi said even territorial integration is dropped from the demands of Naga negotiators. With Gol and NNPGs agreement, it is very likely that the agreement would extend only within Nagaland state. And if speculations are true, Nagaland will see increase of State Legislative Assembly seats and parliamentary seats, establishment of legislative council. Not discrediting the influence of NNPGs outside Nagaland, but I wonder if any arrangement made for Naga in neighboring states would see the light of day. Time and again NNPGs have stressed that they speak and remember the welfare of Naga in other states, but it is hard to comprehend that NNPGs will fight tooth and nail to secure interests of Naga outside Nagaland, even when the so-called Naga nationalists has taken regionalism to a new level. In such a reality, Zeliangrong have very nominal or nothing to achieve

from Gol and NNPGs solution for the Nagas.

With Gol and NSCN IM, the situation is not better, may be even worse. The NSCN-IM has said they have not given up on integration, but Interlocutor had time and again maintain integration of Naga areas is out of the picture. How can Nagas get separate flag and constitution even when Gol is not willing to redraw state boundaries, which is legally permissible within the constitution? From the time of the formation of NSCN in 1980 and later split of NSCN to NSCN-IM and NSCN-K in 1988 to 2020 (which comes to total of 40 years and still counting), Zeliangrong people have given its due share of cooperation to IM, so what more one could anticipate if the peace talks fail to integrate Zeliangrong people and their lands? Or one expects all Zeliangrong to fully cooperate if IM decides to resume their guerrilla warfare against India in case the peace talks break down. As for myself being a part of the Zeliangrong, I will be more than content if any group in peace talks could bring some sort of administrative autonomy outside the administrative control of present states government in Assam and Manipur context, even when full integration of Zeliangrong people could not be achieved straightaway.

However, failing to achieve even administrative autonomy from the peace talks, the Zeliangrong people need to seriously re-examine the sacrifices of their people to Naga cause by not only studying the present social, economical, and political conditions of the Zeliangrong people living in the three states of Assam, Manipur, and Nagaland, but also studying whether continuing to sacrifice for Naga cause will integrate its people. Lastly Zeliangrong people need to realize India's political realities before it is too late, that India will remain a difficult place for the minorities to survive, and worst in tribal state.

Modi redefined secularism with Ram Mandir as Hindu voters were fed up of Sonia-Left version

By -SHEKHAR GUPTA
(Courtesy - The Print)

Did Indian secularism die on 5 August in Ayodhya? It follows, then, that a new Indian Republic would have been invented, a Hindu Rashtra.

If you accept those two arguments, a third becomes inevitable. Any Indian with a belief in our secular Constitution can then say this isn't the country I was born in. And, I am going away. To America, where else, but only once Donald Trump goes this winter and immigration eases up.

To be upfront, we dismiss all of these assumptions as bunk. First of all, the rumours of the death of secularism are just that, rumours, and vastly exaggerated too. Sorry, Mark Twain, to drag you into the messiest side of our politics. Second, the death of secularism has been announced several times before; on a rough count, about as often as our commando comic TV channels declare Dawood Ibrahim dead.

Sorry for that odd comparison. But a rumour is a rumour is a rumour. Of course, it is fun if you are a masochist and relish self-flagellation.

A very vast majority, in fact almost all of the 138-plus crore of us here, have no green cards or benevolent uncles or foundations waiting to take us to America. Or Europe. Or

that new destination with sex appeal for some, Turkey. We have to live in an India governed by whoever the people choose, based on the same Constitution we hold so dear.

In the past 35 years, secularism has been pronounced dead by the Right after Rajiv Gandhi's action on the Shah Bano case (1986), the proactive ban on *Satanic Verses* (1988), the unlocking of the gates of Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi, Shilanyas and the launch of the national election campaign from Ayodhya with the promise of Ram Rajya (1989).

Then, in 1992, with the destruction of the mosque, followed by widespread communal riots. What else could you expect from a prime minister who "wore khaki chaddi (RSS shorts) under his dhoti?" Arjun Singh drafted Sonia Gandhi to come in with Sanjivani Booti, but that had short-lived effect in Kaliyuga. Indian secularism was again pronounced dead in 1996, when Atal Bihari Vajpayee put together India's first BJP-led government, even if it lasted just 13 days. It was three more than what Congress party's affable spokesman then, V.N. Gadgil, had predicted it to be, a "ten-day wonder".

The next time Indian secularism died was in the Gujarat killings of 2002, and then died again and again as Modi kept winning there. It was then

that we could foresee May 2014, May 2019 and now 5 August 2020, being scripted. I wrote two National Interest pieces, in the wake of the 2002 and 2007 Gujarat elections, anticipating the inevitable and unstoppable rise of Narendra Modi as a dominant national leader ('The Modi Magnifier', and 'If Modi wins on Sunday'). The second even said Modi's short-sleeved kurtas would become a political fashion statement.

Am I a Modi fan, or to use that expression fashionable these days, a 'bhakti'? Not even Modi will accuse me of that. But I am a journalist with eyes and ears open. Indian secularism was pronounced dead in 2014 and again in 2019. But on 5 August, that is earlier this week, it was still alive to be killed yet again. But hang on, you might say, this time I have seen its corpse. You would be right.

Something did indeed die this 5 August in Ayodhya. It is just that it wasn't our constitutional secularism, but a version of it concocted after December 1992.

That the Babri demolition and the riots that followed angered a lot of middle-of-the-road Hindus also is a fact proven by election results that followed. This was especially so in the Hindi heartland, particularly Uttar Pradesh. After Kalyan Singh's BJP government was dismissed, Mulayam Singh Yadav's SP and

Mayawati's BSP took turns in power.

Both built their new politics around the redefined 'secular' vote. In Bihar, Lalu Yadav had already perfected the formula. The secular vote now came to be seen as Muslim vote.

It was around this new notion that old enemies came together in unlikely coalitions to keep the BJP out of power. The two United Front coalitions on daily wages, under H.D. Deve Gowda and I.K. Gujral, were both an arrogant negation of the popular will. The only time this new post-1992 'anybody but the BJP' secular formulation won a genuine mandate was in 2009.

The reason we call the post-1992 secularism a new formulation is because of how strongly Left politics and intelligentsia got involved in it. They rewrote the Ayodhya binary as: Did Ram even exist or not? This ran contrary to the Congress party's cautious approach where minorities were patronised, but Hinduism never mocked.

If the new BJP was dyed deeper saffron, the Congress-led alliance's secularism was now much redder. It led to a series of blunders: The abolition of POTA (Prevention of Terrorism Act), as a pre-condition to the formation of UPA-1, because the 'Muslims' felt victimised. Never

(Contd. on Page 3)

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YFPHR urges for inquiry to the alleged misconduct and negligence by medical practioner in Manipur

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

The Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) has urged the Registrar, Manipur Medical Council, Imphal to initiate urgent inquiry as per the Section 13 (f) of Manipur Medical Council Act, 2009 for the Refusal by the Hospital Authorities to provide emergency medical attention which led to death.

In a letter submitted to the Registrar MMC, the Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) said that gross misconduct and negligence by the practitioner along with the hospital authority has been reported during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It said that Kanpatliu Kamei (20 years), a resident of Puichi (Makuliongdi) village is a pregnant woman who died along with her unborn baby on the morning of 6th August 2020 at the entrance of Shija

Hospitals Casualty. She had been denied of medical treatment by various hospital including JNIMS and RIMS. On the afternoon of 5th August 2020, Kanpatliu's family took her at Senapati District Hospital as she was expecting to deliver a child.

At about 10.30 PM, without giving any valid reason, the doctors on duty at Senapati District Hospital told her family that she should better be taken to Imphal. Consequently, her family rented a private vehicle and reached JNIMS at around 12.30 A.M. However, she was refused to admit at JNIMS despite having a Covid-19 Negative Test Result issued by Medical Officer In-charge, Noney District. Her family had no other option except to find other hospital and therefore, Kanpatliu was taken to RIMS. RIMS also refused to treat her despite knowing her serious medical condition. In route to Shija Hospital, her family tried to seek medical assistance from

couple of hospital, in a same manner, she was refused to admit there. On reaching Shija Hospital, Kanpatliu died along with her child.

On 31st July 2020, a 3 (three) years boy namely, Md. Himmat, s/o Md. Helaluddin, a resident of Santhel Mamang Leikai was evacuated to Mayang Imphal Primary Health Centre (PHC) after he was drowning. However, a lady doctor who was stationed at the health centre refused to provide any medical attention and treatment. On refusal to treat him at the PHC, the boy was taken to Mother's Care Children Hospital at Sagolband Moirang Leirak, Imphal. The doctors and staff at the hospital tried their best but couldn't save him. Md. Himmat was declared dead at around 11.45 am on the same day.

Md. Iqbal Haque is a resident of Lilong. On 24.07.2020, he had a complaint of abdomen pain. He was immediately taken to JNIMS Hospital

Porompat to seek emergency medical attention. Thereafter, he was admitted there. The doctors concerned were expected to ready to conduct surgery after necessary testing including Covid-19 test. In an utter surprise, the patient party was asked to treat him at Lamjingba Hospital, Imphal which is private hospital. As told by doctors concerned, Md. Iqbal Haque was taken to the said private hospital. But the said hospital refused to treat him. Thereafter, he was taken to RIMS Hospital. RIMS also refused to treat him. Having no other alternative, he was brought back to JNIMS again. But on reaching the hospital gate, he had his last breath.

On 10 June 2020, Mrs. Longjam Basanti, a resident Thiayam Leishangkhang was taken to Community Health Centre, Wangoi as she was to give birth. She used to consult one doctor Tampha who is a Medical Officer posted at the said CHC. On

reaching there, the CHC administration refused to admit her on the pretext that the said CHC had been converted into Covid-19 isolation centre. As a result, the family of Basanti was compelled to admit her nearby hospital. The family tried to admit at Ragini Memorial Charitable Clinic, but no doctor was available there. Thereafter, Basanti was immediately taken to JNIMS which JNIMS authority declared her brought death. On the 6th of August, 2020, 5 days old infant boy died due to negligence and refusal for treatment by the authority of the District Hospital, Churachandpur District. At evening the infant child was brought to the District Hospital and sought for the diagnosis to the Medical Officer on duty, however, they were neglected by the doctor on duty by not attending the infant child. Later after sometime, the nurse on duty checked the temperature of the boy and

the doctor on duty randomly prescribed some medicines while inquiring about their travel history. On seeing the negligence the family members were compelled to return home, which later the infant child succumbed to his illness at around 8:30pm.

As the facts and the circumstances has been highlighted it is observed that the RIMS, JNIMS, District Hospitals, PHCs and CHCs have violated fundamental rights of the patients guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Article 21 of the Constitution guarantees protection of life and personal liberty to every citizen. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has held that the right to health is an integral part of Article 21 of the Constitution. Therefore, failure on the part of a government hospitals and practitioners in charge of the Hospitals and Health Centers to provide timely medical treatment to a person in need of such treatment

results in violation of right to life guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.

YFPHR demands:
1. Initiate an inquiry under Section 13 (f) of the MMC, Act 2009 for the gross misconduct or negligence committed by the medical practitioners in charge of the RIMS, JNIMS, PHCs, CHCs and others for utter denial to attend critical case as cited above.
2. Direct the Director, JNIMS, RIMS, CMOs of PHCs, MOs of CHCs etc of the aforementioned Health Centres to furnish and submit a detailed report in a week time from the date of receipt of this complaint.
3. After due process of inquiry, we urge the Manipur Medical Council to award a fair compensation for the damage caused to patient family members and the amount for the said damage shall be recovered from the concern administrations of health care centres as cited above

Smuggled heroin worth Rs 1,000 crore seized

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Aug. 10:

In a massive haul of drugs, 191 kg heroin worth Rs 1,000 crore, smuggled from Afghanistan, via Iran, as imported ayurvedic medicine, was seized at the Nhava Sheva port, near Navi Mumbai, by officers of the Mumbai customs and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence on Saturday.

Two customs house agents (CHA) Meenantha Bodake of "MB Shipping and Logistics Solution" and Kondibhai Pandurang Gunjan were arrested from Nerul and Mumbai respectively, for their involvement in the case and were remanded to judicial custody for 14 days, by the court, on the condition that their COVID-19 tests are negative.

Arrested CHA Bodake told investigators that one Mohammed Numan had introduced him to Delhi-based importer Suresh Bhatia of "Sarvim Exports". Bhatia was arrested in drug peddling case earlier. Four more persons including an importer and a financier have been picked from Delhi and are being brought to Mumbai, sources said.

"Sarvim Exports" is a proprietorship firm registered under Companies Act 1956 having registered office address at Derawal Nagar in North West Delhi and has been engaged in importing "Glycyrrhiza glabra", from the "Baradaran Keyhanzai Ltd" and "Mohammad Dawood Abdul Hakim Ltd" based in Afghanistan. The "Glycyrrhiza glabra", commonly known as Liquorice (esthmadh) is used as a flavouring agent in foods and medicinal remedies. It is widely used to treat cough.



Acting on the tip off, officers of the special intelligence and investigation branch (SIIB) of the Customs, sought the help of DRI. When the officials examined the container, they noticed orange-coloured gunny bags that had been imported by "Sarvim Exports". The goods inside the gunny bags were labelled as "Glycyrrhiza glabra" extract.

The drug was inside gunny bags, hidden in plastic pipes which were painted to make them look like bamboos. The contraband was declared an Ayurvedic medicine. The wooden pipes were covered with bark that appeared to be pasted on them. When the officials removed the outer bark, they noticed that it was a pipe with a powder stuffed inside it. An NDPS test was conducted to ensure that the powder was heroin. After the test confirmed that contraband was transported into the country, the NDPS confiscated it.

"A larger syndicate is involved in the distribution of the narcotics. Some of the accomplices of the accused, who had abetted the crime, are yet to be apprehended. Ongoing investigations seem to suggest that the accused had smuggled similar quantities of drugs in the past as well. Officials said this was the biggest haul in Mumbai adding that a larger syndicate is involved in the distribution

of the narcotics. Some of the accomplices of the accused, who had abetted the crime, are yet to be apprehended. Ongoing investigations seem to suggest that the accused had smuggled similar quantities of drugs in the past as well.

In a similar seizure, on 31 January, the special task force of Punjab police had seized 194 kg of heroin and other contraband from a rented house in Amritsar district and arrested six persons, including an Afghan national and a woman.

Afghanistan has been the world's illicit opium maker since 2001. The country's poppy harvest produces more than 90 per cent of illicit heroin globally and more than 95 per cent of the European supply. From Mumbai, the target areas of distribution by local networks are the main metropolitan cities including Mumbai.

IT Correspondent
Delhi, Aug 10:

Due to COVID-19 induced prolonged lock down, there has been unprecedented spike in India's unemployment rate particularly during the months of April and May, as per the data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). According to CMIE, India's overall unemployment rate for the month of July stood at 7.43 per cent. Among its major states, there is still cause for concern in Bihar (12.19 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (8.35 per cent), Rajasthan (15.23 per cent), Telangana (9.05 per cent), and Delhi (20.3 per cent), all of which have recorded rates markedly higher than the national average. The CMIE calculates its overall unemployment rate by conducting a survey of over 1.74 lakh households over a four-month period. Around

43,600 households distributed all across the country were surveyed each month to determine the monthly joblessness rate. About 10,900 households, translating to 35,900 individuals, were surveyed on a week-to-week basis.

With the lockdown measures instituted, businesses shuttered causing a huge wave of reverse migration, the country's overall unemployment rate rose as high as 27.11 for the week that ended on 7 May.

It is worth noting that India had been facing a crisis of employment even prior to the pandemic. According to government figures, India's unemployment rate for 2017-2018 fiscal year was pegged at 6.1 per cent, the highest in 45 years.

The massive layoffs and furloughs that have taken place since the start of March have highlighted the financial vulnerabilities of India's heterogeneous MSMEs that

form the spine of the country's economy. India's MSMEs are spread widely across the country with 63 million or 50 per cent of such firms, contributing to 30 per cent of India's GDP, located in rural areas.

While some experts have contended that an economic recovery may be, largely, driven by a revival in the agricultural segment, according to a Credit Suisse analysis dated 20 July, agriculture accounts for just 29 per cent of the rural economy. The rest of the rural economy consists of manufacturing, construction, public sector work, communication and financial services.

The Centre has responded to the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic with a stimulus package, largely, focused on putting income into the hands, and food on the table of the country's worst affected communities.

As far as employment goes, this has meant increased investment into the government MGNREGA scheme. According to some reports, as many as 125 million households had applied for work under the scheme between April and July, compared to 90 million households during the same period last year, signifying a rise of nearly 40 per cent.

The increased work under the scheme has contributed markedly to the reduction in the overall unemployment rate from alarmingly high levels in May to the single digits it currently stands at. While further investment into the scheme is certainly warranted, it is also important to note that employment opportunities under MGNREGA are not equally distributed across states. In fact, fewer opportunities exist under MGNREGA in states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, two of India's most populous states.

Contd. from page 2

Modi redefined secularism with Ram Mandir

mind that the same government, not soft on terror, simultaneously amended UAPA. Is it much softer? Ask Dr Kafel Khan. The Sachar Committee, which raised a question like the count of Muslims in the Army, and serial announcements of Muslim job reservations (which did nothing for Muslims), followed. The UPA government gave the nation's highest peacetime gallantry award to a police officer killed in the Batla House encounter, and its top leadership then began raising doubts on it, to 'assuage' the Muslim sentiment. There were other missteps like Manmohan

Singh's statement on why he thought the minorities should have the first right on the nation's resources. Pre-Sonia, you would have never heard a Congress prime minister say such a thing. SP, BSP and RJD were winning power simply by hypheating the Muslim vote with one or two other large castes, and then providing lousy governance. At some point the voter, especially the Hindu voter, had enough of it. It is that secularism which finally died this week. Its beneficiaries had seen it coming. Or you wouldn't have seen Rahul Gandhi's new Dattatreya Brahmin avatar in *janewu*, and the big temple visits. Too

little, too late. Narendra Modi would argue that all he has done is redefine Indian secularism according to the will of the people. He speaks with the strength of a repeat mandate. You can blame the people. Irrespective of what the Constitution says, in a genuine republic, if enough people do not like something, they will reject it. Kamal Ataturk declared Hagia Sophia to be neither a church (which it was for almost a millennium until 1453), nor a mosque, which it had been since. He made it a museum. He was no democrat, but a benevolent dictator, albeit secular. He wanted religion out of

politics. Last month, Erdogan reversed it. Unlike Ataturk, he is democratically elected. Is his decision popular in Turkey or not? Does this, then, reflect the true will of the people? What was secular wasn't democratic, what is democratic isn't secular. Politics is a funny game. You can't elect a new people. Nor are the people of India such a lost cause. Enough Hindus still vote against Modi, in spite of his massive appeal. What they need is a better proposition. I take you back to the summer of 1996, the Lok Sabha debate on the vote of confidence that the 13-day Vajpayee

government lost. Ram Vilas Paswan, 'secular' then, made a brilliant speech. Babur brought only 40 Muslims, he said. They then became crores because you (upper castes) did not let us in to your temples, but the mosques were open, so we went there instead, he said. Indian secularism is enshrined in the basic structure of our Constitution, further strengthened by the Supreme Court judgment on Ayodhya that shrewdly located the 1993 law protecting all other shrines in India within it. This is worth preserving. Indian secularism doesn't deserve a tombstone. It needs a new shrine, in the manner that Paswan put it.

PIB and ROB Imphal host Webinar under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme

Handicrafts are a part of Cultural exchanges between regions and strengthen national integration

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

Handicrafts are a part of our cultural identity, unique to each region and their popularity across the regions have the potential of strengthening national integration and helping the local art, culture and skills to flourish. This view was expressed at the Webinar organized by Press Information Bureau and Regional Outreach Bureau, Imphal under the platform of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme today.

In his welcome address, Additional Director General (Region), S N Pradhan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has given us a

readymade platform in form of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme to contribute to national integration. The focus of the EBSB programme is tailor made to help the various cultures of our complex country to come together.

The first guest speaker at the Webinar, Raju Kumar, Senior journalist of Bhopal, highlighted the fact that thought the materials used in various handicraft items may be similar, each product is in fact unique. It is a complete representation of a culture and has the stamp of an individual or group of individuals. Shri Raju, who has made documentary on handicrafts like Zari zardozi, Terracotta and shilotsava, said

that taking the handicrafts of one region to other is a valuable tool for national integration. He asked the media persons and officials to do their utmost to educate the people on the reasons why handicrafts are naturally costlier than machine made products. He said in times like these, when it is not possible to organize handicraft fairs, we must create the necessary online platforms to market these products.

Omam Naobi Singh was the second expert speaker on the webinar. Shri Singh is a trainer of bamboo handicrafts and also the owner of 'Leitang Wa' bamboo production house. He has been campaigning for development of bamboo in Manipur since last 15 years.

In his speech he highlighted the fact that bamboo is a very sturdy material which lends itself to multiple uses. Although bamboo is grown in many regions and is available commercially everywhere, bamboo handicrafts of some regions are really unique, he said. He thanked the Prime Minister for highlighting it at the national level through his Mann Ki Baat programme recently.

Abhishek Dayal, Director, PIB Imphal thanked the participants and urged the media to take the message of promotion of handicrafts to the people. The webinar was attended by 35 persons including media persons and officials of PIB and RoB Imphal region.

NSCN-IM and GOI talk is damaging the state of Manipur – Writers' Forum

IT News
Imphal, Aug 10:

Union of Associations of Manipur Writers has submitted a memorandum to the President of India, Prime Minister, Home Minister, Governor of Manipur and Chief Minister of Manipur addressing the grievances of the people of the state due to the unsettled dispute between the Government of India and the NSCN-IM.

The memorandum stated that the present socio-political-cultural crisis in Manipur, India, is created by the ill-reputed Indo-Naga Framework of Agreement and the ensuing Indo-Naga Peace Accord, which is now going on in India between the Government of India, (henceforth will be termed GOI) and the so called Nagas, the spill-over of which are damaging the state of Manipur, India in dimensions of its ancient, natural, original and political boundaries, its demography, its socio-economic and cultural spheres. On the other hand the repeated whiplash has visited in Manipur hurting and burning the hearts of the populace of Manipur as an extra destroyer of the physical physiognomy and mental consistency of Manipuri people in the midst of this worldwide pandemic outbreak of Covid-19 as we have heard that the Indo-Naga Peace Accord may finally conclude with agreed political terms and conditions before the 15 August 2020.

The forum asked what new clauses and amendments of the constitution of India are coming forth from these agreements. The GOI might think this is secrecy of the government and its policies.

The Union of Associations of Manipur Writers - UAMW (Manipuri Ayiba Lupsing Apunba Lup - MALAL), Imphal, Manipur along with the many social, political, economical and cultural organizations of Manipur, India, questions the following in connection with the talk:

1. Procedure of the talks going

on Why an interlocutor? Who is this interlocutor? How much of credibility, intellectuality, wisdom, diplomacy and statesmanship does he possess? Why so secretive in these days of democracy? Is there some hidden agenda to destroy the age-old Manipur with its history of more than 2000 years of an independent kingdom, with this treacherous strategy of further Balkanization of this small state?

2. Condemnation procedure GOI says they will discuss with the state holders after the final completion of the talks. Is the procedure not like 'putting the cart before the bullocks'? And what detailed and genuine matters can the stakeholders put forth in a meeting of one-two hours later after the finalisation of the agreements? The so-called talks have damaged peace, political and social security in Manipur. The Naga revolution has been torturing the people of Manipur for the last 56 decades, with damages in terms of the state's communications, socio-economic conditions, education, illegal levy of taxes and extortions on and so forth. GOI instead of realizing the facts are appeasing these problem creators, the wild ferocious animals who have been penalising the silent lambs of Manipur. And GOI does not show any sympathy to the peace loving people of Manipur.

Matters on our side We demand that the GOI should define what and who the Nagas are before they picked any talks. The GOI had already chartered what Nagas are, and had carved out a state called Nagaland from Assam of India as a land for the Nagas in 1963. Who are these new groups of people who call themselves Nagas and demand further a new independent country or a greater Nagaland or Nagalim or whatever. We demand that political (not from the ruling party) and CSO members of Manipur should be included in the final round of talks and agreements.

The UNO and Security Council

in India

The UNO is supposed to look after the indigenous people of the world whereas the UNIPO is hardly doing anything in these matters. If the UNO are not going to tackle the matter on the plea that it is not an international matter, which they might say so, we demand that the GOI should hand over the matter to a body or council with a name like Peace and Security Council of India constituted of 7 to 9 permanent members of the leading states of India e.g., Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, UP and the states of the North East India for this present constitutional crisis. If the GOI is unable to come to a final conclusion, the matter should be referred to and handed over to such a council to be created for a term of every 5 years or so.

Background of Manipur's Political Position and the Naga Political Crisis

Manipur, although a small country, had been an independent country with a powerful Kingship with a history of more than 2000 years of its own ancient origin in a region between South Asia and South East Asia. Enough damage had been done to Manipur by the invasion of the British Colonisers in Manipur during 1891-1947. We had a short span of easy breathing up to 1949; after which we were made to feel that India substituted the British Colonising Government with late Sardar Vallabhai Patel's strong hand and forced annexation of Manipur under no proper political dialogue in October 1949. The people of the Ukhrul District of Manipur were and still are Tangkhuls. They began to call themselves Nagas since early 1970. If Nagas, they were the Royal Nagas because their Chiefs were close friends of the Kings of Manipur and they were in close touch with the rest of the people of Manipur, whereas historically the Nagas of Nagaland had hardly anything to do in the history of Assam, as they were not in the status of what the Tangkhuls of Mnaipur were

and are. In Manipur two Tangkhuls had become Chief Ministers, Yangmasho Shajia and Rishang Keishing, the evidence that Manipur was and is a purely democratic land. Now that the Nagas of Nagaland became well nurtured people loved by India, the Tangkhuls felt left out and they too joined in the ongoing movements of the Nagas. Even at present we have seen evidences in the Naga political scenario that the Nagas of Nagaland do not like a situation where the Tangkhuls of Manipur come to be the political stalwarts in Naga political forum.

A rapper bought fake views for his song 'Paagal': Mumbai police



IT Correspondent
Mumbai, Aug 10:

After questioning the rapper "Badshah", in connection with the fake social media followers case on Friday, the officers of the Mumbai Police crime branch said that the rapper confessed to buying fake views for his video song 'Paagal' for Rs 72 Lakh in a bid to break a viewership record. Aditya Prateek Singh Sisodia, alias "Badshah", confessed that he wanted to set a world record for the most number of viewers in 24 hours on "YouTube". That is why he paid Rs 72 lakh to this company," DCP Nandkumar Thakur said.

Badshah, who has several Bollywood hits to his credit, was first summoned by the Mumbai police on 3rd August. However, he could not record his statement on the said date after which he was asked to appear on Thursday. He was questioned again on Friday. But Badshah, denied the police's claim, and said that he had made it clear to the Mumbai Police that he was never involved in such

practices. "Following the summons, I have spoken to the Mumbai Police. I have aided the officials in their investigation by cooperating and carrying out the due diligence on my part. I've categorically denied all the allegations levelled against me and made it clear that I was never involved in such practices, nor do I condone them," he said. The said song had garnered 75 million views in the first 24 hours of its release and defeated the previous record for the most views in 24 hours set by "Taylor Swift" and the Korean boy band "BTS". The Mumbai Police officials have claimed that Badshah confessed to paying for 7.2 crore views.

Aditya Prateek Singh Sisodia, alias "Badshah" is being investigated, since his official Instagram account @badboysah has witnessed a huge increase in the number of followers. He has many hits to his credit including "Tareefan" and "DJ Wale Babu". His video 'Genda Phool' has been a remarkable hit.

In their investigation so far,

Mumbai Police officials have found that a few Bollywood stars, sports persons and high profile people have allegedly paid to get fake followers on social media.

Last month, CIU busted a racket, where fake followers and views were being bought by several celebs, in violation of the Information Technology Act (IT Act). The matter came to light after singer Bhoomi Trivedi registered a complaint with the police on 11 July, about a fake Instagram account, she found on social media. The investigation led police to a business based on identity theft.

So far two people have been arrested and a total of 20 people have been questioned by the Mumbai police so far in the Fake social media followers case. After the scam surfaced, a Crime Intelligence Unit (CIU) comprising of Mumbai Police Crime Branch and Mumbai Police Cyber Cell, was formed. The investigation is headed by DCP Nandkumar Thakur with former encounter specialist Sachin Vaze as the chief investigating officer.

International News

China sends fighter jets as US offers Taiwan 'strong' support

Courtesy Hindustan Times
New Delhi, Aug 10:

Chinese air force jets briefly crossed over the mid-line of the Taiwan Strait on Monday and were tracked by Taiwanese missiles, Taiwan's government said, as US health chief Alex Azar visited the island to offer President Donald Trump's strong support. Azar arrived in Taiwan on Sunday as the highest-level US official to visit in four decades, a trip condemned by China which claims the island as its own, further irritating Sino-US relations.

China, which had promised unspecified retaliation to Azar's trip, flew J-11 and J-10 fighter aircraft briefly onto Taiwan's side of the sensitive and narrow strait which separates it from its giant neighbour, at around 9 am (0100GMT), shortly before Azar met Taiwan President

Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwan's air force said. The Chinese aircraft were tracked by land-based Taiwanese anti-aircraft missiles and were "drive out" by patrolling Taiwanese aircraft, the air force said in a statement released by the defence ministry.

The incursion was only the third time since 2016 that Taiwan has said Chinese jets had crossed the strait's median line. Amid deteriorating relations between Washington and Beijing, the Trump administration has made strengthening its support for the democratic island a priority, and boosted arms sales.

"It's a true honour to be here to convey a message of strong support and friendship from President Trump to Taiwan," Azar told Tsai in the Presidential Office, standing in front of two Taiwanese flags.

Washington broke off official ties with Taipei in 1979 in favour of Beijing. Azar is visiting to strengthen economic and public-health cooperation with Taiwan and support Taiwan's international role in fighting the pandemic. "Taiwan's response to COVID-19 has been among the most successful in the world, and that is a tribute to the open, transparent, democratic nature of Taiwan's society and culture," he told Tsai.

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in fighting the pandemic. "Taiwan's response to COVID-19 has been among the most successful in the world, and that is a tribute to the open, transparent, democratic nature of Taiwan's society and culture," he told Tsai.

Taiwan has been particularly grateful for US support to permit its attendance at the World Health Organization's (WHO) decision-making body the World Health Assembly, and to allow it greater access to the organisation.

Taiwan is not a member of the WHO due to China's objections, which considers it a Chinese province.

"I'd like to reiterate that political considerations should never take precedence over the rights to health. The decision to bar Taiwan from participating in the WHA is a violation of the universal rights to health," Tsai said.